

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Pine Valley

Site Code S.USCOHP\*16149

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1454 Site Class PCA  
Site Alias Silver Springs

### 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 392517N  
State Colorado Longitude 1052317W

### Quad Code Quad Name

39105-D3	Pine
39105-D4	Bailey
39105-C3	Green Mountain
39105-C4	Windy Peak

### County

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
10190002	Upper South Platte

## SITE DESCRIPTION

<b>Minimum Elevation</b>	6,850.00	<b>Feet</b>	2,088.00	<b>Meters</b>
<b>Maximum Elevation</b>	8,800.00	<b>Feet</b>	2,682.00	<b>Meters</b>

### Site Description

The site is strongly sloping to very steep with somewhat excessively drained and well drained gravelly, loamy and immature soils of Pike's Peak granite. South-facing slopes are mostly dominated by ponderosa pine with an understory of mountain mahogany, pine dropseed, muhlenbergia montana and blue grama. North-facing slopes are mostly dominated by Douglas-fir, interspersed with blue spruce. Valley bottom mostly with a willow / mesic forb plant association, with scattered blue spruce in the upper canopy.

### Key Environmental Factors

Water erosion.

### Climate Description

Average annual precipitation is 17 to 20 inches (43-51 cm). Average annual air temperature is 43-47 degrees Fahrenheit (6.1-8.3C). Average frost free season ranges from 76 to 125 days.

### Land Use History

An historic ranch site. At least in the recent past, the valley bottom vegetation was altered with exotic pasture grasses and used for livestock grazing. Presently, the area is used for recreation: fishing, hiking, and cycling.

### Cultural Features

Historic ranch house exists on property.

## SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 01/13/1999  
Designer Pineda, P.M.

### Boundary Justification

This boundary has attempted to include the definition of a small watershed on both the north and south facing slopes to the valley bottom. Since the butterfly occurrences and their habitat and hostplants are found nearer to the valley bottom, integrity of these requirements are affected by influences occurring higher up in the watershed.

<b>Primary Area</b>	20,866.31	<b>Acres</b>	8,444.33	<b>Hectares</b>
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## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

**Biodiversity Significance Rank** B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2G3/S2) hops feeding azure

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(*Celastrina humulus*), a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S3) *Danthonia parryi* grassland, and a historical occurrence of a listed threatened T1 subspecies, Pawnee montane skipper (*Hesperia leonardus montanus*).

Other Values Rank No Data

## Other Values Comments

No Data

## LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

### Land Use Comments

Grazing, recreation, residential, water diversions.

### Natural Hazard Comments

Fire hazard increased with increased tree density.

### Exotics Comments

*Euphorbia esula*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Carduus nutans*, *Bromus tectorum*, *Bromus inermis*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Poa pratensis* and *Heliopsis helianthoides*.

### Offsite

Reservoirs, dams, water diversions, housing development, roads, trails, fire suppression, campgrounds, recreation.

### Information Needs

No Data

## ASSOCIATED ELEMENTS OF BIODIVERSITY

<u>Element</u>			<u>Global Rank</u>	<u>State Rank</u>	<u>Driving Site Rank</u>
<u>State ID</u>	<u>State Scientific Name</u>	<u>State Common Name</u>			
20146	<i>Celastrina humulus</i>	Hops Feeding Azure	G2G3	S2	Yes
20843	<i>Hesperia leonardus montana</i>	Pawnee Montane Skipper	G4T1	S1	No
19228	<i>Danthonia parryi</i> Herbaceous Vegetation	Montane Grasslands	G3	S3	No

## REFERENCES

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

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	01/13/1999
<b>Version Author</b>	Pineda, P.M.

## Disclaimer

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