

*SHOSHONEA PULVINATA*

SHOSHONEA

Family: Apiaceae

Agency Status

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None (Formerly a C2 candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act).

US Forest Service: S-USFS R2

WY Bureau of Land Management: Sensitive

Heritage Rank

Global: G2G3

State: S2

Range Context: Regional Endemic/Core

Wyoming Contribution Rank: Very High

Description: Shoshonea is a perennial herb that forms dense green mats 2-8 cm tall and up to 45 cm across. The leaves are 2-25 mm long, once-pinnately compound with 5-11 pairs of leaflets, and have swollen, papery petioles. Flowers are either bisexual or male (staminate), minute, yellow, and arranged in compact, flat umbels 0.75-1.5 cm wide. The fruit are sessile, oblong, and prominently ribbed. Both the fruits and the inflorescence are noticeably rough to the touch (scabrous) (Evert and Constance 1982; Marriott 1992; Fertig et al. 1994; Dorn 1989).



Above: *Shoshonea pulvinata* by Bonnie Heidel

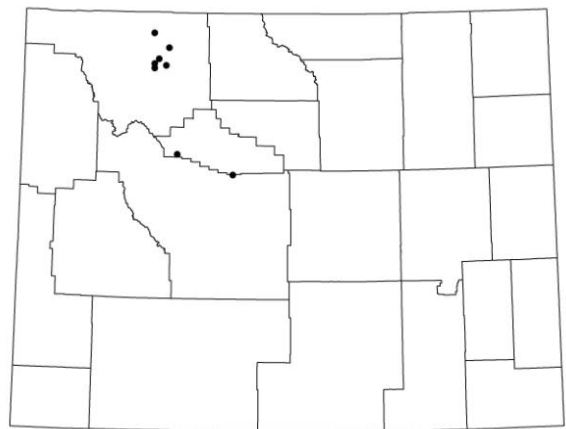
Similar Species: Species of *Musineon* have erect stems and stalked, glabrous fruit. Other members of the carrot family in Wyoming differ in having twice or more compound leaves, corky-winged fruit, or glabrous inflorescences and fruits (Evert and Constance 1982; Dorn 2001; Fertig et al. 1994).



Above: *Shoshonea pulvinata* illustration by Walter Fertig

Phenology: Flowering mid-May through June; fruiting June-July.

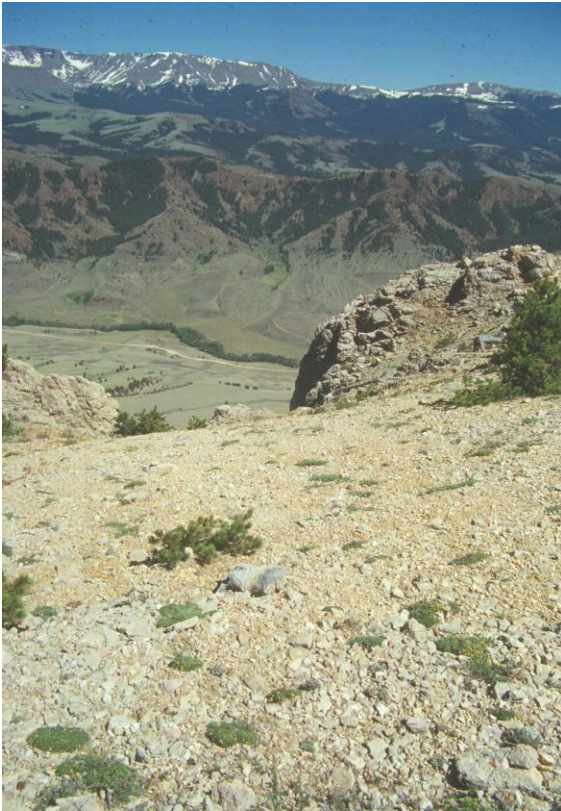
Distribution: Regional endemic of northwest Wyoming and south-central Montana. In Wyoming, known only from the eastern Absaroka and Owl Creek mountains in Fremont, Hot Springs, and Park counties.



Above: Wyoming distribution of *Shoshonea pulvinata*

Habitat: Shallow, stony, calcareous soils of exposed limestone outcrops, ridge tops, and talus slopes.

Associated with other low-growing forbs and cushion plants on sites with sparse cover. Elevation 5800-9300 ft.



Above: *Shoshonea pulvinata* habitat by Hollis Marriott

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 8 occurrences in Wyoming.

Abundance: Some populations number in the tens of thousands of mats. Dorn (1989) estimated the total number of plants in Wyoming at ca 210,000, and ca. 5000 plants were added in 2010. Approximately 12,000 plants were reported in Montana in the late 1980s (Lesica and Shelly 1988).

Trends: Trends appear to be stable at present.

Protection Status: One occurrence is located on the Nature Conservancy's Heart Mountain Preserve. An additional population is within the proposed Bald Ridge RNA on Shoshone National Forest. All other known populations are on public lands managed for multiple use.

Threats: Habitat relatively inaccessible and little threatened.

Managed Areas: Occurs on lands managed by the Shoshone National Forest and by the BLM Cody and Worland Field Offices.

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