

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: *Carex capitata ssp. arctogena* / Round-headed Sedge, Capitata Sedge (*C. c. var. arctogena*)

Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
<p><b>1</b> Distribution within R2</p>	<b>B</b>	<p>Round-headed sedge is in an outlying Rocky Mountain segment of its distribution in Region 2. In Wyoming, it is restricted to the northwestern corner of the state in the Absaroka, Bighorn, Owl Creek and Wind River Mountains, on the Shoshone National Forest and the Bighorn National Forest (Bighorn, Fremont, Park, Johnson, Sublette, Teton, and Washakie counties). In Colorado, it occurs on the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest.</p> <p>It is found in arctic and alpine environments on marshy meadows to dry alpine slopes. It grows on acidic rocky, gravelly, sandy, or peaty soils. In eastern and western Colorado, it is "rare or local in upper subalpine and alpine peat fens" (Weber and Wittman 1996, 2001).</p> <p>Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dorn 2001</li> <li>• Hitchcock et al. 1969</li> <li>• Johnston 2001</li> <li>• NatureServe 2002</li> <li>• USDA Forest Service 2002</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• Weber and Wittman 1996, 2001</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b> Distribution outside R2</p>	<b>C</b>	<p>Round-headed sedge occurs from Manitoba to Nova Scotia and north to Greenland, also extending south to New Hampshire. It has an outlying distribution at high elevations in the central and southern Rocky Mountains, extending from Wyoming to Mexico, west to Utah, and Nevada.</p> <p>In Wyoming it occurs outside Region 2 in the Bridger-Teton National Forest.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank <b>Medium</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USDA Forest Service 2002</li> <li>• NatureServe 2002</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> Dispersal Capability</p>	<b>D</b>	<p>Dispersal vectors are not known.</p> <p>Round-headed sedge sprouts from perennating buds at the base of the culms and from rhizomes. Round-headed sedge may be killed by fire during the growing season. Vegetation regrowth after fire is very fast in low arctic tundra sedge (<i>Carex</i> spp.) dominated communities. Round-headed sedge also reproduces by seed.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank <b>High</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USDA Forest Service 2002</li> </ul>

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4 Abundance in R2	BD	Round-headed Sedge is known from at least 17 occurrences in northwestern Wyoming in seven counties, and most of these are on the Shoshone National Forest. Population numbers are not known. It is ranked "S2" in Wyoming but not tracked, based on the number and breadth of occurrences, and lack of threats. It is ranked "S1" in Colorado.  Confidence in Rank Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NatureServe 2002</li> <li>• University of Wyoming 1998</li> <li>• Wyoming Natural Diversity Database 2001</li> </ul>
5 Population Trend in R2	D	Not known.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>
6 Habitat Trend in R2	D	Not known.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	D	Not known.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• -</li> </ul>
8 Life History and Demographics	D	Round-headed sedge is a native, perennial, monoecious graminoid. Round-headed sedge has short creeping rhizomes on which the culms are closely spaced. Round-headed sedge blooms in July and August. Fruit is set in September.  Additional information on this taxon, including life history stages, population structure, longevity, mortality, and seed biology, are not available.  Confidence in Rank High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USDA Forest Service 2002</li> </ul>
Initial Evaluator(s): Bonnie Heidel and Scott Laursen			Date: February 6, 2002

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

<u>Colorado NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely	<u>Kansas NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely	<u>Nebraska NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely	<u>South Dakota NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely	<u>Wyoming NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely
Arapaho-Roosevelt NF	X		Cimmaron NG			Samuel R. McKelvie NF			Black Hills NF			Shoshone NF	X	
White River NF						Halsey NF			Buffalo Gap NG			Bighorn NF	X	
Routt NF						Nebraska NF			Ft. Pierre NG			Black Hills NF		
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF						Ogalala NG						Medicine Bow NF		?
San Juan NF												Thunder Basin NG		
Rio Grande NF														
Pike-San Isabel NF														
Comanche NG														

Literature cited

Dorn, R.D. 2001. Vascular Plants of Wyoming, third edition. Mountain West Publishing, Cheyenne, WY.

Hitchcock, C.L., A. Cronquist, and M. Owenbey. 1969. Pt. 1. Vascular Cryptograms, Gymnosperms, and Monocotyledons, IN: Hitchcock, C.L., A. Cronquist, M. Owenbey, and J.W. Thompson (eds). Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest. University of Washington Publications in Biology 17(1): 1-914.

Johnston, B.C. 2001. Field Guide to Sedge Species of the Rocky Mountain Region. Pub. R2-RR-01-03. USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Denver, CO.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Fire Sciences Laboratory (2002, February). Fire Effects Information System, [Online]. Available: <http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/>.

University of Wyoming – Rocky Mountain Herbarium. 1998. Atlas of the Flora of Wyoming. Posted electronically through 1998 at: <http://www.esb.utexas.edu/tchumley/wyomap/> and unposted accession information at the Rocky Mountain Herbarium through 2001.

Wyoming Natural Diversity Database. 2001. Ongoing documentation of sensitive species distribution, biology, status, and references for the state of Wyoming. University of Wyoming, Laramie.

<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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