

<b>SPECIES: Scientific [common]</b>	Coccyzus erythrophthalmus [Black-billed Cuckoo]
<b>Forest:</b>	Bridger-Teton National Forest
<b>Forest Reviewer:</b>	Randall Griebel, James Wilder
<b>Date of Review:</b>	01/16/2018; reviewed 5/13/2025
<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 \_\_\_\_\_  
Species is not known to occur in the plan area X \_\_\_\_\_  
Species persistence in the plan area is not of substantial concern \_\_\_\_\_

**FOREST REVIEW INFORMATION:**

1. Is the Species Native to the Plan Area? Yes X \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
  
If no, provide explanation and stop assessment.
2. Is the Species Known to Occur within the Planning Area? Yes \_\_\_ No X \_\_\_  
  
If no, stop assessment.

*The Black-billed cuckoo is a native species in Wyoming. However, the Bridger-Teton National Forest is outside the range for this species (Maps 1 & 2) and there are no occurrences of Black-billed cuckoo on the Forest. There is one historic occurrence record from 1982 at an unknown location along a Breeding Bird Survey route that overlaps a portion of the forest. After review, it is likely that this was a transient individual observed just outside the Forest boundary where a small patch of suitable habitat exists. This small area has also been identified within the “predicted distribution” range according to WYNDD (Map 2). They breed throughout the United States to the eastern front of the Rocky Mountains and Wyoming is located on the far western edge of this breeding range. This species prefers riparian habitat composed of mature cottonwood with dense understories (WGFD 2017). Habitat is similar to that of the Yellow-billed cuckoo, although the Black-billed cuckoo prefers higher elevation. (See final review in Table 2 below).*

Wyoming Game and Fish Department. 2017. State Wildlife Action Plan. Black-billed Cuckoo (Coccyzus erythrophthalmus).

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

<b>Year Observed</b>	<b>Number of Individuals</b>	<b>Location of Observations (USFS District, Town, River, Road Intersection, HUC, etc.)</b>	<b>Source of Information</b>
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

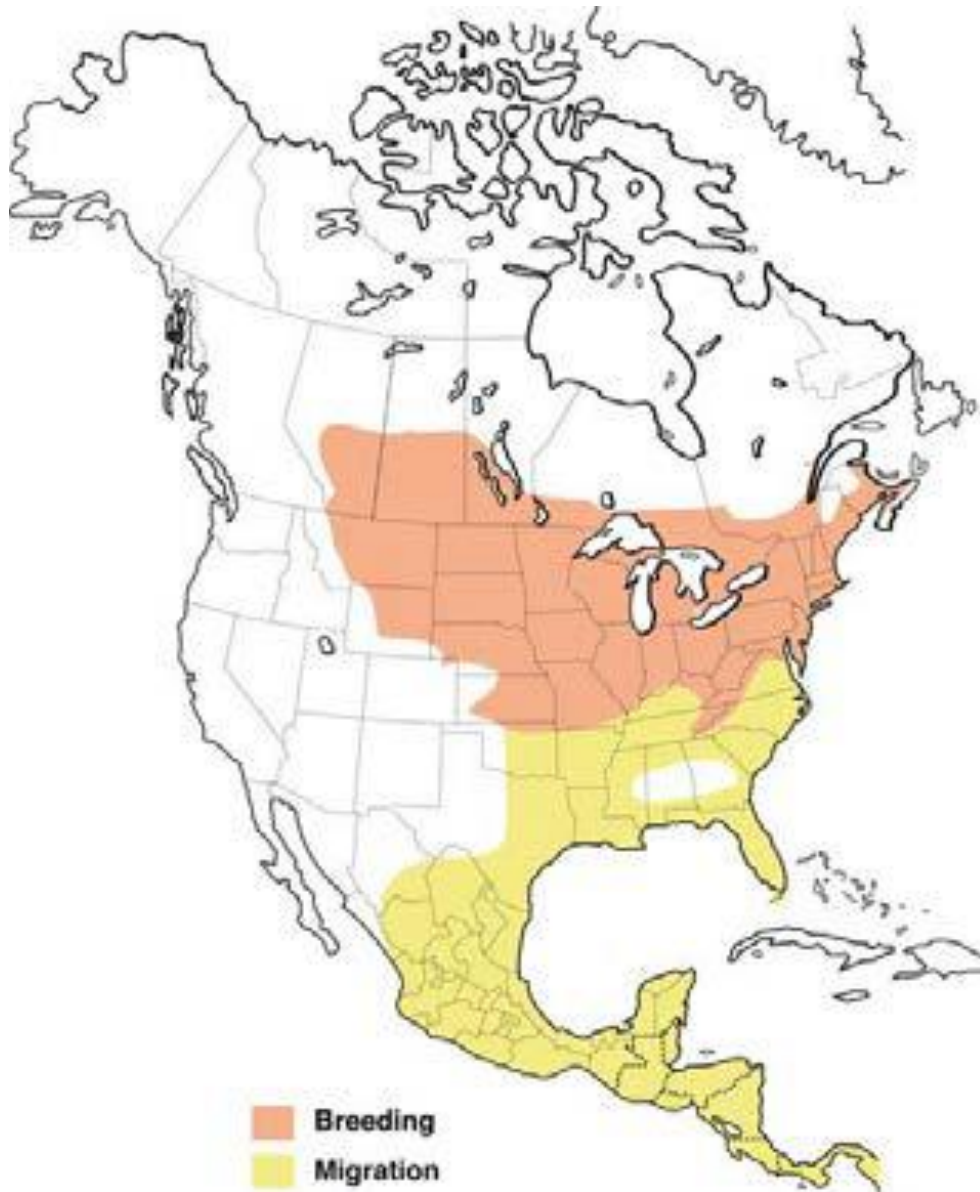
c. For species with known occurrences on the Forest predating 1990, does the weight of evidence suggest the species still occurs in the plan area?

