

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Independence Mountain

Site Code S.USCOHP*3909

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1860 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 405325N
State Colorado Longitude 1062555W

Quad Code Quad Name

40106-H4 Independence Mountain

County

Jackson (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

10180001 North Platte Headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,800.00 Feet	2,682.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	8,900.00 Feet	2,713.00 Meters

Site Description

The Independence Mountain Site is located on the gravelly slopes above Placer Creek between 8,800 and 8,900 feet. The Placer Creek flows southeast through the northwestern portion of North Park into the North Platte River. The site includes bluffs with outcrops of the Coalmont Formation which consists of Arkosic sandstone, conglomerate, and shale. The site begins with a 10% gentle slope and ends at the edge of a very steep ridge with a 30-35% slope. The site contains a cover of 50% gravel, pebbles, and cobbles. There are some large boulders on the ridge. There is evidence of moderate to heavy antelope use. *Lewisia rediviva*, a state rare plant species was found growing along this ridge. There is livestock grazing to the east behind the pasture fence, however there was no evidence of cattle during the 1995 field survey. Natural erosion and soil movement are also apparent, although not where *Lewisia rediviva* was found. There is a dirt two-track road that bisects the site. The estimated amount of potential habitat is 200 acres.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

The site is characterized by hot, sunny, and windy weather during the summer. The winter is characterized by very cold and windy conditions.

Land Use History

The area is grazed by both wildlife and livestock.

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 04/07/1996
Designer Culver, D.R.

Boundary Justification

The boundary protects habitat and the ecological processes necessary to support this occurrence of *Lewisia rediviva*.

Primary Area 415.74 Acres 168.25 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of a plant species, bitterroot (*Lewisia rediviva*), which is imperiled in the state (G5/S2). There are at least ten thousand individuals present at the site. A road

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Independence Mountain

Site Code S.USCOHP*3909

bisects the site, but does not receive heavy use.

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>
22471	<i>Lewisia rediviva</i>	bitterroot	G5	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

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

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	04/07/1996
Version Author	Culver, D.R.

Disclaimer

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Independence Mountain

Site Code S.USCOHP*3909

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