

Species and Vegetation Planning

Homework Assignment: Selecting Priority Species and Vegetation

Assignment: Prepare a draft list of priority species and vegetation for your planning area. When listing coarse scale vegetation, also list any species that are nested within vegetation (see below for detail).

For on-site training: You will present your list at the on-site training and so you should be prepared to describe the steps you took to arrive at your draft list. During your presentation, you may include the following information: a map displaying the distribution of coarse filter vegetation; species and vegetation you considered but ultimately did not include on your list; species or vegetation that you are unsure about whether or not they should be included and would like feedback from the group; any questions or concerns you have about the coarse filter/fine filter approach.

When preparing your draft list, keep in mind the following:

- You must account for all BLM required species
- Once you have accounted for BLM species and vegetation, then consider coarse scale vegetation that characterizes your planning area
- Don't forget rare plants, animals, or vegetation communities that may require special management, and so should also be listed
- All species and vegetation cannot be planned for, but it may be possible to nest individual species within coarse scale vegetation (see below)
- There is no minimum or maximum number of species and/or vegetation that you must select
- This is simply a first draft list – expect it to change as you continue to develop your plan

What does it mean to nest species within coarse filter priority vegetation?

It is helpful to keep a list of those species that you are accounting for within your coarse scale vegetation, or those species that are 'nested' within the coarse vegetation. These are species that are not federally listed or required for BLM planning, but may be strongly associated with the coarse scale vegetation. It will be helpful for you to know and understand those species that characterize the coarse scale vegetation, as you may choose to monitor those species to assess the health of the vegetation over time- we will discuss this process in more detail during the on-site training.