

NORTH PARK PHACELIA

Conservation Action Plan

2011 Update



North Park phacelia © *Frank Weston*

Plant Species of Focus:

North Park phacelia (*Phacelia formosula*)

**Sponsored by the
Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Initiative**

Workshop dates: May 2008, August 2008 and July 2010

Report date: August 25, 2011

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| I. Introduction | 3 |
| II. Vision and Goals for the North Park Priority Action Area | 3 |
| III. North Park phacelia | 4 |
| IV. North Park Priority Action Area | 4 |
| V. About the Workshops | 7 |
| VI. Workshop Results..... | 8 |
| A. Conservation Targets | 8 |
| B. Viability | 9 |
| C. Conservation Issues..... | 11 |
| D. Strategies | 13 |
| VII. Next Steps | 19 |
| VIII. References | 19 |
| Attachment 1. Additional key species and plant communities in the North Park area | 21 |

Panjabi, S. and B. Neely. 2011. North Park Phacelia Conservation Action Plan 2011 Update. Prepared by The Nature Conservancy and the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. Unpublished report prepared for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

I. Introduction

This document identifies conservation strategies for the North Park phacelia, based on an assessment of the plants' viability and threats by participants of three workshops held in May 2008, August 2008 and July 2010. The primary audience is intended to be the workshop participants and other stakeholders interested in helping to implement the strategies.

An initial Conservation Action Plan was developed in 2008 (Kram et al. 2008; available on-line at <http://www.cnhp.colostate.edu/teams/botany.asp#initiative>) following the first two workshops. This report, herein, is intended as a comprehensive follow-up to the 2008 action plan.

Located in Jackson County, Colorado, the North Park Priority Action Area contains all of the current confirmed and viable occurrences of the North Park phacelia. The North Park phacelia is considered globally imperiled (G1) by the Colorado Natural Areas Program and is listed as endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. There are two occurrences that fall outside of the Action Area because they are only known from imprecisely documented, historical records (H ranked minutes records). It should also be mentioned that there are an additional three occurrences of a species that closely resembles North Park phacelia that have been documented in Larimer County, Colorado. The species' identification of these records has not been confirmed; they are therefore beyond the scope of this report.

The North Park phacelia is endemic to the vicinity of the North Park Priority Action Area as identified the Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Initiative (RPCI, Neely et al. 2009). A Priority Action Area is an area needing immediate conservation action to prevent the need for listing, extinction, or further losses of imperiled plant species. Selection was based on the level of imperilment of rare plant species, quality of the occurrences, urgency of the management and protection actions, and other opportunities such as funding and land ownership patterns. These areas are based on the Potential Conservation Areas and Networks of Conservation Areas identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, at Colorado State University, with input by the RPCI and the Rare Plant Technical Committee (RPTC). To date, RPCI has identified ten such areas across Colorado.

II. Vision and Goals for the North Park Priority Action Area

Vision:

1. Populations of the imperiled North Park phacelia thrive within a mosaic of native plant communities (e.g., including habitat for the North Park phacelia and its pollinators).
2. Ecological processes that support the habitat and local mosaic of native plant communities associated with North Park phacelia are functioning
3. A coalition of partners work together to ensure its long-term survival and stewardship.

Ecological Goals:

1. Conserve all viable and restorable occurrences of the North Park phacelia (6 occurrences known to date)
2. Conserve (at least 2000 acres of) habitat for the North Park phacelia
3. Maintain/restore a mosaic of high quality plant communities in a minimum 600 meter buffer area around all known occurrences.

III. North Park phacelia

The North Park phacelia (*Phacelia formosula*; G1¹, listed Endangered; Spackman et al. 1997) is a member of the waterleaf family (Hydrophyllaceae) with purple to lavender flowers and striking golden yellow, exserted stamens. This species is known from only six occurrences in the world, all of which lie within the Coalmont Formation in Jackson County, Colorado.

Although all of the known extant occurrences appear to be in fair to excellent condition, the habitat for North Park phacelia is threatened by motorized recreation, residential development, roads, noxious weed invasions, and potentially by future oil and gas development. Conservation issues are discussed in greater detail below.

The focus of the workshops was on this globally imperiled plant species. Attachment 1 describes other significant species and plant communities in this area. A full suite of biodiversity values should be considered during more expansive conservation planning efforts for this area.

IV. North Park Priority Action Area

This document focuses on the North Park Priority Action Area (**Figures 1 and 2**) as recognized by the Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Initiative (RPCI, Neely et al. 2009). The boundary of the North Park Priority Action Area is based on a Network of Conservation Areas developed by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program at Colorado State University (CNHP 2011).

Located in Jackson County, Colorado, the North Park Priority Action Area contains all six of the confirmed, current and viable occurrences of the globally imperiled North Park phacelia. The North Park Priority Action Area occurs within the vicinity of the Upper Colorado River Corridor Priority Landscape identified by the Colorado Conservation Partnership (www.keepitcolorado.org).

