

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PDONA060Q0

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Epilobium oregonense*
COMMON NAME: Oregon Willowherb
SYNONYMS: *Epilobium alpinum* var. *gracillimum*
FAMILY: Onagraceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Haussknecht, Heinrich Carl. Monographie
der Gattung *Epilobium* 276, f. 66. 1884.

TYPE LOCALITY: Oregon: wet Alpine prairie base of Mt. Hood.

TYPE SPECIMEN: MO 345074. E. Hall, #179. August 30, 1871.

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: *Epilobium* is a large genus with over 200 species worldwide and 45 in North America. *E. oregonense* is one of 13 species known to occur in Arizona.

DESCRIPTION: Habit: Perennial herb 0.8--3(4) dm, matted, delicate, +- glabrous, +- purple distally; stolons sprawling, thread-like, with minute rounded leaves. Leaf: sessile, clasping, 5--25 mm, broadly elliptic near base to linear and widely spaced distally; tip obtuse. Inflorescence: generally erect, open (bracts << internodes), sparsely glandular. Flower: hypanthium 0.8--1.8 mm; sepals 2.5--4.5 mm; petals 5--8 mm, white to pink; stigma broadly club-like. Fruit: 20--50 mm, +- glabrous; pedicel 20--65 mm, generally > fruit. Seed: 1--1.4 mm, low-papillate. Chromosomes: 2n=36. Jepson eFlora 2016.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:

ILLUSTRATIONS:

Photos and Herbarium Mounts:

<http://swbiodiversity.org/seinet/taxa/index.php?taxon=Epilobium%20oregonense>.

<http://eol.org/pages/582996/media>.

TOTAL RANGE: Western U.S. and Canada: British Columbia south to California and Arizona, including Montana, Wyoming and Colorado.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: North and south of Flagstaff (Coconino County), and in the vicinity of Mount Baldy (Apache County). There is also an unmappable collection from East Turkey Creek in Cochise County.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Perennial herb.

PHENOLOGY: Flowers: Jul – Aug.

BIOLOGY:

HABITAT: Boggy areas, shaded streambanks, wet meadow, open woods on hillsides (+9500 feet elevation), springs and a high elevation mountain lake.

ELEVATION: 3935 – 11480 feet (1200-3500m) reported in Jepson eFlora. Arizona collections range from 6900 – 9520 feet (2100-2900m).

EXPOSURE: Not specified. Probably sometimes open in wetland settings; more shaded in woodland settings.

SUBSTRATE: Not specified, but certainly saturated soils in some settings.

PLANT COMMUNITY: High mountain meadows, spring and stream side communities, coniferous forests. Species associated at one collection site include: *Poa pratensis*, *Deschampsia caespitosa*, *Veronica*, *Carex ulticulata*, *Carex microptera*, *Cirsium parryi*, *Perideridia parishii*, *Potentilla gracilis*, *Epilobium ciliatum*, *Mimulus primuloides*, *Viola*, *Stellaria*.

POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS: Unknown for Arizona. The species has been collected in the State from 6-7 sites. The only abundance information provided was a notation that this was an “occasional” species at one site. Plants have been collected from several sites in the vicinity of the Phelps Cabin Research Area for the past 65 years. NatureServe considers the species to be critically imperiled in Arizona, and between imperiled and vulnerable overall in the United States.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None.
STATE STATUS: None.
OTHER STATUS: None.

MANAGEMENT FACTORS: None specified.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN: None. One major collection locality is within a Research Natural Area, and another is within a Wilderness Area.

SUGGESTED PROJECTS: Revisit known sites to ascertain if the species is still extant. Investigate other high elevation wetlands across the Mogollon Rim to determine if the known range can be expanded.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: USDA Forest Service (Apache-Sitgreaves and Coconino National Forests), USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs (Fort Apache Indian Reservation), Arizona State Trust Land and two private land holdings.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

- Jepson eFlora, accessed 6/30/2016, http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/eflora/eflora_display.php?tid=24385.
- JStor| Global Plants, accessed 6/30/2016, <http://plants.jstor.org/stable/10.5555/al.ap.specimen.moi-345074?searchUri=plantName%3D%2522Epilobium%2Boregonense%2522%26syn%3D1>.
- Kearney, Thomas H. and Robert H. Peebles. 1951 with Supplement 1960. Arizona Flora. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA. p. 590.
- Tropicos, accessed 6/30/2016, <http://www.tropicos.org/Name/23200150>.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Revised: 2016-07-01 (BDT)

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