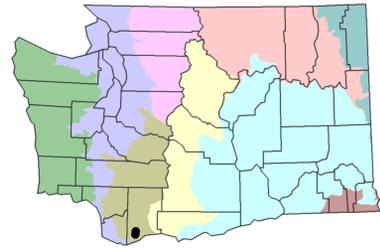


***Parnassia fimbriata* K.D. Koenig var. *hoodiana* C.L. Hitchc.**

fringed grass-of-parnassus

Saxifragaceae - saxifrage family

status: State Threatened, BLM strategic, USFS strategic  
rank: G5T3 / S1



**General Description:** Hairless perennial herb from a short, stout rootstock. Flowering stems 1 to several, 1.5-3 (5) dm tall. Leaves all basal, entire. Petioles (1) 3-10 (15) cm long. Leaf blades (1.5) 2-4 (5) cm broad, mostly kidney-shaped, sometimes heart-shaped.

**Floral Characteristics:** Flowering stems leafless, except for a heart-shaped bract somewhat clasping the stem, mostly 5-15 (20) mm long. Flowers terminal, solitary, erect. Calyx fused with the ovary for about 1 mm, deeply 5-lobed, the lobes oblong-ovate to elliptic-oval, 4-7 mm long, usually 5-7 veined, entire or fringed toward the rounded tip. Petals white, 8-12 mm long, with 5-7 veins, obovate, but clawlike at the base, with numerous long filiform-linear hairlike appendages. Fertile stamens 5, inserted on the calyx alternate with the petals; filaments stout, about equaling the calyx lobes; anthers 2-2.5 mm long. Sterile stamens opposite the petals, broadly scalelike, thickened, flared above the middle, tipped with less than 10 marginal, long, slender, fingerlike segments ending in head-shaped, glandular knobs.

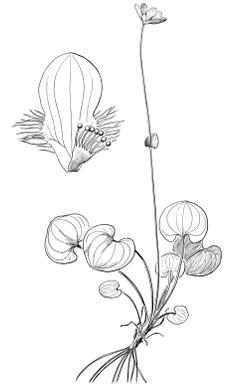


Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,  
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**Fruits:** Ovoid capsules, about 1 cm long. Identifiable June to August.

**Identification Tips:** *P. fimbriata* is distinguished from other *Parnassia* species by its petals, which have a distinctive hairlike to comblike marginal fringe at the base. There are 3 varieties of *P. fimbriata*. Variety *intermedia* is not found in WA. Variety *fimbriata* can be distinguished by its sterile stamens, which are short and thick, with short, rounded marginal segments lacking head-shaped tips.

**Range:** Regional endemic; Cascade Mts. of northern OR and Skamania Co., WA.

**Habitat/Ecology:** Obligate wetland plant of middle to high elevations; found in very wet meadows with springs and streams, bogs, and edges of small spring-fed ponds. Elevations in WA: 900-1000 m (3100-3350 ft). Associates include American bistort (*Polygonum bistortoides*), king's scepter gentian (*Gentiana sceptrum*), slender bog orchid (*Platanthera stricta*), scentbottle (*Platanthera dilatata*), marsh violet (*Viola palustris*), Howell's marsh-marigold (*Caltha leptosepala* ssp. *howellii*), sphagnum moss (*Sphagnum* spp.), roundleaf sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*), and arrowleaf ragwort (*Senecio triangularis*).

**Comments:** Known from 2 recently discovered occurrences in WA.



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