

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Rattlesnake Park

Site Code S.USCOHP*25354

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2187 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 402115N
State Colorado Longitude 1051735W

Quad Code Quad Name
40105-C3 Pinewood Lake

County
Larimer (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
10190006 Big Thompson

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,600.00 Feet	2,011.68 Meters
Maximum Elevation	6,900.00 Feet	2,103.12 Meters

Site Description

Rattlesnake Park is a moderately sized grassland park that occupies the valley to the east, between the occurrence and Blue Mountain. As elevation increases on the east-facing slopes, the midgrass grassland in the valley grades into Pinus ponderosa savanna, a mix of trees, shrubs, and graminoids, and then woodland. Roosevelt National Forest abuts the occurrence to the west, a 5000-acre bison ranch maintained as natural landscape abuts to the south and east. The Southern Rocky Mountain cinquefoil (*Potentilla ambigens*) subpopulations occur along intermittent drainages below the Pinus ponderosa savanna at the forest-grassland interface.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

The adjacent Blue Mountain Bison Ranch was established in 1989, replacing the cattle ranch operation.

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 01/20/2005
Designer Neid, S.L.

Boundary Justification

The site includes the open grassland areas around the intermittent drainages occupied by the rare plant population. Only those that share the same topography and aspect were included.

Primary Area 484.11 Acres 195.91 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site was drawn for an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of a globally vulnerable (G3/S1S2) plant, Southern Rocky Mountain cinquefoil (*Potentilla ambigens*). This site contains thousands of plants and is the largest known population in Colorado.

Other Values Rank No Data

Other Values Comments

No Data

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LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

No Data

Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

Exotics Comments

No Data

Offsite

No Data

Information Needs

Little is known about key environmental factors that may drive Southern Rocky Mountain cinquefoil or impacts of land management activities, especially its response to grazing.

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>			
22568	<i>Potentilla ambigens</i>	southern Rocky Mountain cinquefoil	G3	S1S2	Yes

REFERENCES

Reference ID

Full Citation

192692

Doyle, G.A., S.L. Neid and R.J. Rondeau. 2005. Final Report: Survey of Critical Biological Resources, Larimer County, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 01/20/2005

Version Author Neid, S.L.

Disclaimer

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