

Plant Species Evaluation Form

Erigeron robustior (Cronq.) Nesom

ROBUST DAISY

Family: Asteraceae
(CNPS 2018)

PLANTS Symbol: N/A
(USDA 2018)

Calif. Endemic: Yes
(CNPS 2018)

Synonyms/Other Names: *Erigeron decumbens* subsp. *robustior* Cronquist; *Erigeron decumbens* var. *robustior* (Cronquist) Cronquist (Tropicos 2018).

Identification Issues: Members of the genus *Erigeron* are difficult to identify. Many taxa are delimited by suites of plastic and overlapping quantitative traits (leaf, stem, or achene vestiture, leaf shape, etc.), often making identification a challenge (Noyes 2000).

Taxonomy:

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Species In Genus: +- 375 species: worldwide. Etymology: (Greek: early old age). Note: *Erigeron concinnus* (Hook. & Arn.) Torr. & A. Gray var. *condensatus* D.C. Eaton, *Erigeron disparipilus* Cronquist, and *Erigeron lobata* A. Nelson apparently not in California.

Genus Description – Habit: Annual to perennial herb (subshrub). Stem: generally erect. Leaf: alternate, generally sessile, generally entire (toothed or lobed to ternately dissected). Inflorescence: heads generally radiate (discoid, disciform), 1--few (many), peduncled; inflorescence generally +- flat-topped (raceme- to panicle-like); involucre urn- to bell-shaped or generally hemispheric; phyllaries linear to narrowly lanceolate, in 2--several series, +- equal to strongly graduated, generally ascending or erect in flower, generally green, spreading when pressed, reflexed when dry; receptacle flat to steeply conic, smooth to shallowly pitted, epaleate. Ray Or Pistillate Flower:(0)10--generally many; ray generally narrow, generally white or pink to lavender or blue-purple (yellow), generally spreading when fresh, often coiled or reflexed when dry. Pistillate Flower: (0)10--generally many; ray generally narrow, generally white or pink to lavender or blue-purple (yellow), generally spreading when fresh, often coiled or reflexed when dry. Disk Flower: generally many; corolla generally narrowly funnel-shaped, yellow; anther tip +- lanceolate; style tips 0.1--0.8 mm, +- triangular. Fruit: generally 0.5--3 mm, generally +- oblong, compressed to +- cylindric, generally 2-ribbed, generally sparsely hairy; pappus (0) generally double, outer of short bristles, narrow scales, or a short crown, inner of 6--50 long bristles.

Species Description – Habit: Perennial herb (15)25--55 cm, from slender taproot and simple caudex. Stem: generally decumbent, few-branched near mid-stem, generally +- purple, sparsely +- appressed-hairy. Leaf: basal 8--17 cm, linear to narrowly oblanceolate, 3-veined; cauline gradually reduced distally on stem, rough-strigose. Inflorescence: heads (1)2--4, long-peduncled; involucre 6--8.5 mm, (12)14--20 mm diam; phyllaries +- equal, phyllaries narrowly oblanceolate to lanceolate, acute-acuminate, +- densely shaggy-hairy, glandless. Ray Flower: 21--36; ray 9--19 mm, white or pink, not coiled or reflexed when dry. Fruit: pappus bristles 14--20. eFlora Treatment Author: David J. Keil & Guy L. Nesom.

Status:

Note: Federally recognized Endangered, Threatened, Proposed, or Candidate species under the Endangered Species Act are omitted as they do not meet the definition of a Species of Conservation Concern (FSH 1909.12 § 12.52).

