Added to California Rare Plant Rank 2B.2 of the CNPS Inventory on August 28, 2017

Rare Plant Status Review: Anemone multifida var. multifida
Proposed Addition to California Rare Plant Rank 2B.2, G5T5 / S1S2
Kaitlyn Green (CNPS), Aaron E. Sims (CNPS), and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDB)
June 29, 2017

Changes made to the original document are in blue text.

Background

Anemone multifida Poir. var. multifida is a perennial herb in the Ranunculaceae known in California only from Siskiyou, Shasta, and Alpine counties. Outside of California, its range extends as far east as Wisconsin, north through most of Canada and into Alaska, and it is also found in South America (Dutton et al. 1997). It is included in The Jepson Manual (as A. multifida) (Wilken 1993), The Jepson Manual, Second Edition (Simono 2012), The Jepson eFlora (Simono 2017) and Flora of North America (Dutton et al. 1997). Anemone multifida var. multifida is perhaps most similar to A. drummondii var. drummondii in California, but differs in having considerably fewer stamens (50-80 vs. 80-100), wider ultimate leaf segments ((1.5)2-3.5(5) mm wide vs. 1-1.5(2) mm wide), involucre bracts that are more or less 1-ter rate, in (1)2 whorls (vs. involucres bracts more or less 2-ternate, in 1 whorl), and in having green to yellow, blue, purple, or red (white) sepals (vs. white to more or less blue sepals in A. drummondii var. drummondii) (Simono 2017). The other varieties of A. multifida are not known from California (Dutton et al. 1997). The specific epithet “multifida” means divided many times (Charters 2017), and presumably refers to the highly divided leaf segments of this taxon.

Anemone multifida var. multifida occurs in rocky or gravelly openings in subalpine coniferous forest as well as upper and lower montane coniferous forest at an approximate elevation of 1,700 to 2,750 meters, and is known to bloom from April to July (Simono 2017). Based on one collection (York 3044, CAS1127865), one or more of the following taxa may potentially be associated with A. multifida var. multifida: Achillea millefolium, Anemone occidentalis, Angelica arguta, Aquilegia formosa, Artemisia borealis subsp. borealis, Campanula rotundifolia, Draba pterosperma, Heuchera merriamii, Holodiscus discolor var. discolor, Monardella odoratissima subsp. pallida, Pellaea breweri, Physaria occidentalis subsp. occidentalis, Pinus balfouriana subsp. balfouriana, Polystichum lonchitis, and Saxifragopsis fragarioides (Consortium of California Herbaria 2017).

Anemone multifida var. multifida is currently known from an estimated five occurrences; two on Marble Mountain and one on Kangaroo Mountain in Siskiyou County, as well as one on Dardanelles Cone in Alpine County, and one on Diamond Peak in Shasta County. Of the five occurrences, two are considered historical (occurrences not seen in over 20 years are considered historical by the CNDDB); two previously historical occurrences were just recently surveyed by J. Gibson (pers. comm. 2017). All occurrences are located on public land, including Stanislaus National Forest.

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(one occurrence), Rogue River National Forest (one occurrence), and Klamath River National Forest (two occurrences), and Lassen Volcanic National Park (one occurrence).

*Anemone multifida* var. *multifida* is unranked or considered common in a large portion of the United States and Canada. It is considered critically imperiled in Nebraska and Wisconsin, as well as vulnerable in Quebec, Canada, and imperiled in Newfoundland Island, Canada (NatureServe 2017).

There are currently no documented threats to *Anemone multifida* var. *multifida*. Due to all of its occurrences being on federally managed public lands, threats to this species are considered minimal at this time.

Based on the available information, CNPS and CNDDB recommend adding *Anemone multifida* var. *multifida* to California Rare Plant Rank 2B.2 of the CNPS Inventory. Although all of its occurrences are on federally managed public lands and threats are considered minimal to non-existent, we feel that a threat rank of .2 is appropriate at this time based on our knowledge of only five four occurrences, and only three one of its occurrences being recent. If knowledge on the distribution, threats, and rarity status of *A. multifida* var. *multifida* changes in the future, we will re-evaluate its status at that time.

**Recommended Actions**

CNPS: Add *Anemone multifida* var. *multifida* to CRPR 2B.2  
CNDDB: Add *Anemone multifida* var. *multifida* to G5T5 / S1S2

**Draft CNPS Inventory Record**

*Anemone multifida* Poir. var. *multifida*  
cut-leaf anemone  
Ranunculaceae  
CRPR 2B.2  
Alpine, Shasta, Siskiyou  
Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Washington; South America  
Dardanelles Cone (490A) 3811947, Lassen Peak (626A) 4012145, Grider Valley (719B) 4112362, Marble Mountain (719C) 4112352, Marble Mountain (719C) 4112352, Kangaroo Mtn. (736B) 4112382  
Subalpine coniferous forest, upper montane coniferous forest, lower montane coniferous forest / rocky, gravelly, carbonate or volcanic; elevation 1,700-2,750 meters.  
Perennial herb. Blooms in April to July.  
See *Encyclopédie Méthodique, Botanique, Supplément* 1(1):364 (1810) for original description.
Literature Cited


