

***Petrophytum cinerascens* (Piper) Rydb.**

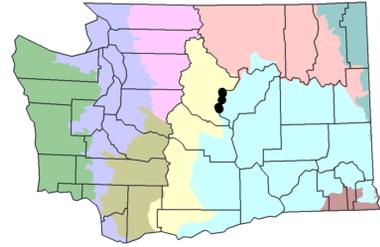
synonym: *Petrophyton cinerascens* (Piper) Rydb.

Chelan rockmat

Rosaceae - rose family

status: State Endangered, Federal Species of Concern,
BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

rank: G1 / S1



General Description: Low, mat-forming perennial subshrub. Leaves alternate, closely crowded and tufted, entire, oblanceolate to spatula-shaped, grayish, sparsely hairy, 3-nerved, (10) 15-25 x 2-4 (5) mm.

Floral Characteristics: Flowering stems 5-15 cm tall, with small, alternate, bractlike leaves scattered along their length; bracts near the top bear rudimentary buds in their axils. Racemes spikelike, simple or compound, (1) 2-6 cm long, with small, tightly clustered flowers; pedicels 0.5-2 mm long. Calyx grayish-hairy, hypanthium cup-shaped, scarcely 1 mm long; internal disc with a barely free edge. Sepals 5, lanceolate-triangular, about 1.5 mm long, erect. Petals 5, white, scarcely exceeding the sepals. Stamens 20-25, about twice as long as the petals. Pistils 5 (4-7) per flower; style slender, about 2 mm long, sparsely hairy. Flowers late July to late August.

Fruits: Dry follicles, nearly 3 mm long.

Identification Tips: *P. hendersonii* has more stamens (35-40). *P. caespitosum* has 1-nerved leaves and styles about 3 mm long. *Petrophytum spp.* can be distinguished from other genera of Rosaceae by their tight pedunculate racemes, superior ovary, 5 petals, entire, oblanceolate leaves that are mostly persistent after withering, and mat-forming, subshrub habit.

Range: Endemic to cliffs along the Columbia River between Chelan and Wenatchee, WA. All known populations occur within 27 km (17 mi.) of each other, in the transition zone between the Columbia Basin and Eastern Cascades physiographic provinces.

Habitat/Ecology: In crevices and on ledges of open, exposed cliffs and rock outcrops along the Columbia River. Habitat is very sparsely vegetated. Occupied cliffs predominantly face east or west; the species is absent from nearby south-facing basalt cliffs. Elevations: 240-550 m (800-1800 ft).

Comments: Additional inventory is needed, particularly along the east side of the Columbia River between Wenatchee and Orono. Threats include rock quarrying, rock climbing, highway construction and maintenance projects, and placement of future powerline towers and radio facilities.

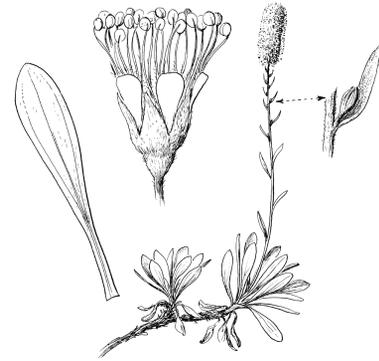


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