

**Rare Plant Status Review: *Oenothera longissima***  
Kristi Lazar (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)  
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**Background**

*Oenothera longissima* is a biennial herb in the Onagraceae. This species is known in California from 3 occurrences in Inyo (Deep Springs Valley) and San Bernardino Counties (Keystone Spring and Cornfield Spring). *O. longissima* is also known outside of California in Arizona, Colorado (S1), Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah. This species occurs in creosote bush scrub and pinyon/juniper woodlands between 1000 meters and 1700 meters in elevation. All known occurrences in California need to be vouchered or re-vouchered as there are no specimens from San Bernardino County and there is only one vouchered specimen from Inyo County which needs updating. The San Bernardino County populations of this species are small and isolated (pers. comm. J. Andre). There are no major threats to the San Bernardino County populations; however, there has been some historic hydrologic alteration (pers. comm. J. Andre). The status of the Inyo County occurrence is not known.

*O. longissima* is similar in appearance to *O. elata* ssp. *hirsutissima*; however, *O. longissima* has a larger hypanthium (60-135 mm versus 20-48 mm). *O. longissima* is currently known in California from 3 occurrences in Inyo and San Bernardino Counties and requires review for inclusion in both the CNPS Inventory and the CNDDDB.

**Recommended Actions**

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 2.2

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G4 / 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 CNDDDB, and provide any edits/comments. If responding No, please provide supporting information.

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**Draft CNPS Inventory Record**

***Oenothera longissima* Rydb.**

Onagraceae

"long-stem evening-primrose"

List 2.2

Inyo, San Bernardino; Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and elsewhere

176A [Fountain Peak/3411585], 225D [Ivanpah/3511533], 412D [Deep Springs Lake/3711831]

Mojavean desert scrub, pinyon and juniper woodlands / seasonally mesic; elevation 1000-1700 meters.

Biennial herb, blooms July-September.

Known in California from only Inyo and San Bernardino Counties. See *Bull. Torrey Bot. Club* 40: 65 (1913) for original description.