

# Stansell's daisy

## (*Erigeron stanselliae*)

### ENDANGERED



Flower (left), habit (center), and habitat (right) of Hitchcock's blue-eyed grass. Photos by ODA staff. If downloading images from this website, please credit the photographer.

#### Family

Asteraceae

#### Plant description

Stansell's daisy is a perennial plants that grows 7-25 cm tall and is tap-rooted with few-branched caudices. The stems of *Erigeron stanselliae* are erect to decumbent, glabrous to sparsely strigose, and sometimes minutely glandular. The species has basal leaves that are linear to oblanceolate, 40-120 mm long and 2-5 mm wide, that are gradually or abruptly reduced distally. The surfaces of the leaves are glabrous to loosely strigose. Cauline leaves are linear to narrowly elliptic, 5-40 mm long by 1-3 mm wide, and are gradually or abruptly reduced distally with surfaces glabrous to loosely strigose. Stansell's daisy has 1-2 radiate heads with involucre measuring 5-7 mm by 5-11 mm. The phyllaries are in a series of 2-3 with sparsely to densely pilose or strigose surfaces that are minutely glandular. Disc florets are 3-4 mm. Fruits are 3-4 mm, sparsely to densely strigose with inner pappi having numerous barbellate bristles.

#### When to survey

Surveys should occur when the plant is in flower, from June to July.

#### Habitat

*Erigeron stanselliae* grows in a serpentine-influenced mix of scrubland and woodland habitats at elevations ranging from 2,400-3,200 feet. The sites where Stansell's daisy grows have ultramafic gravel substrates, known as shingle, that has perennial, high gradient streams. Stansell's daisy is commonly associated with a mixed tree canopy of Jeffery pine, western white pine, knobcone pine, Douglas fir, Port Orford cedar, and shrubs including pinemat manzanita, huckleberry oak, boxleaf silktassel, common juniper, and Siskiyou mat.

**Range**

*Erigeron stanselliae* has a very limited range and is only known from two small sites on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest in Curry County.

**Oregon counties**

Curry

**Federal status**

No status

**Threats**

Mining is the most significant threat to *Erigeron stanselliae* as active mining claims located in Stansell daisy habitat and could result in sanctioned destruction of its habitat. Cattle is another major threat of *Erigeron stanselliae* populations; cattle damage Stansell's daisy by trampling, browsing, causing soil erosion, and introducing invasive species. Fire suppression and exclusion allow encroaching tree species and shrubs to crowd the grassy forest openings and meadow habitat. The interruption of the natural fire cycle can result in an increase in fuels that can lead to more catastrophic fires than what the plant community is historically adapted to. Other factors that pose a threat to the *Erigeron stanselliae* include issues related to small population sizes, such as decreased genetic diversity and impaired seed production.

**Did you know?**

In 2013, the Kalmiopsis Audubon Society and Native Plant Society of Oregon submitted a nomination to designate the Veva Stansell Botanical Area in the Rogue River-Siskiyou (RRS) National Forest to help protect the species and honor the local botanist that encouraged the investigation into the new species that now bears her name. At just over 4,000 acres in size, the proposed botanical area would connect the North Fork Hunter Creek Area of Critical Concern (ACEC) and Hunter Creek Bog ACEC on BLM ownership. The USFS declined to designate Botanical Area and currently has no plans to include the Veva Stansell Botanical Area in upcoming RRS Forest Plans.

**References**

Chambers, KL. 2011. A new species of *Erigeron* (Asteraceae) from southwestern Oregon. *Journal of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas*, 5(2): 415-419.

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OregonFlora. 2022. Herbarium database current to August 2022. Oregon State University Department of Botany & Plant Pathology. Corvallis, Oregon. [oregonflora.org](http://oregonflora.org).

US Forest Service (USFS). 2022. *Erigeron stanselliae* monitoring data. Unpublished data current to 2022.