

-State Species Abstract-
-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database-

VIOLA RENIFOLIA VAR. *BRAINERDII*
KIDNEY-LEAF WHITE VIOLET
Family: Violaceae

Status:

US Fish & Wildlife Service: None.

Agency Status: None.

Heritage Rank:

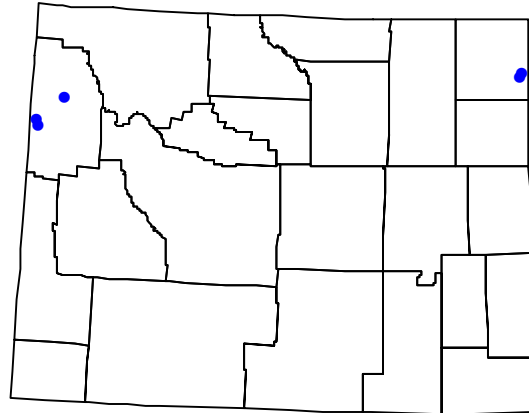
Global: G5T5 State: S1

WYNDD Plant List: Peripheral (Low conservation priority)

Description: Kidney-leaf white violet is a perennial forb with leafless stems and without stolons. Leaf blades are heart or kidney-shaped, 2-6 cm broad (and nearly as long) with rounded tips and round-toothed margins and are strongly pubescent below. Petioles are 3-15 cm long and have lance-shaped, toothed stipules 3-10 mm long. The leafless flowering stalks are typically shorter than the leaves and bear a single bilaterally-symmetrical flower. The short-spurred corolla is 10-15 mm long, beardless, and white with thin purple lines on the lower 3 petals. Fruits are purplish, elliptical capsules 4-5 mm long. Small, non-showy, non-opening (cleistogamous) flowers may be present near the base of the plant on short stalks (Gleason and Cronquist 1991; Hitchcock and Cronquist 1961).

Similar Species: *Viola macloskeyi* has slender stolons and glabrate leaves that are longer than wide and somewhat pointed at the tip. *V. palustris* has short stolons and white flowers tinged with blue or purple on the back. *V. canadensis* has leafy stems. Other *Viola* species in Wyoming have blue or yellow flowers.

Flowering/Fruiting Period: June-August.



Wyoming distribution of *Viola renifolia* var. *brainerdii*.

Distribution: Newfoundland to British Columbiasouth to New York, Michigan, and Minnesota, and in the Rocky Mountains at disjunct locations as far south as Colorado. In Wyoming, known from the Black Hills in Crook County and Teton Range in Teton County. A report from the southwestern Absarokas (Teton County) may be based on a misidentified specimen (Murie 366).

Habitat: In Wyoming, this species is found mostly in moist, shaded habitats coniferous forests of Subalpine fir, Engelmann spruce, or Lodgepole pine at 4400-9100 feet. Populations in the Black Hills may be found on limestone-rich soils.

Occurrences in Wyoming: Known from 4 extant occurrences in Wyoming (all of which have been discovered or relocated since 1984) and one vague historical record (Murie 366) which may be misidentified.

Abundance: Not known.

Trends: Not known.

Protection status: All known occurrences are on public lands managed for multiple use.

Threats: Populations could be impacted by high recreation use or timber harvesting.

Managed Areas: Occurs on Black Hills and Targhee National Forests. A population has also been reported from Bridger-Teton NF.

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