

IDAHO RARE PLANT OBSERVATION REPORT 2013

Please fill in as many fields as possible, but don't worry if you have to leave blanks. Many fields contain check boxes (double click on box, and click 'checked'). E-mail completed form to plant@idfg.idaho.gov
If you need to mail maps or other materials that can't be sent electronically, send them to Botany Data Coordinator, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, PO Box 25, 600 S. Walnut St., Boise ID 83707-0025.
Thanks for contributing to rare plant conservation in Idaho!

Species: *Astragalus conjunctus* Date(s): 20 August 2013
Observer(s): Beth Corbin
Agency/Organization/Company: BLM Owyhee Field Office
Address: 20 1st Ave West, Marsing, ID 83639
E-mail: ecorbin@blm.gov Phone: (208) 896-5923
Observation was: very thorough fairly thorough cursory or incidental
Certainty of identification: moderate high verified by:
Specimen collector/Collection #: No Photo attached? yes no

Population Information (for entire population; information on subpopulations goes on next page)

Survey site name (e.g., a particular landmark or location): Between Squaw Creek and Little Squaw Creek
Element occurrence (EO) #, if known: In the general location of EO #1 (Squaw Creek Summit)
Population area (extent of all subpopulations): About 0.2 acres
Do you feel you mapped the full extent of the population? yes no unsure
Is there more potential habitat in the area that hasn't been surveyed? yes no unsure
Suggestions for other areas to survey: Other surrounding hillsides.
Directions (please be specific so population/subpopulations can be relocated years from now by others):
1.4 air miles WNW of Dryden Peak, between Squaw Creek and Little Squaw Creek.

Subpopulation information (Copy this page and the next as needed—one for each subpopulation. If visits to individual subpopulations aren't made, fill out one for whole population.)

Subpopulation number #: 1 of 1 Date of Observation: 8/20/2013 Observer(s): Beth Corbin & Mike Spicer (BLM)
Total number of individuals in subpopulation: 40 This number is: actual minimum estimated
What was counted? genets ramets N/A (non-vascular etc.) unknown
Phenology--% seedling: % vegetative: 65 % flower: % fruit: 35 % dormant: % unknown:
Subpopulation area: 0.2 acres Subpopulation vigor: excellent good fair poor unknown
Do you feel you mapped the full extent of this subpopulation? yes no unsure
Dominant species (existing plant community): Low sagebrush, bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue.
Habitat type (potential plant community): Same

Associated native species: *Artemisia arbuscula*, *Pseudoroegneria spicata*, *Festuca idahoensis*, *Lupinus (arbustus)*, *Poa secunda*, *Ericameria nauseosa*, *Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*, *Calochortus microcarpa*, *Agoseris glauca*, *Eriogonum heracleoides*, *Pleiacanthus spinosus*.

Associated non-native species: None noted

Look-alike species present: *Astragalus obscurus* also in vicinity, but distinct.

General habitat (e.g., foothills, wetland, subalpine): Rolling hills

Slope: 15-25% Aspect: NW-facing Toposition: Upper slope

Elevation: _5600_ ft Light regime: Full sun Substrate/soil: Loamy soil

Landowner(s): BLM USFS private other: Shares Basin Allotment, Pasture 3

Observed disturbances, such as land use, disease, predation, non-native species. For each, include severity (slight, moderate, serious, or extreme) and scope ($\leq 10\%$, 11-30%, 31-70%, 71-100% of subpopulation affected), if known: Tops of plants nipped by grazing animals, but most of leaves and some fruits remaining (especially under shrubs).

Perennial grass utilization measured at 20% at this location. No other disturbance or weeds.

Factors that may be a threat in the future. For each, include severity, scope, and imminency (near or distant future), if known: None evident.

Native plant community within the subpopulation is:

- A. intact with zero to low non-native plant cover and/or minimal anthropogenic disturbance.
- B. intact with low to moderate non-native plant cover and/or low to moderate anthropogenic disturbance.
- C. partially intact with moderate to high non-native plant cover and/or mod. to high anthropogenic disturbance.
- D. almost gone with high non-native plant species cover and/or high anthropogenic disturbance.

Additional comments to describe subpopulation condition and support rank: Plant community looks good.

Landscape surrounding the subpopulation is:

- A. unfragmented, with ecological and hydrological processes intact.
- B. partially fragmented, with ecological and hydrological processes intact.
- C. moderately fragmented, with ecological and hydrological processes intact.
- D. highly fragmented, with many ecological and hydrological processes no longer intact.

