Potential Species of Conservation Concern
Ashley National Forest
As of July 13, 2016

The 2012 Planning Rule defines Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) as: a species, other than federally recognized as threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, that is known to occur in the plan area and for which the regional forester has determined that the best available scientific information indicates substantial concern about the species' capability to persist over the long-term in the plan area. Substantial concern is defined as some combination of threats either directly to the species or indirectly to its habitat. "Persistence over the long term in planning area" needs to be thought of in ecological time; in other words, the time needed for the species to disperse, compete, and reproduce throughout the cycle of forest succession. This is much longer than the 15 year forest planning cycle.

A total of 96 animal species and 81 plant species were reviewed as potential SCC for the Ashley National Forest. The following criteria or questions were considered in the initial evaluation:

- ***Is the species native to the planning unit or not?***
- ***What is the Global and State status of each species? (as defined by NatureServe)***
- ***In the past 20 years, how many occurrences and what year was the last occurrence for each species on the planning unit?***
- ***Are the species occurrences accidental or transient on the planning unit?***
- ***Is the species established or becoming established on the planning unit?***
- ***What is the distribution, abundance, and trend of the species on the planning unit?***
- ***What threats and risks does the species face on the planning unit?***
- ***What habitat requirement does the species have?***
- ***Finally, if present, is there substantial concern for this species to persist on the planning unit?***

The Forest primarily used a combination of the Forest Service wildlife and plant databases, Utah and Wyoming Natural Heritage Databases, and NatureServe information to answer the questions listed above. In some cases additional sources of information were used such as state level species reports/ Wildlife Action Plans, Birds of North America, and other published references.

Species currently being considered as potential SCC: Based on the literature review and analysis, the Forest is recommending the following species be carried forward for Regional Office review as Potential SCC for the Ashley NF. Those species are as follows:

Animals		Plants	
Greater sage grouse	***Centrocercus urophasianus***	**Graham's columbine**	***Aquilegia grahamii***
Peregrine falcon	***Falco peregrinus***	**Evert's Waferparsnip**	***Cymopterus evertii***
Black Rosy Finch	***Leucosticte atrata***	**Clustered Lady's-slipper**	***Cypripedium fasciculatum***
Colorado River cutthroat trout	***Oncorhynchus clarkii pleuriticus***	**Wasatch Draba**	***Draba brachystylis***
Pygmy rabbit	***Brachylagus idahoensis***	**Rockcress Draba**	***Draba globosa***
Fringed myotis	***Myotis thysanodes***	**Tundra Draba**	***Draba ventosa***
		Untermann's Daisy	***Erigeron untermannii***
		Huber's Pepperplant	***Lepidium huberi***
		Goodrich's Blazingstar	***Mentzelia goodrichii***
		Alpine Poppy	***Papaver radicatum ssp. kluanense***
		Stemless beardtongue	***Penstemon acaulis***
		Desert glandular phacelia	***Phacelia glandulosa var. deserta***
		Silvery Primrose	***Primula incana***
		Bristly-stalk Sedge	***Carex leptalea***
		Livid Sedge	***Carex livida***
		Compound Kobresia	***Kobresia simpliciuscula***
		Marsh Cinquifoil	***Potentilla palustris***
		Handsome Pussytoes	**Antennaria pulcherrima**

The next step in the process is to receive and consider public comments on this preliminary list of SCC. After a careful review and consideration of public comments, the Forest and Regional Office will work together to address these comments. However, the final decision of which species to move forward in the plan revision process is made by the Regional Forester.

More information on the draft SCC list will be presented at the next round of public meetings on revision (August 23-31, 2016). A detailed description of the evaluation process is available in the Forest Service Handbook for conducting assessments, as well as the 2012 Planning Rule, both of which are available on our web site (www.fs.usda.gov/goto/AshleyForestPlan).