

Appendix D

DNR Natural Heritage Information System Letter



December 7, 1999

 WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

 JENNIFER M. BELCHER
 Commissioner of Public Lands

 Rob Nielsen
 Dames & Moore
 500 Market Place Tower
 2025 First Avenue
 Seattle WA 98121

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------|-----------|------------|---|
| Post-it* Fax Note | 7671 | Date | 1/25/00 | # of pages | ▶ |
| To | Donna Frosthelm | From | Gov Jones | | |
| Co./Dept. | | City | | | |
| Phone # | | Phone # | | | |
| Fax # | | Fax # | | | |

SUBJECT: Sumas Energy & Conservation
 (portions of T38-39N R3E; T40N R1-4E; T41N R4W)

We've searched the Natural Heritage Information System for information on rare plants, high quality wetland ecosystems and high quality terrestrial ecosystems in the vicinity of your project. A summary of this information, and corresponding materials, are enclosed. In your planning, please consider protection of these significant natural features. Please contact us for consultation on projects that may have an effect on these rare species or high-quality ecosystems.

The information provided by the Washington Natural Heritage Program is based solely on existing information in the database. In the absence of field inventories, we cannot state whether or not a given site contains high quality ecosystems or rare species; there may be significant natural features in your study area of which we are not aware. These data are being provided to you for informational and planning purposes only - the Natural Heritage Program has no regulatory authority.

We have begun to add information to our database on selected groups of animals of conservation concern, such as freshwater mussels, butterflies and bats and now include this data in our reports. However, the authority for protection of animal species in Washington rests with the Department of Fish and Wildlife. To ensure that you receive information on all animal species of concern, please contact Priority Habitats and Species, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501-1091, or by phone (360) 902-2543.

If you have the opportunity, visit our website at <http://www.wa.gov/dnr> and click on *Conservation/Protection*. Please call me at (360) 902-1667 if you have any questions, or by E-mail: sandra.moody@wadnr.gov.

Sincerely,

 Sandy Swope Moody, Environmental Coordinator
 Washington Natural Heritage Program
 PO Box 47016
 Olympia WA 98504-7016

Enclosures

WASHINGTON NATURAL HERITAGE INFORMATION SYSTEM
 ENDANGERED, THREATENED AND SENSITIVE PLANTS,
 SELECT RARE ANIMAL SPECIES,
 HIGH QUALITY WETLAND ECOSYSTEMS AND HIGH QUALITY TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS
 IN THE VICINITY OF SUMAS ENERGY 2 GENERATION FACILITY
 REQUESTED BY DAMES & MOORE

Data Current as of December 1999
 Page 1 of 1

| <u>TOWNSHIP, RANGE AND SECTION</u> | <u>ELEMENT NAME</u> | <u>STATE STATUS</u> | <u>FEDERAL STATUS</u> |
|--|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| T38N R03E S28-30 | <i>Margaritifera falcata</i> (western pearlshell) | | |
| T39N R02E S01 NE T39N R03E S06 N2 | <i>Carex comosa</i> (bristly sedge) | S | |
| T39N R03E S10 NW | <i>Carex comosa</i> (bristly sedge) | S | |
| T40N R02E S04 N2 | <i>Cicuta bulbifera</i> (bulb-bearing water-hemlock) | S | |
| T40N R04E S31 | <i>Salix sessilifolia</i> (soft-leaved willow) | | T |

WASHINGTON NATURAL HERITAGE INFORMATION SYSTEM

Rare Animal and Plant Species - Definitions apply to vascular plants and animals unless otherwise stated.

Federal Status definitions:

LE = Listed Endangered: Any taxon that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range and that has been formally listed as such in the Federal Register under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

LT = Listed Threatened: Any taxon that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range and that has been formally listed as such in the Federal Register under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

PE = Proposed Endangered: Any taxon that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range and that has been proposed for listing as such in the Federal Register under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

PT = Proposed Threatened: Any taxon that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range and that has been proposed for listing as such in the Federal Register under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

C = Candidate species: Taxa for which current information indicates the probable appropriateness of listing as Endangered or Threatened and that has been published in the Federal Register as a candidate for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

SC = Species of Concern: Species whose conservation standing is of concern but for which status information is still needed. Species of concern lists are not published in the Federal Register.

Animal:

NL = Not Listed: Used for populations or subspecies within a taxon that are not federally listed, when other populations or subspecies of that same taxon are listed.

