

Epipactis gigantea (Giant Helleborine)

Family: Orchidaceae (Orchid)

Status: Priority 2 on the State Sensitive Plant List.

Known Locations: Boise, Bonner, Boundary, Clark, Elmore, Idaho, Jerome, Owyhee, Twin Falls Counties, Idaho  
Uncommon in most of the western states in the Rocky Mountains

sites in or near Burley District

Murtaugh section of the Snake River

T10S, R18E, Sec. 3 Vineyard Creek ACEC, 12 miles NE of the city of Twin Falls, on N rim of Snake River Canyon

Soil Type: Streambanks and springs, often on calcareous sites

Habitat and Ecology: A rhizomatous orchid with one to many stems. It is restricted to streambanks, springs, and seepage areas, near thermal or cold water, often in otherwise desert regions. Often grows with monkey flowers, spike rushes, and sedges. The plant still has a broad range, but because of its vulnerable habitat, it is rapidly disappearing. It should be watched for at appropriate habitats in the Burley District. Blooms from April to July.

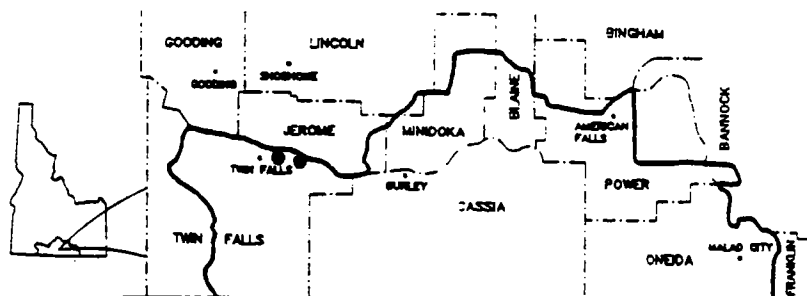
Threats: Development and human disturbance of cold and hot springs, livestock grazing

