

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Indian Creek Hogback

Site Code S.USCOHP*25412

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2220 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 402838N
State Colorado Longitude 1050904W

Quad Code Quad Name

40105-D2 Masonville
40105-E2 Horsetooth Reservoir

County

Watershed Code Watershed Name

10190006 Big Thompson
10190007 Cache La Poudre

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation 5,400.00 Feet 1,645.92 Meters
Maximum Elevation 5,800.00 Feet 1,767.84 Meters

Site Description

Red sandstone hogback cliffs of Fountain Formation overlain by Ingleside Formation (Braddock et al. 1970 and 1989) are the dominant feature of this site. The cliffs extend at least six miles from Devil's Backbone to Horsetooth Reservoir. The dominant vegetation along the cliffs is mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*) with a variety of native grasses. Bell's twinpod (*Physaria bellii*) occurs patchily throughout the site; where it occurs it grows from the base of the cliff to the toe of the slope and is most abundant where vegetation is sparse such as in areas of active erosion. The hogback is east of a wide valley drained by Indian Creek in the south and Spring Creek in the north. A recreational trail will be constructed along parts of the hogback as part of a regional trail system beginning in spring 2005.

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 02/07/2005
Designer Doyle, G.A.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the known occurrence of Bell's twinpod (*Physaria bellii*), a small buffer to protect from direct disturbance, and adjacent apparently suitable habitat.

Primary Area 837.50 Acres 338.92 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of Bell's twinpod (*Physaria bellii*), a globally imperiled (G2/S2) plant. Bell's twinpod is known only from shale or sandstone hogbacks along the foothills of the Front Range from Jefferson County north to near the Wyoming border.

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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

Bell's twinpod has long been considered to be primarily restricted to Niobrara shale. The occurrence on Fountain and Ingleside formation sandstone such as within this site is little studied.

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>
23937	<i>Physaria bellii</i>	Bell's twinpod	G2G3	S2S3	Yes
23937	<i>Physaria bellii</i>	Bell's twinpod	G2G3	S2S3	No
23937	<i>Physaria bellii</i>	Bell's twinpod	G2G3	S2S3	No
23937	<i>Physaria bellii</i>	Bell's twinpod	G2G3	S2S3	No
23937	<i>Physaria bellii</i>	Bell's twinpod	G2G3	S2S3	No

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
192816	Braddock, William A., Ronald H. Calvert, Joseph T. O'Conner, and Gordon A. Swann. 1989. Geologic Map of the Horsetooth Reservoir Quadrangle, Larimer County, Colorado.
192814	Braddock, William A., Ronald H. Calvert, Stephen J. Gawarecki, and Prinya Nutalaya. 1970. Geologic Map of the Masonville Quadrangle, Larimer County, Colorado.
192692	Doyle, G.A., S.L. Neid and R.J. Rondeau. 2005. Final Report: Survey of Critical Biological Resources, Larimer County, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 02/07/2005

Version Author Doyle, G.A.

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