

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

LIGULARIA BIGELOVII VAR. *HALLII*
[*SENECIO BIGELOVII* VAR. *HALLII*]

BIGELOW'S GROUNDSEL

Family: Asteraceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G4?T3T4 State: S1

WYNDD Plant List: Peripheral

(Low conservation priority)

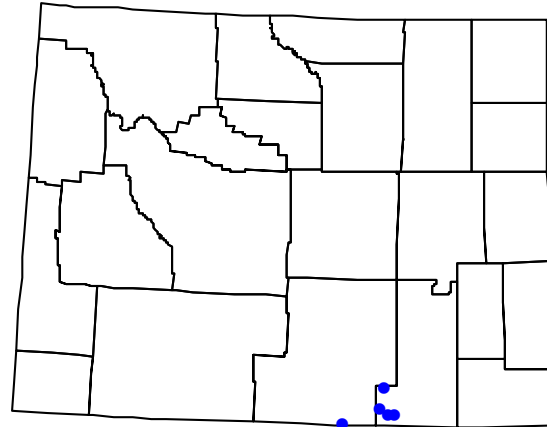
Description: Bigelow's groundsel is a fibrous-rooted perennial forb with erect stems 30-80 cm tall. Stems and leaves have tufts of loose, cobwebby hairs, especially higher up on the stem. Leaves are alternate and become gradually reduced upward, with those near the base of the stem having a petiole. The leaves are 7-20 cm long and 0.6-5 cm wide, with oblong to elliptic blades and finely serrated to entire margins. The terminal, raceme-like inflorescence consists of 1-8 nodding heads consisting solely of yellow disk flowers. Flower heads are 1.2-2.5 cm wide with sparsely tomentose involucre 8-18 mm long. Fruits are glabrous achenes (Cronquist 1994; Dorn 1992; Harrington 1954; Welsh et al. 1993).

Synonym: *Senecio bigelovii* var. *hallii*

Similar Species: *Senecio hydrophilus* has mostly entire leaves and more numerous flower heads with involucre under 8 mm long. *S. rapifolius* has more than 10 heads per stem borne in an erect inflorescence, and involucre under 10 mm long. Other rayless *Senecio* species in Wyoming have deeply lobed leaves. *Arnica parryi* has larger, erect

flower heads and opposite leaves (Dorn 1992).

Flowering/Fruiting Period: July-August.



Wyoming distribution of *Senecio bigelovii* var. *hallii*.

Distribution: Var. *hallii* occurs from southern Wyoming to eastern Utah, western Colorado, and northern New Mexico. In Wyoming, this taxon is restricted to the Medicine Bow Range and Sierra Madre in Albany and Carbon counties.

Habitat: Occurs in moist meadows, streamside willow thickets, Engelmann spruce woods, and open subalpine woods at 8500-10400 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 3 extant occurrences in Wyoming (last observed in 1987) and 2 historical records (predating 1900). Only 2 records have been observed since 1984.

Abundance: Not known.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: All known populations occur on public lands managed for multiple use.

Threats: Not known.

Managed Areas: Occurs on lands managed by Medicine Bow National Forest.

References:

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