

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

RANUNCULUS FLABELLARIS
YELLOW WATER-CROWFOOT
RANUNCULACEAE

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G5 State: SH

WYNDD Plant List: Peripheral

Medium Wyoming Significance

Description: Yellow water-crowfoot is a low-growing, aquatic herb with submerged or trailing stems 2-8 mm wide. Leaves are dimorphic, the submerged ones petiolate and repeatedly divided into narrow, linear segments, the aerial leaves much less divided into ovate to lanceolate segments. Flowers are 1.5-2 cm across, with 5 greenish, quickly-deciduous sepals, and 5 bright yellow petals, each 8-12 mm long. The flowers mature to globose clusters of tiny, flat, glabrous achenes, each of which has spongy-textured margins, and taper to a broad, straight beak about 1.5 mm long (Hitchcock et al. 1965, Larson 1993).

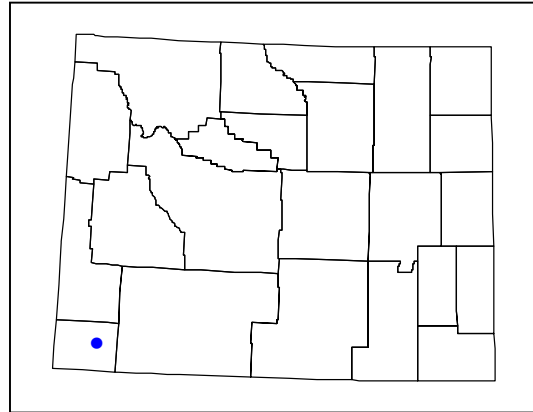
Similar Species: *Ranunculus gmelinii* has petals 3-7 mm long and an achene beak less than 1 mm long. *R. sceleratus* has petals only 2-5 mm long and an achene beak much less than 1 mm long. All other aquatic species of *Ranunculus* in the area have white petals and hairy achenes (Hitchcock et al 1964, Dorn 2001).

Flowering/Fruiting Period: June-August.

Distribution: East side of the Cascades, British Columbia to northern California, east to Utah, Wyoming, and Colorado (Hitchcock

et al. 1964). In Wyoming it is known from a single collection in the Green River Basin (Uinta County.)

Habitat: Ponds, mud flats, slow-moving streams at 6600-6700 ft (Hitchcock et al 1954, Dorn 2001).



Wyoming distribution of *Ranunculus flabellaris*

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from one historical record (1932).

Abundance: No data are available on abundance.

Trends: No populations have been located recently.

Protection status: None known.

Threats: Not known.

Managed Areas: Occurs in land managed by the Rock Springs District BLM (Kemmerer Resource Area).

References:

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