

According to the 1990 Snowbasin (FEIS) Final Environmental Impact Statement there were no known sensitive species within the Snowbasin area. However, suitable habitat for the Wasatch pika is found within the special use permit area and suitable habitat for the spotted frog is found within the proposed development area.

The 1994 Mt. Ogden Chairlift (EA) Environmental Assessment identified two sensitive plant species (Maguire draba *Draba maguirei*, Garret bladderpod *Lesquerella garrettii*), eight sensitive animal species (Townsend's big-eared bat *Corynorhinus townsendii*, Flammulated owl *Ous flammeolus*, Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*, Three-toed woodpecker *Picoides tridactylus*, Spotted frog *Ren pretiosa*, Spotted bat *Eurderma maculatum*, Boreal owl *Aegolius funereus* and Great grey owl *Strix nebulosa*), and one fish species (Bonneville cutthroat trout *Oncorhynchus clarki utah*) that may be found or have habitat in the project area.

Seven of these species have a low probability of inhabiting the project or surrounding area. Only the Northern Goshawk, Flammulated owl, Bonneville cutthroat trout and maguire Draba were found during field surveys. The project is outside the current range for Spotted frog. Field surveys in the Snowbasin area failed to locate Spotted frogs within the project area.

Townsend's big-eared bat are known to be on the Ogden Ranger District. The Spotted bat is widely distributed, yet rare throughout most of its range. A survey conducted in June 1994 consisting of mist netting and echolocation, failed to detect any sensitive bat species within the project area.

The Boreal and Great grey owl are unlikely to occur in this project area. Call response surveys in 1994, 1995, and 1996 failed to elicit any responses. No recorded sightings of these owls have been made in the project and surrounding area.

Surveys conducted by the Utah Natural Heritage Program in 1991 and by Forest Service personnel in 1993 and 1994 have failed to identify any individual populations of Garrett bladderpod within the area.

A genetic testing of fish from Wheeler Creek below Snowbasin (Shiozawa and Evans, 1994) identified Bonneville and Yellowstone cutthroat trout had intermixed. It is currently unknown if this was a natural event which occurred when Lake Bonneville drained into the Snake River or a more recent event caused by man's introduction of Yellowstone cutthroat trout. It is believed the Wheeler Creek cutthroat population is from natural events and is native to the area. This belief is based on the fact that another population with similar genetics is found above Causey Reservoir in Bear Hollow, a tributary to Wheat Grass Creek.

Another reason to maintain water in Wheeler Creek deals with the citing of Wheeler Creek as a reintroduction site for Bonneville cutthroat trout. This is identified in the Native Cutthroat Trout Management Plan for the State of Utah.

In the Draft Conservation Agreement and Strategy for Bonneville Cutthroat Trout in the State of Utah, the Ogden River drainage is part of the Northern Utah Geographic Management Unit. One of the major threats to cutthroat trout survival in this area is habitat degradation from water development. The population in Wheeler Creek is currently at risk because of the fragmentation caused by the Ogden City diversion.

The three-toed woodpecker is an uncommon, year-round resident of the Wasatch mountains. No documented sightings of this species have been made within the project area.

The Forest Service has prepared a Biological Assessment and Evaluations that document the effects of Phase I activities on all Threatened, Endangered and Forest Service Sensitive species that may be found or have habitat within the project area. The Forest Service has also informally consulted with the US Fish and Wildlife Service on the potential effects of Phase I activities on the American bald eagle and the peregrine falcon.

Snowbasin will provide vegetation and wildlife baseline and implementation monitoring reports as outlined in the Snowbasin Phase I Monitoring Plan which is included in the master plan appendix. These studies will be reviewed and validated as needed by Snowbasin and the Forest Service.