

Rare Plant Nomination Process and Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG) Updates

*Insert NMRPTC
logo here*



New process of nomination & review



Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG)

- meet more frequently than once a year
- standardized forms & process for plant nominations/delistings/etc.
- updating/evaluating NatureServe subnational ranks—an explicit part of the process

New ranking framework

A tiered system with 4 different ranks and 3 threat suffixes

NMRPR	Description
1	Plants rare in New Mexico <u>and elsewhere</u> .
2	Plants rare in New Mexico <u>but more common elsewhere</u> .
3	Review list: Plants requiring additional review/information (e.g., taxonomically problematic, data deficient, possibly extirpated).
4	Watch list: Plants uncommon, of limited distribution in NM.
D	Dropped list: Plants previously listed and dropped OR plants evaluated for listing but rejected.
Threat suffix	Description
0.1	Highly threatened in NM.
0.2	Moderately threatened in NM.
0.3	Not very threatened in NM.



WHY?

- reduce duplicative ranking efforts in NM
 - consolidate NMRPTC and Strategy Species lists
 - incorporate NatureServe ranks into process
- increase transparency in process and introduce quantitative guidelines for ranking
- distribute workload
- solve perennial issue of what to do with disjuncts/peripherals by including them in a tiered system



Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG)

Progress to date

- **four meetings of RPWG since last RPTC meeting**
 - first two with smaller group to refine new ranking framework
 - last two with everyone (who signed up)
- **accomplishments**
 - revised ranking framework (***NM Rare Plant Classes***)
 - cross-walked currently listed plants into new Classes
 - refined rare plant nomination process and documents
 - five new plant nominations

Revised ranking system

New Mexico Rare Plant Ranks (NMRPR)

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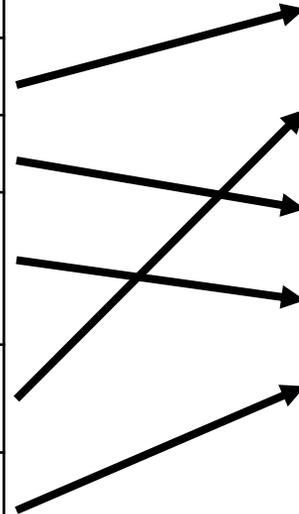
New Mexico Rare Plant Classes (NMRPC)

Class	Description
0 (E)	Plants presumed extinct or extirpated in NM.
1	Plants rare in NM <u>and elsewhere</u> .
2	Uncommon plants of limited distribution in NM (≈ Watch list)
3	Plants rare in NM <u>but more common elsewhere</u> .
4	Review list
5 (D)	Dropped list
Threat suffix	Description
0.0	Threats presently unknown.
0.1	Very highly threatened in New Mexico.
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Proposal to drop threat suffix at last RPWG meeting

Revised ranking system

Class	Description	NatureServe Ranks
0	Plants presumed <u>extinct</u> or <u>extirpated</u> in NM.	SX, SH, GX, GH
1	Plants rare in NM <u>and elsewhere</u> (globally imperiled).	S1/S2 and G1/G2
2	Uncommon plants of <u>limited distribution</u> in NM and globally (globally vulnerable).	S1-3 and G3 (typically) but can include up to S4/G4 for NM endemics
3	Plants rare in NM but more common elsewhere (imperiled in NM).	S1/S2 and G4/G5
4	Review list: current data indicates plants are globally rare, but additional info is needed before another rank can be assigned with confidence.	SU, GU, GQ, SNR, GNR , etc.
5	Dropped list: includes plants previously listed and removed and plants evaluated for listing and rejected.	Typically, >S3/G3 , or taxon not recognized by NMRPTC

Revised ranking system

Why drop threat suffix?

