Element Code: ?
Added to CNPS List 1B.2 on 10/26/06

**Rare Plant Status Review:**
***Lepechinia rossii***
Kristi Lazar and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDB)
September 21, 2006

## Background

*Lepechinia rossii* is a shrub in the Lamiaceae. *L. rossii* is a newly described species from the western Transverse Ranges of Southern California (*Madrono* 53(1): 77-84 (2006)). As Steve Boyd and Orlando Mistretta mentioned in their *Madrono* article, *L. rossii* is most readily distinguished from other *Lepechinia* species by its "geniculate inflorescence axes, bent at 60-90 degree angles relative to the subtending stems, and by large, foliaceous inflorescence bracts which are generally equaling or exceeding their adjacent flowers in length, and little reduced distally." This species is endemic to California and is known from 4 occurrences in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. The *Madrono* paper places these 4 occurrences into 2 populations, one in the Liebre Mountains and the other in the Topatopa Mountains. Both populations occur on lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service. This species is a "probable addition" to the new *Jepson Manual*. It occurs most often on east- to northeast-facing slopes in chaparral vegetation. *L. rossii* does best in open areas and is largely limited to small natural openings in the vegetation. This species appears in greatest abundance following fire. *L. rossii* is a California endemic with approximately four occurrences in two counties and requires review for inclusion in both the CNPS inventory and the CNDDB.

## Recommended Actions

**CNPS**: Add to CNPS List 1B.2

**CNDDB:** Add to CNDDB as G1/S1.2

Please review the draft CNPS Inventory record below, respond Yes or No on the proposal to add this species to the Inventory and CNDDB, and provide any edits/comments on either of the proposed changes.

Draft CNPS Inventory Record

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***Lepechinia rossii* S. Boyd & O. Mistretta** **Lamiaceae**
"Ross' pitcher sage"
List 1B.2
Los Angeles, Ventura
139B [Fillmore/3411848], 162C [Green Valley/3411854], 163D [Warm Springs Mtn./3411855]
Chaparral; 305-788 meters.
Shrub, blooms May-September.
Potentially threatened by logging and mining. See *Madrono* 53(1): 77-84 (2006) for original description.

Sent to SW; 10/3/06