#### Key Characteristics

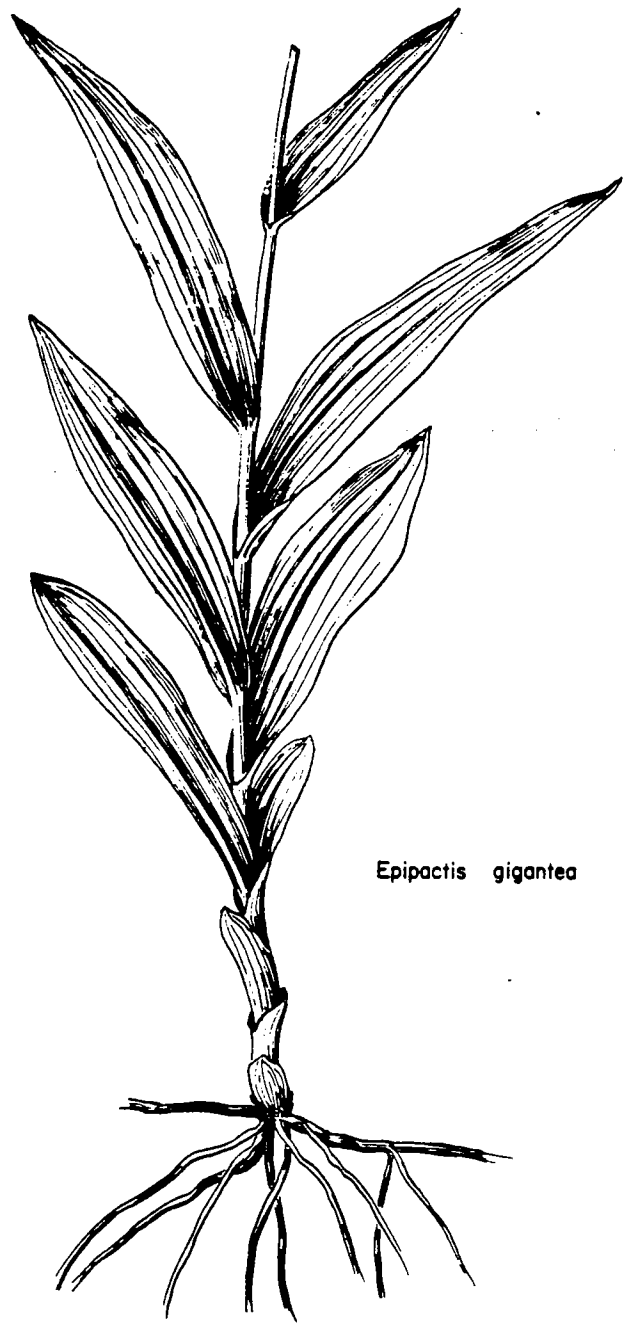
Flowers brownish-purple

Plants up to 3 feet tall

Leaves numerous, elliptical,  
broad, with lengthwise folds



BURLEY DISTRICT



*Epipactis gigantea*

Eriogonum ochrocephalum var. sceptrum (Ochre-Flowered Buckwheat)

Family: Polygonaceae (Buckwheat)

Status: Review species on the State Sensitive Plant List.

Known Locations: Elmore, Owyhee, Twin Falls Counties, Idaho  
Malheur County, Oregon

sites in or near Burley District:

T8S, R13E, Sec. 10 SENW Yahoo Creek, 8 air miles S of Hagerman  
T8S, R14E, Sec. 29 near Banbury Hot Springs

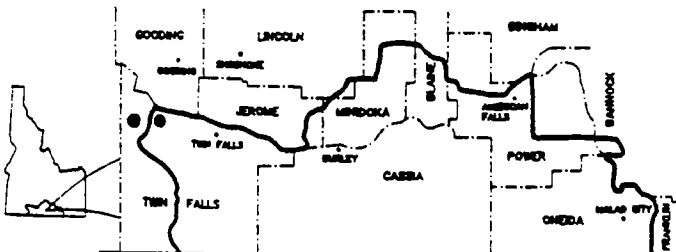
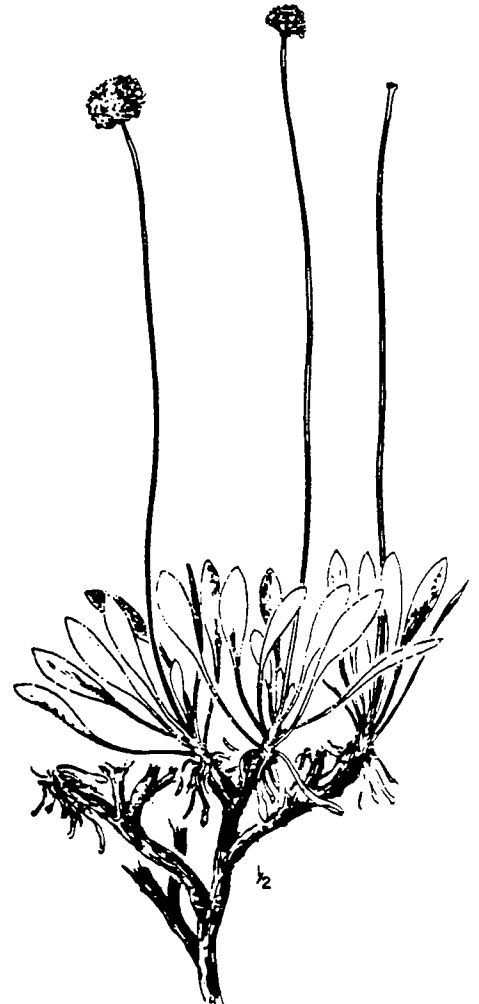
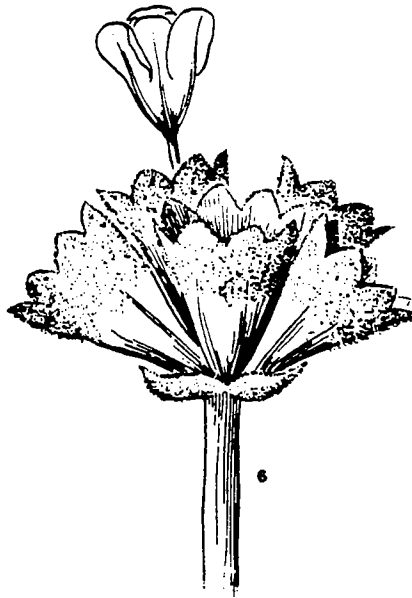
Soil Type: Loose, white, lacustrine ash deposits and heavy clays, mostly barren of vegetation

