

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

DRABA CRASSA
THICK-LEAF WHITLOW-GRASS
Family: Brassicaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G3 State: S2

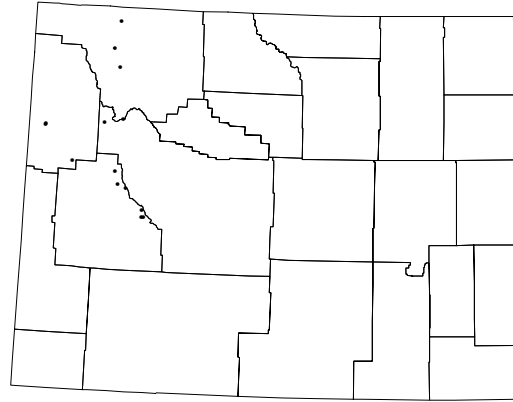
WYNDD Plant List: Regional endemic
(Watch list)

Description: Thick-leaf whitlow-grass is a perennial forb with weak or recurved flowering stems 5-15 cm tall from a fleshy rootcrown. Basal leaves are long-petioled with oblanceolate, fleshy, entire blades 2-8 cm long and 5-10 mm wide. Leaves are glabrous except for long cilia on the margins. Stem leaves are 1-2 cm long, sessile, ovate, and entire to toothed. The inflorescence is a raceme of 4-25 yellow, 4-petaled flowers. Fruits are elliptic, glabrous siliques 10-16 mm long and 3-5 mm wide with thick styles ca 0.75 mm long (Hitchcock & Cronquist 1964; Rollins 1993; Scott 1997).

Similar Species: *Draba crassifolia* is an annual or biennial with mostly basal, linear leaves. *D. globosa*, *D. densifolia*, and *D. fladnizensis* var. *pattersonii* have leaves 2-10 mm long and 0.5-3 mm wide (Dorn 1992).

Flowering/Fruiting Period: July-August.

Distribution: Regional endemic of SC Montana, W Wyoming, NE Utah, and Colorado. In Wyoming, known from the Absaroka, Wind River, Teton, and Gros



Above: Wyoming distribution of *D. crassa*.

Ventre ranges in Park, Teton, Fremont, and Sublette counties.

Habitat: Alpine fellfields, talus, scree and cliffs derived from granite, limestone, or volcanic rocks at 10400-12500 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 14 occurrences in Wyoming, 8 of which have been documented since 1988.

Abundance: Populations may be locally abundant, although often restricted to suitable microhabitats.

Trends: Assumed to be stable.

Protection Status: Most occurrences are in designated wilderness areas (Bridger, Gros Ventre, North Absaroka, and Washakie) or Grand Teton National Park.

Threats: Threats low due to rugged habitat.

Managed Areas: Found on lands managed by Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests and Grand Teton National Park.

References:

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