



White River RMP Oil and Gas Development Amendment FACT SHEET: Special Status Plants

The BLM lands in the White River Field Office provide important habitat to a number of special status plant populations, including:

- Two plants that are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act and are found exclusively in the Piceance Basin
- 13 additional plants that are BLM sensitive species, including two that had been previously proposed for listing under the ESA prior to the development of a cooperative conservation agreement between local, state, and federal agencies

These plants have very limited distributions and in some cases are found nowhere else in the world. Protective measures are detailed in Table 2-10.

The eight Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (totaling 17,400 acres) designated to protect special status plants will not change under this Amendment.

An additional 2,000 acres of important threatened and sensitive plant populations existing outside of the Areas of Critical Environmental Concern would be protected through specific stipulations, Conditions of Approval, and Best Management Practices for special status plants and their habitat.

The Amendment would apply stipulations to protect special status plant species:

- Areas within 660 feet of occupied and suitable habitat for federally listed, proposed, and candidate species, including any new habitat mapped as a result of future surveys, would be open to oil and gas leasing with a No Surface Occupancy stipulation (currently totaling about 32,400 acres). Areas within 330 feet of occupied habitat would have limited exceptions.
- Areas within 330 feet from the edge of occupied and suitable habitat for BLM sensitive plant species, including any new habitat mapped as a result of future surveys, would be open to oil and gas leasing with an No Surface Occupancy stipulation (currently totaling about 7,300 acres).