

Conservation Status Assessment

Scientific Name: *Helvella elastica*

Classification: Fungus

Assessment area: California

Heritage Rank: **S1S2**

Rank Date: 11/25/2016

Assigned Rank Comments: None.

Rank Adjustment Notes: Due to the uncertainty the persistence of the many old herbarium collection sites which greatly affect the range and occupancy scores, the species was assigned the mixed (S1/2) ranking.

Range Extent: EF = 5000-200,000 sq km (~2000-80,000 sq miles)

Comments: There are 27 herbarium specimens in the Mycoportal.org database. They include sites in the California Coast, Transverse, Cascade, and Sierra Nevada ranges along the length of the state. However, there are only 2 collections from later than 1960 (1997, 1998) which are from Monterrey and Del Norte counties. The only sites that were accepted by N. Weber in the 2002 ranking were a site in Del Norte county and one in Mendocino County. Based on all of the herbarium collections from between 1900 and 1960, the California range is almost 194,00 sq. km. Including only the Del Norte and Mendocino county collection means the range is around 6200 sq. km. Adding the Monterrey population increases the range to about 19,000 sq. km. With only the two or three sites the California ranking would be S1, based on the whole range it is an S2.

Population Size: Not assessed

Comments: None

Number of Occurrences: AB = 1 - 20

Comments: There are around 15 known occurrences in California, though only two are relatively recent (1990s).

Area of Occupancy: AD = 1-25 4-km² grid cells

Comments: There are around 15 grid squares occupied by known sites in California, however only two sites have relatively recent documentation (1990s). Current status of other sites is unknown.

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

Comments: Out of 15 sites, only one site is in a designated wilderness area. There are another three sites under state or federal parks or forests. Three others are from municipal parks, and the rest are apparently on land open to residential development.

Environmental Sensitivity: Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Short Term Trends: Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Long Term Trends: Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Threat Impact: B = High

Comments:

Many of the collections are rather old and from areas with a high amount of residential development since their collection which suggests they may be at risk to direct effects of development as well as the threat of invasive species modifying their habitat. Some of the other sites may be subject to timber harvest.

Intrinsic Vulnerability: Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Calculated Rank: S2?

Rank Author: Michael Russell

Rank Reviewer: Michael Russell

References:

No additional references listed.

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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