



**NEWS  
RELEASE**



United States  
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service  
Salmon - Challis National Forest  
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**SALMON-CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSES POTENTIAL SPECIES OF CONSERVATION CONCERN LIST**

**SALMON, Idaho** – The Salmon-Challis National Forest has preliminarily identified 55 plants, 20 terrestrial animals, and 8 aquatic animals in a draft list of potential species of conservation concern for the Forest and is seeking public feedback. In developing this draft list the Forest conducted several public meetings and consulted with tribal and agency partners.

The Forest is seeking feedback on the draft list of potential species of conservation concern prior to making a recommendation to Intermountain Regional Forester Nora Rasure, who makes the final identification of species of conservation concern. Public feedback will be taken through June 20, 2018.

Species of conservation concern is a Forest Service-specific term that comes from the 2012 Planning Rule. A species of conservation concern is a species, other than federally recognized threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, that is known to occur in the plan area and for which the regional forester has determined that the best available scientific information indicates substantial concern about the species' capability to persist over the long-term in the plan area.

Forest plans provide direction to sustain habitat to support or restore species of conservation concern populations within the capability of the plan area. Forest plans help us maintain a forest that provides species of conservation concern with the habitat they need to survive. For instance, each forest plan will have certain components, including standards or guidelines, to sustain or restore ecosystem diversity and habitats. We consider these elements "coarse" filter plan components. If the coarse filter plan components do not provide the habitat conditions each species of conservation concern population requires to persist on the forest, then additional species-specific plan components are developed to provide habitat conditions necessary for the species. These second components are "fine" filters.

The draft list of potential species of conservation concern, information about the evaluation process, and opportunity to provide feedback is available on-line from the Salmon-Challis Forest Plan Revision website. The Forest has scheduled a webinar to discuss this and future steps on Friday, May 11, from noon – 1 p.m. The link is <https://usfs.adobeconnect.com/scnf-yfyf/>

For more information, email [scnf\\_plan\\_rev@fs.fed.us](mailto:scnf_plan_rev@fs.fed.us) or call Mary Friberg, Wildlife Biologist-Forest Plan Revision Team, at 208-756-5125.

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