

1.19 Sticky Dudleya (*Dudleya viscida*) – Category SS

Management Units with Known Occurrences

Sticky dudleya is distributed in southwestern California and northwest Baja California, Mexico (Munz 1974; Bartel 1993). The species occurs in the northwest portion of San Diego County. It is found on steep rocky north-facing slopes in chaparral and coastal sage scrub vegetation (Reiser 2001; CNPS 2016). It is often found on gabbroic rock and growing in very shallow soils or from cracks on vertical rock.

There are 4 sticky dudleya occurrences on Conserved Lands in the MSPA in MU6 (see Table of Occurrences or online map: <http://arcg.is/2kFBBIW>). One large occurrence was salvaged by California Department of Transportation during construction of Highway 76 and in 1995–1996 transplanted on the cut-and-fill slopes above the road. Plants were detected in 2006, but the current size of the occurrence was not reported. Box Canyon along San Marcos Creek in the Rancho La Costa Habitat Conservation Area has over 6,000 individuals and nearby La Costa Canyon Park has about 2,000 plants. An occurrence of 1,300 plants was mapped in 2000 along Escondido Creek in the Elfin Forest area. A fourth occurrence of a maximum of 5,658 plants on the bluffs north of the San Luis Rey River (D. Mayer, pers. comm.) was recorded in 2016. Historically, in the 1990s, a sixth occurrence was documented in Santa Fe Valley, but the current status is unknown. MCB Camp Pendleton supports 5 occurrences outside the MSPA.

Management Categorization Rationale

Sticky dudleya is a Species Management Focus Category SS Species because of a low risk of loss from Conserved Lands in the MSPA (see Vol. 1, Table 2-4). Despite this low risk it should be managed at a species-specific level because of its extremely limited distribution in 1 MU in the MSPA and the low number of occurrences, the majority of which are small and isolated (see Vol. 3, App. 1, Species Profiles).

Sticky dudleya is threatened by the release of water from upstream reservoirs, trampling by hikers and climbers, and invasive plants, especially those escaped from cultivation in the urban-wildland interface (M. Dodero, pers. comm.; M. Spiegelberg, pers. comm.). It is also threatened by development and road construction (CNPS 2016).

Management and Monitoring Approach

The overarching goal for sticky dudleya is to maintain or enhance existing occurrences to ensure multiple conserved occurrences with self-sustaining populations to increase resilience to environmental and demographic stochasticity, maintain genetic diversity, and ensure persistence over the long term (>100 years) in chaparral and coastal sage scrub vegetation communities.

For the 2017–2021 planning cycle, the management and monitoring approach is to inspect sticky dudleya occurrences on Conserved Lands (see Table of Occurrences) using the regional rare plant IMG monitoring protocol to record abundance and collect habitat and threats covariate data to determine management needs and conduct routine management actions as identified through the IMG monitoring. Depending on the type and level of threat, management should be conducted as needed, not necessarily every year, and using BMPs with precautions to do no harm.

For details and the most up-to-date goals, objectives, and actions, go to the MSP Portal Sticky Dudleya summary page: https://portal.sdmmp.com/view_species.php?taxaid=502185

Sticky Dudleya References

- Bartel, J. A. 1993. Dudleya. In *The Jepson Manual, Higher Plants of California*, J. C. Hickman. Berkeley, California: University of California Press.
- CNPS (California Native Plant Society). 2016. CNPS Rare Plant Program. *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants* (Online Edition, v8-02). <http://www.rareplants.cnps.org/detail/583.html>.
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- Munz, P. A. 1974. *A Flora of Southern California*. Berkeley, California: University of California Press.
- Reiser, C. H. 2001. *Rare Plants of San Diego County*. San Diego, CA: Aquifer Press.