

R2 Sensitive Species (SS)

Recommendations and Evaluations

Common Name: Black-backed Woodpecker

Scientific Name: *Picoides arcticus*

Recommendation: R2 Sensitive Species (SS)

Recommendation Rationale:

From the information given, this species appears to occur geographically only on the Black Hills and the Shoshone NF's (unconfirmed) in R2 which is on the extreme southern periphery of this species' range. It is considered an uncommon species because of its limited distribution within R2 and its habitat affinities (tends to respond positively to wood boring beetle larvae following fire). However, the species is under-represented in Wyoming. This is a fire dependent species whose habitat has been adversely affected by salvage logging and fire suppression. Distribution is scarce and patchy, and populations are irruptive which may be necessary for population structure and function and to take advantage of post-fire beetle abundance. For the reasons given above, population trend on NFS lands has likely been gradually negative for many of the past decades and therefore this species clearly warrants SS designation. The review likely under-represents the species' actual distribution/occurrence in R2 in Wyoming. It is a fire dependent species that likely has been adversely affected by suppression and post-fire "salvage" logging.