

-State Species Abstract-  
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

*BRAYA GLABELLA*  
ARCTIC BRAYA  
Family: Brassicaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None

Agency Status: USFS Region 2 Sensitive.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G5 State: S1

WYNDD Plant List: Disjunct (Medium conservation priority)

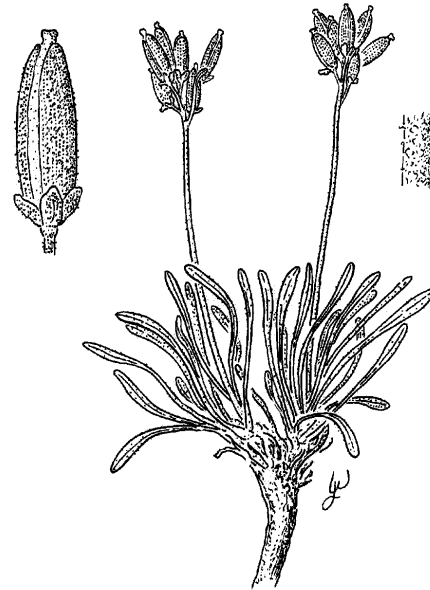
Description: Arctic braya is a perennial herb with 1-many leafless stems 3.5-17 cm tall. Flowering stems and leaves are densely pubescent with simple or branched hairs. The somewhat fleshy basal leaves are entire or occasionally weakly-toothed, linear to broadly spoon-shaped, and 1-6 cm long. The inflorescence is a head-like cluster of white to purple-tinged, 4-petaled flowers 2.5-4.5 mm long. Frutis are oval to oblong, pubescent siliques 5-15 mm long with broad replum margins and a thick style 0.5-2 mm long (Rollins 1993; Spackman et al. 1997).

Similar Species: *Braya humilis* has having leafy stems and narrow, linear fruits.

Flowering/Fruiting Period: June to August.

Distribution: Arctic braya occurs from Siberia to northern Canada south to Michigan and Alberta. Disjunct populations are found in northwest Wyoming (Gros Ventre Range in Sublette County) and central Colorado.

Habitat: Rangewide, *Braya glabella* is found in barren areas with gravelly, limey soils. In Wyoming, it occurs on barren cliff edges of calcareous rocky soils within a matrix of



Above: *Braya glabella* by Janet Wingate from Spackman et al. (1997).

*Dryas octopetala-Carex rupestris* vegetation (cover less than 5%) at 11080 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 2 occurrences in Wyoming, both discovered since 1994 (most recently in 1998).

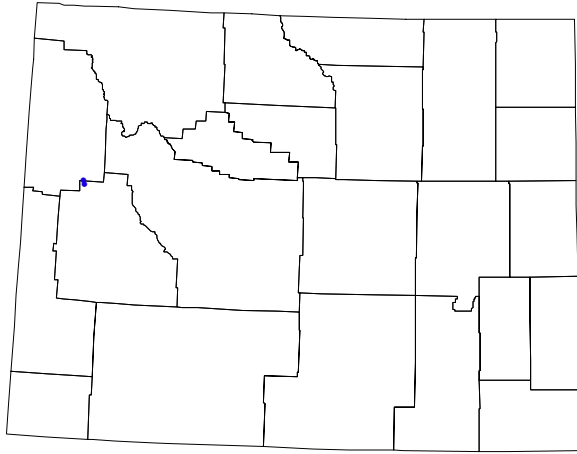
Abundance: Populations are small and highly localized.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: The entire state range is found within the Gros Ventre Wilderness Area in Bridger-Teton National Forest.

Threats: Population size appears to be very small, making the species vulnerable to chance disturbances. Otherwise, the habitat is highly protected and receives little use.

Managed Areas: Occurs on Bridger-Teton National Forest.



Spackman, S., B. Jennings, J. Coles, C. Dawson, M. Minton, A. Kratz, and C. Spurrier. 1997. Colorado Rare Plant Field Guide. Prepared for the Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, and US Fish and Wildlife Service by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Ft. Collins, CO.

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Wyoming distribution of *Braya glabella*.

References:

Colorado Native Plant Society. 1997. Rare Plants of Colorado, second edition. Falcon Press Publ., Helena, MT.

Fertig, W. 1998. Additions to the flora of Wyoming. *Castilleja* 17(4): 3.

Fertig, W. 1999. Sensitive plant surveys and status of rare plant species on Bridger-Teton National Forest, 1997-1998. Report prepared by the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, Laramie, Wyoming.

Fertig, W. 2000. Rare vascular plant species in the Wyoming portion of the Utah-Wyoming Rocky Mountains Ecoregion. Prepared for the Wyoming Nature Conservancy by the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, Laramie, WY.

Rollins, R.C. 1993. The Cruciferae of Continental North America, Systematics of the Mustard Family from the Arctic to Panama. Stanford Univ. Press, Stanford, CA.