

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: Wilson's phalarope (<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>)			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	B	Wilson's phalarope occurs in all states of Region 2. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	•
2 Distribution outside R2	C	BREEDING: coastal British Columbia, southern Yukon, northern Alberta, central Saskatchewan, central Manitoba, southern Ontario, southern Quebec, northeastern New York, and New Brunswick, south to east-central California, central Nevada, central Utah, eastern Arizona, northern New Mexico, northern Texas, central Kansas, western Nebraska, eastern South Dakota, northern Iowa, northern Illinois, northern Indiana, and northern Ohio. Nonbreeders recorded in summer north to central Alaska, central Mackenzie, northern Saskatchewan, and Nova Scotia. NON-BREEDING: mainly in saline lakes of highlands of western and southern South America, from Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay south through Chile and Argentina, casually north to central California, Utah, central New Mexico, southern Texas, southwestern Louisiana, and Florida. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	• www.natureserve.org
3 Dispersal Capability	C	There are no known impediments to the dispersal of this migratory bird. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	•
4 Abundance in R2	C	In Canada the population is estimated at 100,000+ individuals, however, there are no abundance estimates for Region 2 or elsewhere. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	• www.natureserve.org
5 Population Trend in R2	C	North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) data indicate a significant population increase in western North America, 1966-1988. However, BBS data for 1984-1993 indicate a significant 41 percent decline overall. Range is expanding in eastern Canada. The population trend in Canada is viewed as stable". The species is viewed as apparently secure in Colorado, South Dakota, and Nebraska, vulnerable in Wyoming, and critically imperiled in Kansas.	• www.natureserve.org

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<p>6 Habitat Trend in R2</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>Wilson's Phalaropes use both fresh and alkali wetlands with three characteristics: open water, emergent vegetation, and open shoreline (Saunders 1914, Stewart and Kantrud 1965, Hohn 1967, Stewart 1975, Prescott et al. 1995, Naugle 1997). Nesting habitat varies widely, including wetlands, wet meadows, upland grasslands, and road rights-of-way (Roberts 1932, Bent 1962, Hohn 1967, Stewart 1975, Murray 1983, Bomberger 1984, Colwell 1987, Colwell and Oring 1990, Einemann 1991, Faanes and Lingle 1995, Dinsmore and Schuster 1997). Wilson's Phalaropes occasionally occur in Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) fields and dense nesting cover (Johnson and Schwartz 1993; Prescott et al. 1993). In North Dakota, Wilson Phalarope densities were highest in undifferentiated tillage wetlands (wetlands with frequently tilled soils), followed by temporary, seasonal, semipermanent, fen, alkali, and permanent wetlands (Kantrud and Stewart 1984). Wilson's Phalaropes often occupied the peripheral low-prairie and wet-meadow areas of most classes of wetlands in North Dakota. In South Dakota, the occurrence of Wilson's Phalaropes was associated positively with the presence of seasonal and semipermanent wetlands, stock ponds, and intermittent streams; area of alfalfa (<i>Medicago sativa</i>) hayland; area of surface water; and the percentage of grazed shoreline (Weber 1978, Weber et al. 1982). In eastern South Dakota, the probability of occurrence of Wilson's Phalaropes in semipermanent wetlands was related positively to the proportion of untilled uplands and the number of emergent hydrophyte species (e.g., willow [<i>Salix</i> spp.]) composing $\geq 10\%$ of the vegetated wetland area; Wilson's Phalaropes were associated negatively with wetlands dominated by thick-stemmed plants (e.g., cattail [<i>Typha</i> spp.] and river bulrush [<i>Schoenoplectus fluviatilis</i>]) (Naugle 1997). Within seasonal wetlands, the probability of occurrence of Wilson's Phalaropes was related negatively to wetlands dominated by thick-stemmed plants (Naugle 1997).</p> <p>There is no direct evidence of a decline in the habitat of Wilson's phalarope, probably because the species' affinity for tilled wetlands.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • citations in references section

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	D	Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	•
8 Life History and Demographics	B	Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	•
Initial Evaluator(s): John Sidle			Date: 7/12/01

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

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

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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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