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Plants

Lysimachia scopulensis

SPECIES STATUS:

Genetic Safety Net Species
Hawai'i Natural Heritage Ranking - Critically Imperiled (G1)
Endemism – Kaua'i

SPECIES INFORMATION: Branching shrubs with stems up to 75 cm long. Leaf blades oblanceolate, sometimes narrowly obovate, 55-65 mm long and 8-11 mm wide. The bell shaped flowers are borne solitarily at the leaf axils. Petals red, obovate, 10-11 mm long and 6-7 mm wide. Capsules globose. This species is new to science, described in 1997.

DISTRIBUTION: Recorded only from Kalalau valley, island of Kaua'i.

ABUNDANCE: Estimated to number 110 or less.

LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT: Steep cliffs within mesic shrublands and forests.

THREATS:

- Direct damage and habitat degradation from feral goats;
- Competition with invasive alien plant species;
- Stochastic extinction due to small number of extant individuals.

CONSERVATION ACTIONS: The goals of conservation actions are not only to protect current populations, but also to establish new populations to reduce the risk of extinction. In addition to common statewide and island conservation actions, specific actions include:

- Survey historical range for surviving populations;
- Establish secure *ex-situ* stocks with complete representation of remaining individuals;
- Augment wild population and establish new populations in safe harbors.

MONITORING:

- Continue surveys of population and distribution in known and likely habitats;
- Monitor plants for insect damage and plant diseases.

RESEARCH PRIORITIES:

- Develop proper horticultural protocols and pest management;
- Survey *ex-situ* holdings and conduct molecular fingerprinting;

- Conduct pollination biology and seed dispersal studies;
- Map genetic diversity in the surviving populations to guide future re-introduction and augmentation efforts.

References:

Hawai'i Natural Heritage Program. 2005. Hawaii Natural Heritage Program Search, <http://www.hinhp.org/printpage.asp?spp=PDMAL0H0A0>.

Wagner, W.L., Herbst, D.R., and Sohmer, S.H. 1999. Manual of the Flowering Plants of Hawai'i-- Revised Edition. Honolulu, HI: University of Hawaii Press and Bishop Museum Press. 1853p.