

-State Species Abstract-  
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

*ERIGERON ELATIOR*  
TALL FLEABANE  
Family: Asteraceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G4 State: S2

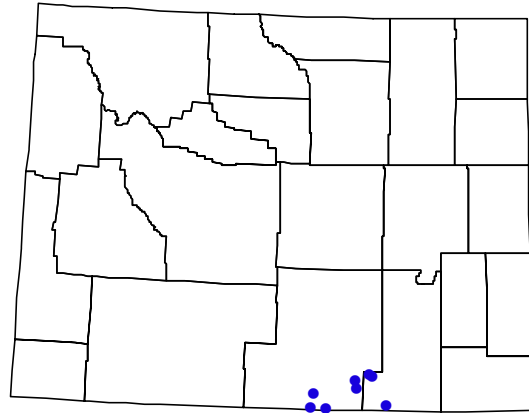
WYNDDB Plant List: Regional endemic  
(Medium conservation priority)

Description: Tall fleabane is a leafy-stemmed perennial herb 2-6 dm high arising from a woody base. The stems are hairy near the base and glandular higher up. Leaves are oval to lance-shaped and clasping near the top of the stem and oblong to elliptic and petioled near the base. Leaf blades are hairy, 1-12 cm long, and entire to ciliate on the margins. Flower heads number 1-few per stem and have densely woolly-pubescent involucre bracts 9-15 mm long. Ray flowers are white, pink, or lavender and 12-20 mm long (Dorn 1977; Harrington 1954; Welsh 1993).

Similar Species: *Erigeron eximius* has hirsute (but not woolly-pubescent) involucre bracts, mostly blue or purple ray flowers, and entire to toothed leaves with glandular margins. *E. speciosus*, *E. subtrinervis*, and *E. formosissimus* have non-woolly involucres. *E. coulteri* has toothed leaves (Dorn 1992).

Flowering/Fruiting Period: July - August.

Distribution: Regional endemic of C Colorado, SC Wyoming, and the LaSal Mountains of Utah. In Wyoming known only



Above: Wyoming distribution of *Erigeron elatior*.

from the Medicine Bow Range and Sierra Madre in Albany and Carbon counties.

Habitat: Rangelike, this species occurs along streambanks, lakesides and moist subalpine forests. Wyoming populations have been reported from Engelmann spruce/subalpine fir forests, aspen woods, and streambanks at 7900-10,600 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 5 extant and 3 historical occurrences in Wyoming. Only two populations have been located since 1986 (most recently in 1993).

Abundance: No populations have been surveyed in detail, but several have been reported as locally common (Nelson 1984).

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: One occurrence may be just within the boundary of the Huston Park Wilderness Area, and a second is in the vicinity of the Encampment River Wilderness on Medicine Bow National Forest. Habitat may occur in the potential East Fork

Encampment River and Ground Moraine Research Natural Areas. Other known occurrences are on public lands managed for multiple use.

Threats: Threats poorly known, but some populations could be impacted by loss of habitat from logging.

Managed Areas: Occurs on lands managed by Medicine Bow NF and possibly the BLM Rawlins Field Office.

References:

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

Jankovsky-Jones, M., G. Jones, and W. Fertig. 1995. Ecological evaluation for the potential Ground Moraine Research Natural Area within the Medicine Bow National Forest, Albany County, Wyoming. Unpublished report prepared by the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, Laramie.

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Nelson, B. E. 1984. Vascular Plants of the Medicine Bow Range. Jelm Mountain Press, Laramie, WY.

Welp, L., W.F. Fertig, G.P. Jones, G.P. Beauvais, and S.M. Ogle. 2000. Fine filter analysis of the Bighorn, Medicine Bow, and Shoshone National Forests in Wyoming. Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, Laramie, WY.

Welsh, S.L., N.D. Atwood, S. Goodrich, and L.C. Higgins, (eds). 1993. A Utah Flora, second edition, revised. Brigham Young University Print Services, Provo, UT.

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