Habitat and Ecology: A perennial buckwheat of barren lacustrine slopes, typically in the Wyoming big sagebrush zone. It is usually found at elevations below 4000 feet. This variety has not been officially described by James Reveal yet, who is the current authority on Eriogonum. Collections of it are needed to determine its true taxonomic status and distribution. Blooms in June and July.

Threats: Off-road vehicles, mining exploration

Key Characteristics

Involucres tomentose  
Flowers cream-colored to yellow  
Taller than other similar buckweats



BURLEY DISTRICT

Glyptopleura marginata (White-Margined Wax Plant)

Family: Asteraceae (Composite)

Status: Priority 1 on the State Sensitive Plant List.

Known Locations: Ada, Canyon, Owyhee, Twin Falls Counties, Idaho  
Harney, Malheur Counties, Oregon  
uncommon in California, Nevada, Utah

sites in or near Burley District

T16S, R14E, Sec. 29 SENW Player Canyon area SW of Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir

T16S, R15E, Sec. 7 upper Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir

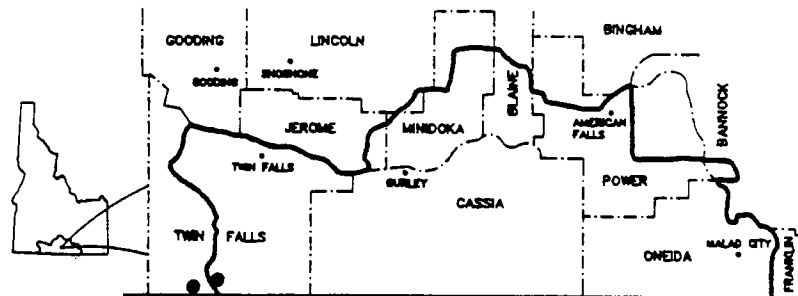
Soil Type: Dry, sandy places, sometimes in loose ash or volcanic cinder.

Habitat and Ecology: A dwarf, tufted winter annual with milky juice and a tap root. Grows in Atriplex-Artemisia habitat on warm, dry micro-sites barren of other vegetation, from 3000 to 5000 feet. This plant has a broad range but is highly infrequent in Idaho, with only a small number of individuals in most of those populations. More common in southwest Idaho. Blooms from May to June, with flowers open in the morning, reputed to close in mid-afternoon.

Threats: Off-road vehicles, increased agricultural development, range improvement programs, and heavy recreational use.

Key Characteristics

Dwarf annual  
Flowers white or pale yellow,  
drying to pink  
Leaves crowded, pinnately lobed  
or toothed with a white, waxy  
margin



BURLEY DISTRICT

Gymnosteris nudicaulis (Large-Flowered Gymnosteris)

Family: Polemoniaceae

Status: Sensitive on the BLM and State Sensitive Plant Lists.

Known Locations: Blaine, Butte, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Lincoln, Minidoka, Owyhee, Twin Falls Counties, Idaho  
Malheur County, Oregon

sites in or near Burley District

- T7S, R12E, Sec. 14 west of Hagerman
- T7S, R13E, Sec. 25 3 miles south of Hagerman, 1940 record
- T7S, R15E, Sec. 24 NWNE, 27 SE, 33 NE of Wendell
- T9S, R17E, Sec. 34 1936 record, near Twin Falls
- T10S, R12E, Sec. 8 SESE, 20 NENW
- T12S, R25E, Sec. 6 1893 record, from Albion

