

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Mount Tom

Site Code S.USCOHP1\*1934

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 518 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 394923N  
State Colorado Longitude 1052053W

Quad Code Quad Name  
39105-G3 Ralston Buttes

County  
Jefferson (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name  
10190004 Clear

## SITE DESCRIPTION

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

### Site Description

The Mt. Tom potential conservation area includes Mt. Tom (9735') and the surrounding slopes, including Sawmill Gulch and Van Bibber Creek headwaters. The general character is that of several mid-montane communities intermingled with riparian zones. The peaks and ridges support a limber pine/kinikini stand while the slopes support several different species of conifers: lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine, and Douglas-fir. Due to spruce bud worm and pine beetle kills, a patchwork of meadows and raspberry stands are scattered on the slopes. Other microhabitats exist where either rock outcrops or moisture appears. Along the steep gulches are riparian zones supporting a rich flora, with alders, blue spruce, maple, and aspen as the primary upperstory trees. Small patches of aspen with a diverse understory can be found on the eastern portion of the site. Logging was conducted in the early 1900's according to one landowner, although areas along rocky ridge tops appear not to have been logged. Aside from some old abandoned cabins and logging roads the area is in nearly pristine condition. Mountain lion and black bear sign are common.

### Key Environmental Factors

No Data

### Climate Description

No Data

### Land Use History

No Data

### Cultural Features

No Data

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 09/12/1994  
Designer Pague, C.A.

### Boundary Justification

Includes all known significant plant communities and what are believed to be adequate buffer zones. The rugged and large area deserves more inventory work to verify the exact boundaries of the rare communities. Two occurrences of *Aplenium septentrinale* were added post-Jefferson County inventory.

Primary Area 2,150.15 Acres 870.14 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports an excellent (A-ranked) and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of a globally secure (G4/S3) plant community, *Pinus ponderosa* / *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*, and an excellent to good (AB-ranked)

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occurrence of the globally secure (G4/S2?) *Pinus flexilis* / *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* plant community. Although globally common, both elements are rare in the state of Colorado.

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>
24766	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> / <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> Woodland	Lower Montane Forests	G4	S3	Yes
24766	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> / <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> Woodland	Lower Montane Forests	G4	S3	Yes
24676	<i>Pinus flexilis</i> / <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> Woodland	Lower Montane Woodlands	G4	S2?	Yes

## REFERENCES

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

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

Version Date	09/12/1994
Version Author	Pague, C.A.

## Disclaimer

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