**Lasthenia glaberrima** DC.  
smooth goldfields  
Asteraceae - aster family  
status: State Endangered, BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive  
rank: G5 / S1

**General Description:** Hairless or nearly hairless annual herb with lax stems, commonly rooting from lower nodes, 5-35 cm tall. Leaves opposite, linear, entire, 2-8 cm long; some pairs fused at the base and sheathing the stem.

**Floral Characteristics:** Flowering heads radiate, few, often on long peduncles. Involucre 5-7 mm high; bracts united into a bell-shaped cup with short, ciliate teeth. Rays yellow, very short and inconspicuous, not projected beyond the involucre. Flowers June to July.

**Fruits:** Elongate achenes; pappus of 5-10 firm, jagged, and sometimes shortly awn-tipped scales.

**Identification Tips:** *Lasthenia maritima* is related, but confined to coastal areas. *L. glaberrima* has connate involucral bracts, while the bracts of *L. maritima* are distinct nearly or completely to the base.

**Range:** Mostly west of the Cascades, from southern WA to central CA. One population has been identified in B.C.

**Habitat/Ecology:** Margins of vernal pools, wet or muddy stream banks, wetlands, and winter-flooded meadows. The extant WA population grows around vernal ponds on basalt tablelands; the area is wet in winter and dries by late spring. Associated species include rabbitfoot grass (*Polypogon monspeliensis*), Nuttall's quillwort (*Isoetes nuttallii*), calicoflower (*Downingia yina*), fringed waterplantain (*Damasonium californicum*), willow (*Salix exigua*), smooth spike-primrose (*Epilobium pygmaeum*), pale spike-rush (*Eleocharis macrostachya*), and inch-high rush (*Juncus uncialis*).

**Comments:** There is 1 historical occurrence and 1 recent occurrence in WA. The extant population is currently threatened by competition from nonnative plants.


Adapted from Field Guide to the Rare Plants of Washington  
http://www.washington.edu/uwpress/search/books/CAMFIE.html