

R2 Individual Species Recommendations

TAXON	Scientific Name			Common Name		
PD	<i>Penstemon laricifolius</i> ssp. <i>exilifolius</i>			Larch-leaf Beardtongue		
FWS	FS	BLM				
Grank	CO S Rank	WY S Rank	SD S Rank	NE S Rank	KS S Rank	
G4T2Q	S2	S2				
	CO Status	WY Status	SD Status	NE Status	KS Status	
IUCN	PIF – Area Importance		PIF – Population Trend			
FS Experts assigned Species Evaluation			Non-NFS Experts assigned Species Evaluations			
			Bonnie Heidel, et al. (WYNDD) Paula Durkin, contractor			
Sensitive Species Recommendation				(Please check 1 box below)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	R2 Sensitive Species (SS)		Not R2 SS, but should be considered for other Emphasis Species Lists			
	Not R2 SS and Not of Concern Now		Insufficient Information Available to make a recommendation			
Recommendation Rationale						
<p>This taxon is endemic to the Rocky Mountains of Wyoming and Colorado, where it is rare and found in scattered locations on both the Medicine Bow/Routt and Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests. Globally rare (T2), it is known on NFS lands from only five locations in WY and CO (four on the MBR and one on the AR*). Though population and habitat trends are not known, there is a risk to the taxon on NFS lands due to its rarity. With only five known occurrences on NFS lands for a taxon endemic to our portion of the Rocky Mountains, <i>Penstemon laricifolius</i> ssp. <i>exilifolius</i> merits sensitive species status because of the risk to viability on NFS lands without management attention. Road construction or other activities could inadvertently extirpate the plant on NFS lands.</p> <p>Walt Fertig (formerly at WYNDD) has raised a question about whether or not variety <i>exilifolius</i> merits recognition, apparently because it is distinguished from variety <i>laricifolius</i> based only on flower color. However, the corporate standard adopted by the US Forest Service is the NRCS “PLANTS” database, which accepts the variety (as do both Robert Dorn and William Weber, authors of the primary floras for Wyoming and Colorado respectively). Research should be conducted to address the taxonomic question.</p>						
<p style="font-size: small;">* Colorado Natural Heritage Program Database Report and GIS Coverage, in fulfillment of 2002 data sharing agreement. September 2002 data distribution.</p>						

Name/Title	Andrew Kratz	Date	Nov. 7, 2002
-------------------	--------------	-------------	--------------