

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name San Luis Hills/Flat Top

Site Code S.USCOHP*20329

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 1959 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 371154N
State Colorado Longitude 1054749W

Quad Code Quad Name
37105-B7 Manassa NE

County
Conejos (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
13010002 Alamosa-Trinchera
13010005 Conejos

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,200.00 Feet	2,499.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,140.00 Feet	2,786.00 Meters

Site Description

The site is located on the south end of the Flat Top mesa in the San Luis Hills. Slopes are steep and are generally southeast to southwest facing, except for the hogback like ridge on the south end of the site. Scattered piñon pine (*Pinus edulis*) and juniper (*Juniperus* sp.) occur on steep slopes and the top of the mesa, but the vegetation is mostly dominated by low shrubs. Rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus Greenei*) and winterfat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*) are the dominant species at the lower parts of the site. Rocky parts of the slopes often are dominated by sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*). Two-track roads occur below the site on the valley flats but there is little sign of human disturbance within the site.

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 01/12/2000
Designer Kettler, S.M.

Boundary Justification

The main threat to these species would be physical disturbance of the habitat. The boundary was delineated to include the known extent of the plant populations and enough of the adjacent area to incorporate portions of other habitat types. This additional habitat was included based on the assumption that pollinators of the rock-loving neoparrya and Weber's catseye may also require other types of habitat. The pollinators are unknown, consequently we are not certain that the amount of adjacent habitat is sufficient to support those species. With more information, these boundaries may change.

Primary Area 578.17 Acres 233.98 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site contains an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) rock-loving

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neoparrya (*Aletes lithophilus*) and a poor (D-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) Weber's catseye (*Oreocarya weberi*).

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 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>
23977	<i>Oreocarya weberi</i>	Weber's catseye	G3	S3	No
22904	<i>Aletes lithophilus</i>	rock-loving neoparrya	G3	S3	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 01/12/2000
Version Author Kettler, S.M.

Disclaimer

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