

Cirsium clokeyi Blake (1938)**CLOKEY THISTLE**

FAMILY: *Asteraceae*, the sunflower family.

STATUS: **Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G2G3 S2S3**
USFWS/ESA: none. **STATE OF NEVADA:** none. **BLM:** none. **USFS:** none. **NNNPS:** none.

POPULATION CENSUS: **12 occurrences mapped** at 1.0 km (0.6 mi) separation, **OR 27 occurrences mapped** at 0.16 km (0.1 mi) separation; total estimated **individuals 9422+**, total estimated **area 238+ ha (588+ ac)**. **TREND:** unknown.

IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS: In alpine habitat adjacent to hiking trails.

INVENTORY EFFORT: Surveys have been extensive but remain substantially incomplete. Most recent entered survey 1998, average year of last survey 1992. **Years since last entered survey** (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): **0-5 yrs:** 25%; **6-10 yrs:** 64.3%; **11-20 yrs:** 7.1%; **51+ yrs or unknown:** 3.6%.

LAND MANAGEMENT in decreasing predominance: Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, designated wilderness, private lands, U. S. Bureau of Land Management (?).

RANGE: Clark County, Nevada. Endemic to the Spring Mountains. Maximum **range dimension 13.1 km (8.1 mi)** excluding most disjunct record. **Type specimen** collected in Clark County.

ELEVATIONS RECORDED: 7159-11650 feet (2182-3551 meters).

HABITAT: Dry to moist, rocky, carbonate soils of spring and seep areas, talus slopes, drainage bottoms, snow depressions, avalanche chutes, and other moisture-enriched microsites in openings of mixed conifer and bristlecone pine forests.

PHENOLOGY: flowering summer. Range of most frequent **survey months:** June-July.

LIFE-FORM AND HABIT: biennial.

DESCRIPTION: A biennial or perennial herb, 1-2 m tall, with long, deeply lobed leaves covered with large yellow spines. Flower heads (July-August) are rose-purple, subtended by spiny bracts. The species is a nectar source for the endemic Spring Mountains comma skipper (*Hesperia comma* ssp. 1) and the regional endemic Nevada admiral (*Limenitis weidemeyerii nevadae*).

PHOTOGRAPHS: Nevada Natural Heritage Program slide collection (1986-present) and files.

ILLUSTRATIONS: none known.

OTHER GENERAL REFERENCES (listed separately): Clokey (1951), Knight (1992), Nachlinger (1994), Sada and Nachlinger (1996).

SPECIFIC REFERENCES:

- Blake, S. F. 1938. Two new Asteraceae from the Charleston Mountains, Nevada. *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 51: 7-10.
- Smith, F. 1995. Status report for *Antennaria soliceps*. Reno: The Nature Conservancy, prepared for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reno. 11 pages + two appendices.
- Woodbury, K. 1980. Status report for *Cirsium clokeyi*. Portland, Oregon: U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
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