

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: (Ardea alba/Great Egret)			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	High. R2 is on the extreme western periphery of the breeding range for this species. It is a rare breeder in extreme eastern Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota and two pair nesting near Boulder Colorado. This species is observed more broadly during migration throughout R2. It is unlikely that this species nests on any NFS units in the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Busby & Zimmerman • Andrews & Righter • Oakleaf et al. • SDOU • Sharpe et al.
2 Distribution outside R2	C	High. Species is broadly distributed throughout the US, Latin America, and other warmer regions of the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Geographic Society • Andrews & Righter • Carter et al.
3 Dispersal Capability	B	High. Readily disperses through suitable habitats along lakes, rivers and streams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Geographic Society • Ehrlich et al.
4 Abundance in R2	A	High. Restricted to a few breeding sites and summer distribution in the eastern planes. Occurrences on NFS units in the region are likely to be non-breeding occurrences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kingery • SDOU • Busby & Zimmerman
5 Population Trend in R2	D	Low. Little population trend data is available for this species in R2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al.
6 Habitat Trend in R2	B	Medium. Existing wetland habitat has remained relatively stable. Cottonwood riparian nesting habitat appears to be in abundant supply. The majority of the habitat for this species is off NFS lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al. • Kingery
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	High. Wetland habitats in some areas are under threat of alteration. On the eastern plains wetland alteration is less of a threat. No reported nesting occurs on NFS lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al.

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8 Life History and Demographics	C	Medium. Available information suggests that this species is competing effectively in the main part of it's range. Populations have increased since 1972 ban on DDT. They tend to nest in marshes, swamps, and wooded riparian areas. They usually produce three eggs per nest and only produce one brood per nesting season. They winter south to central America.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al. • Ehrlich et al. • Pratt & Winkler
Evaluator(s): /S/ Dick Roth			Date:06/18/01

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

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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