

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Tower Hill

Site Code S.USCOHP*20277

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 930 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 373716N
State Colorado Longitude 1061522W

<u>Quad Code</u>	<u>Quad Name</u>
37106-E3	Dog Mountain
37106-E2	Monte Vista

County

Rio Grande (CO)

<u>Watershed Code</u>	<u>Watershed Name</u>
13010002	Alamosa-Trinchera

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	7,940.00 Feet	2,420.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	8,080.00 Feet	2,463.00 Meters

Site Description

The site encompasses a small mesa near Highway 160. Rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus Greenei*) and winterfat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*) shrublands dominate the area around the mesa in small drainages. Two-track roads occur adjacent to the site and are used frequently by people recreating in the area. The west end of the site is used for target shooting; clay pigeons and trash are common here. A radio tower facility has been built on top of the mesa to the northwest.

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 01/04/2000
Designer Kettler, S.M.

Boundary Justification

The main threat to these two species would be physical disturbance of the habitat. The boundary was delineated to include the known extent of the plant population and enough of the adjacent area to incorporate portions of other habitat types. This additional habitat was included based on the assumption that the plant pollinators may also require other types of habitat. The pollinators are unknown, consequently we are uncertain if the amount of adjacent habitat is sufficient to support those species. With more information, these boundaries may change.

Primary Area	123.96 Acres	50.16 Hectares
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SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site contains good occurrences of two plant species which are vulnerable on a global scale, and a poor occurrence of a plant community which is vulnerable on a global scale.

Other Values Rank No Data

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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	Yes
22904	<i>Aletes lithophilus</i>	rock-loving neoparrya	G3	S3	Yes
22673	<i>Hesperostipa neomexicana</i> Herbaceous Vegetation	Great Plains Mixed Grass Prairie	G3	S3	No

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	01/04/2000
Version Author	Kettler, S.M.

Disclaimer

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