

Festuca idahoensis – Pseudoroegneria spicata – Poa secunda Alliance (G4/S2)

Sensitive Natural Communities

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How are natural communities ranked to determine if they are sensitive?

What are the implications of ranking?

Where can you find ranking information?

Prunus virginiana / Symphoricarpos rotundifolius Association (Sensitive)

NatureServe Methodology for Assigning Ranks



NatureServe Conservation Status Assessments: Methodology for Assigning Ranks

> NatureServe Report Revised Edition June 2012



Factors for Assessing Rarity

Range/Distribution

- Range Extent
- Area of Occupancy

Abundance/Condition

- # of Occurrences
- # of Occurrences with Good Viability/ Ecological IntegrityEnvironmental Specificity

Threats

Overall Threat Impact Intrinsic Vulnerability (optional)

Trends (if known) Short-term Trend Long-term Trend

Ra	Rank Calculator Form								
	Remember to adopt a moderate attitude, taking care to identify the most likely plausible range of values, excluding extreme or unlikely values.								
		Ch	ange to return GRanks, NRanks, or Sranks:	S	change using dropdown; also affects Calculator Table				
					Enter values below, text in off-white and light-green cells and dropdowns	in vellow and blue cells.			
					Scroll down in dropdowns for additional choices.				
ghts	rie				To clear an individual value, put your cursor in the drop-down cell and press	s Delete.			
Veig	ego	ghts	Species or Ecosystem Scie	ntific Name	Navarretia leucocephala ssp. Minima – Plagiobothrys cusickii				
- -	cat	veig	Type (enter "infraspecies"	for a T-Rank)	Other Ecological Type				
wit	ors	or v	Spatial Pattern (for ecos	ystems only)	Small Patch				
sdr	act	acti	Optional Information:	Element ID	transferred to mcv db	global, national, or s	ubnational		
j.	E E	al f		Elcode	43.000.00				
	nu	idu	Co	mmon Name	Little white navarretia - Cusick's popcorn flower vernal pools				
acto	lini	di∨		Classification	International Vegetation Classification				
l – ű			Nation or Subnation (for N	I- or S-Ranks) California		COMMENTS (Place cursor in cell to see full text.)			
	Ę.	1	Range Extent	F	F = 20,000-200,000 sq km (~8,000-80,000 sq mi)	Calculated 41,658 sq	km from range map		
	Dis	-4	Area of Occupancy:	н	FILL OUT ONLY 1 OF FOLLOWING 3 FIELDS	Modoc NF vernal po	ol by B. Holland is 141 km2. Likely		
	ge/	-	Direct estimate (ecosystems) OR	н	H = 100-500 km2	an overestimate but	these vp are also found outside of		
	tan		4 km ² grid cells (species) OR			Modoc NF so we thir	nk this range is a good fit.		
÷⊈			1 km ² grid cells (linear species)						
Rar	/Cond.	1	lumber of Occurrences	С	C = 21 - 80	33 occurences from	survey points, plus 27 CCH records		
		2	Population Size*						
	nd.	_2	Good Viability/Ecological Integrity:	D	FILL OUT ONLY 1 OF FOLLOWING 2 FIELDS	Assuming half of occurences have good ecological			
			Number of Occurrences OR	D	D = Some (13-40) occurrences with excellent or good viability or ecolog	integrity (60/2 = 30)			
		1	Percent of Area Occupied			C			
5		1	Assigned Overall Threat Impact	A	A = Very harrow. Specialist of community with key requirements scarce	Modium (2) invasivo	il vernai pools, lake margins		
~ eat		1	Calculated Overall Threat Impact (EVI)	A	A = Very High		s, cimate change, hydrologic		
ĨĘ	×	1	Intrinsic Vulnerability (ont)						
- S	Î	H	Short torm Trond	C	E = Decline of 10 - 20%	Estimated			
enc		ľ		F					
Ľ ⊢		1	Long-term Trend	F	F = Decline of 10 - 30%	Estimated, hydrologi	c modificatios likely most		
			Minimum factors requirement met?	TRUE		Save Data to	Clear Form		
			Calculated Rank	S2	Always review the calculated rank.	Calculator Table			
			Assigned Rank**	\$2	Calculated rank was verified: do not fill out the 'Rank Adjustment Reasons	' field.			
			Rank Adjustment Reasons						
			Assigned Rank Reasons	These stands	s are restricted in range in California and are subject to many threats in their	region			
				These stands					
	Rank Factor Ratings Author			Raphaela Flo	reani Buzbee				
	Rank Factor Ratings Date			5-Apr-2020	Enter Ctrl-semicolon (;) for today's date.				
Rank Assignment Author			Rank Assignment Author	J. Ratchford,	J. Buck-Diaz, Kyle Merriam				
Rank Review Date				19-Aug-2020					
Rank Calculator Internal Notes J. Ratchford communicated with K. Merriam about threat impacts to this vegetation type 8/18/20.						e 8/18/20.			

