

***Sclerocactus polyancistrus*** (Engelmann & Bigelow) Britton & Rose**HERMIT CACTUS**

**FAMILY:** *Cactaceae*, the cactus family.

**STATUS:** **Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G4 S2S3**

**USFWS/ESA:** none. **STATE OF NEVADA:** harvest regulated. **BLM:** none. **USFS:** Inyo NF watch list.

**NNNPS:** none. **CITES:** Appendix II.

**POPULATION CENSUS (NEVADA):** **16 occurrences mapped** at 1.0 km (0.6 mi) separation, **OR 23 occurrences mapped** at 0.16 km (0.1 mi) separation; total estimated **individuals unknown**, total estimated **area 6.2+ ha (15.3+ ac)**.  
**TREND:** unknown.

**IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS (NEVADA):** No summary available (see references).

**INVENTORY EFFORT (NEVADA):** Not yet systematically surveyed in Nevada. Most recent entered survey 1991, average year of last survey 1982. **Years since last entered survey** (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): **6-10 yrs:** 4.3%; **11-20 yrs:** 34.8%; **21-30 yrs:** 56.5%; **31-50 yrs:** 4.3%.

**LAND MANAGEMENT (NEVADA)** in decreasing predominance: U. S. Department of Defense, U. S. Bureau of Land Management, private lands, U. S. Department of Energy.

**RANGE:** Esmeralda, Mineral, and Nye counties, Nevada; also in CA. Maximum Nevada **range dimension 185.9 km (115.5 mi)** excluding most disjunct record.

**ELEVATIONS RECORDED (NEVADA):** 3400-6220 feet (1036-1896 meters).

**HABITAT (not yet reviewed for Nevada):** "Basalt rock hillsides, limestone hillsides and desert pavement; on south to southwest facing slopes."

**PHENOLOGY:** no summary available. Range of most frequent **survey months:** March-June.

**DESCRIPTION:** not available (see references).

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** Benson (1982), Hall (1991); Nevada Natural Heritage Program images web page (1998-present), slide collection (1986-present), and files.

**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Mozingo and Williams (1980).

**OTHER GENERAL REFERENCES** (listed separately): Beatley (1976), Cochrane (1979), Hickman (1993).

**SPECIFIC REFERENCES:**

Bureau of Land Management, Tonopah Resource Area. 1988 (?). Final environmental assessment, Bullfrog project. Tonopah, Nevada.

Heil, K. D. and J. M. Porter. 1994. *Sclerocactus* (Cactaceae): a revision. *Haseltonia* 2: 20-46.

Knight, T. A. 1989. A rare plant survey of Bare Mountain, Battle Mountain District, Bureau of Land Management, Nye County, Nevada. Carson City: Nevada Natural Heritage Program, prepared for the Battle Mountain District, Bureau of Land Management.

Knight, T. A. 1989. Status report for *Astragalus mohavensis* S. Watson var. *hemigyris* (Clokey) Barneby. Carson City: Nevada Natural Heritage Program, prepared for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reno.

**OF FURTHER INTEREST:** Distinct species. "This is the giant of the genus", Benson.

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