

April 9, 2001

Instruction Memorandum No. WY-2001-040

Expires 9/30/2002

To: Field Managers and Deputy State Directors

From: State Director

Subject: Issuance of BLM (Wyoming) Sensitive Species Policy and List

In accordance with Bureau policy and directives, a sensitive species policy and list has been developed for public lands in Wyoming (Attachment). The draft policy received both internal and external review, as appropriate. This policy and list are now final, and we are hereby issuing the subject material for immediate use and implementation. The following instructions and interpretations should help with the implementation of this guidance.

Many wildlife and plant species populations are declining, and though there may be many reasons for this, one of the causes of this decline is loss of habitat from the landscape. The objective of the sensitive species designation is to ensure that we consider the overall welfare of these species when undertaking actions on public lands, and do not contribute to the need to list the species under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The lack of demographic, distribution, and habitat requirement information compounds the difficulty of taking management actions for many species.

It is not the intent of this policy and list to establish rangewide species status evaluation and tracking. Other entities perform those functions (e.g., Wyoming Game and Fish Department's Species Watch List, and their Non-Game Bird and Mammal Plan; Wyoming Natural Diversity Databases' [WYNDD] List of Plant and Animal Species of

Special Concern; etc.), and we have no desire to duplicate those efforts. Nor is it the intent of this policy and list to provide lengthy accounts of each species known life history and habitat requirements, or a “cookbook” of detailed management options for each species. This information can also presently, or soon, be found in other locations (e.g., AOU species accounts; Wyoming Bird Conservation Plan; Black-tailed Prairie Dog Conservation Plan; Sage Grouse Conservation Plan; Townsend’s Big-eared Bat Conservation Strategy; etc.).

The Bureau’s management authority for sensitive species is not as specifically structured as for proposed or listed, threatened or endangered (T/E) species. Our management mandate is less regulatory, and more administrative and generic for sensitive species, than for proposed or listed species in the sense we are not required to:

1. Participate in the development of formal recovery plans or critical habitat designations for sensitive species, although we may participate in conservation plans/agreements.
2. Enter into ESA Section 7 consultation on Federal actions, although we may request technical assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or other entities.
3. Be concerned with the “take” provisions of biological opinions, or the prohibitions of Section 9 of the ESA.

By necessity, **the Bureau’s posture toward management of sensitive species will usually be more collaborative and derived, and less directive than for proposed or listed T/E species. We should view the management of sensitive species as an opportunity to practice pro-active conservation; this management should not be onerous, or a “show-stopper” of other legitimate, multiple use activities.** The Bureau’s order of priority for the management of all special status species is: first - listed T/E species; second - proposed T/E species; third - candidate T/E species; fourth - Bureau sensitive species; and, fifth - State listed species. All management actions should follow this action priority, as appropriate, for the circumstances in each administrative unit.

It is the intent of this policy to emphasize the inventory, planning consideration, management implementation, monitoring, and information exchange for the sensitive species on the list in light of the statutory and administrative priorities mentioned above. In most instances, the following types of actions/activities would be appropriate and expected for sensitive species management:

1. Inventory: Determine the distribution, abundance, reasons for current status (to the extent reasonably possible), and habitat needs of the sensitive species occurring on lands administered by BLM, and some assessment (to the extent reasonably possible) of the significance of lands administered by BLM, or Federal actions occurring thereon, in maintaining these species. This may include input to conservation assessments prepared for some species. Clients and partners of BLM should be encouraged to assist with, or participate in, inventories for sensitive species as opportunities arise; however, no otherwise lawful action or authorization of the Bureau should be delayed or denied pending completion of an inventory.

2. Land Use Planning: Include sensitive species as species of management consideration, as appropriate, in land use and activity plans. Sensitive species should be included in land use plans as a maintenance action, in most routine cases. When land use plans are being amended or revised, sensitive species should be incorporated, where appropriate, at that time. Where they exist, sensitive species should be considered in all activity plans.

3. Conservation Strategies: Participate in the development of conservation strategies for sensitive species in the State.

4. NEPA Analysis: Ensure sensitive species are considered, as appropriate, in NEPA analyses for all activities occurring on the Public Lands.

5. Best Practices: Ensure that all Federal actions (i.e., Federally funded, authorized, or carried out) on the Public Lands affecting the populations or habitat of sensitive species are conducted in a manner consistent with the accepted management objectives and best practices for managing those species when known. Various species monographs and conservation strategies often provide synopses of appropriate management techniques. Where necessary to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation to sensitive species or their habitats, apply appropriate mitigation for the protection of sensitive species to Public Land management actions/activities. Emphasis should be placed on developing mitigation in a collaborative effort with the applicant/user.

