

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: (Podiceps nigricollis/Eared Grebe)

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	C	High. Fairly common but widely distributed breeding colonies in suitable habitat in R2. Breeding colonies are distributed throughout Colorado and central South Dakota and Nebraska and in Wyoming, but rare in Kansas. Most of these nesting colonies are off NFS lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kingery • Busby & Zimmerman • Oakleaf et al. • SDOU • Sharpe et al.
2 Distribution outside R2	C	High. Relatively common in freshwater and saline wetlands in the western North America and they winter along the Gulf and Pacific Coasts south to Guatemala.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Geographic Society • Ehrlich et al.
3 Dispersal Capability	C	High. Species is highly mobile and migrates long distances between suitable summer and winter habitats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ehrlich et al.
4 Abundance in R2	C	High. Breeding colonies may number in the 100s in North Park and the San Luis Valley in Colorado and in suitable habitats in central South Dakota and Nebraska.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al. • Kingery • SDOU • Sharpe et al.
5 Population Trend in R2	D	Low. The population trend of this species in R2 is uncertain because of lack of trend data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al. • Kingery • Sharpe et al.
6 Habitat Trend in R2	C	High. The marsh habitat is widely distributed and relatively stable throughout R2. Most of the nesting habitat is off NFS lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al. • Kingery • SDOU • Sharpe et al.
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	Moderate. Unstable water levels in the past at some of the wetlands associated with reservoirs have resulted in a loss of nesting production for this species and could have an adverse impact on this species in the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al. • Kingery

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8 Life History and Demographics	C	High. This species produces 4 to 7 eggs per nest and may at times produce two broods in a nesting season. Relatively high numbers of this species exist throughout R2 and there is no evidence of significant declines in R2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ehrlich et al. Kingery SDOU Sharpe et al.
Evaluator(s): Dick Roth			Date: 7/25/01

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

<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				
	O	Cimarron NG		O	Samuel R. McKelvie NF	B	Black Hills NF		O	Shoshone NF	B		
White River NF	B				Halsey NF		B	Buffalo Gap NG		O	Bighorn NF	B	
Routt NF		B			Nebraska NF		B	Ft. Pierre NG		B	Black Hills NF	B	
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF	B				Oglala NG		B				Medicine Bow NF	B	
San Juan NF	B										Thunder Basin NG		O
Rio Grande NF													
	B												
Pike-San Isabel NF		O											
Comanche NG		B											
Pawnee NG		B											

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.

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