

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: <i>Rhinocheilus lecontei</i> – longnose snake			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	A	Very limited distribution in SE Colorado and extreme SW Kansas in region 2. Considered State Threatened species in Kansas. Confidence in Rank High	•
2 Distribution outside R2	C	Widely distributed outside of region. Main distribution of species is west and south of region 2. Confidence in Rank High	•
3 Dispersal Capability	B	Likely moves only through suitable habitat (grasslands, sand hills). Medium confidence. Confidence in Rank Medium	•
4 Abundance in R2	A	Appears to be rare in region, based on three year study in SE Colorado (including Comanche NG); very few specimens found. However, this species is secretive and nocturnal. Confidence in Rank High	•
5 Population Trend in R2	D	Data do not exist for evaluation. H Confidence in Rank High	•
6 Habitat Trend in R2	B	Habitat appears to be stable, but historically has decreased significantly. Confidence in Rank Medium	•
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	B	Grassland and sandhill habitat preferred by species are subject to longterm negative modification by human activities, including farming, offroad vehicle use. Confidence in Rank High	•

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
8 Life History and Demographics	B	Relatively long-lived species, low reproductive output, 3-4 years to sexual maturity. Neonates subject to predation by many species, but fossorial habits may provide some protection. Confidence in Rank High	•
Initial Evaluator(s): Dr. Stephen P. Mackessy			Date: 12/04/2001

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

Occurs only on Comanche and Cimarron NGs.

<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
		Cimarron NG	X	Samuel R. McKelvie NF		Black Hills NF		Shoshone NF	
				Halsey NF		Buffalo Gap NG		Bighorn NF	
				Nebraska NF		Ft. Pierre NG		Black Hills NF	
				Ogalala NG				Medicine Bow NF	
								Thunder Basin NG	
	X								

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.