

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Tobe Headwaters

Site Code S.USCOHP*27116

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2477 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 370827N
State Colorado Longitude 1033658W

Quad Code Quad Name

37103-B6 Miners Peak

37103-B5 Tobe

County

Las Animas (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

11020010 Purgatoire

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation 6,400.00 Feet 1,950.72 Meters

Maximum Elevation 6,600.00 Feet 2,011.68 Meters

Site Description

Site is located in the upper headwaters canyon of Tobe Creek and consists of an open woodland of juniper and cottonwood with a graminoid understory. It includes the canyon bottom and a small buffer up the side slopes.

Key Environmental Factors

Intermittent stream course with existing native vegetation supports the rare plant.

Climate Description

The climate is semiarid and is typical of the high plains of southeastern Colorado where approximately 13 inches of precipitation is received annually. Most precipitation occurs between April and September, with May typically being the wettest month. Annually, climate of the area is characterized by cold winters and hot summers with winter temperatures as low as zero on at least several days and temperatures of over 100 °F occurring on many days in July and August (HPRCC 2008).

Land Use History

Land use has historically been dominated by ranching of sheep and cattle since the mid 1800's (Friedman 1985). The private ranch owner continues cattle ranching as the sole land use.

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 04/18/2008

Designer Stevens, J.E.

Boundary Justification

The site is drawn to maintain the canyon bottom where the rare violet is found and a buffer up the side slopes to protect these areas from activities that could induce erosion and result in sedimentation of the valley floor.

Primary Area 191.72 Acres 77.59 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports an excellent (A-ranked) occurrence of a state rare (G5/S2) plant, prairie violet (*Viola pedatifida*).

Other Values Rank No Data

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Other Values Comments

No Data

LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Land Use Comments

Dominant land use is livestock grazing that appears to be compatible with the element.

Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

Exotics Comments

No exotic species were observed on site; however, hound's tongue (*Cynoglossum* sp.) was seen along the access road on approach.

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>
18073	<i>Viola pedatifida</i>	prairie violet	G5	S2	Yes

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
195120	Friedman, Paul D. 1985. Final Report of History and Oral History Studies of the Fort Carson Pinon Canyon Maneuver Area, Las Animas, Colorado. USDI. National Park Service, Interagency Archaeological Services Branch, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, Denver, CO.
195121	HPRCC. 2008. High Plains Regional Climate Center Web Page. Based on data from automated weather stations operated by Colorado for southeastern Colorado area. High Plains Regional Climate Center Web Page: < http://www.hprcc.unl.edu >
195097	Stevens, J., J. Sovell, D. Culver, K. Decker, L. Grunau, A. Lavender, and C. Gaughan. 2008. Final Report: Southeastern Colorado Survey of Critical Biological Resources 2007. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

No Data

VERSION

Version Date 04/18/2008
Version Author Stevens, J.E.

Disclaimer

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