¹ The “G rank” is an abbreviation for “Global Rank” as identified by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. G1 = critically imperiled. G2 = imperiled. For more detail on global ranks please visit the Colorado Natural Heritage Program’s website at <http://www.cnhp.colostate.edu/heritage.html>.

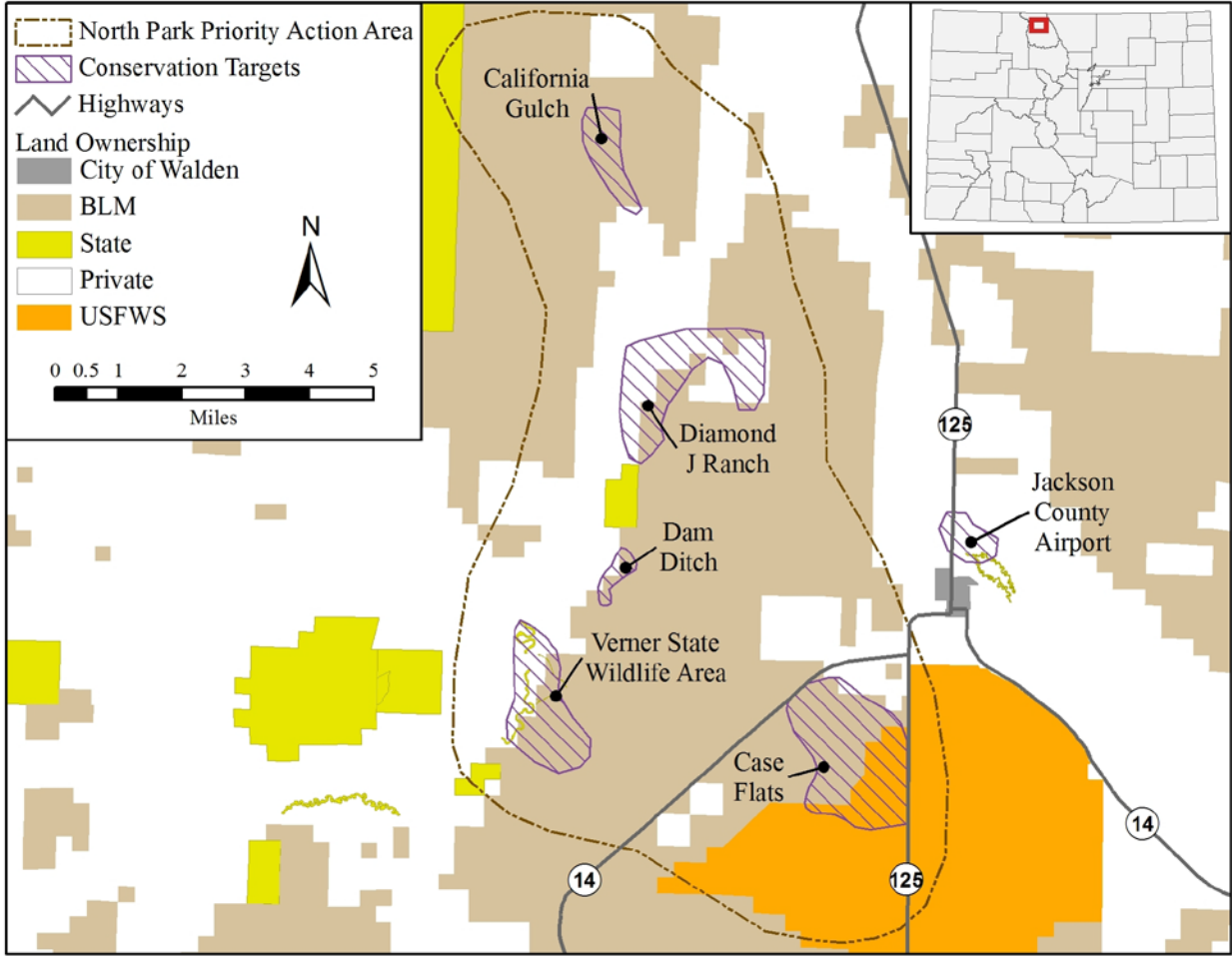


Figure 1. 2008 map of the North Park Priority Action Area. Boundaries were based on Potential Conservation Areas (Conservation Targets in striped purple boundaries) and Networks of Conservation Areas (North Park Priority Action Area in dotted brown outline) developed by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (2008). The North Park Priority Action Area was recognized by the Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Initiative as an Important Plant Area and a Priority Action Area.

