

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Lower Laramie River Valley

Site Code S.USCOHP*5955

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 858 Site Class PCA
Site Alias Gleneyre School

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 405450N
State Colorado Longitude 1055844W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
40105-H8	Crazy Mountain
41105-A8	Jelm Mountain
40105-G8	Glendevey
40105-H7	Sand Creek Pass
40106-H1	Old Roach
41106-A1	Woods Landing
40105-G7	Deadman

County

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
10180010	Upper Laramie

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	7,700.00	Feet	2,346.96	Meters
Maximum Elevation	8,400.00	Feet	2,560.00	Meters

Site Description

The Lower Laramie River Valley includes open flat expanses and rolling hills of sagebrush shrublands. The sagebrush includes short-stature species such as black sagebrush (*Artemisia nova*) and Bigelow sagebrush (*Artemisia bigelovii*) (pers. comm. Roger Rosentreter). Within the shrublands, and associated grasslands and shale barrens, grows the white flowered subspecies of larch-leaf beardtongue (*Penstemon laricifolius* ssp. *exilifolius*). This plant is thought to be ubiquitous throughout all these habitat types and local abundance ranges from common to infrequent. It does not appear to be substrate dependent as it has been found on soils derived from granite and a range of sedimentary rocks (R. Scully pers. comm.). The plant does not grow in the adjacent forested areas or in riparian habitat along the Laramie River and its tributaries.

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 03/02/2005
Designer Doyle, G.A.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the shrubland and grassland habitat for *Penstemon laricifolius* ssp. *exilifolius*. The boundary excludes forested areas at its edges. The Laramie River and its tributaries are included within the boundary though these areas are not habitat for the rare plant.

Primary Area 51,216.63 Acres 20,726.72 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

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Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports several excellent to fair (A to C-ranked) and several unranked occurrences of a globally imperiled (G4T2) white flowered subspecies of larch-leaf beardtongue (*Penstemon laricifolius* ssp. *exilifolius*). The subspecies is known primarily from the Laramie River Valley, the Chimney Rock area, and southern Wyoming.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

Grazing.

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>
20583	<i>Penstemon laricifolius</i> ssp. <i>exilifolius</i>	larch-leaf beardtongue	G4T3Q	S2	Yes
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20583	<i>Penstemon laricifolius</i> ssp. <i>exilifolius</i>	larch-leaf beardtongue	G4T3Q	S2	No

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
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.
166568	Kettler, S., J. Sanderson, S. Spackman, K. Fayette, C. Pague, D. Clark, and A. Hicks. 1996. Final Report: Significant plant, animal, and wetland resources of Larimer County and their conservation. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
192825	Rosentreter, R. 2004. Bureau of Land Management. Personal communication to the Colorado Natural Heritage Program.
192823	Scully, R. 2004. Colorado Native Plant Society. Personal communication to the Colorado Natural Heritage Program.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

Original site design by Spackman, S.C. and K.K. Fayette, 1996-10-28.

VERSION

Version Date 03/02/2005

Version Author Doyle, G.A.

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