

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Glen Grove Hogbacks

Site Code S.USCOHP8\*3242

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 861 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 391522N  
State Colorado Longitude 1045740W

Quad Code Quad Name  
39104-C8 Dawson Butte

County  
Douglas (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,400.00 Feet	1,951.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	6,800.00 Feet	2,073.00 Meters

### Site Description

The Glen Grove Hogbacks are two east-west trending hogbacks in southern Douglas County at an elevation of 6,400 - 6,800 feet. This situation is somewhat unusual as most of the hogbacks in Douglas County are north-south trending. The north slope of the southern hogback is in relatively good condition and represents an unusual mixture of the dominant native species. The east end of the hogback is dominated by mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*) shrublands with an understory dominated by the grass mountain muhly (*Muhlenbergia montana*). As one proceeds to the west, ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) and Gambel's oak (*Quercus gambelii*) become more dominant. Spike fescue grass (*Leucopoa kingii*) and mountain muhly dominate the understory. The lower slope below the Gambel oak zone has patches of a big bluestem - little bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii* - *Schizachyrium scoparium*) grassland. A mountain mahogany / needle-and-threadgrass (*Hesperostipa comata*) community occurs on the south slope of the southern hogback. The communities intergrade along the hogback. Various non-native or native weedy species are common but not dominant.

### 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 10/31/1995  
Designer Kettler, S.M.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary presented here is intended to encompass the element occurrences and a buffer to prevent direct disturbance. The boundary includes the southern hogback and adjacent grasslands. Plant communities that occur within the context of natural surrounding lands are generally thought to be more viable and provide greater chance of continued natural processes and protection of associated species (Harris 1984).

Primary Area 230.84 Acres 93.42 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

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## Biodiversity Significance Comments

The globally imperiled (G2?/S2) big bluestem - little bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii* - *Schizachyrium scoparium*) xeric tallgrass prairie was found at the base of the southern hogback in small patches below the Gambel's oak zone. This plant community is rare throughout its range and ranked as poor (D-ranked) at this location. The globally imperiled (G2/S2) mountain mahogany - needle-and-threadgrass (*Cercocarpus montanus* / *Hesperostipa comata*) foothills shrubland occurs on the south slope of the southern hogback in small patches. This plant community is rare throughout its range and seems to be susceptible to invasion by exotic species which has happened at this site. It is in fair to poor (CD-ranked) condition at this site. The ponderosa pine / mountain muhly (*Pinus ponderosa* / *Muhlenbergia montana*) woodland is secure globally (G4G5/S2S3) but somewhat rare in Colorado and is ranked as good to fair (BC-ranked) at this location. All of the communities have been somewhat degraded by invasion of exotic plant species.

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>
24740	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> / <i>Muhlenbergia montana</i> Woodland	Foothills Ponderosa Pine Savannas	G4G5	S2S3	No
24531	<i>Cercocarpus montanus</i> / <i>Hesperostipa comata</i> Shrubland	Mixed Foothill Shrublands	G2	S2	Yes
24870	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i> - <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> Western Great Plains Herbaceous Vegetation	Xeric Tallgrass Prairie	G2?	S2	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
160788	Harris, L. D. 1984. The fragmented forest: island biogeography theory and the preservation of biotic diversity. Univ. Chicago Press. xviii + 212 pp.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

Version Date 10/31/1995  
Version Author Kettler, S.M.

## Disclaimer

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