

Table of Contents

Changes from the 2003 MIS Assessment	1
Brewer's Sparrow (<i>Spizella breweri</i>)	7
Juniper (Plain) Titmouse (<i>Baeolophus ridgwayi</i>)	18
Abert's Squirrel (<i>Sciurus aberti</i>).....	30
Hairy Woodpecker (<i>Picoides villosus</i>)	46
Red Squirrel (<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>).....	58
Elk	71
Wild Turkey	89
Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep (<i>Ovis canadensis canadensis</i>)	100
White-tailed Ptarmigan (<i>Lagopus leucurus</i>).....	110
Resident Trout.....	122
Aquatic Macroinvertebrates.....	134
Appendix -- Determining Habitat Trends	141

Changes from the 2003 MIS Assessment

This document revises the 2003 Management Indicator Species Assessment for the Carson National Forest. It includes additional national, regional, local, or forest-wide information for each species obtained over the past 3 ½ years. This assessment updates both population and habitat trends for each species. References cited and used in the assessment have been brought up to date as well.

In addition to revising species information, several other changes have been made to the assessment. For example, the 2003 assessment incorporated a figure displaying “Changes in Forested Seral Conditions in Timber Sale Areas on the Carson National Forest from 1986-2000.” This graph was placed in sections describing habitat condition and trend for Abert’s squirrel, hairy woodpecker, and red squirrel. The figures have not been included in this document, since they reflect only the impacts on a very small portion of the MIS habitat supported by the Forest. The figures could easily be misinterpreted as the impacts timber sales have had on all acres of MIS habitat.

Over the past 3 ½ years, little has changed on the Carson National Forest relative to MIS habitat trends. The Appendix showing habitat trends and how they were determined across the forest for each MIS has only minor changes from the 2003 assessment.