

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name White Gulch

Site Code S.USCOHP\*7753

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 109 Site Class PCA  
Site Alias Lovell Gulch

## 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 390155N  
State Colorado Longitude 1050325W

Quad Code Quad Name  
39105-A1 Mount Deception

County  
Teller (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name  
10190002 Upper South Platte

## SITE DESCRIPTION

<b>Minimum Elevation</b>	8,330.00	<b>Feet</b>	2,538.98	<b>Meters</b>
<b>Maximum Elevation</b>	8,600.00	<b>Feet</b>	2,621.28	<b>Meters</b>

### Site Description

This site is located in the montane zone foothills on the west slope of the Front Range. Habitat is a complex mosaic of communities. Northeast-facing slopes are dominated by Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) forest. Southwest-facing slopes are dominated by ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) woodlands with an understory dominated by graminoids including Parry's oatgrass (*Danthonia parryi*) and Arizona fescue (*Festuca arizonica*). Moist gullies are characterized by stands of quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) with a shrub layer characterized by species such as Rocky Mountain maple (*Acer glabrum*) and mountain ninebark (*Physocarpus monogynus*) and an herbaceous layer dominated by forbs including mountain lupine (*Lupinus argenteus*), clustered penstemon (*Penstemon procerus*), narrowleaf paintbrush (*Castilleja linariifolia*), blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium montanum*) and owl clover (*Orthocarpus luteus*). The northern half of this site remains in a fairly natural condition. In the southern half of this site native habitat has been converted to suburban, residential development since the element occurrence in this site was documented in 1994. Anecdotal accounts indicate that prior to development the number of individuals, sub-populations, overall population size and areal extent was much greater. Geology is composed of Permian and Pennsylvanian age sedimentary rocks of the Fountain Formation and are Arkosic sandstone and conglomerates (Tweto 1979). Soils are predominantly Plome-Pimsby complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes that are interspersed with patches of Typic Haplustolls, 3 to 8 percent slopes (USDA NRCS 2008).

### Key Environmental Factors

Key environmental factors influencing site biota include ecological processes and specifically edaphic properties including soil moisture and organic matter.

### Climate Description

Broad elevational changes and complex topography in the Pikes Peak region result in broad differences in the local climate. Due to geography, precipitation in Front Range ecosystems in Teller County comes primarily during summer months. At this site at an elevation of 8,200 feet, from 1971 to 2000, coldest temperatures occurred in January with an average maximum of 38.7 °F and a minimum of 8.42 °F. Warmest temperatures occurred in July with an average maximum of 76.33 °F and an average minimum of 46.44 °F. Annual average maximum precipitation was 24.57 inches. July and August are the wettest months of the year with 3.21 and 3.79 inches of precipitation respectively. Driest months are December through February with 0.89, 0.73 and 0.90 inches of precipitation respectively. March through June and September through November have intermediate amounts of precipitation (Prism 2010).

### Land Use History

No Data

### Cultural Features

No Data

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## SITE DESIGN

Site Map Y - Yes Mapped Date 12/28/2010

Designer Malone, D.G.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary for this site was delineated along ridgelines to include the watershed boundary for immediate watershed protection to enable hydrologic processes related to precipitation infiltration and groundwater recharge and to enable edaphic properties. Constant moisture is very important during germination and early development. Habitat is characterized by soils with rich, humus and decaying leaf litter in wooded areas, often on rocky wooded hillsides on north or east facing slopes and also on moist creeksides or swales in spruce zones, with soils that are sandy loams to loams (NatureServe 2010). Only sites with landowner permission were surveyed.

Primary Area 1,371.42 Acres 554.99 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

The site is drawn for a fair to poor (CD-ranked) occurrence of the state rare (G5/S2) American yellow lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum*). Although American yellow lady's-slipper is imperiled in Colorado, the species is widespread in North America, apparently with thousands of occurrences and is common to occasional in appropriate habitat (NatureServe 2010).

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-native plants documented in 2010 include yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), hoary allysum (*Berteroa incana*), and smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*).

### 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>			
20940	<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i> ssp. <i>parviflorum</i>	American yellow lady's-slipper	G5	S2	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
198660	Culver, D.R., D. Malone, and A. Shaw. 2011. CNHP Final Report: Survey of Critical Biological Resources in Teller County, Colorado. Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Fort Collins, CO.
198314	NatureServe Explorer (Web Page). Accessed 2010. An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. <a href="http://www.natureserve.org/explorer">http://www.natureserve.org/explorer</a> .
198649	Prism Climate Group (Web Page). Accessed 2010. Spatial Climate Analysis. <a href="http://www.prism.oregonstate.edu/">http://www.prism.oregonstate.edu/</a>
192747	Tweto, O. 1979. Geologic Map of Colorado, 1:500,000. United States Geological Survey, Department of Interior, and Geologic Survey of Colorado, Denver, CO.

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## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

Original site design by Fayette, K.K. 1997-03-19.

## VERSION

Version Date 12/28/2010

Version Author Malone, D.G.

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