

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name County Line

Site Code S.USCOHP*26815

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2430 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 383018N
State Colorado Longitude 1055624W

Quad Code Quad Name
38105-E8 Salida East

County

Chaffee (CO)
Fremont (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
11020001 Arkansas Headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,920.00 Feet	2,109.22 Meters
Maximum Elevation	7,085.00 Feet	2,159.51 Meters

Site Description

This site is bisected by the old Denver and Rio Grande Railroad that parallels the Arkansas River. It is on the north side of the river at the toeslope of rugged hillslopes that rise steeply out of the river valley. The hills are vegetated with rocky pinon - juniper woodland among myriad rock outcrops and ledges of gneiss bedrock. The dominant plant community in the uplands is pinon pine - juniper / blue grama (*Pinus edulis* - *Juniperus* spp. / *Bouteloua gracilis*) woodland. Additional associated plant species include skunkbush (*Rhus trilobata*), currant (*Ribes leptanthum*, *Ribes cereum*), fringed sage (*Artemisia frigida*), Scribner's needlegrass (*Stipa scribneri*), needle-and-thread (*Hesperostipa comata*), western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*), ricegrass (*Oryzopsis micrantha*), cactus species (*Echinocereus triglochidiatus*, *Opuntia polyacantha*), and bluntleaf spikemoss (*Selaginella mutica*), which are all common in this habitat.

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 03/07/2007
Designer Neid, S.L.

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes known occurrences of rare plants as well as adjacent suitable natural habitat (cliffs; outcrops; dry, sandy washes).

Primary Area 98.23 Acres 39.75 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) Arkansas Canyon stickleaf (*Nuttallia densa*) and an excellent to good (AB-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) Fendler cloak-fern (*Argyrochosma fendleri*). Arkansas Canyon stickleaf is a Colorado endemic restricted to the

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Arkansas River drainage.

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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>
24246	<i>Argyrochosma fendleri</i>	Fendler cloak-fern	G3	S3	No
16858	<i>Nuttallia densa</i>	Arkansas Canyon stickleaf	G2	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
198290	Culver, D.R., D. Malone, S.L. Neid, and J. Handwerk. 2009. Final Report: Survey of Critical Biological Resources in Chaffee County. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
194663	Neid, S.L. 2007. Final Report: Rare Plant Survey of Select Bureau of Land Management Lands in the Arkansas River Canyon, Chaffee and Fremont Counties, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 03/07/2007
Version Author Neid, S.L.

Disclaimer

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