

## 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](mailto: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 mulfordiae*

Date(s): May 2, 2013

Observer(s): Beth Corbin

Agency/Organization/Company: BLM Owyhee Field Office

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Observation was:  very thorough  fairly thorough  cursory or incidental

If this observation is part of a larger study or report, what is the study/report? Con Shea Allotment Mulford's Milkvetch  
Exclosure Monitoring

Certainty of identification:  moderate  high  verified by:

Specimen collector/Collection #: No

Photo attached?  yes  no Additional photos on BLM OFO server.



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

Survey site name (e.g., a particular landmark or location): Con Shea Basin

Element occurrence (EO) #, if known: #13

Population area (extent of all subpopulations): 4 patches within about 25 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

Monitoring or research needs for this population: This occurrence is part of a larger monitoring study, but I did not read the transect, only noted all plants that I saw at each patch.

Directions (please be specific so population/subpopulations can be relocated years from now by others):

North part of Con Shea Basin, across the Snake River (0.6 -0.8 miles south of) from Halverson Lake, about 5.4 air miles NE of Murphy.

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**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 Date of Observation: 5/2/2013 Observer(s): B.Corbin

4 patches, more or less as previously mapped. See table below for specifics.

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: 12 % vegetative: 53 % flower: 35 % fruit: % dormant:

Subpopulation area: 4 small patches within about 25 acres Subpopulation vigor:  excellent  good

Do you feel you mapped the full extent of this subpopulation?  yes  no  unsure

Dominant species (existing plant community): *Bromus tectorum*, *Achnatherum hymenoides*, *Atriplex canescens*

Habitat type (potential plant community): Open, sandy areas within salt desert shrub community.

Associated native species: *Achnatherum hymenoides*, *Atriplex canescens*, *Ericameria nauseosa*, *Machaeranthera canescens*, *Descurainia (pinnata)*, *Camissonia sp.*, *Cryptantha (torreyana)*, *Chaenactis douglasii*, annual *Eriogonum*, *Mentzelia albicaulis*, *Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*, *Poa secunda*, *Salvia dorrii*, *Rhus trilobata*, *Leptodactylon/Linanthus pungens*.

Associated non-native species: *Bromus tectorum*

Look-alike species present: No

General habitat (e.g., foothills, wetland, subalpine): Broken plains

Slope: 10-40% Aspect: WNW, NW, ENE, NE (Patches 1-4 respectively) Topoposition: mostly mid-slope

Elevation: 2350-2400 ft Light regime: full sun Substrate/soil: Sandy (loose or consolidated)

Landowner(s):  BLM  USFS  private  other:

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: Cheatgrass thick at Patch 1, and surrounding all patches. No cattle grazing disturbance observed at these patches.

Rabbit (probably, or other small mammal) had nipped several stems – many of the plants recorded as vegetative had had their flowering stems nipped off. OHV traffic near Patch 1, but not through it. Patches 2-4 are within the Con Shea Allotment Enclosure.

Factors that may be a threat in the future. For each, include severity, scope, and imminency (near or distant future), if known:

Cheatgrass, ATVs.

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: Cheatgrass

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: Cheatgrass, roads, ATVs.

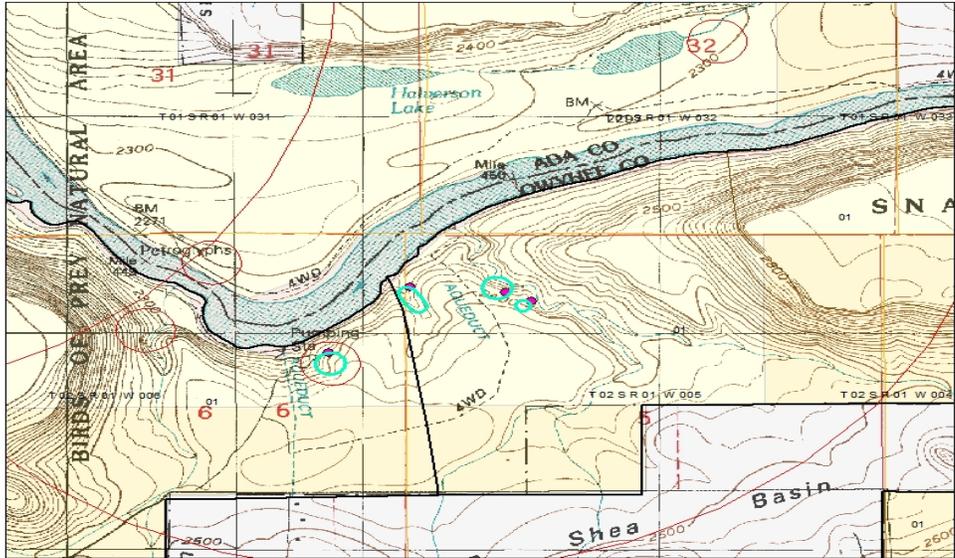
County: Owyhee Quad: Initial Point  
 Township: 2S Range: 1W SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 6 Patch 1  
 Township: 2S Range: 1W N 1/2 of NW 1/4 of Section 5 Patches 2-4

Coordinates: Patch 1 from GPS over plant, others estimated from map/GIS.

Datum:  NAD27  NAD83 Coordinate system:  UTM zone 11

Patch	# Individuals	Area	Easting (X)	Northing (Y)	Accuracy
1	1 fl	<0.01 acre	540808	4792110	+/- 5m (GSP)
2	7 fl, 14 veg, 4 seedling	0.02 acre	541080	4792413	+/- 30 m (map/GIS)
3	1 fl, 1 veg, 1 seedling	<0.01 acre	541490	4792349	+/- 50 m (map/GIS)
4	5 fl, 6 veg	<0.01 acre	541406	4792389	+/- 50 m (map/GIS)

Total = at least 40



Astragalus mulfordiae Occurrence # 13 Monitoring 5/2/2013

BLC 5/7/13

- Previously mapped occurrences
- ASMU seen