

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

DRABA FLADNIZENSIS VAR
PATTERSONII
WHITE ARCTIC WHITLOW-GRASS
Family: Brassicaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G4T2T3 State: S2

Range Context: Regional endemic/ edge

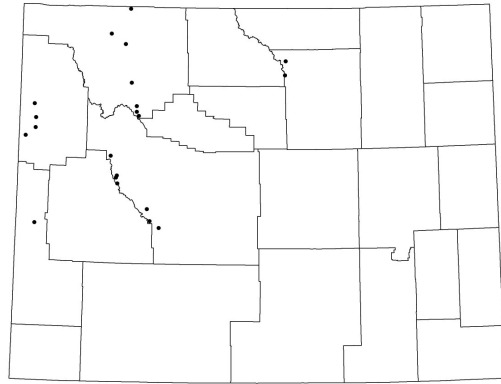
Wyoming Contribution Rank: Medium

Description: White arctic whitlow-grass is a multi-branched perennial herb from a simple or branched woody base. Stems are 2-6 cm tall, glabrous or slightly pubescent with simple to forked hairs, and leafless or with 1-2 small, toothed leaves. Basal leaves are 1-3 cm long and mostly oblanceolate. The flowers are arranged in a congested, 3-12 flowered raceme. Sepals are 1-2 mm long and sometimes pubescent with simple hairs. The white petals are 2-3 mm long. The fruit is an oblong to lance-shaped silique 3-6 mm long and is usually glabrous (but occasionally pubescent with simple hairs) (Dorn 2001, Scott 1997, Hitchcock 1941, Rollins 1993).

Similar Species: *Draba crassifolia* is a biennial or short-lived perennial that often has simple stems. *D. globosa* has yellow flowers and styles over 0.2 mm long. *D. crassa* has yellow flowers and leaves over 15 mm wide.

Flowering/Fruiting Period: July to August.

Distribution: Var *pattersonii* is a regional endemic of western Wyoming, Colorado, and



Wyoming distribution of *Draba fladnizensis* var *pattersonii*.

Utah. In Wyoming it is known from the Absaroka, Beartooth, Wind River, and Bighorn Mountains in Park, Fremont, and Johnson counties (with unconfirmed reports from the Teton and Salt River ranges in Teton and Lincoln counties). Reports from the Medicine Bow Range (Nelson 1984) are based on misidentified specimens of *D. crassifolia*.

Habitat: This species is found in talus and scree, on rocky slopes and flats, and in alpine meadows. Wyoming populations occur at 10,200-13,000 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 16-21 occurrences. Eight of these have been discovered or revisited since 1988.

Abundance: Census data are lacking for all occurrences, but populations are thought to be small.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: At least 13 populations occur in the North Absaroka, Fitzpatrick, Popo Agie, Washakie, and Cloud Peak Wilderness Areas and another is in the Line Creek/Twin Lakes proposed Research

Natural Area. This species may also occur in Grand Teton National Park.

Threats: Threats low due to inaccessible habitat.

Managed Areas: Occurs on lands managed by Shoshone and Bighorn National Forests. Also reported for Bridger-Teton and Targhee National Forests, and Grand Teton National Park.

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