ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: *Ceanothus herbaceous* / Prairie Redroot (*C. ovatus*)

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	AD	Prairie redroot is, for the most part, an eastern North American and Great Plains species with some of the westernmost portion of its range occurring on the Black Hills National Forest in Region 2, in Crook County, Wyoming. It also occurs in the other Region 2 states of Colorado, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas, and information from these states is needed to determine its Region 2 status. Rangewide, prairie redroot is found in open wooded hillsides, prairies, and roadsides on sandy, rocky soils (Great Plains Flora Association 1986). Wyoming populations are found in open Ponderosa pine/Bur oak forests on sandy soils at 4500-4800 feet. Confidence in Rank Low	• Dorn 2001 • Gleason and Cronquist. 1991 • Great Plains Flora Association 1986 • Larson and Johnson 1999 • University of Wyoming 1998
2 Distribution outside R2	C	Prairie redroot occurs in open areas from Quebec to Manitoba, south to Virginia, Louisiana, and from Montana to New Mexico. Confidence in Rank High	• Gleason and Cronquist. 1991 • Great Plains Flora Association 1986 • Larson and Johnson 1999
3 Dispersal Capability	CD	Most species of Ceanothus are prolific seed producers, though annual variation has been noted, and sprouts can produce at least some seed by 3 to 6 years of age. Birds and rabbits sometimes serve as important dispersal agents for many species of Ceanothus, and ants are also known to transport large numbers of seed. Confidence in Rank Medium	• Conard et al. 1985
4 Abundance in R2	AD	Population size is not known, but presumed to be low. Marriott observed only 10 plants at the Alva summit site in 1989. It is known from 3 extant occurrences in Wyoming, all observed since 1983 (most recently in 1989). It is also known from a vague, historical record ("Sundance National Forest" by L. Knowles in 1912). It is ranked “S1” in Wyoming. It is not currently tracked or ranked in the other four states of the region. Confidence in Rank Medium	• Fertig 2001
5 Population Trend in R2	AD	Populations may be declining. Porter and Porter reported the plant as "locally common" at the Alva summit site in 1966, but Marriott found only 10 plants in 1989. Trend data are lacking for other known colonies. Confidence in Rank Low	• Fertig 2001

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6 Habitat Trend in R2	D	Trend data are lacking. Confidence in Rank High	• -
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	Habitat may be impacted by expansion of roads, and recreation areas. Known occurrences are found within Black Hills National Forest on lands managed for multiple-use. Confidence in Rank Medium	• Fertig 2001
8 Life History and Demographics	D	Prairie redroot is a shrub, up to 1 meter tall. It flowers more than once in its life cycle. Flowering and fruiting occur from April through August. Most species of Ceanothus are known for their nitrogen-fixing symbiotic relationships. Additional information on the species, including life history stages, population structure, longevity, mortality, and seed biology, are not available. Confidence in Rank Medium	• Great Plains Flora Association 1986

Initial Evaluator(s):	Date: January 30, 2002
Joy Handley, Bonnie Heidel and Scott Laursen	

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.

Colorado NF/NG	Known	Likely	**Kansas NF/NG**	Known	Likely	**Nebraska NF/NG**	Known	Likely	**South Dakota NF/NG**	Known	Likely	**Wyoming NF/NG**	Known	Likely
Arapaho-Roosevelt NF			Cimmaron NG			Samuel R.McKelvie NF			Black Hills NF	X		Shoshone NF		
White River NF						Halsey NF			Buffalo Gap NG			Bighorn NF		
Routt NF						Nebraska NF			Ft. Pierre NG			Black Hills NF	X	
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														

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