

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Poso Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*20314

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 175 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 371554N
State Colorado Longitude 1061435W

Quad Code Quad Name

37106-C2 Centro

County

Conejos (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

13010002 Alamosa-Trinchera

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,200.00 Feet	2,499.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	8,600.00 Feet	2,621.00 Meters

Site Description

The site includes a narrow canyon and steep slopes which rise to the adjacent mesas and rolling foothills. Some ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), pinyon pine (*Pinus edulis*), and juniper (*Juniperus monosperma*) occur along the slopes but the site is characterized by open grasslands and desert shrublands dominated by winterfat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*), snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*), and rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus* spp.). The riparian area has some patches of cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*) and willows (*Salix* spp.). The creek has been dammed to form several stock ponds and a two-track road follows the stream.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 01/10/2000

Designer Kettler, S.M.

Boundary Justification

The boundary also encompasses the Ripley milkvetch location and enough adjacent habitat to include open grasslands or savanna-like vegetation. This boundary is intended to allow some seed dispersal into currently unoccupied but apparently suitable habitat and provide habitat for plant pollinators. Seed dispersal mechanisms considered important for this species are small mammals (presumably kangaroo rats) caching the seed pods and precipitation events washing the seeds downhill (Julie Burt - pers. comm.). A suspected pollinator of this plant is a common bee that could nectar on species other than Ripley milkvetch in the same habitat.

Primary Area 141.58 Acres 57.30 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B4: Moderate Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a fair occurrence of a plant species which is vulnerable on a global scale.

Other Values Rank No Data

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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>
18485	<i>Astragalus ripleyi</i>	Ripley milkvetch	G3	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
165924	Kettler, S., J. Rocchio, R. Schorr, J. Burt. 2000. Biological Inventory of Rio Grande and Conejos Counties, Colorado. Unpublished report prepared for The Nature Conservancy. 234 pp.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	01/10/2000
Version Author	Kettler, S.M.

Disclaimer

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