

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cimarron River at High Plains

Site Code S.USCOHP\*16577

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1135 Site Class PCA  
Site Alias Cimarron River

## 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 370225N  
State Colorado Longitude 1021102W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
36102-H3	Keyes NE
36102-H2	Sturgis NW
37102-A1	Midway SE
37102-A2	Midway SW
37102-A3	Moore Draw SE

## County

Morton (KS)  
Baca (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
11040002	Upper Cimarron

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	3,495.00 Feet	1,065.28 Meters
Maximum Elevation	3,680.00 Feet	1,121.66 Meters

## Site Description

The Cimarron River is a broad, sandy, braided ephemeral stream that does not flow all year, nor every year. It is nested in the High Plains between low rolling hills and occasional bluffs. On the National Forest Service Grassland in Kansas, the grasses are tall and dominated by sand-loving and alkali-tolerant native species on the floodplain under an open canopy of plains cottonwoods. Mid-grass prairie species occur on the uplands. A meandering line of green cottonwoods mark the path of the river across the plains landscape. Many cottonwoods probably became established after a dramatic 1917 flood which wiped out ranches in the floodplain and killed several people.

## Key Environmental Factors

No Data

## Climate Description

No Data

## Land Use History

No Data

## Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 01/01/1999  
Designer Kittel, G.M.

## Boundary Justification

Boundaries encompass the Cimarron River, its floodplain and a 1,000 foot to 1/2 mile buffer to allow for this ephemeral river's meanderings and unpredictable flash floods.

Primary Area 6,186.65 Acres 2,503.66 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

## Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of a globally critically imperiled to globally imperiled

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(G1G2Q/S1S2) community, *Populus deltoides* / *Sporobolus cryptandrus*, and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the state imperiled (GNR/S2) *Populus deltoides* / *Pascopyrum smithii* - *Panicum obtusum* plant community.

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

No Data

## ASSOCIATED ELEMENTS OF BIODIVERSITY

<u>Element</u>			<u>Global</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Driving</u>
<u>State ID</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Site Rank</u>
44145	<i>Populus deltoides</i> / <i>Pascopyrum smithii</i> - <i>Panicum virgatum</i> Woodland		GNR	S2	Yes
44140	<i>Populus deltoides</i> ssp. <i>wislizeni</i> / Disturbed Understory Woodland		GNR	SNR	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
171442	Kittel, G. et al. 1998. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Riparian Survey of the Lower Arkansas River Watershed.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

Version Date 01/01/1999

Version Author Kittel, G.M.

## Disclaimer

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