

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Felch Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*25794

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2268 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 383353N
State Colorado Longitude 1050936W

Quad Code Quad Name
38105-E2 Cooper Mountain

County
Fremont (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
11020002 Upper Arkansas

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,000.00	Feet	1,828.80	Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,144.00	Feet	2,787.09	Meters

Site Description

Felch Creek plunges down the south side of Cooper Mountain, a local height of land within a landscape of low elevation hills and hogbacks. The riparian system primarily carves through Precambrian granitic rocks. Felch Creek is an ephemeral stream has several areas where there are braided channels with unsorted deposits that range from sand and gravel to boulders and huge boulders. High energy flooding is evident. Channel characteristics may have been affected by logging in the late 1800's (channels seem more incised than expected for the amount of surface water); however, they are currently vegetated. The canopy is mixed evergreen-deciduous and dominated by Rocky Mountain juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*) and narrowleaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*), which both form multiple-age class stands. The riparian system crosses elevation zones with the low end of the reach crossing through pinon - juniper (*Pinus edulis* / *Juniperus* spp.) woodland, which transitions to ponderosa pine forest then aspen forest higher in the reach. In the immediate vicinity are sandstone and shale hogbacks, which house several globally rare plant species.

Key Environmental Factors

Lower montane elevation; moderate to high stream gradient; ephemeral to intermittent flow

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 01/02/2006
Designer Neid, S.L.

Boundary Justification

Boundary drawn along watershed boundary to north and east and south, then roughly follows 1 km buffer in lower reach.

Primary Area 4,000.10 Acres 1,618.79 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site is drawn for an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of a globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) riparian natural community, narrowleaf cottonwood - Rocky Mountain juniper (*Populus angustifolia* - *Juniperus*

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Felch Creek
scopulorum) woodland.

Site Code S.USCOHP*25794

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>
24963	<i>Populus angustifolia</i> - <i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> Woodland	Montane Riparian Forest	G2G3	S2S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
159580	Kittel, G., R. Rondeau and A. McMullen. 1996. A classification of the riparian vegetation of the Lower South Platte and parts of the Upper Arkansas River basins, Colorado. Unpublished CNHP Report for CO DNR and US EPA, Region VIII. 243 p.
193618	Neid, S.L. 2006. Final Report: Survey of Critical Wetlands and Riparian Areas in Fremont County, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 01/02/2006

Version Author Neid, S.L.

Disclaimer

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Felch Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*25794

These data are a product and property of Colorado State University, Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP). These data are strictly "on loan" and should be considered "works in progress". Data maintained in the Colorado Natural Heritage Program database are an integral part of ongoing research at CSU and reflect the observations of many scientists, institutions and our current state of knowledge. These data are acquired from various sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and are continually being updated and revised. Many areas have never been surveyed and the absence of data in any particular geographic area does not necessarily mean that species or ecological communities of concern are not present. These data should not be regarded as a substitute for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Absence of evidence is NOT evidence of absence. Absence of any data does not mean that other resources of special concern do not occur, but rather CNHP files do not currently contain information to document this presence. CNHP is not responsible for whether other, non-CNHP data providers have secured landowner permission for data collected.

These data are provided for non-commercial purposes only. Under no circumstances are data to be distributed in any fashion to outside parties. To ensure accurate application of data, tabular and narrative components must be evaluated in conjunction with spatial components. Failure to do so constitutes a misuse of the data. The Colorado Natural Heritage Program shall have no liability or responsibility to the data users, or any other person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the data, including but not limited to any interruption of service, loss of business, anticipatory profits or indirect, special, or consequential damages resulting from the use of operation of the data. Data users hereby agree to hold CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado harmless from any claim, demand, cause of action, loss, damage or expense from or related to data users use of or reliance on the data, regardless of the cause or nature thereof, and even in the event that such cause is attributable to the negligence or misconduct of CNHP.

These data are provided on an as-is basis, as-available basis without warranties of any kind, expressed or implied, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. Although CNHP maintains high standards of data quality control, CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado further expressly disclaim any warranty that the data are error-free or current as of the date supplied