

## Not R2 Sensitive Species and Not of Concern

### Recommendations and Evaluations

**Common Name:** Dakota Skipper

**Scientific Name:** *Hesperia dacotae*

**Recommendation:** Not R2 SS and not of concern

### Recommendation Rationale:

Based on description of range, it is assumed that this species is unlikely to occur on NFS lands in R2. This species is dependent on native prairie and now has a restricted and highly fragmented range. There are more than 50 occurrences, but many to most cannot be considered viable with little or no recolonization occurring. Global rank is G2, with populations declining as small populations die out.

Larvae feed on a variety of native prairie grasses, probably most often little bluestem. Adults nectar from a variety of flowers including thistles. Fire can be used safely fuel if loads are low and if applied very early in spring while larvae are still below the soil surface. Tolerates late season haying and light grazing. Herbicides, pesticides (grasshopper spraying) and excessive or improperly executed fires are threats to the species. If the Dakota skipper is documented on NFS lands, it should be added to the R2 Sensitive Species list.