

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE
MONTANA IMPORTANT PLANT AREA NOMINATION FORM BASED ON PLANT SPECIES OF CONCERN**

Criteria: A site in Montana may be nominated as an “Important Plant Area (IPA)” if it meets one of the following criteria (a or b):

- a. Site contains at least one plant species of concern that is globally ranked as a G1, G2, or G3.
- b. Site contains an assemblage of at least three plant species of concern that are state ranked by the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) as an S1 or S2.

For each G1, G2, and G3 species the committee will pick the best five sites if more than 50% of the global population occurs in Montana or the best three sites if less than 50% of the global population occurs in Montana.

Nominated Site Name: Provide a name for the nominated site.

General Location: State the closest geographical landmarks, such as a road, town, river, and/or mountain.

Site Coordinates: Provide the coordinates of the site’s center or four corner boundaries. Provide the Township, Range, Section (TRS); Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM); or Latitude/Longitude. Be sure to include the datum used for determining the UTM or Latitude/Longitude.

Maps / Photographs: Provide in either hardcopy or electronic format a map(s) that: a) clearly shows the site’s boundaries; b) approximate location within Montana; and c) the site’s location. Photographs of the site are optional. NOTE: If submitted electronically, map(s) and photograph(s) must be provided as separate files from this form.

County: Name the county that contains the site.

Elevation: Write the elevational range of the site and indicate the unit of measure (feet or meters).

Size of Area: Write the approximate size of the site and provide the unit, such as acre, hectare, or square mile. There is no size requirement for nomination as an IPA.

Property Ownership: Provide the name of the landowner, if under private ownership, or the land management agency. Be as specific as possible, for example, USFS, Helena National Forest, Lincoln Ranger District. List any other designations the site may have. Examples include, but are not limited to, Wilderness Area, Research Natural Area, Conservation Easement, or Montana Department of Transportation Wetland Mitigation Site.

Plant Species of Concern (SOC) Information: Complete Table 1 for each SOC plant present at the site. Use page 5 if more space is needed. For each plant SOC: a) provide the most current global and state ranks (website: www.mtnhp.org), and enter the b) date, c) approximate population size, and d) population trend based on the last observation of the plant population. In the section below Table 1 state if this information was observed by you or based on a particular report and provide any supporting data, information, and sources.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE
MONTANA IMPORTANT PLANT AREA NOMINATION FORM BASED ON PLANT SPECIES OF CONCERN
(continued)**

Threats: Based on the last observation, list relevant real or potential threats for each SOC plant. Use the corresponding number of 1-11 in Table 1 to identify the plant in Table 2. In 35 spaces or less name the threat or threats that affect or may affect the population. Examples include, but are not limited to: road maintenance, herbicides, trampling, climate change, development, fire, or lack of fire. If a threat is absent or unknown then state none or unknown. Use page 5 if more space is needed.

State whether the threat is high, moderate, low, very low, or not assessed using these definitions:
High = A significant likelihood of impacts, activities, or events that will result in a severe (>60%) reduction in population numbers or habitat in the near future (usually 0-5 years).

Moderate = A significant likelihood of impacts, activities, or events that will result in a severe (20-60%) reduction in population numbers or habitat in the near future (usually 1-5 years).

Low = A significant likelihood of impacts, activities, or events that will result in a small though significant (5-20%) reduction in population numbers or habitat in the future (usually 5-20 years).

Very Low = No significant likelihood of impacts, activities, or events that will result in a reduction in population numbers or habitat for the species in Montana.

NA = Not Assessed.

Provide additional comments in 67 spaces or less.

What qualifies this site as an IPA? Provide the reasons why the nominated site deserves recognition and conservation. Your answer should address several aspects of the site, such as plant assemblage; population viability, size, health, and/or genetics; quality of the site in terms of weeds, land-use issues, and/or other threats; uniqueness of the site; biogeographical considerations (population widely disjunct, geology, etc.); and/or other attributes. In addition, provide a rationale for placement of the boundaries.

Form Submittal: Provide your name (first and last), date you submitted this form; organization affiliation (if any); complete mailing address; electronic mailing address (optional); and the best phone number for contacting you.

Please submit hard copy forms to: Montana Native Plant Society
Attention: Conservation Committee
P.O. Box 8783
Missoula, MT 59807-8783

Please submit electronic forms and maps to: Peter Lesica at 'peter.lesica@mso.umt.edu'.

Your nomination will be reviewed by the IPA Committee which meets once a year. The Committee will contact you if there are questions. Updates regarding Important Plant Areas in Montana will be presented at the Montana Plant Conservation meeting held during the winter of even-numbered years.

Thank you for taking the time to nominate a potential IPA!

IMPORTANT PLANT AREA NOMINATION FORM—MONTANA
(FOR SITES CONTAINING ONE OR MORE PLANT SPECIES OF CONCERN.)

Nominated Site Name: _____

General Location (nearest town; river; topographical feature; etc.): _____

Site Coordinates: map(s) attached. Notes: _____

photograph(s) attached. Notes: _____

Township ___, Range ___, Section(s) _____; _____

Datum: _____; UTM Zone __, N _____, E _____; N _____, E _____;

N _____, E _____; N _____, E _____.

Lat. ___° _____ Long. ___° _____; Lat.: ___° _____ Long. ___° _____;

Lat. ___° _____ Long. ___° _____; Lat. ___° _____ Long. ___° _____.

County: _____ **Elevation:** _____ to _____ **Size of Area:** _____

Property Ownership: _____ **Other site designations:** _____

Table 1: Plant Species of Concern Information.

Plant Species (scientific name)	MTNHP Rank		Date Last Observed?	Population Size	Trend (increasing, decreasing, stable, fluctuates, unknown)
	Global	State			
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					

Provide the source for trend information, citations, and other pertinent SOC data:

Table 2: Type and Severity of Threats for each listed SOC plant.

Plant Species #	Threat	Level	Comment