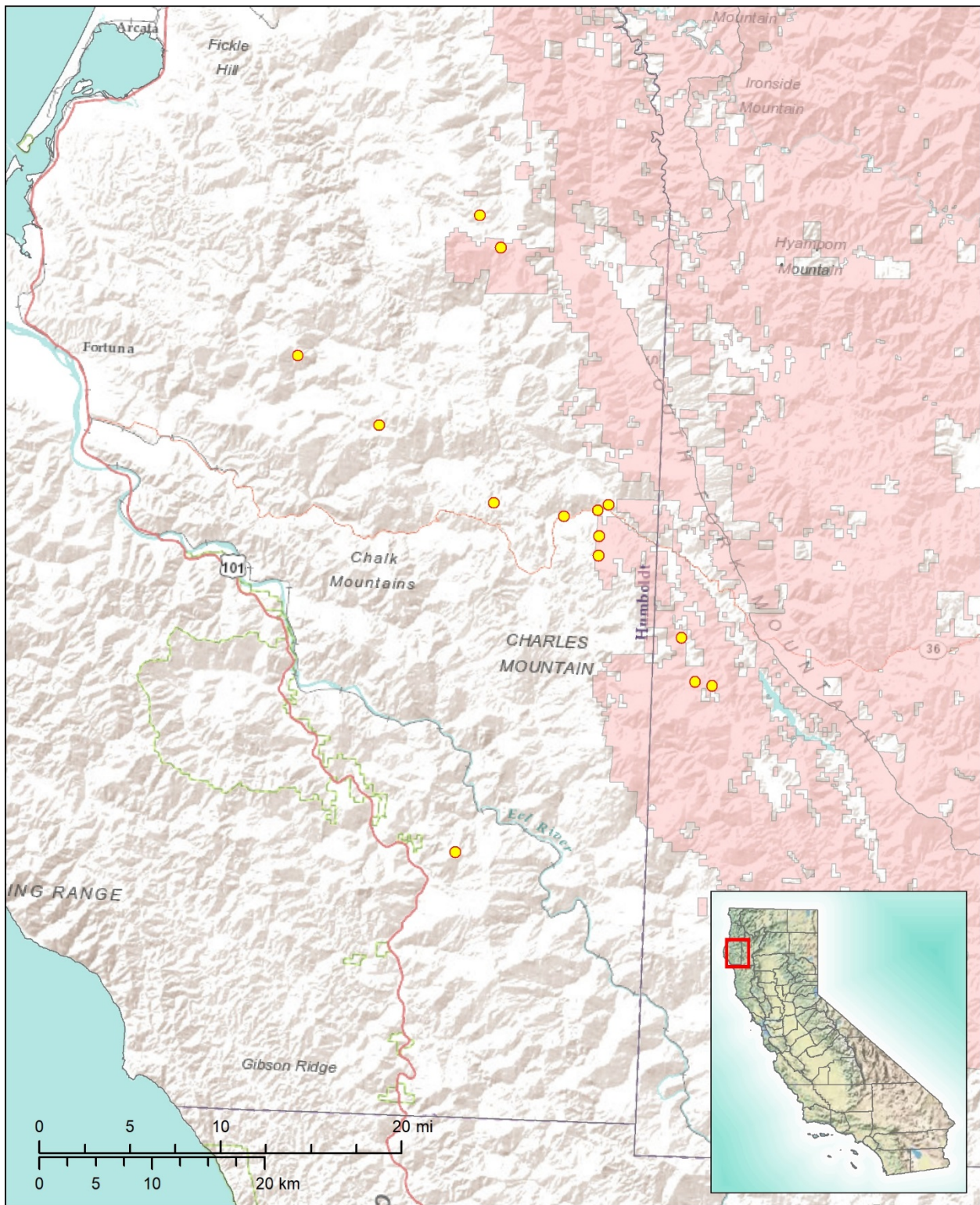
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State Listing	G-rank	S-rank	CRPR	R5 FSS	NFP SM	CA BLM
CA: Not listed NV: Not listed OR: Not listed	G3	CA: S3 NV: Not listed OR: Not listed	4.3	Not listed	Not listed	Not listed
SWAP: Not listed	NNHP: Not listed	NNPS: Not listed	ORBIC: Not listed	OCS: Not listed	IUCN: Not listed	

