

# Level 4 Potential Conservation Area (PCA) Report

Name Williams Creek Trail

Site Code S.USCOHP\*23174

## IDENTIFIERS

Site ID 360 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 373312N  
State Colorado Longitude 1071117W

Quad Code Quad Name  
37107-E2 Cimarrona Peak

County  
Hinsdale (CO)

Watershed Code Watershed Name  
14080102 Piedra

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Minimum Elevation	8,500.00 Feet	2,591.00 Meters
Maximum Elevation	9,550.00 Feet	2,911.00 Meters

### Site Description

This site is in a mixed conifer forest along Williams Creek, with some barren rock outcrops. Dominant trees include white fir (*Abies concolor*), subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*), and Rocky Mountain maple (*Acer glabrum*). A popular hiking trail follows the creek. The state rare New Mexico cliff fern (*Woodsia neomexicana*) was found in crevices of rock outcrops, growing along with brittle fern (*Cystopteris fragilis*), woodsorrel (*Oxalis* sp.), Porter's oniongrass (*Melica porteri*), and hairy golden aster (*Heterotheca villosa*). Rattlesnake plantain (*Goodyera repens*), a small orchid on CNHP's "watch list", was found along the trail to Indian Creek.

### 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 02/15/2002  
Designer Lyon, M.J.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the location of the New Mexico cliff fern, and some adjacent habitat that has not been thoroughly surveyed.

Primary Area 83.80 Acres 33.91 Hectares

## SITE SIGNIFICANCE

Biodiversity Significance Rank B5: General Biodiversity Interest

### Biodiversity Significance Comments

This site supports a small, fair (C-ranked) occurrence of New Mexico cliff fern (*Woodsia neomexicana*), a species that is globally common (G4?) but rare (S2) in Colorado. This fern has a broad distribution in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Texas.

Other Values Rank No Data

### Other Values Comments

No Data

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## LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES

### Land Use Comments

No Data

### Natural Hazard Comments

No Data

### Exotics Comments

No Data

### Offsite

No Data

### Information Needs

Continued searches in other nearby rocky areas could reveal more of the cliff fern, and change the viability the rank of this occurrence.

## 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>
23381	<i>Woodsia neomexicana</i>	New Mexico cliff fern	G4?	S2	Yes

## REFERENCES

<u>Reference ID</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
166839	Lyon, P. 2001. Colorado Natural Heritage Program Field Surveys.

## ADDITIONAL TOPICS

### Additional Topics

No Data

## VERSION

<b>Version Date</b>	02/15/2002
<b>Version Author</b>	Lyon, M.J.

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