

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Hanover Road

Site Code S.USCOHP*22713

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1769 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 383509N
State Colorado Longitude 1042823W

Quad Code Quad Name

38104-E5 Fountain SE
38104-E4 Hanover

County

El Paso (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

11020004 Chico

SITE DESCRIPTION

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

Site Description

The Hanover Road site straddles Hanover Road from about 0.4 miles west of Milne Road eastward to about 0.1 mile east of the Peyton Highway. From this stretch of Hanover Road, the site, which is about 1.5 miles wide, extends northward nearly 3 miles and southwestward nearly 3 miles. Chico Creek, an intermittent stream, flows southeastward just inside the southwestern boundary of the site. The Hanover Road site is characterized by a mixture of open, flat areas and gently-rolling terrain and it is covered by a mosaic of soil types (U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service and Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station 1981). Although each of the 5 observed prairie dog towns occurred on a different soil type, all 5 soil types were loams, and 4 of the 5 were sandy loams (Bijou sandy loam, Fort Collins loam, 2 Olney sandy loams, and Stoneham sandy loam). These deep, well-drained soils are characterized by moderate to rapid permeability, moderate to high available water capacity, slow to medium surface runoff, moderate hazards of erosion and soil blowing, and an effective rooting depth for plants of 60 inches (150 centimeters) or more (U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service and Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station 1981). Historically, much of the site was covered with vegetation typical of the native shortgrass prairie. Although large patches of this vegetation remain, portions of the site were converted to agricultural croplands during the past 100 years. The cultivation of some of these fields was subsequently abandoned, producing "old-field" (weedy, early-successional) habitats. Other fields within the site remain under cultivation. Cholla cactus (*Opuntia imbricata*) occurs on 3 of the prairie dog towns and elsewhere on the site. Grazing of domestic livestock occurred historically on most or all of the site, and today grazing continues on most of the site. Some locations are very intensively grazed.

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 03/15/2001

Designer Gionfriddo, J.P.

Boundary Justification

The site encompasses the 5 known prairie dog colonies and the unoccupied space among these colonies.

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Active agricultural fields form the western boundary of much of the site, and Chico Creek (buffered) forms the southwestern boundary.

Primary Area 4,701.54 Acres 1,902.66 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The Hanover Road site supports at least 4 (1 excellent, 1 good and 2 fair) occurrences of the globally apparently secure (G4/S3) black-tailed prairie dog (*Cynomys ludovicianus*).

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>			
17796	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	Black-tailed Prairie Dog	G4	S3	No
17796	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	Black-tailed Prairie Dog	G4	S3	Yes
17796	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	Black-tailed Prairie Dog	G4	S3	No
17796	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	Black-tailed Prairie Dog	G4	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
-	No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 03/15/2001

Version Author Gionfriddo, J.P.

Disclaimer

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