6. Monitoring: Incorporate sensitive species populations and habitats, where appropriate, in the monitoring schemes of Public Land management actions/activities.

7. Information Interchange: Provide information when requested, and request technical assistance from sources of expertise as needed, on Public Land actions/activities that could affect sensitive species and their habitats. As more is known about many of these sensitive species, more effective management practices can be developed and adopted.

The BLM (Wyoming) sensitive species list is dynamic. We expect the list to change as new information for species is accumulated and assimilated. The list will be reviewed annually. For this reason, we expect each Field Office to establish and maintain local records, references, and databases that can be used as a benchmark for the annual reviews.

Finally, a word of caution - in some cases, several species from a particular habitat could have been placed on the list as a “guild,” or group. However, since our management will be directed at the habitat, we decided to include on the list only those 2 to 3 species from that habitat which most closely met our inclusion criteria, even though other species could be affected by the focused management. The use of a “guild” or “indicator species” approach, or other species management grouping, must be exercised with prudence. The potential exists to inadequately monitor management effects to one or more members of a group if they all do not share equally the same niche dimensions with the indicator species or environmental parameter. For example, highly area-sensitive species could be adversely affected if a less area-sensitive species were selected for monitoring. When a guild approach is taken to assessing a particular Federal action, describe each guild and the species it includes. This section should also describe what management activities work in common to affect the entire group, and what characteristics of the chosen indicator lend it to monitoring the entire group (e.g., observability, sensitivity to disturbance, etc.).

If you have any questions regarding the attached sensitive species policy and list, please contact Dave Roberts or Jeff Carroll at (307) 775-6099, or (307) 775-6090, respectively, or Vicki Herren in the Rock Springs Field Office at (307) 352-0236.

s/Alan R. Pierson

1 Attachment:

1 - BLM (Wyoming) Sensitive Species List - 03/12/01 (14 pp)

BLM Wyoming Sensitive Species Policy and List

April 9, 2001

Introduction

The USDI Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wyoming has prepared this list of sensitive species to focus species management efforts towards maintaining habitats under a multiple use mandate. Many species are not on this list due to the lack of status, distribution and habitat requirement information which prohibits any management attention.

The goals of this sensitive species policy are to:

- ◆ Maintain vulnerable species and habitat components in functional BLM ecosystems.
- ◆ Ensure sensitive species are considered in land management decisions.
- ◆ Prevent a need for species listing under the Endangered Species Act.
- ◆ Prioritize needed conservation work with an emphasis on habitat.

Authority

The authority for this policy and guidance comes from the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; Title II of the Sikes Act, as amended; the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976; and the Department Manual 235.1.1A., General Program Delegation, Director, Bureau of Land Management.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Manual 6840 establishes Special Status Species (SSS) policy for plant and animal species and the habitat on which they depend. This SSS policy refers not only to species protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), but also to those designated by the State Director as Sensitive. The manual states “ *Sec. 06D - Sensitive Species: State Directors, usually in cooperation with the State wildlife agency, may designate sensitive species. By definition the sensitive species designation includes species that could easily become endangered or extinct in the state. Therefore, if sensitive species are designated by the State Director, **the protection provided by the policy for candidate species shall be used as the minimum level of protection.***”

Criteria set forth in the Glossary of Terms section of the 6840 Manual for designating sensitive species are:

1. under status review by the FWS/National Marine and Fisheries Service(NMFS); or
2. whose numbers are declining so rapidly that Federal listing may become necessary; or
3. with typically small or widely dispersed populations; or
4. those inhabiting ecological refugia or other specialized or unique habitats.

The intent of the sensitive species designation is to ensure actions on BLM administered lands consider the welfare of these species and do not contribute to the need to list any other Special Status Species under the provisions of the ESA. Management requirements that apply to the species on the BLM Wyoming Sensitive Species List are to avoid or minimize adverse impacts and maximize potential benefits to species whose viability has been identified as a concern by reviewing programs and activities to determine their potential effect on sensitive species. Requesting technical assistance from the FWS, and any other qualified source, on actions that may affect a sensitive species is recommended. It is not the intent of this list to track species rangewide or even statewide as this is done by other entities (WYNDD, WGFD, FWS, GAP, etc.) rather our (BLM) obligation is to determine distribution and manage habitats. It is also the intent of this list to emphasize planning, management, and monitoring of these species.

