

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Pine Creek at South Platte

Site Code S.USCOHP*6113

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1715 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>
1666	S.USCOHP1*1992	South Platte Canyon

LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 391748N
State Colorado Longitude 1050611W

Quad Code Quad Name
39105-C1 Devils Head

County
Douglas (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
10190002 Upper South Platte

SITE DESCRIPTION

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

Site Description

This site is along a first order stream in a narrow valley at 7800 feet elevation in the Pike-San Isabel NF. There is a trail following the creek that is used primarily by motorized dirt-bikes. The upslopes have a moderate gradient. The east-aspect slope has an open canopy of *Pseudotsuga menziesii* and *Pinus ponderosa*, while the east-facing slopes have a more closed canopy forest of the same species. Immediately adjacent to the riparian community is an occurrence of *Populus tremuloides*/mesic forb community. The narrow riparian corridor is dominated by *Alnus incana* with a high diversity of other shrub species and dense mesic forbs.

Key Environmental Factors

The steep stream gradient and un-altered hydrology of this first-order stream allows natural flows and flooding disturbance. The narrow character of the canyon probably excludes heavy livestock use.

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 11/08/1996
Designer Kittel, G.M. and E. VanWie

Boundary Justification

This boundary encompasses the habitats of the foothill interface with the plains environment. It includes all the known occurrences as well as a buffer that includes the locally continuous habitat of the riparian corridor. Activities within this boundary have potential to directly impact this imperiled plant association by directly altering the hydrologic regime, fragmenting the occurrence, or disrupting natural geomorphic processes

Primary Area 611.12 Acres 247.31 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a high quality if small occurrence of the imperiled (G3G4S3) *Alnus incana*/mesic forb community. The undergrowth herbaceous layer is completely intact with very few non-native species. It represents a fine example of a foothills riparian ecosystem.

Other Values Rank No Data

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Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

Multiple use (dirt bike and foot traffic trail)

Natural Hazard Comments

Yellow jacket nest in area, careful where you step!

Exotics Comments

Very low amounts of Taraxacum officinal and Agrostis gigantea.

Offsite

No Data

Information Needs

USFS management plans for the area. History of landuse and management practices of the area

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>
24645	<i>Alnus incana</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland	Thinleaf Alder/Mesic Forb Riparian Shrubland	G3	S3	Yes

REFERENCES

Reference ID

Full Citation

170776

McMullen, Amy and Erika VanWie. 1996. Field survey of riparian vegetation of the Upper South Platte Watershed.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 11/08/1996

Version Author Kittel, G.M. and E. VanWie

Disclaimer

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