CAREX ROSEA
ROSY SEDGE
Family: Cyperaceae

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

Heritage Rank:
Global: G5 State: S1
WYNDD Plant List: Disjunct (Medium conservation priority)

Description: Rosy sedge is a tufted perennial graminoid with slender, sharply triangular culms 20-50 cm tall. Leaves are 1-2 mm wide. The inflorescence consists of several scattered, rounded heads, each 3-5 cm long, and with staminate flowers located above the pistillate ones. Pistillate scales are triangular-ovate and unawned. Perigynia are 2-sided and flattened, 3-3.5 mm long and 1.5 mm wide, taper to a slender beak, and diverge in all directions. Fruits are 2-sided achenes. Stigmas 2 (Great Plains Flora Association 1986).

Similar Species: Carex interior has spikes with pistillate flowers located above the staminate flowers. C. disperma has a minute beak (under 0.25 mm), often fewer than 4 perigynia per spike, and long-creeping rhizomes (Dorn 1992).

Flowering/Fruiting Period: June-July.

Distribution: Newfoundland to Manitoba, south to Georgia, Louisiana, and Oklahoma, with disjunct populations in the Black Hills of Wyoming (Crook County).

Habitat: Moist to dry open woodlands (Great Plains Flora Association). In Wyoming, this species is known from wet, wooded draws of Paper birch/hazelnut and pond margins at 49000-6000 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 5 occurrences in Wyoming, all of which have been discovered since 1982 (observed most recently in 1989).

Abundance: Not known.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: One occurrence is found within the Dugout Gulch Special Botanical Area on Black Hills NF. All other occurrences are on National Forest lands managed for multiple use.

Threats: Not known.

Managed Areas: Occurs on Black Hills National Forest.

References:


Author: Walter Fertig
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