California Status Factors

Elcode       NF00HYCA21
Gname        HYGROPHORUS CAERULEUS
Gcomname     

Number of Occurrences

Comments    This distinctive gilled mushroom is grayish blue to blue or cream-colored with blue tints. One collection (probably dating from roughly 1950-1980) is known from the Mt. Shasta area in California (Largent, 1985). It may be extinct now.

Number of Occurrences with Good Viability

U  = Unknown what number of occurrences with good viability
Comments No data is available on the known site.

Population Size

U  = Unknown
Comments This can not be determined; records reflect only species presence.

Range Extent

B = 100-250 km² (about 40-100 square miles)
Comments Reported only from the area around Mount Shasta in California (Largent 1985).

Area of Occupancy

U  = Unknown
Comments Short of using molecular tools there is no way to evaluate this factor.

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 too little data to draw any conclusions

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 too little data to draw any conclusions
**Threats**

B = Moderate and imminent threat. Threat is moderate to severe and imminent for a significant proportion (20-60%) of the population, occurrences, or area. Ecological community occurrences are directly impacted over a moderate area, either causing irreversible damage or requiring a long-term recovery.

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<tr>
<th>Scope</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Severity</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Immediacy</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
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**Comments**

Most, if not all, the sites are in areas where wildfires are frequent on a historical basis. This mushroom is likely mycorrhizal with conifers. Thus changes brought about by logging, mining, fires, and development that results in the loss of trees and changes in the sites also threaten the existence of the species-- and it may already have been eliminated from the state.

**Number of Appropriately Protected and Managed Occurrences**

U = Unknown whether any occurrences are appropriately protected and managed

**Comments**

The California historic site may or may not be protected; available data on that collection was sparse.

**Intrinsic Vulnerability**

U = Unknown

**Comments**

The degree of vulnerability under current forest practices is relatively low. However, this species occurs in areas that could undergo drastic changes due to logging and development with changes in land management policies at the Federal level. But if the species is extinct in California then it is no longer vulnerable.

**Environmental Specificity**

B = Narrow. Specialist or community with key requirements common.

**Comments**

This species fruits in the spring (May to July depending on altitude) and has been found near melting snowbanks as well as in areas where the snow has been gone for several weeks but the ground is still moist.

**Other Considerations**

It is relatively easy to find and identify in the field so the paucity of sites is likely a reflection of true scarcity.

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

**Grank** SH  **Grank Date** 1/9/2003

**Greasons**

Fruiting bodies of this species are relatively easy to find and identify in the field when they are present. The paucity of sites is likely a reflection of true scarcity. Only one site has been reported from California and it may have been treated as an "historic" site.

**BCD Sources**

**New Sources**
