

Deleted from CNPS Inventory on August 23, 2012**Rare Plant Status Review: *Erigeron disparipilus*****Proposed deletion from CNPS 2.1, G5 / S1**

Danny Slakey (CNPS), Aaron Sims (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)
July 17, 2012

Background

Erigeron disparipilus is a California Rare Plant Rank 2.1 plant that has been included in the Inventory since the 6th Edition, 2001. It is not included in *The Jepson Manual, Second Edition (TJM 2)* or *The Jepson Manual* (1993), but is included in the *Flora of North America* for Idaho, Oregon, and Washington (*FNA*; available online at http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=250066584). *Erigeron disparipilus* was discovered on Hat Mountain in northeastern Lassen County by G. Clifton in 1993 (pers. comm. 1995). Only one small plant was collected without roots, as the population size was very small; the specimen was confirmed as *E. disparipilus* by G. Nesom, *TJM 2* treatment author for *Erigeron*. It lacked the disk corolla characters of common *E. pumilus* var. *intermedius*, which is widespread throughout western North America and found in northern and eastern California (G. Clifton pers. comm. 1998, NatureServe 2012, *TJM 2*). However, according to G. Clifton recently (pers. comm. 2012), the population on Hat Mountain likely actually belongs to the *E. concinnus* / *E. pumilus* complex. This complex, consisting of the varieties of *E. pumilus* and *E. concinnus*, spans much of the North American west, and in northeastern California, only *E. pumilus* ssp. *intermedius* is found (Nesom 1983). Cronquist (1947) noted that the subspecies of *E. pumilus* are “very poorly defined, yet show geographic restriction and have such pronounced morphological differences as to demand taxonomic recognition.” *Erigeron pumilus* var. *intermedius* does show some degree of variability; for example the slender form previously called *E. pumilus* var. *gracilior* is now included within var. *intermedius* (*FNA*).

The depauperate specimen from Hat Mountain was never submitted to an herbarium, and could not be located at the time of writing this status review (G. Clifton pers. comm. 2012). Outside of California, *E. disparipilus* is known from Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. In Idaho it is ranked Vulnerable (S3), in Oregon it is Imperiled (S2), and in Washington it is not ranked (SNR) by NatureServe (2012). The prior alleged California population of *E. disparipilus* is a considerable disjunction from other known populations; the closest known populations occur in southwestern Idaho (*Maguire 26633, Baker 13081*; Consortium of Pacific Northwest Herbaria 2012). As far as we know, no attempts have been made to relocate and collect from the population on Hat Mountain (F. Gauna pers. comm. 2012); therefore, surveys should be conducted in order to determine the true identity of the plants.

Based on the available information, CNPS and CNDDDB recommend deleting *Erigeron disparipilus* from the CNPS Inventory. The original collection determined to be *E. disparipilus* from California is no longer accepted as valid, and is unavailable for re-

examination. It was likely actually a variable form of *E. pumilus* ssp. *intermedius*; a common taxon.

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Delete from CNPS 2.1

CNDDDB: Delete from G5 / S1

Current CNPS Inventory Record

(available online at: www.rareplants.cnps.org/detail/1906)

Erigeron disparipilus Cronq.

Snake River daisy

Asteraceae

Rank 2.1

Idaho, Oregon, Washington

Lassen

Snake Lake (673A) 41120B1, Emerson Peak (673B) 41120B2

Great Basin scrub

Perennial herb. Blooms June to July.

Known in CA from one small occurrence from Hat Mtn. in Warner Mtns.; one plant collected in 1993. Endangered in OR. Not in *The Jepson Manual*. See *Brittonia* 6(2):194 (1947) for original description.

Revised CNPS Inventory Record

Erigeron disparipilus

Considered But Rejected

Previously on List 2.1. Does not occur in CA. Plants previously determined to be *E. disparipilus* are likely actually *E. pumilus* ssp. *intermedius*; a common taxon.

Literature Cited

Consortium of Pacific Northwest Herbaria. 2012. University of Washington Herbarium. Available online at <http://www.pnwherbaria.org/data/search.php>. Accessed on 7/2/2012.

Cronquist, A. 1947. Revision of the North American species of *Erigeron*, north of Mexico. *Brittonia* 6:121-302.