

Oregon Status Factors

Elcode NLLEC5P420

Gname USNEA LONGISSIMA

Gcomname

Number of Occurrences

C = 21 - 80

D = 81 - 300

Comments Populations tend to be a single tree draped with the species, occasionally several trees. 23 locations were found in central Lane County by D. Stone in 1992. Known from about 60 populations recorded by Keon (2001), with an estimate for Oregon of about 180 populations (Keon pers. comm. 2003).

Number of Occurrences with Good Viability

F = Very many (>125) occurrences with good viability

Comments

Population Size

H = >1,000,000 individuals

Comments It is infrequently encountered within even suitable habitat, but is often locally abundant at the sites where it does occur. Population size is difficult to assess: one whole tree may be covered by one individual. On the other hand, every fragment could give rise to a large thallus.

Range Extent

F = 20,000-200,000 km² (about 8,000-80,000 square miles)

Comments In the USA the range is disjunct and includes Alaska to California, west of the Cascade Range crest (www.fs.fed.us).

Area of Occupancy

G = 2,000-20,000 km² (500,000-5,000,000 acres)

LG = 20,000-200,000 km (about 12,500-125,000 miles)

Comments About 8600 square miles.

Long-term Trend in Population Size, Extent of Occurrence, Area of Occupancy, and/or Number or Condition of Occurrences

D = Moderate Decline (decline of 25-50%)

E = Relatively Stable ($\pm 25\%$ change)

Comments 10 sites found in herbarium collections; 1 not present any more, 4 still present or at nearby site; the others not checked (D. Stone NPSO Grant 1991 or 1992). Populations of *U. longissima* were reported to be declining by 1914 in the Americas (Howe, 1914).

Short-term Trend in Population Size, Extent of Occurrence, Area of Occupancy, and/or Number or Condition of Occurrences

D = Declining. Decline of 10-30% in population, range, area occupied, and/or number or condition of occurrences

Comments

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.

Scope Moderate Severity High Immediacy Moderate

Comments U. longissima is impacted by habitat loss, air pollution, and commercial harvesting. It is extremely sensitive to air pollution (Insarova et al. 1992) and specific habitat demands and low dispersal ability make U. longissima very sensitive to environmental disturbances (Esseen 1981). The species is also commercially collected for florist use.

Number of Appropriately Protected and Managed Occurrences

C = Several (4-12) occurrences appropriately protected and managed

Comments OR has at least 8 protected sites.

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 Dispersal is slow, by means of fragmentation.

Environmental Specificity

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

Comments Habitat is very near to year-round water (in OR within 50 feet) or in fog zones.

Other Considerations

ORNHIC - List 3.

Edition 2/20/2003 **Edauthor** Daphne Stone

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Reasons

Known from about 60 populations recorded by Keon, with an estimate for Oregon of about 180 populations. The species has a slow dispersal rate and is highly sensitive to air pollution. It is also collected commercially for the florist trade.

BCD Sources

New Sources

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