



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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In Reply Refer To:
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EMS TRANSMISSION 03/05/2019
Instruction Memorandum No. UT IM-2019-005
Expires: 09/30/2020

To: All Field Offices

From: State Director

Subject: Updated Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Sensitive Species Lists for Utah

Program Area: Threatened, endangered, and sensitive plant and animal species management (L1150000.0000).

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) updates the BLM plant and wildlife Sensitive Species lists for BLM-administered public lands in Utah. The lists address changes in species occurrences, nomenclature, and conservation status. These lists comply with direction contained in BLM Manual Section 6840.

Administrative or Mission Related: This IM is BLM mission related because it conserves rare wildlife and plant species, which contributes to sustaining the diversity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Policy/Action: Sensitive species are species requiring special management consideration to promote their conservation and to reduce the likelihood and need for future listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (6840.01). The updated BLM Sensitive Plant and Animal Species lists are attached. They replace the 2011 lists and subsequent amendments. Please carefully review these lists and ensure they are included for consideration in all planning and environmental documents for your district and field offices (6840.04.D.5).

Timeframe: These lists will be in effect until they are updated.

Budget Impact: No additional budget impact is anticipated.

Background: Manual 6840 section D.4 directs State Directors to review and update the Bureau sensitive species lists at least once every 5 years, in coordination with State agencies that are responsible for fisheries, wildlife, and botanical resources. To be designated as Sensitive, a

species must be native to Utah and occur on BLM-administered lands for which the BLM has the capability to significantly affect the conservation status through management (6840.2A). The manual does not describe additional selection criteria, but the BLM Utah State Office has developed eligibility criteria for Sensitive species (Attachment 1). The viability of Sensitive species may be at risk because of downward population trends or because they depend on specialized or unique habitats on BLM-administered lands that are threatened with alteration. The NatureServe and Utah Natural Heritage Program rankings also provide information about the rarity, range, and threats to species and are used to determine if a species should be added to the BLM Sensitive list. The lists will be reviewed and revised annually as needed when new relevant data and information about species becomes available. Species were removed or added to the lists based on new information about their status. Three plant species were removed and four plants were added to the 2011 Sensitive plant list. Two wildlife species were removed from the previous Sensitive list because they were federally listed. Twelve mollusks, one butterfly, and one bumble bee were added to the Sensitive wildlife list.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: Manual Section 6840.

Coordination: The BLM Utah State Office wildlife and botany program leads have coordinated with their state office counterparts at the Utah Division of Natural Resources, the Utah Division of Wildlife, and the Region 4 Forest Service botanist, as well as with the Utah BLM field office biologists and botanists in the Salt Lake, Fillmore, Cedar City, St. George, Kanab, Richfield, Monticello, Moab, Vernal, and Price Field Offices, and the Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears National Monuments.

Contact: Please direct any questions or concerns to Marcia Wineteer, Threatened and Endangered Species Program Lead and State Botanist, at (801) 539-4065, mwinetee@blm.gov or Dave Cook, State Wildlife Biologist, (801) 539-4150, gdcCook@blm.gov.



Edwin L. Roberson
State Director

3 Attachments:

- 1 – Utah BLM Sensitive Species Eligibility Criteria (3 pp)
- 2 – 2019 Sensitive Plant Species List (4 pp)
- 3 – 2019 Sensitive Animal Species List (5 pp)

cc: WO-230