ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Plant Abstract **Element Code:** PMALI040H0
Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Sagittaria latifolia*
COMMON NAME: Duck Potato
SYNONYMS:
FAMILY: Alismataceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Willdenow, Carl Ludwig von. Species Plantarum. Editio quarta 4(1): 409. 1805.

TYPE LOCALITY: Habitat a Canada ad Carolinam

TYPE SPECIMEN: US 690947. H. Muhlenberg (SN). No date.

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: *Sagittaria* is a relatively large genus with 25 species and 10 varieties found in the U.S. *S. latifolia* is one of five species that occur in Arizona, four of which are considered critically imperiled because of limited distribution within the State.

DESCRIPTION: Herbs, perennial, to 45 cm; rhizomes absent; stolons present; corms present. Leaves emersed; petiole triangular, erect to ascending, 6.5--51 cm; blade sagittate, rarely hastate, 1.5--30.5 ´ 2--17 cm, basal lobes equal to or less than remainder of blade. Inflorescences racemes, rarely panicles, of 3--9 whorls, emersed, 4.5--28.5 ´ 4--23 cm; peduncles 10--59 cm; bracts connate more than or equal to ¼ total length, elliptic to lanceolate, 3--8 mm, delicate, not papillose; fruiting pedicels spreading, cylindric, 0.5--3.5 cm. Flowers to 4 cm diam.; sepals recurved to spreading, not enclosing flower or fruiting head; filaments cylindric, longer than anthers, glabrous; pistillate pedicellate, without ring of sterile stamens. Fruiting heads 1--1.7 cm diam; achenes oblanceoloid, without abaxial keel, 2.5--3.5 ´ to 2 mm, beaked; faces not tuberculate, wings absent, glands (0--)1(--2); beak lateral, horizontal, 1--2 mm. (Flora of North America.)

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION: *S. cuneata* leaf blades are smaller, from 5-15 cm, and the lower lobes of emergent leaf blades are less than the terminal lobe. In *S. latifolia*, leaf blades are from 6-30 cm, and the lower lobes of the emergent leaf blade are approximately equal to the terminal lobe. A diagnostic feature distinguishing the two species is the beak on the fruit of *S. cuneata* is ascending to erect and <0.5 mm; the beak on the fruit of *S. latifolia* is spreading and 1-2 mm. (EOL.)

ILLUSTRATIONS:

Photos and line drawings: http://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=SALA2.
Photos and line drawings: http://eol.org/pages/1082206/media.

TOTAL RANGE: All United States and Canada except Alaska and Nevada.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Known only from a 1903 collection from the Rillito River, near Tucson (Pima County).

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Perennial herbaceous plant.

PHENOLOGY: Flowering: summer to fall.

BIOLOGY:

HABITAT: Wet ditches, pools and margins of streams and lakes.

ELEVATION: Only collection in Arizona: 2400 feet (732m).

EXPOSURE: Not specified, probably open.

SUBSTRATE: Moist to saturated soils.

PLANT COMMUNITY:

POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS: The only collections of *S. latifolia* in Arizona were made in 1903 from pools in the Rillito River near Tucson. In the vicinity of the collections, the river is now dry for the majority of the year so the appropriate habitat for this aquatic species is no longer extant.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

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

MANAGEMENT FACTORS: Not specified.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN: None known.

SUGGESTED PROJECTS: Surveys to determine if species still extant in Arizona.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: The Rillito River on the north side of Tucson is currently managed by Pima County, Parks and Recreation.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

Encyclopedia of Life, accessed 5-06-2014, http://eol.org/pages/1082206/details.
Flora of North America, accessed 5-06-2014, http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=222000347.
Tropicos, accessed 5-06-2014, http://www.tropicos.org/Name/900008.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Sagittaria latifolia has been divided into numerous species and varieties. It was divided into two varieties, based upon the presence of pubescence over the entire vegetative plant (C. Bogin 1955; K. Rataj 1972). We have examined numerous specimens and found that many from the southeastern United States are pubescent; we believe that this character alone is insufficient for recognition of the varieties. (Flora of North America 2014.)

Revised: 2014-05-06 BDT