

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Crystal Springs Road

Site Code S.USCOHP*10237

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 638 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 392645N
State Colorado Longitude 1071106W

Quad Code Quad Name
39107-D2 Carbondale

County
Garfield (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
14010004 Roaring Fork

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	-	Feet	-	Meters
Maximum Elevation	-	Feet	-	Meters

Site Description

This PCA includes south-facing rolling hills dominated by pinyon-juniper (*Pinus edulis*-*Juniperus osteosperma*) woodlands with sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) shrublands. Harrington's beardtongue (*Penstemon harringtonii*), a globally-vulnerable plant species, is found along a road that defines the western boundary of the PCA. Although this species is usually found in sagebrush habitats, this occurrence is documented in a pinyon-juniper (*Pinus edulis*-*Juniperus osteosperma*) woodland. The slopes surrounding the PCA are dominated by pinyon-juniper (*Pinus edulis*-*Juniperus osteosperma*) and mixed shrublands interspersed with houses and hay meadows. Approximately 180 acres are included in this PCA. Elevation spans from 6800 to 7000 feet.

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 05/06/1999

Designer Spackman, S.C.

Boundary Justification

The primary threat to Harrington's beardtongue at this location is residential development along the road. The PCA boundary includes the occurrence of Harrington's beardtongue and a buffer of approximately 1000 feet intended to provide protection from direct disturbances. Indirect disturbances occurring outside the PCA boundaries, such as unnatural erosion caused from upslope activities or the establishment of exotic species within the PCA, should be limited.

Primary Area 181.36 Acres 73.39 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

A fair occurrence of a globally-vulnerable plant species. Harrington's beardtongue (*Penstemon harringtonii*) is a globally-vulnerable plant species which is restricted to Colorado and is found almost exclusively in sagebrush habitat. This species is only known from approximately 37 locations, all of which are centered

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around Edwards in Eagle County. In general, Harrington's beardtongue and its habitat are threatened from residential development. These threats, in addition to its restricted range, create an urgency for protection. Harrington's beardtongue populations are known to fluctuate in population numbers from year to year. Therefore, this specific location may be a higher priority than the current information reflects. The unusual circumstances of this occurrence (found in pinyon-juniper (*Pinus edulis*-*Juniperus osteosperma*) woodland) may be explained by its proximity to the road. Anthropogenic factors may contribute to the dispersal and the growing conditions present.

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>
19662	<i>Penstemon harringtonii</i>	Harrington beardtongue	G3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	05/06/1999
Version Author	Spackman, S.C.

Disclaimer

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