

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Spout Lake

Site Code S.USWRO1*259

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2000 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 384659N
State Colorado Longitude 1062447W

Quad Code Quad Name

38106-G4 Tincup

County

Chaffee (CO)

Gunnison (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

11020001 Arkansas Headwaters

14020001 East-Taylor

SITE DESCRIPTION

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------|---------------|
| Minimum Elevation | 11,800.00 | Feet | 3,596.64 | Meters |
| Maximum Elevation | 13,100.00 | Feet | 3,992.88 | Meters |

Site Description

Spout Lake site is located along the Continental Divide between Cottonwood Pass and Mount Kreutzer, in the northern portion of the Sawatch Range. The Sawatch Range is composed primarily of coarse schists and gneisses intruded by Precambrian granites and of metamorphosed limestone and quartzite (Chronic and Williams 2002). Of special interest are the outcrops of limestone and dolomite exposures in the tundra (Weber and Wittman 1996). The site consists of typical alpine vegetation that has adapted to intense solar radiation, extreme cold, and dry, desiccating winds. The vegetation is dominated by Ross' avens (*Geum rossii*), boreal sagebrush (*Artemisia arctica*), dry sedges (*Carex elynoides*, *C. foena*, *C. rupestris*), alpine clovers (*Trifolium dasyphyllum*, *T. nanum*), and several alpine grasses (*Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Trisetum spicatum*, *Festuca brachyphyllum*). Animals that utilize this site and other alpine areas include American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*), Brown-capped Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte australis*), and White-tailed Ptarmigan (*Lagopus muta*).

Key Environmental Factors

Solar radiation, heavy snow pack, and wind.

Climate Description

The site receives an average of 300 days of sunshine each year. A typical summer day is sunny, in the high 60's to low 70's with evening temperatures in the high 30's and low 40's. Annual rainfall is 10.15" and annual snowfall is 30.4" with most snow occurring from the end of October through April

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 01/14/2009

Designer Culver, D.R.

Boundary Justification

Boundary is drawn along the Continental Divide from Lost Lake to Mount Kreutzer to encompass the alpine plant occurrences. This should protect plants from direct impacts and provide potential habitat where additional individuals can become established over time.

Primary Area 1,945.13 Acres 787.17 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

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Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a concentration of rare alpine plants including a historical occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2G3/S2S3) Rothrock townsend-daisy (*Townsendia rothrockii*), extant occurrences of the state rare (G5/S2) woods draba (*Draba oligosperma*) and alpine braya (*Braya humilis*), and an extant occurrence of the state imperiled subspecies (G5TNR/S1) arctic braya (*Braya glabella* var. *glabella*). Imprecise or historical locations for the globally vulnerable (G3/S1) Wind River draba (*Draba ventosa*), the globally vulnerable (G3/S2) clawless draba (*Draba exunguicultata*), the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) Colorado Divide whitlow-grass (*Draba streptobrachia*), the globally vulnerable (G3G4/S1) Porsild's draba (*Draba porsildii*), the globally vulnerable (G3?/S3?) Colorado wood-rush (*Luzula subcapitata*), the state rare (G4/S2S3) arctic draba (*Draba fladnizensis*) and the state rare (G5/S2) dwarf hawksbeard (*Askillia nana*) were documented in the late 80s, but more precise and current information is needed. Most of the elements are considered circumpolar and occur in Colorado only in the alpine zone.

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

Additional field surveys are need to document precise locations of rare plants and assess current quality of populations.

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> |
| 19895 | <i>Braya humilis</i> | alpine braya | G5 | S2 | No |
| 23377 | <i>Draba oligosperma</i> | woods draba | G5 | S2 | No |
| 23143 | <i>Townsendia rothrockii</i> | Rothrock townsend-daisy | G2G3 | S2S3 | Yes |
| 23501 | <i>Braya glabella</i> var. <i>glabella</i> | arctic braya | G5TNR | S1 | No |
| 16728 | <i>Luzula subcapitata</i> | Colorado wood-rush | G3? | S3? | No |

REFERENCES

| <u>Reference ID</u> | <u>Full Citation</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 198295 | Chronic, H. and F. Williams. 2002. Roadside Geology of Colorado. Second Edition. Mountain Press Publishing Company. Missoula, MT. |
| 198290 | Culver, D.R., D. Malone, S.L. Neid, and J. Handwerk. 2009. Final Report: Survey of Critical Biological Resources in Chaffee County. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO. |
| 172083 | Weber, William A. and Ronald C. Wittmann. 1996. Colorado Flora: Eastern Slope. |

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

Original site design by Spackman, S.C. 1997-05-01.

VERSION

Version Date 01/14/2009

Version Author Culver, D.R.

Disclaimer

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