

**Rare Plant Status Review: *Phacelia cicutaria* var. *hubbyi***  
Kristi Lazar (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDDB)  
January 2, 2007

**Background**

*Phacelia cicutaria* var. *hubbyi* is an annual herb in the Boraginaceae. This species was formerly in the Hydrophyllaceae; however, it will be included in the new *Jepson Manual* under the Boraginaceae. This variety is distinguished from the other two varieties of *P. cicutaria* by its stiff hairs on the inflorescence axis and calyx, open inflorescence with lower flowers well separated, lavender corolla, and grayish calyx lobes (see *Jepson Manual* 1993, pg. 694). *P. cicutaria* var. *hubbyi* is endemic to California and is known from approximately 35 occurrences from Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Regions where this plant has been collected include some areas with substantial remaining habitat such as the San Gabriel Mountains, the Santa Ynez Mountains and Santa Cruz Island. Fourteen of the 35 occurrences were collected prior to 1950; however, only 2 of these occurrences could be reasonably "presumed extirpated" due to their locality (North Hollywood- 1934 and San Pedro- 1890). CNPS and CNDDDB are proposing this species as a List 4 even though there are less than 50 occurrences because it seems like there is additional habitat for this species and more records could be found (especially in the San Gabriel Mountains region). However, if records on this species continue to be sparse in the future, then we can re-evaluate the listing status of *P. cicutaria* var. *hubbyi*.

*P. cicutaria* var. *hubbyi* occurs most commonly on rocky, gravelly talus slopes in chaparral, coastal scrub, and grasslands of the Southern California coastal areas below 1000 meters (Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties). However, it is also known from a single occurrence in Kern County and a single occurrence in Alameda County. The occurrence in Alameda County is a horticultural collection with the specimen likely collected from the UC Berkeley Botanic Garden. The occurrence from Kern County (collected by Mary Dedecker) seems to be disjunct from the rest of the species range which is in more coastal areas of Southern California. For this reason, this Kern County occurrence will be left off of the locality list until further documentation of this locality can be gathered or the specimen's id confirmed. *P. cicutaria* var. *hubbyi* was originally nominated as a possible addition to the CNPS Inventory by Mark Elvin, who mentions that some of the known occurrences in the Santa Susana Mountains area of Ventura County are threatened with proposed developments. This species is currently known in California from 35 occurrences and requires review for inclusion in both the CNPS Inventory and the CNDDDB.

**Recommended Actions**

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 4.2

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G4G5T3 / S3.2

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**

*Phacelia cicutaria* Greene var. *hubbyi* (J.F. Macbr.) J.T. Howell

Boraginaceae  
"Hubby's phacelia"  
List 4.2

Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Ventura

073A?\* [San Pedro/3311863], 090C [Redondo Beach/3311874], 090D [Torrance/3311873], 109D [San Dimas/3411717], 110C [Los Angeles/3411812], 111A?\* [Burbank/3411823], 111B?\* [Van Nuys/3411824], 112C [Malibu Beach/3411816], 113C [Triunfo Pass/3411818], 113D [Point Dume/3411817], 137D [Sunland/3411833], 138B [Val Verde/3411846], 139A [Piru/3411847], 141A [Matilija/3411943], 141D [Ventura/3411933], 142B [Santa Barbara/3411946], 143A [Goleta/3411947], 163D [Warm Springs/3411855], 167C [Little Pine Mtn./3411956], 167D [Hildreth Peak/3411955], 168D [San Marcos Pass/3411957], 169D [Santa Ynez/3412051], 170B [Lompoc/3412064], 195A [Twitchell Dam/3412083], SCZC [Santa Cruz Island C/3311985], SCZD [Santa Cruz Island D/3311984]

Chaparral, coastal scrub, valley and foothill grassland / gravelly, rocky, talus slopes; elevation 0-1000 meters.

Annual herb, blooms April-June.

Many collections old; need field surveys. See *Contr. Gray Herb.* 49: 29 (1917) for original description and *Leaflets West. Bot.* III (5): 120 (1942) for revised nomenclature.