

Dodecatheon austrofrigidum K.L. Chambers

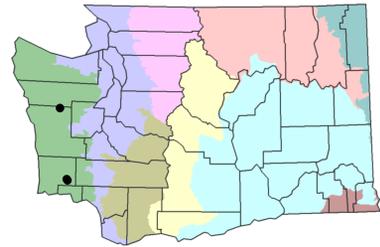
frigid shooting-star

Primulaceae - primrose family

status: State Endangered, Federal Species of Concern,

BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

rank: G2 / S1



General Description: Adapted from Chambers (2006): Perennial with stout fibrous roots, often producing adventitious buds. Leaves all basal, rosette-forming, hairless, 2.5-30 x 0.7-7 cm, ovate to elliptic, tapering to a petiole; margins entire to irregularly toothed.

Floral Characteristics: Flowering stems leafless, up to 45 cm high. Inflorescence with 1-7 flowers in an umbel subtended by bracts 2.5-10 mm long. Flowers terminal; pedicels hairless to glandular-hairy, 4-55 mm long. Calyx 5-11 mm; lobes 3-9 mm. Corolla lobes magenta to lavender, strongly reflexed, 9-23 x 2-6 mm; tube 1-2 mm long, white with a sinuous purple line where reflexed. Filaments dark purple, 0.5-1 mm, free at the base or slightly united. Stigma not capitate.

Fruits: Capsules 6-16 x 3.5-5.5 (7) mm, dehiscent usually by a small lid at the tip of the capsule. Seeds 1-2 mm, pitted, irregularly rounded to prismatic. Identifiable in June.

Identification Tips: This species is not in Hitchcock & Cronquist (1973). *D. pulchellum** has a united filament tube at the base of the stamens. *D. dentatum* has white flowers.

Range: WA and Coast Range of northwestern OR.

Habitat/Ecology: Open or shaded, in rock crevices, under overhanging cliffs, on steep basalt slopes and rock outcrops along rivers and ridges, and in vernal moist areas; usually on thin soils. Elevations rangewide: 60-1220 m (200-4000 ft). WA sites include shallow pockets of wet soil in crevices of a basalt outcrop, and basalt and gravel on a steep southwest-facing slope along a seep. Associated species include ninebark (*Physocarpus capitatus*), Olympic larkspur (*Delphinium glareosum*), western featherbells (*Stenanthium occidentale*), sedges (*Carex* spp.), alumroot (*Heuchera micrantha*), Olympic Mt. rockmat (*Petrophyton hendersonii*), saxifrage species (*Saxifraga rufidula*, *S. occidentalis*), and onion (*Allium cernuum*). At higher elevation sites in OR it occurs in grassy sod over a rocky substrate with Pacific silver fir (*Abies amabilis*) and western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*); at lower elevations it occurs with red alder (*Alnus rubra*) and saxifrage (*Saxifraga* spp.).

Comments: This species is rare throughout its range.

References: Center for Plant Conservation 2009; Chambers 2006.