

Added to List 2.2 on 11/20/08

Rare Plant Status Review: *Cymopterus multinervatus*

New Add to List 2.2

Nicholas Jensen (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)

October 8, 2008

Changes made since the original status review appear in blue.

Background

Cymopterus multinervatus is a perennial herb in the Apiaceae. *C. multinervatus* has long been recognized as native to California and is included as in Munz's *A Flora of California* (1959), *The Jepson Manual* (1993), *The Jepson Desert Manual* (2003), and will be included in *The Jepson Manual* (2nd edition). *C. multinervatus* is distinguished other *Cymopterus* species of California's deserts based on floral, inflorescence bract, and leaf characteristics. It flowers between March and April.

C. multinervatus is known from sandy or gravelly areas in Mojavean desert scrub (occurrences have been reported from *Atriplex* sp., *Larrea tridentata* and *Coleogyne ramosissima* plant communities), pinyon and juniper woodland, and Joshua tree "woodland" habitats from 790 to 1800 meters in elevation.

In California, *C. multinervatus* is known from approximately 9 occurrences (additional occurrences will likely be added pending communication with Dave Silverman) in San Bernardino County. Occurrences are known from the New York Mountains, the San Bernardino Mountains, the Clark Range, and other locations in the Mojave Desert. *C. multinervatus* is also known from the states of Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, and Utah, and Baja California, Mexico. It is ranked as G5 (Secure) by NatureServe, is unranked (SNR) in Arizona, Nevada, and New Mexico, is ranked S1 (Critically Imperiled) in Texas, and S2 (Imperiled) in Utah. Suitable habitat within and beyond the known range of *C. multinervatus* in California should be searched for additional occurrences.

Since herbarium specimens are the main source of location information for most of the known occurrences, some sites are vague. More detailed location information for some occurrences is needed to correctly map *C. multinervatus*. Little information is currently available about the population size of *C. multinervatus* at most of the known occurrences.

~~No information about threats to *C. multinervatus* in California is currently known.~~ Occurrences of *C. multinervatus* in California are threatened by off highway vehicles. The land ownership of most occurrences of *C. multinervatus* is also unknown; however, the range of the species contains a significant amount of publicly-owned land managed by the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management.

Based on the available information, CNPS and CNDDDB recommend that *C. multinervatus* be added to List 2-3 2.2.

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 2-3 2.2

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G5 / S2

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

Cymopterus multinervatus (M.E. Jones ex A. Gray) (J. M. Coult. & Rose) Tidestr.
purple-nerve cymopterus

Apiaceae

List 2-3 2.2

Castle Peaks (224C) 3511532, Pachalka Spring (249C) 3511556, Pinto Valley (200A) 3511523, Fawnskin (131C) 3411638, Landers (129C) 3411634, Fifteenmile Valley (132A) 3411741, Valley Wells (226B) 3511546, Mid Hills (200B) 3511524

Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodland, Joshua tree "woodland" / sandy or gravelly; elevation 790-1800 meters.

Perennial herb. Blooms March-April.

Threatened by vehicles.