

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: ***Couesius plumbeus*, Lake chub**

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	Region 2 is the southern edge of it range. Formerly widespread in rivers and lakes of he North and South Platte Rivers and the Black Hills. Once abundant in the Black Hills, it is now known from only one lake. Some habitats and populations have been fragmented due to dam construction, dewatering, and exotic species introductions. Occurrence and abundance on National Forest lands is likely a function of habitat composition; varied habitats but most common in gravel-bottomed pools and runs of streams and along rocky lake margins. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becker, George, 2983 • Buckland, Doug, 1996 • USGS, 2001 • NatureServe, 2001 • Williams, Monte, 2000, pers. comm..
2 Distribution outside R2	C	Primarily a northern species occurring in the US and Canada from Hudson Bay to the Pacific Ocean and Alaska, south to the Platte River. Introduced into the Colorado River drainage. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becker, George, 1983 • USGS, 2001 • NatureServe, 2001
3 Dispersal Capability	B	Movement among populations has not been studied in detail. However, adults of this species may move from lakes into streams to spawn. The R2 populations are isolated from the main distribution area. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becker, George, 2983
4 Abundance in R2	A	Formerly common in the Platte River and Black Hills; drastically reduced or extinct in some former habitats. Presence or absence data do exist and some records describe where this species has been extirpated. It is thought that human influences, such as water development, introduction of exotic predators and habitat degradation are responsible in cases were extirpation has occurred. To what degree stochastic and environmental factors contributed is unknown. Critically imperiled in SD and NE, endangered in CO. While described as secure in WY, may have been extirpated from the Platte River system. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buckland, Doug, 1996 • USGS, 2001 • NatureServe, 2001 • Patton, et al. 2000
5 Population Trend in R2	A	While it is believed that the WY population is secure (except for the Platte system), other states consider populations to be in decline or extirpated. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NatureServe, 2001 • USGS, 2001

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6 Habitat Trend in R2	A	Continued economic development in R2 will keep pressure on water development, road construction and resource extraction. Continued population growth will increase demand for recreation lake angling and stocking of exotic predators. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page and Burr, 1991 • Becker, 1983
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	Loss of habitat quantity and quality from sedimentation, dewatering and introduction of exotic predators represents the greatest risk to this species' viability. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backlund, 1996
8 Life History and Demographics	B	Varied habitats, standing or flowing water, large or small bodies water; most common in gravel-bottomed pools and runs or streams and along rocky lake margins. More common in lakes in the south, in rivers in the north. Often in shallow but may move into deeper parts of lakes in summer. Spawns in river shallows, along rocky shores, and in shoals of lakes. May migrate upstream from lakes to spawn. Eggs hatch in about 10 days and are sexually mature in 3 – 4 years. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page and Burr, 1991 • Becker, 1983
Initial Evaluator(s): Victor J. Starostka, USFS, Lakewood, CO			Date: 08/29/2001

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.

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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		X	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		
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF						Ogalala NG						Medicine Bow NF		X
San Juan NF												Thunder Basin NG		X
Rio Grande NF														
Pike-San Isabel NF														
Comanche NG														

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