

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

TOWNSENDIA CONDENSATA
VAR. *ANOMALA*
NORTH FORK EASTER DAISY
Family: Asteraceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.
Agency Status: USFS Region 2: Sensitive

Heritage Rank:

Global: G4T2 State: S2
WYNDD Plant List: State endemic
(Medium conservation priority)

Description: North Fork Easter-daisy is a perennial, mat-forming herb with stems less than 4 cm tall. The leaves are spoon-shaped with long petioles and are clustered in a basal rosette. The petioles and leaf blades are densely pubescent with stiff, spreading or appressed hairs, except for the glabrous, rounded tips of the lowermost leaves. Plants have 3-15 flower heads borne on short branches among the leaves. Flower heads are 10-17 mm wide with sharp-tipped, lanceolate involucre bracts. The glandular ray flowers are white, pink, or lavender. Achenes are pubescent and have minutely bumpy-surfaces (Heiser 1948, Beaman 1957, Dorn 1992, Fertig et al. 1994).

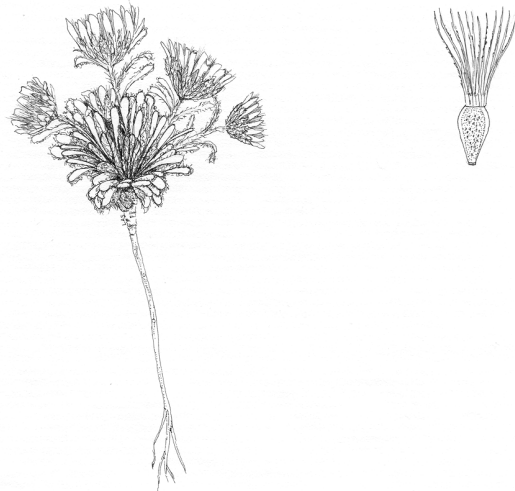
Synonyms: *Townsendia anomala*.

Similar Species: *Townsendia condensata* var. *condensata* has wider flower heads (17-40 mm) and often has only one head per stem. *T. spathulata* has leaves and petioles that are pubescent throughout (including the leaf tips) with soft, fine, white hairs. *T. microcephala* has hairless, smooth achenes and smaller flower heads. (Dorn 1992 in Fertig et al. 1994).



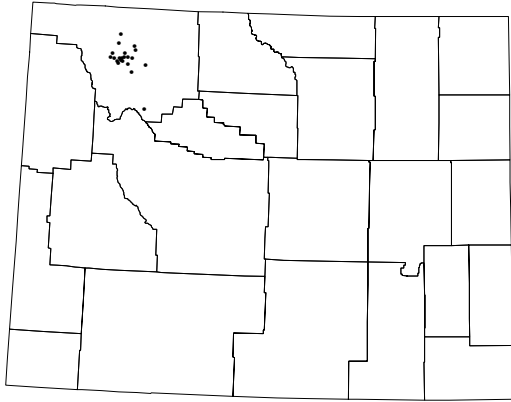
Above: *Townsendia condensata* var. *anomala* by Walter Fertig.

Below: *T. condensata* var. *anomala* by Linda Shoemaker (from Fertig et al. 1994).



Flowering/Fruiting Period: April-August.

Distribution: Narrow endemic of the Absaroka Range in Park County, Wyoming.



Wyoming distribution of *T. condensata var anomala*.

Habitat: Open sparsely vegetated, montane forests, meadows, rocky slopes, and ridges. Often on sandy volcanic soil or talus. Elevation 6100-13150 feet.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 21 occurrences in Wyoming, all of which have been relocated or discovered since 1983 (13 occurrences have been relocated or discovered since 1996).

Abundance: Censused populations are typically very small, often with fewer than 50-100 individuals. The total range of the species appears to be very limited, but the full extent of its habitat has not been thoroughly investigated. Fertig (1997) estimated the total population at 20,000-30,000 individuals.

Trends: Not known, but suspected to be stable.

Protection Status: At least 12 occurrences are found within designated Wilderness areas (Washakie and North Absaroka Wilderness areas). Three occurrences are within the potential Grizzly Creek and Sheep Mesa RNAs. All other known

occurrences are on public or state lands managed for multiple use.

Threats: Threats are mostly low due to the ruggedness of most of its habitat. Some streamside habitats may be impacted by changes in hydrology, competition from exotics, trampling, or other human-induced activities. The species is probably not grazed due to its low stature.

Managed Areas: Occurs on Shoshone National Forest and state lands.

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