

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: (xanthocephalus xanthocephalus/Yellow-headed Blackbird)

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	C	High. This species is a fairly common nesting species throughout R2. It does not nest in the Black Hills and is less common in Kansas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Busby & Zimmerman • Kingery • Oakleaf et al. • SDOU • Sharpe et al.
2 Distribution outside R2	C	High. They breed throughout the north central and northwestern U.S. and through central and western Canada and 98 percent of the global population is considered to breed outside R2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Geographic Society • Carter et al.
3 Dispersal Capability	C	High. This species winters south to southern Mexico and is readily capable of dispersing across landscapes to suitable habitats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Geographic Society • Carter et al.
4 Abundance in R2	C	Moderate. The species is quite common in suitable habitat throughout the region. The majority of the population is off NFS lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al.
5 Population Trend in R2	C	High. Available population trend information for this species indicates that it is stable in the region. The PIF rankings do not list years for trend assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al.
6 Habitat Trend in R2	C	Medium. Cattail marsh habitats on NFS lands and on private lands are relatively stable in the region. The majority of the habitat for this species is off NFS lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al.
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	C	Medium. Water draw down poses the greatest threat to this habitat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carter et al.

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8 Life History and Demographics	C	High. This species breeds in cattail marshes and may produce two broods. They are an occasional cowbird host. Marsh wrens destroy nests and this species recognizes the marsh wren as an enemy and attempts to exclude them from nesting territories. They winter south southern Mexico.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ehrlich et al.
Evaluator(s): Dick Roth			Date: 7/30/01

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	B		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	B	
Rio Grande NF	B													
Pike-San Isabel NF	B													
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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