

Conservation Status Assessment

Scientific Name: *Sparassis radicata*

Classification: Fungus

Assessment area: Oregon

Heritage Rank: **S4**

Rank Date: 3/9/2017

Assigned Rank Comments: None.

Rank Adjustment Notes: Formerly *S. crispa*, see global notes. With the same range and threat impact score, there would need to be 8 additional grid squares occupied and 9 additional occurrences in permanently protected areas to increase the calculated rank to S4. It is reasonable to assume those additional sites exist so I gave this species an S4 ranking. S. Loring says "I am unsure how to handle this species, globally or by each state. This is not a rare species on the west coast, but goes extremely under-reported to agency databases and herbariums. I frequently see it throughout forested areas of the PNW -- I cannot count how many times I have encountered this species, not reported it, and then added it to my dinner. It turns up multiple times at nearly all forays I have been too. It is a prized edible and commonly documented via online mushrooms forums. "

Range Extent: F = 20,000-200,000 sq km (~8,000-80,000 sq mi)

Comments: The Oregon Range is 59,280 sq. km. There are sites in the west Cascades from Clackamas to Jackson Counties, in the Coast Range from Tillamook to Coos counties, and in the Siskiyou Mountains of Josephine County.

Population Size: Not assessed

Comments: None

Number of Occurrences: D = 81 - 300

Comments: There are 86 known occurrences in Oregon.

Area of Occupancy: E = 26-125 4-km² grid cells

Comments: This species occupies 114 grid squares in Oregon.

Good Viability: C = Few (4-12) occurrences with excellent or good viability or ecological integrity

Comments: 4 occurrences are in a wilderness area, Crater Lake National Park, or Oregon Cascades Recreation Area.

Environmental Sensitivity: C = Moderate. Generalist or community with some key requirements scarce

Comments: A pathogen and saprotroph on roots and wood of trees.

Short Term Trends: Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Long Term Trends: Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Threat Impact: C = Medium

Comments:

Around 3% of sites have cities, town, a college campus, or recreational residential areas as the location information suggesting they may be threatened by residential development. This is a sought after edible species making it possible for the fruiting bodies to be short lived in areas regularly visited by people. Harvesting the fruiting bodies would reduce the opportunities for spore dispersal, but it would not be expected to damage the mycelium. However as a pathogen and saprotroph, it would need to disperse to new sites as its substrate is killed and decomposed. Approximately 96% of sites are not in permanently protected areas. If those sites are logged on a 40 year rotation, around 24% of sites would be impacted over 10 years and around 96% of sites would be impacted over 100 years.

Intrinsic Vulnerability: Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Calculated Rank: S3

Rank Author: Michael Russell

Rank Reviewer: Scot Loring

References:

- Wang, Z.; Binder, M.; Dai, Y.; Hibbett, D. 2004. Phylogenetic relationships of Sparassis inferred from nuclear and mitochondrial ribosomal DNA and RNA polymerase sequences. *Mycologia*. Volume 9, No. 5:1015-1029.
- Light, W. and M. Woehrel. 2009. Clarification of the Nomenclatural Confusion of the Genus Sparassis [Polyporales: Sparassidaceae] in North America. *FUNGI* Volume 2:4 Fall 2009.

Definitions and Resources:

Rank Prefixes

- G Global rank, applied to taxon's full geographic range
S State rank, applied to taxon's range within the designated state

Rank Values

- 1 Critically imperiled
2 Imperiled
3 Vulnerable
4 Apparently secure, uncommon but not rare
5 Secure, common, abundant, and widespread

Suggested citation:

Oregon Biodiversity Information Center. 2017. Fungi Conservation Status Assessments. Institute for Natural Resources, Portland State University and Oregon State University. Portland, Oregon and Corvallis, Oregon.

More assessments available at <http://inr.oregonstate.edu/orbic/rare-species/ranking-documentation>

Element rank calculator resources at <http://www.natureserve.org/conservation-tools/conservation-rank-calculator>

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