



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Oregon State Office

P.O. Box 2965

Portland, Oregon 97208

In Reply Refer to:

6840 (OR931) P

November 14, 2011

EMS TRANSMISSION 12/21/2011

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2012-018

Expires: 09/30/2013

To: All District Managers

From: State Director, Oregon/Washington

Subject: Final State Director's Special Status Species List

Program Area: Special Status Species (SSS)

Purpose: The purpose of this instruction memorandum (IM) is to issue a final State Director's SSS List.

Policy/Action: This IM officially updates the State Director's SSS list, which includes federally threatened, endangered, and proposed and bureau sensitive and strategic species (Attachment 1) for the Oregon/Washington Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The updated list reflects comments and corrections received from the field in response to IM-OR-2010-040 transmitted June 10, 2010.

The attachments to this IM include the final SSS list (Attachment 1) and the criteria for determining inclusion as sensitive or strategic species (Attachment 2). All attachments are available for download from the Interagency Special Status/Sensitive Species Program (ISSSSP) website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/sfpnw/issssp/agency-policy/>.

Management of Bureau Sensitive species shall follow the SSS policy as identified in BLM Manual 6840 (12/12/2008, IM-2009-039). In addition, surveys and site information of Bureau Sensitive species shall be entered into the agency corporate database, Geographic Biotic Observations (GeoBOB). Bureau Strategic species are not special status for management purposes. The only requirement for this group of species is that information for species sites located during any survey efforts shall be entered into GeoBOB.

Timeframe: Apply the updated State Director's SSS list (with the exception of Bureau Strategic species) included in Attachment 1 to all projects initiated on or after the date of this IM.

Projects initiated prior to the date of this IM may apply either the updated SSS list transmitted in this IM or the SSS list in effect when the project was initiated. For the purpose of this IM, “initiated” means that a signed, dated document such as a project initiation letter, scoping letter, or *Federal Register* Notice has been completed for the project.

Budget Impact: None

Background: The State Director transmitted new criteria (July 25, 2007, IM-OR-2007-072) jointly approved by the R6 Regional Forester and BLM Oregon/Washington (OR/WA) State Director for determination of species included within the BLM SSS and Forest Service (FS) Sensitive Species Program. The old criteria for Bureau Sensitive species were replaced by new criteria in Attachment 1 of IM-OR-2007-072. The new criteria were designed to make the two agencies (BLM and FS) more consistent in their approaches to the development of lists of species with conservation concerns. The memo also reissued SSS lists applying the new criteria and reissued policy maintaining the Bureau Sensitive category, removing the Bureau Assessment and Bureau Tracking categories, and establishing a new category identified as Bureau Strategic.

The BLM Manual Section 6840 (SSS Management) was updated in December 2008. The Washington Office asked State Offices to review their criteria for identifying sensitive species and update their lists. Sensitive species policy objectives are to initiate proactive conservation measures that reduce or eliminate threats to Bureau Sensitive species to minimize the likelihood of and need for listing of these species under the Endangered Species Act (BLM Manual 6840.02). The manual, policy, and IM-2009-03 can be found at:
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/sfpnw/issssp/agency-policy/>.

Coordination: OR 931, Branch of Forest Resources and Special Status Species, and OR/WA districts.

Contact: Carol Hughes, Interagency Special Status/Sensitive Species Program Specialist, at 503-808-2661.

Districts with Unions are reminded to notify their unions of this IM and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your servicing Human Resources Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you with assistance in this matter.

Signed by
 Michael S. Mottice
 Associate State Director

Authenticated by
 Paj Shua Cha
 Records Section

Attachments

- 1 - Final OR/WA BLM State Director Special Status Species List (Excel Spreadsheet)
- 2 - Criteria for Determining OR/WA BLM and FS RG Sensitive and Strategic Species (1p)

Distribution

WO230 (5644 MIB)

OR930 (Michael Haske)

OR931 (Al Doelker, Lee Folliard, Bruce Hollen, Kelly Van Norman, Mark. Mousseaux,
(Diane Stutzman and R. Huff)

OR932 (Todd Thompson)

OR-933 (Anne Boeder, Margaret Langlas, Cindy Lou McDonald)

OR BOTANY ALL

OR WILDLIFE ALL

Forest Service, Region 6 (Debbie Hollen, Michele Huffman, Carol S. Hughes, Sarah Madsen,
Darci Pankratz, Elaine Rybak, Scott Woltering and Mark Skinner)

-Criteria for determining FS R6 and OR/WA BLM Sensitive and Strategic Species

December 1, 2011

Sensitive

1. All USFWS and NOAA Candidate species that are suspected¹ or documented on BLM/FS lands
2. All de-listed USFWS species that are suspected¹ or documented on BLM/FS lands are considered Sensitive for the duration of their delisting monitoring plan
3. S1, S1S2, S1S3, S2, or S2S3 **and** G1-G5² or GNR or GU, **or** T1-T5² or TNR or TU ranks, **or** N1-N5² or NNR or NU
4. S2S4 or S3 **and** G1-G3³, or N1-N3³, or T1-T3³ ranks

For both 3 and 4, the following must also apply:

- a. For Oregon, species must also be ORBIC List 1 or 2, and documented on at least one FS or BLM unit in Oregon
- b. For Washington, flora species cannot have WNHP Review 1 or 2 status⁴, and must be documented on at least one FS or BLM unit in Washington
- c. Cannot be an undescribed species
- d. Cannot have questionable taxonomy (Q on the G rank)
- e. For species with an identified ESU/DPS, can have questionable taxonomy, be on ORBIC List 3, or not be ranked in the state (SNR).

Strategic

1. Any species meeting items 3 or 4 above but:
 - a. For Oregon, species is suspected¹ only (not documented) on one or more FS or BLM unit in Oregon, and/or
 - b. For Washington, species is suspected¹ only (not documented) on one or more FS or BLM unit in Washington, and/or
 - c. Species is undescribed and/or
 - d. Species has questionable taxonomy (Q on the G rank) and/or
 - e. For Oregon, species is ORBIC List 3 and/or
 - f. For Washington, flora species is WNHP Review 1 or 2⁴
2. SH or SX **and** G1-G5² or GH or GX
3. SU or SNR **and** G1-G3³ or GH or GX, or T1-T3³ or TH or TX, or N1-N3³ or NH or NX

For items 1-3 the following must also apply:

- a. For Oregon, species is ORNHIC List 1, 2 or 3

For items 1c-1f and 2-3, the following must also apply:

- a. For Oregon, the species must be suspected or documented on at least one FS/BLM unit
- b. For Washington, the species must be suspected or documented on at least one FS/BLM unit

¹Habitat is expected to occur on FS/BLM lands and surveys have not been adequate (either in the quality of the surveys or the amount of habitat surveyed) or recent in order to determine presence/non-presence.

² G1-G5 (T1-T5) (N1-N5) includes G1, G1?, G1G2, G1G2?, G1G3, G1G3?, G2, G2?, G2G3, G2G3?, G2G4, G2G4?, G3, G3?, G3G4, G3G4?, G3G5, G3G5?, G4, G4?, G4G5, G4G5?, G5, G5? ranks

³ G1-G3 (T1-T3) (N1-N3) includes G1, G1?, G1G2, G1G2?, G1G3, G1G3?, G2, G2?, G2G3, G2G3?, G2G4, G2G4?, G3, or G3? ranks

⁴ WNHP does not apply Review 1 and 2 statuses to fauna