

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Devils Knob

Site Code S.USCOHP*10849

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1383 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 380322N
State Colorado Longitude 1061135W

Quad Code Quad Name
38106-A2 Saguache

County
Saguache (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
13010004 Saguache

SITE DESCRIPTION

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|---------------|
| Minimum Elevation | 8,300.00 | Feet | 2,530.00 | Meters |
| Maximum Elevation | 8,800.00 | Feet | 2,682.00 | Meters |

Site Description

This site is composed of a volcanic hill on the western edge of the San Luis Valley. The vegetation is a mosaic of short grass prairie dominated by blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*), valley bottoms with a small degraded occurrence of four wing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens/Bouteloua gracilis*), and hilltops and ridges of pinyon pine (*Pinus edulis*) with Scribner's needle and thread grass (*Stipa scribneri*). James buckwheat (*Eriogonum jamesii*) is a common forb and has been identified as the host plant for Spaldings' blue butterfly (*Euphilotes spaldingi*). Although we did not find the butterfly, we believe it may be here. This site is within the Bureau of Land Management Tracy Canyon allotment, where a holistic resource management (HRM) plan is practiced. The primary uses of the area are cattle grazing and light recreation, including hunting. Several two-tracks roads cross through this site. The only non-native plants found at this site are along the roads. This site is approximately 420 acres with an elevation range of 8,300 to 8,800 feet (2,500-2,675 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

The site includes the rare plant community occurrence and adjacent potential habitat. This boundary will allow for some natural migration. Consideration of a larger area would help to protect the adjacent pinyon-pine woodland. A 1989 NAPP 1:40,000 infrared aerial photograph was referenced while delineating the boundary.

Primary Area 420.82 Acres 170.30 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site includes a small occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S2) pinon-pine / Scribner's needle and thread grass community. Less than 10 occurrences of this type have been documented for Colorado. It is

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also known from 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 Rank</u> | <u>State Rank</u> | <u>Driving Site Rank</u> |
|-----------------|---|--|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>State ID</u> | <u>State Scientific Name</u> | <u>State Common Name</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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