

<b>SPECIES: Scientific [common]</b>	<i>Mustela nivalis</i> [Least Weasel]
<b>Forest:</b>	Bridger-Teton National Forest
<b>Forest Reviewer:</b>	Randall Griebel, James Wilder
<b>Date of Review:</b>	01/29/2018; reviewed 4/24/25
<b>Forest concurrence (or recommendation if new) for inclusion of species on list of potential SCC: (Enter Yes or No)</b>	NO

**FOREST REVIEW RESULTS:**

1. The Forest concurs or recommends the species for inclusion on the list of potential SCC:  
Yes \_\_\_ No X \_\_\_
2. Rationale for not concurring is based on (check all that apply):  
Species is not native to the plan area X \_\_\_  
Species is not known to occur in the plan area X \_\_\_  
Species persistence in the plan area is not of substantial concern X \_\_\_

**FOREST REVIEW INFORMATION:**

1. Is the Species Native to the Plan Area? Yes \_\_\_ No X \_\_\_

If no, provide explanation and stop assessment.

*The Bridger-Teton National Forest is outside the range of the Least weasel (Map 1) and little suitable habitat for this species has been identified in north-central Wyoming (Map 2). Least weasel habitat varies across much of its range; from grasslands, woodlands, or riparian habitat to semi-desert. The Least weasel does not occupy the BTNF and there are no observation records located on the Forest or in the vicinity. While the species is native to Wyoming, the Least weasel is not native to the BTNF.*

2. Is the Species Known to Occur within the Planning Area? Yes \_\_\_ No X \_\_\_

If no, stop assessment.

**Table 1.** All Known Occurrences, Years, and Frequency within the Planning Area

Year Observed	Number of Individuals	Location of Observations (USFS District, Town, River, Road Intersection, HUC, etc.)	Source of Information
NA	0	NA	NA

- a. Are all Species Occurrences Only Accidental or Transient?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, document source for determination and stop assessment.

- b. For species with known occurrences on the Forest since 1990, based on the number of observations and/or year of last observation, can the species be presumed to be established or becoming established in the plan area?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If no, provide explanation and stop assessment

- c. For species with known occurrences on the Forest predating 1990, does the weight of evidence suggest the species still occurs in the plan area?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Provide explanation for determination

If determination is no, stop assessment

d. **Map 1**, Least weasel range map of North America



Wyoming Game and Fish Department. 2017. State Wildlife Action Plan. Least Weasel (*Mustela nivalis*).

e. **Map 2**, Range and predicted distribution of *Mustela nivalis* in Wyoming



SOURCE: Digital maps of ranges for Wyoming Species of Greatest Conservation Need: Sept. 2016.  
Wyoming Game and Fish Department and Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming.  
Note that brown indicates the predicted distribution of the species;  
heavy black lines indicate outermost boundaries of possible occurrence.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department. 2017. State Wildlife Action Plan. Least Weasel (*Mustela nivalis*).

3. Is There Substantial Concern for the Species' Capability to persist Over the Long-term in the Plan Area Based on Best Available Scientific Information?

**Table 2.** Status summary based on best available scientific information.

Species (Scientific and Common Name): <i>Mustela nivalis</i> [Least Weasel]		
Criteria	Rationale	Literature Citations
Distribution on Bridger-Teton National Forest	NA	
Abundance on the Bridger-Teton National Forest	NA	
Population Trend on the Bridger-Teton National Forest	NA	
Habitat Trend on the Bridger-Teton National Forest	NA	
Vulnerability of Habitats on the Bridger-Teton National Forest	NA	
<p><b>Summary and recommendations:</b> The Bridger-Teton National Forest is outside the identified range for the Least weasel and the species is not native to the planning area. Additionally, records suggest the Least weasel does not occupy the Forest or the vicinity. Therefore, it is recommended that the Least weasel is not a Species of Conservation Concern for the Bridger-Teton National Forest.</p> <p>Evaluator(s): Ashley Egan, Randall Griebel</p>		Date: January 19, 2018