

**File Code:** 1920**Date:** 5/25/2016**Subject:** Species of Conservation Concern List for the Flathead National Forest's Draft Revised Forest Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement**To:** Flathead National Forest Supervisor

In coordination with the Flathead National Forest, and pursuant to my responsibilities and authority under the 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219.7(c)(3)), I have determined that the species identified in the enclosed list meet the criteria for species of conservation concern (SCC) as set forth in the 2012 Planning Rule and subsequent directives. This constitutes the SCC list for the Flathead National Forest's draft revised forest plan and draft environment impact statement (EIS). The definition of SCC is found at 36 CFR 219.9(c), and direction for identifying SCC are outlined in the Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 1909.12, Chapter 10, Section 12.52(c) and in Chapter 20, Section 21.22a.

Biologists, botanists, and other resource specialists from the regional office and the Forest developed the SCC list together using the best available scientific information, including the expertise offered by regulatory agencies and tribal, research, and conservation communities. The documentation, rationale and public outreach for potential SCC that your staff provided for the *2014 Assessment of the Flathead National Forest* have been vital to the process. All of this information was carefully reviewed, including information provided by the public, and evaluated best available scientific information to determine which species meet the SCC criteria (FSH 1909.12 Chapter 20, Section 21.22a(1)).

Please note that the identification of SCC is a dynamic process. New scientific information and public input may prompt changes in the SCC list for the final EIS and final revised forest plan. We will continue to work with you and your planning team to evaluate new information and determine if adding or removing species from the SCC list for the plan area is warranted.

The 2012 Planning Rule requires the components in your revised forest plan to provide the ecological conditions necessary to maintain a viable population of each SCC within the plan area (36 CFR 219.9(b)(1)). If you determine it is beyond the authority of the Forest Service or not within the inherent capability of the plan area to provide such conditions, you must document the basis for this determination in your decision and include plan components to maintain or restore ecological conditions within the plan area to contribute to maintaining a viable population of the species within its range (36 CFR 219.9(b)(2)).

I appreciate the assistance your staff provided during this process. I look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts in conserving the diversity of species on the Flathead National Forest.

LEANNE M. MARTEN  
Regional Forester

cc: Karen Mollander, Christine Dawe



Species of Conservation Concern *for the*  
Flathead National Forest's Draft Revised Forest Plan and  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement

<b>ANIMALS</b>	
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
Black swift	<i>Cypseloides niger</i>
Clark's nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga columbiana</i>
Flammulated owl	<i>Otus flammeolus</i>
Fisher	<i>Pekania pennanti</i>
Harlequin duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>
Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>
West slope cutthroat trout	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki lewisi</i>

<b>PLANTS</b>	
<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>
<i>Amerorchis rotundifolia</i>	Roundleaf orchid
<i>Botrychium paradoxum</i>	Peculiar moonwort
<i>Botrychium pedunculosum</i>	Stalked moonwort
<i>Carex chordorrhiza</i>	Creeping sedge
<i>Carex lacustris</i>	Lake-bank Sedge
<i>Collema curtisporum</i>	Jelly lichen
<i>Corydalis sempervirens</i>	Pale corydalis
<i>Cypripedium fasciculatum</i>	Clustered lady's-slipper
<i>Cypripedium passerinum</i>	Sparrow's-egg Lady's-slipper
<i>Drosera linearis</i>	Slenderleaf sundew
<i>Dryopteris cristata</i>	Crested shieldfern
<i>Eleocharis rostellata</i>	Beaked spikerush
<i>Epipactis gigantea</i>	Giant helleborine
<i>Eriophorum gracile</i>	Slender cottongrass
<i>Grimmia brittoniae</i>	Britton's dry rock moss
<i>Grindelia howellii</i>	Howell's gumweed
<i>Idahoa scapigera</i>	Scalepod
<i>Liparis loeselii</i>	Loesel's twayblade
<i>Lycopodium inundatum</i>	Northern bog clubmoss
<i>Meesia triquetra</i>	Meesia moss
<i>Mimulus breviflorus</i>	Short-flowered monkeyflower
<i>Petasites frigidus var. frigidus</i>	Arctic sweet coltsfoot
<i>Scorpidium scorpioides</i>	Scorpidium moss
<i>Sphagnum magellanicum</i>	Magellan's peatmoss
<i>Trichophorum cespitosum</i>	Tufted club-rush