

October 12, 2000

Information Bulletin No. WY-2001-004

To: Field Managers and Deputy State Directors

From: Deputy State Director, Resources Policy and Management

Subject: Review of Draft BLM (Wyoming) Sensitive Species List DD 11/24/00

In accordance with Bureau policy and directives, the Wyoming State Office (WSO) has been in the process of developing a sensitive species list for BLM managed public lands in Wyoming for sometime. For a variety of reasons, but mostly due to a lack of dedicated time to spend on the effort, our sensitive species list was not getting completed. For this reason, Vicki Herren (biologist in Rock Springs) was detailed to the WSO this past spring to finish this effort. Vicki has now completed a comprehensive draft of a BLM (Wyoming) sensitive species list for the public lands.

Please have your appropriate staff(s) review the attached draft sensitive species list and respond to this office with any constructive comments you may have by NLT COB on November 24, 2000. Following the consideration and incorporation of reviewer comments, the list will be finalized, and issued as part of the collective body of our Wyoming public land management policy. The sensitive species list was originally planned to be one of the supplemental Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) to the umbrella MOU between the Bureau and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD). However, with the list in its current form containing plants and some different species than the WGFD has on its watch list, it has been decided the list should most appropriately be a stand-alone policy of the BLM.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact either Dave Roberts, or Vicki Herren of the Rock Springs Field Office, at 775-6099, or 352-0256, respectively.

Bill G. Daniels
Acting

1 Attachment:

1 - BLM (Wyoming) DRAFT Sensitive Species Policy and List (11 pp.)

Distribution

Director (230), Room 204, LS 1 (w/o atch.)
CF 2 (w/atc.)

DROBERTS:clh:10/10/00

LIST2.DRH

BLM Wyoming

DRAFT Sensitive Species Policy and List

September 13, 2000

Introduction

Many wildlife and plant species are experiencing population declines and one of the many causes is loss of habitat. For many species, the lack of status, distribution, and habitat requirement information prohibits any management attention. As a land management agency, the USDI Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wyoming is preparing a list of these species to focus species management efforts towards maintaining their habitats under a multiple use mandate.

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.

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 objective 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.

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, BLM.

The 6840 Manual states, ASec. 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.@

It further states, the State Director shall establish the process for developing, reviewing, maintaining, and coordinating with other agencies, organizations, and States to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the State's BLM Sensitive Species List. Suggested sensitive species designation criteria include:

- ◆ Could become endangered or extinct in a State, or within a significant portion of its distribution within the foreseeable future.

- ◆ Are undergoing significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution.
- ◆ Have typically small and widely dispersed populations.
- ◆ Are inhabiting ecological refugia, specialized, or unique habitats.
- ◆ Are State listed, or State proposed, but which may be better conserved through application of the BLM sensitive species policy.

Management requirements that apply to the species on the BLM WY Sensitive Species List are to avoid, or minimize impacts, to species whose viability has been identified as a concern by reviewing programs and activities to determine their potential effect on sensitive species.

History

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. Those criteria were attached to the IM and are:

1. Under status review by the FWS/National Marine and Fisheries Service(NMFS).
2. Whose numbers are declining so rapidly that Federal listing may become

- necessary.
3. With typically small or widely dispersed populations.
 4. Those inhabiting ecological refugia or other specialized or unique habitats.

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 lists

100 species of animals and 169 species of plants on their Sensitive Species List. 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. Arizona issued a list of 109 species, including 10 invertebrate species, in an IM dated April 2000. Colorado updated their list to a total of 112 species in an Information Bulletin in September 1998, too. The Montana State Office issued an IM in May 1994, listing 34 Special Status Species and has followed it up with Habitat Accounts that cover life histories, specific habitat requirements, and a literature review for each species. The mammal and plant species listed by the Oregon/Washington BLM 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's (WYNDD) list of Wyoming Plant and Animal Species of Special Concern provides information on global and State abundance, legal status, and State distribution about rare species. Species of Special Concern criteria refer to species that 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 Asensitive.® 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 90 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, 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 WY 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 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, as well as, statewide distribution by Field Office.

