CAREX GRANULARIS VAR. HALEANA
MEADOW SEDGE
Family: Cyperaceae

Status:
US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.
Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:
Global: G5T4 State: S2
WYNDD Plant List: Peripheral (Low conservation priority)

Description: Meadow sedge is a bunch-forming perennial graminoid with triangular culms 15-90 cm tall. Leaves are 1-12 mm wide with long, red-dotted ventral sheaths. The terminal spike of the inflorescence is sessile, short, and consists entirely of staminate flowers. Lateral spikes are stalked, cylindric, 1-3 cm long, and consist solely of pistillate flowers. Pistillate flowering scales are oval and taper to a sharp point (but are not long-awned). The perigynia are glabrous, olive green to brown, 2-2.8 mm long and have a short beak less than 0.5 mm long. Achenes are 3-sided with a short, bent or recurved beak and are only loosely enveloped by the bladdery perigynia. Stigmas 3 (Great Plains Flora Association 1986; Dorn 1992).

Similar Species: Carex blanda has awned pistillate scales and non-bladdery perigynia that closely envelope the achene. Other species of Carex in Wyoming with 3 stigmas and glabrous perigynia have longer perigynium beaks or achene beaks that are not bent.

Flowering/Fruiting Period: June-July.

Distribution: Var. haleana ranges from Quebec to Saskatchewan and south to Virginia, Iowa, Kansas, and northeast Wyoming. In Wyoming, it is limited to the Black Hills in Crook County.

Habitat: Reported from bogs, swamps, and ditches (Great Plains Flora Association 1986). Wyoming populations are found in wet meadows and drainage bottoms in birch-hazelnut forests or associated with old beaver ponds at 4200-4450 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 4 occurrences in Wyoming, all observed since 1980 (most recently in 1989).

Abundance: Not known.

Trends: Long-term trends may be downward due to alteration of riparian habitats.

Protection status: One occurrence is within the Dugout Gulch Special Botanical Area and a second is found just outside the Geis Spring Late Successional Landscape on Black Hills National Forest. Other known populations are on public lands managed for multiple use.
**Threats:** May be impacted by grazing or recreational activities in its wetland habitat.

**Managed Areas:** Occurs on lands managed by Black Hills NF (some may extend onto adjacent private lands).

**References:**


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