Expanded abbreviations and citations: State Listing=California Endangered Species Act Listing (CDFW 2018b), Nevada Division of Forestry Fully Protected Plant Species (NAC 527) (NDF 2012), Oregon Department of Agriculture Listed Plants (ODA 2014); G-rank=Global Conservation Status (CDFW 2018a; NatureServe 2018); S-rank=Subnational (state or province-level) Conservation Status (CDFW 2018a; NatureServe 2018; NNHP 2017; ORBIC 2016); CRPR=California Rare Plant Rank (CNPS 2018); R5 FSS=USDA Forest Service Region 5 Regional Forester Sensitive Plant Species List (USDA 2013); NFP SM=Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Northwest Forest Plan Survey and Manage Species (USDA 2001); CA BLM=California Bureau of Land Management Designated Sensitive Species (BLM 2010); SWAP=California State Wildlife Action Plan Status (CDFW 2015); NNHP=Nevada Natural Heritage Program Status (NNHP 2017); NNPS=Nevada Native Plant Society Status (NNHP 2017); ORBIC=Oregon Biological Information Center Status (ORBIC 2016); OCS=Oregon Conservation Strategy Species (ODFW 2016); IUCN=International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List Status (IUCN 2017).

Distribution: Western North America – endemic to California and known from 14 occurrences in Humboldt and Trinity counties within the Outer North Coast Ranges (NCoRO) bioregion. Under half (5/14; ~36%) of all occurrences are found on NFS lands within Six Rivers NF (CCH 2017; Keil and Nesom 2018).

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Sources: *Distribution:* CCH 2017. *Layers:* USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest National Forests: CPAD 2016. California counties: CDF 2009. *Basemaps:* California inset map: © 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed (Esri 2017a). Main map: Esri, DeLorme, USGS, NPS (Esri 2012) and Esri, USGS, NOAA (Esri 2017b).

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Locations within California:

Record numbers indicate sites that contain an individual, population, or groups of populations located within ¼ mile of each other, per the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB 2017) definition of Element Occurrences (EOs) in California. Official EO numbers for plants in California are determined solely by the CNDDDB and are included within the Reference (Source) column for CNDDDB data. Duplicate records from the same site are given the same record number and included in red. The Population Info column includes total number of individuals and total number and size of populations/sub-populations when provided. Elevations provided in meters from source have been converted to feet. If not provided in original source, Land Manager information was obtained using the California Protected Areas Database (CPAD 2016) and Quad information was obtained using 24K Quads, SDE Feature Class (CDFG 2013). All other information is directly from the Reference (Source) unless additional citation is given.

Rec. #	Locality	County	Quad	Reference (Source)	Date Last Observed	Population Info	Threats	Land Manager	Elev. (ft.)
1	near Hubbards	Humboldt	Fort Seward (4012326)	CCH, Jan 2017 (UC468821)	11-Jun-1899				
2	Near Van Duzen River, close to town of Alderpoint	Trinity	Ruth Reservoir (4012334)	CCH, Jan 2017 (HSC51319)	4-Jun-1979			Six Rivers NF	2799
3	Along Rd 1S07, 1 mi. from junction with Van Duzen River Rd.	Trinity	Ruth Reservoir (4012334)	CCH, Jan 2017 (HSC38293)	10-Jun-1976			Six Rivers NF	2500
4	5.7 mi. S of the Mad River Ranger Station, on Hwy. 36, along the road to Zenia.	Trinity	Dinsmore (4012345)	CCH, Jan 2017 (HSC24208)	15-Jul-1971				
5	Dinsmore, off 1N08 on Buck Mtn.	Humboldt	Dinsmore (4012345)	CCH, Jan 2017 (HSC100373)	28-Jul-2010			Six Rivers NF	4439
6	Buck Project, Dinsmore.	Humboldt	Dinsmore (4012345)	CCH, Jan 2017 (HSC100375)	28-Jul-2010			Six Rivers NF	3202
7	lower foothills of its nw slope Buck Mountain	Humboldt	Larabee Valley (4012346)	CCH, Jan 2017 (UC1223010)	4-Jul-1942				2500
8	opposite Buck Mountain (Dinsmore's); Van Duzen River	Humboldt	Dinsmore (4012345)	CCH, Jan 2017 (UC1223007)	29-Jun-1941				2500
9	2 mi w McClellan House (at ""Camp Desperation"" near the old Sweany place); McClellan Mountain	Humboldt	Larabee Valley (4012346)	CCH, Jan 2017 (UC1223011)	4-Jul-1942				2000