Evaluation/Monitoring/Review Process

The BLM Sensitive Species List is meant to be dynamic. Review of the list will occur every year. If information shows that a species needs to be included, or removed, the appropriate Field Manager can make a nomination for an addition, or deletion, with sufficient justification 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 Sensitive for the 5-year monitoring period required by the ESA.

The List

Using the criteria set forth in Manual 6840, BLM WY is designating the following list of plants and animals to be Sensitive Species. 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 on the list because their status is unknown and basic inventory is needed. Those species can be found on WYNDD's list. They should also be the target for budgetary funding for inventory and management purposes. It is the intent of this list to emphasize planning, management, and monitoring of these species.

In several families of vertebrates (i.e.; bats) or species in a habitat use guild (i.e.; birds in sagebrush-steppe, juniper obligates, etc . . .) all species could be considered sensitive species because of their specific habitat needs. In those cases, representatives of those habitats were used to keep the list to a manageable size.

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

September 2000

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 ² by BLM Field Office									
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO
MAMMALS													
Bat, Townsend's Big-Eared	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	caves and abandoned mines	G4/S1B, S2N FSR2, TBNG, FSR4, NSS2, ID, CO, UT, MT, OR/WA	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			
Myotis, Long-eared	<i>Myotis evotis</i>	conifer and deciduous forests	G5/S1B, S1?N, NSS2, ID, OR/WA, AZ	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Myotis, Fringed	<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	conifer forests, woodland-chaparral	G5/S1B, S1N, FSR2, TBNG, NSS2, ID, UT, MT, OR/WA, AZ			X	X		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
Rabbit, Pygmy	<i>Brachylagus idahoensis</i>	Basin-prairie and riparian shrub	G4/S2, NSS3, ID, MT, OR/WA, IUCN				X					X	
Chipmunk, Cliff	<i>Tamias dorsalis</i>	juniper	G5/S1, NSS3				X						
Mouse, Canyon	<i>Peromyscus crinitus</i>	juniper	G5/S1, NSS3				X						
Mouse, Pinyon	<i>Peromyscus truei</i>	juniper	G5/S1?, NSS3, IUCN				X						
Shrew, Dwarf	<i>Sorex nanus</i>	mountain foothill shrub, grasslands	G4/S2S3, FSR2, NSS3	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 (NSS), BLM States and others ¹	Occurrence ² by BLM Field Office										
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO	
Curlew, Long-billed	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	grasslands, plains, foothills, wet meadows	G5/S3B, SZN FSR2, TBNG, NSS3, ID, CO, UT, MT											
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
Falcon, Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	tall cliffs	G4/T3/S1B, S2N, FSR2, TBNG, NSS4, UT	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
Owl, Burrowing	<i>Athene cunicularia</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
Grouse, Sage	<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
Grouse, Columbian Sharp-tailed	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus columbianus</i>	grasslands	G4/T3/S1, FSR2, FSR4, Petitioned, ID, CO, UT, MT			X								
Titmouse, Juniper	<i>Baeolophus griseus</i>	pinyon/juniper	G5/S2S3, NSS3				X						X	
Scrub-jay, Western	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	pinyon/juniper	G5/S2, NSS3				X						X	
Flycatcher, Ash-throated	<i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i>	pinyon/juniper	G5/S3?B,S3N, NSS3				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
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
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