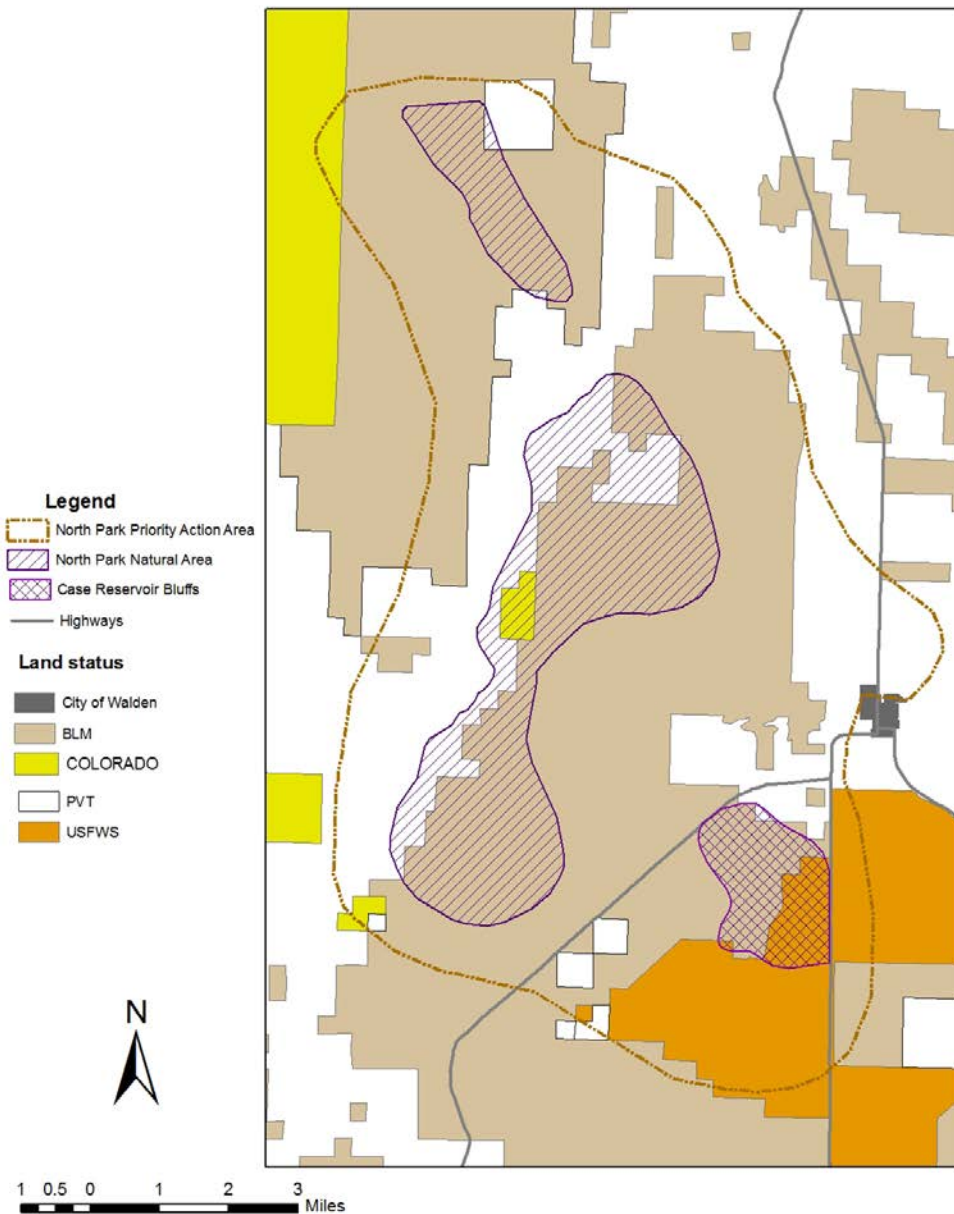


Figure 2. 2011 map of the North Park Priority Action Area. Boundaries are based on Potential Conservation Areas (North Park Natural Area and Case Reservoir Bluffs) and Networks of Conservation Areas (North Park Priority Action Area) developed by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (2011) and are recognized by the Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Initiative as Important Plant Areas and a Priority Action Area (Neely et al. 2009). Boundaries were modified after the 2008 workshops to include the occurrence just north of Walden in the vicinity of the Jackson County Airport (CNHP does not recognize a Potential Conservation Area here so this area is not delineated on the map as it was in 2008).

V. About the Workshops

Purpose: To identify strategies for conserving the globally imperiled North Park phacelia based on an assessment of the viability and threats to its occurrences and habitat.

Workshop dates: The RPCI completed three workshops for the North Park phacelia. During the first, held in May 2008, CNHP and TNC worked together to identify the viability of and threats to the phacelia. In August 2008, CNHP and TNC facilitated a meeting at the US Forest Service in Walden with partners to identify conservation strategies and actions. In July 2010, the workshop participants met in Walden to refine the information regarding viability and conservation issues, develop a vision and goals, and updated the conservation strategies.

