

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Tenderfoot Hill

Site Code S.USCOHP*26794

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2425 Site Class PCA
Site Alias None

Network of Conservation Areas (NCA)

NCA Site ID NCA Site Code NCA Site Name
- No Data

LOCATORS

Nation United States Latitude 383251N
State Colorado Longitude 1055848W

Quad Code Quad Name
38105-E8 Salida East

County
Chaffee (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name
11020001 Arkansas Headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation 7,200.00 Feet 2,194.56 Meters
Maximum Elevation 7,987.00 Feet 2,434.44 Meters

Site Description

The site is characterized by lower montane hills comprised of crumbly volcanic bedrock above the Arkansas River valley north of Salida. The unique volcanic bedrock (Oligocene andesite, basalt, and biotite latite) is only known from this vicinity (Wallace et al. 1997). Vegetation is a mosaic of pinon pine (*Pinus edulis*) woodland and open grasslands dotted with sparsely-vegetated rock outcrops and small barrens. There are steep slope crests and high slopes at the local heights of land. Lower elevations and south-facing slopes are generally characterized by midgrass grasslands dominated by needle-and-thread (*Hesperostipa comata*) or in localized areas by New Mexico feathergrass (*Hesperostipa neomexicana*). Scattered shrubs, such as mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*), rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*), and occasionally saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*) occur on rockier areas. The localized barrens are often sparsely vegetated with annuals.

Key Environmental Factors

Volcanic bedrock

Climate Description

The area averages 300 days of sunshine each year. A typical summer day is sunny, in the high 70's to low 80's and evening temperatures in the high 40's and low 50'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 P - Partial Mapped Date 03/09/2007
Designer Neid, S.L.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes suitable habitat in the surrounding area for the rare plants found at the site.

Primary Area 577.07 Acres 233.53 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) Arkansas Canyon stickleaf (*Nuttallia densa*) and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the globally vulnerable (G3/S3) rock-loving neoparrya (*Aletes lithophilus*).

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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

There are weed infestations along riparian corridors and in limited areas along some trails.

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>
16858	<i>Nuttallia densa</i>	Arkansas Canyon stickleaf	G2	S2	Yes
22904	<i>Aletes lithophilus</i>	rock-loving neoparrya	G3	S3	No
22904	<i>Aletes lithophilus</i>	rock-loving neoparrya	G3	S3	No

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
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.
194663	Neid, S.L. 2007. Final Report: Rare Plant Survey of Select Bureau of Land Management Lands in the Arkansas River Canyon, Chaffee and Fremont Counties, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
194648	Wallace et al. 1997. Geologic Map of the Salida East Quad.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date	03/09/2007
Version Author	Neid, S.L.

Disclaimer

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