

**Re-Ranked from List 3 to List 1B.1 on 9/3/08**

**Rare Plant Status Review:**

***Calyptridium parryi* var. *hesseae***

**List change from List 3 to 1B.1**

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July 12, 2008

Changes made since the original status review appear in blue.

*Calyptridium parryi* var. *hesseae* is an annual herb in the Portulacaceae. *C. parryi* var. *hesseae* occurs in sandy/gravelly openings in chaparral and woodland habitats from 305 to 1530 meters in elevation. Matt Guilliams (pers. comm. 2008) states that *C. parryi* var. *hesseae* and other *Calyptridium* sp., “tend to thrive in areas of recent or periodic disturbance or areas with depauperate soils that might limit competition from other herbs/shrubs.” *C. parryi* var. *hesseae* typically blooms from May through August. It is distinguished from other varieties of *C. parryi* based on its geographic distribution, and floral and seed characteristics.

*C. parryi* var. *hesseae* has been on List 3 (Plants about which we need more information- A Review List) since the 1984 (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition) of the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory. The CNPS Inventory Notes currently states, “Move to List 1B? Location, rarity, and endangerment information needed, including quads for MNT Co.” The *Flora of North America* (Vol. 4) does not include this taxon, indicating that, “Some authorities recognize varietal segregates in this species based on minor characters that appear to exhibit much variation from population to population.” Nonetheless, *C. parryi* var. *hesseae* has long been recognized as a valid taxon in California. It is included in *The Jepson Manual* (1993), and will be included in *The Jepson Manual* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition).

*C. parryi* var. *hesseae* is a California endemic known from approximately 42 13 occurrences in Monterey, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz Counties (please see attached spreadsheet). Of the 12 known occurrences, 8 are only known from historical herbarium collections and have not been documented in many decades (from between 45 and 102 years). Matt Guilliams, co-author of *The Jepson Manual* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) treatment of *Calyptridium*, indicates that he and others “surveyed throughout the range of *C. parryi* var. *hesseae* last year (2007) and this year (2008) and was not able to find a single bona fide individual.” The Consortium of California Herbaria contains recent collections of this taxon from the Clear Creek area in Fresno and San Benito Counties. Matt Guilliams (pers. comm. 2008) indicates that plants at these locations appear to be intermediate between *C. parryi* var. *hesseae* and *C. parryi* var. *parryi* and should not be considered var. *hesseae*. Some of the historical occurrences (including all of those in Santa Cruz County) of this taxon may be extirpated. Threats to *C. parryi*

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var. *hesseae* and its habitat include development, sand mining, non-native plants, and alteration of fire regime.

Attempts should be made to re-locate historical occurrences of *C. parryi* var. *hesseae*, and suitable habitat within its known range should be searched for additional occurrences.

Based on our current understanding of the rarity and distribution of, and the threats to *Calyptridium parryi* var. *hesseae*, CNPS and CNDDDB recommend that it be re-ranked from List 3 to List 1B.1.

### **Recommended Action**

**CNPS:** Re-rank from CNPS List 3 to List 1B.1

**CNDDDB:** Re-rank from CNDDDB G3G4T?, S? to G3G4T2, S2.1

### **Revised CNPS *Inventory* record:**

*Calyptridium parryi* Gray var. *hesseae* Thomas

Santa Cruz Mountains pussypaws

Portulacaceae

List 1B.1

Monterey (MNT), Santa Clara (SCL), Santa Cruz (SCR)

Junipero Serra Peak (319B) 3612124, Loma Prieta (407D) 3712117, Big Basin (408B) 3712222, Davenport (408C) 3712212, Felton (408D) 3712211, Mount Stakes (425C) 3712134, Isabel Valley (426D) 3712135, Chews Ridge (343D) 3612135, [Burro Mountain \(296D\) 3512173](#)

Chaparral, cismontane woodland / sandy or gravelly, openings; elevation 305-1530 meters.

Herb (annual), blooms May-August.

Known from fewer than twenty occurrences. Threatened by alteration of fire regime, development, non-native plants, and mining.