

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: <b>Yellowstone cutthroat trout (<i>Oncorhynchus clarki bouvieri</i>)</b>			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
<b>1</b> Distribution within R2	<b>A</b>	Authors found very patchy, disjunct populations with little connectivity in R2. Yellowstone cutthroat trout (YSC) are only found in small portions of the Shoshone and Bighorn Forests in R2.  Confidence in Rank <b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kruse, 1998</li> <li>• Duff, 1996</li> <li>• RM-GTR-256</li> </ul>
<b>2</b> Distribution outside R2	<b>B</b>	Authors generally found patchy, disjunct populations with little connectivity except for Yellowstone National Park within their entire range.  Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kruse, 1998</li> <li>• Duff, 1996</li> <li>• RM-GTR-256</li> </ul>
<b>3</b> Dispersal Capability	<b>A</b>	Authors found that other non-native fish species occupy most suitable habitat.  Confidence in Rank <b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kruse, 1998</li> <li>• Duff, 1996</li> <li>• RM-GTR-256</li> </ul>
<b>4</b> Abundance in R2	<b>B</b>	Authors found limited, disjunct habitat and populations occupied by YSC on the Shoshone and Bighorn Forests in R2.  Confidence in Rank <b>High</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kruse, 1998</li> <li>• Duff, 1996</li> <li>• RM-GTR-256</li> </ul>
<b>5</b> Population Trend in R2	<b>B</b>	Although populations are small they are stable with some potential for introduction into suitable, unoccupied fish habitat or removal of non-native fish species in R2.  Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kruse, 1998</li> <li>• Duff, 1996</li> <li>• RM-GTR-256</li> </ul>
<b>6</b> Habitat Trend in R2	<b>B</b>	Overall, authors found habitat trend is stable with some improvements noted in R2.  Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duff, 1996</li> </ul>
<b>7</b> Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	<b>B</b>	Overall, authors found limited, disjunct habitat and low densities and connectivity. As a result, YSC will have an intermediate ability to respond to disturbance. Currently, a range wide risk assessment is being developed and will be available sometime in the spring of 2002. Contact Bruce May, Inland Cutthroat Coordinator, Gallatin National Forest.  Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duff, 1996</li> </ul>

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<b>8</b> Life History and Demographics	<b>B</b>	Authors found that YSC are highly susceptible to hybridization and do not compete well with other non-native fish species.  Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kruse, 1998</li> <li>• Duff, 1996</li> <li>• RM-GTR-256</li> </ul>
Initial Evaluator(s): Ray Zubik, Region 2 Yellowstone Cutthroat Coordinator, Shoshone National Forest			Date: 06/08/2001

**Literature Cited**

**Duff, D., 1996. Conservation Assessment For Inland Cutthroat Trout. Distribution, Status and Habitat Management Implications. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Ogden, Utah.**

**Kruse, Carter G., Influences of Non-native Trout and Geomorphology on Distributions of Indigenous Trout in Yellowstone River Drainage of Wyoming. Ph.D., Department of Zoology and Physiology, December, 1998.**

**Young, Michael K., tech ed. 1995. Conservation assessment for inland cutthroat trout. General Technical Report RM-256. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. 61p.**

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

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<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>		<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	