- subjective nature of quantifying threats
- redundant?
 - threats already included in NatureServe ranks (which inform Classes)
- RPWG consensus: challenging to implement during cross-walking process
- lessons learned from California
 - one more thing to update



Revised ranking system

Some examples

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Revised ranking system

Some examples



Eryngium sparganophyllum (SH G1)
Class 0

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Pediocactus knowltonii (S1 G1)
Class 1

Revised ranking system

Some examples



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Pediocactus knowltonii (S1 G1)
Class 1



Penstemon neomexicanus (S4 G4)
Class 2

Revised ranking system

Some examples



Eryngium sparganophyllum (SH G1)
Class 0

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Pediocactus knowltonii (S1 G1)
Class 1



Penstemon neomexicanus (S4 G4)
Class 2



Cladium californicum (S2 G4)
Class 3

Revised ranking system

Some examples



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Pediocactus knowltonii (S1 G1)
Class 1



Penstemon neomexicanus (S4 G4)
Class 2



Cladium californicum (S2 G4)
Class 3



Limosella pubiflora (S1 G1Q)
Class 4

Revised ranking system

Some examples



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Pediocactus knowltonii (S1 G1)
Class 1



Penstemon neomexicanus (S4 G4)
Class 2



Cladium californicum (S2 G4)
Class 3



Limosella pubiflora (S1 G1Q)
Class 4

Physaria lata (S1? G1G2Q)
Class 5



New process: nomination & review

1. Initial information gathering and assessment (done by person proposing change = submitter)



... can nominate a rare plant for listing!

New process: nomination & review

1. Initial information gathering and assessment (done by person proposing change = submitter)



2. Proposed status change (2 documents) submitted to Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG)

Nomination Factsheet Template

Rare Plant Status Review & Nomination Template (updated Jan 27, 2025):

Please fill out, to the best of your ability, the template for nominating, changing status, or delisting a rare plant. The RPWG will review the information at the next quarterly meeting. If there is consensus that the plant merits further evaluation, additional information may be needed beyond the required fields. See notes at end of document for definitions of some fields.

All text in RED **are** required fields, which will be used to fill out the template/abstract for the NM Rare Plant webpage, should the plant be adopted as part of the NMRPL.

For a change in status or delisting, indicate this below in the field "Basis for listing/change in status/delisting". Fill out only Section 1 and 2, and stop there. Ensure you thoroughly describe the reasons why the plant should no longer be on the NMRPL.

Account written by: [name@organization, if applicable]

Date Submitted:

Contact Info:

SECTION 1 – Name of Plant for Proposed Listing, Change in Status, or Delisting

Scientific Name & Authority:

Synonyms:

Common Name:

Taxonomy: [First collection, first published, recent or pertinent taxonomic changes or issues]

SECTION 2 – Current/Proposed Ranks & Recommended Actions

Current Conservation Status Ranks:

	Current Rank	Proposed Rank (if applicable)
NM Rare Plant Status Rank:		
NatureServe® Rank (Current G & S rank): <small>There may not be a S-rank yet, but if so, record it here with the G-rank if applicable.</small>		

Nomination PowerPoint

Mentzelia springeri (Standl.) Tidestrom

Common name: Santa Fe stickyleaf

Family: Loasaceae

Previous NMRPR: RPTC RARE + Strategy Species

Recommended NMRPR: 1.3

New process: nomination & review

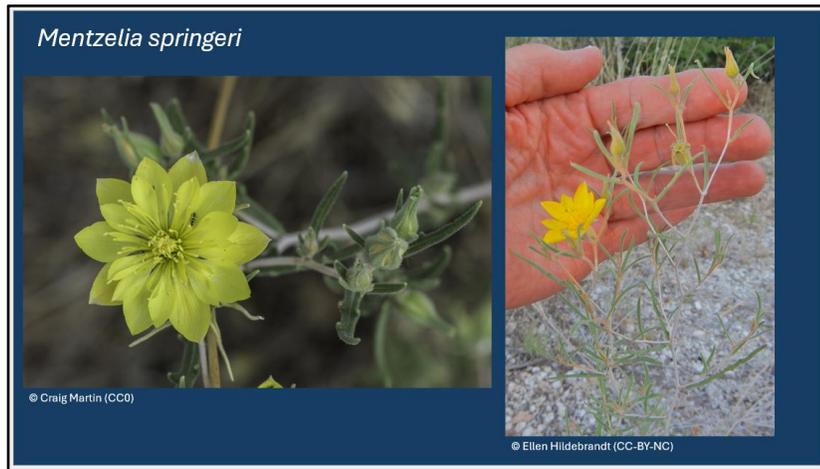
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2. Proposed status change submitted to Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG)