State Status definitions:

E = Endangered: Any taxon in danger of becoming extinct or extirpated from Washington within the foreseeable future if factors contributing to its decline continue. Populations of these taxa are at critically low levels or their habitats have been degraded or depleted to a significant degree.

T = Threatened: Any taxon likely to become Endangered in Washington within the foreseeable future if factors contributing to its population decline or habitat degradation or loss continue.

S = Sensitive: Any taxon that is vulnerable or declining and could become Endangered or Threatened in the state without active management or removal of threats.

Animal:

C = Candidate: Taxa under review for listing.

M = Monitor: Taxa of potential concern.

NL = Not Listed: Used for populations or subspecies within a taxon that have no state status, when other populations or subspecies within that same taxon are listed.

Vascular Plant:

X = Possibly Extinct or Extirpated from Washington: Based on recent field searches, a number of plant taxa are considered to be possibly extinct or extirpated from Washington. Taxa in this group are all high priorities for field investigations. If found, they will be assigned one of the above status categories.

R = Review: Taxa of potential concern, but for which no status has yet been assigned.

Group 1 = Taxa in need of additional field work before a status can be assigned.

Group 2 = Taxa with unresolved taxonomic questions.

W = Watch: Taxa more abundant and/or less threatened in Washington than previously assumed.

Non-Vascular Plant:

P = Priority: At this time, there is insufficient information to assign a statewide status to the non-vascular taxa. For now, the lichen and macrofungi lists have been divided into two priority groups based on criteria of occurrence pattern, vulnerability, threats, degree of protection, and taxonomy.

Washington Natural Heritage Information System
 Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive Vascular Plants of Washington
 May 1999

Whatcom County
 Page 1 of 2

| Scientific Name | Common Name | State Status | Federal Status* | Historic Record** |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <i>Agoseris elata</i> | Tall agoseris | Sensitive | | H |
| <i>Aster sibiricus</i> var <i>meritus</i> | Arctic aster | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Botrychium ascendens</i> | Triangular-lobed moonwort. | Sensitive | SC | |
| <i>Botrychium lanceolatum</i> | Lance-leaved grape-fern | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Botrychium lunaria</i> | Moonwort | Review | | |
| <i>Botrychium minganense</i> | Victorin's grape-fern | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Botrychium pinnatum</i> | St. John's moonwort | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Botrychium simplex</i> | Little grape-fern | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Carex buxbaumii</i> | Buxbaum's sedge | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Carex comosa</i> | Bristly sedge | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Carex heteroneura</i> | Different nerve sedge | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Carex macrochaeta</i> | Large-awn sedge | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Carex magellanica</i> ssp <i>irrigua</i> | Poor sedge | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Carex pauciflora</i> | Few-flowered sedge | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Carex pluriflora</i> | Several-flowered sedge | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Carex saxatilis</i> var <i>major</i> | Russet sedge | Sensitive | | H |
| <i>Carex scirpoides</i> var <i>scirpoides</i> | Canadian single-spike sedge | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Carex stylosa</i> | Long-styled sedge | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Chaenactis thompsonii</i> | Thompson's chaenactis | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Cicuta bulbifera</i> | Bulb-bearing water-hemlock | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Cimicifuga elata</i> | Tall bugbane | Threatened | SC | |
| <i>Draba aurea</i> | Golden draba | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Fritillaria camschatcensis</i> | Black lily | Sensitive | | H |
| <i>Galium kamtschaticum</i> | Boreal bedstraw | Sensitive | | H |
| <i>Gentiana glauca</i> | Glaucous gentian | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Impatiens aurella</i> | Orange balsam | Review | | |
| <i>Listera borealis</i> | Northern twayblade | Sensitive | | H |
| <i>Lobelia dortmanna</i> | Water lobelia | Threatened | | |
| <i>Lycopodiella inundata</i> | Bog clubmoss | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Lycopodium dendroideum</i> | Treelike clubmoss | Sensitive | | |

* LE = Listed Endangered, LT = Listed Threatened, PE = Proposed Endangered, PF = Proposed Threatened, C = Candidate for listing, SC = Species of Concern (an unofficial status)

** H = Known only from historic record

Washington Natural Heritage Information System
 Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive Vascular Plants of Washington
 May 1999

