

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

SENECIO SPARTIOIDES VAR.
MULTICAPITATUS
MANY-HEADED BROOM GROUNDSEL
Family: Asteraceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

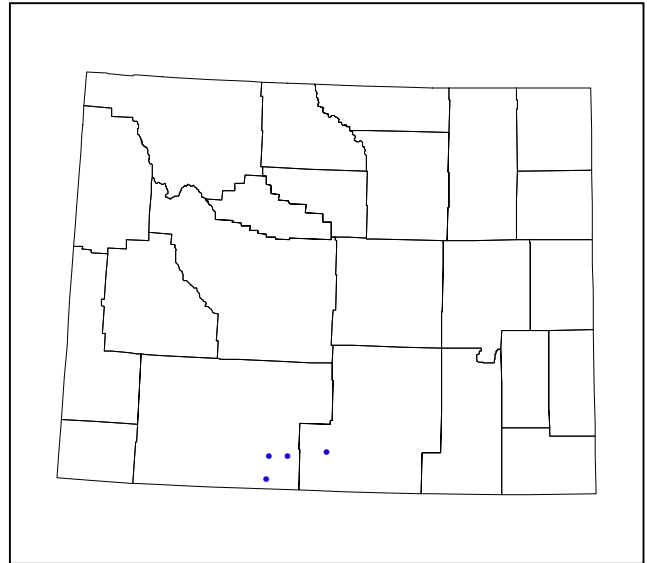
Global: G4 State: S1

WYNDD Plant List: Peripheral (Low
Conservation Priority)

Description: Many-headed broom groundsel is a glabrous perennial forb with numerous erect, leafy stems 20-100 cm tall from a woody crown and taproot. The linear leaves are pinnately divided into slender, linear segments less than 3 mm wide or are entire. The inflorescence is a terminal compound cyme of 20-60 or more flowering heads. Individual heads are 3-4 mm wide (at mid-section), about 2 times as long as wide, and 8 involucre bracts and 5 yellow ray flowers. Fruits are pubescent achenes (Barkley 1978; Dorn 1992; Welsh et al. 1993).

Synonyms: *Senecio multicapitatus*

Similar Species: *Senecio spartioides* var. *spartioides* has mostly entire leaves (occasionally with a pair of lobes near the base) and flowering heads over 5 mm wide and only 1.5 times longer than wide. *S. spartioides* var. *fremontii* has pinnately divided leaves with segments over 3 mm wide and flower heads over 5 mm wide. Other *Senecio* spp. in Wyoming lack woody bases or have wider or round-toothed leaves.



Wyoming distribution of *Senecio spartioides* var. *multicapitatus*.

Flowering/Fruiting Period: August-September.

Distribution: Occurs from southern Wyoming and eastern Utah to western Texas and Arizona. Wyoming populations occur in the Washakie Basin in Carbon and Sweetwater counties.

Habitat: Reported from sandy creek banks and hillsides, warm desert shrub, pinyon-juniper, and saline riparian sites across its range (Barkley 1987; Welsh et al. 1993). Wyoming populations are found primarily on stabilized sand dunes and hills with *Artemisia*, *Chrysothamnus*, and *Grayia* at 6700-7000 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 4 occurrences in Wyoming, all of which have been discovered since 1980. The most recent observation of this species was in 1996.

Abundance: Census data are lacking for all known populations.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: No occurrences are found in special management areas.

Threats: Not known. May be potentially impacted by ORV recreation in its sand dune habitat.

Managed Areas: All known occurrences are on lands managed by the BLM Rawlins and Rock Springs districts.

References:

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