

# Washington Status Factors

**Elcode** NF00POAL28  
**Gname** PODOSTROMA ALUTACEUM  
**Gcomname**

## Number of Occurrences

A = 1 - 5  
B = 6 - 20

**Comments** The fruiting bodies resemble small, stubby, cream-colored, fingers that are dotted with bumps at maturity. The nutritional mode is unknown although this fungus appears to be closely related to the genus *Cordyceps* which is parasitic. Collections from within the range of the northern spotted owl include four historic collections from Washington deposited at MICH (Fogel n.d.), three shown on the ISMS maps, and three (the same or different) for a total of somewhere between four and ten known occurrences. Additional collections from the northwest are deposited at WSP and likely include some from Washington, but that data was unavailable at the time of this survey.

## Number of Occurrences with Good Viability

B = Very few (1-3) occurrences with good viability

**Comments** Two of the ISMS sites in Washington are in protected areas and should be viable if any are. It is unknown whether this fungus will fruit in the same area in successive years.

## Population Size

U = Unknown

**Comments** This can not be determined; records reflect only species presence.

## Range Extent

F = 20,000-200,000 km<sup>2</sup> (about 8,000-80,000 square miles)

**Comments** Known from western Washington including Olympic National Park, Mt. Rainier National Park, and the area near Mt. Baker.

## Area of Occupancy

U = Unknown

LU = 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** insufficient information

## 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** insufficient information

## Threats

D = Moderate, non-imminent threat. Threat is moderate to severe but not imminent for a significant portion of the population, occurrences, or area.

**Scope** Moderate      **Severity** Moderate      **Immediacy** Low

**Comments** This is a species of mature forests with abundant rotting wood in them. Threats to the forest habitat are also threats to this fungus. Thus logging, mining, fire, and development are all possible threats.

## Number of Appropriately Protected and Managed Occurrences

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

**Comments** Two of the three sites reported in ISMS are in G 1/2 areas, probably the National Parks; the third site is in an unprotected LSR.

## Intrinsic Vulnerability

B = Moderately Vulnerable. Species exhibits moderate age of maturity, frequency of reproduction, and/or fecundity such that populations generally tend to recover from decreases in abundance over a period of several years (on the order of 5-20 years or 2-5 generations); or species has moderate dispersal capability such that extirpated populations generally become reestablished through natural recolonization (unaided by humans). Ecological community occurrences may be susceptible to changes in composition and structure but tend to recover through natural processes given reasonable time (10-100 years).

**Comments** This is a species of mature forests; at least one of the sites may be considered for logging in the future.

## Environmental Specificity

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

**Comments** The species appears to be rare throughout its range which may be a sign that some undertimed but rare combination of environmental factors must be met for it to become established and to persist.

## Other Considerations

Many collectors mistake this species for a species of Cordyceps, a group that parasitizes insects, spiders and their relatives, and the deer truffles (Elaphomyces).

**Edition** 11/18/2002      **Edauthor** Nancy S. Weber

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## Greasons

These fruiting bodies are relatively small, but they stand out against the duff and forest floor litter. Many mycologists have been, and are, interested in this group of fungi and tend to prize their finds like trophies. Thus if this species were common, the evidence would be in herbaria around the world. Further monitoring is needed in order to fill in the blanks in our knowledge of this species.

## **BCD Sources**

### **New Sources**

Fogel, R. n.d. MICH Fungal Bioinformatics Project. Retrieved 2002.11 from <http://www.herb.lsa.umich.edu/Bioinformatics.htm>.