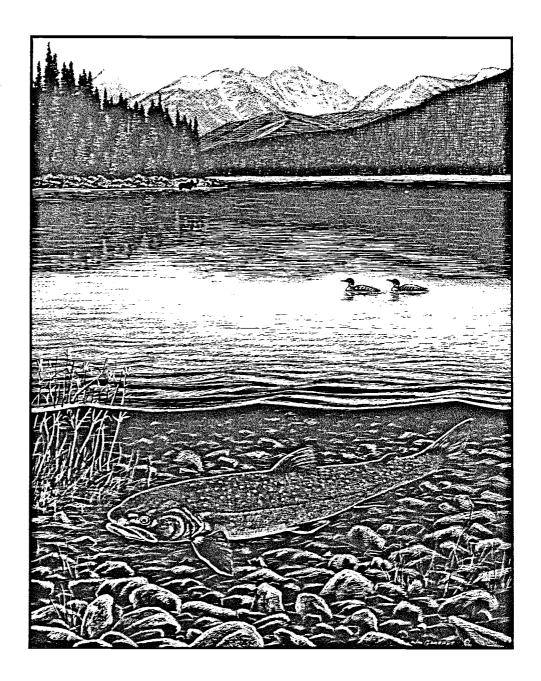
United States Department of Agriculture



Forest Service

Every Species Counts

Northern Region's TES Action Plan



Every Species Counts Northern Region's TES Action Plan Spring, 1991

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Foreword

Threatened, endangered, and sensitive (TES) species are some of the National Forest's most unique resources. Our management and conservation of these species are one of the Forest Service's primary land stewardship responsibilities. I am proud of the progress the Northern Region has made in the last few years; however, there is much work ahead of us. As human populations continue to expand and land use intensifies, National Forests will provide a major role in providing for North American floral and faunal biodiversity.

Management of TES species and habitat also have a human dimension. Recovery and conservation programs cannot succeed in a vacuum. Without public concern, support, and understanding, the Forest Service TES program will face constant challenge. For this reason, it is imperative that we work with schools, cooperators, Forest users, and the general public in building a foundation for future progress.

Every Species Counts - The Northern Region's TES Action Plan sets a course for the next 5 years. The action plan was developed by direction from the Chief and is a product of every Forest and resource discipline in the Region. I would like to see the Forest Service and the Northern Region continue as national and worldwide leaders in natural resource conservation. Implementation of *Every Species Counts* is an important step toward realizing this vision.

Un AMMUM .W NHOL **Regional Forester**

INTRODUCTION

On April 16, 1990, the Chief directed all Regions to develop action plans to accelerate National Forest recovery programs for threatened, endangered and sensitive (TES) species. Progress has been made with many species. In the Northern Region, the grizzly bear, woodland caribou, bald eagle and peregrine falcon have made notable PACIFIC DOGWOOD comebacks. However, Cornus nuttallii the overall trend has been an increase in the number of federally listed and Forest Service sensitive species. Few species occupying National Forests or Grasslands have been down-listed or delisted.

To respond to this trend and the rise in public concern for these species on National Forests and Grasslands, the Chief created a TES Task Force. Regional Forester Dave Jolly led this task force in reviewing the Forest Service TES program and provided recommendations to improve recovery of listed and sensitive species.

The Chief's Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species Recovery and Conservation Action Plan was published in April 1990. In it, the TES Task Force listed three primary goals for improving TES management on National Forests and Grasslands: Leadership and Commitment, TES Programs and Forest Service Linkages (Partnerships). Action items and a timetable accompany each goal.

The following is the Northern Region's program for accelerating TES recovery and conservation. It follows the Chief's action plan in many aspects. It is organized under the same goal headings - Leadership & Commitment, TES Programs, and Partnerships. In addition, the Northern Region has an additional section titled Marketing. Forest Service employees determined marketing as a critical aspect of TES species recovery and conservation.

