

Rare Plant Status Review:

Eriogonum microthecum* var. *schoolcraftii

Kristi Lazar (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)

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Information in blue text has been changed/added since the original status review was sent out

Eriogonum microthecum var. *schoolcraftii* is a shrub in the Polygonaceae that is only known in California from the Doyle area of Lassen County. This species is also known from Washoe County Nevada where it occurs on Seven Lake Mountain. This variety of *E. microthecum* was first described in 2004 by James Reveal, who mentions that this plant is found in sagebrush communities composed primarily of *Artemisia tridentata*, *Tetradymia canescens*, *Ericameria nauseosa*, *Ribes velutinum* and *Ephedra viridis* with *Quercus kelloggii* nearby (*Phytologia* 86(3): 148 (2004)). It flowers July through September and occurs between 800 and 900 meters in elevation. Threats to this taxon are currently unknown; however, James Reveal mentioned in 2005 that the number of plants in each population is such that he is not concerned about the taxon. He also mentioned that this variety is restricted and its overall range will not be expanded much more than is already known.

This variety is similar to variety *ambiguum* and variety *microthecum*. Variety *microthecum* occurs far to the north. Variety *ambiguum* does co-occur with variety *schoolcraftii* on Seven Lake Mountain in Nevada; however the two varieties remain distinct from each other, with variety *ambiguum* being a low sprawling shrub and variety *schoolcraftii* being a taller shrub. The most diagnostic feature of variety *schoolcraftii* is its large broad leaves and can be most distinctive in late flower when the reddishness of the tomentum is quite pronounced.

E. microthecum var. *schoolcraftii* is currently known in California from approximately 7 occurrences in Lassen County, as well as from a few Nevada occurrences. It requires review for inclusion in both the CNPS Inventory and the CNDDDB.

Recommended Actions

Eriogonum microthecum var. *schoolcraftii*

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 1B.2

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G5T2/S2.2

Proposed CNPS Inventory Record

***Eriogonum microthecum* Nutt. var. *schoolcraftii* Reveal**

Polygonaceae

Schoolcraft's wild buckwheat

List 1B.2

Lassen; Nevada

586A [Constantia/3912081], 602C [McKesick Peak/4012012], 602D [Doyle/4012011], 603A [Milford/4012023], 603D [Ferris Creek/4012013]

Pinyon and juniper woodland, [Great Basin scrub](#) / sandy to rocky; [1300-1750 meters](#).

Shrub, blooms July-September.

Element Code: ?
Added to CNPS List 1B.2 on July 10, 2007

Known in California from fewer than 10 occurrences in the Diamond and Fort Sage Mountains
~~low desert hills west of Doyle in Lassen County.~~ Potentially threatened by development.
Possible threatened by non-native plants and habitat conversion. See *Phytologia* 86: 148 (2004)
for original description.