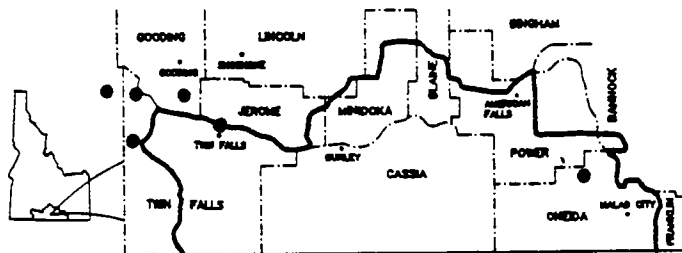
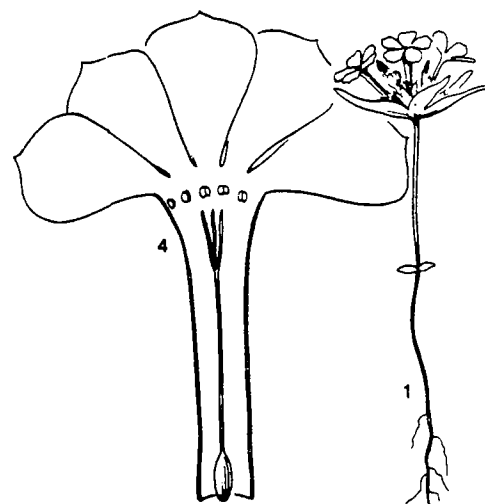
Soil Type: Sandy to sandy loam

Habitat and Ecology: A weak-stemmed annual that grows in somewhat open, sandy areas in the basin big sage-grassland zone. Found from 2700 to 5000 feet. The plant was collected much more frequently in the early to mid-1900's than in the past 15 years. This might partly be due to its early blooming time, which can be as early as the first week of April. It may also be due to the invasion of much of its range by cheatgrass. It was once noted as common. Blooms from April to May.

Threats: Agricultural development, range improvement projects, competition with cheatgrass

Key Characteristics

- Flowers showy and vary from white to yellow to lavender
- Short naked stem
- Whorl of entire leaves just beneath the flower cluster



BURLEY DISTRICT

Lepidium davisii (Davis Peppergrass)

Family: Brassicaceae (Mustard)

Status: Federal Category II (C2) recommended for Threatened status.

Known Locations: Ada, Elmore, Owyhee, Twin Falls Counties, Idaho  
Malheur County, Oregon



sites in or near Burley District

T14S, R15E, Sec. 23 NWNE, 31 NENE, 32 NESW about 4 miles S of Salmon Falls Dam

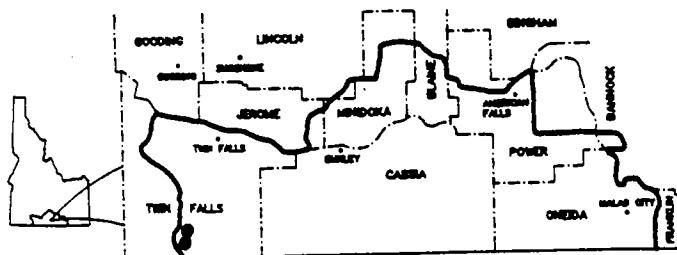
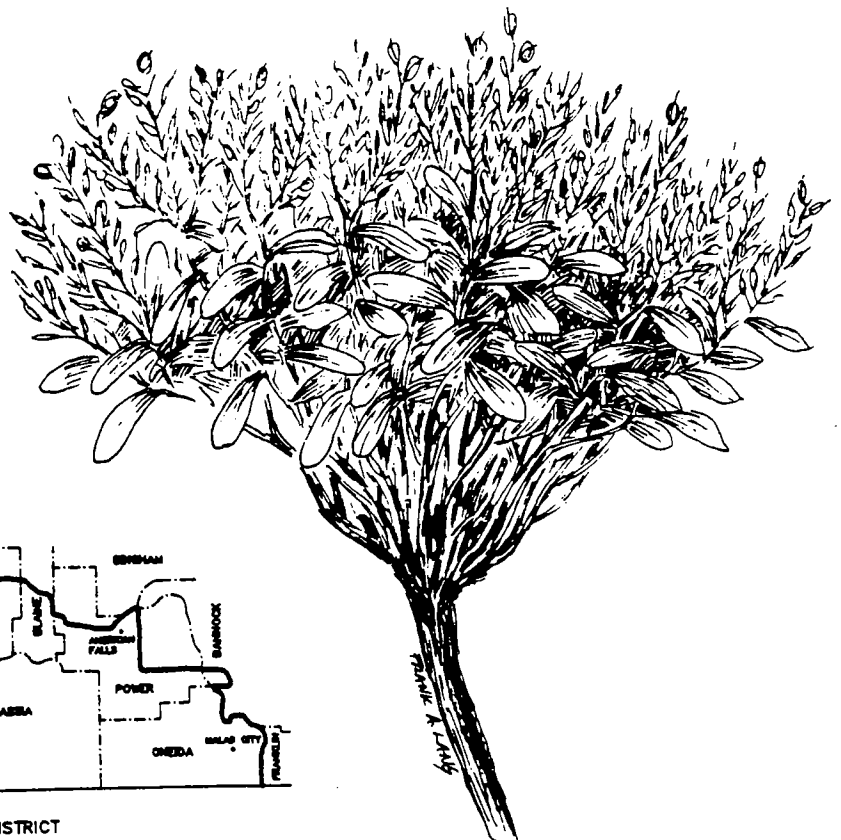
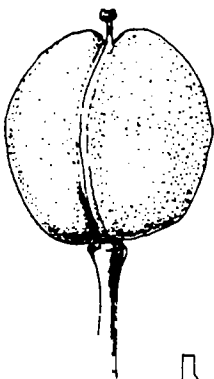
Soil Type: Hard bottom playa

