

NOTEWORTHY COLLECTIONS

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NOTEWORTHY COLLECTIONS

CALIFORNIA

ARNICA CERNUA HOWELL. (ASTERACEAE).— Shasta Co., rocky serpentine slope along southern headwaters of Boulder Creek, T.37N, R.5W, NW 1/4 of SW 1/4, S.33, MDBM, Chicken Hawk Hill 7.5' USGS Quadrangle; 41.02427, -122.45601; 1203 m; 25 May 2023; Len Lindstrand III 21490 (CAS, CHSC, DAV, HUM, JEPS, OSC, SPIF); plants in open mixed conifer forest subject to high intensity wildfire during 2018. Perennial herb to 3 dm tall, growing in rhizomatous patches on northerly aspect slope, leaves fleshy and petioled, below ground roots often reddish-purple, inflorescences nodding in bud, erect in bloom, solitary, pappus white. Associated species include Amelanchier alnifolia (Nutt.) Nutt. ex M.Roem., Berberis aquifolium Pursh var. aquifolium, Erythronium citrinum S.Watson var. roderickii Shevock & G.A.Allen, Frangula rubra (Greene) Grubov, Lysimachia latifolia (Hook.) Cholewa, and Ribes roezlii Regel.

Previous knowledge. Arnica cernua is a member of the Asteraceae; it is known from northwestern California and southwestern Oregon, where it occurs on ultramaphic soils in conifer forests. The species is currently designated as a California Rare Plant Rank 4.3 (plants of limited distribution, not very threatened in California) by the California Natural Diversity Database (2023). In California, Arnica cernua is known from numerous collections in Del Norte, western Siskiyou, northeastern Humboldt, and northwestern Trinity counties (CCH2 2023). These collections occur on ultramafic soils within the Central, Condrey Mountain, Western Klamath, Hayfork, North Fork, and Rattlesnake Creek Terrane(s); and Franciscan Complex and plutonic rock geologic units (Irwin 1994; Fraticelli et al. 2012). Most collections are from the Western Klamath Terrane of Del Norte, western Siskiyou, and northeastern Humboldt counties, and associated with the Josephine ophiolite (Irwin 1994; CCH2 2023). Only two collections

are from northwestern Trinity County, which represent the southeastern species extent in California.

Significance. This collection represents an approximately 63 km eastern range extension from the nearest collection, located in northwestern Trinity County, and the first Shasta County record. This collection is also the first from the Trinity ultramafic sheet of the Eastern Klamath Terrane, an expansive geologic unit well known for a diverse serpentine flora that extends from areas west of Trinity Lake in Trinity County, northeasterly to the northern slopes of Mt. Eddy in Siskiyou County.

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