



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish & Wildlife Office
Species Account
RED HILLS VERVAIN
Verbena californica



CLASSIFICATION: Threatened

Federal Register Notice 63:49022; September 14, 1998

www.fws.gov/ecos/ajax/docs/federal_register/fr3303.pdf (113 KB)

STATE LISTING STATUS AND CNPS CODE:

This species was listed as endangered by the California Department of Fish and Game in August 1994, under the name of California vervain. The California Native Plant Society has placed it on List 1B (rare or endangered throughout its range), also as California vervain.



Red Hills Vervain
Dr. Dean Wm. Taylor, Jepson Herbarium
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CRITICAL HABITAT: None designated

RECOVERY PLAN: None

5-YEAR REVIEW: Completed December 2007. No change recommended

www.fws.gov/ecos/ajax/docs/five_year_review/doc1873.pdf (414 KB)

DESCRIPTION:

Red Hills vervain, also known as California vervain, is an erect perennial herb belonging to the vervain family (Verbenaceae). It grows to 60 centimeters (23 inches) in height with opposite, bright green leaves without stems.

White-blue to purple blossoms appear from May through September. One to five flowers grow at the top of each spike. No closely related species co-occur with Red Hills vervain. See Jepson Manual, below, for a more detailed description.

Although Red Hills vervain can set seed, this species reproduces asexually by bulblets formed from the underground bulb. In fact, the species does not reproduce readily from seed in the wild. There is speculation that this has resulted in a naturally occurring barrier to the spread of the species.

DISTRIBUTION:

Verbena californica grows on the margins of perennial streams and in other moist habitats in serpentine areas of the Red Hills. See the 5-year review, above, for more information.

U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Quads: Sonora (458B) 3712084, Chinese Camp (458C) 3712074, Keystone (459D) 3712075

THREATS:

Recreational activities such as gold mining, mountain biking and hiking threaten Red Hills vervain. Hydrological changes are also now affecting the species. The present grazing regime is being maintained and the populations appear stable. See the 5-year review, above, for more information.

REFERENCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[General references about California plants](#)

www.fws.gov/sacramento/es/plant_spp_accts/plant_references.htm

[The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California](#). This is the standard reference about California plants. The Manual is available in an [online version](#). See also the [Jepson Online Interchange](#) for updates.

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