Guidance

BLM Washington Office Instruction Memorandum IM 97-118 Guidance on Special Status Species Management (6840 Manual) was issued on April 30, 1997 in response to the February 28, 1996 Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) "Notice of Review of Plant and Animal Taxa That Are Candidates For Listing as Endangered or Threatened" (61 FR 7595). It states: *"The new candidate list eliminated the separate categories of candidates (Category-1 and Category-2) and redefined candidates to include only species for which the FWS has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support issuance of a proposed rule to list, but for which issuance of the proposed rule is precluded by higher listing priorities. The December 5, 1996, notice made this decision to eliminate the Category-2 candidate (C2) list final. In a separate "Notice of Candidate Taxa Reclassification" (61 FR 7457), FWS reclassified 96 former Category-1 (C1) candidates to non-candidate status. Consequently, the list provided in 61 FR 7595 consists of a new candidate list which is an updated list of approximately one-half of the former C1 species, plus those species currently proposed for listing as threatened or endangered. It is, in effect, the list of proposed species and the backlog of listing proposals."*

IM 97-118 continues by reiterating BLM policy to ensure actions authorized, funded, or carried out by BLM do not contribute to the need for any species to become listed as a candidate, or for any candidate species to become listed as threatened or endangered. Early identification of BLM sensitive species is advised in efforts to prevent species endangerment, and State Directors are encouraged to collect information on species of concern to determine if BLM sensitive species designation and special management are needed. It then urges evaluation of former C1 and C2 species to determine their vulnerability to ESA listing and therefore their designation by BLM as a sensitive species, and further urges states without a sensitive species list to institute one comprised of the former C1 and C2 species that meet the 6840 Manual criteria.

BLM WY Approach

In March 1990, an Umbrella Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) between the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) and USDI BLM Wyoming for Management of the Fish and Wildlife Resources on the Public Lands was signed. The purpose of the MOU was for the two agencies to work together to benefit all wildlife in Wyoming by cooperating in planning, and sharing data among other efforts. Six Appendices were planned for Specific Areas of Cooperation, one of which was titled Ecosystem Management and included the subtitle State Sensitive Species. This appendix has yet to be written although the WGFD has a Native Species Status (NSS) matrix (formerly called Species of Special Concern) identifying sensitive species, and under BLM Manual 6840 the Bureau is charged with using other agency's lists when BLM does not have a designated sensitive species list of its own.

The current status of BLM Sensitive Species lists in some adjacent states, and lists from other Federal and State agencies in Wyoming, were reviewed for this effort. BLM in Idaho listed 100 species of animals and 169 species of plants on their Sensitive Species List in 1996. In addition, they list 31 species on a Watch List for species whose populations and range appear to be restricted, but information is lacking as to the cause or if the species is headed for extinction and in need of management action to remove or reduce threats. Colorado and Arizona used the criteria from 6840 to update their lists (1998 and 2000 respectively). Arizona issued a list of 109 species, including 10 invertebrate species, in an Instruction Memorandum (IM) and Colorado updated their list to a total of 112 species in an Information Bulletin (IB). The Montana State Office issued an IM in May, 1994, listing 34 Special Status Species and 61 "Candidates" that includes the C1, 2, and 3 and proposed species. Their list has not been updated since the FWS Federal Register Notices in 1996. They have however started collecting information for Habitat Accounts that cover life histories, specific habitat requirements and a literature review for each sensitive species. BLM Utah (1997) lists a total of 178 mammal, bird, fish, reptile and amphibian species with 108 species of plants. The mammal and plant species listed by BLM Oregon/Washington numbered over 1000 species in February 2000 in 3 categories of Bureau Status: Bureau Sensitive - using the 6840 criteria; Bureau Assessment - species may need protection and are included in NEPA analyses; and Bureau Tracking - species for which more information is needed to determine status.

The Wyoming Natural Diversity Database (WYNDD) maintains a list of Wyoming Plant and Animal Species of Special Concern. It provides information on global and State abundance, legal status, and State distribution about rare species. Their Species of Special Concern criteria are: if species are vulnerable to extirpation at the global or State level due to inherent rarity; if there is a significant loss of habitat; or if the species is sensitive to human-caused mortality or habitat disturbances. This information can be found on the internet at: <http://uwadmnweb.uwyo.edu/wyndd/WYNDD/SpeciesofConcern.htm>

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department's Species of Special Concern (SSC) list in the 1996 Nongame Bird and Mammal Plan ranks 47 species using a matrix of population

variables and habitat variables. The codes of SSC1, SSC2, and SSC3 refer to each species' level of sensitivity and all are considered "sensitive." In 1998 the name of the matrix was changed to Native Species Status. The mammal list was revised in spring 2000 to reflect the addition of 12 species for a total of 35 mammals. The Department is actively involved in the Partner's in Flight effort to prioritize bird species of concern and develop a bird conservation plan. In November, 1999, the Habitat Protection Program (WGFD Cheyenne Office) produced a Species Watch List using State, Federal, and University of Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit sources to develop a list of 150 species that may need management attention.

