

Washington Status Factors

Elcode NF000HYKA2
Gname HYGROPHORUS KARSTENII
Gcomname

Number of Occurrences

Comments One documented occurrence seems to be all there is from North America. That collection was found in the range of the northern spotted owl in Mt. Rainier National Park and was gathered in 1948 (Fogel n.d.). It was identified as *H. karstenii* f. *minor* (Hesler and Smith 1963), a form described from Europe, probably northern Italy.

Number of Occurrences with Good Viability

Comments Not found since 1948 so either no one has looked in the right place at the right time or the taxon is no longer in that locality.

Population Size

Z = Zero, no individuals known extant

Comments

Range Extent

Comments I'm not willing to say it is extinct until careful searches of the appropriate locality have been made at the right time of year. Mushrooms are notorious for their irregular fruitings.

Area of Occupancy

Z = Zero (no occurrences believed extant)

LZ = Zero (no occurrences believed extant)

Comments

Long-term Trend in Population Size, Extent of Occurrence, Area of Occupancy, and/or Number or Condition of Occurrences

U = Unknown. Long-term trend in population, range, area occupied, or number or condition of occurrences unknown

Comments Unknown or extinct, take your choice.

Short-term Trend in Population Size, Extent of Occurrence, Area of Occupancy, and/or Number or Condition of Occurrences

U = Unknown. Short-term trend in population, range, area occupied, and number and condition of occurrences unknown.

Comments Unknown or extinct, take your choice.

Threats

U = Unknown. The available information is not sufficient to assign degree of threat as above. (Severity, scope, and immediacy are all unknown, or mostly [two of three] unknown or not assessed [null].)

Scope	Severity	Unknown	Immediacy
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Comments It is very possible that this species, actually a form of *H. karstenii* if you consult Hesler and Smith (1963), should not have been listed in the first place.

Number of Appropriately Protected and Managed Occurrences

A = None. No occurrences appropriately protected and managed

B = Few (1-3) occurrences appropriately protected and managed

Comments The only known occurrence is in a National Park in an area that looks much the same now as it did a bit over 50 years ago. Presumably that site is safe from logging at present and ground disturbing activities in the area are limited. But the species has not been recollected.

Intrinsic Vulnerability

U = Unknown

Comments Because it has not been recognized from the region in at least 50 years there is no way to evaluate this factor. The habitat of the one collection is one of very few remaining low elevation coniferous rain forests in the Pacific Northwest outside the Olympic Peninsula.

Environmental Specificity

A = Very Narrow. Specialist or community with key requirements scarce.

Comments Because it has not been recognized from the region in at least 50 years there is no way to evaluate this factor, but if only one collection has been found, the species likely has some limiting factors in terms of the habitat in which it flourishes. Lower Tahoma Creek is site of a low elevation moist ancient forest with large trees, abundant coarse woody debris, and plenty of Devil's Club.

Other Considerations

This taxon is very poorly known and probably should not have been placed on the ROD list.

Edition	11/17/2002	Edauthor	Nancy S. Weber
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Reasons

This taxon is very poorly known and probably should not have been placed on the ROD list. It is known from one site in Washington. No specimens have been reported since the original collection was made. It is in a cluster of species that can be difficult to distinguish even by the experts and probably needs to be restudied.

BCD Sources

New Sources

Castellano, M.A., Smith, J.A., O'Dell, T., Cazares, E., and Nugent, S. 1999. Handbook to Strategy 1 Fungal Species in the Northwest Forest Plan. Portland, Oregon: USDA Forest Service, PNWRS PNW-GTR-476.

Hesler, L.R., and Smith, A.H. 1963. North American Species of Hygrophorus. Knoxville, TN: The University of Tennessee Press. 416. pp. (note: Castellano et al. 1999 give title of book incorrectly as "North American Taxa of Hygrophorus").