Habitat and Ecology: A caespitose perennial found only in very hard bottom playas that are usually barren of other vegetation. They are poorly drained and often inundated with standing water early in the spring. On rare occasions a few shadscale and silver sage plants may grow in the playas. Playas are located in Wyoming big sage and fourwing saltbush habitat at 2900 to 5000 feet. One of the playas in Burley District is in low sage habitat. Populations vary in leaf shape, size, and time of flowering, and may be genetically distinct populations because of the plant's short distance dispersal mechanism and pollination vectors. Blooms from April to as late as August, depending on moisture.

Threats: Water storage pond development, spring livestock trampling, off-road vehicles, and military tanks (Boise District). Indirect threats may include siltation from range fires and rehabilitation projects.

### Key Characteristics

Only found on playas  
White, 4-petaled flowers  
Plant can become quite woody  
Fleshy entire to toothed to  
pinnately lobed leaves



BURLEY DISTRICT

Mentzelia torreyi var. acerosa (Torrey's Blazing Star)

Family: Loasaceae (Blazing Star)

Status: Priority 1 on the State Sensitive Plant List.

Known Locations: Ada, Elmore, Gooding, Owyhee, Twin Falls Counties, Idaho  
Mono County, California  
Nevada

sites in or near Burley District

T6S, R13E, Sec. 33 NE across from mouth of Malad River, on the Snake River  
T8S, R13E, Sec. 10 SENW along Yahoo Creek, near Thousand Springs  
T8S, R14E, Sec. 29 SENW, SWSE several miles W of Buhl, on road to Banbury  
Hot Springs  
T8S, R14E, Sec. 32 historic record from 1949; 11 miles NW of Buhl  
T9S, R14E, Sec. 9 SWNE 2 miles S of Banbury Hot springs  
T9S, R14E, Sec. 10 near mouth of Mud Creek  
T9S, R15E, Sec. ? Snake River Canyon, 10 miles NW of Filer  
several sites along Salmon Falls Creek, on canyon slopes

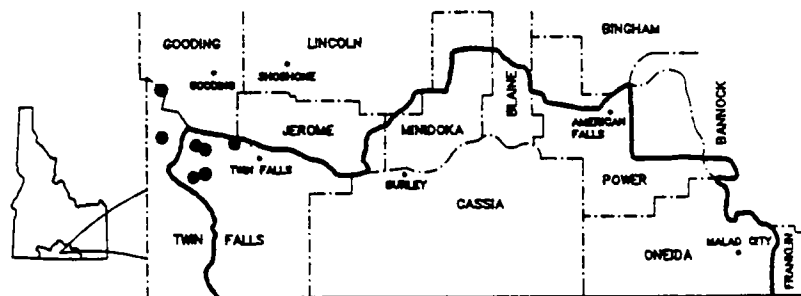
Soil Type: Barren sandy lacustrine soil or volcanic cinder, particularly on south or west-facing slopes.

