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Oregon State Rank Assessment for Cusick's Camassia (*Camassia cusickii*)

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Natural Heritage Ranking Form - Oregon State Rank

Oregon Ranking Form Cusick's camassia (*Camassia cusickii*)

Oregon Biodiversity Information Center

SPECIES ASSESSED

Scientific Name	<i>Camassia cusickii</i>	ELCODE	PMLIL0E010
Common Name	Cusick's camassia	Element ID	9256

Species Concept Reference Citation

Kartesz, J.T. 1994. A synonymized checklist of the vascular flora of the United States, Canada, and Greenland. 2nd edition. 2 vols. Timber Press, Portland, OR.

CONSERVATION STATUS RANK

Assigned Rank	S3		
Rank Assignment Author	N. Dunkirk	Rank Review Date	7/11/2024
Rank Factors Author	N. Dunkirk	Rank Factors Date	07/11/2024
Calculated Rank	S3	Rank Change Date	07/11/2024
Rank Methodology Used	Rank calculation - Biotics v2		

Assigned Rank Reasons

<i>Camassia cusickii</i> occurs across the state of Oregon but is most prevalent in the eastern Blue Mountains ecoregion at the border of Idaho. Historical populations have greater range extent than recent observations. Approximately 22 occurrences are known in the state with approximately ten from the past 30 years. This species may be threatened by road construction, development, grazing, horticultural collecting and invasive species. All occurrences need to be monitored to determine the status of threats, site condition, and abundance of plants, and potential habitat should be surveyed to identify new populations.

RANGE/DISTRIBUTION

Range Extent

Rating	20,000-200,000 square km (about 8000-80,000 square miles)		
Estimate	104,460	Unit Used for Estimate	Square Kilometers
Comments	<i>Camassia cusickii</i> occurs in eastern Oregon in the Willowa Mountains of Baker and Willowa counties, OR. Range Extent in Oregon was estimated to be 104,460 square kilometers using herbarium specimens documented between 1886 and 2024 (GBIF 2024).		

Area of Occupancy

Grid Cell Size	4 km ² Grid Cells		
Rating (as Number of 4 km² Grid Cells)	F = 126-500		
Comments	Area of occupancy was estimated at 336 4km by 4km grid cells using herbarium specimens documented between 1886 and 2024 (GBIF 2024).		

ABUNDANCE AND CONDITION

Number of Occurrences

Rating	21 - 80
Estimate	22

Good Viability/Ecological Integrity

Number of Occurrences with Good Viability/Ecological Integrity

Rating

Number of Protected and Managed Occurrences A = None. No occurrences appropriately protected and managed

THREATS

<u>Threat Category</u>						
<u>Code</u>	<u>Threat Category</u>	<u>Calculated Impact</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>Severity</u>	<u>Timing</u>	<u>Comments</u>
2	Agriculture & aquaculture	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	
2.3	Livestock farming & ranching	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	
4	Transportation & service corridors	Unknown	Unknown	Moderate - slight	Unknown	
4.1	Roads & railroads	Unknown	Unknown	Moderate - slight	Unknown	
5	Biological resource use	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	
5.2	Gathering terrestrial plants	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	
2.3.4	Scale unknown/unrecorded	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	

Calculated Overall Threat Impact Unknown

Assigned Overall Threat Impact U = Unknown

Overall Threat Impact Comments

Although threats are not widely documented, *Camassia cusickii* is threatened in parts of its range by grazing, horticultural collecting (Meinke 1982) and road construction (Rosentreter 1986). Potential threats also include development, invasive species, and other threats in some places. However, the scope, severity, and timing of threats to *Camassia cusickii* is unknown.

TRENDS

Short-Term Trend

Rating

Long-Term Trend

Rating

ADDITIONAL SPECIES INFORMATION

Oregon Habitat Comments

Occurring at low to mid elevations on steep, rocky hillsides and ridgetops in moist soils, usually along or near creeks. Found in sagebrush scrub and among scattered Ponderosa pine. Assoc. species: *Penstemon deustus*, *Arabis golboellii*.

RANKING REFERENCES

<u>Short Citation</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
GBIF		2024	GBIF. 2024. Global Biodiversity Information Facility online database. www.gbif.org .
Meinke		1982	Meinke, R.J. 1982. Threatened and Endangered Vascular Plants of Oregon: An Illustrated Guide. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1, Portland, Oregon. 326 pp.
Rosentreter		1986	Rosentreter, Roger. 1986. Idaho BLM Technical Bulletin: Sensitive and uncommon plants in the Boise District, Bureau of Land Management, Boise, ID. 87 pp.

RESOURCES

Oregon Biodiversity Information Center, Institute for Natural Resources
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Additional ORBIC species ranking forms posted at
<https://inr.oregonstate.edu/orbic/rare-species/ranking-documentation>

Information on Natural Heritage ranking methodology is available at

<http://www.natureserve.org/biodiversity-science/publications/natureserve-conservation-status-assessments-methodology-assigning>

The Conservation Rank Calculator is developed and maintained by NatureServe and is available from

<http://www.natureserve.org/conservation-tools/conservation-rank-calculator>

ASSESSMENT CITATION

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