

APPENDIX F

**U.S. FOREST SERVICE, REGION 2
SENSITIVE SPECIES**

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FISH

- Flathead chub (*Hybopsis gracilis*). The flathead chub is common in most drainages east of the Continental Divide. Within the boundaries of the Thunder Basin National Grasslands (TBNG), flathead chub have been collected along perennial reaches of Antelope Creek, the Cheyenne River, and the Little Powder River. Typically, flathead chub occur in large silty rivers and seldom in ponds or in lakes.
- Plains topminnow (*Fundulus sciadicus*). In Wyoming, the plains topminnow is found in streams of the North and South Platte drainages, in the Niobrara River, and in headwaters of the Cheyenne River system. It usually inhabits clear, sand- or gravel-bottomed streams with considerable vegetation.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

- Northern leopard frog (*Rana pipiens*). The northern leopard frog is found throughout Wyoming and is relatively common. The frog is found in or near permanent water with associated vegetation. On occasion, this frog is found near temporary ponds several miles from permanent water. The northern leopard frog rests near pond and lake margins. During the summer months, it may be found foraging actively in protected places among sedges, cattails, and taller grasses.
- Tiger salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum*). Tiger salamanders are found throughout Wyoming from the lowest elevations to about 10,000 feet. They require a fairly moist environment and seek out places that provide a refuge from the drying influence of sun and wind. Transformed individuals are primarily terrestrial, migrating to ponds and lakes in the spring to breed and remaining there through most of the summer. Larvae may be found in intermittent streams and stockponds, as well as lakes and ponds.
- Milk snake (*Lampropeltis triangulum*). Milk snakes are found under flat stones, decaying logs and stumps, boards, or other debris. They may be found in prairie systems, river bottoms (broadleaf woodlands), rocky hillsides, and coniferous forests.

MAMMALS

- Swift fox (*Yulpes velox*). The swift fox is a yearlong resident in upland grasslands habitats of the TBNG. It prefers grasslands without shrubs and open areas with loose enough soils for burrowing.

BIRDS

- American bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*). The American bittern is a summer resident that occasionally may occur on the TBNG. The bird's habitat is marshes, swamps, reedy lakes, slow-moving rivers, moist meadows, and dense riparian thickets.
- Western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*). This bird is found in cottonwood or willow/riparian areas.
- Greater sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis*). The sandhill crane is a summer resident. The nesting habitat consists primarily of marshes, wet-moist meadow grasslands, sedge meadows. An open area with shallow water and, in places, dense vegetation such as willows, sedges, grasses, or rushes is optimal.
- Long-billed curlew (*Numenius americanus*). The long-billed curlew is a summer resident in sagebrush-grasslands. It prefers open areas of shortgrass flats with a few shrubs for nesting.

- Ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*). The ferruginous hawk is a summer resident of the TBNG. Individuals of this species nest in rock outcrops, on the ground, in a bank, or in coniferous trees. On the TBNG, most ferruginous hawks are ground nesters and are found throughout the grasslands.
- White-faced ibis (*Plegadis chihi*). White-faced ibis are uncommon summer residents in wetland areas of the plains. Habitat is almost exclusively ponds, marshes, muddy pools, stream margins, and river banks for breeding, feeding, and resting. Nesting habitat includes bulrushes or cattails, occasionally on the ground on an island.
- Common loon (*Gavia immer*). The common loon is found along rivers or near lakes or ponds with deep water and vegetation up to the water's edge.
- Merlin (*Falco columbarius*). The merlin is a year-round resident which uses a variety of habitats. Merlins prefer open areas to hunt and primarily coniferous forests in which to nest. They also may be found in deciduous woodlands along rivers. In winter, they frequent open parklands and prairies with a few scattered trees.
- Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*). Burrowing owls are summer residents in the area. They commonly use vacant prairie dog burrows in shortgrass areas and other vacant burrows such as rabbit or badger holes in upland grassland areas with few shrubs.
- Loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*). The loggerhead shrike is a summer resident in upland sagebrush shrubland/grasslands and is also found in pine-juniper woodlands. Shrubs and lookout perches adjacent to feed areas are important to this species.
- Fox sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*). Fox sparrows are year-round residents on the TBNG. They inhabit native riparian shrub with adjacent coniferous forest or woodland-chaparral, as well as burned coniferous and logged/thinned forests, aspen woodland, and willow thickets.
- Black-backed woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*). This woodpecker is a yearlong resident. Its habitat includes coniferous forests, especially forests that have burned. It nests in cavities in conifers.
- Mountain plover (*Charadrius montanus*). The mountain plover is a summer resident of the shortgrass and mid-grass grasslands. Plovers prefer bare ground or grassy areas without shrubs and vegetative height under 4 inches. Shortgrass habitats modified by prairie dogs, fire, or heavier grazing are frequently selected for nesting. Mountain plovers prefer sites with broad level topography.
- Upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*). The upland sandpiper is a summer resident on the TBNG. Its habitat is upland grassland with few shrubs, and it nests in a depression on open ground, feeding in open areas where visibility is good.
- Baird's sparrow (*Ammodramus bairdii*). Baird's sparrow is a summer resident on the TBNG. It frequents upland grasslands and is a ground nester in open prairie.
- Black tern (*Chlidonias niger*). The black tern is a summer resident of the TBNG. Black terns inhabit freshwater marshes, wet meadows, and marshy lakes and nest on a floating mat of dead vegetation, often on a muskrat house.
- Lewis' woodpecker (*Melanerpes lewis*). Lewis' woodpecker is a summer resident of the TBNG. Its habitat is cottonwood riparian areas and open ponderosa-pine or pine-juniper coniferous forests. Both dead and live trees are used for nest sites and as foraging perches. Scattered snags or live trees and brushy undergrowth must be available.

INVERTEBRATES

- There are no sensitive invertebrate species or potential habitat known to occur within this portion of the TBNG at this time.