



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish & Wildlife Office



Species Account
VINE HILL CLARKIA
Clarkia imbricata

CLASSIFICATION: Endangered
Federal Register Notice 62:54791; October 22, 1997
www.fws.gov/ecos/ajax/docs/federal_register/fr3169.pdf (1.6 MB)

STATE LISTING STATUS AND CNPS CODE:
This species was listed as endangered by the California Department of Fish and Game in November 1978. The California Native Plant Society has placed it on List 1B (rare or endangered throughout its range).

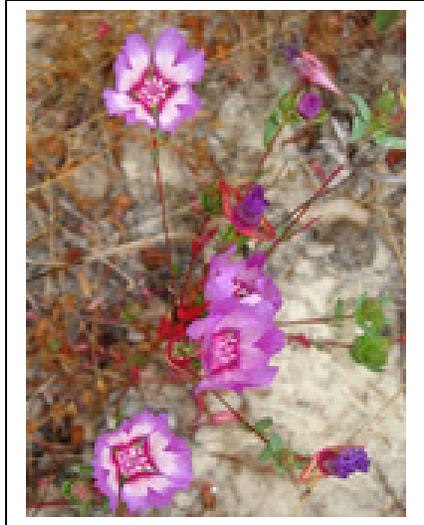
CRITICAL HABITAT: None designated

RECOVERY PLAN: None

5-YEAR REVIEW: Initiated March 25, 2009



Vine Hill Clarkia
Kate Symonds
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DESCRIPTION:

Vine Hill clarkia is an erect annual herb belonging to the evening-primrose family (Onagraceae). Stems grow to 6 decimeters (2.5 feet) tall, unbranched or with numerous short branches in the upper parts.

The plant is densely leafy with smooth leaf margins and lanced-shaped leaves 2.0 to 2.5 cm (0.8 to 1.0 in) long and 4 to 7 mm (0.2 to 0.3 in) wide. The leaves grow ascending and overlapping one another.

Flowers bloom from June through July. Each flower has a conspicuous

funnel-shaped tube at its base and four fan-shaped lavender petals with a v-shaped purple spot extending from the middle to the upper margin of the petal. The flowers are grouped closely together.

Clarkia purpurea ssp. *viminea* (purple or winecup Clarkia) is the only other Clarkia taxon with which Vine Hill Clarkia can be confused. *C. purpurea* ssp.



Vine Hill Clarkia (Shown with Vine Hill manzanita)
Kate Symonds
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viminea has a much shorter, funnel-shaped tube and does not have the relatively broad, ascending, overlapping leaves of *C. imbricata*. See Jepson Manual, below, for a more detailed description.

DISTRIBUTION:

Vine Hill clarkia has never been abundant. The plant has been found in valley grasslands, meadows and chaparral. Currently, this plant is known from only two populations found in the grasslands on acidic sand in Sonoma County. One population is natural and the other was propagated from cuttings in a preserve owned by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). The two populations are about 1 mile apart. The two populations have a total number of plants ranging from 2,000 to 5,000. Both populations occur on private lands.

U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Quads: Sebastopol (502A) 3812247

THREATS:

Illegal collection, trampling, competition from invasive species, and land conversion threaten the species.

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.

Lewis, H. and M.E. Lewis. 1953. New species and changes in nomenclature in the genus *Clarkia* (Onagraceae). *Madroño* 12: 33-39.

_____. 1955. The genus *Clarkia* University of California Publications in Botany. 20: 241-392.

Roof, J. B. 1971. Summer wildflowers: the *Clarkias*. *Four Seasons*. 4 (1): 2-6.

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