3. Presentation/nomination at (quarterly) RPWG meeting



Mentzelia springeri

Ranking factors:
Range Extent: 785 km²
Area of Occupancy: 96 km²
of EOs in NM: 13
EO viability: unknown
Population size: 10,000?

of EOs threatened: 0%
Threats: none documented; responds favorably to soil disturbance

Recommended NMRPR: 1.3
Calculated NatureServe state rank:

Enables EOO/AOO
Extent of Occurrence: 784,928 km² EN
Area of Occupancy: 96,000 km² EN
AOO based on user defined cell width (2 km), [change](#)

Reduction analysis
<https://geocat.iucnredlist.org/editor>

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4. Dissenting opinions (if any) and vote at subsequent RPWG meeting

Rank Calculator Form						
Remember to adopt a moderate attitude, taking care to identify the most likely plausible range of values, excluding extreme or unlikely values.						
Change to return GRanks, NRanks, or SRanks:		G	change using dropdown; also affects Calculator Table			
Enter values below, text in off-white and light-green cells and dropdowns in yellow and blue cells. Scroll down in dropdowns for additional choices. To clear an individual value, put your cursor in the drop-down cell and press Delete.						
Factor Groups with Weights	Minimum factors categories Individual factor weights	Species or Ecosystem Scientific Name				
		Type (enter "intraspecies" for a T-Rank)				
		Spatial Pattern (for ecosystems only)				
		Optional information: Element ID				global, national, or subnational
		Elcode				
		Common Name				
		Classification				
		Nation or Subnation (for N- or S-Ranks)				COMMENTS (Place cursor in cell to see full text.)
Rarity weight: 0.7	Abund./Cond.	Range/Distr.	1 Range Extent			
			2 Area of Occupancy:	FILL OUT ONLY 1 OF FOLLOWING 3 FIELDS		
			Direct estimate (ecosystems) OR			
			4 km ² grid cells (species) OR			
			1 km ² grid cells (linear species)			
			1 Number of Occurrences			
2 Population Size*						
Threats weight: 0.3	X	1	2 Good Viability/Ecological Integrity:	FILL OUT ONLY 1 OF FOLLOWING 2 FIELDS		
			Number of Occurrences OR			
			Percent of Area Occupied			
Trends weight: 0.3	X	1	1 Environmental Specificity (opt.)			
			1 Assigned Overall Threat Impact			
			Calculated Overall Threat Impact			
Trends weight: 0.3	X	1	1 Intrinsic Vulnerability (opt.)			
			2 Short-term Trend			
			1 Long-term Trend			

New process: nomination & review

1. Initial information gathering and assessment (done by person proposing change = submitter)



2. Proposed status change submitted to Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG)



3. Presentation/nomination at (quarterly) RPWG meeting



4. **Dissenting opinions** (if any) and vote at subsequent RPWG meeting

- **data-driven** disagreement with the proposed Class based on updated NatureServe ranks and/or overlooked taxon info (occurrences, taxonomy, etc.)
- not the appropriate time to argue against the Class schema itself (e.g., Class 3 = disjuncts/peripherals)

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2. Proposed status change submitted to Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG)



3. Presentation/nomination at (quarterly) RPWG meeting



4. Dissenting opinions (if any) and vote at subsequent RPWG meeting

- we propose **general consensus**
- decisions can always be postponed to next meeting if more time is needed for info gathering or updating NatureServe ranks

