

***Penstemon navajoa* N. Holmgren**
Navajo Mountain Penstemon

Family: Scrophulariaceae

Synonyms: None

NESL Status: G3

Federal Status: None

Plant Description: Short-lived perennial herb 2 – 4.5 dm tall; stems few, glabrous, slender, ascending to erect, inflorescence lax. Leaves glabrous, entire, 2.5 – 9 cm long, 1 – 15 mm wide, rounded to acute. Cymes 1 – 2 (3) flowered, calyx 3.5 – 4.5 mm long, glabrous. Corolla 18 – 21 (23) mm long, glabrous externally, throat and tube pale blue to white, the palate sparsely white-bearded; staminode glabrous, anthers exerted, the sacs (1.2) 1.4 – 1.8 mm long, glabrous or sparsely long-villous, dehiscing from the distal end to the connective. Flowering period is from July through early August.

Similar species: *Penstemon navajoa* can be distinguished from other *Penstemons* by its sparse flexuous anther hairs, filiform to linear, glabrous leaves, and laxly-flowered inflorescence.

Habitat: Rocky, open places in Ponderosa Pine, aspen, Douglas-fir communities from 7,000 to 10,300ft elevation.

General Distribution: Navajo Mountain and upper Dark Canyon, San Juan Co., UT

Known Distribution on the Navajo Nation: Navajo Mountain.

Potential Distribution on the Navajo Nation: Upper slopes of Navajo Mountain, potentially upper elevations of Skeleton Mesa.

Survey Period: Early July to early August to ensure positive identification. Suitable habitat can be identified year round.

Avoidance: A 200 ft buffer zone is recommended to avoid disturbance; may be more or less, depending on slope, size and nature of the project.

References:

- Atwood, D.N. et al. 1991. Utah Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Plant Field Guide. U.S. Forest Service Intermountain Region, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Utah Natural Heritage Program, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency, Navajo Nation, and Skull Valley Goshute Tribe.
- Cronquist, A. et al., eds. 1989. Intermountain Flora, vol. 4. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY. p. 428.
- Utah Rare Plant Guide Team. 2003. Utah Rare Plant Guide. Utah Native Plant Society.
<http://www.utahrareplants.org/>
- Welsh, S.L., N.D. Atwood, S. Goodrich, L.C. Higgins. 2003. A Utah Flora: Third Edition. Brigham Young University, Provo, UT.



Penstemon navajoa

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Penstemon navajoa habitat

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