

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: <b>Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)</b>			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
<b>1</b> Distribution within R2	<b>B</b>	This species is unevenly distributed within R2. It is most widely distributed during the breeding season in WY, less so in CO, rare and local in SD, and does not breed in KS and NE. TNC ranks Osprey as vulnerable in WY (S3B) and CO (S3B), critically imperiled in SD (S1B), and a non-breeder in KS and NE (S?N).  Confidence in Rank <b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sauer et al. 2001</li> <li>• NatureServe 2001</li> <li>• Luce et al. 1999</li> <li>• Barrett 1998</li> </ul>
<b>2</b> Distribution outside R2	<b>C</b>	TNC ranks Osprey as globally secure (G5). It is a widespread breeding species through out the United States and Canada, and the western palearctic. However, it is absent as a breeding species from much of the central great plains. Most of the population winters in Central and South America but a few birds remain along the Gulf Coast, central and southern FL and southern CA.  Confidence in Rank <b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sauer et al. 2001</li> <li>• NatureServe 2001</li> <li>• Wheeler and Clark 1995</li> </ul>
<b>3</b> Dispersal Capability	<b>C</b>	This species is highly mobile, undertaking mass annual inter-continental migrations. It has very high capability to disperse across the landscape and does not appear to be limited by habitat during long-distance movements.  Confidence in Rank <b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ehrlich et al. 1988</li> <li>• Poole 1989</li> </ul>
<b>4</b> Abundance in R2	<b>B</b>	This species is an uncommon breeding species through out R2. However, It is abundant in some areas such as northwestern WY and northcentral CO. In most locations, it occurs as single pairs associated with mid-sized lakes or reservoirs. Larger numbers of breeding pairs are found along a few large reservoirs and river systems.  Confidence in Rank <b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barrett 1998</li> <li>• Luce et al. 1999</li> <li>• Doreen Sumerlin pers comm.</li> <li>• Jerry Craig pers comm.</li> </ul>
<b>5</b> Population Trend in R2	<b>C</b>	The only Breeding Bird Survey data available for R2 is for WY, where this species shows a large but statistically non-significant increase since 1980. Unpublished USFS survey data from Colorado also shows a large increase in breeding numbers over the past decade. Partners in Flight data indicates the species is increasing significantly in the Central Rocky Mountains physiographic area (PA) but there is insufficient trend data for the remaining PA's in R2. It is generally considered to be slowly increasing through out its regular breeding range.  Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sauer et al. 2001</li> <li>• Doreen Sumerlin pers comm.</li> <li>• Partners in Flight 2001</li> <li>• Henny and Anthony 1989</li> </ul>

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
<b>6</b> Habitat Trend in R2	<b>B</b>	Habitat trend in R2 is considered stable. Nesting habitat, foraging habitat and food availability are considered stable.  Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partners in Flight 2001</li> </ul>
<b>7</b> Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	<b>B</b>	Partners in Flight ranks threats to breeding habitat as low (TB-L 2) for the Central Rocky Mountains and Wyoming Basin physiographic areas. Nests are placed in the top of large-diameter snags or spike-topped trees (usually conifers) within two miles of lakes or large rivers. Management actions that remove potential nest sites or replacement trees near water bodies could reduce local nesting habitat quality.  Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henny and Anthony 1989</li> <li>Partners in Flight 2001</li> </ul>
<b>8</b> Life History and Demographics	<b>B</b>	Osprey has shown strong sensitivity to pesticide poisoning resulting in dramatic reproductive failures and subsequent recovery across much of its North American range. However, they adapt readily to areas of high human activity and readily accept artificial nesting structures. Although the species has a low reproductive rate (average less than 3 young per attempt), strong recoveries from pesticide-induced reproductive failures across its range over the past two decades demonstrates the species can recover relatively quickly. Past limiting factors on populations were primarily biochemical and food supply related, rather than habitat quality or quantity.  Confidence in Rank <b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ewins 1996</li> <li>Olendorf et al. 1981</li> <li>Henny and Anthony 1989</li> <li>Poole 1989</li> </ul>
Initial Evaluator(s): Chris Schultz			Date: 09/13/2001

**National Forests in the Rocky Mountain Region where species is KNOWN (K) or LIKELY(L)<sup>1</sup> to occur:**

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

\_B = Breeding ; O = Occurs as non-breeder or breeding status unknown.

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### **REFERENCES :**

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