

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: Alberta arctic (<i>Oeneis alberta</i>)			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	B1	<p>Within the region this species is limited to Colorado where subspecies <i>oslari</i> is limited in total range to Middle and South Parks. Subspecies <i>capulinensis</i>, found in northeast New Mexico, is found on a few mesas in Las Animas County, Colorado.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opler, Stanford, and Pavulaan. 2001. Butterflies of North America. Web site of USGS. Opler, P.A. 1999. Field Guide to Western Butterflies. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 540 pp. Ferris and Brown. 1981. Butterflies of the Rocky Mountain States. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.
2 Distribution outside R2	C	<p>Of the two subspecies in Colorado, only <i>capulinensis</i> is found outside the region, being found a number of mesas in northeastern New Mexico. As whole the species is widespread ranging, mainly on prairies and grasslands from northern Arizona north to the arctic.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opler, Stanford, and Pavulaan. 2001. Butterflies of North America. Web site of USGS. Ferris and Brown. 1981. Butterflies of the Rocky Mountain States. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.
3 Dispersal Capability	B	<p>Adults can fly quite well, and may be efficient at colonizing suitable habitat within short distances.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opler (personal assessment)
4 Abundance in R2	B	<p>I am not personally familiar with this species but am aware that it is reasonably common over a sufficient number of localities that it is not currently facing imperilment. Alteration of habitats by overgrazing, development, or invasion by alien weeds could pose a threat.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opler (personal assessment)
5 Population Trend in R2	D	<p>Insufficient information is available upon which to base any sort of estimate.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opler (personal assessment)

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
6 Habitat Trend in R2	D	Insufficient information is available upon which to base any sort of estimate. The butterfly is found during May in grasslands with Festuca grasses. Colonies are highly localized. The adults may occasionally nectar on low flowers. Confidence in Rank Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opler (personal assessment)
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	Habitats are susceptible to alteration or destruction by overgrazing, development, or invasion by alien weeds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opler (personal assessment)
8 Life History and Demographics	A	This species is dependant on particular types of grasslands and any alteration of the vegetational composition of these grasslands could result in local extirpations of the species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opler (personal assessment)
Initial Evaluator(s): Paul A. Opler, Professor, Colorado Statue University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523			Date: 8/24/2001

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>		<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	
	X			Halsey NF		Buffalo Gap NG		Bighorn NF	
	X			Nebraska NF		Ft. Pierre NG		Black Hills NF	
				Ogalala NG				Medicine Bow NF	
								Thunder Basin NG	
	X								
	X								