Habitat and Ecology: A caespitose perennial of barren sandy or volcanic soils from 2900 to 3500 feet in Idaho. It is typically found in the Wyoming big sage-grassland zone or shadscale zone, and often grows with white-stemmed blazing star, Indian ricegrass, and Phlox sp. It is sometimes found with Astragalus kentrophyta var. jessiae, another sensitive plant species. Southern Idaho is the northern limit of its range. In late summer and fall the plant is still easily recognized and often breaks loose, blowing around like a very small tumbleweed. Blooms May and June.

Threats: Off-road vehicles, increased agricultural development, and mining claims

Key Characteristics

Barren lacustrine slopes  
Branched spiny white  
hairy stems and leaves  
Flowers orange



BURLEY DISTRICT

Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior (Simpson's Hedgehog Cactus)

Family: Cactaceae (Cactus)

Status: Sensitive on the BLM and State Sensitive Plant Lists.

Known Locations: Cassia, Owyhee, Twin Falls Counties, Idaho  
Colorado, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming

sites in or near Burley District

T12S, R18E, Sec. 10 SW

T14S, R20E, Sec. 21 NW, 36 NE about 16 miles SW of Oakley on Hudson Ridge

T14S, R21E, Sec. 31 NW Trapper Creek proposed RNA

T14S, R22E, Sec. 35 N edge of Middle Mountain, 6 air miles S of Oakley

T15S, R23E, Sec. 12 SW, 13 N 1/2 Graham Peak ridgeline, SE of Oakley

T15S, R29E, Sec. 16 W 1/2, 17 E 1/2 Pole Canyon proposed Research Natural  
area

T16S, R17E, Sec. 26 SW

Soil Type: Shallow rocky soils. Sometimes sandy sites

Habitat and Ecology: A typically solitary-stemmed cactus of rocky soils, benches, and canyon rims. Also known from sandy soils near the City of Rocks. It is often associated with low sage and bud sage. In Burley District it may be found with juniper, Aster scopulorum, and Haplopappus acaulis. This cactus variety is relatively widespread in southern Idaho, and even though it is somewhat protected by its habitat, it may be exploited by cactus collectors.

Threats: Commercial collectors

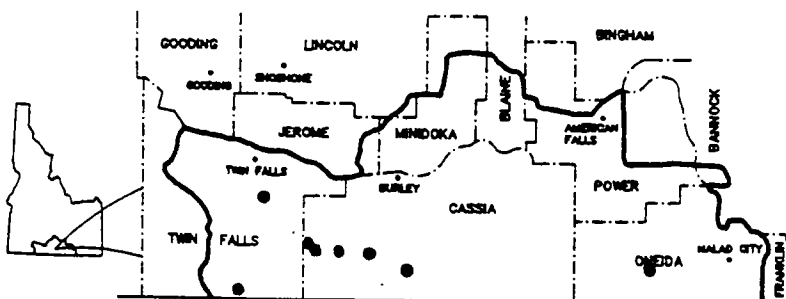
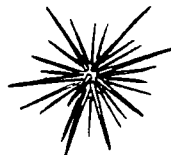
Key Characteristics

Only barrel cactus in  
southern Idaho

Flowers light pink, yellowish,  
or greenish



habit



BURLEY DISTRICT



Scutellaria nana (Dwarf Scullcap)

Family: Lamiaceae (Mint)

Status: Review species on the State Sensitive Plant List.

