

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: ***Eriogonum visherii*** A. Nels. / Dakota wild buckwheat/Visher's eriogonum / ERV114
 (Scientific Name/Common Name/National Code for Plants – USDA PLANTS)

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	A regional endemic of the northern Great Plains occurring in w ND, w SD, and se MT - split between FS Regions 1 & 2. Within R2 restricted to sw SD. (Has not been found in nw NEB, nor in e WY). Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ode 1987, NatureServe 2001,
2 Distribution outside R2	B	Most of the population occurs in ncent SD (e.g. Grand River NG) & sw ND, outside R2. Recently found in se MT. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ode 1987, NatureServe 2001, MTNHP 2001
3 Dispersal Capability	BC	Small, hard, unadorned seeds are dispersed by wind and water, and apparently to some degree by birds and possibly small mammals. Habitat exists as badland islands in a grassland matrix. As such, there are no restrictions to dispersal but seedling establishment environments only exist in these actively eroding badlands. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ode 1987, NatureServe 2001
4 Abundance in R2	A	Very few (5 to 10) occurrences are known within R2 and there have been several species specific surveys. However, there still is quite a bit of unsurveyed private land habitat. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ode 1987, NatureServe 2001
5 Population Trend in R2	D	No long term trend data. An annual plant, site population numbers fluctuate from year to year. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ode 1987, NatureServe 2001
6 Habitat Trend in R2	B	Most of this species habitat appears to be intact and the plant will colonize disturbed substrates, e.g. road cuts in suitable geologic substrates, but is easily outcompeted as grass or annual weeds become established. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ode 1987, NatureServe 2001
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	BC	Biggest threat appears to be annual exotic weeds which invade its habitat and dilute the seedbank. No direct threat from grazing. Mining is not likely in near term due to uneconomical deposits. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ode 1987, NatureServe 2001

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8 Life History and Demographics	BD	As an annual it depends on its seedbank and dispersal to suitable sites for survival. Seeds are probably long lived but mortality is probably high when seeds germinate in surrounding grassland habitats. Confidence in Rank Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ode 1987, NatureServe 2001
Evaluator(s): David J. Ode			Date: 2 October, 2001

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

Species Name: <i>Eriogonum visherii</i>											
<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	Known	Likely
Arapaho-Roosevelt NF		Cimarron NG		Samuel R. McKelvie NF		Black Hills NF		Shoshone NF			
White River NF				Halsey NF		Buffalo Gap NG	X	Bighorn NF			
Routt NF				Nebraska NF		Ft. Pierre NG		Black Hills NF			
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF				Ogalala NG				Medicine Bow NF			
San Juan NF								Thunder Basin NG			
Rio Grande NF											
Pike-San Isabel NF											
Comanche NG											
Pawnee 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.

Sources Cited

Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP). 2001. Montana Rare Plant Field Guide. Web site: <http://nhp.nris.state.mt.us/plants/index.html>

NatureServe: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. 2001. Version 1.5 . Arlington, Virginia, USA: Association for Biodiversity Information. Available: <http://www.natureserve.org/>. (Accessed: October 11, 2001).

Ode, David J. 1987. Status of Dakota wild buckwheat (*Eriogonum visheri* A.Nels.) in South Dakota. Report to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Denver, CO. SD Department of Game, Fish & Parks Report No. 87-8, Pierre, SD.