

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Rock Outcrop West of Mason Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*19451

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1886 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 393047N
State Colorado Longitude 1052244W

Quad Code Quad Name
39105-E4 Meridian Hill

County
Jefferson (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
10190002 Upper South Platte

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	9,200.00 Feet	2,804.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,462.00 Feet	2,884.00 Meters

Site Description

The rugged, steep slopes are representative of many other areas within Staunton State Park. Granite cliffs and outcrops interspersed with coniferous forest on south to southwest facing slopes occur in other areas of the park as well. This area is relatively inaccessible at present. The rock outcrops of pink granite are hundreds of feet tall and overlook the valleys of Mason and Black Mountain creeks. James' teasel (*Telesonix jamesii*) was found in organic soil that has accumulated in cracks in the rocks. This occurrence contains approximately 200 individuals, most of which are inaccessible on cliff faces. Though they are located in pristine habitat, the size of this population is small relative to the other occurrences found in the park. Other components of this rock outcrop community are lichens, waxflower (*Jamesia americana*), oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*), grassfern (*Asplenium septentrionale*), and fleabane (*Erigeron vetensis*). The surrounding forest is dominated by limber pine (*Pinus flexilis*), lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*), and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). Possible nesting sites for Peregrine Falcons (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) were identified in this area during the inventory, but no eyeries were found. Elevation ranges from 9,200 to 9,462 feet, over a total area of 15 acres.

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 07/22/1999

Designer Spackman, S.C. and D.G. Anderson

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include all of the known occurrences of James' teasel in this area of Staunton State Park. It also includes a small amount of adjacent potential habitat on rock outcrops and cliffs to allow the rare plants to move into suitable habitat over time.

Primary Area 15.94 Acres 6.45 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Rock Outcrop West of Mason Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*19451

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) James' teleonix (*Telesonix jamesii*).

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 exotic species were noted. The area around Mason Creek is quite weedy, with toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*) and thistles possibly spreading into the forest to the east of this site. In 1999 no weeds were found further than 30 meters up the slopes adjacent to Mason Creek.

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>
19611	<i>Telesonix jamesii</i>	James' teleonix	G2	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
160766	Spackman, S., D. Anderson, J. Siemers, P. Pineda, and J. Handwerk. 1999. Staunton State Park Biological Inventory.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	07/22/1999
Version Author	Spackman, S.C. and D.G. Anderson

Disclaimer

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Rock Outcrop West of Mason Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP*19451

These data are a product and property of Colorado State University, Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP). These data are strictly "on loan" and should be considered "works in progress". Data maintained in the Colorado Natural Heritage Program database are an integral part of ongoing research at CSU and reflect the observations of many scientists, institutions and our current state of knowledge. These data are acquired from various sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and are continually being updated and revised. Many areas have never been surveyed and the absence of data in any particular geographic area does not necessarily mean that species or ecological communities of concern are not present. These data should not be regarded as a substitute for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Absence of evidence is NOT evidence of absence. Absence of any data does not mean that other resources of special concern do not occur, but rather CNHP files do not currently contain information to document this presence. CNHP is not responsible for whether other, non-CNHP data providers have secured landowner permission for data collected.

These data are provided for non-commercial purposes only. Under no circumstances are data to be distributed in any fashion to outside parties. To ensure accurate application of data, tabular and narrative components must be evaluated in conjunction with spatial components. Failure to do so constitutes a misuse of the data. The Colorado Natural Heritage Program shall have no liability or responsibility to the data users, or any other person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the data, including but not limited to any interruption of service, loss of business, anticipatory profits or indirect, special, or consequential damages resulting from the use of operation of the data. Data users hereby agree to hold CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado harmless from any claim, demand, cause of action, loss, damage or expense from or related to data users use of or reliance on the data, regardless of the cause or nature thereof, and even in the event that such cause is attributable to the negligence or misconduct of CNHP.

These data are provided on an as-is basis, as-available basis without warranties of any kind, expressed or implied, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. Although CNHP maintains high standards of data quality control, CNHP, Colorado State University, and the State of Colorado further expressly disclaim any warranty that the data are error-free or current as of the date supplied