

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Clayton Cone

Site Code S.USCOHP*10844

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1623 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 381343N
State Colorado Longitude 1055812W

Quad Code Quad Name
38105-B8 Villa Grove

County
Saguache (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
13010003 San Luis

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,150.00	Feet	2,484.00	Meters
Maximum Elevation	8,660.00	Feet	2,640.00	Meters

Site Description

The Clayton Cone site is at the base of the San Juan foothills on the northwestern edge of the San Luis Valley. This volcanic outcrop is surrounded by shortgrass prairie and abuts Kerber Creek to the north. The habitat is very rocky with lichen-covered bedrock and boulders. An open pinyon pine (*Pinus edulis*) woodland dominates most of the site with various dominant grasses, e.g. blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*) and Indian rice grass (*Oryzopsis hymenoides*). Most of the site is comprised of volcanically derived rocks, although a limestone rock outcrop exists in the southern portion of the site. A two-track road bisects the site and also borders the east and west sides. The primary use of Clayton Cone is livestock grazing. This site is approximately 480 acres and ranges in elevation from approx. 8,150 to 8,660 feet (2,480-2,600 meters).

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 02/14/1998

Designer Rondeau, R.J.

Boundary Justification

This boundary is drawn to include the entire Clayton Cone outcrop. Although the element of concern is limited to a small area within this site, we believe it is necessary to include the immediate adjacent habitat to allow for movement in response to changing environmental factors. Although we did not find any rare plants, given the uncommon substrates, further investigation during the spring may find some unusual plants. The boundary was delineated using a 1988 NAPP 1:40,000 aerial photograph.

Primary Area 478.74 Acres 193.74 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The Clayton Cone site includes a small occurrence of foothills pinyon-juniper woodland (*Pinus edulis*/*Stipa scribneri*). The presence of Scribner's needle and thread grass with pinyon pine is unusual, with less than 5 occurrences known for the state of Colorado, although more widespread in adjacent states.

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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>
24719	<i>Pinus edulis</i> / <i>Achnatherum scribneri</i> Woodland	Two-needle Pinyon/Scribner's Needle Grass	G3	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	02/14/1998
Version Author	Rondeau, R.J.

Disclaimer

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