

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: <i>Penstemon degeneri</i> (Degener Beardtongue, Degener's Beardtongue, Degener's Penstemon)			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	<p><i>P. degeneri</i> is a narrow, central CO endemic, known from fewer than 8 occurrences (6 are precise locations) in and around the Arkansas River Canyon in Fremont County. It is ranked S2 in CO. Suitable habitat is mainly in rocky areas near rim of canyons; in open pinyon-juniper woodlands; and on large rock slabs in deep grassy meadows; at elevations between 6000 and 9500 feet. Although information is sparse, it appears to grow in disturbed areas, on reddish soils derived from Precambrian gneiss. 5 of the 8 occurrences have been seen since 1990. <i>P. degeneri</i> has been seen on the PKSI in the San Carlos RD from 1969 to 2000. No information is available on recent surveys for this species. <i>P. degeneri</i> is considered 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 September 22, 2002) • NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. 2001. Version 1.6 . Arlington, Virginia, USA: http://www.natureserve.org/explore. (Accessed: September 22, 2002) • Anderson, John. 1991. <i>Penstemon degeneri</i>, 1991 Status Report, unpublished.
2 Distribution outside R2	A	<p><i>P. degeneri</i> is not known to occur outside R2.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank: Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBID
3 Dispersal Capability	A	<p>No specific information is available for <i>P. degeneri</i> pollinators, seed characteristics, or dispersal mechanisms. The genus <i>Penstemon</i> is known to have a very large number of insect pollinators including dipterans, hymenopterans, and lepidopterans; also some species are hummingbird-pollinated. Specific insect pollinators may depend on the highly specific services of a particular insect. The seeds are generally too large to be carried about as dust, and lack wings or other appendages to encourage dispersal by wind or large animals. The most likely agents are overland flow of water and gregarious rodents. Based on population distribution, potential for specific pollinator requirements, and limited seed dispersal capabilities, <i>P. degeneri</i> likely has limited dispersal capability and is ranked A</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBID • L. Watson and M. J. Dallwitz (1992 onwards). The Families of Flowering Plants: Descriptions, Illustrations, Identification, and Information Retrieval. Version: 14th December 2000, Dallwitz (1980), Dallwitz, Paine and Zurcher (1993, 1995, 2000), and Watson and Dallwitz (1991) (Accessed September 22, 2002) http://biodiversity.uno.edu/delta/ • Buckner, David L., 1991. 1990 Interim Status Report for <i>Penstemon harringtonii</i> Penland.

ATTACHMENT SS2

Species: <i>Penstemon degeneri</i> (Degener Beardtongue, Degener's Beardtongue, Degener's Penstemon)			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
4 Abundance in R2	A	Little information is available on abundance of <i>P. degeneri</i> in R2. 1550 individuals are reported from four occurrences. This species may be locally abundant, but it appears abundance of <i>P. degeneri</i> in R2 is very low. Confidence in Rank Medium	• IBID
5 Population Trend in R2	A	No information is available on population trends of <i>P. degeneri</i> in R2. Confidence in Rank Medium	• IBID
6 Habitat Trend in R2	D	No information is available on habitat trends for the restricted habitats of <i>P. degeneri</i> in R2. Confidence in Rank Medium	• IBID
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	One population of <i>P. degeneri</i> occurs on BLM lands used for domestic livestock grazing. Other populations are known to occur within the recreation area of Royal Gorge Park. It has been reported that plants on BLM land appear to be grazed, but the plants' abundance seems to buffer it from significant impacts. Based on scarce information, threats appear to be moderate for this species and it is ranked B with low confidence. Confidence in Rank Low	• IBID
8 Life History and Demographics	D	There is no known published or unpublished information about the biology, ecology, or demography of <i>P. degeneri</i> . Confidence in Rank Medium	• IBID
Initial Evaluator(s): Janice P. McKee, Botanist			Date: 09/26/02

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.

ATTACHMENT SS2

<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						Halsey NF			Buffalo Gap NG			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	X													
Comanche NG														