

***Astragalus cronquistii* Barneby**
Cronquist's Milkvetch

Family: Fabaceae

Synonyms: None

NESL Status: G3

Federal Status: None

Plant Description: Perennial plant from a stout taproot and underground root crown; flowers pink-purple; ca. 1 cm long; leaves 1.5 to 4.5 cm long, leaflets 7 to 15, ea. 6 to 25 mm long, with straight, stiff hairs beneath and hairless above; seed pods narrow, two-chambered and drooping. Flowering and fruiting from April to June.

Similar Species: Similar to *A. fucatus*, but with narrow, two-chambered pods, vs. unilocular mottled pods found in *A. fucatus*.

Habitat: Salt desert shrub and blackbrush communities on sandy or gravelly soils derived from the Cutler and Morrison Formations. Also known to occur on Mancos Shale. 4750 to 5800ft elevation.

General Distribution: San Juan County, UT; Montezuma, Mesa, & Garfield counties, CO.

Navajo Nation Distribution: Known from S of Bluff, Aneth and near the Utah border with Colorado, San Juan Co., UT.

Potential Navajo Nation Distribution: Southeastern Utah.

Survey Period: May to June, when mature seedpods are present. Suitable habitat can be identified year round.

Avoidance: A 200 ft buffer zone is recommended to avoid disturbance; may be more or less depending on slope, size and nature of the project.

References:

- Atwood, D.N. et al. 1991. Utah Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Plant Field Guide. U.S. Forest Service Intermountain Region, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Utah Natural Heritage Program, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency, Navajo Nation, and Skull Valley Goshute Tribe.
- Cronquist, A. et al., eds. 1989. Intermountain Flora, vol. 3 part B. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY, p. 66 -67.
- Spackman, S. et al. 1997. Colorado Rare Plant Field Guide. Prepared for the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. <http://www.cnhp.colostate.edu/rareplants/cover.html>
- Utah Rare Plant Guide Team. 2003. Utah Rare Plant Guide. Utah Native Plant Society. <http://www.utahrareplants.org/>
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Astragalus cronquistii

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Astragalus cronquistii habitat

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