

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: *Eriophorum callitrix* var. *callitrix* / Sheathed Cotton-grass

| Criteria | Rank | Rationale | Literature Citations |
|------------------------------|------|---|--|
| 1 Distribution within R2 | AB | <p>Sheathed Cotton-grass is disjunct in Wyoming where it is known from the Beartooth Plateau and Wind River Range in Fremont and Park counties on the Shoshone National Forest. It is not known from any other Region 2 state.</p> <p>This taxon is found along subalpine to alpine streambanks, in bogs, and short willow and sedge meadows on wet, mossy soils often influenced by limestone. The elevational range is 10,000 to 11,250 feet. Sheathed Cotton-grass is at the southern edge of its range in Wyoming, and distribution is very restricted in the state.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorn 2001 • Fertig 1997, 1998, 2000 • Fertig and Bynum 1994 • Johnson 1962 • Mills and Fertig 1996, 2000 • Porter 1965 • Universtity of Wyoming 1998 • Welp et al. 2000 |
| 2 Distribution outside R2 | C | <p>Sheathed Cotton-grass is circumpolar; in North America it ranges across Canada, but is only known from Montana and Wyoming in the United States.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NatureServe 2002 • Scott 1997 |
| 3 Dispersal Capability | D | <p>It may be inferred that the bristly perianth is appropriate for wind dispersal across unsuitable habitat.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mills and Fertig 2000 • Scott 1997 |
| 4 Abundance in R2 | D | <p>Sheathed Cotton-grass is known from 4 extant and 1 historical occurrences in Wyoming, 3 of which have been discovered or relocated since 1991 (most recently in 1999). All Wyoming occurrences are on the Shoshone National Forest. Census data are lacking for nearly all populations. Based on observations of the Beartooth Plateau occurrence in 1996, individual colonies may number in the low thousands and be locally abundant.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertig 1997, 1998, 2000 • Fertig and Bynum 1994 • Mills and Fertig 1996, 2000 • Universtity of Wyoming 1998 • Welp et al. 2000 |
| 5 Population Trend in R2 | D | <p>Trend data are lacking, but populations are assumed to be stable (at least at present).</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - |

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| 6 Habitat Trend in R2 | D | Trend data are lacking. | • - |
| 7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification | BD | Individual colonies may be impacted by grazing, trampling, and recreational activity to a limited extent in the alpine and subalpine habitat. All known occurrences in the state are on Shoshone National Forest; 3 are on lands managed as wilderness, and 2 are on lands managed for multiple use. Confidence in Rank High | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fertig 1997, 1998, 2000 • Fertig and Bynum 1994 • Mills and Fertig 1996, 2000 • Welp et al. 2000 |
| 8 Life History and Demographics | D | Sheathed Cotton-grass is a tufted perennial graminoid. Flowering and fruiting occur from July 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"> • Mills and Fertig 2000 • Scott 1997 |
| Initial Evaluator(s): Joy Handley and Scott Laursen | | | Date: March 9, 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 | | | 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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