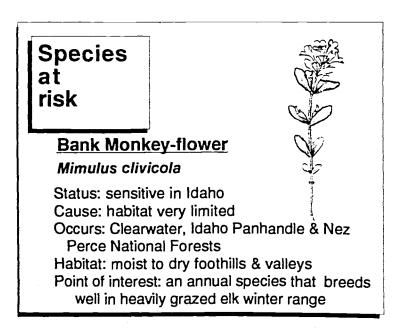
We developed "Every Species Counts — The Northern Region's TES Action Plan," from three workshops where Forest Service employees provided comments and suggestions for improving TES management at the field level. All 13 National Forests in the Region participated. We also contacted key individuals, from other agencies and organizations

currently cooperating with the Forest Service, for their comments. Most recommendations in this action plan were generated from these two sources. The public and other businesses and or ganizations affected by or interested in the management of TES species on National Forests and Grasslands will be involved as part of the marketing program defined in this action plan.

Highlights of TES species entitled "Species At Risk" are throughout this report. Each capsulates the story of a Northern Region TES species. Space limited the number of these highlighted boxes to a few fish, plants and wildlife species. However, every species in the Region is a valuable piece of our nation's natural heritage. Indeed, in the web of life, "Every Species Counts."

CONTRIBUTORS

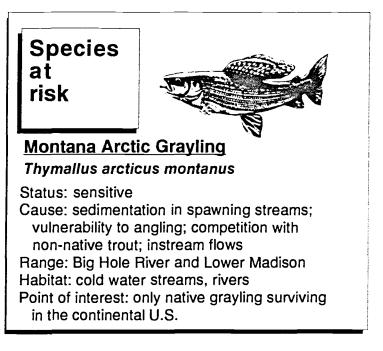
The following people's thoughts helped greatly in developing the plans in this report: Tom Rhode, Al Espinosa, Dan Davis, Kathy Anderson, Steve Blair, Spike Thompson, Dave Aldrich, Paul Harrington, Elayne Murphy, Chuck Oliver, Jina Mariani, Wayne Phillips, Bruce May, Marion Cherry, Rich Inman, Donald Godtel, Dan Pence, Chuck Sundstrom, Kathy Bulchis, Bob Krepps, Mesia Nyman, John Joy, Jim Fishburn, John Edwards, Tom Komberec, Mary Hunnicutt, Bob Summerfield, Tom Wittinger, Chuck Brooks, Nancy Warren, Jack Losensky, Mike Hillis, Chuck Spoon, Angie Evenden, Jim Marshon, Anne Zimmermann, Jerry Deibert, Nancy Ryke, Cheri Ford, Steve Shelly, Mary Maj, Cliff Mitchell, Henry Shovic, Jim Claar, Rodd Richardson, Kirk Horn and Bill Ruediger.



LEADERSHIP & COMMITMENT

Vision

The TES program is effective in conserving threatened, endangered and sensitive species. Forest Service employees and the public understand that TES species represent important entities of our natural heritage. The Forest Service is a leading force in habitat protection, species conservation and environmental education. As a result, the Forest Service TES program sets an example and



is praised and supported by other agencies, conservation groups and the general public. There is strong Forest Service employee commitment to maintaining biodiversity with a reward system for pro-active efforts in TES species conservation.

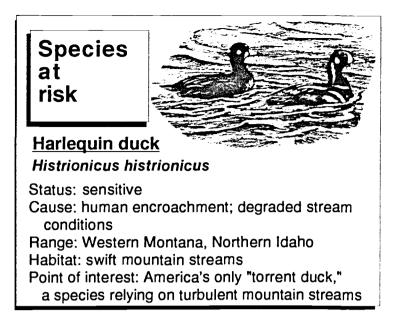
ACTION PLAN:

NEED: Line officer commitment to TES resources must be clear.

- ACTION: Leadership teams will develop an integrated policy on TES resources. They will share their philosophy with employees through formal and informal channels.
- WHO & Regional Forester

