

Rare Plant Status Review:

Polygonum marinense

Nicholas Jensen (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)

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Changes made since the original status review appear in blue.

Polygonum marinense is an annual herb in the Polygonaceae. *P. marinense* occurs in coastal, salt or brackish marsh habitat from 0 to 10 meters in elevation. *P. marinense* typically blooms from May through August. It is distinguished from other *Polygonum* based on vegetative characters including funnellform ochrea, rounded leaf apices, and semi-open flowers.

P. marinense is currently on CNPS List 3.1 (Plants about which we need more information- A Review List). This taxon was moved from List 1B to List 3 because of taxonomic concerns. The *Flora of North America* (Vol. 5) states that, "The origin and taxonomic affinities of *P. marinense* are uncertain. T. R. Mertens and P.H. Raven (1965) suggested a relationship with *P. oxyspermum* or the Mediterranean *P. robertii*." The CNPS Inventory currently states that *P. marinense* is "related to *P. aviculare*, (and) possibly a synonym of *P. robertii*, a non-native plant." Although the taxonomy remains somewhat uncertain, *P. marinense* is recognized as native to California in *The Flora of North America* (Vol. 5) and *The Jepson Manual* (Second Edition; treatment is available online at: <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/tjm2/review/treatments/polygonaceae-gp-costea.html>).

P. marinense is an endemic known from 17 occurrences in [Humboldt](#), Marin, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma Counties. Threats to *P. marinense* include development, foot traffic, and trampling and grazing by cattle.

Based on the current understanding that *Polygonum marinense* is taxonomically distinct and native to California, CNPS and CNDDDB recommend that it be re-ranked from List 3.1 to List 1B.1.

Recommended Action

CNPS: Re-rank from CNPS List 3.1 to List 1B.1

CNDDDB: Re-rank from CNDDDB G1Q, S1.1 to G2, S2

Revised CNPS *Inventory* record:

Polygonum marinense Mertens & Raven

Marin knotweed

Polygonaceae

Sent to NW, CW, M. Costea on 6/15/08

List 1B.1

Marin (MRN), Napa (NAP), Solano (SOL), Sonoma (SON), [Humboldt](#)
San Rafael (467A) 3712285, Cuttings Wharf (483A) 3812223, Petaluma Point
(483C) 3812214, Petaluma River (484A) 3812225, Tomales (485B) 3812228,
Drakes Bay (485C) 3812218, Inverness (485D) 3812217, Bodega Head (503D)
3812331

Marshes and swamps (coastal salt or brackish); elevation 0-10 meters.

Herb (annual), blooms (Apr) May-August (Oct).

Known from fewer than twenty occurrences. Threatened by development, foot traffic, grazing, and trampling. Origin and taxonomy needs further study.