

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

DESCURAINIA PINNATA SSP *PAYSONII*
PAYSON'S TANSYMUSTARD
Family: Brassicaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G5T3? State: S2

WYNDD Plant List: Regional endemic?

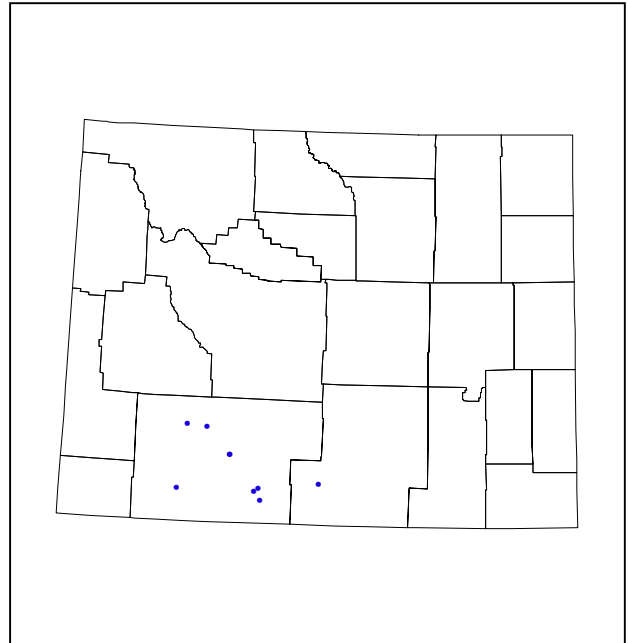
(Low Conservation Priority)

Description: Payson's tansymustard is a moderately pubescent annual, multi-branched forb with stems 50-75 cm tall. Leaves are once-pinnately compound with elongate, narrowly linear, grayish-hairy leaf segments (the terminal segment especially long). Flowers are yellow, 4-petaled, 2.5 mm long, and borne in an open, non-glandular inflorescence on slender stalks that spread at a 45-90 degree angle from the stem. Fruits are club-shaped siliques 14-18 mm long with seeds arranged in one, or more typically two rows (Detling 1939; Dorn 1992).

Synonyms: *Descurainia incisa* ssp. *paysonii* (Rollins 1993).

Identification Comments: Fruits, fruiting branches, and leaves needed for identification.

Similar Species: *Descurainia pinnata* var. *osmiarum* has a glandular inflorescence. Other varieties of *D. pinnata* are glabrous or sparsely pubescent, glandular, or have short and non-linear leaf segments. *D. incana* has linear, elongate-tipped fruits with seeds in a single row.



Wyoming distribution of *Descurainia pinnata* var. *paysonii*.

Distribution: Regional endemic of southwestern Wyoming, eastern Utah, western Colorado, and northern Arizona; in Wyoming, known from the Washakie and Green River basins in Carbon and Sweetwater counties.

Habitat: Occurs primarily in sandy flats and stabilized dunes with cover of *Artemisia tridentata*, *A. cana*, *Purshia tridentata*, or *Chrysothamnus nauseosus*. Populations have also been reported from sandy roadsides and badlands. Elevation 6000-7200 feet.

Associated Rare Species: *Monolepis pusilla*

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 7 extant occurrences in Wyoming, all of which have been observed since 1973 (the most recent in 1997) and 2 somewhat vague historical records.

Abundance: Not known, but reported as "common" in two of the sites.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: Two populations are found in the Greater Sand Dunes and Sand Hills ACECS managed by the BLM Rawlins and Rock Springs Field Offices. An additional population is found in the Adobe Town Wilderness Study Area. All other occurrences are on public, state, or private lands managed for multiple use.

Threats: Not known.

Managed Areas: Found on lands managed by the BLM Rawlins and Rock Springs Field Offices, and Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area (Ashley National Forest).

References:

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

Fertig, W., L. Welp, and S. Markow. 1998. The status of rare plants in southwest Wyoming. Report prepared for the Bureau of Land Management by the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, Laramie, Wyoming.

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.

Ward, B.A. 1998. A floristic survey of south-central Wyoming. Masters Thesis, Department of Botany, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY.

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