Additional comments to describe landscape setting and support rank: Some two-track roads, fences, and weedier areas (down hill), but overall surrounding landscape is in good shape.

County: Owyhee

Quad: Piute Butte

Township: 1S Range: 5W SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 23

Method used to collect GPS data: GPS unit estimated on a paper map other:

GPS unit was held: directly over the rare plant in the general vicinity of the rare plant

GPS coordinates:

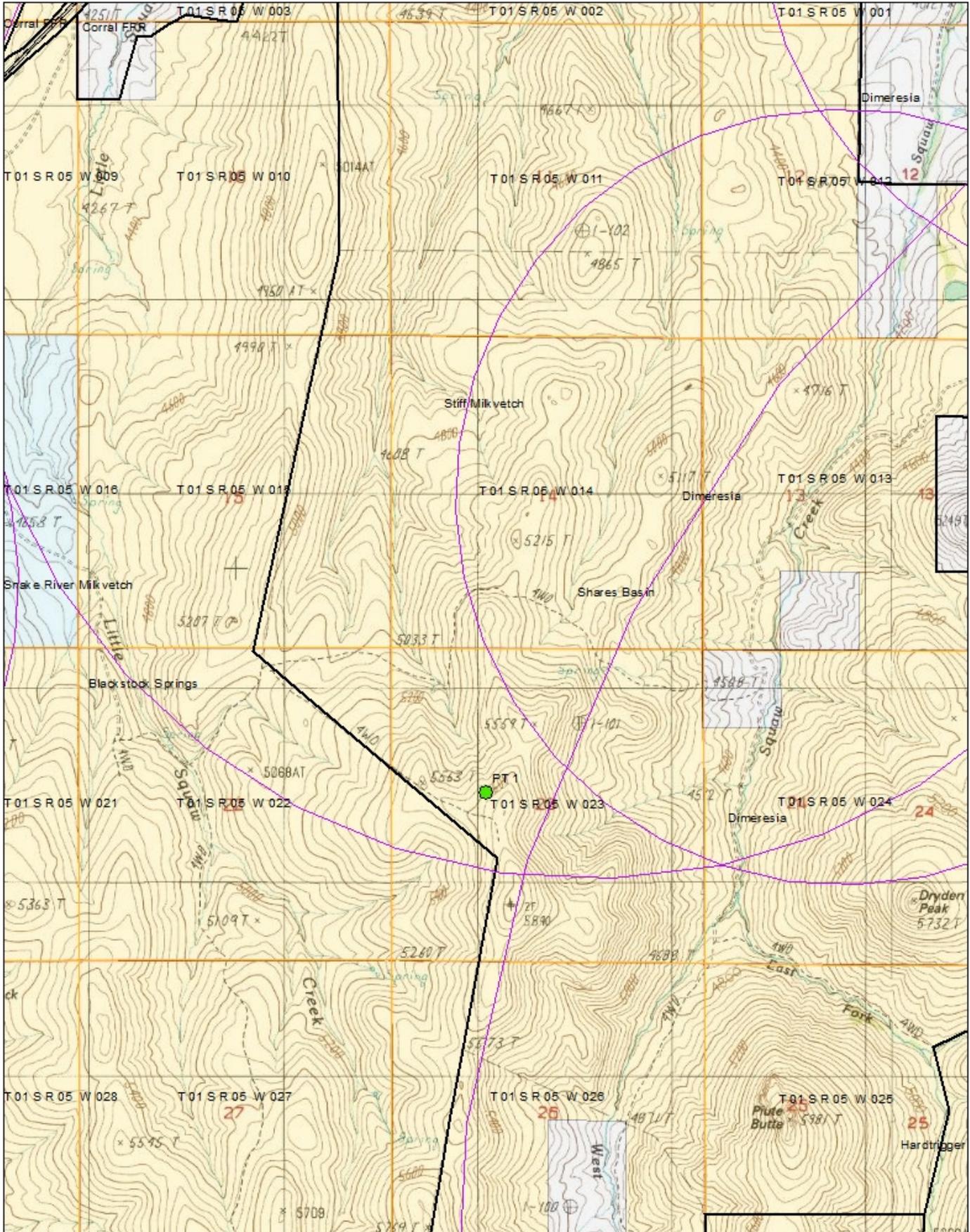
Datum	Zone	ID#	Easting (X)	Northing (Y)	Accuracy
NAD 83	11		507962	4796666	+/- 5 m



Astragalus conjunctus with grazed stems and a few fruit.



Astragalus conjunctus habitat



Astragalus conjunctus 8/20/2013

BLC 11/21/13