

**Rare Plant Status Review: *Dendroscocaulon intricatum*
Add to Considered But Rejected list**

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Background

The name *Dendroscocaulon intricatum* (Nyl.) Henssen has been applied to a small, fruticose lichen, placed in Peltigeraceae or Lobariaceae (Ward 2006, Esslinger 2021, CNALH 2022, NatureServe 2022). Although this lichen has been considered Critically Imperiled (S1) in Washington state and Ontario Province, it has a Global Rank of GUQ (Global Status needs review) at the NatureServe website (NatureServe 2022). The reason given for needing review is: "This "species" is probably a complex of several different species. At least three different lichen species form dendroscocauloid cyanotypes in Pacific North America (Tonsberg & Goward 2001)." The work cited (Tonsberg & Goward 2001) summarizes the taxonomy of this lichen as follows:

"*Dendroscocaulon*" *intricatum* was described from New England on the Atlantic coast of north America. The type material, which unfortunately is a scrap, grew on a species of *Fraxinus*. On the Atlantic seaboard, several species of *Lobaria* are known in which a dendroscocauloid anotype occurs, including *Lobaria ravenelii* [...] and *L. tenuis* [...]. However, none of these species is known to occur in Pacific North America. Based on our studies, there appears to be no compelling reason for applying the name "*Dendroscocaulon*" *intricatum* to material originating from this region. Pending molecular studies, we therefore suggest that Pacific North American, free-living, dendroscocauloid specimens are most appropriately referred to as "*Dendroscocaulon*" sp.

The name *Dendroscocaulon intricatum* is included in the Northwest Forest Plan as a Category B taxon (USDA/USDI 2001). As part of the Species of Conservation Concern process, it was added to a list of species to be considered for SCC Account development by CNPS. Aaron Sims sent out an email to the Lichen Conservation Committee early in 2022, and the consensus of those who responded is that *Dendroscocaulon intricatum* is an invalid taxon and should not be considered for addition to the CNPS Inventory (Sims 2022 pers. comm.).

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to Considered But Rejected list

CNDDDB: Do not rank

Draft CNPS Inventory Record

Dendroscocaulon intricatum

Considered But Rejected

Reason: Too common.

Common name: olive-thorn lichen

USDA Plants symbol: DEIN12

Literature Cited:

[CNALH] Consortium of North American Lichen Herbaria. 2022. <http://lichenportal.org/portal/index.php> [accessed August 2022].

Esslinger, T. L. 2021. A cumulative checklist for the lichen-forming, lichenicolous, and allied fungi of the continental US and Canada. *Opuscula Philolichenum* 20: 100-394. Available at: <https://www.ndsu.edu/pubweb/~esslinge/chcklst/chcklst7.htm> and at: http://sweetgum.nybg.org/science/op/biblio_list.php?BucVolume_tab=20 [accessed August 2022].

NatureServe. 2022. NatureServe Explorer. Website <https://explorer.natureserve.org> [accessed August 2022].

Tønsberg, T. and T. Goward. 2001. *Sticta oroborealis* sp. nov. and other Pacific North American lichens forming dendrocauloid cyanotypes. *The Bryologist* 104: 12 – 23.

USDA/USDI. 2001. Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines. Available at https://www.blm.gov/or/plans/surveyandmanage/files/rd-rod_s_and_g-2001-01.pdf [accessed August 2022].

Ward. 2006. Species Fact Sheet: *Dendroscopula intricatum*. US Department of Agriculture and US Department of Interior. Available at: <https://www.blm.gov/or/plans/surveyandmanage/files/sfs-li-dendroscopula-intricatum-2007.pdf> [accessed August 2022].

Personal Communication:

Sims, Aaron. 2022. Rare Plant Program Director, CNPS. Personal communication summary of emails with the Lichen Conservation Committee. Email correspondence on 12 Jan 2022.