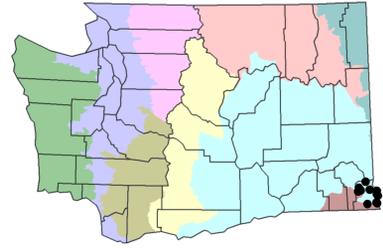


## ***Lomatium rollinsii*** Mathias & Constance

Rollins' desert-parsley  
Apiaceae - carrot family

status: State Threatened, BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive  
rank: G3 / S2



**General Description:** Taprooted, tuberous perennial 2-7 dm tall at maturity, with 1-2 simple to sparingly branched stems. Tuber usually single, 1-3 x 0.5-1 cm, or with multiple constrictions. Herbage roughened by short crisp hairs. Both basal and stem leaves are oblong in outline. Blade 5-15 x 3-5 cm, irregularly to pinnately dissected into unequal linear segments up to 1.5 cm long; petiole almost as long as the blade, partially to wholly sheathing.

**Floral Characteristics:** Inflorescence a compound umbel of 4-8 rays, the longer rays 3-7 cm long at maturity. Flowers yellow; pedicels 4-10 (15) mm long. Involucel of inconspicuous narrow bractlets. Flowers mid-March to mid-May.

**Fruits:** Dry schizocarp, hairless, elliptic, 5-8 mm long, with well-developed wings about half as wide as the body.

**Identification Tips:** *Lomatium ambiguum* is superficially similar, but differs in being hairless, having ternate-pinnately divided leaves, and narrowly oblong fruit, 5.5-12 mm long.

**Range:** Regional endemic found in canyons of the Snake and Salmon Rivers of northeast OR, western ID, and extreme southeast WA.

**Habitat/Ecology:** Canyon grasslands from 275 to 1300 m (900-4300 ft). Slopes are gentle to very steep; soils range from gravelly and rocky to deeper loamy conditions. *L. rollinsii* occurs in several grassland and shrub plant community associations, including a variety of successional stages. Associated species include sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*, *A. rigida*), rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus* spp.), smooth sumac (*Rhus glabra*), buckwheat (*Eriogonum heracleoides*), Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*), bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*), Sandberg's bluegrass (*Poa secunda*), biscuitroot (*Lomatium* spp.), plains pricklypear (*Opuntia polyacantha*), yarrow (*Achillea millifolium*), and phlox (*Phlox longifolia*, *P. colubrina*).

**Comments:** Livestock grazing and agricultural development are the main threats to the taxon. It is also rare in OR and ID.

**References:** Mathias & Constance 1943; Schlessman 1984.

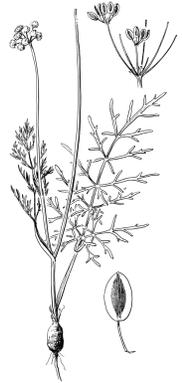


Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,  
©1961 University of Washington  
Press



photo by Florence Caplow



© Jimmy Kagan