

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: (Grus canadensis tabida/Greater Sandhill Crane)			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	B	High. This subspecies nests in northwestern Colorado and western Wyoming in isolated, well-watered river valleys, marshes, and meadows and they visit the San Luis Valley during migration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kingery</li> <li>• Oakleaf et al.</li> <li>• Tacha et al.</li> </ul>
2 Distribution outside R2	B	High. This subspecies also nests in western Montana, eastern Idaho and northern Utah. They migrate through and spend the winter in the Rio Grande Valley and New Mexico.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tacha et al.</li> <li>• National Geographic Society</li> </ul>
3 Dispersal Capability	B	High. This subspecies is relatively mobile and travels relatively long distances between summer and winter habitats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ehrlich et al.</li> <li>• Tacha et al.</li> </ul>
4 Abundance in R2	C	High. Monitoring has shown numbers in recent years of 17,000 to 21,000 in the fall population. Nesting and wintering activities occur mostly on private lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carter et al.</li> <li>• Tacha et al.</li> </ul>
5 Population Trend in R2	C	High. Populations have remained relatively stable in recent years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carter et al.</li> <li>• Tacha et al.</li> </ul>
6 Habitat Trend in R2	C	High. Habitat appears to be relatively stable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carter et al.</li> <li>• Tacha et al.</li> <li>• Kingery</li> </ul>
7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification	C	High. The wetland habitats potentially could be dewatered for agricultural purposes, however federal regulations and minimal current demand for such activity minimize this threat. This species extensively uses agricultural fields in addition to wetlands during the non-breeding season and the wintering habitats appear to be relatively stable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carter et al.</li> <li>• Tacha et al.</li> </ul>

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8 Life History and Demographics	B	High. Sandhill Cranes generally lay two eggs per nest and do not produce more than one brood per nesting season. They rarely raise more than one young to fledging. They do not breed until they are 2-7 years old. They are normally long lived(up to 20+ years) and are perennially monogamous.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ehrlich et al.</li> <li>Tacha et al.</li> </ul>
Evaluator(s): Dick Roth			Date: 7/25/01

**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>		<u>Kansas NF/NG</u>		<u>Nebraska NF/NG</u>		<u>South Dakota NF/NG</u>		<u>Wyoming NF/NG</u>	
Known	Likely	Known	Likely	Known	Likely	Known	Likely	Known	Likely
	O	Cimarron NG		Samuel R.McKelvie NF		Black Hills NF		Shoshone NF	B
	O			Halsey NF		Buffalo Gap NG		Bighorn NF	B
	B			Nebraska NF		Ft. Pierre NG		Black Hills NF	O
	B			Oglala NG				Medicine Bow NF	B
	O							Thunder Basin NG	O
	O								
	O								
	O								
	O								
	O								

<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.

## REFERENCES:

Carter, M.F., Hunter, D.N. Pashley, and K.V. Rosenberg. 2000. Setting conservation priorities for landbirds in the United States: The Partners In Flight approach. *Auk*. 117:541-548.

Ehrlich, P.R., D.S. Dobkin, and D. Wheye. 1988. *The birder's handbook: a field guide to the natural history of North American birds*. Simon and Schuster, New York. 785pp

Kingery, H. E. (Ed). 1998. *The Colorado breeding bird atlas*. Denver, Co: Colorado Bird Atlas Partnership and Colorado Division of Wildlife. 636 pp.

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Tacha, T.C., S.A. Nesbitt, and P.A. Vohs. 1992. Sandhill Crane. IN *The Birds of North America*, No. 31 (A. Pool, P. Stettenheim, and F. Gill, Eds.). Philadelphia: The Academy of Natural Sciences; Washington, DC: The American Ornithologist' Union.