

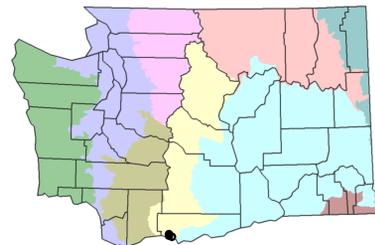
Navarretia tagetina Greene

marigold navarretia

Polemoniaceae - phlox family

status: State Threatened, BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

rank: G5 / S1



General Description: Prickly annual herb, up to 2.5 dm tall; stems unbranched or branched, minutely hairy below, with soft, longer hairs among the flower clusters. Leaves mostly alternate, up to 3 cm long, firm, pinnately to bipinnately dissected into narrow, spine-tipped segments, with the terminal segments generally elongate.

Floral Characteristics: Flowers in dense clusters terminating the main stem and branches; subtended by prickly, pinnately dissected bracts. Calyx 7-8 mm, fused into a tube, membranous between the ribs, hairy; lobes very strongly unequal, the larger ones toothed and spiny. Corolla light blue to pale lavender or white, tubular, 8-11 mm long, with 5 spreading lobes 2-2.5 mm long. Petal vein splits into 3 well down inside the corolla tube, so that 3 veins enter each corolla lobe. Stigmas 3. Stamens 5, attached to upper throat of corolla; filaments much longer than the anthers, 1.5-2 mm. Blooms May to June.

Fruits: Translucent capsules, adhering to seeds until wet. Seeds mucilaginous when wet.

Identification Tips: Distinguished from other species of *Navarretia* by the following characters: petal veins 3 below the middle of the corolla tube, corolla color and size, stigmas 3, filaments much longer than the anthers, terminal segments of the leaves elongate, and bracts below inflorescences distinctly pinnately lobed rather than palmately lobed.

Range: WA south to CA.

Habitat/Ecology: Open rocky places, scablands, vernal pools, grasslands and stony washes; with standing water or saturated soil in early spring, becoming completely dry in summer. In WA it grows in the transition zone between forest and nonforest areas at the east end of the Columbia River Gorge. Associated species include ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), harvest brodiaea (*Brodiaea coronaria*), annual hairgrass (*Deschampsia danthonioides*), Douglas's blue-eyed grass (*Olsynium douglasii*), and many annuals. Elevations in WA: 75-140 m (250-450 ft). As an annual it is affected by yearly variations in precipitation.

Comments: The solitary extant population is threatened by active recreational pressure and competition from nonnative annuals.

References: Hickman 1993; Jolley 1988.

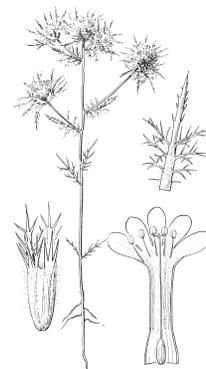


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