Participants:

Workshop #1. Viability and threats assessment in May 2008 (internal CNHP/TNC effort)

| Name | Affiliation |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Attended | |
| Susan Spackman Panjabi | Colorado Natural Heritage Program |
| Megan Kram | The Nature Conservancy |
| Betsy Neely | The Nature Conservancy |
| Terri Schulz (facilitator) | The Nature Conservancy |
| | |

Workshop #2. Strategy identification in August 2008 (partner effort)

| Name | Affiliation |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Attended | |
| Megan McGuire | Bureau of Land Management |
| Teri Parvin | Bureau of Land Management |
| Susan Spackman Panjabi (co-facilitator) | Colorado Natural Heritage Program |
| Megan Kram (co-facilitator) | The Nature Conservancy |
| Betsy Neely | The Nature Conservancy |
| Ellen Mayo | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service |
| Ann Timberman | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service |
| Unable to attend | |
| Brian Kurzel | Colorado Natural Areas Program |
| Other contacts | |
| Nancy Wanamaker | Owl Mountain Partnership |
| Mike Higuera | The Nature Conservancy |

Workshop #3. Strategy identification and implementation in July 2010 (partner effort)

| Name | Affiliation |
|---|--|
| Attended | |
| Megan McGuire | Bureau of Land Management |
| Susan Spackman Panjabi (co-facilitator) | Colorado Natural Heritage Program |
| Lynn Rubright | Colorado Native Plant Society |
| Betsy Neely (co-facilitator) | The Nature Conservancy |
| Gina Glenne | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service |
| Ann Timberman | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service |
| Marti Aitken | U.S. Forest Service |
| Unable to attend | |
| Brian Kurzel | Colorado Natural Areas Program |
| Bob Timberman | |
| Barbara Vasquez | Basin Roundtable |
| Other contacts | |
| Owl Mountain Partnership | Nancy Wanamaker |
| Mike Higuera | The Nature Conservancy |
| Debbi Heeney | Natural Resources Conservation Service |
| Debbie Alpe | CSU Extension |
| Carolyn Aspelin | Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts |
| Janie Brands | Jackson County Weed Coordinator |
| Jim Tolstup | Colorado Native Plant Society |

VI. Workshop Results

A. Conservation Targets

Using The Nature Conservancy’s (TNC) site conservation planning workshop methodology, “conservation targets” are a limited suite of species, communities, and/or ecological systems, or specific locations of these elements of biodiversity (e.g., sites, occurrences, sub-occurrences, or other areas) that are the basis for setting goals, identifying conservation strategies, and measuring conservation effectiveness. At the North Park Priority Action Area our targets are based on specific areas that support the North Park phacelia and associated land ownerships.

We identified six conservation targets, as shown in **Table 1**, based on landownership and presence of North Park phacelia.

Table 1. Total of six targets based on landownership and presence of North Park phacelia. For example, there are three targets identified at the North Park Natural Area – BLM, Private, and State lands.

| Targets (based on CNHP Potential Conservation Areas) | Associated land ownership |
|---|---|
| Jackson County Airport (includes CNHP Element Occurrence or EO #1*) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ County and/or Private (needs to be confirmed) |
| North Park Natural Area (includes EO #4, 6, 7, and 9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BLM ▪ Private ▪ State |
| Case Reservoir Bluffs (EO #14) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BLM ▪ FWS |

* EO = Element Occurrence defined by CNHP.

CNHP assigns each occurrence a unique element occurrence number. These numbers are not necessarily in consecutive order because as new locations of plants are found, some occurrences are lumped together, and locations previously documented as two or more occurrences may become one (e.g., if plants are found between two occurrences, they may all together be considered one occurrence because of the proximity and connectedness of the individual plants).

B. Viability

“Viability” per TNC terminology is the “health” or “functionality” of the conservation targets. During the Workshop we attempted to answer two key questions through the viability assessment: *How do we define ‘health’ (viability) for each of our targets?* and *What is the current status of each of our targets?* **Table 2** shows the viability for each occurrence as identified during Workshop #1 and confirmed during Workshops # 2 and 3.

Table 2. Viability for six known occurrences of North Park phacelia. Overall viability is based on an assessment landscape context (i.e., setting), condition, and size. In the conservation target column, the name of the Potential Conservation Area is listed first, followed by the EO name (if assigned) and the EO number (an ID number for CNHP). The Jackson County Airport target is not included in a separate Potential Conservation Area, but it is included within the Priority Action Area (recognized by RPCI) which is based on the North Park Network of Conservation Areas defined by CNHP.

| North Park phacelia occurrences* | Landscape Context | Condition | Size | Overall |
|---|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Jackson County Airport (EO #1) ** | Fair | Fair | Fair | Fair |
| North Park Natural Area at Verner State Wildlife Area (EO #4) | Good | Fair | Good | Good |
| North Park Natural Area at Dam Ditch (EO #6) | Good | Good | Good | Good |
| North Park Natural Area at Diamond J Ranch (EO #7) | Good | Good | Very Good | Very Good |

| North Park phacelia occurrences* | Landscape Context | Condition | Size | Overall |
|---|-------------------|-----------|------|---------|
| North Park Natural Area at California Gulch (EO #9) | Good | Very Good | Good | Good |
| Case Reservoir Bluffs (EO #14) | Good | Good | Fair | Good |

*The Larimer County Element Occurrences are not included as a target in this table because there are taxonomic questions that are being addressed.

