Lycopodiella inundata (L.) Holub

synonym: *Lycopodium inundatum* L. bog clubmoss

Lycopodiaceae - clubmoss family

status: State Sensitive, BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

rank: G5 / S2

General Description: Low-growing perennial, creeping to vinelike, bearing both fertile and sterile stems. Sterile stems horizontal, flat on the ground, $5-25 \times 0.5-1$ cm. Sterile leaves many, small, scalelike to needlelike, 1-veined, spirally or alternately arranged, spreading, upcurved, $5-6 \times 0.5-0.7$ mm, margins entire.

Reproductive Characteristics: Generally 1-2 erect fertile stems, unbranched, 3.5-6 x 0.4-0.7 cm, including the single spore-bearing conelike structure at the tip of the stalk. Cones erect, 10-20 x 2.5-5.5 mm, or 1/3-1/2 total height of fertile stem; leaves spreading, rarely with toothed margins. Sporophylls spreading to ascending, 4.5-5 x 0.5-0.9 mm, margins rarely toothed, mostly resembling the vegetative leaves. Recognizable throughout the year.

Identification Tips: The genus *Lycopodium* has fertile conelike structures that are either sessile or on branched stalks with sparse, reduced leaves; *Lycopodium* ssp. usually grow in dry upland habitats; *Lycopodiella* ssp. are usually found in wetlands; their fertile stems have many well-developed leaves and are unbranched, producing 1 erect conelike structure per stem. *Lycopodiella inundata* is the only species of this genus that is found in the Pacific Northwest.

Range: Eurasia; AK south to the Pacific Northwest; throughout southern Canada and the northeastern U.S., south to NC, and west to MN and IA.

Habitat/Ecology: Sphagnum bogs, wet sandy places, wetlands adjacent to lakes, marshes, and swampy ground. Typical elevations are 0 to 2000 m (0-6500 ft); in WA documented elevations are at 3 to 575 m (9-1880 ft). Associated species include sweetgale (*Myrica gale*), sedges (*Carex* spp.), rushes (*Juncus* spp.), white beaksedge (*Rhynchospora alba*), roundleaf sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*), sticky tofieldia (*Triantha occidentalis* ssp. *brevistylis*), and sphagnum moss (*Sphagnum* spp.).

Comments: Hydrologic changes, invasive species, and recreational impacts may lead to degradation or loss of habitat. This taxon is rare in several states and Canadian provinces.

References: Flora of North America 1993+, vol. 2; Hickman 1993.



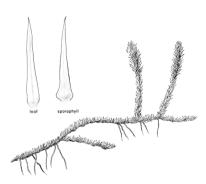


Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish, ©1969 University of Washington Press



photo by Linda Kunze



photo by Linda Kunze