

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Threemile Creek

Site Code S.USCOHP\*27814

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2642 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 383919N  
State Colorado Longitude 1060737W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
38106-F2	Mount Antero
38106-F1	Nathrop

### County

Chaffee (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
11020001	Arkansas Headwaters

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	7,800.00 Feet	2,377.44 Meters
Maximum Elevation	8,800.00 Feet	2,682.24 Meters

### Site Description

The Threemile Creek site is located at the base of Mount White in the Collegiate Peaks within the Sawatch Range. It is contained in the Mesa Antero Estates subdivision. The upland vegetation is dominated by pinon pine (*Pinus edulis*), and ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) with mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*), skunkbush (*Rhus trilobata*) and scattered one-seeded juniper (*Juniperus monosperma*). The understory consists of needle-and-thread grass (*Hesperostipa comata*), blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*), mountain muhly (*Muhlenbergia montana*), and Arizona fescue (*Festuca arizonica*). On the north-facing slopes the vegetation is dominated by Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). Typically, the soils are gravely sandy loam with outcrops of exposed large rocks. Threemile Creek supports a gallery of narrowleaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*) with Rocky Mountain juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*), river birch (*Betula occidentalis*), and alder (*Alnus incana*). There are springs that support small peat accumulating, "quaking" wetlands that support Nebraska sedge (*Carex nebrascensis*), beaked sedge (*Carex utriculata*), lesser panicled sedge (*Carex diandra*), and Baltic rush (*Juncus balticus*).

### Key Environmental Factors

No Data

### Climate Description

This area averages 300 days of sunshine each year. A typical summer day is sunny, in the high 70's to low 80's with 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 Y - Yes Mapped Date 04/14/2009  
Designer Culver, D.R.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary was drawn to include the known occurrences and allow a buffer for expansion and seed recruitment of the rare plants.

Primary Area 2,272.73 Acres 919.75 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B2: Very High Biodiversity Significance

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## Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) Fendler's townsend-daisy (*Townsendia fendleri*), a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the state imperiled (G5/S1) lesser panicked sedge (*Carex diandra*) and a good (B-ranked) occurrence of the state imperiled (G4G5/S1) low northern sedge (*Carex concinna*).

**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

Non-natives include Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvensis*), common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*), and cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*).

### Offsite

No Data

### Information Needs

No Data

## 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>			
17689	<i>Carex concinna</i>	low northern sedge	G4G5	S1	No
17481	<i>Townsendia fendleri</i>	Fendler's townsend-daisy	G2	S2	Yes
21581	<i>Carex diandra</i>	lesser panicked sedge	G5	S1	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.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

**Version Date** 04/14/2009  
**Version Author** Culver, D.R.

## Disclaimer

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