

Heuchera grossulariifolia* Rydb. var. *tenuifolia

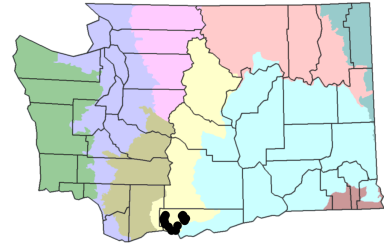
(Wheelock) C.L. Hitchc.

large gooseberry-leaved alumroot

Saxifragaceae - saxifrage family

status: State Sensitive

rank: G4T3T4 / S3



General Description: Herbaceous perennial from a thick, branched caudex; flowering stems leafless, 1.5-8 dm tall, glandular-hairy throughout, but sometimes lacking glands or hairless near the base. Leaves all basal, hairless to glandular-hairy. Blades heart-shaped to kidney-shaped, usually broader than long, (2.5) 3-7 cm broad, (3) 5-7 lobed; lobes sometimes overlapping, each with 2-3 coarse, rounded teeth, the margins usually ciliate or tipped with short, sharp points.

Floral Characteristics: Inflorescence 1-6 cm long, tightly congested when flowering; in fruit usually open and 5-12 (20) cm long, the branches ascending, up to 1.5 (8) cm long, with 2-6 flowers. Calyx 5-6.5 mm long when flowering, tubular to bell-shaped, one side longer than the other; lobes 5, oblong to oval, erect. Petals 5, white, usually shorter than the sepals, the blade oblanceolate to spatula-shaped. Stamens usually 5, shorter than the calyx lobes and opposite them, not over 1.5 mm long. Ovary about 3/4 inferior when flowering. Flowers May through early August.

Fruits: Capsules 4.5-7 mm long. Seeds 0.6-0.8 mm long, dark brown, ovoid-ellipsoid, with short conical spines.

Identification Tips: *H. grossulariifolia* var. *tenuifolia* appears to intergrade with *H. grossulariifolia* var. *grossulariifolia*. Variety *tenuifolia* is generally larger than var. *grossulariifolia* in all aspects, except the petals. *Heuchera cylindrica* has a longer calyx when flowering (4.5-8 mm); petals fewer than 5, mostly linear; stamens generally over 1.5 mm long; and leaves longer than broad.

Range: Columbia River Gorge in WA and adjacent OR, and ID.

Habitat/Ecology: Moist basalt cliffs and steep slopes, often along intermittent or perennial stream channels. Microsites generally receive a fair amount of sunlight. In WA the taxon occurs in the transition zone between the western and eastern Cascades. Elevations in WA: 30-580 m (100-1900 ft). Associated species include Douglas maple (*Acer glabrum* var. *douglasii*), ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*), Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), wood saxifrage (*Saxifraga mertensiana*), penstemon (*Penstemon* spp.), sedum (*Sedum* spp.), and biscuitroot (*Lomatium* spp.).

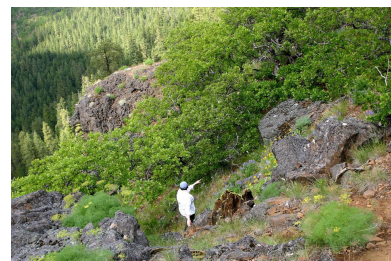
Comments: This taxon is also rare in OR.



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Press



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