Known Locations: Ada, Owyhee, Twin Falls Counties, Idaho  
Northeast California  
Central Nevada  
Southeast Oregon  
Iron, Washington Counties, Utah

sites in or near Burley District

T16S, R16E, Sec. 29 SW near the Mule Creek Crossing

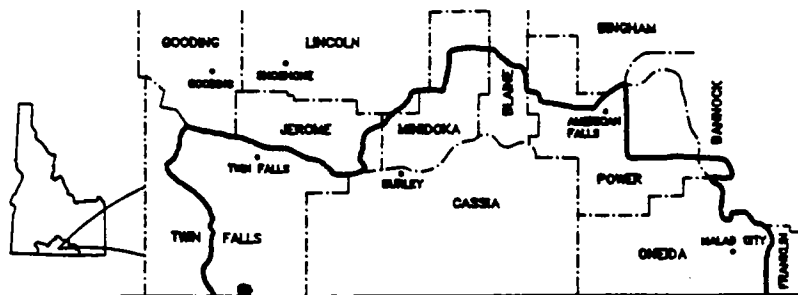
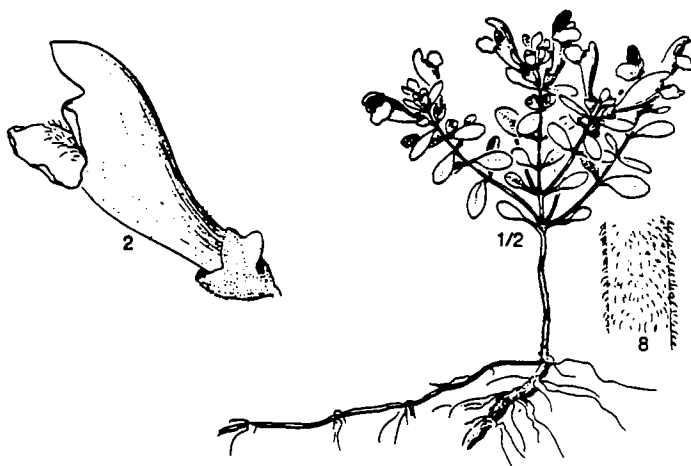
Soil Type: On rhyolitic gravel or shallow scabland sites associated with basalt

Habitat and Ecology: A diminutive, rhizomatous perennial in the mint family. Very striking appearance when in bloom. It grows on sites with shallow rocky soil, usually in low sage habitat, where other vegetation is sparse. Other associated species might include bluebunch wheatgrass, Penstemon deustus, and Erigeron bloomeri. It has also been found on soils sorted by stream action such as dry gravel bars along desert riparian areas. This species was put on the "Review" list at the 1988 Sensitive Plant Workshop. It has a wide range, but collections reflect that it may be uncommon. This might partly be due to its small size and harsh choice of habitat. Blooms in May and June.

Threats: None known.

Key Characteristics

Flowers cream-colored, the upper lip pale purplish  
Leaves elliptic, entire  
Rhizomatous  
Gravelly soils



BURLEY DISTRICT

Townsendia scapigera (Stemless Townsendia)

Family: Asteraceae (Composite)

Status: Review species on the State Sensitive Plant List.

Known Locations: Twin Falls County, Idaho  
Millard County, Utah  
California  
Nevada

Idaho

T16S, R16E, Sec. 30 N edge of Jackpot Basin

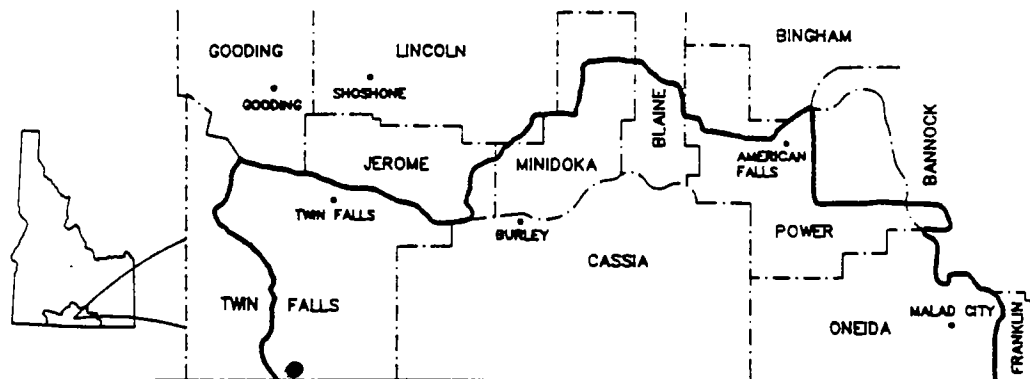
Soil Type: Dry sandy sites in the Great Basin. Ash slopes at the Idaho site.

