

Rare Plant Status Review: *Grusonia parishii*
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Background

Grusonia parishii is a stem succulent in the Cactaceae. This species is known in California from approximately 11 occurrences in Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. Six of these occurrences are from collections made from the 1930's or earlier and probably need to be field checked. This species is also known from Arizona, Nevada, and possibly Texas. *G. parishii* is in *The Jepson Manual* (1993) as *Opuntia parishii*; however, it is in the *Flora of North America* as *G. parishii* and is planned to be included in the new *Jepson Manual* as *G. parishii*. *The Jepson Manual* (1993) mentions that this species is uncommon in California.

G. parishii can be distinguished from similar species by having tubercles on the stem segments, major spines that are distinctly flat with rough papillae on the largest spine, and yellow flowers. *G. parishii* occurs in Mojavean and Sonoran desert scrub as well as in Joshua tree "woodlands" between 300 and 1524 meters in elevation. This species can flower from May through July. There currently are no known threats to the species with several occurrences in Joshua Tree National Monument.

G. parishii is currently known in California from approximately 11 occurrences in 3 counties and requires review for inclusion in both the CNPS Inventory and the CNDDDB.

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 2.3

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G3G4 / S2.3?

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

***Grusonia parishii* (Orcutt) Pinkava**

Cactaceae

"Parish club-cholla"

List 2.3

Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino; Arizona, Nevada, Texas?

030C [Harpers Well/3311518], 079D [Buzzard Spring/3311575], 081A [Malapai Hill/3311681], 082A? [East Deception Canyon/3311683], 102C [Indian Cove/3411612], 102D [Queen Mtn./3411611], 173A? [Bannock/3411487], 199C [Hackberry Mtn./3511512], 224C [Castle Peaks/3511532], 225D [Ivanpah/3511533], 249D [Clark Mtn./3511555]

Mojavean desert scrub, Sonoran desert scrub, Joshua tree "woodland" / sandy; elevation 300-1524 meters.

Stem succulent, blooms May-June (July).

Known in California from less than 20 occurrences. See *West Amer. Sci.* 10:1 (1896) for original description and *J. Arizona-Nevada Acad. Sci.* 32: 50 (1999) for revised nomenclature.