WHEN: Forest Supervisors 1992

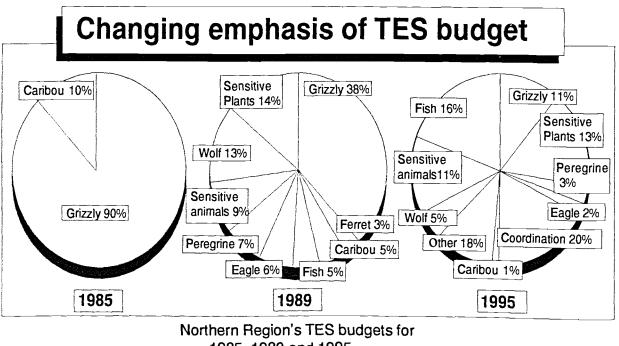
NEED:	A pro-active TES research program coordinated with forest, state and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service needs.
ACTION:	Develop a TES research plan including funding and personnel needs.
WHO & WHEN:	Intermountain Research Station, in coordination with forests and Region 1993
NEED:	Incentives and rewards for TES management to equal commodity production incentives.
ACTION:	Develop a formal and informal reward system for TES conservation.
WHO & WHEN:	Regional Forester Forest Supervisors District Rangers 1991 & ongoing
NEED:	Better integration of research into Forest Service TES program.
ACTION:	 Assess research needs identified at forest and district levels. Communicate annually with research unit and project leaders to assess and provide input to long and short term research projects. Provide assistance in technology transfer through a yearly summary of research findings related to Northern Region needs.
WHO & WHEN:	Forest Supervisors Wildlife and Fisheries Directors 1992-93



- **NEED:** Higher visibility of TES resource in Forest Plans, with emphasis on pro-active management.
- ACTION: Fully integrate TES resources into Forest and Resource Development plans. Review Forest Plans to ensure that proposed budgets provide for proactive TES management, the desired future conditions are clearly defined and that standards and guidelines fully provide for TES recovery.
- WHO & Forest Supervisors
- WHEN: When Forest Plans are updated
- NEED: Botanist skills at the forest level.
- ACTION: Develop a plan to acquire botanist skills at the forest level. Then, acquire botanical skills on all forests.
- WHO & Regional Leadership Team
- WHEN: 1991

PROGRAM Vision

TES species recovery is progressing through well developed and implemented programs at the forest and district levels. The Forest Service places equal emphasis on maintaining biological diversity and commodity production. We are in full compliance with the Endangered Species Act and Forest Service Sensitive Species Policy. Regional, forest and district TES programs are professionally sound. Support is evident through involvement of numerous cooperators. Viability analysis has become an effective, meaningful process whenever habitat management or human impacts may be of concern. The Northern Region has adequate professional skills, including botanists, wildlife biologists and fisheries biologists with proven abilities in conservation biology. Budget and program direction in Forest Plans adequately provide for inventory, marketing, conservation education, and habitat protection and improvement.

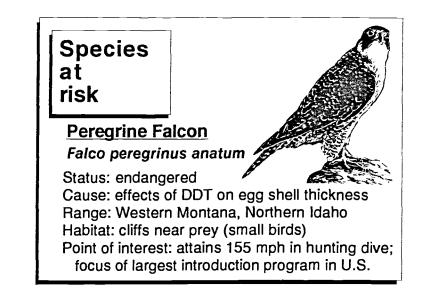


1985, 1989 and 1995

ACTION PLAN:

NEED:	Viability analysis process for TES species.
ACTION:	 Region will develop a viability analysis process for sensitive wildlife, fish and plants. Develop viability analysis process for fish and plant species. Region will test process on one selected fish and plant species.
WHO & WHEN:	 TES Program Manager and Ecology Unit1992 TES Program Manager and Ecology Unit1993 TES Program Manager and Ecology Unit1994
NEED:	Short course in ESA/Sensitive species law/policy for forest line officers and State and Private Forestry cooperators.
ACTION:	Develop one day short course for line of ficers.
WHO & WHEN:	Wildlife and Fisheries Director (line of ficers) Timber Director (State & Private Forestry) 1992
NEED:	Standardized ecological habitat mapping standards between forests. Coordinate with adjacent regions.
ACTION:	Develop and implement a standardized ecological process to map and inventory fish, plant and wildlife habitat.
WHO & WHEN:	Ecology Unit in coordination with TES and habitat relationships program managers 1993
NEED:	Maintain skill level in species conservation biology for wildlife biologists, fish biologists and botanists.
ACTION:	Develop training programs in conservation biology for plants, fish and wildlife. Work with WO to incorporate conservation biology in continuing education curriculum.
WHO & WHEN:	Wildlife and Fisheries Director/ Range, Air, Water and Ecology Director 1992 (plants), 1993 (wildlife), 1994 (fish)

- NEED: To monitor and inventory for TES species.ACTION: 1) Region will assign a lead Forest for each TES species to
 - coordinate a monitor & inventory plan.
 - 2) Forests develop monitor & inventory plans.
- WHO & 1) Wildlife and Fisheries staff officers 1992
- WHEN: 2) Wildlife and Fisheries staff officers 1994



