Rare Plant Status Review
Proposed Deletion of Carex constanceana from List 1B.1
Aaron Sims (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDB)
July 1, 2010

Background
Carex constanceana has been included on the CNPS Inventory since 2007. It was previously known from only one occurrence in California, from Sagehen Creek Experimental Forest, Nevada County. Recent research by the Carex Working Group, 2008, indicates that C. constanceana is conspecific with C. davyi based on both morphological and DNA sequence data, and conclude that all Oregon, Washington, and California plants should be called C. davyi (Final report of the Carex constanceana survey for the Fremont-Winema National Forests). Peter Zika also confirmed that they will be “…lumping Carex constanceana under C. davyi” in the Jepson Manual, 2nd Edition (pers. comm. 2009). Due to the single occurrence record for C. constanceana in California, this lumping will not affect the status of Carex davyi, which is currently on List 4.3 of the CNPS Inventory. Carex Working Group, 2008, also notes that there is a tendency for C. constanceana in Oregon and Washington to be a bit shorter and have fewer perigynium veins than C. davyi of California and “It is possible that C. constanceana should be recognized as a subspecies of C. davyi, but evidence for doing so is not compelling at this time.”

Based on this information, CNPS and CNDDB recommend that C. constanceana be deleted from the CNPS Inventory (it will be placed on the Considered But Rejected list). Should C. constanceana be recognized as a subspecies of C. davyi at a later date, we will consider adding it to the CNPS Inventory at that time.

Recommended Actions
CNPS: Delete Carex constanceana from CNPS List 1B.1
CNDDB: Delete Carex constanceana from CNDDB, G1 / S1.1

The current CNPS Inventory record is below. Please respond Yes or No on the proposal to Delete this species from the Inventory and CNDDB, and provide any edits/comments on the proposed change.

Current CNPS Inventory Record

Carex constanceana Stacey
Cyperaceae
Constance’s sedge
List 1B.1
Nevada; Oregon, Washington
554B (Hobart Mills/3912042), 555A (Independence Lake/3912043)
Subalpine coniferous forest; 2000 meters.

Sent to SN, Peter Zika, and Nick Otting on 7/1/2010
Perennial herb, blooms August
Known in California from a single occurrence in the Sagehen Creek Experimental Forest, Nevada County. Sometimes considered a synonym of *C. petasata*. See *Leaflets of Western Botany* 2(8): 123 (1938) for original description.