

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

PEDICULARIS OEDERI
OEDER'S LOUSEWORT
Family: Scrophulariaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None
Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G5 State: S2
WYNDD Plant List: Disjunct (Medium
conservation priority)

Description: Oeder's lousewort is a perennial herb with stems 5-15 cm tall from thick fibrous roots. The leafy stems are glabrous at the base, but become villous-pubescent below the inflorescence. Basal leaves are long-petioled and once-pinnate with crowded, deeply-toothed pinnae. Stem leaves are relatively few and become reduced in size. The inflorescence is a dense, woolly spike or raceme with leafy, toothed bracts below the light yellow flowers (the corolla may also be tinged with purple or red). The calyx is 5-lobed and pubescent. The corolla is bilobed, 1.5-2.5 cm long with a beakless galea (upper lobe). Fruits are glabrous, lance-ovate capsules (Dorn 1992; Hitchcock et al. 1959; Scott 1997; Porsild and Cody 1980).

Similar Species: *Pedicularis pulchella* has purple flowers and more densely woolly stems. *P. parryi* var. *parryi* has a short, straight beak at the tip of the galea.

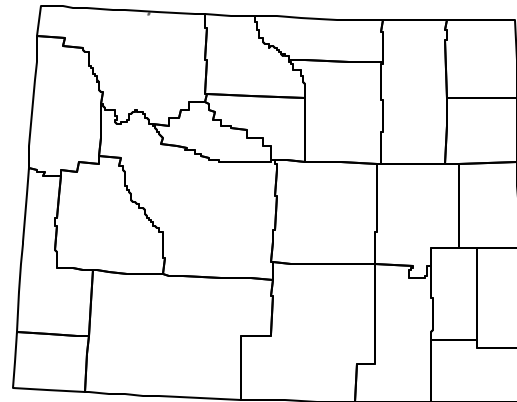
Flowering/Fruiting Period: July- August.

Distribution: Northern Eurasia to Alaska, south in the Rocky Mountains to British Columbia, with disjunct populations in southern Alberta, and the Beartooth



Above: *Pedicularis oederi* by Walter Fertig.

Mountains along the Montana/Wyoming border (Park County, WY).



Wyoming distribution of *P. oederi*.

Habitat: In Wyoming, this species can be found in *Carex scopulorum* peatlands, alpine *Geum rossii* turf communities, willow thickets dominated by *Salix reticulata*, *S. glauca*, and *S. arctica*, depressions in NW-facing slopes below late snowfields, and *Salix reticulata/Carex scopulorum* communities. Populations are typically on

moist sites on slopes and alpine plateaus, often associated with rock polygons, stone stripes, solifluction terraces, or alluvial material at 10200-10970 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from a single large occurrence along the Wyoming-Montana border, last surveyed in 1999.

Abundance: Population consists of 13 essentially confluent colonies covering an area of over 150 acres. Total population estimated in the tens of thousands.

Trends: This colony has been known since 1938 and is thought to be stable.

Protection Status: Several colonies within this population occur in the proposed Line Creek Plateau Research Natural Area on Shoshone National Forest.

Threats: Individual sites are potentially threatened by trampling, recreational use of its habitat, and damage from sheep grazing.

Managed Areas: The entire range of the species in Wyoming is within Shoshone National Forest.

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