Whatcom County
 Page 2 of 2

| Scientific Name | Common Name | State Status | Federal Status* | Historic Record** |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <i>Nymphaea tetragona</i> | Pygmy water-lily | Pos Extirpated | | H |
| <i>Orthocarpus bracteosus</i> | Rosy owl-clover | Threatened | | H |
| <i>Platanthera obtusata</i> | Small northern bog-orchid | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Platanthera sparsiflora</i> | Canyon bog-orchid | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Poa arctica</i> ssp <i>arctica</i> | Gray's bluegrass | Review | | H |
| <i>Puccinellia nutkaensis</i> | Alaska alkaligrass | Sensitive | | H |
| <i>Rotala ramosior</i> | Lowland toothcup | Review | | |
| <i>Salix sessilifolia</i> | Soft-leaved willow | Threatened | | |
| <i>Saxifraga livularis</i> | Pygmy saxifrage | Sensitive | | |
| <i>Silene douglasii</i> var <i>monantha</i> | Douglas' silene | Review | | |
| <i>Utricularia minor</i> | Lesser bladderwort | Review | | |

* LE = Listed Endangered, LT = Listed Threatened, PE = Proposed Endangered, PT = Proposed Threatened,
 C = Candidate for listing, SC = Species of Concern (an unofficial status)
 ** H = Known only from historic record

NAME: *Carex comosa* Boott - bristly sedge
FAMILY: Cyperaceae - Sedge family
STATUS: State: Sensitive
PROMINENT CHARACTERISTICS: Plants 5-10 dm. (20-40 in.) tall. Belongs to a group of grass-like plants that have triangular stems; positive identification requires use of a technical key. Identifiable May through early August.

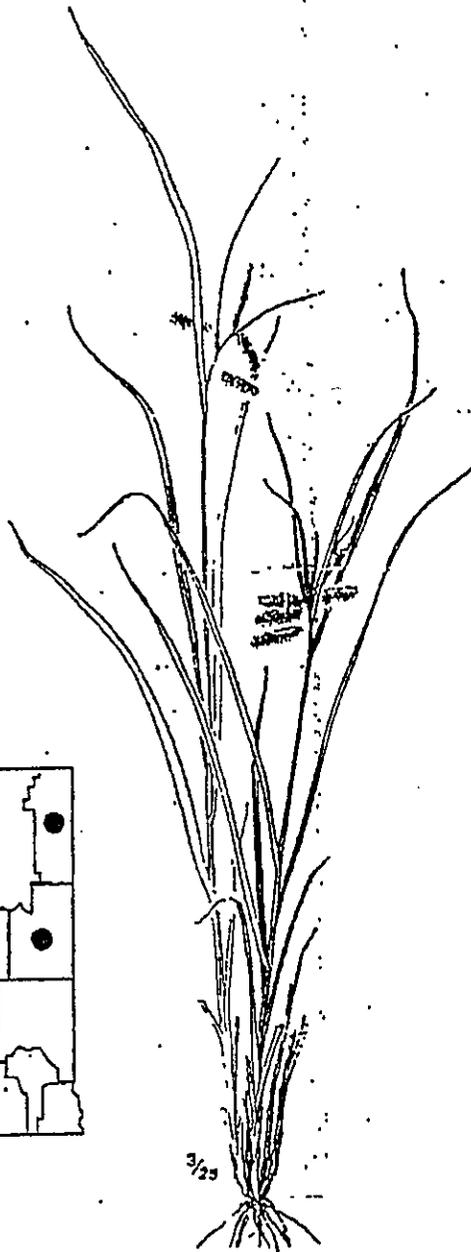
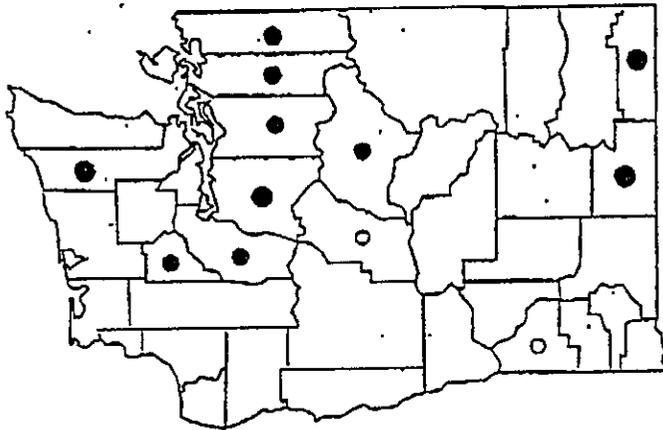
HABITAT: Marshes, lake-margins, drainage ditches, rivulets, and wet meadows in lowlands.

