

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: <i>Carex canescens</i> / Gray Sedge			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
<p><b>1</b> Distribution within R2</p>		<p>Gray Sedge is distributed sporadically across the Rocky Mountains, including Colorado and Wyoming, with outliers in the Black Hills National Forest of South Dakota. In Wyoming, it is known from the Absaroka, Bighorn, Gros Ventre, Sierra Madre, Snowy Mountain and Wind River ranges of the Bighorn, Shoshone, and Medicine Bow national forests.</p> <p>In Wyoming, this species usually in montane peatland habitat, uncommon and isolated on the landscape. In Colorado, its habitat is described in more general terms as marshes and lakeshores in montane and subalpine elevations (Weber 2001). Similarly, it is characterized as “common in open, wet sites, shores and wetlands in the Subalpine Zone and Montane Zone of c Colorado and nc-nw Wyoming” (Johnston 2001).</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorn 2001</li> <li>• Great Plains Flora 1986</li> <li>• Johnston 2001</li> <li>• Larson 1993</li> <li>• Weber 2001</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Distribution outside R2</p>	<b>C</b>	<p>Gray Sedge is a circumboreal species that extends across western North America, and south to Illinois and South Carolina in the eastern United States. It is more appropriately considered peripheral or sparse in the Region than disjunct.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Plains Flora 1986</li> <li>• Hitchcock et al. 1969</li> <li>• NatureServe 2002</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Dispersal Capability</p>	<b>D</b>	<p>Not known.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>
<p><b>4</b> Abundance in R2</p>	<b>B</b>	<p>Gray Sedge has been recently documented from at least 17 collection sites in 9 counties of Wyoming, almost all of these on national forest in Region 2. It is noted as common or dominant in some locales that support species of special state concern, but probably represents a habitat or microhabitat of small aerial extent. It is currently ranked “S3” in Wyoming and is not tracked in the state. It is not ranked in Colorado. It is ranked “S2” in South Dakota, where it is tracked.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NatureServe 2002</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• WYNDD 2001</li> </ul>

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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	D	Not known.  Confidence in Rank High	• -
8 Life History and Demographics	D	Gray Sedge is an herbaceous perennial that grows in small clumps and sometimes produces short rhizomes. It is probably wind-pollinated like other members of the genus and produces fruits (perigynia) in July-August.  Other information on life history stages, population structure, longevity, mortality, pollination biology and seed biology is not available  Confidence in Rank High	• -
Initial Evaluator(s): Bonnie Heidel			Date: 18 February 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			Shoshone NF	X	
White River NF						Halsey NF			Buffalo Gap NG			Bighorn NF	X	
Routt NF						Nebraska NF			Ft. Pierre NG			Black Hills NF		?
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF						Ogalala NG						Medicine Bow NF	X	
San Juan NF												Thunder Basin NG		
Rio Grande NF														
Pike-San Isabel NF														
Comanche NG														

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