

Definitions of New Mexico Natural Heritage Program Ranks of Endangerment

Rank definitions are determined by [NatureServe](#)

Global NHP Ranks

- GX Presumed Extinct**—Believed to be extinct throughout its range. Not located despite intensive searches of historical sites and other appropriate habitat, and virtually no likelihood that it will be rediscovered.
- GH Possibly Extinct**—Known from only historical occurrences, but may nevertheless still be extant; further searching needed.
- G1 Critically Imperiled**—Critically imperiled globally because of extreme rarity or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extinction. Typically 5 or fewer occurrences or very few remaining individuals (<1,000) or acres (<2,000) or linear miles (<10).
- G2 Imperiled**—Imperiled globally because of rarity or because of some factor(s) making it very vulnerable to extinction or elimination. Typically 6 to 20 occurrences or few remaining individuals (1,000 to 3,000) or acres (2,000 to 10,000) or linear miles (10 to 50).
- G3 Vulnerable**—Vulnerable globally either because very rare and local throughout its range, found only in a restricted range (even if abundant at some locations), or because of other factors making it vulnerable to extinction or elimination. Typically 21 to 100 occurrences or between 3,000 and 10,000 individuals.
- G4 Apparently Secure**—Uncommon but not rare (although it may be rare in parts of its range, particularly on the periphery), and usually widespread. Apparently not vulnerable in most of its range, but possibly cause for long-term concern. Typically more than 100 occurrences and more than 10,000 individuals.
- G5 Secure**—Common, widespread, and abundant (although it may be rare in parts of its range, particularly on the periphery). Not vulnerable in most of its range. Typically with considerably more than 100 occurrences and more than 10,000 individuals.

Variant Global Ranks

- G#G# Range Rank**—A numeric range rank (e.g., G2G3) is used to indicate uncertainty about the exact status of a taxon.
- GU Unrankable**—Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends.
- G? Unranked**—Global rank not yet assessed.
- HYB Hybrid**—Element not ranked because it represents an interspecific hybrid and not a species.

Global Rank Qualifiers

- ? Inexact Numeric Rank**—Denotes inexact numeric rank (e.g. G3?).
- Q** Questionable taxonomy that may reduce conservation priority— Distinctiveness of this entity as a taxon at the current level is questionable.

Intraspecific Taxon Ranks

- T# Intraspecific Taxon (trinomial)**—The status of intraspecific taxa (subspecies or varieties) are indicated by a "T-rank" following the species' global rank. Rules for assigning T-ranks follow the same principles outlined above. For example, the global rank of a critically imperiled subspecies of an otherwise widespread and common species would be G5T1.

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State NHP Ranks

Note: Migratory species receive 2 state ranks, one for Breeding status, one for Non-breeding status.

- SX Presumed Extirpated**—Element is believed to be extirpated from NM. Not located despite intensive searches of historical sites and other appropriate habitat, and virtually no likelihood that it will be rediscovered.
- SH Possibly Extirpated (Historical)**—Element occurred historically in NM, and there is some expectation that it may be rediscovered. Its presence may not have been verified in the past 20 years. An element would become SH without such a 20-year delay if the only known occurrences in NM were destroyed or if it had been extensively and unsuccessfully looked for.
- S1 Critically Imperiled**—Critically imperiled in NM because of extreme rarity or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extirpation from New Mexico. Typically 5 or fewer occurrences or very few remaining individuals (<1,000).
- S2 Imperiled**—Imperiled in NM because of rarity or because of some factor(s) making it very vulnerable to extirpation from New Mexico. Typically 6 to 20 occurrences or few remaining individuals (1,000 to 3,000).
- S3 Vulnerable**—Vulnerable in NM either because rare and uncommon, or found only in a restricted range (even if abundant at some locations), or because of other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation. Typically 21 to 100 occurrences or between 3,000 and 10,000 individuals.
- S4 Apparently Secure**—Uncommon but not rare, and usually widespread in NM. Possible cause of long-term concern. Usually more than 100 occurrences and more than 10,000 individuals.
- S5 Secure**—Common, widespread, and abundant in NM. Essentially ineradicable under present conditions. Typically with considerably more than 100 occurrences and more than 10,000 individuals.
- SNR Unranked**— State conservation status not yet assessed.
- SNA Not Applicable--** A state conservation status rank is not applicable because the species is not a suitable target of conservation activities. Reasons for this include:
species is a hybrid
species is not native to New Mexico
species occurrence is accidental/nonregular
species presence in New Mexico has not been confirmed
- SU Unrankable**—Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends.
- S#S# Range Rank**—A numeric range rank (e.g., S2S3) is used to indicate the range of uncertainty about the exact status of the element. Ranges cannot skip more than one rank (e.g., SU is used rather than S1S4).
- HYB Hybrid**—Element not ranked because it represents an interspecific hybrid, not a species.
- SE** An exotic established in state; may be native elsewhere in North America; includes fish native to NM but introduced into watersheds where the species is non-native.
- SE# Exotic Numeric**—An exotic established in NM that has been assigned a numeric rank to indicate its status, as defined for S1 through S5.
- SA Accidental**—Accidental or casual in NM. In other words, infrequent and outside usual range. Includes species (usually birds or butterflies) recorded once or only a few times at a location. A few of these species may have bred on the one or two occasions they were recorded. Examples include European strays or western birds on the East Coast and vice-versa.
- SZ Zero Occurrences**—Present but lacking practical conservation concern in NM because there are no definable occurrences, although the taxon is native and appears regularly in the state. An SZ rank will generally be used for long distance migrants whose occurrences during their migrations have little or no conservation value for the migrant, as they are typically too irregular (in terms of repeated visitation to the same locations), transitory, and dispersed to be reliably identified, mapped, and protected. In other words, the migrant regularly passes through the state, but enduring, mappable Element Occurrences cannot be defined.
- SP Potential**—Potential that element occurs in the state but no extant or historic occurrences are accepted.