RANGE: Peripheral in WA, counties w. and s. of Puget Sound, also reported from Spokane and Walla Walla cos.; extending e. to MN, s. to Gulf Coast states and CA.

OCCURRENCE SUMMARY: Known from more than a dozen recent sightings.

THREATS: Housing development, herbicides, pesticides, altered hydrologic regimes.

LAND OWNERSHIP/MANAGEMENT: SPR, FS, HDW, PVT



Adapted from:
An Illustrated Guide to the Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive Vascular Plants of Washington. Washington Natural Heritage Program 1981.

NAME: *Cicuta bulbifera* L. - bulb-bearing water-hemlock (CIBU)

FAMILY: Apiaceae (Umbelliferae) - Parsley family

STATUS: State: Sensitive

PROMINENT CHARACTERISTICS: Plants generally single-stemmed, 3-10 dm. (12-40 in.) tall; leaves all on the stem, the middle and lower ones more or less dissected; the upper leaves more or less reduced, with fewer segments, or undivided, many of them bearing axillary bulbils (hence the specific epithet); the flowers white or greenish, sometimes absent, usually not forming mature fruits; poisonous. Identifiable in August and September.

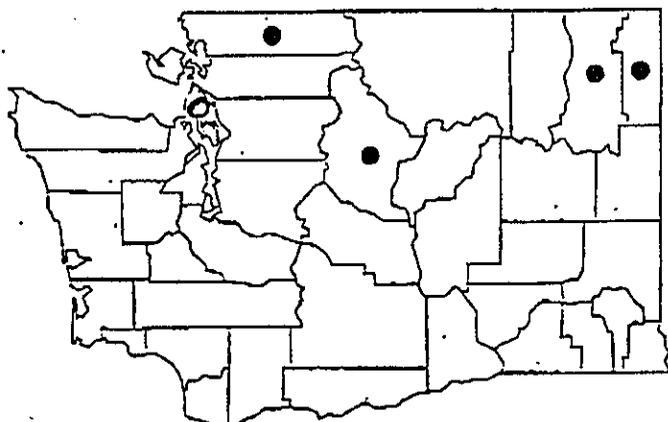
HABITAT: In marshes, bogs, wet meadows, and shallow standing water.

RANGE: Scattered in WA, Island, Whatcom. Stevens, Chelan, and Pend Oreille cos; Canada; NE US; & s. OR

OCCURRENCE SUMMARY: Known from over a dozen recent sightings.

THREATS: Draining of marshes and wet areas are potential threats.

LAND OWNERSHIP/MANAGEMENT: FS, WDW, PVT, DNR, FWS



Adapted from:
An Illustrated Guide to the Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive Vascular Plants of Washington. Washington Natural Heritage Program 1981.

Fact sheet updated: 10/97

WASHINGTON STATE NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
Plant Species Fact Sheet

NAME: *Salix sessilifolia* Nutt. - soft-leaved
willow (SASE)

FAMILY: Salicaceae - Willow family

STATUS: State: Threatened

OCCURRENCE SUMMARY: Five recent
sightings

LAND OWNERSHIP/MANAGEMENT:
MUN, PVT

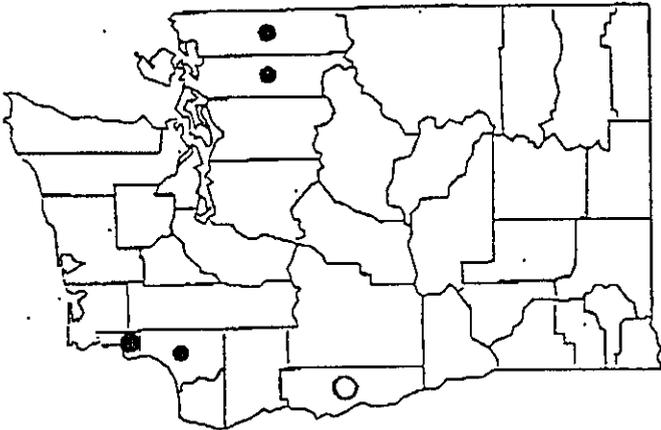


Illustration by J.R. Janish from Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 2, by C.L. Hitchcock, A. Cronquist, and M. Ownbey, 1964.

fact sheet updated: July 1999