

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Monument Southeast

Site Code S.USCOHP*22206

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1213 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 390419N
State Colorado Longitude 1045122W

Quad Code Quad Name
39104-A7 Monument

County
El Paso (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
11020003 Fountain

SITE DESCRIPTION

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

Site Description

The Monument Southeast site is located to the south and east of the City of Monument, Colorado, where it straddles Interstate 25 from approximately Walker Road (Colorado Highway 105) southward to an area about 0.4 miles south of Baptist Assembly Road. Portions of four creeks lie within or adjacent to the site. Monument Creek, a major perennial stream, lies outside the western boundary of the Monument Southeast site. Dirty Woman Creek, an intermittent stream, flows along Walker Road and lies just outside the northern boundary of the site. Jackson Creek, an intermittent stream, lies outside the southern and southeastern edges of the site. Teachout Creek, a relatively small, intermittent stream that lies to the south of Higby Road, traverses the central portion of the site. The Monument Southeast site is characterized by a mixture of flat areas and gently-rolling terrain, but it also includes several hilly areas associated with creek systems. Two major soil types occur on the site (U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service and Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station 1981). To the north of Teachout Creek the predominant soils are deep, well-drained Tomah-Crowfoot loamy sands. The permeability of these soils is moderate to moderately rapid, their available water capacity is moderate, and their surface runoff is slow. These factors cause the hazard of erosion of these soils to be slight to moderate. The effective rooting depth of plants on Tomah-Crowfoot loamy sands exceeds 60 inches (150 centimeters). To the south of Teachout Creek, where elevations are slightly lower than those to the north of the creek, the primary soil type is Pring coarse sandy loam. This deep, noncalcareous, well-drained soil is characterized by rapid permeability, moderate available water capacity, and medium surface runoff, which result in a moderate hazard of erosion (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 scattered remnants of this vegetation remain, many local areas within the site were converted to agricultural uses during the past 150 years. The cultivation of some of these agricultural fields was subsequently abandoned, producing "old-field" (weedy, early-successional) habitats. Other formerly-cultivated fields on the site were later planted with non-native grasses. Also included within the Monument Southeast site are patches of shrub-dominated land and strips of riparian vegetation along creeks. Grazing of domestic livestock occurred historically on most or all of the site, and today it continues on some portions (e.g., the northeastern lobe).

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

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Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes

Mapped Date 04/26/2001

Designer Gionfriddo, J.P.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the four known prairie dog colonies and the (mostly) unoccupied space among these colonies. Scattered within the unoccupied areas are several small clusters of occupied prairie dog mounds. The site is bounded on the north, west, and south sides by land that is unsuitable for use by prairie dogs because it is much too hilly. The site's eastern boundary is based on the presence of residential and other development that precludes occupation by prairie dogs. Another factor used in determining the site's eastern (and other) boundaries was the distribution of soils. Most of the site is covered by large patches of Tomah-Crowfoot loamy sands and Pring coarse sandy loam. Many of the soils that lie outside the boundaries of the Monument Southeast site are structurally much less suitable for burrow construction by prairie dogs.

Primary Area 1,327.28 Acres

537.13 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The Monument Southeast site supports 3 (2 excellent and 1 fair) occurrences of the demonstrably secure (G5/S5) Gunnison's prairie dog (*Cynomys gunnisoni*).

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>
44176	<i>Cynomys gunnisoni</i> pop. 1	Gunnison's Prairie Dog - Montane Population	G5T2	S2	Yes
44176	<i>Cynomys gunnisoni</i> pop. 1	Gunnison's Prairie Dog - Montane Population	G5T2	S2	No
44176	<i>Cynomys gunnisoni</i> pop. 1	Gunnison's Prairie Dog - Montane Population	G5T2	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

Reference ID

Full Citation

-

No Data

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 04/26/2001

Version Author Gionfriddo, J.P.

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Disclaimer

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