

03-Jan-2007 **Left on List 1A**; supposed *C. livida* populations are *C. klamathense*, name not yet published.

**Rare Plant Status Review:**

***Carex livida***

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*Carex livida* is a perennial herb in the Cyperaceae that has been on CNPS List 1A for more than 30 years. Previously, there was only a single known specimen collected by H.N. Bolander in 1866 from Mendocino. However recently, several new collections have been made bringing the number of occurrences of this once presumed extinct taxa to 5 (4 likely extant). While the Mendocino County occurrence from 1866 has still not been rediscovered, *C. livida* has since been found in Lassen, Lake, Colusa, and Tehama Counties. While very restricted in its range in California, *C. livida* is known from numerous states as well as Canada, Central America, South America, and Eurasia. However, the *Flora of North America* mentions that the distribution of the species is very scattered and is uncommon throughout much of its range. This species is mentioned in *The Jepson Manual* (1993) as a native plant extirpated from California.

The extant populations of this species are restricted to peat bogs, boreal fens, and swampy areas at low elevations. The Mendocino County occurrence (likely extirpated) was from a coastal swamp near sea level. *C. livida* can be most readily identified by its relatively short stature and glaucous foliage; however, mature fruits are needed for a definitive identification.

Due to the discovery of recent, extant populations of *C. livida*, we recommend that *C. livida* be moved off of List 1A (plants presumed extinct in California) and placed on List 2.2 (plants rare, threatened, and endangered in California but more common elsewhere).

**Recommended Actions**

**CNPS:** Re-rank from CNPS List 1A to CNPS List 2.2.

**CNDDB:** No change to G status (G5), change S status from SH to S1.2.

**Revised CNPS *Inventory* record:**

***Carex livida* (Wahl.) Willd.**

"livid sedge"

Cyperaceae

**List 2.2**

Colusa, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino\*, Tehama; Idaho, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and elsewhere

548A (Hough Springs/3912225), 569D\* (Mendocino/3912337), 612C (Raglin Ridge/4012216), 624B (Red Cinder/4012142)

Bogs and fens, coastal prairie (mesic) / carbonate; elevation 0-1100 meters.

Perennial herb (rhizomatous), blooms May-July.

Rediscovered in 1993 by V. Oswald and L. Ahart at Cooper Swamp in Lassen County.

Last seen in Mendocino County in 1866.