

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

POTAMOGETON AMPLIFOLIUS
LARGE-LEAF PONDWEED
Family: Potamogetonaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G5 State: S1

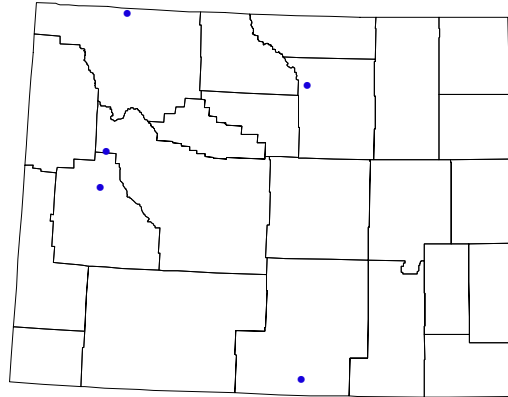
WYNDD Plant List: Sparse (Low
conservation priority)

Description: Large-leaved pondweed is an aquatic perennial herb with short, simple or branched stems 4-15 (up to 20) cm long, arising from stout, spreading rhizomes. The submersed leaves are short-petioled, and 8-20 cm long with thin, somewhat folded, acute-tipped blades 2-5 cm broad. Floating leaves are long-petioled with leathery, ovate to elliptic, blunt-tipped blades 5-10 cm long and 2-4 cm wide. Both floating and submersed leaves have 25-45 veins and persistent, elongate, pointed stipules to 10 cm long. The inflorescence is a greenish-flowered emergent spike up to 6 cm long. Fruits are obovoid achenes 3.5-5 mm long with beaks 0.5-1 mm long (Hitchcock et al. 1969; Dorn 1992).

Similar Species: *Potamogeton praelongus* lacks morphologically distinct floating leaves and has sessile submersed leaves. Other Wyoming *Potamogeton* spp. with dimorphic leaves have ribbon-like or otherwise smaller submersed leaves, floating leaves with fewer than 30 veins, or fruits with beaks less than 0.5 mm long (Dorn 1992).

Flowering/Fruiting Period: June-August.

Distribution: British Columbia to Quebec, south to California, Wyoming, Arkansas, and



Wyoming distribution of *Potamogeton amplifolius*.

Virginia. In Wyoming it is known from the Sierra Madre, Beartooth, Bighorn, and Wind River ranges in Carbon, Fremont, Johnson, Park, and Sublette counties.

Habitat: Slow-moving streams and lakes, usually in deep water at 7820-9400 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 3 extant occurrences in Wyoming (all located since 1980, most recently in 1996) and 2 historical records.

Abundance: Not known.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: One population occurs in the Cloud Peak Wilderness Area. All other known occurrences are on public lands managed for multiple use.

Threats: May be impacted by competition from introduced aquatic weeds.

Managed Areas: Occurs in Bighorn, Bridger-Teton, Medicine Bow, and Shoshone National Forests.

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