

Erythranthe pulsiferae (A. Gray) G.L. Nesom

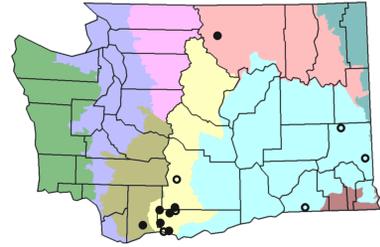
synonym: *Mimulus pulsiferae* A. Gray

Pulsifer's monkeyflower

Scrophulariaceae - figwort family

status: State Sensitive, BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

rank: G4? / S2



General Description: Slender, glandular-hairy annual, 5-15 cm tall. Leaves opposite, small, blades 5-12 mm long, rhombic, elliptic or lance-ovate, sessile or tapering to the short petiole.

Floral Characteristics: Flowers axillary; pedicels 1-1.5 cm when flowering, becoming arched and upturned in fruit. Calyx glandular-hairy, 3.5-5 mm long when flowering, lobes short and pointed. Corolla yellow with maroon dots, 8-16 mm long, generally 2-3 times as long as the calyx, only slightly 2-lipped, the lower lip only slightly greater than the upper, the throat hairy within. Style conspicuously surpasses the calyx. Flowers June to July.

Fruits: Capsules with many seeds.

Identification Tips: Distinguished by its annual habit, small leaves, yellow corollas that are 8-16 mm long, long pedicels that are spreading and upwardly arched, and tapered leaf bases.

Range: East of the Cascades in WA, OR, and CA.

Habitat/Ecology: Seasonally wet or moist open areas; often in exposed mineral soil or in grass/forb openings in ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), and oak (*Quercus garryana*) forests. Found from valleys and foothills to middle elevations in the mountains; elevations in WA are from 480 to 1220 m (1580-4000 ft). Other associates include oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*), kinnikinnick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), cryptantha (*Cryptantha* spp.), forget-me-not (*Myosotis* spp.), willowherb (*Epilobium* spp.), cinquefoil (*Potentilla* spp.), alumroot (*Heuchera* spp.), and cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*). As an annual, populations probably fluctuate with yearly changes in moisture availability.

Comments: Historically known from several cos. in eastern WA, but now extant at a few sites in 3 counties. Historical sites need revisiting. As a small annual with a limited flowering time, it may be easily overlooked. Threats include any ground disturbing activity that would alter hydrology or compact the ground. It is probably vulnerable to competition from exotic annual plants. Weed control efforts should be undertaken in a manner compatible with this species.

References: Argue 1986; Meinke 1989; Whittal et al. 2006.

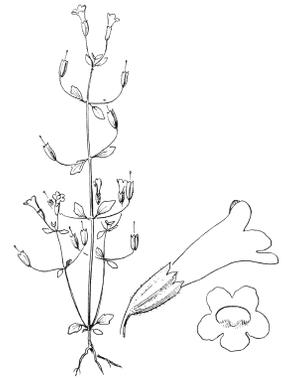


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