ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: *Rana sylvatica* (undescribed taxon) – Wood Frog; Bighorn Population

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	Occurs only on 2 Forests; Med. Bow/Routt, and Bighorn. Occurs within 3 watersheds on Bighorns, representing a disjunct population. Confidence in Rank **High**	• Garber 1994 • Golden 1995 • Baxter 1985 • Livo 1995
2 Distribution outside R2	C	Widespread throughout northern North America. Unknown at present in Montana (our nearest neighbor). Confidence in Rank **High**	• Behler 1988 • Reichel 1995
3 Dispersal Capability	B	Relatively low, will use coniferous forest, but only adjacent to wetlands. Sensitive to "xeric" barriers. Confidence in Rank **High**	• Garber 1994 • Haynes 1981 • Puttmann 1994
4 Abundance in R2	B	Abundant where found. Typical to this species, habitat requirements for breeding and metamorphosis are relatively narrow. Confidence in Rank **High**	• Garber 1994 • Golden, pers. obs.
5 Population Trend in R2	B	Locally abundant. Populations appear to be stable at this time, and annual fluctuations are within normal parameters. Confidence in Rank **High**	• Garber 1994 • Golden, pers. obs. • Dunlap 1997
6 Habitat Trend in R2	B	Occurrence of this species for the Bighorns lies entirely on National Forest; does not occur on other ownerships. Riparian areas are generally avoided or even excluded from management activities, resulting in a stable trend over the short-term. Succession of kettle ponds would result in a downward habitat trend over the long-term. Confidence in Rank **High**	• Golden, pers. obs. • Garber 1994

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7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	A	Habitat is very vulnerable to modification from management activities such as grazing, logging, and road construction. However, no current activities are planned that would modify suitable habitats. Confidence in Rank **High**	• Garber 1994 • Golden 1995 • Haynes 1981 • Puttmann 1994 • Golden, pers. obs.
8 Life History and Demographics	C	Wood frogs have a high biotic potential, and are sometimes described as an explosive breeder. But they are also highly susceptible to disease, predation, and habitat disturbance. Communal egg masses may number in the thousands (100-1,250/female). Confidence in Rank **High**	• Baxter 1985 • Livo 1995 • Behler 1988 • Haynes 1981 • Puttman 1994
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NOTE: The wood frogs found on the Bighorn lack a mid-dorsal stripe where as all other specimens from North American exhibit this characteristic, which implies that this population is distinct.

National Forests in the Rocky Mountain Region where species is KNOWN (K) or LIKELY(L)[1] to occur:

[1] Likely is defined as more likely to occur than not occur on the National Forest or Grassland. This generally can be thought of as having a 50% chance or greater of appearing on NFS lands.

Colorado NF/NG	**Known**	**Likely**	**Kansas NF/NG**	**Known**	**Likely**	**Nebraska NF/NG**	**Known**	**Likely**	**South Dakota NF/NG**	**Known**	**Likely**	**Wyoming NF/NG**	**Known**	**Likely**
Arapaho-Roosevelt NF			Cimmaron NG			Samuel R.McKelvie NF			Black Hills NF			Shoshone NF		
White River NF						Halsey NF			Buffalo Gap NG			Bighorn NF	K	
Routt NF	K					Nebraska NF			Ft. Pierre NG			Black Hills NF		
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF						Ogalala NG						Medicine Bow NF	K	
San Juan NF												Thunder Basin NG		
Rio Grande NF														
Pike-San Isabel NF														
Comanche NG														

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