

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Devils Head at Jackson Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP1*1999

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 424 Site Class PCA
Site Alias Devils Head

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 391537N
State Colorado Longitude 1050524W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
39105-C1	Devils Head
39105-B1	Dakan Mountain

County
Douglas (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
10190002	Upper South Platte

SITE DESCRIPTION

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

Site Description

The site is on steep canyon slopes with granite outcrops in the Rocky Mountain Foothills. A very narrow valley with dense vegetation along the riparian corridor has a lot of *Prunus virginiana* and *Rubus idaeus*. Piles of bear scat are also evident. The riparian community is a thick stand of *Salix bebbiana*. The upslope to the west is steep with *Pseudotsuga menziesii* and *Picea pungens*. Right above the confluence of the two creeks is a flat area with *Populus tremuloides*, *Rubus idaeus* and *Erigeron* sp. The upslope to the east is a steep slope of *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, *Picea pungens*, and *Pinus ponderosa* with arid grasses among granite outcroppings.

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 09/12/1994
Designer Pague, C.A.

Boundary Justification

Includes the breeding habitat and adjacent forested area for feeding and buffer from disturbances. Some of the elements are known to forage widely outside the boundaries of this site. Rock outcrops, adjacent forested areas, riparian corridors, and a quarter mile buffer are included. The boundaries are to protect the elements from disturbance and provide an appropriate viewshed. It also includes all the known occurrences for *Salix bebbiana* as well as a buffer that includes the locally continuous habitat of the riparian corridor. Activities within this boundary have potential to directly impact this imperiled plant association by directly altering the hydrological regime, fragmenting the occurrence or disrupting natural geomorphic processes.

Primary Area 2,102.00 Acres 850.65 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S2) community (*Salix*

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bebbiana) and an unranked occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G4T3/S3) American Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*). The state rare Selkirk violet has been historically documented, but field surveys are needed to verify its existence. This site is an excellent example in fine condition with intact and near pristine condition upslope. Bear sign in the vicinity indicates high habitat value for other endangered species.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

No obvious uses directly in occurrence, no trails or roads run up Watson Park Creek, although the lower end of the site abuts the well-used Jackson Creek Road.

Natural Hazard Comments

Bears, mountain lion, and possibly rattlesnakes. Area appears to be currently used by bear.

Exotics Comments

Some *Poa pratensis* present.

Offsite

Campground and paved highway along riparian corridor could impact habitat quality and falcon breeding.

Information Needs

Selkirk violet (*Viola selkirkii*) is historically known from the area. Need current field surveys to verify occurrence.

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>
20994	<i>Salix bebbiana</i> Shrubland	Montane Willow Carrs	G3?	S2	Yes
21725	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	American Peregrine Falcon	G4T4	S2B	No

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
170776	McMullen, Amy and Erika VanWie. 1996. Field survey of riparian vegetation of the Upper South Platte Watershed.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 09/04/1997
Version Author Fleming, C.C.

Disclaimer

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