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- SR** **Reported**—Element reported in NM but without a basis for either accepting or rejecting the report, or the report not yet reviewed locally.
- SRD** **Dubious Report**—Element reported in NM but the report is likely to be invalid.
- SRF** **False Report**— Element reported in NM but the report is known to be invalid.
- SSYN** **Synonym**—Element reported as occurring in NM, but NMNHP does not recognize the taxon; therefore the element is not assigned a rank.

Breeding Status Qualifiers

- SB** **Breeding**—Basic rank refers to the breeding population of the element in NM.
- SN** **Nonbreeding**—Basic rank refers to the non-breeding population of the element in NM.

Note: A breeding status subrank is only used for species that have distinct breeding and/or non-breeding populations in NM. A breeding-status SRANK can be coupled with its complementary non-breeding-status SRANK. The two are separated by a comma, with the higher-priority rank listed first in their pair (e.g., "S2B,S3N" or "SHN,S4S5B").

Other Qualifiers

- ?** **Inexact or Uncertain**—Denotes inexact or uncertain numeric rank. For SE denotes uncertainty of exotic status. (The ? qualifies the character immediately preceding it in the SRANK.)
- C** **Captive or Cultivated**—Native element presently extant in NM only in captivity or cultivation, or as a reintroduced population not yet established.

Federal Status Definitions

(Determined by US Fish and Wildlife Service)

- LE** Listed Endangered
- LT** Listed Threatened
- PE** Taxa proposed to be listed as endangered.
- PT** Taxa proposed to be listed as threatened.
- C** Candidate taxa for which the USFWS has on file enough substantial information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support proposals to list them as endangered or threatened species.
- PDL** Proposed for delisting.
- E(S/A) or T(S/A)** Listed endangered or threatened because of similarity of appearance.
- XE** Essential experimental population.
- XN** Nonessential experimental population.
- Value, Value** The taxon has one status currently, but a more recent proposal has been made to change that status with no final action yet published. For example, "LE, PDL" indicates that the species is currently listed as endangered, but has been proposed for delisting.
- (Value)** The taxon itself is not named in the Federal Register as having Federal status; however, it does have Federal status as a result of its taxonomic relationship to a named entity. For example, if a species is federally listed with endangered status, then by default, all of its recognized subspecies also have endangered status.
- (Value, Value)** The taxon itself is not named in the Federal Register as having Federal status; however, all of its infraspecific taxa (worldwide) do have official status. The statuses shown in parentheses indicate the statuses that apply to infraspecific taxa or populations within this taxon.

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- (PS)** Indicates "partial status" - status in only a portion of the species' range. Typically indicated in a "full" species record where an infraspecific taxon or population has Federal status, but the entire species does not.
- (PS, Value)** Indicates "partial status" - status in only a portion of the species' range. The value of that status appears because the entity with status (usually a population defined by geopolitical boundaries or defined administratively, such as experimental populations) does not have an individual entry in NM.

State Status Definitions: Animals (Determined by NM Dept. of Game and Fish)

- E** "**Endangered**", as used herein, means any species or subspecies whose prospects of survival or recruitment in New Mexico are in jeopardy.
- T** "**Threatened**", as used herein, means any species or subspecies that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range in New Mexico.
- Res =** "**Restricted species**", as used herein, means any listed large exotic cat species or subspecies.

State Status Definitions: Plants (Determined by NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Dept.)

- E =** "Endangered Plant Species," any plant species whose prospects of survival within the state are in jeopardy or are likely, within the foreseeable future, to become jeopardized.
- S =** "Sensitive Plant"; any plant taxon that is considered to be rare because of restricted distribution or low numerical density.
- R =** "Review List"; any plant taxon about which more information is needed. The species is either taxonomically questionable or poorly understood as to distribution or endangerment.
- D =** "Plant Species Considered, But Not Included"; taxa considered, but not included on above lists; or taxa delisted from previous lists.