

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

POTENTILLA HYPARCTICA
ARCTIC CINQUEFOIL
Family: Rosaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G4G5 State: S1

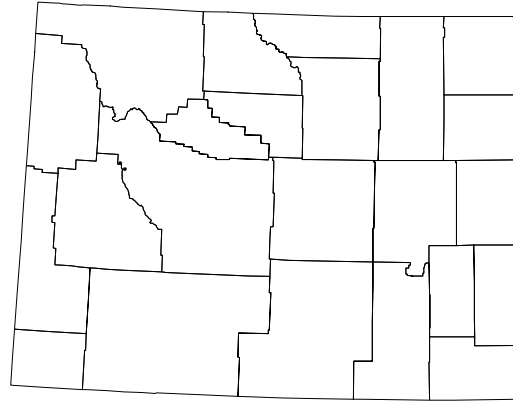
WYNDD Plant List: Disjunct (Medium conservation priority)

Description: Arctic cinquefoil is a tufted perennial herb with few to several stems from a caudex. Stems are 2-10 cm tall and have a mix of short and long-spreading hairs. Basal leaves are long-petioled and divided into 3 obovate leaflets with sharp to rounded-toothed margins. Leaves are loosely long-hairy and grayish beneath, but not white-woolly. Stem leaves are progressively smaller and sessile. Flowers occur singly or in groups of 2-3 and have a calyx of 5 ovate sepals alternating with 5 leafy bracts, 5 yellow petals (equal or longer than the calyx), 20 or more stamens, and numerous pistils with slender, terminal styles. Fruits are glabrous achenes (Welsh et al. 1993, Dorn 1992; Scott 1997).

Synonyms: *Potentilla nana*.

Similar Species: *Potentilla flabellifolia* has glabrate leaves that are equally green on both surfaces. Other alpine *Potentilla* spp. with 3 leaflets have dense, white-woolly pubescence on the undersides of the leaves (Dorn 1992).

Flowering/Fruiting Period: July-August.



Above: Wyoming distribution of *Potentilla hyparctica*.

Distribution: Alaska and the Yukon south to British Columbia and Alberta, east to Labrador. In Wyoming, known only from the N Wind River Range in Sublette and Fremont counties.

Habitat: Wyoming populations occur in alpine fellfields, rocky meadows, and late snowbeds. Elevation 11720-12300 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 2 extant occurrences in Wyoming, all discovered since 1988 (most recently in 1991).

Abundance: Not known.

Trends: Not known.

Protection Status: All known occurrences are within the Fitzpatrick and Bridger wilderness areas.

Threats: Largely unthreatened due to rugged habitat.

Managed Areas: Occurs on lands managed by Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests.

References:

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

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Fertig, W. 1992. Checklist of the Vascular plant flora of the west slope of the Wind River Range and status report on the sensitive plant species of Bridger-Teton National Forest. Unpublished report prepared for the Bridger-Teton National Forest by the Rocky Mountain Herbarium, University of Wyoming.

Fertig, W. 1998. The status of rare plants on Shoshone National Forest: 1995-97 survey results. Report prepared by the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, Laramie, WY.

Fertig, W. 2000. Rare vascular plant species in the Wyoming portion of the Utah-Wyoming Rocky Mountains Ecoregion. Prepared for the Wyoming Nature Conservancy by the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, Laramie, WY.

Hulten, E. 1968. Flora of Alaska and Neighboring Territories. Stanford University Press. Palo Alto, CA.

Scott, R.W. 1997. The Alpine Flora of the Rocky Mountains. Volume 1 The Middle Rockies. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City, UT.

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.

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