**The workshop group visited this site after the 2010 workshop and observed numerous plants in a small area of potential habitat. Betsy and Susan visited this site after the August 2008 workshop and observed 3 plants. CNHP records indicate that, prior to 2008, this occurrence had not been observed since 1981.

The overall viability rankings of very good, good, and fair for each occurrence were based on a systematic assessment of the components of viability, or indicators and associated indicator ratings as shown in the table below. These components of viability are “rolled up” into the overall viability rank (**Table 3**).

Table 3. Basis for viability ratings for North Park phacelia.

| | | Indicator rating criteria | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Key Attribute | Indicator | D - Poor | C - Fair | B - Good | A - Very Good |
| Intactness of occurrence and surrounding area | Percent fragmentation | Highly fragmented | Moderately fragmented | Limited fragmentation | Unfragmented |
| Population structure & recruitment | Evidence of reproduction | Little or no evidence of successful repro. (few seedlings and/or no flowering or fruiting) | Less productive, but still viable with evidence of flowering and/or fruiting and mixed age classes | Good likelihood of long-term viability as evidenced by flowering, fruiting, and mixed age classes. | Excellent viability as evidenced by high % flowering and fruiting, and mixed age classes |
| Species composition / dominance | Percent ground cover of invasive species | >50% cover | 11-50% cover | 1-10% cover | <1% cover |
| Population size & dynamics | Number of individuals | less than 50 | 50-199 | 200 - 1000 | more than 1000 |

C. Conservation Issues

With the viability analysis complete, participants then identified the primary conservation issues (threats, stresses, sources of stress) at each site. Conservation issues include the stresses that impair, degrade or destroy the viability of the targets (e.g., trampling) as well as the stressors, the causes or sources of the stress (e.g., cattle grazing, OHV traffic). The participants identified and ranked the issues based on their expertise, local knowledge, and sense of the key issues facing each target (**Table 4**).

Table 4. Conservation issues for North Park phacelia at specific conservation target areas.

| Conservation Issue | Conservation Targets | | | | | | Overall Threat Rank for Conservation Issue |
|--|---|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | Jackson County Airport (EO #1, County and private? Comap-shows private) | North Park Natural Area--BLM (EO # 4, 6, 7, 9) | North Park Natural Area--Private (EO # 4, 6, 7, 9) | North Park Natural Area--State (EO # 4, 6, 7, 9) | Case Reservoir Bluffs--BLM (EO# 14) | Case Reservoir Bluffs--USFWS (EO# 14) | |
| OHV use | High | Low | Medium? | Low | Low | na | Medium |
| Non-motorized recreation: fishing, birding, etc. | na | Low | Low | Medium | na | na | Low |
| Road maintenance | Low | Low | Low | na | na | na | Low |
| Industrial development - airport expansion | High | na | Low | na | na | na | Low |
| Powerlines | Low | Low | Low | na | Low | na | Low |
| Incompatible livestock grazing | na | Low | Low | Low | Low | na | Low |
| Oil and gas development and associated infrastructure | Medium | Medium | Medium | Low | Medium | na | Medium |
| Residential development and associated infrastructure | Medium | na | High | Low | na | na | Medium |
| Non native invasive plants | Medium | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low |
| Ponds and current water management and infrastructure | na | na | na | na | na | Low-needs evaluation | Low |
| Road construction | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | na | Low |
| Climate change | Medium ? | Medium ? | Medium ? | Medium ? | Medium ? | Medium ? | Medium? |
| Overall Conservation Issue/Threat Rank for Target | Medium | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | Medium |

D. Strategies

Based on an understanding of viability and threats, participants identified strategies (a) across all targets for North Park phacelia and (b) for specific targets. Regarding the latter, participants identified at least one strategy for all occurrences and generally focused on strategies needed to mitigate key threats. After brainstorming strategies, participants prioritized them as high, medium, or low based on their anticipated effectiveness. Specific to private land protection efforts, the RPCI is also evaluating opportunities to work with willing private landowners and local land trusts to conserve these species and their habitats using voluntary tools such as conservation easements.

