

Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Vallie

Site Code S.USCOHP*26816

IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 2431 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 382351N
State Colorado Longitude 1054706W

Quad Code Quad Name

38105-D7 Howard

County

Fremont (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name

11020001 Arkansas Headwaters

SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	6,580.00 Feet	2,005.58 Meters
Maximum Elevation	6,770.00 Feet	2,063.50 Meters

Site Description

This site is within a swath of rugged foothills on the north-facing toeslope of the Sangre de Cristo range. The Arkansas River has a broader floodplain in this vicinity with small towns and irrigated hay meadows in the valley. The surrounding hills are comprised of pinon - juniper (*Pinus edulis*, *Juniperus monosperma*) woodland with some shrub cover from mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*), Gambel oak (*Quercus gambelii*), skunkbush (*Rhus trilobata*) and rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*). Herbaceous species include many forbs including Arkansas Canyon stickleaf (*Nuttallia densa*). The plants occupy coarse, gravelly soils in crevices and on small ledges on very steep slopes and cliffs comprised of Minturn and Belden Formation (sedimentary shales, limestones, and sandstones) bedrock above Highway 50. They also occupy the roadbed rip rap between the highway and the Arkansas River.

Key Environmental Factors

No Data

Climate Description

No Data

Land Use History

No Data

Cultural Features

No Data

SITE DESIGN

Site Map P - Partial Mapped Date 10/13/2009
Designer Panjabi, S.S.

Boundary Justification

This site is drawn for natural cliff and slope habitat along a roadside occurrence of *Nuttallia densa*. As the roadside individuals likely dropped from the cliffs above, the boundary extends to the top of the hills, which comprise additional suitable natural habitat. It does not include a portion of the plant occurrence (one plant found) that is at the edge of a parking lot in the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area pullout at Vallie Bridge.

Primary Area 962.68 Acres 389.58 Hectares

SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B3: High Biodiversity Significance

Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site supports a fair (C-ranked) occurrence of the globally imperiled (G2/S2) Arkansas Canyon stickleaf

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(*Nuttallia* [=*Mentzelia*] *densa*). Arkansas Canyon stickleaf is a Colorado endemic restricted to the Arkansas River drainage.

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

Exotic species along roadside: *Kochia scoparia*, *Verbascum thapsus*, *Bromus inermis* and *Cirsium canadensis*.

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

REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
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.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Additional Topics

Original site design by Neid, S.L. 2007-03-13.

VERSION

Version Date 03/13/2007
Version Author Neid, S.L.

Disclaimer

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