Two Forest Service (USFS) Regions cover Wyoming: Region 2 (Rocky Mountain Region) in the eastern part of the State (Bighorn, Black Hills, Medicine Bow, and Shoshone National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland) and Region 4 (Intermountain Region) in the western part of Wyoming (Ashley, Bridger-Teton, Caribou, Targhee, Wasatch-Cache National Forests and Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area). The original list of Vertebrate Sensitive Species for Region 4, issued in August, 1990, listed 29 vertebrates. Their January, 1999, updated list includes 222 species of plants, mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles, the majority (200) of which are plants. Another update of the Region 4 list is planned for this fall. Region 2 is in the process of updating their 1994 list of 165 species of plants, mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles, and invertebrates. Thunder Basin National Grassland lists 8 plant and 33 vertebrate species on their Species of Concern list.

BLM resource specialists statewide were polled in March 2000 concerning development of the BLM Wyoming Sensitive Species list. Suggestions and concerns heard from the field were: the species on the sensitive species list should have declining populations throughout all or part of its range; that species are experiencing declining habitat conditions; that the species and their habitats had to be manageable; and that the list should have a limited number of species to meet the objective of focusing management attention. The population and habitat criteria expressed largely correspond with the 6840 criteria. The manageability of the species, their habitats and the list size have guided the development of this list. Also requested were management guidelines, which are not included at this time, but are seen as likely extension of this effort. General habitat requirements are provided in the table as well as statewide distribution by Field Office.

Evaluation/Monitoring/Review Process

The BLM Sensitive Species List is meant to be dynamic. The State Office wildlife and botany staff will annually review the list and solicit recommendations from BLM and non-BLM appropriate authorities for additions and deletions. If biological information shows that a species needs to be included, or removed, the appropriate Field Manager or the State Office can make a nomination for an addition or deletion with sufficient scientific justification and supporting data concerning the above-listed criteria. Under this scenario, if

such a species occurs in more than one Field Office, consensus will be sought from the other Field Offices before action is taken.

Any Federally de-listed threatened or endangered species will automatically be designated BLM Wyoming Sensitive for the 5 year monitoring period required by the ESA. Species that were evaluated in a FWS 12 month finding but were found to be “not warranted,” both petitioned species and species given candidate status after 1996 will initially be included on the BLM Wyoming Sensitive Species List.

The List

Using the criteria set forth in Manual 6840 (see page 1 above), BLM Wyoming is designating the following list of plants and animals to be Sensitive Species. While using these criteria, the process of including species on the list is still subjective. This list does not include those species already formally designated by the FWS as Federally endangered, threatened, proposed, and/or candidate.

Many species are not included on the list because their status is largely unknown and basic inventory is needed. It is the BLM Wyoming’s intent that the WYNDD’s and WGFD’s lists should be regularly consulted by field personnel to develop inventory projects designed to gather information on population size, trend, and distribution for these poorly known species. They should also be the target for budgetary funding for inventory purposes.

BLM WYOMING STATE DIRECTOR'S SENSITIVE SPECIES LIST (ANIMALS AND PLANTS)

