REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: (Carex lasiocarpa) Wire sedge / CALA11)

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	All units need to be queried to determine CALA11's currently understood distribution within R2. The abundance rating provided to the left is specific to the MBRTB in 2009. Prior to being listed as a species of Insufficient Information CALA11 was documented in 2 locations in the Parks Range on the RTNF (CNHP 2001) and in 2 locations in the Medicine Bow Range on the ARP (CNHP 2001). No locations were documented on MBNF or TBNG (WYNDD 2001). CALA11 is also known to occur on NFS lands in R2 on the Shoshone NF, Bighorn NF and GMUG (Johnston 2002). http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/projects/scp/evalrationale/evaluations/monocots/carexlasiocarpa.pdf Since being listed as a species of Insufficient Information in 2003, MBRTB field going personnel have been searching for CALA11 in project level surveys and have recently documented 17 new sub populations on the RTNF– all of which were found on the east slope of the Park Range in isolated patches of suitable habitat (fen with well developed floating mats of peat). (NRIS tesp 2008). This author believes CALA11's distribution in R2 is limited to relic colonies established during post-glacial times under very different climatic conditions and that there is strong potential for extirpations and little likelihood for colonization of new habitat or re-colonization of degraded habitat. No new occurrences were found on the MBNF or TBNG (WYNDD 2007, Pers com to Roche 2009). Confidence in Rank **High specific to MBRTB**	• CNHP 2001 • WYNDD 2001 • WYNDD 2008 • NRIS tesp 2008 • Pers com to Roche 2009. • Johnston 2002.
2 Distribution outside R2	?	No new information to contribute Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	•

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3 Dispersal Capability	A	It is unclear if CALA11 has dispersal limitations but there are clearly habitat related limitations to its ability to disperse. The 17 new sub populations occur as isolated patches of suitable habitat (fen with well developed floating mats of peat). (NRIS tesp 2008). This author believes CALA11's distribution in R2 is limited to relic colonies (clones) established during post-glacial times under very different climatic conditions and that there is strong potential for extirpations and little likelihood for colonization of new habitats or re-colonization of degraded habitats. Confidence in Rank **Medium specific to MBRTB**	• Proctor pers obs
4 Abundance in R2	B	17 new sub populations were recently found on the RTNF– all of which were found on the east slope of the Park Range in isolated patches of suitable habitat (fen with well developed floating mats of peat) (NRIS tesp 2008). While the number of populations on the RTNF has increased from 2 to 17 - a localized disturbance in the Park Range could pose a threat. Population numbers were input into the NRIS tesp geo spatial database for the 17 new CALA11 sub populations. This author has no new information to contribute about occurrences that may have recently been found on NFS lands in R2 but outside of the MBRTB. Confidence in Rank **Medium specific to MBRTB**	• Proctor pers obs • NRIS tesp 2008

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
5 Population Trend in R2	DB	Population trend is not known for the MBRTB. However; EOR data for the 17 new RTNF occurrences were input into NRIS tesp and now serve as baseline data to help establish future population trend. Note: Many of the new CALA11 occurrences on the RTNF were found in areas where management actions were proposed (Proctor pers obs). Namely salvage logging of beetle killed lodge pole pine. Through project design potential negative impacts to several CALA11 sites were avoided under the Grizzly TS and Fuels Reduction Project and are being pursued for the Parks South AMP revision. It is likely that project leaders will continue to propose treatments in and near these rare plant communities until education and awareness can be raised. Confidence in Rank **Medium specific to MBRTB**	• Proctor pers obs
6 Habitat Trend in R2	DB	Habitat Trend is not known. However; EOR data for the 17 new RTNF occurrences were input into NRIS tesp and now serve as baseline data to help establish future habitat trend. Note: Many of the new CALA11 occurrences on the RTNF were found in areas where management actions were proposed (Proctor pers obs). Namely salvage logging of beetle killed lodge pole pine. Through project design potential negative impacts to several CALA11 sites were avoided under the Grizzly TS and Fuels Reduction Project. It is likely that project leaders will continue to propose treatments in and near these rare plant communities until education and awareness can be raised. Confidence in Rank **Medium specific to MBR**	• Proctor professional opinion • Proctor pers obs

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	A	Conditions which are departing from HRV include; climate change which is anticipated to result in loss of habitat availability and/or suitability and fire suppression which is resulting in a greater likelihood of high severity fire with increased probabilities of negative watershed impacts. Current stressors include; road construction, water diversions, ditching, gravel pits, mining, timber harvest in WIZ, livestock grazing and winter recreation (snow compaction). Confidence in Rank **Medium specific to the MBRTB**	• Proctor pers obs
8 Life History and Demographics	A	This species, especially its habitat may not recover from disturbance. This author believes CALA11's distribution in R2 is limited to relic colonies established during post-glacial times under very different climatic conditions and that there is strong potential for extirpations and little likelihood for colonization of new habitat or re-colonization of degraded habitat. Confidence in Rank **High specific to MBRTB**	• Proctor pers obs
Evaluator(s): John Proctor			Date: January 21, 2009

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.

Species Name: Carex lasiocarpa														
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	x		Cimarron NG			Samuel R.McKelvie NF			Black Hills NF			Shoshone NF	x	
White River NF						Halsey NF			Buffalo Gap NG			Bighorn NF	x	
Routt NF	x					Nebraska NF			Ft. Pierre NG			Black Hills NF		
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF	x					Ogalala NG						Medicine Bow NF		
San Juan NF												Thunder Basin NG		
Rio Grande NF														
Pike-San Isabel NF														
Comanche NG														
Pawnee NG														

CNHP 2002. Species Abstracts and Township/ Range List, Species of Special Concern, Routt National Forest. Colorado Natural Heritage Project. Colorado State University. Fort Collins Colorado.

Johnston B. 2002. Species evaluation for C. lasiocarpa. Botanist, Grand Mesa-Uncompahgre-Gunnison National Forests, 216 N. Colorado St., Gunnison, CO 81230-2197. (970) 642-4467. bcjohnston@fs.fed.us. Last modified September 25, 2002.

NRIS tesp 2008. Element Occurrence Records and Survey Records which have been input in the USFS corporate geo-spatial database.

Proctor, J. 2003 – 2009. Personal Observations, Opinions and hypotheses regarding Carex lasiocarpa occurrences and habitat requirements on the MBRTB between 2003 and 2009. Forest Botanist. Parks Ranger District, Medicine Bow-Routt NF and Thunder Basin NG. Walden Colorado. (970) 723-8204. jproctor@fs.fed.us

Roche, K. 2009. Personal communication to Kathy Roche in 2009 regarding her making no observations Carex lasiocarpa on the MBNF and TBNG between 2003 -2009. Ecologist, Medicine Bow Routt NF and Thunder Basin NG. Laramie WY.

WYNND. 2001. Species Abstracts and Township/ Range List, Species of Special Concern, Medicine Bow National Forest. Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, University of Wyoming. Laramie, WY.

WYNND. 2008. Species Abstracts and Township/ Range List, Species of Special Concern, Medicine Bow National Forest. Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, University of Wyoming. Laramie, WY.