Table 5. Strategies for the conservation of North Park phacelia as identified at the 2008 and 2010 workshops. In 2010, the workshop group felt that all of the strategies were high priority. In 2008, the group did not identify strategies based on specific conservation issues.

| Conservation Issue | Conservation Target | Owner/manager | Strategy | Year strategy was developed | Priority | Lead | Notes |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---|-----------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|--|
| ORV use | Jackson County Airport | Private/County | Verify land ownership, consider fencing and or rocks | 2010 | High | | |
| ORV use | Jackson County Airport | Private/County | Survey areas to thoroughly document plants | 2010 | High | | |
| ORV use | Jackson County Airport | Private/County | Conduct outreach and education, consider placing a kiosk | 2010 | High | Anne will talk with troop leader | Work with boy scouts, school groups, okay to point out plants at this location; on private lands plants are only protected by private landowner, if interested |
| ORV use | All | Public | Conduct rare plant tours of the area and bring \$ to community, guest speakers, tie to Walden economy | 2010 | High | | Promotion ideas: life checklist, RPCI tours, stay in nice places, education benefits other sites too |
| ORV use | North Park Natural Area | BLM | Develop and erect signs--North Park phacelia lives here and only place in world that it lives-do not include picture to prevent vandalism | 2010 | Medium | | This strategy is specific to BLM ACEC |

| Conservation Issue | Conservation Target | Owner/manager | Strategy | Year strategy was developed | Priority | Lead | Notes |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--|-----------------------------|----------|------|---|
| ORV use | | BLM | Team with stay the trail group/message | 2010 | Medium | | See brochures and signs at Great Sand Dunes National Park--"don't tread on me" poster or brochure |
| ORV and residential development | All | Private | Conduct private land outreach-conservation easements, tax incentives, posters, etc. | 2010 | Medium | | |
| All | All | Private | Poster-consider including bugseed, north park penstemon, etc. | 2010 | Medium | | Poster is visual draw, brochure to take with |
| All | All | All | Develop a statewide rare plant poster | 2010 | Medium | | |
| All | Statewide | Public | Develop a driving/walking tour(s) to kiosks that show rare plants. Include information about the plant habitat and associated ecosystem. | 2010 | Medium | | Include phenology, e.g., Northcentral plant tour dates. . . |

| Conservation Issue | Conservation Target | Owner/manager | Strategy | Year strategy was developed | Priority | Lead | Notes |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---|-----------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|--|
| All | All | All | Hire a USFWS lead for North Park conservation--GS9 satellite manager who does conservation and outreach as a portion of their job description under the refuges program | 2010 | High | Anne will talk with USFWS in WY. | Write position description, Gina knows person who reviews pds. New hire would be based in Laramie and travels to refuges. Potential funding for ecological services portion could come from o and g/ recovery funds. See what rare plants are in Albany Co. WY. Salary would come from refuges program and or other partners, owl mt, BLM. |
| Oil and gas development | BLM | BLM | Land exchange to USFWS refuge?-- probably would not work, developer would have rights to lease | 2010 | Low | | Existing leases on BLM lands can't be avoided. |
| Oil and gas development | BLM | BLM | Prevent additional BLM (Case Flat) land from being leased for oil and gas development by swapping land to USFWS refuge | 2010 | Low | | It is too late to do an ACEC because the BLM RMP is done |
| Oil and gas development | BLM | | No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulations already exist within 200 m of listed species on BLM lands | 2010 | | | |
| Oil and gas development | BLM | | Write to BLM to comment on existing leases | 2010 | | | |

| Conservation Issue | Conservation Target | Owner/manager | Strategy | Year strategy was developed | Priority | Lead | Notes |
|--|---------------------|---------------|---|-----------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--|
| Oil and gas development | all | | Encourage implementation of BMPs for oil and gas development (Elliot et al. 2008) | 2010 | Low | | |
| All | All | All | Coordinate monitoring and inventory efforts | 2010 | High | Gina, Carol, Peter, Anne | Gina prefers to pay for monitoring on private lands and coordinate with federal agencies and other public efforts. |
| Climate change | All | BLM | Recommend using ACECs and RNAs for research on climate change | 2010 | Low | | |
| All | All | All | Identify a coordinator for the North Park Action Area. | 2008 | High | B. Neely | B.Neely and S.Panjabi to serve in this role in the interim. |
| Incompatible livestock grazing | All | All | Conduct research on impacts of cattle grazing; natural history; and how to best monitor the phacelia. | 2008 | High | RPI/ Grad student TBD. | Re natural history: See report from Kathy Darrow - 1990 study. Need to prioritize what is most important. |
| Lack of understanding of natural history | All | All | Synthesize research on the phacelia to help identify/adjust management needs. | 2008 | High | Anne | USFWS term position may be able to do this in Jan/Feb/March |
| Lack of understanding of natural history | All | All | Support a graduate-level research study to provide recommendations for mgmt. of the population. | 2008 | High | RPCI | |

