

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Dry Creek at Maxwell Park

Site Code S.USCOHP*27720

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2620 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 384605N
State Colorado Longitude 1060755W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
38106-G1	Buena Vista East
38106-G2	Buena Vista West

County
Chaffee (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
11020001	Arkansas Headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,000.00 Feet	2,438.40 Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,300.00 Feet	2,834.64 Meters

Site Description

The wetland and riparian area emerges from an otherwise dry grassland park in the Upper Arkansas River Valley. The seepage emerges near the transition between the grassland park and pinon - juniper forest to the east. The riparian woodland is dominated by patches of mature narrowleaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*). The shrub layer is well-developed with Pacific willow (*Salix lasiandra*) common and dominant at the upstream end of the occurrence before dominance switches to dense water birch (*Betula occidentalis*). There are a significant number of side channel seeps with lush bryophyte and herbaceous cover. Brown moss (*Mnium* sp.) is dominant and liverworts (*Marchantia* sp.) are abundant. Common herbaceous species include Hornemann's willowherb (*Epilobium hornemannii*), alkali buttercup (*Ranunculus cymbalaria*), water speedwell (*Veronica catenata*), and beaked sedge (*Carex utriculata*). The latter forms raised terraces along seeps.

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 03/10/2009
Designer Handwerk, J.E.

Boundary Justification

The boundary was drawn to include the community and suitable habitat up and downstream of the occurrence. Hydrological processes that originate upstream of this site will need management to assure that the occurrence is protected in the long-term.

Primary Area 1,161.69 Acres 470.12 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a good to excellent (AB-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) montane riparian forest (*Populus angustifolia* / *Betula occidentalis*).

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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>
24884	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> / <i>Betula occidentalis</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forest	G3	S3	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.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 03/10/2009
Version Author Handwerk, J.E.

Disclaimer

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