

Species Fact Sheet

Bradshaw's lomatium

Lomatium bradshawii



STATUS: ENDANGERED
CRITICAL HABITAT: NONE

This species potentially occurs in
Clark County, Washington
(Map may reflect historical as well as
recent sightings)

Bradshaw's lomatium, *Lomatium bradshawii*, was federally listed as endangered in 1988. A recovery plan was published in 1993.

Current and Historical Status

Bradshaw's lomatium currently extends from Clark County, Washington, to the southern end of the Willamette Valley, Oregon. Historically, *Lomatium bradshawii* was poorly documented. No known collections occurred between 1941 and 1969, which led to the assumption that the taxon might be extinct. By 1980, following a study of the species, six populations had been located. Since 1980, over 40 new sites have been discovered. For many years *Lomatium bradshawii* was considered an Oregon endemic, however, in 1994, two populations were discovered in Clark County, Washington. The

Washington populations are located on private land and contain the largest number of plants, with one site estimated to have over 800,000 individuals.

Description and Life History

Bradshaw's lomatium is perennial herb in the parsley family (Apiaceae) and can reach 8-20 inches in height. Mature plants have 2-6 leaves that are chiefly basal and divided into very fine, almost threadlike, linear segments. The yellow flowers are small and grouped into asymmetrical umbels. Each umbel is composed of 5-14 umbellets, which are subtended by green bracts divided into sets of three. This bract arrangement differentiates Bradshaw's from other lomatiums. Bradshaw's lomatium blooms during April and early May, with fruits appearing in late May and June. Fruits are oblong, corky and thick-winged along the margin, and have thread-like ribs on the dorsal surface. This plant reproduces entirely from seed. Over 30 species of insects pollinate this plant including beetles, wasps, flies, and bees.

Habitat

L. bradshawii is restricted to wet prairie habitat. These sites have heavy clay soils or a dense clay layer below the surface that results in seasonal hydric soils. The majority of Bradshaw's lomatium populations occur on seasonally saturated or flooded prairies, adjacent to creeks and small rivers. Tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*), slender rush (*Juncus tenuis*), sawbeak sedge (*Carex stipata*), and one-sided sedge (*Carex unilateralis*) are often associated with this species.

Reasons for Decline

Most of its habitat has been lost to land development for agriculture, industry, and housing. Water diversions and flood control structures have changed historic flooding patterns, which may be critical to seedling establishment. Reductions in natural flooding and fire cycles also permit invasion of trees and shrubs and eventual conversion of wet prairies to woodlands.

Conservation Efforts

Extensive research has been conducted on the ecology and population biology of *Lomatium bradshawii*, including effective methods for habitat

enhancement, propagation, and reintroduction. The results of these studies have been used to direct the management of the species.

Propagation studies have found that long-term (8 weeks) cold stratification was necessary to fully break dormancy in this species. *Lomatium bradshawii* plants can be grown from seed in a greenhouse environment. Plants may be successfully established at existing populations or new locations through out-planting of greenhouse-grown plants. Fertilizing transplants may have a negative effect on survival in some cases. Direct seeding has a relatively high success rate (17 to 38 percent), and is improved by removal of competing vegetation. Seeds of this species have been banked at the Berry Botanic Garden in Portland, Oregon (Berry Botanic Garden) and the University of Washington Botanic Garden

References and Links

[Listing Status](#)

[Recovery Plan](#)

[WTU Herbarium](#)

[USFWS Threatened and Endangered Species Profile](#)

[USFWS Endangered Species Program](#)

[WA DNR Natural Heritage Program](#)

[WA DNR Field Guide](#)

[WA DNR Conservation](#)