New process: nomination & review

1. Initial information gathering and assessment (done by person proposing change = submitter)



2. Proposed status change submitted to Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG)



3. Presentation/nomination at (quarterly) RPPWG meeting



4. Dissenting opinions and vote at subsequent RPPWG meeting



5. Final review of RPPWG nominations at (annual) RPTC meeting



New process: nomination & review

1. Initial information gathering and assessment (done by person proposing change = submitter)



2. Proposed status change submitted to Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG)



3. Presentation/nomination at (quarterly) RPWG meeting



4. Dissenting opinions and vote at subsequent RPWG meeting



5. Final review of RPWG nominations at (annual) RPTC meeting



6. Updates to rare plant list and NM Rare Plants website (ongoing basis throughout the year)



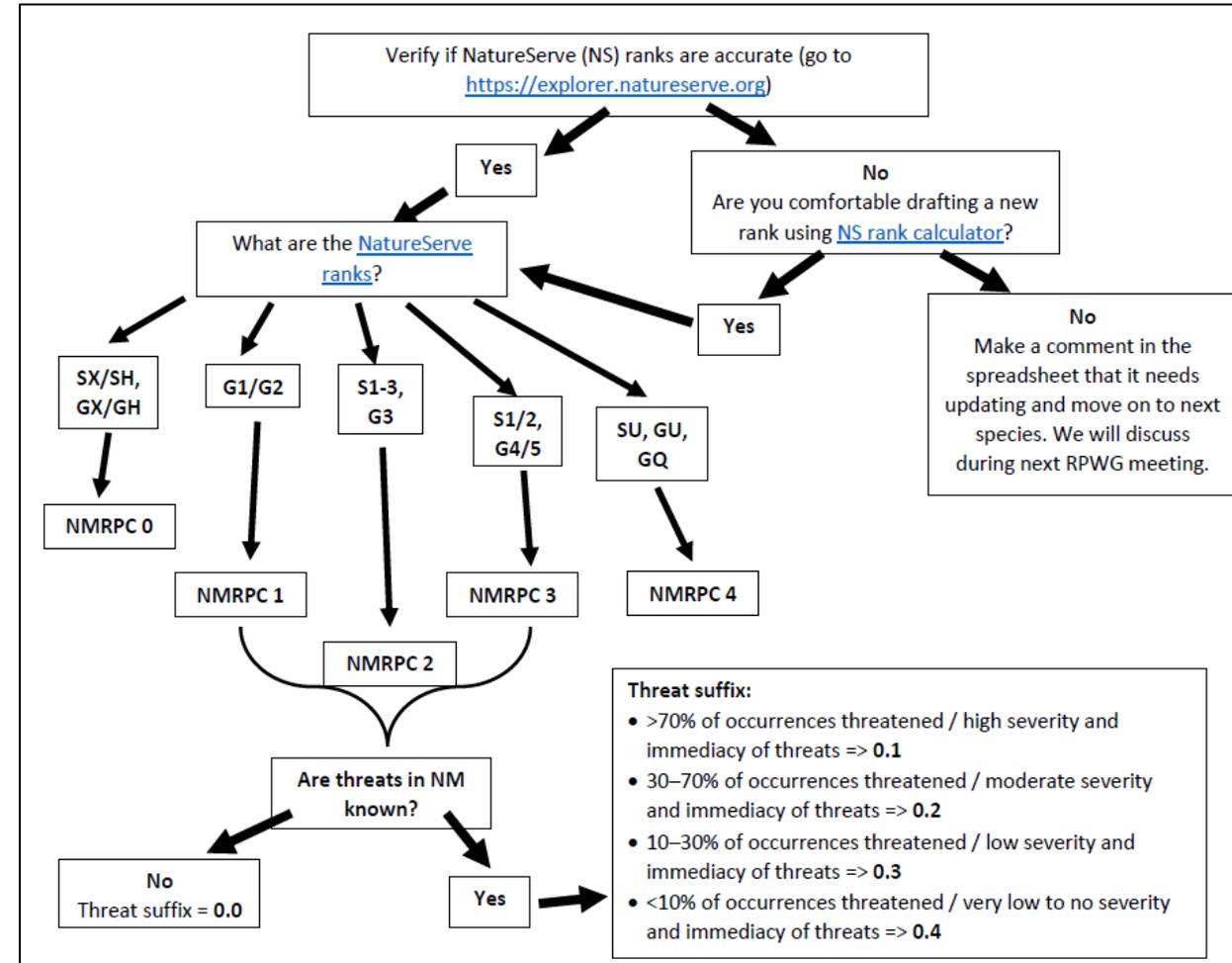
Cross-walking of listed plants

Process

- ❑ decision tree—primarily assessing NatureServe ranks
- ❑ shared Google spreadsheet to document Class assignments and reasoning

Our goal = at least 2 reviews for each taxon

- if agreeing, proposed Class is finalized
- if disagreeing, raise for discussion during next RPWG meeting



Cross-walking of listed plants

Accomplishments:

- goal stated at last RPTC meeting was to complete by this meeting
- G1/G2; completed with 2+ reviews (for most taxa)
- >G2; initial Class assignments completed but 2nd review needed for most taxa

Next steps:

- 2nd review for all plants
- arbitrate Class disagreements during RPWG meetings
- edge cases (e.g., S3/4 G4 near NM endemics)

RPWG Crosswalking Tracking Sheet

File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Extensions Help

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N44 The state rank was reviewed in 2023. There are 2-3 EOs for this species with low population numbers. Threats are unknown based on the information in the S

