

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Mount Shavano

Site Code S.USCOHP*8407

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 531 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 383711N
State Colorado Longitude 1061406W

Quad Code Quad Name

38106-E2 Maysville
38106-F2 Mount Antero

County

Chaffee (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

11020001 Arkansas Headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	12,500.00	Feet	3,810.00	Meters
Maximum Elevation	14,229.00	Feet	4,337.00	Meters

Site Description

The Mount Shavano site is located in the southern Sawatch Range (Collegiate Peaks) west of Salida. The Sawatch Range is composed primarily of coarse schists and gneisses intruded by Precambrian granites and of metamorphosed limestone and quartzite (Chronic and Williams 2002). The southern portion of the Sawatch Range, Mounts Princeton, Shavano and Antero, are part of a much younger intrusion that melted and pushed in here as molten magma in early Tertiary time. Chalk Creek separates Mount Shavano from Mount Princeton. Mount Shavano is named for Chief Shavano of the Tabeguache band of Ute Indians. A legendary "snow angel" or Angel of Shavano emerges on the east face of the mountain during snow melt each spring. The site consists of typical alpine vegetation that has adapted to intense solar radiation, extreme cold and dry, desiccating winds. The vegetation is dominated by Ross' avens (*Geum rossii*), boreal sagebrush (*Artemisia arctica*), dry sedges (*Carex elynoides*, *C. foena*, *C. rupestris*), alpine clovers (*Trifolium dasyphyllum*, *T. nanum*), and several alpine grasses (*Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Trisetum spicatum*, *Festuca brachyphyllum*). Animals that utilize this site and other alpine areas include American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*), Brown-capped Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte australis*), and White-tailed Ptarmigan (*Lagopus muta*).

Key Environmental Factors

Typical subalpine to alpine climate with intense solar exposure and dry with desiccating winds.

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 01/13/2009

Designer Culver, D.R.

Boundary Justification

The site is drawn to protect occurrences from direct impacts such as trampling or other surface disturbances. A buffer is included to provide plants with suitable habitat where additional individuals can become established over time.

Primary Area 410.59 Acres 166.16 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

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Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) and Colorado endemic, Gray's Peak whitlow-grass (*Draba grayana*), and a fair to poor (CD-ranked) occurrence of the state rare (G4/S2S3) plant, arctic draba (*Draba fladnizensis*).

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

This site and element occurrences were not visited during the 2008 county survey and need to be updated.

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>
19017	<i>Draba fladnizensis</i>	arctic draba	G4	S2S3	No
17794	<i>Draba grayana</i>	Gray's Peak whitlow-grass	G2	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
198295	Chronic, H. and F. Williams. 2002. Roadside Geology of Colorado. Second Edition. Mountain Press Publishing Company. Missoula, MT.
198290	Culver, D.R., D. Malone, S.L. Neid, and J. Handwerk. 2009. Final Report: Survey of Critical Biological Resources in Chaffee County. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

Original site design by Spackman, S.C. 1997-04-10.

VERSION

Version Date 01/13/2009

Version Author Culver, D.R.

Disclaimer

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