

Thelypodium sagittatum (Nutt. Ex Torr. & Gray) Endl.
Ex Walp. **ssp. *sagittatum***
arrow thelypody
Brassicaceae (Mustard Family)

Status: State Sensitive

Rank: G4T4S1

General Description: Adapted from Hitchcock et al. (1964):
Thelypodium sagittatum ssp. *sagittatum* is a waxy, freely branched biennial 8 to 28 in. (2-7 dm) tall. The plant may be completely hairless, or have short, stiff hairs at the base. The leaves at the base and the lowest stem leaves are sessile and oblong with a blunt, rounded tip and may have earlike lobes at the base. The inflorescence is flat-topped or convex when young, then elongates up to 14 in. (3.5 dm). The flower stalks are spreading to ascending and 5/32 to 1/2 in. (4-12mm) long. The flower petals are 3/8 to 5/8 in. (10-16 mm) long, light to deep violet-purple, slender, and oblong. The bracts beneath the petals are pinkish-lavender to purplish and half the length of the petals. The dry 2-valved fruits are straight, ascending, 1 to 1 1/2 in. (2.5-4 cm) long and about 1/16 in. (1-2 mm) wide.

Identification Tips: Other species of *Thelypodium* that occur in Washington are *T. howellii*, *T. integrifolium*, *T. lacinatum*, and *T. lasiophyllum*. *T. howellii* and *T. sagittatum* are the only species in Washington with sessile leaves. *T. howellii* has slightly lobed basal leaves, while *T. sagittatum* has entire basal leaves. No other subspecies of *T. sagittatum* are known from Washington.

Phenology: This species is identifiable in Washington from June through July.

Range: This species is known from Washington south to Oregon and Nevada, and east to Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado. In Washington it has been found in Douglas, Grant, and Lincoln counties.

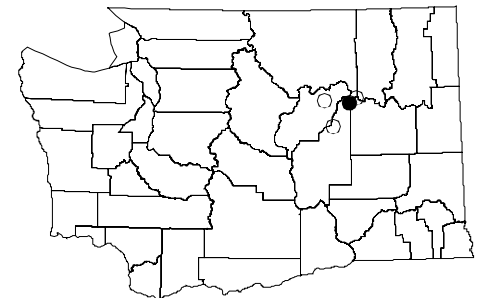
Habitat: *Thelypodium sagittatum* ssp. *sagittatum* can be found in moist swales in shrub-steppe areas. It occurs in moist, often alkaline meadows that dry by midsummer. Associated species include dense silky-bent (*Apera interrupta*), tall annual willowherb (*Epilobium brachycarpum*), alkali popcorn-flower (*Plagiobothrys*

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Known distribution
of *Thelypodium sagittatum*
ssp. *sagittatum*
in Washington



● Current (1980+)
○ Historic (older than 1980)

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leptocladus), coastal salt-grass (*Distichlis spicata*), and pale spike-rush (*Eleocharis macrostachya*).

Ecology: Moist alkaline areas in eastern Washington have a unique assemblage of species that are adapted to the extreme hydrologic variation and soil chemistry of these areas.

State Status Comments: This species is known in Washington from less than five occurrences. The limited occurrences and range and rarity even in sites where it is found contribute to this species' status.

Inventory Needs: Likely habitat in eastern Washington should be investigated.

Threats and Management Concerns: Grazing may be the greatest threat to this species in our area.

References:

Hitchcock, C.L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, J.W. Thompson. 1964. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest Part 2: Salicaceae to Saxifragaceae*. University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA. 597 pp.