

## IDAHO RARE PLANT OBSERVATION REPORT 2012

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 purshii* var. *ophiogenes*

Date(s): September 10, 2012

Observer(s): Beth Corbin

Agency/Organization/Company: Owyhee Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

Address: 20 1<sup>st</sup> Ave West, Marsing, ID 83639

E-mail: [ecorbin@blm.gov](mailto: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 If photos are located elsewhere, where are they? OFO Computer 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): Between Con Shea Basin and Murphy Flat

Element occurrence (EO) #, if known: NA

Population area (extent of all subpopulations): Small patches seen along about 1 mile survey.

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: Lots of potential habitat along other knobs and ridges in the vicinity.

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

Between Con Shea Basin and Murphy Flat, several patches seen in two subpopulations on N/NE-facing sides of knobs along proposed fence route for Con Shea Fire ESR fence. About 3.5 miles WSW of Sinker Butte, and about 4.5 miles east 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: 9/10/2012 Observer(s): B.Corbin

Total number of individuals in subpopulation: 30 This number is:  actual  minimum  estimated

What was counted?  genets  ramets  N/A (non-vascular etc.)  unknown

Phenology--% seedling: % vegetative: 30 % flower: % fruit: 70 % dormant: All plants dry, dormant

Subpopulation area: 1 acre 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): *Artemisia tridentata* ssp. *wyomingensis*, *Poa secunda*, *Bromus tectorum*, *Elymus elymoides*

Habitat type (potential plant community): Wyoming sagebrush

Associated native species: ARTRW, POSE, ELEL

Associated non-native species: BRTE

Look-alike species present: none

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

Slope: 10-25% Aspect: N to NE-facing Toposition: Near ridgetop to midslope

Elevation: \_3170 - 3230\_ ft Light regime: full sun Substrate/soil: Loamy soil

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:  
No disturbance noted, although cowpies from earlier grazing seen. West of recent Con Shea Fire. Lots of cheatgrass in vicinity, although not so much in microhabitat area.

Factors that may be a threat in the future. For each, include severity, scope, and imminency (near or distant future), if known:  
Potentially increasing weeds. Fence construction of temporary ESR fence through occurrence may affect a few plants, but unlikely to substantially impact occurrence.

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:

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: Parts of surrounding area is quite weedy (mostly cheatgrass).

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County: Owyhee

Quad: Sinker Butte

Township: 2S Range: 1W SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 33

Format of GPS data:  shapefile  digital file (.dbf, .xls, .txt, etc.)  GPS points filled in below

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

Do the GPS points mark the boundary of a plant group?  yes  no  unsure

GPS coordinates:

Datum	Zone	ID#	Easting (X)	Northing (Y)	Accuracy
NAD 83	11		543805	4783940	+/- 5 m
NAD 83	11		543778	4784038	+/- 5m

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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 #: 2 Date of Observation: 9/10/2012 Observer(s): B.Corbin

Total number of individuals in subpopulation: 50 This number is:  actual  minimum  estimated

What was counted?  genets  ramets  N/A (non-vascular etc.)  unknown

Phenology--% seedling: % vegetative: 30 % flower: % fruit: 70 % dormant: All plants dry, dormant

Subpopulation area: 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): *Artemisia tridentata* ssp. *wyomingensis*, *Poa secunda*, *Bromus tectorum*, *Elymus elymoides*

Habitat type (potential plant community): Wyoming sagebrush

Associated native species: ARTRW, POSE, ELEL, moss, *Hesperostipa comata*

Associated non-native species: BRTE

Look-alike species present: none

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

Slope: 10-15% Aspect: N to NE-facing Toposition: Midslope

Elevation: 3,180 – 3,230 ft Light regime: full sun Substrate/soil: Loamy soil

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:  
No grazing disturbance noted. Within and just outside recent Con Shea Fire. Lots of cheatgrass in vicinity, although not as much in microhabitat area.

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

Potentially increasing weeds. Fence construction of temporary ESR fence through occurrence may affect a few plants, but unlikely to substantially impact occurrence.

Native plant community within the subpopulation is:

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Additional comments to describe landscape setting and support rank: Parts of surrounding area is quite weedy (mostly cheatgrass).

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County: Owyhee

Quad: Sinker Butte

Township: 2S Range: 1W SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 28

Method used to collect GPS data:  GPS unit held directly over the rare plant

Do the GPS points mark the boundary of a plant group?  yes  no  unsure

GPS coordinates:

Datum	Zone	ID#	Easting (X)	Northing (Y)	Accuracy
NAD 83	11		543506	4784758	+/- 5 m
NAD 83	11		543423	4784900	+/- 5m
NAD 83	11		543387	4785032	+/- 5m