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Rec. #	Locality	County	Quad	Reference (Source)	Date Last Observed	Population Info	Threats	Land Manager	Elev. (ft.)
10	Along the road from Dinsmore to Anderson Ford-McKeown Ranch Rd.	Humboldt	Dinsmore (4012345)	CCH, Jan 2017 (HSC81654)	13-Jul-1980				2500
11	valley of South Yager Creek, Humboldt Co.	Humboldt	Yager Junction (4012357)	CCH, Jan 2017 (JEPS21928)	26-Jun-1932				2500
11	Valley of South Yager Creek; ; valley of South Yager Creek, Humboldt Co.	Humboldt	Yager Junction (4012357)	CCH, Jan 2017 (UC581718)	26-Jun-1932				2500
12	Yager Creek; "mt. on s side of camp", region of type locality	Humboldt	Owl Creek (4012358)	CCH, Jan 2017 (JEPS22258)	29-Jul-1923				2600
13	extreme head of Redwood Creek; , Board Camp Mountain	Humboldt	Board Camp Mtn. (4012366)	CCH, Jan 2017 (UC1223008)	26-Jun-1951			Six Rivers NF	
14	Twin Lakes vicinity""	Humboldt	Board Camp Mtn. (4012366)	CCH, Jan 2017 (UC1223009)	26-Jun-1951				

Distribution on National Forest System (NFS) Lands:

(Please see Reference column of Locations table above for references pertaining to Record Numbers indicated on NFS lands.)

National Forest System (NFS) lands	Record #s (from Locations table above)	CNDDDB EOs	Non-CNDDDB Records	Recent (seen in past 20 yrs.)	Historic (not seen in past 20 yrs.)	Most Recent Obs.	EOs/ Recs. (5 mile buffer)	Total Records on NFS lands
Angeles:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Cleveland:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Eldorado:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Inyo:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Klamath:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Lake Tahoe Basin MU:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Lassen:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Los Padres:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Mendocino:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Modoc:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Plumas:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
San Bernardino:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Sequoia:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Shasta-Trinity:	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0
Sierra:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Six Rivers:	2, 3, 5, 6, 13	-	5	2	3	28-Jul-2010	1	5
Stanislaus:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Tahoe:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Totals:	N/A	0	5	2	3	N/A	4	5

Demographic and Population Trends: Total number of occurrences for this taxon were estimated using GIS tools and methods described by Green and Sims (2018). Population count and size estimate data are lacking for this taxon. All but two occurrence records (12/14; ~86%) are historic and have not been documented in more than 20 years (CCH 2017). Abundance and improved locality information is encouraged (CNPS 2018).