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
	Scientific Name	NMRPL	USFWS	State	USFS	BLM	Navajo Na	S Rank	G Rank	Needs Disc	Final RPC	Class	Reviewer
9	Astragalus humillimus	R	LE	E			GP 2	S1	G1?		1	1.1	S. Reiss
10	Berlandiera macvaughii	R						S1	G1		1	4.0	J. McGrath
11	Boechera zephyra	R				SEN		S1	G1		1	1.0	RPWG
12	Castilleja organorum	R				SEN		S1	G1		1	1.2	K. Kline
13	Castilleja ornata	R	LE	E		W		S1	G1		1	1.1	C. Meredith
14	Castilleja tomentosa	R		E		W		S1	G1Q		1	1.0	K. Kline
15	Cirsium vinaceum	R	LT	E				S1	G1		1	1.1	M. Purdy
16	Cuscuta warneri	R				W		S1	G1		1	1.0	K. Kline
17	Cylindropuntia viridiflora	R		E		SEN		S1	G1Q		4	X.X	S. Reiss
18	Draba henrici	R						S1	G1	Not listed in NS under this name	1	1.0	K. Kline
19	Erigeron acomanus	R				SEN	GP 3	S1	G1		1	1.4	K. Kline
20	Erigeron hessii	R		E	SEN			S1	G1		1	1.0	M. Purdy
21	Erigeron subglaber	R			SEN			S1	G1		1	1.3	K. Kline
22	Eriogonum gypsophilum	R	LT	E				S1	G1		1	1.3	S. Reiss
23	Eryngium sparganophyllum	R						SH	G1G2		0	0.1	K. Sandbo
24	Escobaria guadalupensis	R				W		S1	G1		1	1.0	E. Rowe
25	Euphorbia rayturneri	R				W		S1	G1		1	1.0	M. Purdy
26	Festuca ligulata							SNR	G1	needs verific	5	N/A	G. McCart
27	Fissidens littlei	R						S1	G1?		1	1.1	E. Rowe
28	Heuchera woodsiaephila	R			SEN			S1	G1		1	1.3	C. Meredith
29	Ipomoea gilana	R				W		S1	G1		1	1.3	E. Rowe
30	Ipomopsis sancti-spiritus	R	LE	E				S1	G1		1	1.1	M. Purdy
31	Lepidospartum burgessii	R		E		SEN		S1	G1		1	1.1	M. Purdy
32	Leucosyris blepharophylla	R						SH	G1		0		K. Sandbo
33	Limosella pubiflora	R			SEN	W		S1	G1Q		4	1.1	K. Kline
34	Linum allredii	R		E		SEN		S1	G1?		1	1.3	S. Reiss
35	Nerisyrenia hypercorax	R				SEN		S1S2	G1G2		1	1.3	K. Kline
36	Oreocarya worthingtonii	R						S1	G1	new nomina	1	1.3	K. Sandbo
37	Podocactus knautianii	R	LE	E				S1	G1		1	1.1	S. Reiss

