

***Rhytidium rugosum* (Hedw.) Kindb.**

Status: State Working List

Rank: S1G5

General Description: *Rhytidium rugosum* forms loose yellow-green to golden brownish-green mats with almost pinnately branched stems 6-10 cm long. Leaves are 3-4 mm long, broadly ovate-lanceolate, usually falcate-secund, strongly wrinkled and plicate wet or dry. The costa is strong, single and extends to the middle of the leaf; leaf cells are papillose by projecting cell ends. *Rhytidium rugosum* is dioicous but rarely produces sporophytes.

Identification Tips: This species can be confused with *Rhytidiopsis robusta*. The single costa and lack of paraphyllia distinguish *Rhytidium rugosum* from *Rhytidiopsis robusta*, which has abundant paraphyllia on the stems and a forked costa. Also according to Schofield (1992), *Rhytidium rugosum* usually occurs in open dry areas, while *Rhytidiopsis robusta* is found in forested sites.

Range: In the Pacific Northwest, *R. rugosum* is restricted to the interior dry areas of British Columbia, one locality in northern Oregon, and several locations in Clallam County, Washington.

Habitat: *Rhytidium rugosum* occurs on dry calcareous soil or rocks in open, high elevation areas.

State Status Comments: At present, *R. rugosum* is only known from several sites in the higher elevation areas of Olympic National Park.

Inventory Needs: *R. rugosum* will likely be found in the Buckhorn, Mount Skokomish, The Brothers and Colonel Bob wilderness areas on the Olympic National Forest. These areas and other similar high elevation areas in the Cascades and Okanogan Highlands should be inventoried.

Threats and Management Concerns: This species is also listed as S1 (critically imperiled and fewer than five occurrences) in Oregon. Threats to the species include trail construction and maintenance, and trampling from recreational activities.

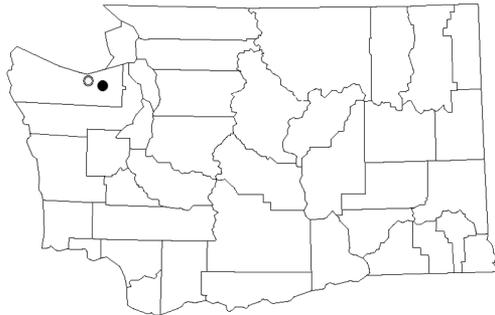
References:

- Crum, H.A. and L. E. Anderson. 1982. *Mosses of Eastern North America*. Volumes 1 and 2. Columbia University Press. New York. 1328 pp.
- Lawton, E. 1971. *Mosses of the Pacific Northwest*. The Hatori Botanical Laboratory. Nichinan. Miyazaki. Japan. 362 pp.
- Schofield, W.B. 1992. *Some Mosses of British Columbia*. Royal British Columbia Museum Handbook. Victoria. British Columbia. 394 pp.

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Known distribution of *Rhytidium rugosum* in Washington



- Current (1980+)
- Historic (older than 1980)

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