

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: *Physaria saximontana* var. *saximontana* / Rocky Mountain Twinpod

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	<p>Rocky Mountain Twinpod is a state endemic that lies within the Region 2 boundaries. It occurs in the Wind River Range in Fremont County, Wyoming, on the Shoshone National Forest. It is known from lands not administered by Region 2 in the southern Bighorn and Wind River Basins, and the foothills of the Wind River and Absaroka Ranges in Fremont and Hot Springs counties. It was recently reported for Carbon County by Roderick et al. (1999).</p> <p>This taxon is found on sparsely vegetated slopes on sandy, gravelly soils, or talus of limestone, red sandstone, or clay at 5,200 to 8,300 feet. Its habitat is discontinuous on the landscape and its geographic range is limited.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorn 2001</li> <li>• Fertig 1997, 1998, 2000</li> <li>• Fertig et al. 1994</li> <li>• Jones and Fertig 1992</li> <li>• Mills and Fertig 1996a, b, 2000</li> <li>• Roderick et al. 1999</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• Welp 1997</li> <li>• Welp et al. 1996, 2000</li> </ul>
2 Distribution outside R2	A	<p>This taxon is endemic to Wyoming and the land within Region 2 boundaries.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>
3 Dispersal Capability	D	<p>Dispersal vectors are unknown.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>
4 Abundance in R2	AD	<p>Rocky Mountain Twinpod is known from 21 extant occurrences in Wyoming, 9 of which have been relocated or discovered since 1990. Two known occurrences are on the Shoshone National Forest. An additional occurrence reported for Shoshone National Forest by Rosenthal (1998) is based on a misidentified specimen. Populations may be small and sparse to locally abundant, depending on the suitability of habitat. This taxon is ranked "S2" in Wyoming.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fertig 1992, 1995, 1997, 1998, 2000</li> <li>• Fertig et al. 1994</li> <li>• Jones and Fertig 1992</li> <li>• Mills and Fertig 1996a, b, 2000</li> <li>• Rosenthal 1998</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• USDA Forest Service 2001</li> <li>• Welp 1997</li> <li>• Welp et al. 1996, 2000</li> <li>• WYNDD 2002</li> </ul>

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
5 Population Trend in R2	BD	Populations are apparently stable.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mills and Fertig 2000</li> </ul>
6 Habitat Trend in R2	D	Not known.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-</li> </ul>
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	BD	The habitat could be threatened by road and pipeline construction or ORV activity. Rocky Mountain Twinpod is found on BLM areas of environmental concern and on lands managed for multiple use by the BLM Lander and Worland Field Offices, Wind River Indian Reservation, and Shoshone National Forest.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fertig 1992, 1995, 1997, 1998</li> <li>Mills and Fertig 1996b, 2000</li> <li>University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>Welp 1997</li> <li>Welp et al. 1996, 2000</li> <li>WYNDD 2002</li> </ul>
8 Life History and Demographics	D	Rocky Mountain Twinpod is a perennial forb. Flowering occurs from May through June.  Additional information on the species, including life history stages, population structure, longevity, mortality, pollination biology and seed biology, are not available.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fertig 2000</li> <li>Fertig et al. 1994</li> <li>Mills and Fertig 1996a, 2000</li> </ul>
Initial Evaluator(s): Joy Handley, Bonnie Heidel and Scott Laursen			Date: April 24, 2002

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

<sup>1</sup> 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>	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	X	
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														
Comanche NG														

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