April, 2001

Species Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Designation and Ranking of others: WY Natural Heritage Program, Forest Service (FS) Regions 2 and 4; Wyoming Game and Fish (NSS), BLM states and others ¹	Occurrence by BLM Field Office ²										
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO	
MAMMALS														
Shrew, Dwarf	<i>Sorex nanus</i>	Mountain foothill shrub, grasslands	G4/S2S3, FSR2, NSS3, UT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Myotis, Long-eared	<i>Myotis evotis</i>	Conifer and deciduous forests, caves and mines	G5/S1B, S1?N, NSS2, ID, OR/WA, AZ	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Myotis, Fringed	<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	Conifer forests, woodland-chaparral, caves and mine	G5/S1B, S1N, FSR2, TBNG, NSS2, ID, UT, MT, OR/WA, AZ			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Bat, Spotted	<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	Cliffs over perennial water, basin-prairie shrub	G4/S1B, SZ?N FSR2, FSR4, NSS2, ID, CO, UT, MT, OR/WA, AZ	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		
Bat, Townsend's Big-eared	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Forests, basin-prairie shrub, caves and mines	G4/S1B, S2N, FSR2, TBNG, FSR4, NSS2, ID, CO, UT, MT, OR/WA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Rabbit, Pygmy	<i>Brachylagus idahoensis</i>	Basin-prairie and riparian shrub	G4/S2, NSS3, ID, MT, OR/WA, IUCN LR(nt)				X						X	X
Prairie Dog, White-tailed	<i>Cynomys leucurus</i>	Basin-prairie shrub, grasslands	G4/S2S3, NSS3, MT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pocket Gopher, Wyoming	<i>Thomomys clusius</i>	Meadows with loose soil	G2/S1S2, NSS4, FSR2			X	X							
Pocket Gopher, Idaho	<i>Thomomys idahoensis</i>	Shallow stony soils	G4/S2?, NSS3, IUCN-LR(nt)				X						X	X
Fox, Swift	<i>Vulpes velox</i>	Grasslands	Removed from Federal Candidate list 01/08/01	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
BIRDS														

Species Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Designation and Ranking of others: WY Natural Heritage Program, Forest Service (FS) Regions 2 and 4; Wyoming Game and Fish (NWS), BLM states and others ¹	Occurrence by BLM Field Office ²												
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO			
Ibis, White-faced	<i>Plegadis chihii</i>	Marshes, wet meadows	G5/S1B, SZN, FSR2, TBNG, NSS3, UT, MT, CO, AZ	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Swan, Trumpeter	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>	Lakes, ponds, rivers	G4/S1B, S2N, FSR2, TBNG, FSR4, NSS2, ID, MT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Goshawk, Northern	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Conifer and deciduous forests	G5/S23B, S4N, FSR2, TBNG, FSR4, NSS4, ID, CO, UT, MT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hawk, Ferruginous	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	Basin-prairie shrub, grassland, rock outcrops	G4/S3B, S3N, FSR2, TBNG, NSS3, ID, CO, MT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Falcon, Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Tall cliffs	G4/T3/S1B, S2N, FSR2, TBNG, NSS3, UT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sage-grouse, Greater	<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain- foothill shrub	G5/S3, TBNG, ID, CO, UT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Grouse, Columbian Sharp- tailed	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus columbianus</i>	Grasslands	G4/T3/S1, FSR2, FSR4, ID, CO, UT, MT			X										
Curlew, Long- billed	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Grasslands, plains, foothills, wet meadows	G5/S3B, SZN, FSR2, TBNG, NSS3, ID, CO, UT, MT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cuckoo, Yellow- billed	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Open woodlands, streamside willow and alder groves	G5/S2B, SZN, FSR2, TBNG, NNS2, UT, ID, Petitioned	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Owl, Burrowing	<i>Athene cucularia</i>	Grasslands, basin-prairie shrub	G4/S3B, SZN, FSR2, TBNG, NSS4, ID, MT, AZ	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Thrasher, Sage	<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain- foothill shrub	G5/S3B, SZN, PIF Priority	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Shrike, Loggerhead	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain- foothill shrub	G5/S4B, SZN, FSR2, TBNG, ID, MT, AZ	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sparrow, Brewer's	<i>Spizella breweri</i>	Basin-prairie shrub	G5/S3B, SZN, TBNG, PIF Priority, ID	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Species Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Designation and Ranking of others: WY Natural Heritage Program, Forest Service (FS) Regions 2 and 4; Wyoming Game and Fish (NSS), BLM states and others ¹	Occurrence by BLM Field Office ²												
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO			
Sparrow, Sage	<i>Amphispiza billineata</i>	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain- foothill shrub	G5/S3B, SZN, PIF Priority, ID, MT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Sparrow, Baird's	<i>Ammodramus bairdii</i>	Grasslands, weedy fields	G4/S1B, SZN, FSR2, TBNG, MT	X	X	X		X		X		X				
FISH																
Chub, Roundtail	<i>Gila robusta</i>	CO River drainage, mostly large rivers, also streams and lakes	G2G3/S2?, NSS1, CO, UT			X	X							X	X	X
Chub, Leatherside	<i>Gila copei</i>	Bear, Snake and Green drainages, clear, cool streams and pools	G3G4/S2, NSS1, ID, UT				X							X	X	X
Sucker, Bluehead	<i>Catostomus discobolus</i>	Bear, Snake and Green drainages, all waters	G4/S2S3, NSS1, CO, UT			X	X							X	X	X
Sucker, Flannelmouth	<i>Catostomus latipinnis</i>	CO River drainage, large rivers, streams and lakes	G3G4/S3, NSS1, CO, UT			X	X							X	X	X
Trout, Yellowstone Cutthroat	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki bouvieri</i>	Yellowstone drainage, small mountain streams and large rivers	G4T2/S2, FSR2, NSS3, ID, MT	X	X			X				X				X
Trout, Colorado River Cutthroat	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki pleuriticus</i>	CO River drainage, clear mountain streams	G4T2T3/S2, FSR2, FSR4, NSS2, CO, UT, Petitioned			X	X							X	X	X
Trout, Bonneville Cutthroat	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki utah</i>	Bear R. drainage, clear mountain streams	G4T2/S1S2, NSS2, FSR4, ID, UT, Petitioned												X	
Trout, Fine- spotted Snake River Cutthroat	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki spp</i>	Snake R. drainage, clear, fast water	G4T1T2Q/S1, NSS4, FSR4, Petitioned												X	X
REPTILES																
Rattlesnake, Midgert Faded	<i>Crotalus viridis concolor</i>	Mountain foothills shrub, rock outcrop	G5T3/S1S2, CO				X									
AMPHIBIANS																
Frog, Northern Leopard	<i>Rana pipiens</i>	Beaver ponds, permanent water in plains and foothills	G5/S3, FSR2, TBNG, NSS4, CO, ID, MT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Spadefoot, Great Basin	<i>Spea intermontana</i>	Spring seeps, permanent and temporary waters	G5/S4, NSS4, CO			X	X							X	X	X