+ Read.Me G1-G2 all other rare species (G3-G4) problem children needing review Threats resources

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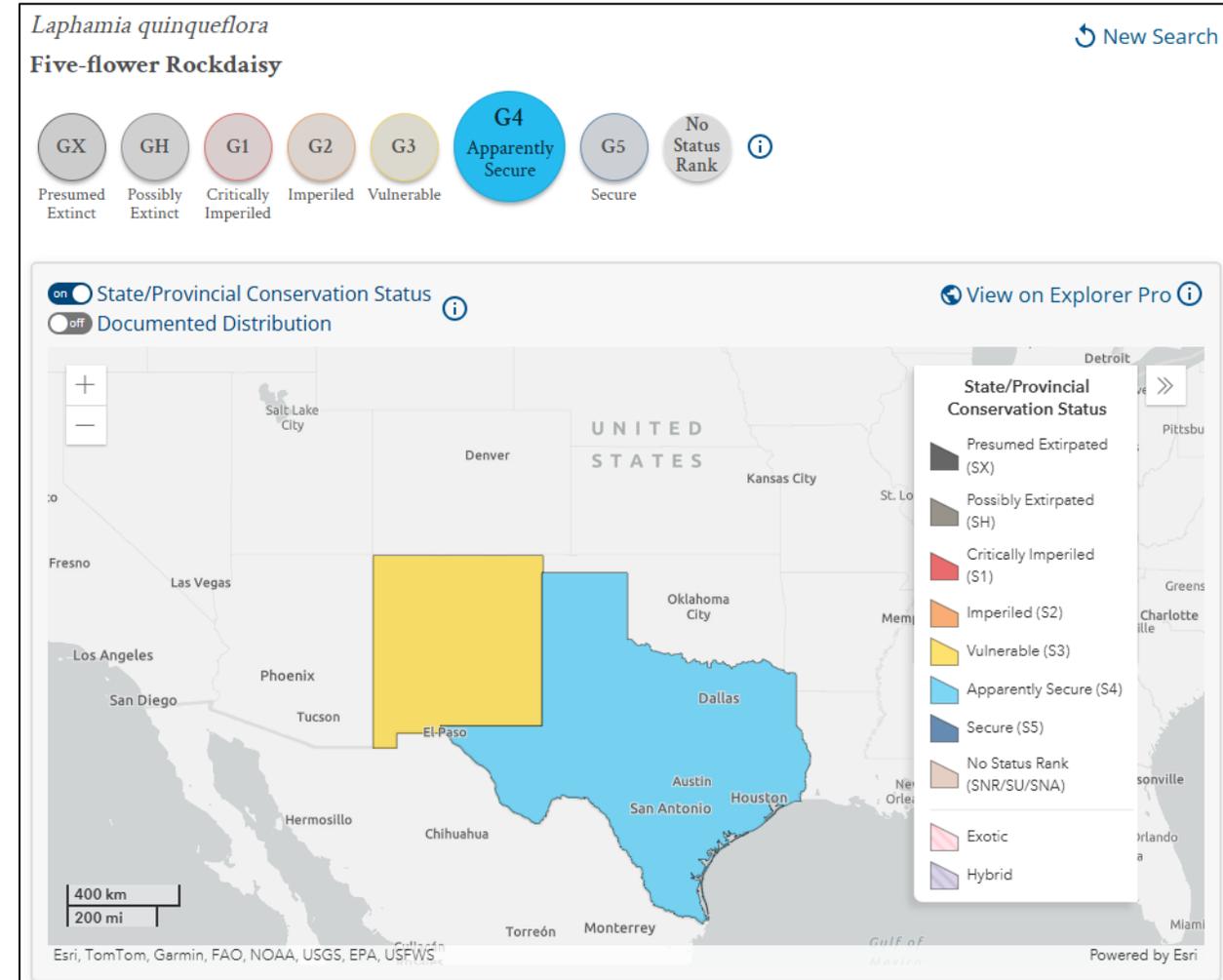
Want to help? Come to next RPWG meeting!

