

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: *Sisyrinchium pallidum* / Pale Blue-eyed Grass

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	BD	<p>Pale Blue-eyed Grass's distribution occurs in southern Wyoming and northern Colorado. It is located in the Laramie, North Platte, and Great Divide basins within the Region 2 perimeter as it crosses Wyoming but does not occur on national forests of Region 2. In Colorado, it is located on the Pike-San Isabel and Routt national forests. Therefore, additional state information is necessary in order to determine its status in Region 2.</p> <p>In Wyoming, this species is found in wet meadows, along stream banks, roadside ditches, and in irrigated hay meadows where standing water is available through the early growing season (elevation range 7,000 to 7,900 feet). It is often found on slightly alkaline soil. It is possible that these represent areas of localized groundwater discharge. Such habitats are patchy and discontinuous on the landscape.</p> <p>Confidence in rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cholewa and Henderson 1984 • Dorn 2001 • Fertig et al. 1994 • Hartman 1992 • Mills and Neighbours 1995 • Roderick et al. 1999 • Spackman et al. 1997 • Taylor 2000 • University of Wyoming 1998 • USDA Forest Service 2001 • WYNDD 2002
2 Distribution outside R2	A	<p>Pale Blue-eyed Grass is a regional endemic of southeastern Wyoming and north-central Colorado.</p> <p>Confidence in rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cholewa and Henderson 1984 • O'Kane 1988 • Spackman et al. 1997
3 Dispersal Capability	D	<p>Not known.</p> <p>Confidence in rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -
4 Abundance in R2	D	<p>Pale Blue-eyed Grass is known from at least 25 locations in Wyoming, of which 22 have been discovered or relocated since 1990 (most recently in 2002). Hartman (1992) found the species to be locally abundant and estimated the population in Wyoming to be approximately 250,000 individuals. This species is ranked "S2S3" in Wyoming and on the list of species of potential concern. It is ranked "S2" in Colorado.</p> <p>Confidence in rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hartman 1992 • NatureServe 2002 • Roderick et al. 1999 • Taylor 2000 • University of Wyoming 1998 • USDA Forest Service 2001 • WYNDD 2002
5 Population Trend in R2	D	<p>Trend data are unknown. Plants may be increasing due to the creation of suitable habitat by irrigated agriculture.</p> <p>Confidence in rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WYNDD 2002

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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	Pale Blue-eyed Grass is primarily threatened by habitat disturbance and the potential cessation of irrigated agriculture. The impact of herbicides is unknown, but could be a threat. This species occurs on lands managed by the BLM Rawlins Field Office and Mortensen Lake National Wildlife Refuge. It may also occur on Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Confidence in rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hartman 1992 • Roderick et al. 1999 • Taylor 2000 • University of Wyoming 1998 • WYNDD 2002
8 Life History and Demographics	D	Pale Blue-eyed Grass is a perennial forb. 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"> • Cholewa and Henderson 1984 • Dorn 2001 • Fertig et al. 1994
Initial Evaluator(s): Bonnie Heidel, Joy Handley and Scott Laursen			Date: May 20, 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		
White River NF						Halsey NF			Buffalo Gap NG			Bighorn NF		
Routt NF	X					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	X													
Comanche NG														

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