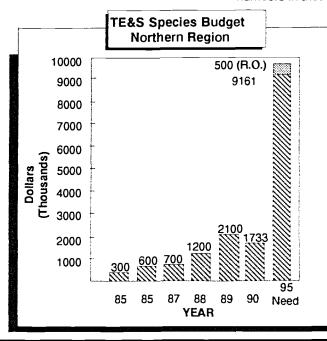
- NEED: Accelerate development of sensitive species conservation plans.
- ACTION: Region/Forest will develop priorities for sensitive species conservation plans and prepare at least five management plans per year for sensitive plants, two per year for sensitive animals and one per year for sensitive fish. Conservation plans will incorporate monitoring and inventory standards from the previous action item.
- WHO & Forest Wildlife and Fisheries staff officer
- WHEN: Regional TES/Botanist/Fisheries Timber Director (State & Private Forestry) 1992

PROGRAM DOLLARS

The following is a prospective program for accelerating TES recovery and conservation in the Northern Region. Figures are listed for the whole region, the research program, the state and private forestry program, and each forest. The dollars and specific tasks to accomplish the program were developed by each Forest as defined in their Forest Plans and Fish and Wildlife Program documents. In all respects, these programs were created at the ground level and reflect priorities of those responsible for implementing TES species recovery in the field.

NORTHERN REGION	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly	\$ 1040	\$ 1048	\$ 1063	\$ 1004	\$ 992
Wolf	484	495	511	518	517
Peregrine	246	266	272	268	267
B. Eagle	233	222	228	223	224
Caribou	100	100	100	100	100
B-footed ferret	25	25	25	25	25
P-fringed orchid	50	50	50	50	50
Sen. Plant	991	1101	1114	1136	1164
Sen. Fish	1418	1447	1515	1480	1468
Sen. Animal	820	938	1003	984	977
Habitat Imp.					
\$	878	981	1074	1218	1012
Acres	3205	3694	3547	3594	3525
Structures	430	408	407	393	412
Coordination	1820	1835	1903	1914	1945
Other	257	238	240	241	243
TOTAL	8362	8746	9098	9161	8984

numbers in thousands of dollars



TES Research Program

Research for TES species is vital to maintain state-of-the-art management at the forest and district levels. Management concerns addressed through research would include: bull trout responses to changing environments and exotic species, ecology of western prairie-fringed orchid and determining a viable population of sensitive species.

Research	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	200	200	200	200	200
Wolf	45	45	45	45	45
P-fringed Orchid	100	130	130	120	120
Water Howellia	30	40	40	30	30
Bull Trout	60	60	60	60	60
Salmon/Steelhd.	160	160	160	160	160
Sensitive plant	350	400	450	400	350
Sensitive fish	320	320	320	320	320
Sensitive animal	165	200	200	200	200
TES Research					
Center	300	300	300	300	300
Total	1733	1855	1905	1835	1785

numbers in thousands of dollars

State and Private Forestry TES Program

S&P F	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	100	120	125	150	150
Wolf	10	10	10	10	10
Peregrine	15	15	15	20	20
B. Eagle	20	40	50	80	80
B-footed Ferret	10	20	30	35	35
P-fringed Orchid	10	20	50	55	55
Sensitive plant	50	50	50	50	50
Sensitive fish	50	100	200	220	220
Sensitive animal	50	75	75	75	75
ESA short course	25	25	25	25	25
Neo-tropical birds	75	175	185	205	205
Education	30	30	30	30	30
Total	445	680	845	955	955

numbers in thousands of dollars

Threatened, endangered and sensitive species recovery rarely occurs only on national forest lands. Coordination with adjacent ownerships and corporate and private woodlands is an essential part of overall TES species management.

