
File Code: 2670
Date: April 13, 2026

Dear Interested Party:

This letter is to inform consultants who complete contracted work for botany and wildlife on behalf of the Dakota Prairie Grasslands. Please refer to this [link](#) for the 2026 Biological Survey and Reporting Guidelines, protocols, datasheets, species lists, and GIS data for use concerning new project proposals located on the Little Missouri National Grassland. Please contact the DPG Supervisor's Office for related procedures on the Sheyenne and Grand River Districts. As an additional resource, you can refer to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) (<https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac>) website which is a digital project planning tool that provides information to project proponents to help determine whether a project will have effects on federally listed species or designated critical habitat, as well as other sensitive resources (including candidate and proposed species).

A DPG mandatory requirement is you must coordinate with the appropriate district project lead and district botanists/biologists prior to surveys and communicate timely reporting of new threatened and endangered and sensitive species locations found on or near a proposed project.

Reporting specifications can be found in the 2026 Biological Survey and Reporting Guidelines. Field surveys may not be required for proposed projects falling entirely within areas that have been previously surveyed within the last 3-5 years. However, some level of BE documentation is always required and any waivers of plant and wildlife surveys or completion of full BEs must be reviewed and approved by the appropriate District Ranger.

Please reach out to appropriate District staff for questions:

Botany: McKenzie/Medora Ranger Districts: Jack Dahl, Botanist: (701) 227-7832;
jack.dahl@usda.gov

Wildlife: McKenzie Ranger District: Sarah Bickerdyke, Wildlife Biologist: (701)842-8524;
sarah.bickerdyke@usda.gov;

Medora Ranger District: J.J. Nelson, Wildlife Biologist: (701) 227-7848;
josiah.nelson@usda.gov

We appreciate your efforts to aid us in managing the biological resources on the LMNG.

Sincerely,

BETH IHLE
Grasslands Supervisor

