Delphinium glaucescens (Electric Peak Larkspur)
Conservation Status Rank Summary

Date Published: October 22, 2026

For details on assessment and ranking methodology, see: *Conservation Status Assessment Definitions, Process, Rank Factors, and Calculation of State Ranks for Montana Species*

Rarity and Trends

Rank Factor	Date Assessed	Value Factor Rating	Score	Data Source	Comments
Rarity					
Range Extent	2026-02-10	30000.0 km² F = 20,000-200,000 km²	3.930	GIS Analysis	The range of the species is approximately 30,000 sq km based on the known observations.
Area of Occupancy	2026-02-10	37 | 4km² cells E = 26-125 4-km² grid cells	2.750	MTNHP Database	Of the 96,004 2km x 2km grid cells that cover Montana, known occurrences of the species occupy 37 grid cells.
Number of Occurrences	2026-02-10	35 C = 21 - 80	2.750	MTNHP Database	The known observations group into about 35 Element Occurrences.
Population Size	2026-02-10	* U = Unknown	-	MTNHP Database	**Factor not used in ranking.** Population sizes of individual occurrences are largely unknown with only one occurrence having a count or quantitative estimate of the size. Statewide populations are likely to number at least several thousand individuals to over 10,000 plants.
# of Occurrences in Good Condition	2026-02-10	* U = Unknown	-		**Factor not used in ranking.**
% of Area Occupied in Good Condition			-		**Factor not used in ranking.**
Environmental Specificity	2025-03-01	Moderate C = Moderate; generalist or community with some key requirements scarce	-	Expert Opinion	**Factor not used in ranking.** Assessed by Scott Mincemoyer
Rarity is calculated by averaging weighted factor scores: **((3.93 × 1) + (2.75 × 2) + (2.75 × 1)) / 4 = 3.05**					
Trends					
Short-term Trend	2026-02-10	* FG = Decline of 30% to relatively stable	[-0.070, 0.000]	Expert Opinion	Data to determine short-term trends are unavailable, though populations are likely stable or experiencing only minor declines as its montane and subalpine habitat is largely intact and in good condition.
Long-term Trend	2026-02-10		-		**Factor not used in ranking.** Long-term trends are unknown.
Trends score is calculated by summing weighted short and long-term trend scores: **(([-0.07, 0.00] × 2)) = [-0.14, 0.00]**					

*Values may be absent if not precisely estimated; factors may still be assessed for rank if a Factor Rating can be assigned.

Threats

Rank Factor	Date Assessed	Value / Factor Rating	Score	Data Source	Comments
Threats					
Overall Threat Impact		Medium - Low / CD = Medium - Low	[3.670, 5.500]		Significant or widespread threats have not been documented. Montane and subalpine habitats are largely intact. Any potential threats appear to be minor in scope and/or severity, and are not imminent.
Intrinsic Vulnerability	2025-03-01	Moderately vulnerable / B = Moderately vulnerable	-	Expert Opinion	**Factor not used in ranking.** Assessed by Scott Mincemoyer
Threat score is calculated from Overall Threat Impact when available or Intrinsic Vulnerability if not: **([3.67, 5.50]) = [3.67, 5.50]**					

Individual Threats Data

Threat Category	Date Assessed	Impact Score	Scope	Severity	Immediacy	Comments
No individual threats data used in this rank						

Conservation Status Rank Calculation

Raw score

Rarity: (3.05 × 70%) + Threats: ([3.67, 5.50] × 30%) + Trends: ([-0.14, 0.00]) = [3.09, 3.78]

Calculated Rank: S3S4

Accepted Rank	S3S4
Author(s)	Andrea Pipp
Major Contributor(s)	Scott Mincemoyer
Rank Approved By	Andrea Pipp
State Rank Reason	*Delphinium glaucescens* is a regional endemic of Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. Plants are rare to uncommon in the southwestern mountains of Montana. In the Highwood Mountains, historical collections probably better represent *Delphinium occidentale*. Population sizes and trends are largely unknown. Threats have not been identified. The state conservation status for *Delphinium glaucescens* is calculated with many factors of uncertainty. Revisits to most known occurrences are needed to collect data on population parameters, habitat conditions, and potential threats. Monitoring at a subset of occurrences is necessary to track population trends. Surveys into areas of potentially suitable habitat are also needed to better understand the species' distribution in the state.

Supplementary Information

Montana Natural Heritage Program. 2021. Conservation Status Assessment Definitions, Process, Rank Factors, and Calculation of State Ranks for Montana Species. 18 p.
https://mtnhp.mt.gov/docs/Montana_State_Rank_Criteria_20211201.pdf

Montana Field Guide Species Account:
https://fieldguide.mt.gov/speciesDetail.aspx?elcode=PDRAN0B0N0

Predicted Suitable Habitat Model:
https://mtnhp.mt.gov/resources/models/?elcode=PDRAN0B0N0

Information Needs

Information needs are assessed by considering the availability of factors used to assess species status as well as the quality of these assessments. Current information availability and quality to inform Conservation Status Rank for this species are highlighted.

Rank Factor	Assessment Category	Value	Criteria
General Status	Status Quality	Adequate	Calculated rank has low uncertainty and is represented by a single rank (e.g. S3); accepted rank may be adjusted to a range rank (e.g. S2S3)
		Poor	Rank assessed as SU or calculated rank has notable uncertainty and corresponds to a range rank with 2 or more values (e.g. S2?, S1S3, or S4S5)
Rarity	Range Quality	Adequate	Range polygon adequately represents area of probable occupancy and does not include substantial unoccupied areas; range may be adequately defined and still include areas of unsuitable habitat (e.g. mountain ranges for plains species)
		Marginal	Range polygon defined, but may include or exclude notable areas where the species may or may not occur on the landscape
		Poor	Range polygon not defined
	Habitat Quality	Adequate	Species-habitat relationship is well-defined (e.g. relevant literature or robust habitat model available)
		Marginal	Understanding of species-habitat relationship is adequate among some but not all habitats (e.g. literature covers similar habitats outside of Montana or habitat model performance is only somewhat adequate)
		Poor	Species-habitat relationship is not well understood
Threats	Threat Quality	Adequate	Threat Impact is a single value (including "Unthreatened")
		Marginal	Threat Impact assessed at more than one value (e.g. "High - Medium")
		Poor	Threat Impact is Unknown but Intrinsic Vulnerability is assessed
		Unknown	Threat Impact is Unknown and Intrinsic Vulnerability is not assessed
Trends	Recency	Current	Short-term Trend assessment date less than 10 years old
		Out of Date but Adequate	Short-term Trend assessment date is more than 10 years old or Unknown, but species is Unthreatened
		Out of Date	Short-term Trend assessment date more than 10 years old
		Not Available	Short-term Trend data are not available
	Trend Quality	Sufficient	Short-term Trend assessed at a single value or multiple values with a minimum trend greater than -10% (stable or increasing)
		Unknown but Sufficient	Short-term Trend is Unknown, but species is Unthreatened
		Poor	Short-term Trend is less than -10% (in decline) with two or more values selected
		Unknown	Short-term Trend is Unknown

Summary of Information Availability

Summary of Information Needs

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Additional Threat Details

The table below contains the complete threats assessment for this species. While the Conservation Status Rank Calculation is based on cumulative, broadly categorized (Level 1) threats data, threats are assessed and tracked for more specifically categorized (Level 2) threats when available.

Threat Category	Date Assessed	Assessed By	Data Source	Scope	Severity	Imme-diacy	Comments
No threats data available for this species							