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Plants

Remya mauiensis

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally Listed as Endangered
Genetic Safety Net Species
Hawai'i Natural Heritage Ranking -
Critically Imperiled (G1)
Endemism - Maui
Critical Habitat - Designated

SPECIES INFORMATION: A sprawling, many-branched shrub 1-2 m tall, forming loosely tangled clumps that sprawl on or among the branches of other vegetation. The flower heads are dark yellow.

DISTRIBUTION: West Maui. The only current occurrences are in Manawainui plant sanctuary.

ABUNDANCE: There are only three extant populations of this extremely rare plant and both are in areas grazed by cattle. The Manawainui area was recently fenced by the State Division of Forestry and Wildlife as a sanctuary. Approximately 25 presently known to exist.

LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT: *Remya mauiensis* grows chiefly on steep, north or northeast-facing slopes between 850 to 1,250 meters (2,800 to 4,100 feet) in elevation. *R. mauiensis* are found primarily in mixed mesophytic forests, or the remnants of such forests. This species is located on State owned land.

THREATS:

- Consumption or habitat damage from pigs and cattle;
- Competition with alien plant taxa;
- Fire.

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. The Manawainui area was recently fenced by the State Division of Forestry and Wildlife as a sanctuary. The USFWS has developed a recovery plan that details specific tasks needed to recover this species. 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=PDMALOH0A0>.

US Fish and Wildlife Service. 1991. Final Listing, Endangered ETWP; Three Species of *Remya*, a Genus of Hawaiian Plants, Listed Endangered; Federal Register, (14-JAN-91), 56 FR 1450-1454, 5pp.

Wagner, W.L.; Herbst, D.R.; 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.

Wagner, W. L., D. R. Herbst, and D. H. Lorence. 2005-. Flora of the Hawaiian Islands website. <http://ravenel.si.edu/botany/pacificislandbiodiversity/hawaiianflora/index.htm> [August, 2005].