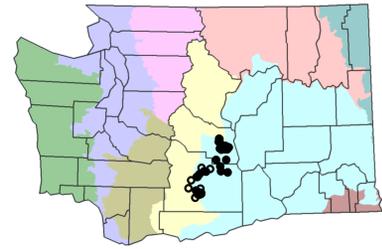


Tauschia hooveri Mathias & Constance

Hoover's tauschia

Apiaceae - carrot family

status: State Sensitive, Federal Species of Concern, BLM sensitive
rank: G2 / S2



General Description: Low-growing hairless perennial with a globe-shaped tuberous root about 1.5 cm thick. Leaves bluish waxy, few in number, appearing basal, petiolate, blades ternately or pinnately divided into linear segments typically 1.5-3.5 cm x 1-2 mm (but occasionally much larger). Nonflowering plants have leaves with fewer divisions. Leaf margins reflexed, giving the appearance of being grooved or channeled.

Floral Characteristics: Peduncles 2-4 cm long; inflorescence a few-rayed compound umbel, 1 cm wide when flowering. Involucre and involucrel absent; calyx teeth much reduced. Flowers white with purple anthers. Flowers early to late March.

Fruits: Linear-oblong schizocarps, 5-7 x 2 mm, whitish waxy, with narrow ribs. Fruiting pedicels short. Fruits by mid-April, and plants begin to senesce by late April. However, phenology is closely related to weather conditions.

Identification Tips: Several *Lomatium* species are similar to *T. hooveri* and occur within its range, including *L. geyeri*, *L. piperi*, *L. gormanii*, and *L. farinosum* var. *hambleniae*. *T. hooveri* can be distinguished by its reflexed leaf margins that give the leaves a channeled or grooved appearance. The leaves of *T. hooveri* are a deeper green, appearing to have a bluish tint, rather than the somewhat yellowish tint of *L. farinosum* var. *hambleniae*. *L. farinosum* var. *hambleniae* can also be distinguished by its yellow flowers, or when in fruit, its elongated pedicels (6-22 mm).

Range: WA only. Columbia Basin endemic from an area approximately 105 x 24 km (65 x 15 mi.).

Habitat/Ecology: Basalt lithosols in shrub steppe habitats. Sites are essentially flat, well-drained, with prominent rocks and gravel but very little soil. Average annual precipitation 23-38 cm (9-15 in.). Elevations: 400-1200 m (1300-4000 ft). Vegetative cover is generally too low to carry a fire. Associated species include stiff sagebrush (*Artemisia rigida*), spiny fameflower (*Phemeranthus spinescens*), fragile onion (*Allium scilloides*), Sandberg's bluegrass (*Poa secunda*), violet (*Viola trinervata*), bitterroot (*Lewisia rediviva*), Canby's biscuitroot (*Lomatium canbyi*), and purple cushion fleabane (*Erigeron poliospermus*).

Comments: Orchard expansion, housing development, and recreational activities may result in degradation or loss of habitat.

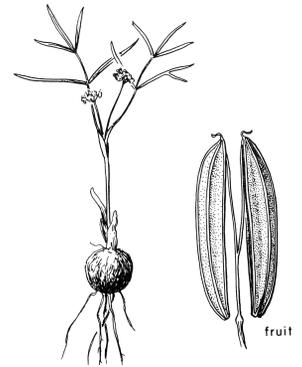


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Press



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