

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: <i>Aquilegia chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i> /Golden Columbine			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	<p><i>A. chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i> is a rare, all-yellow columbine that only occurs in two locations in CO (S1); exclusively in El Paso County. This columbine <u>might</u> be found in seepage areas on limestone cliffs within the Arkansas Valley or in tributary canyons. There are 3 occurrences of this species in CO; one is known from the PSICC in the Pikes Peak RD. This species was also, reportedly, discovered in Boulder County in Long Canyon. However, this species is thought to be introduced in the area. There is some distribution confusion associated with this species The Plants database indicates this plants distribution is CO, NM, and AZ. NatureServe indicates it only occurs in CO. One CO report suggests the NM and AZ reports are probably erroneous. This confusion could have originated with a 1985 Notice of Review for Listing as Endangered or Threatened Species which listed the range of this variety as including NM and AZ, but no substantiated records can be located. For the purposes of this evaluation, the CO distribution was used. This plant is rare in R2.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CNHP • USDA, NRCS. 2002. The PLANTS Database, Version 3.5 (http://plants.usda.gov). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA. (Accessed October 4, 2002) • NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. 2001. Version 1.6 . Arlington, Virginia, USA: http://www.natureserve.org/explore . (Accessed: October 4,2002) • <i>Aquilegia</i>, Newsletter of the Colorado Native Plant Society, Vol. 20, No. 4, October-December, 1996.
2 Distribution outside R2	A	<p>Based on discussion above, <i>A. chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i> has not been identified outside of R2.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank: Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBID
3 Dispersal Capability	A	<p>Little is known about <i>A. chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i>'s dispersal capability. However, columbine generally reproduce through seed. Populations appear to be isolated. Based on little information available on dispersal mechanisms and isolated populations, dispersal capability is likely limited.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBID
4 Abundance in R2	A	<p>Of the 2 current locations of <i>chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i> in R2, one is reported to have 500 individuals, the other approximately 1000. Abundance of this species is very low in R2.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBID

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5 Population Trend in R2	D	No information is available on population trends in reported populations of of <i>A. chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i> in R2. Confidence in Rank Medium	• IBID
6 Habitat Trend in R2	D	No information is available on habitat trends in reported populations of of <i>A. chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i> in R2. Confidence in Rank Medium	• IBID
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	A	Populations occur on lands owned by the City of Colorado Springs and NORAD. Reports indicate one population (?) occurs within a heavily visited recreation area and its habitats may be threatened. Based on this information and limited distribution, this species is ranked A. Confidence in Rank Medium	• IBID
8 Life History and Demographics	D	There is no known published or unpublished information about the biology, ecology or demography of <i>chrysantha</i> var. <i>rydbergii</i> . Confidence in Rank Medium	• IBID
Initial Evaluator(s): Janice P. McKee, Botanist			Date: 10/04/02

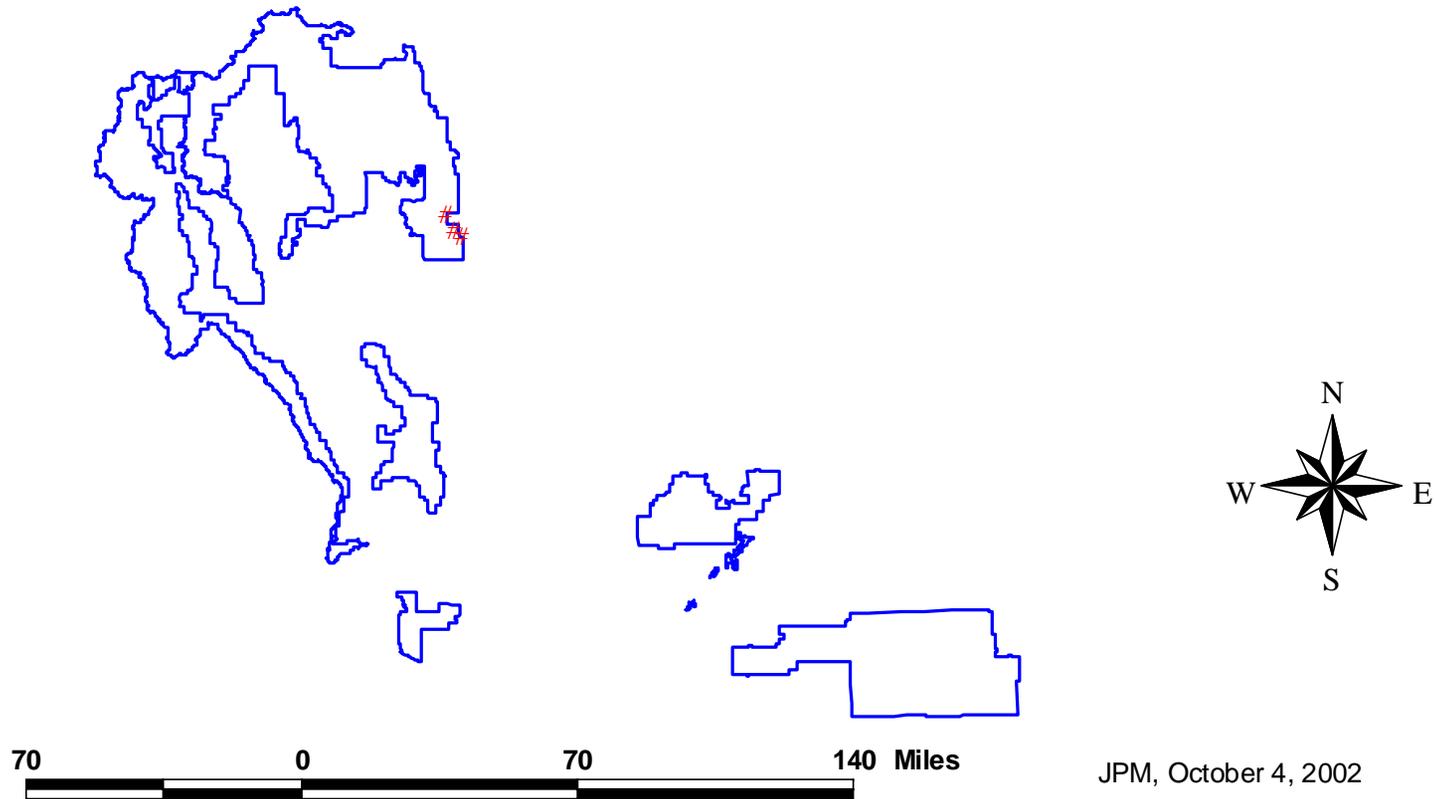
National Forests in the Rocky Mountain Region where species is KNOWN (K) or LIKELY(L)¹ to occur:

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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<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
		Cimmaron NG		Samuel R. McKelvie NF		Black Hills NF		Shoshone NF	
				Halsey NF		Buffalo Gap NG		Bighorn NF	
				Nebraska NF		Ft. Pierre NG		Black Hills NF	
				Ogalala NG				Medicine Bow NF	
								Thunder Basin NG	
	X								

PKSI
***Aquilegia chrysantha* var. *rydbergii* Distribution**



JPM, October 4, 2002