

Rare Plant Status Review: *Sisyrinchium longipes*
Nicholas Jensen (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)
February 13, 2008

Background

Sisyrinchium longipes is a perennial, herbaceous species in the Iridaceae. Although not included in current *The Jepson Manual* (1993), the species will be included in the forthcoming edition (A. Cholewa, pers. comm. 2008). *S. longipes* in the San Bernardino Mountains were previously considered to be *S. elmeri*. *S. longipes* is distinguished from *S. elmeri* by its possession of ascending to erect pedicels. The flowering period for this species is approximately June through August.

In California, *S. longipes* is known from a single, disjunct occurrence in San Bernardino County at Sugarloaf Meadow in the San Bernardino Mountains at an elevation of around 2060 meters. The species also occurs in Arizona, New Mexico, and in northern Mexico. No information is available about the demographics of the single California population of *S. longipes*.

S. longipes grows within wet stream channels in mesic meadows dominated by *Juncus* and grass species. The habitat surrounding the single occurrence in California is *Pinus jeffreyi* forest with *Artemisia tridentata* in the understory. Outside of California, *S. longipes* grows in similar wet or moist habitats surrounded by coniferous forests.

The single occurrence of *S. longipes* occurs on land managed by the San Bernardino National Forest. The species is possibly threatened by water diversions and hydrological alterations associated with roads located adjacent to Sugarloaf Meadow. A serious, potential threat to *S. longipes* is damage to meadow habitats caused by unauthorized off-road vehicle travel. Additional surveys in suitable habitat in the San Bernardino Mountains should be conducted. Based on the information currently available, the CNPS and CNDDDB recommend that *Sisyrinchium longipes* be added to List 2.

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 2.2

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G3 / S1.2

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

Sisyrinchium longipes (E.P. Bicknell) Kearney & Peebles
Iridaceae
List 2.2
San Bernardino
105A [3411627/Moonridge]
Meadows and seeps (mesic); elevation 2060 meters.

Sent to SW on 2/13/08

Element Code: PMIRI0D0Y0
Added to List 2.2 on 2008-03-20

Perennial herb.

Known from a single occurrence in the San Bernardino Mountains. Possibly threatened by water diversions and hydrological alterations. Potentially threatened by vehicles. Considered to be *S. elmeri* in *The Jepson Manual* (1993). Not in *The Jepson Manual* (1993).

Sent to SW on 2/13/08