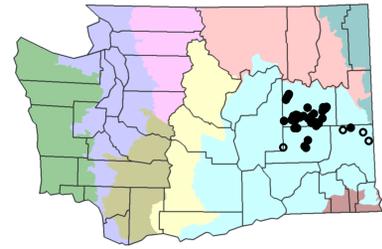


***Polemonium pectinatum* Greene**

Washington polemonium

Polemoniaceae - phlox family

status: State Threatened, Federal Species of Concern,
BLM sensitive
rank: G2 / S2



General Description: Taprooted perennial with clustered stems, 3-8 dm tall; plants hairless except for the glandular-hairy inflorescence. Leaves alternate, pinnately compound, with 11-17 long, narrowly linear, widely separated leaflets, 1.5-5 cm by up to 2 mm.

Floral Characteristics: Inflorescence branched, more or less rounded, with flowers on short pedicels. Calyx 3-6 mm long when flowering, the lobes equaling or a little shorter than the tube. Corolla light blue to lavender (fading to cream or white), 9-14 mm long, the 5 lobes greater than the tube. Stamens are equal to or a little shorter than the tube. Blooms mid-May to early June.

Fruits: Capsules; mature seeds develop by early July.

Identification Tips: This species is very distinctive, due to the narrow leaflets and the overall large size and habit of the plant. No other perennial member of the genus occurs within the range of *P. pectinatum*.

Range: Endemic to eastern WA. All known sites, both extant and historical, occur within an area of approximately 180 x 80 km (110 x 50 mi.).

Habitat/Ecology: Moister sites within sagebrush steppe and grasslands, including coulee floors, upland creek terraces, intermittent stream banks, mid-slope depressions, draws with ephemeral creeks, and mounds in biscuit scablands. Sites are dominated by grasses and forbs and are moister than the surrounding habitat, but typically dry by late summer. Soils are alluvial and/or colluvial in origin. Elevations: 170-700 m (550-2300 ft). Associated species include serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), Wood's rose (*Rosa woodsii*), golden currant (*Ribes aureum*), big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), western sage (*Artemisia ludoviciana*), Great Basin wildrye (*Leymus cinereus*), cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), tumbled mustard (*Sisymbrium altissimum*), and tall ragwort (*Senecio serra*).

Comments: Significant habitat has been lost to agricultural conversion in the Palouse and channelled scablands regions. Livestock grazing changes the plant community structure and composition, increasing nonnative species. Agriculture and grazing have led to significant hydrologic changes at some sites.



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