Placed on CBR on 11/05/08

Rare Plant Status Review
Deletion of Phacelia cinerea
Nicholas Jensen (CNPS) and Roxanne Bittman (CNDDB)
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Background

Phacelia cinerea is currently on List 1A (plants presumed extinct in California) of the CNPS Inventory. The Jepson Manual (1993) treats P. cinerea as a synonym of P. distans. P. cinerea is known solely from the type collection on San Nicolas Island in 1901. Steve Junak (pers. comm. 2008) states that, “In the Flora of San Nicolas Island (just completed this year) I treated P. cinerea as a synonym of P. distans as well. I just could not distinguish the type specimen of P. cinerea from P. distans.” Additionally, The Jepson Manual (2nd edition) will continue to treat P. cinerea as a synonym of P. distans (M. Wetherwax pers. comm. 2007). P. distans is a common taxon with more than 2000 specimens deposited in California Herbaria.

Consequently, CNPS and CNDDB recommend that P. cinerea be deleted from List 1A of the CNPS Inventory.

Recommended Actions
CNPS: Delete Phacelia cinerea from CNPS List 1A
CNDDB: Delete Phacelia cinerea from CNDDB, GXQ/SX

The current CNPS Inventory record is below. Please respond Yes or No on the proposal to Delete this species from the Inventory and CNDDB, and provide any edits/comments on the proposed change.

Current CNPS Inventory Record

Phacelia cinerea Eastw.
ashy phacelia
Hydrophyllaceae
List 1A
San Nicolas Island
San Nicolas Island (SNIC)*
Meadows and seeps (Medws) (mesic); elevation unknown.
Perennial herb, blooms March-April
Known only from the type collection (in 1901). Rediscovery attempt in 1977 and others since 1983 have been unsuccessful. See P. distans in The Jepson Manual. See Contributions from the Gray Herbarium 49:26 (1917) for original description.

Sent to SW, R. Patterson on 9/23/08