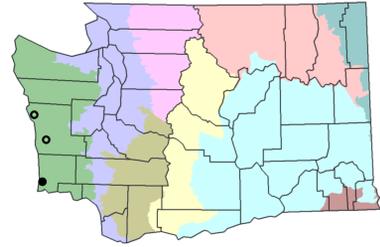


***Sanicula arctopoides* Hook. & Arn.**

bear's-foot sanicle

Apiaceae - carrot family

status: State Endangered, Federal Species of Concern,
BLM strategic
rank: G5 / S1



General Description: Low taprooted perennial near salt water; stems branched at the base, prostrate or ascending, 5-30 cm long. Leaves somewhat succulent, often yellowish; basal leaves rosette-forming, petioles broad; blade 2.5-6 x 2.5-9 cm, 3-cleft, the segments irregularly toothed or cleft, the teeth tipped with soft bristles. Stem leaves reduced, becoming sessile, opposite.

Floral Characteristics: Ultimate umbels about 1 cm wide at height of flowering; involucrel conspicuous, generally larger than the heads, composed of 8-17 oblanceolate, entire to trilobed bractlets 5-15 mm long, slightly fused at the base. Flowers yellow, 20-25 per ultimate umbel, with acute calyx lobes 1-2 mm long, fused below the middle. Flowers March to May.

Fruits: Ovoid to nearly spherical schizocarps, somewhat compressed laterally, 2-5 x 2-3 mm, covered upward with stout prickles with hooked tips, and nearly smooth to tuberculate below.

Identification Tips: Distinguished from other *Sanicula* species by its conspicuous involucrel, strongly coastal habit, and prostrate or ascending (rather than erect) growth form. The well-developed hook-tipped prickles and slight lateral compression of the fruits are useful for distinguishing the genus.

Range: Southern tip of Vancouver Island, B.C. to Santa Barbara Co., CA.

Habitat/Ecology: Maritime; coastal bluffs and grassy sand dunes. In WA associated species include red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), rose (*Rosa* spp.), western buttercup (*Ranunculus occidentalis*), strawberry (*Fragaria* spp.), and hooked-spur violet (*Viola adunca*). *S. arctopoides* sometimes occurs in regularly mowed lawns, suggesting it is able to withstand a certain amount of disturbance. It sometimes occurs within dune ecosystems that are undergoing rapid succession, resulting in habitat elimination.

Comments: Shrub and lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) continue to encroach and alter areas inhabited by *S. arctopoides*. Other threats include residential development, changes in current site maintenance, use of off-road vehicles, application of herbicides, and successional patterns of dune ecosystems. It is also rare in B.C.

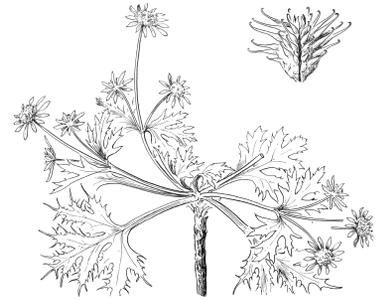


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