

## 1.24 Jennifer's Monardella (*Monardella stoneana*) – Category SL

### Management Units with Known Occurrences

Jennifer's monardella is a narrow endemic found from southern San Diego County and northern Baja California, Mexico (Elvin and Sanders 2003). All known sites are found in MU3 in intermittent streams and rocky gorges that flow for several weeks or months during or after the rainy season. It is often found growing among boulders or growing in cracks of bedrock in drainages, surrounded by chaparral or coastal sage scrub (Elvin and Sanders 2003). There are currently only 12 known occurrences, 10 in the United States and 2 just north of Ensenada in Baja, California, Mexico. The 10 U.S. occurrences all occur on Conserved Lands within MU3. All 10 U.S. occurrences are found within 5 canyons in 2 watersheds at Marron Valley Mitigation Bank, Otay Ranch Preserve, Otay Lake Cornerstone Lands, Otay Mountain Wilderness Area, Otay Mountain Ecological Reserve, BLM lands, and Marron Valley (see Table of Occurrences, and online map: <http://arcg.is/2h1S1K9>). Many sites on adjacent ownerships are considered part of the same occurrence (CDFW 2013).

### Management Categorization Rationale

Jennifer's monardella should be managed as a Species Management Focus Category SL Species due to a high risk of loss from Conserved Lands in the MSPA and because managing the general vegetation community alone will not ensure persistence of the species (see Vol 1, Table 2-4). It is at a high risk of loss as there are only 10 occurrences on Conserved Lands in a restricted distribution with very low population size, limited suitable habitat, and isolated occurrences with a small number of plants vulnerable to loss of genetic diversity and extirpation as a result of environmental and demographic stochasticity or catastrophic disturbance.

The primary threats to Jennifer's monardella are altered fire regime, drought, altered hydrology/erosion, small population size, and invasive plants. Because Jennifer's monardella is typically found in drainages, it can be susceptible to post-fire erosion impacts, which can lead to habitat loss and degradation. At least 8 of the 10 known occurrences burned in both the 2003 Otay wildfire and the 2007 Harris Fire. All occurrences have burned more than 3 times in the last 100 years and have a high ignition risk. An altered fire regime could affect occurrence demographics and exacerbate threats posed by invasive plant species and erosion.

## Management and Monitoring Approach

The overarching goal for Jennifer's monardella 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 vegetation communities.

For the 2017 through 2021 planning period, the management and monitoring approach for Jennifer's monardella is to inspect the 10 known occurrences every 3 years starting in 2019 to record abundance, identify threats and needed management actions, and implement needed routine management actions as determined through monitoring. In the event of a wildfire, spring-summer surveys should be conducted for 3 years following fire to document recovery and to identify needed management actions.

For details and the most up-to-date goals, objectives, and actions, go to the MSP Portal Jennifer's Monardella summary page: [http://portal.sdmmp.com/view\\_species.php?taxaid=832834](http://portal.sdmmp.com/view_species.php?taxaid=832834)

## Jennifer's Monardella References

- CDFW (California Department of Fish and Wildlife). 2013. California Natural Diversity Database. Occurrence report, *Monardella stoneana*.
- Elvin, M. A, and A. C. Sanders. 2003. A New Species of Monardella (lamiaceae) from Baja California, Mexico, and Southern California, United States. *Novon* 13:425–432.