

Added to CNPS Inventory on March 13, 2012

Rare Plant Status Review: *Lagophylla dichotoma*

Proposed New Add to Rank ~~1B.2~~ 1B.1, G2 / S2

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Changes made to the original document appear in blue text.

Background

Lagophylla dichotoma is an annual herb in the Asteraceae family known from low- to mid-elevation sites in California's San Joaquin Valley and in the hills to the east and west; it may have historically occurred in the Sacramento Valley as well (Hartweg NY180445; Bentham 1849). It was first described by Bentham in 1849, and has subsequently been recognized in many California floras. It is included in *The Jepson Manual* (1993), *The Jepson Manual, Second Edition (TJM 2)*; available online at http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/cgi-bin/get_IJM.pl?tid=3716, and *Flora of North America (FNA)*; available online at http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=250067038. *Lagophylla dichotoma* is morphologically most similar to *Lagophylla minor*, which used to be known as *L. dichotoma* ssp. *minor*. *Lagophylla dichotoma* differs from *L. minor* in that it has dull (vs. glossy), striate cypselae, slightly longer phyllaries, and phyllary angles that are minutely coarse-hairy to scabrous (vs. long-straight-hairy). *Lagophylla dichotoma* flowers from April to June.

Lagophylla dichotoma occurs in valley and foothill grasslands as well as openings in cismontane woodlands. Substrates are variable, ranging from gravelly roadsides to loam soil to dry clay; it is not known from serpentine substrates; *L. minor*, however, is found on serpentine. *Lagophylla dichotoma* occurs at elevations from 50 to 760 meters.

Lagophylla dichotoma is currently known from about ~~20~~ **approximately 17** occurrences. Two occurrences from Sutter and Lake Counties are outside of the range listed in *TJM 2* and *FNA* (Consortium of California Herbaria (CCH) 2011), **and are not included in the occurrence count**. The **type specimen is noted** from Sutter County (*Bigelow* GH9563), **but is actually in Hartweg's notes as "leaving Feather River", which is presumably somewhere between present day Oroville and Chico (D. Taylor pers. comm. 2012), and has been included as a presumed extirpated occurrence from Butte County. should be reviewed to verify its identity; its label indicates that it is a possible type specimen (CCH 2011, Tropicos 2012), but we could find no mention of it as the type of *L. dichotoma* or *L. minor* in the literature.** The occurrence from Lake County (*Calflora* 2011) **is actually *L. minor*. The determination was based on old taxonomy when *L. minor* was considered a subspecies of *L. dichotoma* (B. Baldwin pers. comm. 2012). has no vouchers associated with it, and should be collected to verify its identity (Calflora 2011).** The actual type specimen, *Hartweg* NY180445, is from "pastures in the Sacramento valley" (Bentham 1849), which is also beyond the currently known range for the species. A third type specimen for *L. dichotoma* is listed in the CCH (*Hartweg* GH9562), but there

is no location data associated with it; it may be a duplicate of the type specimen at the New York Botanical Garden. Additional specimens from Colusa and Tehama counties (*Keator* UCSB6616 and *Wolf* 08675, respectively) which are also outside of the known range for *L. dichotoma*, are likely mis-identified (B. Baldwin, D. Wilken and A. Sanders pers. comm. 2012). Many of the records for this plant are historical: 13 of the 17 occurrences have not been documented in over 20 years, and 10 of the occurrences have not been documented in over 50 years. Some of the historical occurrences are presumed extirpated and field surveys should be conducted to determine whether the remaining historical populations are extant, and to help clarify the current actual distribution of *L. dichotoma*. The suspected type specimens at the Gray Herbarium should also be reviewed to clarify conflicting information.

Threats to *Lagophylla dichotoma* are not currently known, but given its proximity to urban areas, its presumed extirpated occurrences and high number of historical occurrences (over 75% 70%), as well as its limited number of occurrences, it should be considered of conservation concern.

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to CNPS 4B.2 1B.1

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB G2 / S2

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.

Draft CNPS Inventory Record

Lagophylla dichotoma (Benth.)

forked hare-leaf

Asteraceae

Rank 4B.2-1B.1

Butte*, Calaveras, Fresno, Lake?, Merced*, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, Sutter?

Cooperstown (441A) 3712065, Hepsedam Peak (340D) 3612037, Kelseyville (534A)? 3812287, Knights Ferry (459C) 3712076, Merced (421C) 3712034, New Melones Dam (459A) 3712085, Piedra (377C) 3611974, Pine Flat Dam (377D) 3611973, Priest Valley (316B) 3612026, Rock Spring Peak (340B) 3612048, Round Mountain (378D) 3611975, San Benito Mtn. (339C) 3612036, Smith Mountain (316D) 3612015, Valleton (293B)* 3512086

Valley and foothill grassland, cismontane woodland / sometimes serpentinite, sometimes or clay; elevation 50 – 760 meters.

Annual herb; blooms April to September.

Many occurrences historical; need field surveys. Similar to *L. minor*. See *Plantas Hartwegianas* pp. 317-318 (1849) by G. Bentham for original description.