

Species of Conservation Concern

Ecosystem- and Species-Specific Approaches to Maintaining Diversity of Plant & Animal Communities

Course Filter

Forest Plans must include direction for maintaining and restoring ecosystem integrity and diversity.

Ecosystem Integrity is the ecological condition of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and watersheds.

Ecosystem Diversity is the variety of ecosystems and habitat types throughout the Forest.



Fine Filter

When coarse filter direction isn't enough, there will be additional Forest Plan direction for:

- The recovery of ESA Endangered and Threatened species,
- The conservation of ESA Candidate and Proposed species, and
- Maintaining viable populations of Species of Conservation Concern.*

*When it is beyond the FS authority or capability of the Forest, the Forest will provide ecological conditions to contribute to viable populations of Species of Conservation Concern within their range.

What is a Species of Conservation Concern?

Species of Conservation Concern are native plant and animal species that:

- Are known to occur on the Forest
- and*
- The Regional Forester has determined the best available scientific information indicates substantial concern about their capability to persist over the long-term on the Forest.



Identifying Species of Conservation Concern

Is the species present in Forest?

For the answer, we look to sources such as:

- Idaho Fish & Wildlife Information System Database
- U.S. Forest Service Databases
- Global Biodiversity Information Facility
- Butterflies & Moths of North America Database
- Museum Records
- Herbarium Records
- Expert Knowledge

Is there substantial concern for the long-term persistence of the species on the Forest?

For the answer, we look to sources such as:

- Existing Risk Assessments (e.g. Idaho State Wildlife Action Plan, NatureServe, and U.S. Forest Service Sensitive Species List)
- Peer-reviewed Publications
- Forest Plan Monitoring
- Expert Knowledge

Based on this analysis, the Forest Supervisor makes recommendations to the Regional Forester for species they conclude should be Species of Conservation Concern for their Forest. Final authority for approval of Forest Species of Conservation Concern reside with the Regional Forester.