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

Provide explanation for determination

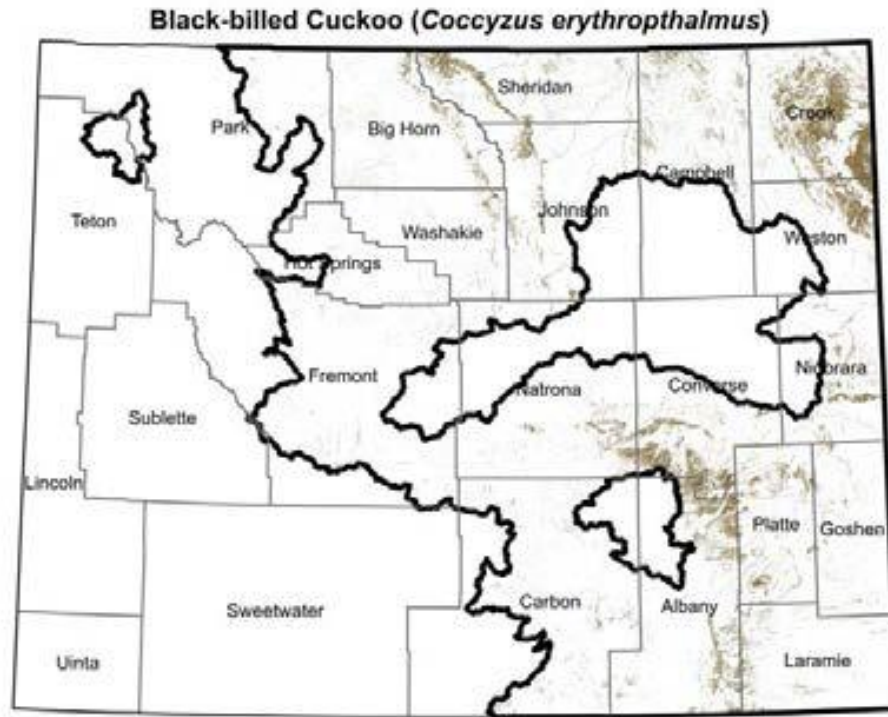
If determination is no, stop assessment

d. **Map 1**, Black-billed Cuckoo range map of North America



Wyoming Game and Fish Department. 2017. State Wildlife Action Plan. Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*).

e. **Map 2**, Range and predicted distribution of *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus* 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. Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*).

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>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i> [Black-billed Cuckoo]		
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 breeding, summer, and winter range of the Black-billed cuckoo (Map 1). This species does not occupy the Forest and is found throughout eastern Wyoming where suitable habitat has been identified (Map 2). Therefore, it is recommended that the Black-billed cuckoo is not a Species of Conservation Concern for the Bridger-Teton National Forest.</p> <p>Evaluator(s): Ashley Egan, Randall Griebel</p>		Date: January 10, 2018