

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

THELESPERMA CAESPITOSUM
GREEN RIVER GREENTHREAD
Family: Asteraceae

Status:

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

Agency Status: USFS Region 4 Sensitive;
WY BLM: Sensitive.

Heritage Rank:

Global: G1 State: S1

WYNDD Plant List: Regional endemic
(High Conservation Priority)

Description: Green River greenthread is a tap-rooted perennial herb with glabrous flowering stems 4-19 cm tall. The mostly basal leaves are pinnately compound with 3-5 short, narrow leaflets. Leaves are glabrous except for the ciliate margins of the petiole (although some specimens in Utah may have sparsely pubescent leaf blades). Flower heads occur singly or in pairs on each stem and contain only reddish-yellow disk flowers. The involucre consists of two distinct rows of connate bracts, with the inner bracts conspicuously larger than the reflexed outer ones. Individual flowers lack a pappus but are subtended by a membranous receptacle bract (Dorn 1990, 1992; Fertig et al. 1994; Fertig 1995, 1999).

Synonyms: *Thelesperma subnudum* var.
caespitosum; *T. pubescens* var. *caespitosum*.

Similar Species: *Thelesperma pubescens* differs in having grayish leaf blades that are pubescent throughout. *T. marginatum* has leaves that are completely glabrous (including the petiole), numerous flower heads per stem, and a more northerly distribution.



Above: *Thelesperma caespitosum* by Charmaine Refsdal Delpatier.

Below: *T. caespitosum* by Isobel Nichols (from Fertig et al. 1994).