

R2 Individual Species Recommendations

TAXON		Scientific Name		Common Name	
AB		<i>Falco mexicanus</i>		Prairie Falcon	
FWS	FS	BLM			
Grank	CO S Rank	WY S Rank	SD S Rank	NE S Rank	KS S Rank
G5	S4B,S4N	S4B,S4N	S3S4B,S4N	S3	SNA
	CO Status	WY Status	SD Status	NE Status	KS Status
IUCN	PIF – Area Importance		PIF – Population Trend		
Least concer					
FS Species Evaluation Preparer			Non-NFS Species Evaluation Preparer		
Mike Wrigley, PSICC					
Sensitive Species Recommendation (Please check 1 box below)					
	R2 Sensitive Species (SS)	√	Not R2 SS, but should be considered for other Emphasis Species Lists		
	Not R2 SS and Not of Concern Now		Insufficient Information Available to make a recommendation		
Recommendation Rationale					
<p>Distribution outside R2 is widespread through out western North America, and range-wide population trends are thought to be stable. The species is highly mobile and likely colonizes vacant suitable habitat easily. Population trend in R2 is likely stable though not well sampled by standardized protocols. Historic pesticide-induced population declines observed in other species (e.g. peregrine falcon) likely did not affect this species to the same degree. Although distribution in R2 is limited and patchy, there has likely been little change in the amount or distribution of suitable nesting sites. Localized decline in suitability of some cliff complexes has likely occurred due to human disturbance associated with increased recreational activities.</p> <p>Agency management actions may have contributed to some loss of foraging habitat capability due to fire suppression with ensuing conifer encroachment into meadows and grasslands. Both of these agency related effects could be mitigated through site-specific actions. Sensitive species status does not appear warranted at this time. Forests should consider this species for other emphasis lists and ensure that appropriate protection is afforded to nesting and foraging habitats.</p>					
Name/Title	Nancy Warren, TES Species Program Leader Chris Schultz, San Juan NF			Date	3/18/09

UPDATE (Peter McDonald, April 2015): The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service identified the Prairie Falcon as a “Bird of Conservation Concern” (2008) for BCR 16 (Southern Rockies/Colorado Plateau), BCR 17 (Badlands and Prairies), and BCR 18 (Shortgrass Prairie). The IUCN Red List identifies the species as “Least Concern,” due to its extremely large range, apparent increasing populations, and moderately small to large population size. The Prairie Falcon is not on the RED or YELLOW watch lists in the 2014 State of the Birds report from the American Bird Conservancy. The Natureserve global ranking is G5, Secure, though the status has not been reviewed since 1996 according to their webpage. Colorado identifies the Prairie Falcon in its draft wildlife action plan update (2015) as a Tier 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need, of interest but lesser urgency and priority than Tier 1. Nebraska identifies it as a Tier II species, which are not at-risk from a global or national perspective but are rare or imperiled within Nebraska. The bird is not identified as a SGCN in South Dakota, Wyoming or Kansas. Overall, the basic summary and rationale in 2009 appears to continue to apply. There is no obvious substantial new information since 2009 that suggests the Prairie Falcon now warrants addition to the Regional Forester’s sensitive species list. Applicable R2 forests should continue to consider it for other emphasis and particularly recognizing the variability in state rankings (more concern in some states than others).

Birds of Conservation Concern (2008):

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/NewReportsPublications/SpecialTopics/BCC2008/BCC2008.pdf>

IUCN Red List (accessed 4/27/15): <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/22705156/0>

State of the Birds (2014): <http://www.stateofthebirds.org/>

Natureserve profile (accessed 4/27/15):

<http://explorer.natureserve.org/servlet/NatureServe?searchName=Vireo+bellii>

Wyoming state wildlife action plan (accessed 4/24/15):

https://wgfd.wyo.gov/web2011/Departments/Wildlife/pdfs/SWAP_2010_FULL_OCT0003090.pdf

Nebraska state wildlife action plan (accessed 4/27/15):

<http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/wildlife/programs/legacy/review.asp>

South Dakota state wildlife action plan: <http://gfp.sd.gov/wildlife/management/plans/species-list.aspx>

Kansas state wildlife action plan (accessed 4/27/15):

<http://www.teaming.com/sites/default/files/Kansas%20Wildlife%20Action%20Plan.pdf>