

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: <i>Polypodium saximontanum</i> / Rocky Mountain Polypody			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	AD	<p>Rocky Mountain polypody occurs in the Laramie and Medicine Bow ranges in Albany and Carbon counties, Wyoming, on the Medicine Bow National Forest. It is also known from Colorado and South Dakota, therefore, additional information is necessary in order to determine its status in Region 2.</p> <p>Windham (1993) reports this taxon from "cracks and ledges on rock outcrops, apparently confined to granitic and gneissic substrates". In Wyoming, this species occurs on granite rock outcrops and boulders in open or shady canyons within Douglas-fir, aspen, or Rocky Mountain maple forests at 7600 to 8700 feet. Its range in the state is limited.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burke 2000</li> <li>• Dorn 2001</li> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• Welp et al. 2000</li> <li>• Windham 1993</li> </ul>
2 Distribution outside R2	B	<p>Rocky Mountain polypody is a regional endemic of the southern Rocky Mountains and Black Hills, extending from northeastern New Mexico to northwest South Dakota. In Wyoming, it is known from lands not administered by Region 2 in the Laramie Range in Converse County.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burke 2000</li> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• Flora of North America Editorial Committee 1993</li> <li>• Larson and Johnson 1999</li> </ul>
3 Dispersal Capability	D	<p>Dispersal vectors are unknown.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>
4 Abundance in R2	AD	<p>Rocky Mountain polypody is known from 4 extant occurrences in Wyoming, all of which have been discovered or relocated since 1986 (most recently in 2000). Three of these populations are on the Medicine Bow National Forest. Populations are often widely scattered and small, consisting of subpopulations of 1-300 fronds. Not all potential habitat is typically occupied. This species is ranked "S1" in Wyoming, "S3?" in Colorado, and it is reported from but not ranked in South Dakota.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burke 2000</li> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• USDA Forest Service 2001</li> <li>• Welp et al. 2000</li> </ul>
5 Population Trend in R2	D	<p>Trend data are lacking for most occurrences, but the Brady Rock population is thought to have persisted since at least 1903.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burke 2000</li> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• Welp et al. 2000</li> <li>• WYND 2002</li> </ul>

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Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
6 Habitat Trend in R2	D	Not known.  Confidence in Rank High	• -
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	BD	Threats are low due to the rugged habitat. Wyoming occurrences are in the Platte River Wilderness and on lands managed for multiple use by the Medicine Bow National Forest and the state.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burke 2000</li> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• Welp et al. 2000</li> <li>• WYNDD 2002</li> </ul>
8 Life History and Demographics	D	Rocky Mountain Polypody is a rhizomatous, perennial fern. Spores are produced in the summer and fall.  Additional information on the species, including life history stages, population structure, longevity, mortality, and seed biology, are not available.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fertig 2000</li> <li>• Flora of North America Editorial Committee 1993</li> </ul>
Initial Evaluator(s): Joy Handley and Scott Laursen			Date: April 29, 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		
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	X	
San Juan NF												Thunder Basin NG		
Rio Grande NF														
Pike-San Isabel NF														
Comanche NG														

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