

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

CAREX GRANULARIS VAR. *HALEANA*
MEADOW SEDGE
Family: Cyperaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

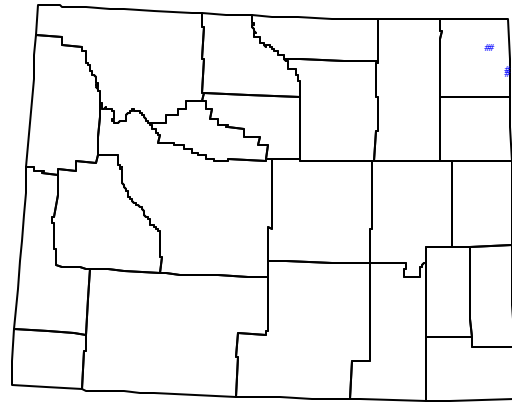
Global: G5T4 State: S2

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, cylindrical, 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 bladderly 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.



Wyoming distribution of *Carex granularis* var. *haleana*.

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:

Dorn, R.D. 1992. Vascular Plants of Wyoming, second edition. Mountain West Publishing, Cheyenne, WY.

Gleason, H.A. and A. Cronquist. 1991. Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Canada. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY.

Great Plains Flora Association. 1986. Flora of the Great Plains. Univ. Kansas Press, Lawrence, KS.

Holmgren, N. 1998. Illustrated Companion to Gleason and Cronquist's Manual - Illustrations of the Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx NY.

Lichvar, R. and R. Dorn. 1982. Additions to the vascular flora of Montana and Wyoming. Great Basin Naturalist 42:413-414.

Marriott, H.J. 1989. Suitability investigation report for a proposed Dugout Gulch Special Botanical Area, Black Hills National Forest. Prepared for Black Hills National Forest by the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, Laramie, WY.

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