

Note: Content guidance provided in blue text within parentheses, delete after use. Template is intended to address and meet minimum Biological Evaluation Objectives (FSM2600\_CH2670\_2672.41) and Biological Evaluation Standards (FSM2600\_CH2670\_2672.42).

## Project Name:

NFS Unit and District: (Forest, District, County/City, State, etc.)

Date:

Prepared by: (must be conducted or reviewed by journey level or higher biologist/botanist)

Reviewed By: (if applicable)

## Section I – Species Screening

**Federally Listed and Proposed Species** (check appropriate box and provide required details)

- Threatened, Endangered and Proposed (TEP) species list acquired from Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) (official lists are valid for 90 days); Date: (provide date); Consultation Code: (provide code); Event Code: (provide code)
- Other (provide details if official list was not available or if a different list was used; must be method approved by relevant regulatory agencies, USFWS and/or NMFS); Date: (provide date if available); Comments: (disclose any other relevant information)

*Table 1. Federally listed and proposed species or critical habitats considered for further analysis.*

Listed and Proposed Species
<p>The following listed or proposed species or critical habitat is/are known or expected to occur or may be affected by the project and are analyzed further. <b>Proceed to Section II with these species.</b> (for species <i>not</i> analyzed, provide a list within an appendix and include exclusion rationale for each species)</p> <p>List species here: (species common name and <i>scientific name</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>

### Regional Forester’s Sensitive Species

- Region (insert region number) Sensitive Species List Date: (provide date)
- Other (provide details if official list was not available or if a different list was used)  
Date: (provide date if available); Comments: (disclose any other relevant information)

Table 2. Regional Forester's Sensitive Species considered for further analysis.

Regional Forester’s Sensitive Species
<p>The following sensitive species and/or their habitat <b>are known or expected to occur</b> in the project area, or could be affected by project actions, and are analyzed further. <b>Proceed to Section II with these species.</b> (for species <i>not</i> analyzed, provide a list within an appendix and include exclusion rationale for each species)</p> <p>List species here: (species common name and <i>scientific name</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>

## Section II – Analysis and Determination of Effect

**Project Area and Analysis Area Description** (describe spatial and temporal boundaries; analysis area can differ amongst species)

### Listed and proposed species: Identification of habitat and analysis of impacts

(for the selected alternative, additional analysis for “may affect” determinations will be documented in a Biological Assessment for ESA consultation with the regulatory agencies; ensure compliance with requirements within 50 CFR section 402.14(c))

(repeat the following 5 headings for each species analyzed; group species as appropriate)

**Species** (common and *scientific name*)

**Species Specific Information** (federal status, brief life history - reference appropriate documents for more details, provide in appendix as needed)

**Species occurrence/distribution, habitat description, including critical habitat** (briefly describe range-wide distribution; provide more detail for analysis area, including identification and description of all occupied and unoccupied habitat)

**Potential effects from proposed action on species and/or habitat** (address direct, indirect, and cumulative effects – for the purposes of a BE, include both federal and non-federal cumulative

effects; 2019 ESA changes do not require separately addressing “direct” and “indirect” effects; repeat for each project alternative as needed)

***Determination of Effect with Rationale*** (for each analyzed species and each alternative; if a separate BA has been completed for the selected alternative, so state and summarize)

## **U.S. Forest Service sensitive species: Identification of habitat and analysis of impacts**

(repeat the following 5 headings for each species analyzed)

***Species*** (common and *scientific name*)

***Species Specific Information*** (current status, brief life history - reference appropriate documents for more details)

***Species occurrence/distribution, habitat description*** (briefly describe range-wide distribution; provide more detail for analysis area, including identification and description of all occupied and unoccupied habitat)

***Potential effects from proposed action on species and/or habitat*** (address direct, indirect, and both federal and non-federal cumulative effects; repeat for each project alternative as needed)

***Determination of Impact/Effect with Rationale*** (for each analyzed species and each alternative; consider effects as related to maintaining viability or preventing a trend towards federal listing and summarize how each project alternative may directly, indirectly, or cumulatively impact the species or their occupied habitat)

**Species Determination Summaries**

*Table 3. Determination of effect: Federally listed species and their critical habitat (review current determination language for “proposed” species and habitat, which may differ)*

*Alternative determination (for each project alternative)	Species
<b>No effect</b>	(list all applicable species based on Section I and/or Section II analysis)
<b>May affect, but not likely to adversely affect</b> (additionally, specify if a “beneficial” effect is expected)	(list all applicable species based on Section II analysis)
<b>May affect, and is likely to adversely affect</b>	(list all applicable species based on Section II analysis)

\*When available, provide summary for selected alternative from separate Biological Assessment.

*Table 4. Determination of effect: Regional Forester’s Sensitive Species (accepted/preferred determination language can differ by unit)*

Alternative determination (for each project alternative)	Species
Will have <b>no impact</b>	(list all applicable species based on Section I and/or Section II analysis)
<b>May impact</b> individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or cause a loss of viability to the population or species (additionally, specify if a “beneficial” effect is expected)	(list all applicable species based on Section II analysis)
<b>Will impact</b> individuals or habitat with a consequence that the action may contribute to a trend towards federal listing or cause a loss of viability to the population or species	(list all applicable species based on Section II analysis)

### **Section III – Recommendations for removing, avoiding, or compensating for any adverse effects**

Species (repeat as needed)

- List recommendations/notes here

### **Section IV – References**

(References of informal consultation, contacts, contributors, sources of data, and literature used in developing this BE)

Informal Consultation Summary

Contacts

Contributors

Sources of Data (e.g., GIS, forest data, etc.)

Literature Cited

### **Section V - Appendices**

(e.g., species not analyzed in detail and exclusion rationale, methods, maps, etc.; when appropriate, use appendices to reduce text/tables/figures in main body of document)