A look at budgets forest by forest

Kootenai	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	155	155	182	123	111
Wolf	27	37	47	39	28
Peregrine	9	13	18	14	14
B. Eagle	27	27	35	30	31
Sensitive plant	60	93	101	90	85
Sensitive fish	160	204	267	245	233
Sensitive Animal	145	147	167	130	114
Habitat Imp.			1		
\$	46	58	93	108	88
Acres	-	-	-	-	_
Structures	-	-	-	-	-
Coordination	202	202	202	202	172
Other	150		150	150	150
Total	981	1086	1262	1131	1026

all graphs in thousands of dollars

Bitterroot	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly	25	25	25	25	25
Peregrine	25	25	25	25	25
Wolf	15	15	15	15	15
Sensitive plant	26	25	25	25	25
Sensitive fish	73	73	73	73	73
Sensitive Animal	_60	66	65	64	63
Habitat imp.					
\$	52	52	52	52	52
Acres					
Structures	35	35	35	35	35
Coordination	24	24	24	24	24
Other	9	9	9	9	9
Total	308	308	308	308	308

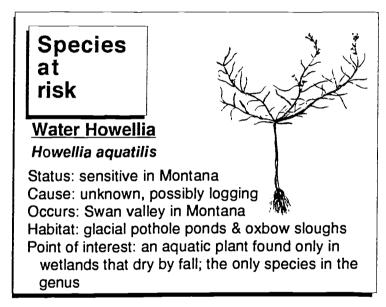
Clearwater	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly	120	120	120	120	120
Wolf	85	85	90	95	100
B. Eagle	10	10	10	10	10
Sensitive plant	200	200	210	210	220
Sensitive fish	285	285	285	285	285
Sensitive Animal	50	55	60	70	75
Habitat imp.					
\$	269	323	368	463	269
Acres	219	263	300	377	219
Structures	170	170	170	170	170
Coordination	150	160	165	170	175
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1169	1238	1308	1423	1254

Beaverhead	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	23	29	22	22	22
Wolf	24	24	24	24	24
Peregrine	13	20	22	22	20
B. Eagle	35	22	22	22	22
Sensitive plant	38	48	63	63	63
Sensitive fish	99	99	99	99	99
Sensitive Animal	70	109	170	170	170
Habitat Imp.					
\$	48	34	36	46	32
Acres	-	_	-	-	-
Structures	45	34	45	26	25
Coordination		-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	350	385	458	468	454

Deerlodge	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	3	5	5	5	5
Wolf	2	3	4	5	5
Peregrine	20	20	20	20	20
B. Eagle	5	5	5	5	5
Sensitive plant	128	133	122	127	145
Sensitive fish	50	50	50	50	50
Sensitive Animal	60	75	80	90	90
Habitat Imp.					
\$	20	30	30	30	30
Acres	0	0	0	0	0
Structures	1	1	11	1	1
Coordination	40	40	50	.50	50
Other	20	0	0	0	0
Total	348	361	366	382	400

Gallatin	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	242	242	242	242	242
Wolf	50	50	50	50	50
Peregrine	10	10	10	10	10
B. Eagle	20	20	20	20	20
Sensitive plant	50	50	50	50	50
Sensitive fish	26	26	26	26	26
Sensitive Animal	27	27	27	27	27
Habitat Imp.					
\$	185	185	185	185	185
Acres	310	310	310	310	310
Structures	23	18	18	18	18
Coordination	59	59	59	59	59
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total	669	669	669	669	669

Helena	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	50	50	50	50	50
Wolf	25	25	25	25	25
Peregrine	20	20	20	20	20
B. Eagle	30	30	30	30	30
Sensitive plant	55	55	55	55	55
Sensitive fish	41	47	52	39	39
Sensitive Animal	50	50	50	50	50
Habitat Imp.					
\$	30	30	30	30	30
Acres	25	25	25	25	25
Structures	5	5	5	5	5
Coordination	150	150	150	150	150
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total	451	457	462	449	449

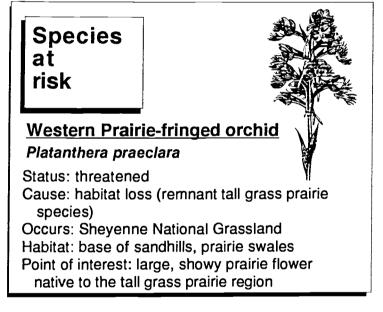


Panhandle	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	80	80	80	80	80
Wolf	8	8	8	10	10
Peregrine	27	35_	35	35	35
B. Eagle	10	12	10	10	10
Caribou	100	100	100	100	100
Sensitive plant	60	70	70	80	90
Sensitive fish	420	420	420	420	420
Sensitive Animal	50	60	60	70	70
Habitat Imp.					
\$	20	20	30	60	60
Acres	100	100	100	150	150
Structures	5	5	10	20	20
Coordination	520	520	570	570	620
Other	20	20	20	20	20
Total	1315	1345	1483	1455	1515