Navarretia leucocephala ssp. minima – Plagiobothrys cusickii Vernal Pool Alliance (S3)





Species er Freuetem Stientifis Name Navarretia Jaussenhala sen Minima. Disgishethrus susiskiji							-
	Species of Ecosystem Scientific Name	tra	nsferred to mov dh	Sp. Willing – Flagioboth	43 000 00		
		ιia			43.000.00	1	
	Overall Threat Impact Calculation Help:			Level 1 Threat Impact (Counts	1	
overan micat impact calculation neip.			eat Impact	high range low range		2 Save to 'Threats	
		A	Very High	<u> </u>) 0	Data Compiled'	
		В	High	1	1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
		С	Medium	4	4 4	Clear Form	
		D	Low	1	1 1		
	Calculat	ed (Overall Threat Impact:	Very High	Very High	A = Very High	
		-				1. Copy Overall Impact and Adjust	Fill out Overall Threat Impact Comments
	Assign	ed (Overall Threat Impact:	A = Very High		Reasons to Calculator Form	directly on the Calculator Form.
	Overall Threat Im	pact	Adjustment Reasons:			•	
				Place cursor in cell to	see dropdown arrow		
Threat		Im	pact (calculated)	Scope	Severity	Timing	Comments
	No known threats						
	Unknown/undetermined						
1	Residential & commercial development						
1.1	Housing & urban areas						
1.2	Commercial & industrial areas						
1.3	Tourism & recreation areas						
2	Agriculture & aquaculture	С	Medium	Large (31-70%)	Moderate or 11-30%	pop. decline	
2.1	Annual & perennial non-timber crops						
2.2	Wood & pulp plantations						
2.3	Livestock farming & ranching	С	Medium	Large (31-70%)	Moderate or 11-30%	pop. decline	Livestock and wild horse use is widesprea
2.4	Marine & freshwater aquaculture						
3	Energy production & mining						
3.1	Oil & gas drilling						
3.2	Mining & guarrying						
3.3	Renewable energy						
4	Transportation & service corridors	С	Medium	Restricted (11-30%)	Serious or 31-70% po	p. decline	
4.1	Roads & railroads	D	Low	Small (1-10%)	Slight or 1-10% pop.	decline	Roads are adjacent to or crossing pools
4.2	Utility & service lines	С	Medium	Restricted (11-30%)	Extreme or 71-100%	pop. decline	There are pipeline and utilites in the regio
4.3	Shipping lanes	É		,/			
4.4	Flight paths				1		1
5	Biological resource use						
5.1	Hunting & collecting terrestrial animals						
5.2	Gathering terrestrial plants				1		1
5.3	Logging & wood harvesting						1
5.4	Fishing & harvesting aquatic resources				1		1
6	Human intrusions & disturbance	D	Low	Small (1-10%)	Moderate or 11-30%	pop. decline	
6.1	Recreational activities	D	Low	Small (1-10%)	Moderate or 11-30%	pop. decline	OHV activity in the region
6.2	War, civil unrest & military exercises						
6.3	Work & other activities						1
7	Natural system modifications	в	High	Large (31-70%)	Serious or 31-70% no	p. decline	These impacts do not necessarily overlap
71	Fire & fire suppression	D	low	Small (1-10%)	Serious or 31-70% po	n decline	Bulldozer lines through pools
· · •	ine a me suppression			5	33	p. 400	Sanaozei nines tin ougii pools

New or Updated Rankings for Alliances

NEW RAN	IKS FOR ALLIANCES		
Lifeform	Alliance		Rank New
Tree	Pinus ponderosa / Shrub Understory		S4
Shrub	Eriogonum spp. / Poa secunda Prunus emarginata – Holodiscus discolor Salix boothii – Salix geyeriana – Salix lutea		S3 S4 S2
Herb	Bidens cernua – Euthamia occidentalis – Ludwigia palustris Danthonia californica – Deschampsia cespitosa – Camassia quamash Eleocharis (acicularis, macrostachya) Festuca idahoensis – Pseudoroegneria spicata – Poa secunda Navarretia leucocephala ssp. minima – Plagiobothrys cusickii Poa secunda – Muhlenbergia richardsonis – Carex douglasii		S4 S3S4 S3 S2 S3
UPDATED	RANK FOR ALLIANCES		
Lifeform	Alliance	Rank Old	Rank New
	Amelanchier utahensis – Cercocarpus montanus –		
Shrub	Cercocarpus intricatus	S2	S3
	Arctostaphylos patula – Arctostaphylos nevadensis	S4	S3
	Purshia tridentata – Artemisia tridentata	S3	S4



Cercocarpus ledifolius – Artemisia tridentata ssp. *vaseyana* Association



Artemisia arbuscula / Poa secunda Association



Artemisia nova / Poa secunda Association



Holodiscus discolor Association



Taraxia tanacetifolia – Iva axillaris Provisional Association

Sensitive Natural Communities

NVCS Name

- Artemisia arbuscula / Poa secunda
- Cercocarpus ledifolius Artemisia tridentata ssp. vaseyana
- Danthonia unispicata Poa secunda
- Elymus cinereus
- Eriogonum sphaerocephalum / Poa secunda
- Navarretia leucocephala ssp. minima Plagiobothrys cusickii
- Pseudoroegneria spicata Poa secunda
- Taraxia tan aceti folia Iva axillaris

Legislation & Regulations Addressing Natural Communities & Habitats

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, 1970)

• Guidelines, Appendix G (Checklist): 4.b.: Any sensitive natural communities or wetland/riparian habitats?

Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (NCCP)

- Broad-based ecosystem approach to long-term protection of species
- Focus on covered species habitats, not necessarily rare communities

RCIS – Regional Conservation Investment Strategy

Non-regulatory planning document

California Coastal Act, Local Coastal Plans

• Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHAs)

County General Plans

• Ordinances addressing sensitive communities



California Natural Community List

CaCode	Name Primary Life for	form: Shrub	Rarit	v	Sensitive
Eriogonum	spp. / Poa secunda				Alliance
32.037.00	Buckwheat / bluegrass dwarf-shrublar	nd	GNR	S 3	
32.037.01	Eriogonum sphaerocephalum / Poa sec	cunda			Y
32.037.02	Eriogonum douglasii / Poa secunda				Y
32.037.03	Eriogonum strictum / Poa secunda				Y

Excerpt from 9/9/2020 List on VegCAMP's website (search: "VegCAMP Natural Communities"



Current Extent of Vegetation Assessment in California



Questions?