Species Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Designation and Ranking of others: WY Natural Heritage Program, Forest Service (FS) Regions 2 and 4; Wyoming Game and Fish (NSS), BLM states and others¹	Occurrence by BLM Field Office²											
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO		
Toad, Boreal (Northern Rocky Mountain population)	<i>Bufo boreas boreas</i>	Pond margins, wet meadows, riparian areas	G4T4/S2,NSS2, FSR2, FSR4, UT, ID	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X
Frog, Spotted	<i>Rana pretiosa (lutiventris)</i>	Ponds, sloughs, small streams	G4/S2S3, FSR2, FSR4, NSS4, ID, UT, MT	X			X	X			X			X	X
PLANTS															
Meadow Pussytoes	<i>Antennaria arcuata</i>	Moist, hummocky meadows, seeps or springs surrounded by sage/grasslands 4,950-7,900'	G2/S2				X	X							X
Laramie Columbine	<i>Aquilegia laramiense</i>	Crevicees of granite boulders & cliffs 6,400-8,000'	G2/S2, FSR2			X									
Small Rock Cress	<i>Arabis pusilla</i>	Cracks/Crevicees in sparsely vegetated granite/pegmatite outcrops w/in sage/grasslands 8,000-8,100'	G1/S1 Removed from Federal Candidate list 10/25/99				X								
Mystery Wormwood	<i>Artemisia biennis var. diffusa</i>	Clay flats & playas 6,500'	G5T1/S1						P						
Porter's Sagebrush	<i>Artemisia porteri</i>	Sparsely vegetated badlands of ashy or tuffaceous mudstone & clay slopes 5,300-6,500'	G2/S2					X		X			X		
Dubois Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus giviflorus var. purpureus</i>	Barren shale, badlands, limestone, & redbed slopes & ridges 6,900- 8,800'	G5T2/S2					X							
Hyattville Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus jejunus var. articulatus</i>	Sparsely vegetated stony ridges & barren red clay slopes 4,900-5,900'	G3T1/S1								X				
Nelson's Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus nelsonianus -or- Astragalus pectinatus var. platyphyllus</i>	Alkaline clay flats, shale bluffs and gullies, pebbly slopes, and volcanic cinders in sparsely vegetated sagebrush, juniper, & cushion plant communities at 5200-7600'	G2/S2, CO			X	X	X					X		
Trelease's Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus racemosus var. treleasei</i>	Sparsely vegetated sagebrush communities on shale or limestone outcrops & barren clay slopes at 6500-8200'	G5T2/S1											X	X