Habitat and Ecology: A caespitose, acaulescent, biennial or short-lived perennial that grows in a broad range of habitats, from sagebrush to alpine tundra (4500-9500 feet). It has only been collected once in Idaho, in 1979. It is distinguished from T. florifer by its lack of stems. The plant apparently just gets into Idaho. Collections are needed to determine its range and extent in this state. Blooms in July.

Threats: None known

Key Characteristics

Caespitose growth form  
Flowers white to pink  
Stems lacking



BURLEY DISTRICT

#### LITERATURE CITED

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Local Descriptions of Sensitive Plants in or near Burley District

T6S, R13E, Sec. 20 SE Sec. 33 NE	Astragalus atratus var. inseptus Mentzelia torreyi var. acerosa
T7S, R12E, Sec. 14 R13E, Sec. 32 Sec. 25 R15E, Sec. 24 NWNE Sec. 27 SE Sec. 33	Gymnosteris nudicaulis Astragalus atratus var. inseptus Gymnosteris nudicaulis Gymnosteris nudicaulis Gymnosteris nudicaulis Gymnosteris nudicaulis
T8S, R13E, Sec. 10 SENW Sec. 10 SENW	Eriogonum ochrocephalum var. sceptrum Mentzelia torreyi var. acerosa
T8S, R14E, Sec. 29 SENW Sec. 29 SWSE Sec. 29 Sec. 32	Mentzelia torreyi var. acerosa Mentzelia torreyi var. acerosa Eriogonum ochrocephalum var. sceptrum Mentzelia torreyi var. acerosa
T9S, R13E, Sec. 11	Astragalus atratus var. owyheensis
T9S, R14E, Sec. 9 SWNE Sec. 10	Mentzelia torreyi var. acerosa Mentzelia torreyi var. acerosa
T9S, R15E, Sec. ?	Mentzelia torreyi var. acerosa
T9S, R17E, Sec. 34	Gymnosteris nudicaulis
T10S, R12E, Sec. 8 SESE Sec. 20 NENW	Gymnosteris nudicaulis Gymnosteris nudicaulis
T10S, R18E, Sec. 4 NENE	Epipactis gigantea
Murtaugh sec. of the Snake R.	Epipactis gigantea
T12S, R18E, Sec. 10 SW Sec. 10 SE R25E, Sec. 6	Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior Allium anceps Gymnosteris nudicaulis
T13S, R24E, Sec. 1 Sec. 4 Sec. 4 Sec. 9 NE Sec. 9	Cymopterus davisii Cymopterus davisii Castilleja christii Cymopterus davisii Castilleja christii
T14S, R13E, Sec. 11 R15E, Sec. 7 R15E, Sec. 23 NWNE Sec. 31 Sec. 31 NENE Sec. 32 NESW R20E, Sec. 21 NW Sec. 36 NE	Astragalus atratus var. owyheensis Astragalus atratus var. owyheensis Lepidium davisii Allium anceps Lepidium davisii Lepidium davisii Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior

T14S, R21E, Sec. 31 NW	Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior
R22E, Sec. 35 NESE	Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior
R24E, Sec. 20 NE	Cymopterus davisii
Sec. 21 SW	Cymopterus davisii
T15S, R15E, Sec. 5	Allium anceps
Sec. 8	Allium anceps
R23E, Sec. 12 SW	Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior
Sec. 13 N 1/2	Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior
R29E, Sec. 16 W 1/2	Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior
Sec. 17 E 1/2	
T16S, R14E, Sec. 29 SENW	Glyptopleura marginata
R15E, Sec. 8	Astragalus tetrapterus
Sec. 7	Glyptopleura marginata
R16E, Sec. 29 SW	Scutellaria nana
Sec. 30	Townsendia scapigera
R17E, Sec. 30	Astragalus atratus var. owyheensis
Sec. 26 SW	Pediocactus simpsonii var. robustior
R21E, Sec. 33 N 1/2 SESE	Astragalus anserinus