ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: ***Sporobolus giganteus*** **Nash giant dropseed**

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	Known in R2 only from sw-most- (Montezuma Co), se-most- (Baca Co), and perhaps n-central (Boulder and Jefferson Cos, fide Rubright, but see sect 4) CO; and sw-most (Morton and Stevens Cos) KS. [Vouchers at KANU from Baca Co, CO; and Morton and Stevens Cos, KS.] Species reaches the n-most limit of its range in R2. Confidence in Rank **High** or Medium or Low	• Anderson 1950 • Freeman 1989 • Freeman in prep. • Great Plains Flora Association 1977 • Rubright 2000 • Sutherland 1991 • Weber & Wittman 2001a • Weber & Wittman 2001b
2 Distribution outside R2	B	Cited by Cronquist et al. as occurring from "s UT, s CO and w OK, s to AZ, NM, w TX and n Chihuahua," but limited in its distribution by habitat requirements. Confidence in Rank **High** or Medium or Low	• Cronquist et al. 1977
3 Dispersal Capability	B	Evaluator was unable to find any information about species' dispersal capability. At the very least, species' dispersal is restricted by habitat requirements. Confidence in Rank **High** or Medium or Low	
4 Abundance in R2	A	Known in KS only from a few collections made along the Cimarron River. Species is cited by Weber & Wittman (2001a) as "[k]nown from [e] CO only in the se corner, on sand dunes" and (2001b) "[s]andy banks of the San Juan River, [Montezuma Co]." However, Rubright maps species as occurring in n-central (Boulder and Jefferson Cos) CO. Evaluator has no way to ascertain which claim is correct, but species is likely to remain very rare in R2. Confidence in Rank **High** or Medium or Low	• Rubright 2000 • Weber & Wittman 2001a • Weber & Wittman 2001b
5 Population Trend in R2	D	Evaluator was unable to find any recent information on population trends within R2. Freeman was able to relocate only one of three populations known from historic collections in KS, but Cimarron NG has not been surveyed since his study. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or **Low**	• Freeman 1989
6 Habitat Trend in R2	B	Observation of herbarium specimen labels at KANU reveals that species has typically been found in KS in sandsage prairie, on eroding dunes, or on the floodplain of the Cimarron River. Freeman reports that he found species only in floodplain habitats. Elsewhere in species' range, Cronquist et al. report it mostly from "loose, shifting sands." Freeman reports that species occurs in pasturelands and did not cite any known threats to KS populations. He advised management practices that allow natural erosional processes by the river and minimize grazing impact by livestock, noting that species "can be expected almost anywhere along the Cimarron River from its point of entry into Kansas, ne into Stevens Co." Confidence in Rank High or **Medium** or Low	• Cronquist et al. 1977 • Freeman 1989

Species: ***Sporobolus giganteus* Nash giant dropseed**

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	Freeman reports that species occurs in pasturelands and did not cite any known threats to KS populations. He advised management practices that allow natural erosional processes by the river and minimize grazing impact by livestock. Species may depend on a moderate disturbance, suitable habitat declining from both successional processes and high disturbance. Confidence in Rank High or **Medium** or Low	• Freeman 1989
8 Life History and Demographics	B	Cespitose, perennial graminoid. Flowering June throught September; fruiting August through October (fide Freeman). Evaluator was unable to find any other information on life history. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or **Low**	• Freeman 1989

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Date: 01/08/02

National Forests in the Rocky Mountain Region where species is KNOWN (K) or LIKELY (L)[1] to occur:

Colorado NF/NG	**Known**	**Likely**	**Kansas NF/NG**	**Known**	**Likely**	**Nebraska NF/NG**	**Known**	**Likely**	**South Dakota NF/NG**	**Known**	**Likely**	**Wyoming NF/NG**	**Known**	**Likely**
Arapaho-Roosevelt NF			Cimmaron NG	**X3**		Samuel R.McKelvie NF			Black Hills NF			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														
Pawnee NG														
Pike-San Isabel NF														
Comanche NG		**X2**												

2 (Near, but unlikely?) KANU catalog # 19480: CO, Baca Co: S bank of Cimarron River, T35S R42W, Elev 3700 ft, 31 Aug 1949, *W.A. Weber 5194*.
3 Vouchers cited in Freeman (1989). [Voucher not cited by Freeman: KANU catalog # 102380: KS, Morton Co: Cimarron NG, T34S, R42W, S4 center, 26 Jul 1989, *R.L. McGregor 39999*.]

REFERENCES

[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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