

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cheyenne Canyon

Site Code S.USCOHP*7870

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1130 Site Class PCA
Site Alias None

Network of Conservation Areas (NCA)

<u>NCA Site ID</u>	<u>NCA Site Code</u>	<u>NCA Site Name</u>
-		No Data

LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 384651N
State Colorado Longitude 1045534W

Quad Code Quad Name

38104-G8	Manitou Springs
38104-G7	Colorado Springs
38104-F8	Mount Big Chief
38104-F7	Cheyenne Mountain

County

El Paso (CO)
Teller (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

11020003 Fountain

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,300.00	Feet	1,920.24	Meters
Maximum Elevation	11,800.00	Feet	3,596.64	Meters

Site Description

The Cheyenne and Bear Creek drainages lie in the foothills west of Colorado Springs and below the Pikes Peak summit. Snowmelt and springs feed the creeks. Granite as gravel, rock and boulder dominate the landscape. The upland communities consist of mixed conifers dominated by ponderosa pine, oak, Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine, and spruce - fir at the higher elevations. The drainages are filled with Douglas-fir, hazelnut, narrowleaf cottonwood, river birch, chokecherry, Rocky Mountain maple, aspen, and willow. The site covers a large area between 6,300-11,800 feet in elevation.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 09/14/1998
Designer Spackman, S.C. and K.K. Fayette

Boundary Justification

Boundaries encompass riparian canyon bottoms and upslopes which support rare plant species and riparian plant communities. The immediate watershed is included because the occurrences depend on mesic-wet hydrology conditions for survival.

Primary Area	18,165.23	Acres	7,351.24	Hectares
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SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site includes a large occurrence of the golden columbine (*Aquilegia chrysantha* var. *rydbergii*). This variety is endemic to Colorado (G4T1Q/S1). Besides this site, it is documented from only three other

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locations, of which two are known only historically. (The species *Aquilegia chrysantha* is known from Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Mexico, and there is some debate by the experts as to the validity of the variety in Colorado.) Also significant is a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) James' teasel (*Telesonix jamesii*) and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) Rocky Mountain columbine (*Aquilegia saximontana*). In addition, there are multiple other rare plants, riparian plant communities, butterflies, and birds.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

No Data

Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

Exotics Comments

No Data

Offsite

No Data

Information Needs

The elevational range of *Aquilegia chrysantha* var. *rydbergii* should be extended up Bear Creek. South Cheyenne Creek should be thoroughly inventoried.

ASSOCIATED ELEMENTS OF BIODIVERSITY

Element State ID	State Scientific Name	State Common Name	Global Rank	State Rank	Driving Site Rank
17990	<i>Aquilegia chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i>	golden columbine	G4T1Q	S1	No
24962	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> / <i>Betula occidentalis</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forest	G3?	S3	No
21725	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	American Peregrine Falcon	G4T4	S2B	No
18092	<i>Aquilegia saximontana</i>	Rocky Mountain columbine	G3	S3	No
20940	<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i> ssp. <i>parviflorum</i>	American yellow lady's-slipper	G5	S2	No
18435	<i>Botrypus virginianus</i> ssp. <i>europaeus</i>	rattlesnake fern	G5	S1	No
17990	<i>Aquilegia chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i>	golden columbine	G4T1Q	S1	No
19611	<i>Telesonix jamesii</i>	James' teasel	G2	S2	Yes
17355	<i>Pellaea atropurpurea</i>	purple cliff-brake	G5	S2S3	No
24941	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> / <i>Prunus virginiana</i> Woodland	Narrowleaf Cottonwood/Common Chokecherry	G2Q	S1	No
20940	<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i> ssp. <i>parviflorum</i>	American yellow lady's-slipper	G5	S2	No
24194	<i>Carex leptalea</i>	bristle-stalk sedge	G5	S1	No
40647	<i>Corylus cornuta</i> Shrubland [Provisional]	Lower Montane Forests	G3	S1	No

REFERENCES

Reference ID	Full Citation
-	No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

Original site design by Fleming, C.C. 1997-09-02.

VERSION

Version Date	09/14/1998
Version Author	Spackman, S.C. and K.K. Fayette

Disclaimer

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