

Washington Status Factors

Elcode PMORC1Y0K0
Gname PLATANThERA ORBICULATA
Gcomname

Number of Occurrences

C = 21 - 80
D = 81 - 300

Comments Washington has not tracked the taxon since 1984. However, there are 41 recent (since 1980) sighting forms in the Washington Natural Heritage Program files. Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest also has records of the plant in 47 ecology plots, and 17 sites were identified by the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest. Some of these 17 sites may be the same as those in the Heritage Program's files.

Number of Occurrences with Good Viability

U = Unknown what number of occurrences with good viability

Comments Unknown, since Washington has not been actively tracking the species since 1984.

Population Size

U = Unknown

Comments Unknown, since this species has not been actively tracked since 1984. However, most occurrences have a very small number of plants, so it is likely that there are under 1000 plants known from Washington.

Range Extent

D = 1,000-5,000 km² (about 400-2,000 square miles)

Comments Known from northern Washington (King, Snohomish, Stevens, Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan, and Pend Oreille Counties).

Area of Occupancy

U = Unknown

LU = Unknown

Comments Unknown

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 Given the taxon's association with mature to old-growth forests, there may be a downward trend, as these forests continue to be subject to timber harvest.

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 There have been few to no revisits of known occurrences, especially after timber harvest.

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	Unknown	Severity	Unknown	Immediacy	Moderate
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Comments Threats identified in the draft Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest management plan include: spraying that could harm pollinators, changes in environmental conditions that could cause heat or drought stress (primarily through canopy removal), introduction of non-native invertebrates, changes that could affect mycorrhizal fungi, and climate change.

Number of Appropriately Protected and Managed Occurrences

U = Unknown whether any occurrences are appropriately protected and managed

Comments Unknown

Intrinsic Vulnerability

A = Highly Vulnerable. Species is slow to mature, reproduces infrequently, and/or has low fecundity such that populations are very slow (> 20 years or 5 generations) to recover from decreases in abundance; or species has low dispersal capability such that extirpated populations are unlikely to become reestablished through natural recolonization (unaided by humans). Ecological community occurrences are highly susceptible to changes in composition and structure that rarely if ever are reversed through natural processes even over substantial time periods (> 100 years).

Comments Small populations, requires mycorrhizal fungal associate, can have long dormancy and is pollinator dependent.

Environmental Specificity

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

Comments Historically there would have been many sites with a mature or old-growth overstory; however, this habitat is now greatly limited.

Other Considerations

Edition	11/26/2002	Edauthor	Florence Caplow, Washington Natural Heritage Program
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Reasons

There are between 40 and 100 occurrences in Washington; however, many of these have not been revisited, and few are protected. The taxon's dependence on mature overstory conditions, its small populations, and its intrinsic vulnerability are also important ranking factors.

BCD Sources

New Sources

Washington Natural Heritage dataset. 2002. Washington Department of Natural Resources. Olympia, WA.