

**Rare Plant Status Review: *Allium punctum*  
Proposed New Add to List 2.2**

Nicholas Jensen (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)  
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**Background**

*Allium punctum* is a perennial bulb in the Alliaceae (previously included in the Liliaceae). *A. punctum* is included as native to California in *The Flora of North America* (Vol. 26), *The Jepson Manual* (1993), and *The Jepson Manual* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, available online at:

<http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/tjm2/review/treatments/alliaceae-mcneal.html#12627> ).

*A. punctum* is similar to *A. parvum*, but can be distinguished by its distinctively reticulate bulb coat. *A. punctum* flowers between May and June.

In California, *A. punctum* is found growing on “very hard clay soil on a flat lava bed” (Dale McNeal, pers. comm. 2009). *The Jepson Manual* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) indicates that *A. punctum* grows on rocky flats from 1200 to 1600 meters in elevation.

In California, *A. punctum* is known from a single occurrence in western Modoc County, along Highway 139, approximately 12 miles southeast of the Modoc-Siskiyou County line. *A. punctum* also occurs in southern Oregon and northwestern Nevada. The Consortium of Pacific Northwest Herbaria includes 38 specimens of *A. punctum* from Oregon. NatureServe ranks *A. punctum* as a G3? taxon, and indicates that its “range is fairly restricted; it is known from uncommon occurrences on the Modoc Plateau of northeastern California, and from 4 counties in southern Oregon and 1 county in western Nevada. Its abundance range-wide is poorly known.” Suitable habitat in the vicinity of the California occurrence of *A. punctum* should be searched for additional occurrences. The population size at the California occurrence is unknown.

The land ownership at the California occurrence of *A. punctum* is unknown. Although there are no known threats to this occurrence, its vulnerability to stochastic events lead us to recommend a .2 threat ranking for *A. punctum*.

*A. punctum* is a species with a relatively narrow geographic distribution. Its distribution and ranking as a G3? taxon by NatureServe leads us to believe that *A. punctum* is a borderline List 2/List 1B species. At this point in time, we think that it is most appropriate to recommend that *Allium punctum* be added to CNPS List 2.2.

**Recommended Actions**

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 2.2

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G3? S1

Please review the draft CNPS Inventory record below, respond Yes or No on the proposal to add this species to the Inventory and CNDDDB, and provide any edits/comments. If responding No, please provide supporting information.

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### **Draft CNPS Inventory Record**

*Allium punctum* L.F. Hend.

Dotted onion

Alliaceae

List 2.2

Modoc

Copic (729D) 4112173

Pinyon and juniper woodland / rocky. 1200-1600 meters.

Perennial herb (bulbiferous). Blooms May-June.

See *Rhodora* 32: 33 (1930) for original description.