

***Calochortus longebarbatus* Watson var.
*longebarbatus***
long bearded sego lily
Liliaceae (Lily family)

Status: State Sensitive, USFWS Species of Concern
Rank: G4T4S2S3

General Description: Typically 6 to 12 inches tall with a flat basal leaf which is about 1/4 inch wide and usually somewhat shorter than the stem. Two bracts of unequal length subtend the 1 to 3 flowers. The petals are lavender-pink with a deep purplish-red band above the gland. The sepals are shorter than the petals and are narrow and pointed and green in color. The petals are broadly rounded near the tip and somewhat narrowed at the base. The petals have a few very long and flexuous hairs just above the gland. The anthers are about half as long as the filaments. The ovary and fruit are 3-winged. The stigma is 3-parted and is persistent on the developing fruit.

Identification Tips: This species is readily distinguished from other members of the genus within its range in Washington by the lavender-pink color of the petals. The long, curly hairs near the purplish-red band are also very distinctive.

Phenology: Individuals flower from early June to mid-July. The number of flowering individuals apparently is strongly correlated with precipitation. In dry years populations may not flower at all.

Range: Regional endemic; the northern portion of the range extends from Yakima and Klickitat counties in southcentral Washington south to Wasco County in Oregon. The southern portion extends from Klamath County, Oregon southward to Modoc, Shasta and Siskiyou counties, California. In between these two areas, the typical variety is replaced by *C. longebarbatus* var. *peckii*, known only from Crook and Wheeler counties, Oregon.

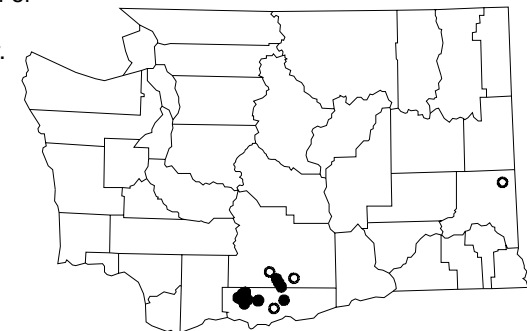
Habitat: Clay loams in vernal moist sites in meadows, forest-meadow edges, and within semi-open areas within coniferous woods dominated by grasses and forbs. Deciduous shrubs are generally present, but somewhat widely scattered. The adjacent coniferous woods are dominated by ponderosa pine, but lodge-pole pine and Douglas-fir are commonly present. Most sites are quite moist in spring and early summer. Sites are typically flat or

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Known distribution of
Calochortus
longebarbatus var.
longebarbatus in
Washington



- Current (1980+)
- Historic (older than 1980)

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Habitat (continued): on very gentle slopes. The taxon occupies some sites which have recently been disturbed, such as roadsides and timber harvest units. Elevations in WA range from 1800 to 3000 feet.

Ecology: Changes to the historical fire regime may have impacted this species by allowing the encroachment of trees and shrubs onto its meadow/meadow edge habitat. The species is sensitive to spring/early summer burning but tolerates low intensity fall burning (Croft et al. 1997).

State Status Comments: The generally small range within WA and the low number of known occurrences are contributing factors regarding its status.

Inventory Needs: Additional inventory is needed throughout its range.

Threats and Management Concerns: Alteration of the hydrologic regime is a principle threat to this species. Livestock grazing and the introduction of sod forming exotic grasses also pose a major threat to this species. Timber harvesting and road construction also may threaten this species.

References:

Croft, L.K., W.R. Owen and J.S. Shelly. 1997. Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project Analysis of Vascular Plants.

Hitchcock, C. L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1969. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 1: Vascular Cryptogams, Gymnosperms, and Monocotyledons*. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 914 pp.

Ownbey, M. 1940. A monograph of the genus *Calochortus*. *An. Mo. Bot. Gard.* 27: 371-556.