

**Not R2 SS, But Should Be Considered for other
Emphasis Species Lists**

Recommendations and Evaluations

Common Name: Great Gray Owl

Scientific Name: *Strix nebulosa*

Recommendation: **Not R2 SS, be should be considered for other Emphasis Species Lists**

Recommendation Rationale:

Because it is known to breed on only one R2 unit (Shoshone NF) and possibly on a second (Bighorn NF), and due to suspected stable current habitat conditions, this species does not appear to merit SS designation in R2. However, this species' dependence on a mosaic of older forest and edge conditions that is vulnerable to changes in timber harvest and fire regimes has been directly affected by NFS actions in the past (timber harvesting) and is likely to be affected in the future (the National Fire Plan). In addition, its likely vulnerability to continued habitat development on private lands immediately adjacent to NFS lands, and its life history characteristics of generally being a year round resident and long-lived, all strongly suggest that this species should be considered as an Emphasis Species by the R2 units on which it occurs.