

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: *Scirpus saximontanus* / Rocky Mountain Bulrush (*Schoenoplectus saximontanus*, *Scirpus supinus* var. *saximontanus*)

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	AD	<p>Rocky Mountain Bulrush is in the center of its range in Region 2. In Wyoming, it is known only from the southeastern plains in Goshen County, within Region 2 boundaries but distant from national forest and national grassland boundaries. In Nebraska, it occurs on the Oglala National Grassland. It also occurs in Colorado, Kansas, and South Dakota. Therefore, additional state information is necessary in order to determine its status in Region 2.</p> <p>This species is found along shorelines and ditches on clay soil (Great Plains Flora Association 1986), often on muddy shores and flats where previously flooded (Larson 1993). The Wyoming population occurs along ponds in chalky plains at 4,480 to 4,560 feet, in bands of habitat that are patchy on the landscape.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorn 2001</li> <li>• Fertig 1994</li> <li>• Great Plains Flora Assoc. 1986</li> <li>• Larson 1993</li> <li>• Markow and Fertig 2001</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• USDA Forest Service 2001</li> </ul>
2 Distribution outside R2	BC	<p>Rocky Mountain Bulrush is centered in the Great Plains from South Dakota to Texas and northern Mexico, and from Missouri west to Utah. Disjunct populations are in British Columbia, California, and Ohio.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cronquist et al. 1977</li> <li>• Great Plains Flora Assoc. 1986</li> <li>• Welsh et al. 1993</li> </ul>
3 Dispersal Capability	DC	<p>Dispersal vectors are unknown. It is possible that the small achene may adhere in mud to waterfowl, accidentally introducing it outside of its range.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>
4 Abundance in R2	AD	<p>Rocky Mountain Bulrush is known from a single occurrence in Wyoming, falling within Region 2 boundaries but unlikely to occur on national forest or grassland. It was discovered by B. E. Nelson in 1993. Population size is not known, but it is probably restricted to a small area. This taxon is ranked "S1" in Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska. It is present but not ranked in South Dakota where it is known from at least nine counties (Larson 1993).</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larson 1993</li> <li>• Markow and Fertig 2001</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• USDA Forest Service 2001</li> </ul>

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
5 Population Trend in R2	D	Not known.  Confidence in Rank High	• -
6 Habitat Trend in R2	D	Not known.  Confidence in Rank High	• -
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	BD	Threats are not known. Rocky Mountain bulrush may be impacted by changes in hydrology and livestock trampling. It may occur on lands managed for multiple use by the BLM Casper District.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Markow and Fertig 2001</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• WYNDD 2002</li> </ul>
8 Life History and Demographics	D	Rocky Mountain bulrush is an annual graminoid. Flowering and fruiting occur from July through August.  Additional information on the seed biology of the species is not available.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cronquist et al. 1977</li> <li>• Great Plains Flora Assoc. 1986</li> <li>• Larson 1993</li> <li>• Markow and Fertig 2001</li> <li>• Welsh et al. 1993</li> </ul>
Initial Evaluator(s): Bonnie Heidel, Joy Handley and Scott Laursen			Date: May 13, 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>		<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		Black Hills NF		Shoshone NF	
				Halsey NF		Buffalo Gap NG		Bighorn NF	
				Nebraska NF		Ft. Pierre NG		Black Hills NF	
				Ogalala NG	X			Medicine Bow NF	
								Thunder Basin NG	

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