

Rare Plant Status Review: *Eriogonum prattenianum* var. *prattenianum*
Misa Ward (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)
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Background

Eriogonum prattenianum var. *prattenianum* is an endemic buckwheat distributed along the western slope of the northern and central Sierra Nevada. Both matted, perennial herb and erect shrub forms of plants exist in the range. This buckwheat is usually found on volcanic or granitic outcrops within ceanothus or manzanita chaparral, or within oak or montane conifer forests. It differs from variety *avium* (CNPS List 4) in its more northern distribution and leaves, which are tomentose on both surfaces. The available data indicate there are up to 26 documented occurrences of *E. prattenianum* var. *prattenianum*. Four of these are located in Nevada County on private property and threatened by proposed development and off-road vehicle use. Additional distribution and threat information is requested for this plant in the remainder of its range.

Karen Callahan, Redbud Chapter Rare Plant Coordinator, has led CNPS field trips to *E. prattenianum* var. *prattenianum* sites in Nevada County for several years and has proposed it as a new addition to the *Inventory* based on her experience with this plant. Please review Karen's summary document and the draft *Inventory* record below, and respond Yes or No on the proposal to add this taxon to the *Inventory* and CNDDDB. Your edits, updated data or comments are greatly appreciated.

Recommended Actions : CNPS - Add to CNPS List 4 / RED 2-2-3
CNDDDB - Add to CNDDDB as G4T2T3 (change from G4T3?) / S2S3

Draft CNPS Inventory Record

Eriogonum prattenianum Durand var. *prattenianum*

"Nevada City buckwheat"

List 4 / RED 2-2-3

Calaveras, El Dorado, Mariposa, Nevada, Placer, Tuolumne

418B, 436B, 437C, 438A, 474A, 474B, 474C, 474D, 491C, 492D, 541B, 524C, 542A, 542B

Chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, upper montane coniferous forest / usually rocky, volcanic or granitic; elevation 800-2600 meters.

Perennial herb (or evergreen shrub), blooms May-August.

Threatened by development and vehicles. See *Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences Philadelphia* ser. II(3):100 (1855) for original description. Differs from the more southern and higher elevation variety *avium* in having tomentose upper and lower leaf surfaces.

Expanded Quad List

Fish Camp (418B) 3711946

Merced Peak (436B) 3711964

Wawona (437C) 3711956

El Portal (438A) 3711967

Strawberry (474A) 3812021

Crandall Peak (474B) 3812022

Twain Harte (474C) 3812012

Hull Creek (474D) 3812011

Boards Crossing (491C) 3812032

Dorrington (492D) 3812033

Chicago Park (541B) 3912028

Riverton (524C) 3812074

Grass Valley (542A) 3912121

Rough And Ready (542B) 3912122