Custer	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	25	25	25	25	25
Peregrine	15	15	15	15	15
B. Eagle	10	10	10	10	10
B-footed Ferret	25	25	25	25	25
P-fringed Orchid	50	50	50	50	50
Sensitive plant	53	93.1	81.3	80	80
Sensitive fish	49	10	10	10	10
Sensitive Animal	73.2	102.5	80.3	65	65
Habitat Imp.					
\$	36.7	33	41	30	35
Acres	1005	1005	1105	1005	1105
Structures	10	-	10	-	10
Coordination	140	140	140	140	140
Other	-	-	-	-	•
Total	337	478	478	450	455

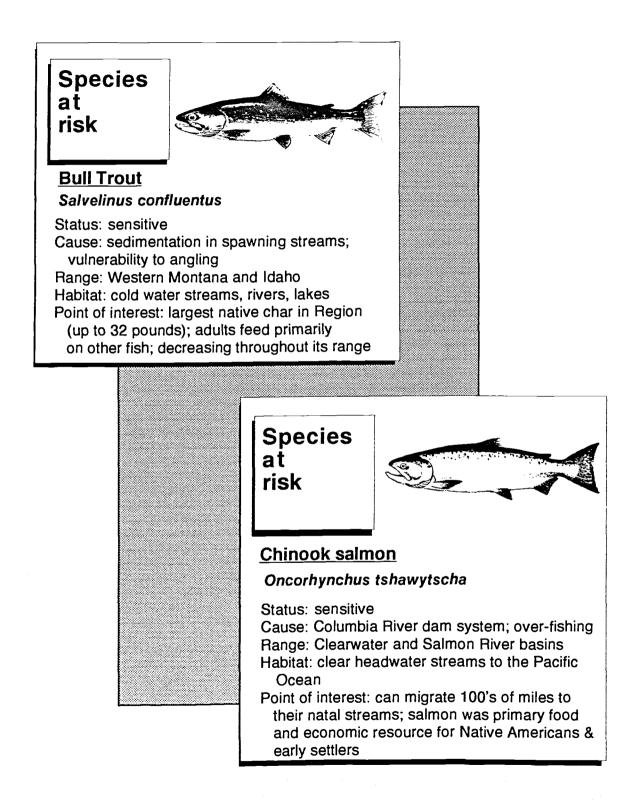
L&C	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	50	50	45	45	45
Wolf	43	43	43	50	55
Peregrine	15	15	15	15	15
B. Eagle	10	10	10	10	10
Sensitive plant	63	63	63	65	70
Sensitive fish	15	15	15	15	15
Sensitive Animal	75	80	80	85	90
Habitat Imp.					, _
\$	69	55	64	64	64
Acres	1000	400	500	500	500
Structures	13	13	13	13	13
Coordination	28	30	30	32	35
Other	12	12	12	12	12
Total	380	373	377	393	411

Lolo	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	30	30	30	30	30
Wolf	30	30	30	30	30
Peregrine	15	15	15	15	15
B. Eagle	15	15	15	15	15
Sensitive plant	60	60	60	60	60
Sensitive fish	15	15	15	15	15
Sensitive Animal	25	25	25	25	25
Habitat Imp.					
\$	25	26	28	29	30
Acres	300	300	300	300	300
Structures	10	10	10	10	10
Coordination	62	65	68	72	75
Other	29	30	32	33	35
Total	306	311	318	324	315



Nez Perce	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	37	37	37	37	37
Wolf	75	75	75	75	75
Peregrine	53	53	53	53	53
B. Eagle	36	36	36	36	36
Sensitive plant	148	160	164	164	164
Sensitive fish	165	165	165	171	171
Sensitive Animal	97	103	100	100	100
Habitat Imp.					
\$	41	41	41	41	41
Acres	67	77	77	77	77
Structures	40	40	40	40	40
Coordination	100	100	100	100	100
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total	752	770	771	778	778

