

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: *Carex leptalea* / Delicate Sedge, Bristle-stalk Sedge

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	B	<p>Delicate sedge occurs in the Absaroka and Beartooth ranges on the Shoshone National Forest in Park County, Wyoming. It also occurs in Colorado on Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest and in South Dakota on Black Hills National Forest.</p> <p>This species is found in wet meadows, bogs, and swamp forests (Hitchcock et al. 1969). In Wyoming, populations occur in white spruce or Engelmann spruce swamp forests on mossy hummocks or in <i>Carex rostrata</i>/<i>C. aquatilis</i> and <i>Carex buxbaumii</i> swamps at 6500-8120 feet. This habitat is rare and isolated in the state and Region 2.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorn 2001 • Fertig 1997, 1998, 2000 • Fertig and Jones 1992 • Jones and Fertig 1999 • Johnston 2001 • Ode and Marriot 1990 • Rosenthal 1998 • Rosenthal 1999 • Spackman et al. 1997 • University of Wyoming 1998
2 Distribution outside R2	C	<p>This boreal species is found from Labrador to Alaska and south to Florida, Texas, Utah, Colorado, and northern California. It is also known outside of Region 2 in Wyoming, including the Teton Range, Yellowstone Plateau, and Jackson Hole in Teton County.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cronquist et al. 1977 • Hermann 1970 • Hurd et al. 1998
3 Dispersal Capability	D	<p>Dispersal vectors are not known.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -
4 Abundance in R2	D	<p>Delicate sedge is known from at least 11 extant occurrences and one historical record in Wyoming, 9 of which have been observed since 1992. Census data are lacking for most occurrences. Recently observed colonies in the Beartooth Range consist of widely scattered, but densely clustered tussocks restricted to small areas. It is ranked "S2" in Wyoming and South Dakota, and "S1" in Colorado.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertig 1997, 1998, 2000 • Fertig and Jones 1992 • Jones and Fertig 1999 • Ode and Marriot 1990
5 Population Trend in R2	D	<p>Not known.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -

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6 Habitat Trend in R2	B	Extant populations appear to be stable at present, but long-term trends may be down due to loss or degradation of wetland forest habitats. Not known. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fertig 2000
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	Populations may be threatened by logging, grazing, or recreational impacts on its wetland habitat. Eight of the known populations of delicate sedge in Wyoming occur in wilderness areas or special status lands managed by Shoshone and Targhee National Forests and Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Three known populations occur on lands managed for multiple use by the Shoshone National Forest. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fertig 1997, 1998, 2000 Fertig and Jones 1992 Jones and Fertig 1999 Ode and Marriot 1990 Rosenthal 1998 Rosenthal 1999 WYNDD 2001
8 Life History and Demographics	D	This perennial sedge is densely tufted to rhizomatous. Flowering and fruiting occur from June through August. Additional information on the species, including life history stages, population structure, longevity, mortality, and seed biology, are not available. Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cronquist et al. 1977 Hermann 1970 Hurd et al. 1998 WYNDD 2001
Initial Evaluator(s): Joy Handley , Bonnie Heidel and Scott Laursen			Date: February 12, 2002

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	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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