Potentilla glaucophylla Lehm. **var. perdissecta** (Rydb.) Soják

synonym: *Potentilla diversifolia* Lehm. var. *perdissecta* (Rydb.) C.L. Hitchc.

diverse-leaved cinquefoil Rosaceae - rose family

status: State Sensitive, BLM strategic, USFS strategic

rank: G5T4 / S1

General Description: Perennial from a branching, woody, persistent base with short, thick rootstocks. Stems several, spreading to erect, (10) 15-45 cm tall. Leaves mainly basal, greenish, nearly hairless or slightly to moderately hairy with long, soft, silky, hairs, palmate to subpinnate; leaflets 5 (7), 1-3 (5) cm long, deeply dissected (almost to the midvein) into linear or narrowly oblong segments, frequently up to 3-4 mm broad. Stem leaves 1-2 below the inflorescence; stipules ovate-lanceolate, 1-2 cm long, usually entire.

Floral Characteristics: Cymes open, many-flowered. Calyx cup-shaped, hairy, up to 1.5 cm broad in fruit; sepals triangular-lanceolate, (3) 4-6 mm long. Petals yellow, heart-shaped, (4) 6-9 mm long. Stamens usually 20. Pistils numerous; style slender, as long or longer than the fruit, attached below the tip. Flowers June to August.

Fruits: Achenes 1.3-1.6 mm long.

Identification Tips: Potentilla glaucophylla var. glaucophylla is distinguished by palmate to (rarely) subpalmate leaves, with shallowly dissected leaflet teeth, divided less than 1/2 the length to the midrib. Potentilla multisecta* occurs in UT, NV, and WY but has not been reported in WA.

Range: Northwest Territories and the Yukon, south to WA, ID, UT, WY, and the Dakotas.

Habitat/Ecology: Moist shady and open areas, ledges and rocky slopes, and stream banks in alpine to subalpine or montane areas; in gravelly soils of glacial derivation. In WA it has been found in moist gullies, glacial valleys, on exposed ridge tops, and in a moist meadow at the margin of a coniferous forest. Elevations in WA: 1780-2250 m (5850-7380 ft). Associated species include Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*), grouse whortleberry (*Vaccinium scoparium*), greenleaf fescue (*Festuca viridula*), sedge (*Carex* spp.), weeping alkaligrass (*Puccinellia distans*), heartleaf arnica (*Arnica cordifolia*), umber pussytoes (*Antennaria umbrinella*), and prickly sandwort (*Arenaria aculeata*).

Comments: Appropriate habitats in Okanogan Co. should be systematically surveyed. This taxon is also rare in B.C. and WY.





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