

Standard Operating Guidelines

This operating plan approves activities conducted on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland and does not authorize the occupancy and use of any other National Forest System lands.

Anyone conducting research approved by this operating plan must carry a copy of the operating plan with them at all times when on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland. A copy of the operating plan must be produced upon demand by any officer or representative of the US Forest Service.

This operating plan exempts those conducting approved research from part of Special Order 2008-34 and 2008-26, allowing them to leave personal property outside of Forest Service developed campgrounds for longer than the specified stay limit defined in the order. All other Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland special orders apply. It is the responsibility of the researcher to familiarize themselves with the special orders. Current special orders can be obtained at the Forest Supervisors office, individual district offices or on the web at:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/mbr/alerts-notices/?cid=stelprdb5139680&width=full>

Per 36CFR261.13, all motorized travel is limited to open National Forest System roads and motorized trails. It is the responsibility of the researcher to contact the Forest Supervisors office or individual district offices for status of roads.

This operating plan does not constitute authorization to enter any closed area. Information on area closures can be obtained from the Forest Supervisors office or individual district offices.

For any project installing equipment in the field, identification tags will be affixed to the equipment, with project name and contact information. These should be durable enough to withstand the duration of the project.

Electronic copies of annual reports will be provided to the permit administrator by January 31 of the following calendar year. Electronic copies of all final reports and publications will be provided as soon as they become available. Data will be provided upon request.

Researchers will notify the permit administrator when research equipment is removed from forest at end of project.

To reduce the risk of transferring noxious weed species to National Forest System (NFS) lands, equipment used for research will be cleaned prior to being brought to NFS lands. All excess

grease, soil and plant material shall be removed. Equipment will also be cleaned prior to moving between sites on NFS lands.

A list of threatened, endangered, proposed and sensitive (TES) plants known or suspected on or near the Medicine Bow – Routt National Forest and Thunder Basin National Grassland is provided below. It is against forest regulation and may be illegal to willfully collect or destroy flowers, seeds, plants or plant parts of the species listed below. Researchers are responsible for avoiding impacts to all TES plants.

As of April 11, 2013:

THREATENED, ENDANGERED, OR PROPOSED FOR FEDERAL LISTING

1. *Gaura neomexicana* ssp. *coloradoensis*, Colorado bee blossom (butterfly plant) (Threatened)
2. *Penstemon haydenii*, blowout penstemon (Endangered)
3. *Spiranthes diluvialis*, Ute ladies' tresses (Threatened)

SENSITIVE

1. *Aquilegia laramiensis*, Laramie columbine
2. *Armeria maritima* ssp. *sibirica*, Siberian sea thrift
3. *Astragalus barrii*, Barr's milkvetch
4. *Astragalus leptaleus*, park milkvetch
5. *Botrychium ascendens*, trianglelobe moonwort
6. *Botrychium campestre*, Iowa moonwort
7. *Botrychium furcatum*, forkleaved moonwort
8. *Botrychium lineare*, narrowleaf moonwort
9. *Botrychium paradoxum*, peculiar moonwort
10. *Carex alopecoidea*, foxtail sedge
11. *Carex diandra*, lesser panicled sedge
12. *Carex livida*, livid sedge
13. *Cuscuta plattensis*, prairie dodder
14. *Cypripedium parviflorum*, yellow lady's slipper
15. *Draba exunguiculata*, Gray's peak draba
16. *Draba grayana*, Gray's draba
17. *Drosera rotundifolia*, roundleaf sundew
18. *Eleocharis elliptica*, boreal spike rush
19. *Eriogonum exilifolium*, dropleaf buckwheat
20. *Eriogonum visheri*, Visher's buckwheat
21. *Eriophorum altaicum* var. *neogaeum*, altai cottongrass
22. *Eriophorum gracile*, slender cottongrass
23. *Festuca hallii*, plains rough fescue (Hall's fescue)
24. *Ipomopsis aggregata* ssp. *weberi*, scarlet gilia (Rabbit Ear's gilia)
25. *Kobresia simpliciuscula*, simple bog sedge
26. *Parnassia kotzebuei*, Kotzebue's grass of Parnassus
27. *Penstemon harringtonii*, Harrington's beardtongue
28. *Physaria didymocarpa* var. *lanata*, common twinpod
29. *Potentilla rupincola*, rock cinquefoil
30. *Ranunculus karelinii* (= *R. gelidus* ssp. *grayi*), ice cold buttercup
31. *Rubus arcticus* ssp. *acaulis*, dwarf raspberry (nagoonberry)
32. *Salix candida*, sageleaf willow
33. *Salix serissima*, autumn willow
34. *Selaginella selaginoides*, club spikemoss
35. *Sphagnum angustifolium*, sphagnum
36. *Sphagnum balticum*, Baltic sphagnum
37. *Triteleia grandiflora*, largeflower triteleia

38. *Utricularia minor*, lesser bladderwort
39. *Viburnum opulus* var. *americanum*, American cranberry bush
40. *Viola selkirkii*, Selkirk's violet