

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Hollthusen Gulch/Tarryall Creek Fen

Site Code S.USCOHP6*3289

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1676 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 392053N
State Colorado Longitude 1055407W

Quad Code Quad Name

39105-C8 Como

County

Park (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

10190001 South Platte Headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	9,800.00	Feet	2,987.00	Meters
Maximum Elevation	10,300.00	Feet	3,139.00	Meters

Site Description

This site is a large wetland complex of an unusual nature. It appears as a mix of what may be called "rich" fen and what could be called "extreme rich" fen. For example, unlike at other sites, the *Kobresia myosuroides* - *Thalictrum alpinum* plant association and the Porter feathergrass (*Ptilagrostis porteri*) occur within a matrix of a taller willow community (all other occurrences of these are with low, or no, shrubs). This site also contains a very unusual, large stand of *Salix planifolia* / *Carex aquatilis* that may be one of the best examples of its type. This community occurs on a moderately steep slope within a mosaic of moss mounds and silver willow (*Salix candida*) with higher cover than almost anywhere else in Colorado.

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 01/17/1996
Designer Sanderson, J.S.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire peatland, the lower stretches of the creeks that feed water into the site, adjacent wetlands to the east and west, and the area extending out to a ditch below the fens. The ditch apparently severs the fen from Tarryall Creek. Tarryall Creek has not been visited by a CNHP scientist, but it is assumed not to contain peat. Since it is hydrologically below the fen, the creek is not included in the site boundary. A buffer of about 500 feet surrounds most of the fens for consideration of direct impacts such as cattle activity and vehicular damage.

Primary Area 585.94 Acres 237.12 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of an extreme rich fen plant community (*Kobresia myosuroides* - *Thalictrum alpinum*) which is imperiled (G2/S1) on a global scale. It also contains several

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occurrences of plant species which are globally critically imperiled or imperiled in Colorado. Most significant is a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) Porter feathergrass (*Ptilagrostis porteri*).

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

Grazing.

Natural Hazard Comments

None.

Exotics Comments

Little problem with exotic plant species in the wetlands.

Offsite

Water diversions above or from within the site would adversely affect the elements.

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>
21527	<i>Trichophorum pumilum</i>	little bulrush	G5	S2	No
19684	<i>Ptilagrostis porteri</i>	Porter feathergrass	G2	S2	Yes
24850	<i>Salix planifolia</i> / <i>Carex aquatilis</i> Shrubland	Subalpine Riparian Willow Carr	G5	S4	No
21314	<i>Carex livida</i>	livid sedge	G5	S1	No
22645	<i>Salix candida</i>	hoary or silver willow	G5	S2	No
24980	<i>Kobresia myosuroides</i> - <i>Thalictrum alpinum</i> Herbaceous Vegetation	Extreme Rich Fens	G2	S1	Yes
18619	<i>Eriophorum gracile</i>	slender cottongrass	G5	S2	No

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	06/30/2003
Version Author	Bell, J.B.

Disclaimer

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