

R2 Sensitive Species List Recommendation

Canyon Treefrog (*Hyla arenicolor*)

By Gary Patton

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Recommendation: Not R2 SS, but consider for other Emphasis Species Lists

Rationale: A southwestern species, with a peripheral occurrence in R2 in extreme western and southeastern Colorado. In southeastern Colorado it was recently rediscovered near the Comanche NG in southeastern Las Animas County after 100 years of apparent absence. In western Colorado it is known from the Colorado River and Dolores River drainages below 6300 feet elevation. There may be some potential for occurrence in marginal, low elevation canyon habitat on the GMUG. It is typically found along intermittent streams in deep, rocky canyons. Because of its aquatic canyon habitat requirements, populations are naturally patchy and subject to isolation. On the other hand, most populations in western Colorado are remote and on public lands, diminishing threats.

Because this species is peripheral in R2, is secure across its primary southwestern range, and may occur only marginally or not at all on NFS lands, we don't believe it is justified for sensitive species status. However, to account for potentially vulnerable populations that could occur on NFS lands, we recommend the Comanche and GMUG units identify populations occurring on their units and treat this species as one of local management concern and emphasis if and where it is found.

Note: In addition to the evaluator's references, also referred to biodiversity documentation at Natureserve.com,; distribution data from the Colorado Herpetological Society; and Collins and Collins (1991) *Reptiles and Amphibians of the Cimarron National Grasslands, Morton County, Kansas*.