Species Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Designation and Ranking of others: WY Natural Heritage Program, Forest Service (FS) Regions 2 and 4; Wyoming Game and Fish (NSS), BLM states and others ¹	Occurrence by BLM Field Office ²												
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO			
Precocious Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus proimanthus</i>	Cushion plant communities on rocky, clay soils mixed with shale on summits & slopes of white shale hills 6,800-7,200'	G1/S1				X									
Cedar Rim Thistle	<i>Cirsium aridum</i>	Barren, chalky hills, gravelly slopes, & fine textured, sandy- shaley draws 6,700-7,200'	G2Q/S2		X		X	X								X
Ownbey's Thistle	<i>Cirsium ownbeyi</i>	Sparsely vegetated shaley slopes in sage & juniper communities 6,440- 8,400'	G3/S2				X									
Many-stemmed Spider-flower	<i>Cleome multicaulis</i>	Semi-moist, open saline banks of shallow ponds & lakes with baltic rush & bulrush 5,900'	G2G3/S1							X						
Owl Creek Miner's Candle	<i>Cryptantha subcapitata</i>	Sandy-gravelly slopes & desert ridges on sandstones of the Winds River Formation 4,700-6,000'	G1/S1							X						
Evert's Water- Parsnip	<i>Cymopterus evertii</i>	Coarse volcanic soils or sandstone outcrops dominated by cushion plants or sparse shrublands in openings within Reky Mtn juniper or Limber pine woodlands at 5,900- 10,900'	G2G3/S2S3		X											
Williams' Wafer- Parsnip	<i>Cymopterus williamsii</i>	Open ridgetops & upper slopes with exposed limestone outcrops or rockslides 6,000-8,300'	G3/S3	X						X		X				
Wyoming Tansymustard	<i>Descurainia torulosa</i>	Sparsely vegetated sandy slopes at base of cliffs of volcanic breccia or sandstone 8,300-10,000'	G1/S1				X									
Weber's Scarlet- Gilia	<i>Ipomopsis aggregata ssp. weberi</i>	Openings in coniferous forests & scrub oak woodlands 8,500-9,600'	G5T1T2Q/S1, FSR2			X										
Entire-Leaved Peppergrass	<i>Lepidium integrifolium var. integrifolium</i>	WY poplins occur in sparsely vegetated and seasonally wet clay flats, greasewood communities on clay hummocks, and moist alkaline meadows at 6,200-6,770'	G2T1?/S1													X

Species Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Designation and Ranking of others: WY Natural Heritage Program, Forest Service (FS) Regions 2 and 4; Wyoming Game and Fish (NSS), BLM states and others ¹	Occurrence by BLM Field Office ²													
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO				
Sidesaddle Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella arenosa</i> var. <i>agriflora</i>	Dry, open rock outcrops of gravel, shale, or limestone & barren, often seleniferous, roadsides 4,200-4,300'	G5T3/S1										X				
Fremont Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella fremontii</i>	Rocky limestone slopes & ridges 7,000-9,000'	G2/S2					X									
Large-fruited Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella macrocarpa</i>	Gypsum-clay hills & benches, clay flats, & barren hills 7,200-7,700'	G2/S2				X										X
Western Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella multiceps</i>	Dry, gravelly limestone ridges & slopes in sparse grasslands or cushion plant communities at 8,300-8,600'	G3/S1														?
Prostrate Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella prostrata</i>	Cushion plant or sparse sage grassland communities on slopes and rims of whitish to reddish or gray limey clays & soft sandstones with a surface layer of fine gravel at elevations of 7,200-7,700'	G3/S1														X
Absaroka Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon absarokensis</i>	Sparsely vegetated openings on steep slopes of loose volcanic rubble or outcrops of dry andesitic volcanic rock at 5,920-10,000'	G2/S2														X
Stemless Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon acaulis</i> var. <i>acaulis</i>	Cushion plant or Black sage grassland communities on semi- barren rocky ridges, knolls, & slopes at 5,900-8,200'	G3T2/S1						X								
Cary Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon caryi</i>	Calcareous rock outcrops & rocky soil w/in sage, juniper, Doug-fir, & limber pine communities 5,200- 8,500'	G3/S2, FSR2												X		
Gibbens' Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon gibbensii</i>	Sparsely vegetated shale or sandy- clay slopes 5,500-7,700'	G1/S1												X		
Beaver Rim Phlox	<i>Phlox pungens</i>	Sparsely vegetated slopes on sandstone, siltstone, or limestone substrates 6,000-7,400'	G2/S2						X							X	X
Tufted Twinpod	<i>Physaria condensata</i>	Sparsely vegetated shale slopes & ridges 6,500-7,000'	G2/S2						X							X	X

1 Rankings

Heritage Program

WYNDD uses a standardized ranking system developed by The Nature Conservancy's Natural Heritage Network to assess the global and statewide conservation status of each plant and animal species, subspecies, and variety. Each taxon is ranked on a scale of 1-5, from highest conservation concern to lowest. Codes are as follows:

