

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Cimarron Valley

Site Code S.USCOHP*1597

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1086 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>
1489	S.USCOHP*8840	Cimarron River East

LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 370156N
State Colorado Longitude 1020849W

Quad Code Quad Name

37102-A1 Midway SE
37102-A2 Midway SW

County

Baca (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

11040002 Upper Cimarron

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	3,510.00 Feet	1,069.85 Meters
Maximum Elevation	3,904.00 Feet	1,189.94 Meters

Site Description

The Cimarron Valley Site is within the Inter-Mountain Basins Active and Stabilized Dunes ecological system and is characterized as a Sand Dune Shrub complex in the Colorado Vegetation Gap layer. This vegetation type commonly sandsage (*Artemisia filifolia*) shrubland with junegrass (*Koeleria macrantha*), sand dropseed (*Sporobolus cryptandrus*) and buffalograss (*Buckloe dactyloides*) in the graminoid layer.

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 09/10/1996

Designer Loar, A.M.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the known occurrence and potential habitat for the Lesser Prairie Chicken with at least a 0.5 kilometer buffer.

Primary Area 9,219.32 Acres 3,730.94 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This PCA contains an unranked occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3) Lesser Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*).

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

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LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

The area is currently, and has historically been, actively grazed rangeland. Population declines continue due to habitat loss, fragmentation, and degradation as a result of grass and rangeland conversion to cropland and "improved" pastureland and overgrazing. Moderate grazing pressure (less than 25-35 percent of the annual growth of forage species), along with selective use of herbicides in overgrazed shrublands, can maintain or improve habitat. Population declines continue due to habitat loss, as a result of grass and rangeland conversion to cropland. Maintaining sagebrush density and cover is important to successful nesting and brood rearing and loss of from 50 to 70% of the shrubs in occupied habitat has the potential to adversely affect population viability.

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>
18701	<i>Tympanuchus pallidicinctus</i>	Lesser Prairie-chicken	G3	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
-	No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	01/01/2004
Version Author	Sovell, J.R.

Disclaimer

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