

Rare Plant Status Review: *Ancistrocarphus keilii*  
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with assistance from Lynda Ives (CNPS Intern)  
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### Background

Morefield recently described *Ancistrocarphus keilii*, a distinctive new species endemic to Santa Barbara County, in *Novon* 14: 463-475 (2004). Three populations of *Ancistrocarphus keilii* have been documented, comprising only about 180 individual plants. This endemic species appears very rare based on its restricted distribution and the small number of individuals; it requires review for inclusion in both the CNPS inventory and the CNDDDB. An excerpt from the *Novon* article is included below.

Two peculiar specimens of diminutive, stemless annuals collected in Santa Barbara County, California, by Ralph Hoffmann in the spring of 1929 and labeled as *Hesperevax* (A. Gray) A. Gray were found among the collections of the Santa Barbara Botanical Garden in the late 1980's. Their generic affinities were not immediately evident, and there was considerable doubt that the species still survived amidst the relatively dense human population of its locality after six decades. Further phylogenetic study based on morphology placed the unnamed taxon as the sister species of *Ancistrocarphus filagineus* A. Gray, heretofore the sole species in the genus, with a high degree of confidence (Morefield, 1992a). A recent collection by David J. Keil greatly clarified the distribution and habitat of the species and demonstrated that it still survives in the wild.

### Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 1B

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G1 / S1.3

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

#### *Ancistrocarphus keilii* Morefield

"Santa Ynez Groundstar"

List 1B / RED 3-3-3

Santa Barbara

171A [Surf/3412065]

Chaparral, cismontane woodland / sandy ; elevation 40-130 meters.

Annual herb, blooms March-April.

Known from approximately three occurrences. Not in The Jepson Manual. See *Novon* 14: 464 (2004) for original description.