

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: <i>Oryzopsis pungens</i> / Slender Mountain-ricegrass [ <i>Piptatherum pungens</i> ]			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	AD	<p>Slender Mountain-ricegrass occurs in the Black Hills of Crook County, Wyoming, on the Black Hills National Forest. It also occurs in Colorado and South Dakota, including Black Hills National Forest. Therefore, more information is necessary in order to determine its status in Region 2.</p> <p>This species is found in dry, rocky or sandy woods. It occurs at 6500 feet in Wyoming. Its range in the state is very limited and it is known only from a historic record. In Colorado, it is characterized as "Infrequent, our records from pine forests, Arkansas Divide, Black Forest area" (Weber and Wittman 2001).</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorn 2001</li> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• Gleason and Cronquist 1991</li> <li>• Hallsten et al. 1987</li> <li>• Larson and Johnson 1999</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• Weber and Witmann 2001</li> </ul>
2 Distribution outside R2	B	<p>Slender Mountain-ricegrass is known from Newfoundland to the Yukon and south to West Virginia, Illinois, South Dakota, and Colorado. It is disjunct in the Black Hills of Wyoming and South Dakota.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• Gleason and Cronquist 1991</li> <li>• Larson and Johnson 1999</li> </ul>
3 Dispersal Capability	D	<p>Dispersal vectors are unknown.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>
4 Abundance in R2	AD	<p>Slender Mountain-ricegrass is known from a single occurrence in Wyoming, last observed in 1950. Abundance is not known, although it is apparently limited to a small geographic area. This species is ranked "SH" in Wyoming, it is present in Colorado but not ranked, and it is ranked "S4" in South Dakota.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• Hallsten et al. 1987</li> <li>• Larson and Johnson 1999</li> <li>• NatureServe 2002</li> <li>• WYNDD 2002</li> </ul>
5 Population Trend in R2	D	<p>Not known.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
6 Habitat Trend in R2	D	Not known.  Confidence in Rank High	• -
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	D	Threats are not known. The only known occurrence is within the Inyan Kara Historic Site on the Black Hills National Forest.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• Hallsten et al. 1987</li> <li>• Larson and Johnson 1999</li> <li>• WYNDD 2002</li> </ul>
8 Life History and Demographics	D	Slender Mountain-ricegrass is a tufted, perennial grass.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• Gleason and Cronquist 1991</li> <li>• Hallsten et al. 1987</li> </ul>
Initial Evaluator(s): Joy Handley, Bonnie Heidel and Scott Laursen			Date: April 16, 2002

**National Forests in the Rocky Mountain Region where species is KNOWN (K) or LIKELY(L)<sup>1</sup> to occur:**

<sup>1</sup> 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	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		
San Juan NF												Thunder Basin NG		
Rio Grande NF														
Pike-San Isabel NF														
Comanche NG														

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