

Rare Plant Status Review: *Suksdorfia ranunculifolia*
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May 8, 2007

Information in blue text has been added/changed since the original status review was sent out.

Background

Suksdorfia ranunculifolia is a perennial herb in the Saxifragaceae. There are herbarium collections of this species from Humboldt, Trinity, Plumas, and Siskiyou Counties in California; however, herbarium collections from Plumas, Humboldt and Trinity Counties are few and were collected in the 1930s. The most recent observations of this plant in California were from Jeff Greenhouse in Siskiyou County in 1993 and 2004. Based on herbarium specimens and observations of Jeff Greenhouse, there are approximately 10 occurrences of this species known in California. *S. ranunculifolia* is also known outside of California from Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Canada.

S. ranunculifolia was included in *The Jepson Manual* (1993) with a note that it is uncommon. It is planned to be included in the new edition of *The Jepson Manual* as well. *S. ranunculifolia* tends to occur in mesic areas in meadows and along streambanks and often occurs in moist rock crevices. This species occurs in California between 1500 and 2500 meters in elevation and blooms June through August.

Normally, a species such as this, with a distribution in several northern California counties, would be placed on List 4; however, this species has been up for review before and then postponed due to lack of information (1996 and 1999). It appears that no new information has come forward since then, with little information available from the Forest Service and several seasoned botanists mentioning that they have not seen it or rarely see it.

S. ranunculifolia is currently known from 11 occurrences- 1 from Humboldt, 2 from Trinity County, 3 from Plumas County, and 5 from Siskiyou County. The majority of herbarium collections are historical with the most recent collection made in 1969. One occurrence is based on an observation of this species from 1990 in Trinity Co. A threat rank has been left off of this species rank because of our lack of knowledge regarding *S. ranunculifolia* in California and any threats it may be under. Due to the small number of occurrences of this species in California, *S. ranunculifolia* requires review for inclusion in both the CNPS Inventory and the CNDDDB.

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to CNPS List 2

CNDDDB: Add to CNDDDB as G5 / S2

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

Suksdorfia ranunculifolia(Hook.) Engl.

Saxifragaceae

"buttercup-leaf suksdorfia"

List 2

Humboldt, Plumas, Siskiyou, Trinity; Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and elsewhere
572B [Gold Lake/3912066], [668C \[Helena/4012372\]](#), 684C [Caribou Lake/4112218], 686C [Trinity
Mountain/4112314], 702B [English Peak/4112342], 736B [Kangaroo Mtn/4112382]

Upper montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps / mesic, rocky; elevation 1500-2500
meters.

Perennial herb, blooms June-August.

See *Nat. Pflanzenfam.* (1890) for revised nomenclature.