Flathead	92	93	94	95	96
Grizzly Bear	200	200	200	200	200
Wolf	100	100	100	100	100
Peregrine	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5
B. Eagle	25	25	25	25	25
Sensitive plant	50	50	50	50	50
Sensitive fish	38.7	38.7	38.7	38.7	38.7
Sensitive Animal	38.1	38.1	38.1	38.1	38.1
Habitat Imp.					
\$	37.7	93.5	75.3	80.1	96.1
Acres	179	1214	830	850	839
Structures	73	77	50	55	65
Coordination	345	345	345	345	345
Other	17	17.2	17	17.2	17.2
Total	876	932	914	919	935



PARTNERSHIPS Vision

The TES program has many direct supporters and a wide variety of partnership projects and programs. Partnerships include businesses, schools, conservation organizations, other agencies, news media and citizens. These working relationships provide services that fill a mutual need. Through partnerships, new communication channels are opened, mutual understanding increases and support is developed for the TES program.

Special thanks to our existing partners:

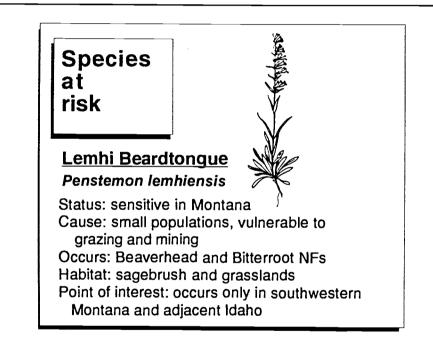
Montana Natural Heritage Program MT Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks University of Montana University of Idaho Idaho Department of Fish and Game North Dakota Game and Fish Defenders of Wildlife National Wildlife Federation **US Fish and Wildlife Service Bear Tree Challenge Peregrine Fund Plum Creek Timber** Montana State University North American Fish & Wildlife Foundation Montana Loon Society **Bureau of Land Management**

ACTION PLAN:

NEED:	partners.
ACTION:	Region and each forest will provide a list of current partners.
WHO & WHEN:	Regional TES coordinator Forest Wildlife and Fisheries staff 1991
NEED:	Develop new partners.
ACTION:	Forests and Region will develop a list of potential partners. Each forest enters into a partnership project with at least one new partner each year.
WHO & WHEN:	Forests and Region (including State & Private Forestry) 1991 & ongoing

-1 to solth some command TEC

- **NEED:** Develop a classroom curriculum with teachers to develop student appreciation and knowledge of TES resources and biodiversity.
- ACTION: 1) Continue and expand the use of TES teacher kits.2) Create a course guide oriented toward TES species conservation and biodiversity.
- WHO & 1) Regional Office/ Forests 1992
- WHEN: 2) Regional TES Coordinator 1993



- **NEED:** Outreach with universities.
- ACTION: Forests become more active in university programs by providing opportunities for field labs, student projects involving TES species and personnel for coursework.
- WHO & Forests and TES Program Manager
- WHEN: 1993

NEED:	Outreach with other agencies.
ACTION:	 Develop cooperative TES programs such as inventory, species assessment, and species management guides. Participate in shared positions with state agencies. Provide universal species and habitat data bases and compatible computer networks between agencies.
WHO & WHEN:	 Forest Wildlife and Fisheries staff officers and State & Private Forestry 1992, then yearly Forest Wildlife and Fisheries staff and State & Private Forestry Regional TES Coordinator

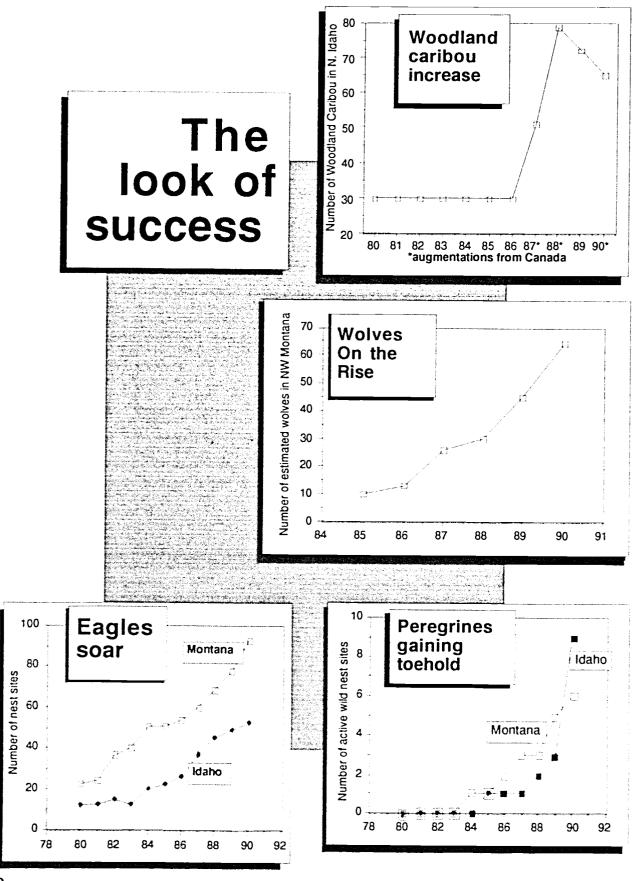
NEED: Coordination with businesses and industries.

