

Peer Reviewer Comments: **Graham's Beardtongue (*Penstemon grahamii*) and White River Beardtongue (*P. scariosus* var. *albifluvis*) Biological Status Report of Future Condition**

The Future Condition report provides a detailed and thorough analysis of the future viability of these two species. It is clear from the Biological Report of the current condition of the two beardtongues that energy development is the primary stressor. Due to the uncertainty of oil shale and tar sand development, it seems prudent to have developed two plausible future scenarios, projecting out for only 10 years (until 2030).

The two future scenarios evaluated -Scenario 1-Moderate energy development and Scenario 2-High energy development – describes in detail the affect of energy development on the range units and the population contained within each unit. The stressors were the same as those evaluated in the Biological Report – current condition – providing a thorough look at factors that will influence the viability of Graham's and White River beardtongue. The process used in the analytical framework was clearly explained and defined in regard to the 3R's. The metrics used in evaluating the future condition for both species are particularly well-done. All of the analysis in this document clearly supports the conclusions in the Executive Summary. With the inclusion of Appendix 1, it seems unlikely that any significant inconsistencies in the analysis exist. Without question, the conclusions in the Executive Summary are supported through the analysis.

Based on this analysis, both beardtongues should have the ability to keep viable populations on the landscape over the next 10 years.