

Rare Plant Status Review:

Chorizanthe parryi var. *parryi*

List change from List 3.2 to 1B.1

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Changes made since the original status review appear in blue.

Chorizanthe parryi var. *parryi* is a southern California endemic, annual herb in the Polygonaceae. It occurs in rocky or sandy openings in grassland, chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and woodland habitats from 275 to 1220 meters in elevation. *C. parryi* var. *parryi* ~~blooms from April to June~~ **flowers between April and June.**

C. parryi var. *parryi* was first included in the 5th Edition of The CNPS Inventory (1994) as a List 3 plant, and it has remained on that list ever since.

The CNPS Inventory "notes" section indicates that *C. parryi* var. *parryi* was, "previously confused with *C. procumbens*; often misidentified as this plant." *C. parryi* has unequal (dimorphic) perianth lobes, and this distinguishes it from *C. procumbens*, which has equal (monomorphic) perianth lobes. *C. parryi* var. *parryi* is distinguished from *C. parryi* var. *fernandina* based on the characteristics of its involucre awns (var. *fernandina* has straight involucre awns, while the awns of var. *parryi* are hooked). **Additionally, *C. parryi* var. *parryi* is similar to and can be confused with *C. leptotheca* and *C. xanti* var. *leucotheca*. Care must be taken to correctly identify *C. parryi* var. *parryi*.** *C. parryi* var. *parryi* is included in *The Flora of North America* (Vol. 5), *The Jepson Manual* (1993), and will be included in *The Jepson Manual* (2nd edition).

The CNPS Inventory "notes" section states, "move to List 1B? Location and rarity information needed." Based on herbarium collections, CNDDDB field survey forms, and input from several individuals with first hand knowledge of this plant, *C. parryi* var. *parryi* is known from approximately ~~83~~ **82** occurrences (please see attached spreadsheet for more exact location information). Occurrences of *C. parryi* var. *parryi* occur primarily in western Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. ~~The one occurrence from San Diego County is known only from one historical herbarium specimen (1946) with vague location information.~~ The CNPS Inventory currently indicates that this taxon is possibly extirpated from Los Angeles County. A recent collection (in 1995) from the Liebre Mountains in Los Angeles County indicates that this is not the case. ~~25~~ **24** of the ~~83~~ **82** known occurrences are known only from historical herbarium collections that are now 27 to 127 years old. Field work is needed to verify their continued existence of historical (and some current) occurrences, and to accurately map the extent of *C. parryi* var. *parryi* at these locations.

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At least 9 occurrences of *C. parryi* var. *parryi* in Riverside and San Bernardino counties should be considered extirpated (A. Sanders, pers. comm. 2008). Considering the historical nature of many of the occurrences and the destruction of habitat in the known range *C. parryi* var. *parryi* is likely to have been extirpated from additional locations. Jim Andre (pers. comm. 2008) states that, "what strikes me about this plant is that, though seemingly widespread, its distribution falls within zones of recent sprawl, or on the periphery of urbanization in areas soon to be developed." Naomi Fraga (pers. comm. 2008) indicates that, "many of the newly documented occurrences may have been extirpated soon after they were documented." Furthermore, Andy Sanders (pers. comm. 2008) states that *C. parryi* var. *parryi* is, "declining because of land development, but also because of weed (grass, esp.) invasion. It seems to have disappeared from some places that are still reasonably intact." Other threats to *C. parryi* var. *parryi* include mining, altered flood regime, off-road vehicles, [and the edge effects associated with surrounding land uses](#). The land ownership at most of the locations of *C. parryi* var. *parryi* is unknown. Suitable habitat within and beyond the known range of this taxon should be searched for additional occurrences.

Based on our current understanding of its taxonomy, distribution, and endangerment, we think that it is no longer appropriate to include *C. parryi* var. *parryi* on List 3. Although the large number of occurrences may have once suggested that *C. parryi* var. *parryi* should be put on List 4, the number of extirpated or possibly extirpated occurrences, the threats to this taxon, and the likely habitat loss in the coming years suggest otherwise.

Consequently, CNPS and CNDDDB recommend that *C. parryi* var. *parryi* be re-ranked from List 3.2 to List 1B.1. If, however, reviewers indicate that *C. parryi* var. *parryi* is too common for List 1B.1, we will consider including it on List 4.1, instead.

Recommended Action

CNPS: Re-rank from CNPS List 3.2 to List 1B.1

CNDDDB: Re-rank from CNDDDB G2T2, S2.1 to G3T3, S3.1

Revised CNPS *Inventory* record:

Chorizanthe parryi S. Watson var. parryi

Polygonaceae

List 1B.1

Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, ~~San Diego~~

Azusa (109B) 341128, Bachelor Mtn. (O68D) 3311751, Beaumont (084B)

3311688, Blackburn Canyon (067A) 3311667, Cabazon (084A) 3311687,

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Cucamonga Peak (108A) 3411745, Devore (107B) 3411724, El Casco (085A) 3311781, Green Valley (162C) 3411854, Guasti (108D) 3411715, Hemet (067B) 3311668, Lake Elsinore (069A) 3311763, Lake Matthews (086C) 3311774, Mount Baldy (108B) 3411726, Mt Wilson (110A) 3411821, Murietta (068C) 3311752, Ontario (108C) 3411716, Pasadena (110B) 3411822, Redlands (106C) 3411712, Riverside East (086A) 3311783, Romoland (068B) 3311762, Sage (067C) 3311658, San Bernardino North (107A) 3411723, San Bernardino South (107D) 3411713, Steele Peak (086D) 3311773, Sunnymead (085B) 3311782, White Water (083B) 3311686, Winchester (068A) 3311761, Yucaipa (106D) 3411711

Chaparral (Chprl), coastal scrub (COScr), valley and foothill grasslands (VFGrs), cismontane woodlands (CmWld) / openings, rocky or sandy; elevation 275-1220 meters.

Herb (annual), blooms April-June.

Threatened by altered flood regime, development, mining, non-native plants, and vehicles. See *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences* 12:271 (1877) for original description, and *Phytologia* 66(2):147-149 (1989) for taxonomic treatment.