

## ***Erigeron oregonus* A. Gray**

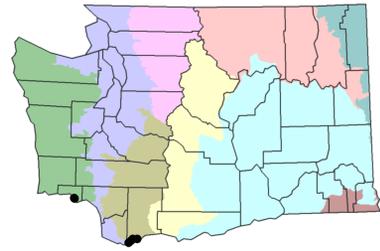
gorge daisy

Asteraceae - aster family

status: State Threatened, Federal Species of Concern,

BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

rank: G3 / S2



**General Description:** Perennial with a stout, mostly simple caudex and stout root; herbage glandular, somewhat sticky, and covered with long, soft, fine hairs. Stems lax, 5-15 cm long. Basal leaves tufted, spatulate to obovate, coarsely toothed or incised, up to 9 x 2.5 cm. Stem leaves well developed, broadly lanceolate to elliptic or ovate, up to 4 x 1 cm.

**Floral Characteristics:** One to several radiate heads in a leafy inflorescence; disk 9-13 mm wide. Involucre 5-7 mm high, glandular, sticky, and covered with long, soft, fine hairs; bracts loose, equal, thin, and green. Rays 30-60, bluish to more often pink or white, 5-8 mm long. Disk corollas 3.4-4.7 mm long. Flowers May to August.

**Fruits:** Achenes with pappus of about 15-20 simple bristles, which are curled and twisted on at least the upper half.

**Identification Tips:** Best distinguished by the combination of its tufted, spatula-shaped basal leaves with blunt teeth and its leafy stem. No other species of *Erigeron* with those characteristics occur in the Columbia Gorge. The curled or twisted pappus bristles are also a useful identifying feature.

**Range:** Endemic to the Columbia River Gorge of OR and WA; most frequently collected on the OR side.

**Habitat/Ecology:** Wet environments on basalt outcroppings, and moist and shady basalt cliffs and ledges, often beneath overhangs or near waterfalls, at elevations of 15 to 520 m (50-1700 ft). Common associates include cliff beardtongue (*Penstemon rupicola*), bellflower (*Campanula rotundifolia*), maidenhair fern (*Adiantum aleuticum*), Oregon stonecrop (*Sedum oregonum*), irregular polypody fern (*Polypodium amorphum*), and Pacific ninebark (*Physocarpus capitatus*).

**Comments:** This species is limited in both its geographic distribution and its habitat requirements (moist, shaded, exposed basalt). It is also rare in OR.

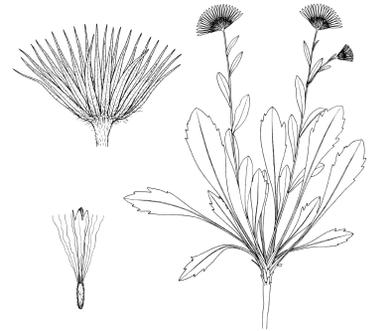
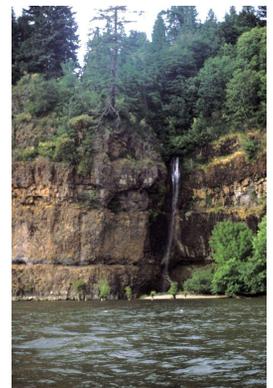


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