

Astragalus beatleyae Barneby**BEATLEY MILKVETCH**

FAMILY: *Fabaceae*, the legume family.

STATUS: **Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G3 S3**

USFWS/ESA: species of concern, formerly CANDIDATE or PROPOSED. **STATE OF NEVADA:** none.

BLM: Special Status Species. **USFS:** none. **NNNPS:** watch list. **IUCN:** endangered.

POPULATION CENSUS: **19 occurrences mapped** at 1.0 km (0.6 mi) separation, OR **39 occurrences mapped** at 0.16 km (0.1 mi) separation; total estimated **individuals 77,000+**, total estimated **area 138+ ha (341+ ac)**. **TREND:** unknown.

IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS: Few current threats, populations actively monitored and avoided by DOE and contractors. Past impacts from nuclear testing activities and associated surface clearing and roads. Potentially vulnerable to habitat disturbance from commercial developments on the Nevada Test Site, military activities, or resumption of weapons testing or other DOE missions.

INVENTORY EFFORT: Systematic surveys have been conducted and appear largely complete. Most recent entered survey 1994, average year of last survey 1992. **Years since last entered survey** (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): **6-10 yrs:** 100%.

LAND MANAGEMENT in decreasing predominance: U. S. Department of Energy, U. S. Department of Defense.

RANGE: Nye County, Nevada. **Nevada endemic.** Maximum **range dimension 27.0 km (16.8 mi)** excluding most disjunct record.

ELEVATIONS RECORDED: 5180-6920 feet (1579-2109 meters).

HABITAT: Thin, dry, open residual soils on flat to gently sloping volcanic tuff, mostly in pinyon-juniper woodland with *Artemisia nova*, *Ericameria nana*, etc.

PHENOLOGY: flowering late-spring. Range of most frequent **survey months:** May-June.

LIFE-FORM AND HABIT: small short-lived perennial herb.

DESCRIPTION: A perennial herb that forms circular mats 5-20 cm in diameter. Flowers (May-June) are blue-violet.

PHOTOGRAPHS: Knight and Smith (1995), Knight et al. (1997); Nevada Natural Heritage Program images web page (1998-present), slide collection (1986-present), and files.

ILLUSTRATIONS: Barneby (1989), Mozingo and Williams (1980).

OTHER GENERAL REFERENCES (listed separately): Beatley (1976), Beatley (1977), Beatley (1977), Cochrane (1979), Rhoads and Williams (1977).

SPECIFIC REFERENCES:

Barneby, R. C. 1970. A new *Astragalus* from Nye County, Nevada. *Aliso* 7: 161-163.

Blomquist, K. W., C. A. Wills, W. K. Ostler, K. R. Rautenstrauch, and T. P. O'Farrell. 1992. Distribution, life history, management, and current status of *Astragalus beatleyae* on the U. S. Department of Energy's Nevada Test Site. Santa Barbara, California: EG and G/EM report 10617-2187.

Fisher, J. 1981. Sensitive plant survey. Nellis Air Force Range, Nevada. Las Vegas, Nevada: WESTEC Services, Inc., Contract 1130-0237-80.

O'Farrell, T. P. and E. Collins. 1984. Surveys for *Astragalus beatleyae* on Nellis Bombing Range, Nye county, Nevada. Santa Barbara, California: EG and G Report # 10282-2032 S-765-R.