| Conservation Issue | Conservation Target | Owner/manager | Strategy | Year strategy was developed | Priority | Lead | Notes |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------|---|
| | All | All | Obtain funding for research and on-the-ground projects. | 2008 | High | RPCI | Fencing, grazing systems, fencing systems, management plans, research how to help expand the plant. |
| Energy development | All | All | Investigate plans for oil and gas development and work with energy companies to avoid all occurrences of the phacelia. | 2008 | High | RPCI | Need GIS analysis of oil and gas development with phacelia occurrences and habitat. |
| Climate change | All | BLM, FWS | Work together to ensure consistent monitoring | 2008 | High | BLM (Megan McGuire) | Consider outreaching to CNAP - Brian Kurzel - and Denver Botanic Garden too. |
| Development | All | Private | Pursue conservation easements with willing landowners to limit residential development and other potential impacts. | 2008 | High | Land trusts | Work with Colorado Cattleman's. |
| Development and lack of awareness | All | Private | Outreach to private landowners about the plant and how they can help protect it. | 2008 | High | Anne | NRCS - Deb Heeney in Walden. Deb Alpe is another good contact. |
| Development | All | Private | Assist landowners with on-the-ground protections. | 2008 | Med. | Anne | B.Neely and S.Panjabi to help too. |

VII. Next Steps

1. The leads for all High and Medium priority strategies work towards their implementation.
2. Gina Glenne and Ellen Mayo (USFWS) are working to confirm the species identification of Larimer County population with the assistance of Dr. Duane Atwood in Utah.
3. Organize a conference call to check in with workshop participants and other stakeholders to assess progress on implementation of strategies, update this action plan, and confirm coordinator for North Park (e.g., Lynn Rubright, Colorado Native Plant Society).
4. Outreach to stakeholders and partners that couldn't attend the workshops.
5. Research needs: Monitor plant/population response to various land uses, especially those determined to have medium and high conservation issues (e.g., ORV use). Research reproductive ecology (e.g., pollination ecology).
6. Compile natural history and other information on North Park phacelia from Amy Bower's report and Kathy Darrow Warren's thesis, and CNAP report on monitoring.

VIII. References

Colorado Native Plant Society. 1997. Rare Plants of Colorado. Second ed. Helena, Montana: Falcon Press.

Colorado Natural Heritage Program. 2011. Biodiversity Tracking and Conservation System. Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Elliot, B., S. Panjabi, B. Neely, R. Rondeau, B. Kurzel, and M. Ewing. 2008. Best Management Practices: Practices Developed to Reduce the Impacts of Oil and Gas Development Activities to Plants of Concern. Unpublished report on file at The Nature Conservancy, Boulder, Colorado. 10 pp.

Elzinga, C. L., D. W. Salzer, and J. W. Willoughby. 1998. Measuring and Monitoring Plant Populations. BLM Technical Reference 1730-1.

McGuire, Megan. 2010. Personal communication with Bureau of Land Management Botanist/Ecologist.

- Neely, B., S. Panjabi, E. Lane, P. Lewis, C. Dawson, A. Kratz, B. Kurzel, T. Hogan, J. Handwerk, S. Krishnan, J. Neale, and N. Ripley. 2009. Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Strategy. Developed by the Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Initiative. The Nature Conservancy, Boulder, Colorado. 117 pages.
- Ray, A., J. Barsugli, K. Averyt et al. 2008. Climate Change in Colorado” A Synthesis to Support Water Resources Management and Adaptation. Report by the Western Water Assessment for the Colorado Water Conservation Board. 55 pages.
- Spackman, S., B. Jennings, J., C. Dawson, M. Minton, A. Kratz, and C. Spurrier. 1997. Colorado Rare Plant Field Guide. Prepared for the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program.
- US Fish and Wildlife Service. 2010. *Phacelia formosula* (North Park Phacelia) 5-Year Review: Summary and Evaluation. USFWS Western Field Office, Grand Junction. Draft.

Attachment 1. Additional key species and plant communities in the North Park area

Although the focus of the workshop was on the globally imperiled plant, North Park phacelia, other key species and plant communities are known from the North Park area as shown in the table below (Colorado Natural Heritage Program 2011, <http://www.cnhp.colostate.edu/>). Specifically, the table identifies rare species and rare and/or high quality examples of plant communities in the North Park area. These and other biodiversity values should be considered with more detailed planning efforts for this area.