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 ² by BLM Field Office										
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO	
Shrike, Loggerhead	<i>Lanus 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
FISH														
Chub, Roundtail	<i>Gila robusta</i>		G3G4/S2?, NSS1, CO			X	X						X	
Sucker, Bluehead	<i>Catostomus discobolus</i>		G4/S2S3, NSS1, CO			X	X						X	
Sucker, Flannelmouth	<i>Catostomas latipinnis</i>		G3G4/S3, NSS1, CO			X	X						X	
Trout, Colorado River Cutthroat	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki pleuriticus</i>		G4T2T3/S2, FSR2, FSR4, NSS2, CO			X	X						X	
Trout, Bonneville Cutthroat	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki utah</i>		G4T2/S1S2, FSR4, ID										X	
Trout, Fine-spotted Snake River Cutthroat	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki spp</i>		G4T1T2Q/S1, FSR4			X	X						X	
Chub, Leatherside	<i>Gila copei</i>		G3G4/S2, NSS1, ID			X	X						X	
REPTILES														
Rattlesnake, Midget 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
Spadefoot, Great Basin	<i>Spea intermontana</i>	Spring seeps, permanent and temporary waters	G5/S4, NSS4, CO			X	X	X					X	
Toad, Boreal (Northern Rocky Mountain population)	<i>Bufo boreas boreas</i>	Pond margins, wet meadows, riparian areas	G4T4/S2, FSR2, FSR4, UT, ID					X					X	X
Frog, Spotted	<i>Ranus pretiosa</i>	Ponds, sloughs,	G4/S2S3, FSR2, FSR4,		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 ² by BLM Field Office										
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO	
		small streams	NSS4ID, UT, MT											
PLANTS														
Colorado Butterfly Plant	<i>Guara neomexicana</i> <i>ssp. coloradensis</i>		G4/T2, S2			X						X		
Desert Yellowhead	<i>Yermo</i> <i>xanthocephalus</i>		G1/S1					X						
Small Rock Cress	<i>Arabis pusilla</i>		G1/S1				X							
Meadow Pussytoes	<i>Antennaria arcuata</i>		G2/S2				X	X						
Mystery Wormwood	<i>Artemisia biennis</i> <i>var. diffusa</i>		G5T1/S1				X							
Porter's Sagebrush	<i>Artemisia porteri</i>		G2/S2					X	X					
Dubois Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus</i> <i>gilviflorus</i> <i>var. purpureus</i>		G5T2/S2					X						
Hyattville Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus jejunus</i> <i>var. articulatus</i>		G3T1/S1	X										
Precocious Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus</i> <i>proimanthus</i>		G1/S1				X							
Cedar Rim Thistle	<i>Cirsium aridum</i>		G2/S2			X	X	X						X
Ownbey's Thistle	<i>Cirsium owenbyi</i>		G3/S1				X							
Many-stemmed Spider-flower	<i>Cleome multicaulis</i>		G2/S1						X					
Owl Creek Miner's Candle	<i>Cryptantha</i> <i>subcapita</i>		G1/S1					X						
Wyoming Tansymustard	<i>Descurainia torulosa</i>		G1/S1				X							
Ward's Goldenweed	<i>Haplopappus wardii</i> <i>(or)</i> <i>Oonopsis wardii</i>		G2/S2			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 ² by BLM Field Office										
				WFO	CYFO	RFO	RSFO	LFO	CFO	BFO	NFO	KFO	PFO	
Sidesaddle Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella arenosa</i> <i>var. agrillosa</i>		G5T3/S1									X		
Fremont Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella</i> <i>fremontii</i>		G2/S2					X						
Large-fruited Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella</i> <i>macrocarpa</i>		G2/S2				X						X	
Western Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella</i> <i>multiceps</i>		G3/S1										X	
Prostrate Bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella</i> <i>prostrata</i>		G3/S1										X	
Absaroka Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon</i> <i>absorkensis</i>		G2/S2		X									
Stemless Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon acaulis</i> <i>var. acaulis</i>		G3T2/S1				X							
Gibben's Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon gibbensii</i>		G1/S1			X								
Beaver Rim Phlox	<i>Phlox pungens</i>		G2/S2				X	X					X	X
Dorn's Twinpod	<i>Physaria dornii</i>		G1/S1										X	
Persistent Sepal Yellowgrass	<i>Rorippa calycina</i>		G3/S3	X	X	X		X						
Shoshonea	<i>Shoshonea pulvinata</i>		G2G3/S2		X			X						
Laramie False Sagebrush	<i>Sphaeromeria</i> <i>simplex</i>		G1/S1			X			X					
Rock Springs Greenthread	<i>Thelesperma</i> <i>caespitosum</i>		G1/S1				X							
Uinta Greenthread	<i>Thelesperma</i> <i>pubescens</i>		G1/S1				X							
Cedar Mtn. Easter Daisy	<i>Cedar Mtn. Easter</i> <i>Daisy</i>		G1/S1				X							
Barneby's Clover	<i>Trifolium barnebyi</i>		G1/S1					X						

¹ Rankings

Heritage Program

WYND 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

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

2 Occurrence by BLM Field Office