

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: <i>Margariscus margarita</i> , Pearl dace			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	Scattered, isolated populations in southern South Dakota, eastern Wyoming (Niobrara County) and west-central Nebraska (USGS, 2001). Known from only two sites in the Niobrara River in eastern Wyoming (Baxter & Simon, 1970). R2 population is isolated from main population by several hundred miles. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USGS, 2001a • Baxter & Simon, 1970 • Page & Bur, 1991 • Scott & Crossman, 1973
2 Distribution outside R2	C	Widely distributed in the northern tier of states from Montana to Maine, New York and south to West Virginia; widely distributed across Canada. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NatureServe, 2001 • Page & Burr, 1991 • USGS, 2001a
3 Dispersal Capability	A	Low. Small, disjunct populations in R2 separated from each other by tens of miles in R2 and main population by several hundred miles. Downstream are waters greatly impacted by agriculture, dams, water diversions and other development that inhibits movement. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USGS, 2001a • Lee & Gilbert, 1979
4 Abundance in R2	A	Small, isolated populations in vulnerable separated by fragmented habitat. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baxter & Simon, 1970 • USGS, 2001a
5 Population Trend in R2	A	Suspected downward. Cold, clear headwater Plains streams, this species preferred habitat, are most vulnerable to impacts from agriculture and development. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becker, 1983 • Scott & Crossman, 1973
6 Habitat Trend in R2	A	Downward. Cold, clear headwater streams and beaver ponds; this species preferred habitat is in need of conservation. This habitat is fragmented and vulnerable to land management activities, including, gas-oil development and dewatering. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USGS, 2001b

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7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	A	The habitat (clear, cold-water Plains streams with gravel bottom) of this species is fragmented and vulnerable to grazing, road construction, gas-oil development and dewatering“ Limited suitable habitat for the pearl dace exists in South Dakota. This habitat should be identified so that necessary conservation efforts can be undertaken” USGS, 2001b. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USGS, 2001b
8 Life History and Demographics	B	Favors clear, cold-water streams with some gravel (Baxter & Simon, 1970). Spawns in headwater streams over sand & gravel (Page & Burr, 1991) in clear water with weak or moderate current (Scott & Crossman, 1973). Spawns in spring at with water temperatures of 17-18 degrees C. Activity occurred in strong current, moderate current and quiet pocket water over fine gravel, coarse gravel and sand in streams to 4 meters wide and 0.4 meters deep. Relatively low fecundity; 4,000 eggs per female (Becker, 1983). Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baxter & Simon, 1970 • Page & Burr, 1991 • Scott & Crossman, 1973 • Becker, 1983
Initial Evaluator(s): Victor J. Starostka, USFS, Lakewood, CO			Date: 10/01/2001

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>		<u>Kansas NF/NG</u>		<u>Nebraska NF/NG</u>		<u>South Dakota NF/NG</u>		<u>Wyoming NF/NG</u>	
Known	Likely	Known	Likely	Known	Likely	Known	Likely	Known	Likely
		Cimmaron NG		Samuel R. McKelvie NF	X	Black Hills NF		Shoshone NF	
				Halsey NF	X	Buffalo Gap NG		Bighorn NF	
				Nebraska NF		Ft. Pierre NG		Black Hills NF	
				Ogalala NG				Medicine Bow NF	
								Thunder Basin NG	

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