ACTION: Establish better coordination with forest and mining industries that have intermingled land ownerships (Champion International, Plum Creek and Noranda).

WHO & Forest Wildlife and Fisheries staff, State & Private ForestryWHEN: 1993

NEED: Coordination with conservation groups.

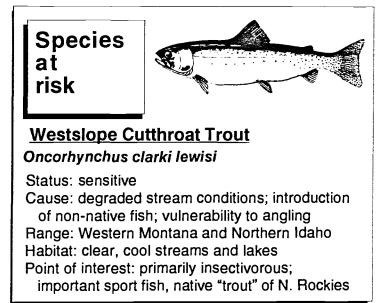
- ACTION: 1) Develop cooperative projects.2) Provide field trips to review Forest Service TES management.
- WHO & 1) Forests, Wildlife and Fisheries staff, 1992
- WHEN: 2) Bi-yearly



MARKETING

Vision

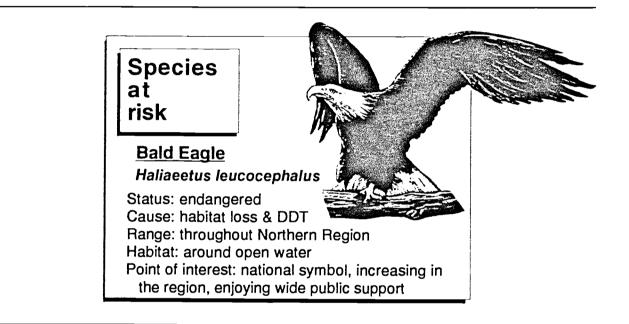
The Northern Region understands its TES customers on a local, regional and national scale. Forests and the Region are able to serve the varied needs of its external customers, including other agencies, businesses, conservation groups and the education system. Internal customers are served by integrating the TES program with other Forest Service resources. This understanding of the external and internal customers is the foundation for the support the TES program enjoys.



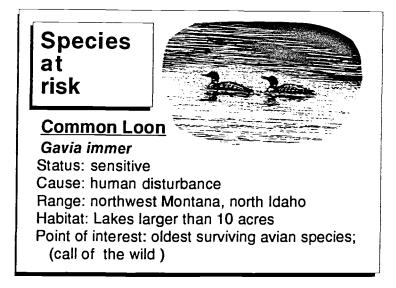
ACTION PLAN:

NEED:	Knowledge of TES customers (internal and external).
ACTION:	Forests will provide a process for determining who its customers are and what their needs are.
WHO & WHEN:	Forest Supervisors State and Private Forestry 1992

- NEED: Serving our TES customers.
- ACTION: Each Forest and the Region will serve three TES customer needs yearly, including a new customer.
- WHO & Forest Supervisors
- WHEN: 1992, then yearly



- **NEED:** Get the word out about TES species Forest recovery programs and partnership projects.
- ACTION: Forest and Region will develop one newspaper and one magazine article or one TV news spot yearly about TES species, Forest Service recovery efforts or partnership projects.
- WHO & Forest & District biologists and botanistsWHEN: Regional Fisheries/TES/Botanist
 - 1992, then ongoing



- NEED: TES display panel for use at county fairs, industry shows and wildlife conventions, explaining Forest Service TES recovery programs.
- ACTION: Develop display.
- WHO & Wildlife and Fisheries Director WHEN: State and Private Forestry

