

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: *Braya glabella* / Smooth Rockcress, Arctic Braya

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	<i>Braya glabella</i> is primarily a circumboreal species, with disjunct populations in the mountains of central Colorado (Chaffee, Gunnison, Park, and Pitkin counties) and northwest Wyoming (Sublette and Teton counties). In Colorado, this species is found above 12,000 feet on sparsely vegetated gravelly slopes of Leadville Limestone and other calcareous rock (Spackman et al. 1997). Wyoming populations occur on barren cliff edges on calcareous soils within a matrix of <i>Dryas octopetala</i> - <i>Carex rupestris</i> vegetation above 11,000 feet (Fertig 2000 b). They are west of the Region 2 perimeter but potential habitat may occur nearby in the northeastern Wind River Range on Shoshone NF in Region 2. Confidence in Rank: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertig 1998 • Fertig 2000 a • Fertig 2000 b • Spackman et al. 1997 • University of Wyoming 1998
2 Distribution outside R2	B	Arctic Braya occurs from Siberia to northern Canada south to Michigan and Alberta, with disjunct populations in northwest Wyoming and central Colorado. Wyoming populations are found outside of USFS Region 2 (first documented in 1994) are found in the Gros Ventre Range in Bridger-Teton National Forest, just outside USFS Region 2. although potential habitat may occur in Shoshone National Forest. Confidence in Rank: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rollins 1993
3 Dispersal Capability	AB	<i>Braya</i> spp. produce 10-many seeds per fruit on a somewhat congested inflorescence (Rollins 1993). Seeds are dispersed passively and lack appendages to facilitate wind or animal movement (although high winds in the plant's alpine habitat may aid dispersal). Dispersal is probably limited by the availability of suitable establishment sites. Germination may also be rare and episodic due to the harsh conditions of the plant's habitat. Additional information is needed on seedling recruitment and survival in the Rocky Mountains. Confidence in Rank: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rollins 1993

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4 Abundance in R2	A	Populations in Colorado are reported as small and localized (Colorado Native Plant Society 1997) and the species is listed as S1 (critically imperiled) by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. Based on the map in Spackman et al. (1997), <i>B. glabella</i> appears to be restricted to 4-5 main populations. Only 2 populations are known in Wyoming, both of which fall outside USFS Region 2. Wyoming populations have not been completely censused, but probably are extremely small and localized. Confidence in Rank: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colorado Native Plant Society 1997 • Fertig 2000 b • Spackman et al. 1997
5 Population Trend in R2	D	The Colorado Natural Heritage database should be contacted for possible trend data in that state. Trends are not known for Wyoming populations. Confidence in Rank: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
6 Habitat Trend in R2	AB	Some habitat may have been lost historically due to impacts from hard rock mining in the mountains of central Colorado (Colorado Native Plant Society 1997). Habitat in Wyoming is extremely remote and protected within a designated wilderness and is probably stable. Confidence in Rank: Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colorado Native Plant Society 1997
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	The alpine habitat of this species in Colorado is vulnerable to disturbance from mining activities (Colorado Native Plant Society 1997). <i>Braya glabella</i> is listed as Sensitive in USFS Region 2. Populations in Wyoming are protected within the Gros Ventre Wilderness. Confidence in Rank: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colorado Native Plant Society 1997 • Fertig 2000 a • Fertig 2000 b
8 Life History and Demographics	D	Some life history and demographic studies may have been undertaken in Colorado. Little information is available for Wyoming populations. Additional data are probably desirable on pollination biology, seedling establishment, herbivory, and impacts from mining. Confidence in Rank: High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
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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			Cimmaron NG			Samuel R. McKelvie NF			Black Hills NF			Shoshone NF		?
White River NF	X					Halsey NF			Buffalo Gap NG			Bighorn NF		
Routt NF						Nebraska NF			Ft. Pierre NG			Black Hills NF		
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF	X					Ogalala NG						Medicine Bow NF		
San Juan NF												Thunder Basin NG		
Rio Grande NF														
Pike-San Isabel NF	X													
Comanche NG														

Literature cited

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Fertig, W. 1998. Additions to the flora of Wyoming. *Castilleja* 17(4): 3.

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Rollins, R.C. 1993. The Cruciferae of Continental North America, Systematics of the Mustard Family from the Arctic to Panama. Stanford Univ. Press, Stanford, CA.

Spackman, S., B. Jennings, J. Coles, C. Dawson, M. Minton, A. Kratz, and C. Spurrier. 1997. Colorado Rare Plant Field Guide. Prepared for the Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, and US Fish and Wildlife Service by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Ft. Collins, CO.

University of Wyoming – Rocky Mountain Herbarium. 1998. Atlas of the Flora of Wyoming. Posted electronically through 1998 at: <http://www.esb.utexas.edu/tchumley/wyomap/> and unposted accession information at the Rocky Mountain Herbarium through 2001.

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.