- G Global rank: Rank refers to the rangewide status of a species.
- T Trinomial rank: Rank refers to the rangewide status of a subspecies or variety.
- S State rank: Rank refers to the status of the taxon (species or subspecies) in Wyoming. State ranks differ from state to state.
- 1 Critically imperiled because of extreme rarity (often known from 5 or fewer extant occurrences or very few remaining individuals) or because some factor of a species' life history makes it vulnerable to extinction.
- 2 Imperiled because of rarity (often known from 6-20 occurrences) or because of factors demonstrably making a species vulnerable to extinction.
- 3 Rare or local throughout its range or found locally in a restricted range (usually known from 21-100 occurrences).
- 4 Apparently secure, although the species may be quite rare in parts of its range, especially at the periphery.
- 5 Demonstrably secure, although the species may be rare in parts of its range, especially at the periphery.
- H Known only from historical records. 1950 is the cutoff for plants; 1970 is the cutoff date for animals.
- X Believed to be extinct.
- A Accidental or vagrant: A taxon that is not known to regularly breed in the state or which appears very infrequently (typically refers to birds and bats).
- B Breeding rank: A state rank modifier indicating the status of a migratory species during the breeding season (used mostly for migratory birds and bats)
- N Nonbreeding rank: A state rank modifier indicating the status of a migratory species during the non-breeding season (used mostly for migratory birds and bats)
- ZN or ZB Taxa that are not of significant concern in Wyoming during breeding (ZB) or non-breeding (ZN) seasons. Such taxa often are not encountered in the same locations from year to year.
- U Possibly in peril, but status uncertain; more information is needed.
- Q Questions exist regarding the taxonomic validity of a species, subspecies, or variety.
- ? Questions exist regarding the assigned G, T, or S rank of a taxon.

State Status

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has developed a matrix of habitat and population variables to determine the conservation priority of all native, breeding bird and mammal species in the state. Six classes of Native Status Species (NSS) are recognized, of which classes 1, 2, and 3 are considered to be high priorities for conservation attention.

These classes can be defined as follows:

- NSS1 Includes species with on-going significant loss of habitat and with populations that are greatly restricted or declining (extirpation appears possible).
- NSS2 Species in which (1) habitat is restricted or vulnerable (but no recent or significant loss has occurred) and populations are greatly restricted or declining; or (2) species with on-going significant loss of habitat and populations that are declining or restricted in numbers and distribution (but extirpation is not imminent).
- NSS3 Species in which (1) habitat is not restricted, but populations are greatly restricted or declining (extirpation appears possible); or (2) habitat is restricted or vulnerable (but no recent or significant loss has occurred) and populations are declining or restricted in numbers or distribution (but extirpation is not imminent); or (3) significant habitat loss is on-going but the species is widely distributed and population trends are thought to be stable.

Forest Service

- Region 2 - Rocky Mountain Region
- Region 4 - Intermountain Region
- TBNG - Thunder Basin National Grassland

Other BLM states

- AZ Arizona
- CO Colorado
- ID Idaho
- MT Montana
- OR/WA Oregon/Washington
- UT Utah

IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature, Rodent Specialist Group. North American Red List. LOWER RISK (LR) - A taxon is Lower Risk when it has been evaluated, does not satisfy the criteria for any of the categories Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable. Taxa included in the Lower Risk category can be separated into three subcategories:

1. Conservation Dependent (cd). Taxa which are the focus of a continuing taxon-specific or habitat-specific conservation programme targeted towards the taxon in question, the cessation of which would result in the taxon qualifying for one of the threatened categories above within a period of five years.
2. Near Threatened (nt). Taxa which do not qualify for Conservation Dependent, but which are close to qualifying for Vulnerable.
3. Least Concern (lc). Taxa which do not qualify for Conservation Dependent or Near Threatened.

PIF - Partners in Flight, a coalition of federal, state and provincial agencies, private groups, corporations and individuals dedicated to neotropical migratory bird conservation

Petitioned- Species which has been petitioned for listing under the Endangered Species Act

2 Occurrence by BLM Field Office
WFO World

CFYO Cody
RFO Rawlins
RSFO Rock Springs
LFO Lander
CFO Casper
BFO Buffalo
NFO Newcastle
KFO Kemmerer
PFO Pinedale

For Plants:

- P** - Indicates occurrence within BLM Field Office area on Private Land Ownership
- S** - Indicates occurrence within BLM Field Office area on State Land Ownership
- F** - Indicates occurrence within BLM Field Office area on other Federal Land Ownership
- ?** - Indicates likely occurrence within BLM Field Office area