

***Cypripedium parviflorum* Salisb. var. *pubescens* (Willd.) Knight**
Yellow Lady's Slipper

Family: Orchidaceae

Synonyms: *Cypripedium calceolus* L. var. *pubescens* (Willd.) Correll
Cypripedium pubescens Willd. var. *pubescens*

NESL Status: G4

Federal Status: None

Plant Description: Plants erect, often forming clumps with several stems, 30–40 cm tall. Stems and leaves sparsely pubescent to glandular, with 2 sheathing bracts below the 3–4 alternate lanceolate to elliptic, somewhat acuminate leaves, leaves 5 – 15 cm long. Flowers mostly solitary, often exceed by an erect leaf-like bract; sepals and petals greenish or yellowish or more often purplish-brown dorsal sepal suborbiculate or ovate to ovate-lance-acuminate, 19–80 × 7–40 mm; lateral sepals connate; 11–80 × 5–34 mm; petals horizontal to strongly descending, same color as sepals, commonly spirally twisted or undulate, sometimes flat, linear-lanceolate to lance-ovate or oblong, 24–97 × 3–12 mm; lip rather pale to deep yellow, very rarely white, rarely with reddish spots or suffusion on adaxial external surface, 15–54 mm; orifice basal; staminode cordiform-ovoid, deltoid, lance-ovoid, or ovoid-oblong. Flowers from late May to June.

Similar species: This is the largest and showiest orchid known from the Navajo Nation and not easily confused with any other species.

Habitat: In moderate shade along streambanks, mountain meadows and mesic places in Ponderosa pine, mixed conifer and aspen forest communities. On the Navajo Nation known from above 7000ft

Distribution: North America.

Navajo Nation Distribution: Only known from historic records near Toadlena, San Juan County, NM.

Potential Navajo Nation Distribution: Chuska Mountains

Survey Period: During the flowering/fruitletting season from late May through June

Avoidance: A 200 ft buffer zone is recommended to avoid disturbance; may be more, depending on size and nature of the project. Any activity impacting groundwater will need special consideration.

References:

- Coleman, R.A. 2002. *The Wild Orchids of Arizona and New Mexico*. Cornell University Press, Ithaca NY.
- McDougall, W.B. 1973. *Seedplants of northern Arizona*. The Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff.
- Kearney, R.H. and T.H. Peebles. 1960. *Arizona Flora (with supplement)*. University of California Press, Berkeley.