Life History: Perennial herb that blooms during June and July (CNPS 2018). Plants grow to between 25 and 55 cm tall, with decumbent and purplish stems emerging from a slender taproot and woody caudex. Heads are radiate, with white or pink ray florets (Keil and Nesom 2018). Alongside additional plants in Astereae, Aphids in the genus *Uroleucon* rely upon members of *Erigeron* as host plants (Moran 1983; Funk et al. 2009). Members of *Erigeron* are visited by anthophorine bees, bumble bees, cellophane bees, centris bees, cuckoo bees, honey bees, leaf-cutting bees, sweat bees, mining bees, masked bees, diving beetles, flower beetles, leaf beetles,

scarab beetles, soldier beetles, butterflies (brush-footed, copper, blues, hairstreak, metalmark, skipper, sulphurs, whites, and swallowtails), bee flies, blow flies, flesh flies, freeloader flies, house flies, root-maggot flies, saw flies, syrphid flies, tachinid flies, thick-headed flies, metalmark and noctuid moths, plant bugs (*Arhyssus*, *Calocoris*, and *Lygus*), paper wasps, parasitoid wasps, potter wasps, square-headed wasps, thread-wasited wasps, and weevil wasps (CPC 2018).

Diversity: The genus *Erigeron* is a paraphyletic member of the tribe Astereae (incl. *Baccharis*, *Bellis*, *Chrysothamnus*, *Ericameria*, *Grindelia*, *Hazardia*, *Heterotheca*, *Isocoma*, *Oreostemma*, *Solidago*, *Symphotrichum*, *Xylorhiza*) within subtribe Conyzinae (500 species), with the New World *Conyza*, North American *Aphanostephus*, and the South American genera *Apopyros*, *Darwiniothamnus*, *Hysterionica*, *Leptostelma*, and *Neja* nested within the clade defined by *Erigeron s.l.* (Noyes 2000; Nesom 2008; Funk et al. 2009). *Erigeron* assumes a position that is nested, and, also, sister to the rest of the clade represented by subtribe Conyzinae, with the aforementioned genera scattered within (Noyes 2000). Subtribe Conyzinae is essentially one large *Erigeron*, if adhering to tenets of monophyletic nomenclature (Funk et al. 2009). Polyploidy, hybridization, and agamospermy are common phenomena among species of *Erigeron* (Noyes 2000). *Erigeron robustior* is a member of *Erigeron* sect. *Asteroidea* alongside familiar species like *E. decumbens*, *E. eatonii*, *E. maniopotamicus*, *E. jonesii*, *E. lassenianus*, *E. corymbosus*, and others (Nesom 2008).

Habitat: Grassy openings, meadows and seeps, and lower montane coniferous forest; sometimes serpentine (CNPS 2018; Keil and Nesom 2018). Plants are also said to occur on rocky or gravelly slopes, glades, and sagebrush-scrub (Nesom 2006).

Habitat Status or Trend: Fire suppression impacts open forest and woodland habitat preferred by *E. robustior*. Forest openings behave as microsites for species requiring varying intensities of light. Significant changes to the size and spatial characteristics of openings within forests of the northwest California have taken place in the past century (Skinner 1995). In one study, loss of open space between trees was consistent with a drop in shrub cover and diversity. Researchers documented spatial and structural homogenization and a resulting decline in complex habitat features within the study forest. Such features are linked to forest resilience to disturbance and stressors such as fire, insects, and drought (Lydersen et al. 2013).

Capacity for the Species to Disperse: The capacity for *E. robustior* to disperse is unknown. Achenes associated with disk florets have a pappus. The pappus is a feature that is known to increase dispersal distance of taxa that have this trait. Albeit, dispersal efficiency is variable among taxa that retain pappus bristles atop fruit (Sheldon and Burrows 1973).

Threats: Documented threats to this taxon are unknown (CNPS 2018).

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Reviewer(s) and Date:

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Formatting: Form is set up as 508 compliant. Please use the “styles” if further formatting is necessary.

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Purpose: This is to maintain the best available science on a species that could be used by the Forest Service in a variety of functions. Specifically, there would be additional steps and evaluations to determine whether or not this species would be considered a Species of Conservation Concern under the 2012 Planning Rule or a Sensitive Species under the 1982 Planning Rule.

Additional Considerations at the Forest Level: Habitat amount and juxtaposition of both the species and habitat locations.