Cross-walking of listed plants

S3/4 G4 near NM endemics:

- ❑ ***Laphamia quinqueflora* (S3 G4)**
- ❑ *Astragalus monumentalis* var. *cottamii*
- ❑ *Astragalus oocalycis*
- ❑ *Ribes mescalerium*
- ❑ *Nama xylopodum*

Don't currently qualify for listing under established criteria, but are most similar to S4/G4 NM endemics like *Penstemon neomexicanus* (Class 2)



Cross-walking of listed plants

S3/4 G4 near NM endemics:

- ❑ *Laphamia quinqueflora* (S3 G4)
- ❑ *Astragalus monumentalis* var. *cottamii*

Laphamia quinqueflora
Five-flower Rockdaisy

GX Presumed Extinct
GH Possibly Extinct
G1 Critically Imperiled
G2 Imperiled
G3 Vulnerable
G4 Apparently Secure
G5 Secure
No Status Rank

State/Provincial Conservation Status
 View on Explorer Pro

State/Provincial Conservation Status Legend:

- Presumed Extirpated (SX)
- Possibly Extirpated (SH)
- Critically Imperiled (S1)
- Imperiled (S2)
- Vulnerable (S3)
- Apparently Secure (S4)
- Secure (S5)
- No Status Rank (SNR/SU/SNA)
- Exotic
- Hybrid

Class	Description	NatureServe Ranks
0	Plants presumed <u>extinct</u> or <u>extirpated</u> in NM.	SX, SH, GX, GH
1	Plants rare in NM <u>and elsewhere</u> (globally imperiled).	S1/S2 and G1/G2
2	Uncommon plants of <u>limited distribution</u> in NM and globally (globally vulnerable).	S1-3 and G3 (typically) but can include up to S4/G4 for NM endemics [+ near endemics?]
3	Plants rare in NM but more common elsewhere (imperiled in NM).	S1/S2 and G4/G5
4	Review list: current data indicates plants are globally rare, but additional info is needed before another rank can be assigned with confidence.	SU, GU, GQ, SNR, GNR, etc.
5	Dropped list: includes plants previously listed and removed and plants evaluated for listing and rejected.	Typically, >S3/G3 , or taxon not recognized by NMRPTC

Discussion topics & questions

1. What to do with S3/4 G4/T4 near NM endemics?
2. Threat suffixes—to keep or drop?



Extra slides

New process: nomination & review

Rare Plant Working Group

Rare Plant Working Group (RPWG)

- **What:** smaller group of botanists to complement the Rare Plant Technical Council (RPTC)
- **Who:** includes representatives from state/federal agencies, academia, NGOs, private citizens, etc.
- **Why:** allow for more efficient review and discussion of plants between annual RPTC meetings

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Responsibilities:

- meet quarterly (?) to review and rank plants nominated for status change
- assist people nominating plants with info gathering and assessment (*if necessary*)
- update NatureServe state ranks for nominated plants
- select plants to be presented and voted on at annual RPTC meeting
- rotating chair and other roles (e.g., scribe?)

Cross-walking of listed plants

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