| Scientific name | Common name | G rank | S rank | Major group |
|---|--|--------|---------|---------------------|
| <i>Bufo boreas</i> | Boreal Toad (Southern Rocky Mountain Population) | G4T1Q | S1 | Amphibians |
| <i>Rana sylvatica</i> | Wood Frog | G5 | S3 | Amphibians |
| <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> | Bald Eagle | G5 | S1B,S3N | Birds |
| <i>Numenius americanus</i> | Long-billed Curlew | G5 | S2B | Birds |
| <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i> | American White Pelican | G3 | S1B | Birds |
| <i>Plegadis chihi</i> | White-faced Ibis | G5 | S2B | Birds |
| <i>Sterna forsteri</i> | Forster's Tern | G5 | S2B,S4N | Birds |
| <i>Oncorhynchus clarkii stomias</i> | Greenback Cutthroat Trout | G4T2T3 | S2 | Fish |
| <i>Hyles gallii</i> | Galium Sphinx Moth | G5 | S3? | Insects |
| <i>Alnus incana</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland | Thinleaf Alder/Mesic Forb Riparian Shrubland | G3 | S3 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Artemisia nova</i> / <i>Hesperostipa comata</i> Shrubland | Western Slope Sagebrush Shrublands | G3? | S2? | Natural Communities |
| <i>Artemisia tridentata</i> ssp. <i>vaseyana</i> / <i>Festuca idahoensis</i> Shrub Herbaceous Vegetation | Western Slope Sagebrush Shrublands | G5 | S3S4 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Artemisia tridentata</i> ssp. <i>vaseyana</i> / <i>Pascopyrum smithii</i> Shrubland | Sagebrush Bottomland Shrublands | G3? | S1S2 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Artemisia tridentata</i> ssp. <i>vaseyana</i> / <i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i> Shrubland | Western Slope Sagebrush Shrublands | G5 | S2 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Artemisia tridentata</i> ssp. <i>wyomingensis</i> / <i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i> Shrub Herbaceous Vegetation | Xeric Sagebrush Shrublands | G4 | S3? | Natural Communities |

| Scientific name | Common name | G rank | S rank | Major group |
|--|---|---------------|---------------|------------------------|
| <i>Eleocharis quinqueflora</i> - <i>Triglochin</i> ssp. Herbaceous vegetation | Alkaline Spring Wetland | GU | S2 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Pinus contorta</i> / <i>Vaccinium scoparium</i> Forest | Seral Lodgepole Pine Forests | G5 | S4 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Populus tremuloides</i> / <i>Alnus incana</i> Forest | Montane Riparian Forests | G3 | S3 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i> - <i>Poa secunda</i> Herbaceous Vegetation | Montane Grasslands | G4? | S1 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Salix drummondiana</i> / <i>Carex aquatilis</i> Shrubland | Drummond Willow/Aquatic Sedge | G2G3 | S2 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Salix geyeriana</i> - <i>Salix monticola</i> / <i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i> Shrubland | Montane Willow Carrs | G3 | S3 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Salix geyeriana</i> - <i>Salix monticola</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland | Geyer's Willow-Rocky Mountain Willow/Mesic Forb | G3 | S3 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Salix monticola</i> / <i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i> Shrubland | Montane Willow Carr | G3 | S3 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Salix monticola</i> / Mesic Forbs Shrubland | Montane Riparian Willow Carr | G4 | S3 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Schoenoplectus acutus</i> - <i>Typha latifolia</i> - (<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i>) Sandhills Herbaceous Vegetation | Great Plains Marsh | G4 | S2S3 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Schoenoplectus maritimus</i> Herbaceous Vegetation | Emergent Wetland (Marsh) | G4 | S2 | Natural Communities |
| <i>Allium schoenoprasum</i> var. <i>sibiricum</i> | wild chives | G5T5 | S1 | Vascular Plants |
| <i>Corispermum navicula</i> | a bugseed | G1? | S1 | Vascular Plants |
| <i>Eriogonum exilifolium</i> | dropleaf buckwheat | G3 | S2 | Vascular Plants |
| <i>Ipomopsis aggregata</i> ssp. <i>weberi</i> | rabbit ears gilia | G5T2 | S2 | Vascular Plants |
| <i>Lewisia rediviva</i> | bitterroot | G5 | S2 | Vascular Plants |
| <i>Oonopsis wardii</i> | Ward's golden-weed | G3 | S1 | Vascular Plants |
| <i>Packera debilis</i> | Rocky Mountain ragwort | G4 | S1 | Vascular Plants |
| <i>Penstemon laricifolius</i> ssp. <i>exilifolius</i> | larch-leaf beardtongue | G4T3Q | S2 | Vascular Plants |
| <i>Penstemon radicosus</i> | matroot penstemon | G5 | S1 | Vascular Plants |
| <i>Sisyrinchium pallidum</i> | pale blue-eyed grass | G2G3 | S2 | Vascular Plants |

For more information about these and other biodiversity values, see reports including but not limited to the following:

- Colorado Wildlife Action Plan
<http://wildlife.state.co.us/WildlifeSpecies/ColoradoWildlifeActionPlan/>
- The Nature Conservancy Ecoregional Assessments.
<http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/cbdgateway/era/reports/index.html> The Southern Rocky Mountains Ecoregional Assessment pertains to the North Park Priority Action Area.
- Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project: <http://www.restoretherockies.org/reports.html>