

BLM

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## Rehab and Restoration in Sandy Soils in the Snake River Plain



DOI, Bureau of Land Management

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# Native Plant Materials and Plant Conservation Program



# Mulford's Milkvetch

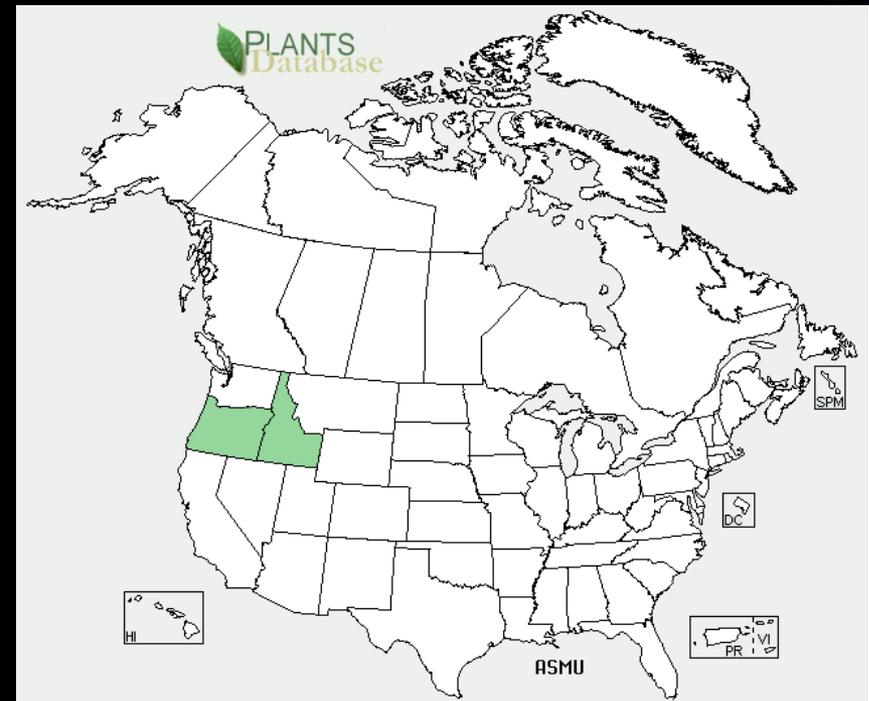
*(Astragalus mulfordiae)*



Mulford's Milkvetch Exclosure  
Restoration Project, Owyhee  
Resource Area, Idaho



- Unique habitat
- It is endemic to the western Snake River Plain
- 100 years of livestock grazing
- Trash dumping
- Road scarring from OHV  
(site is within ¼ mile of OHV park)



## What are the Threats?

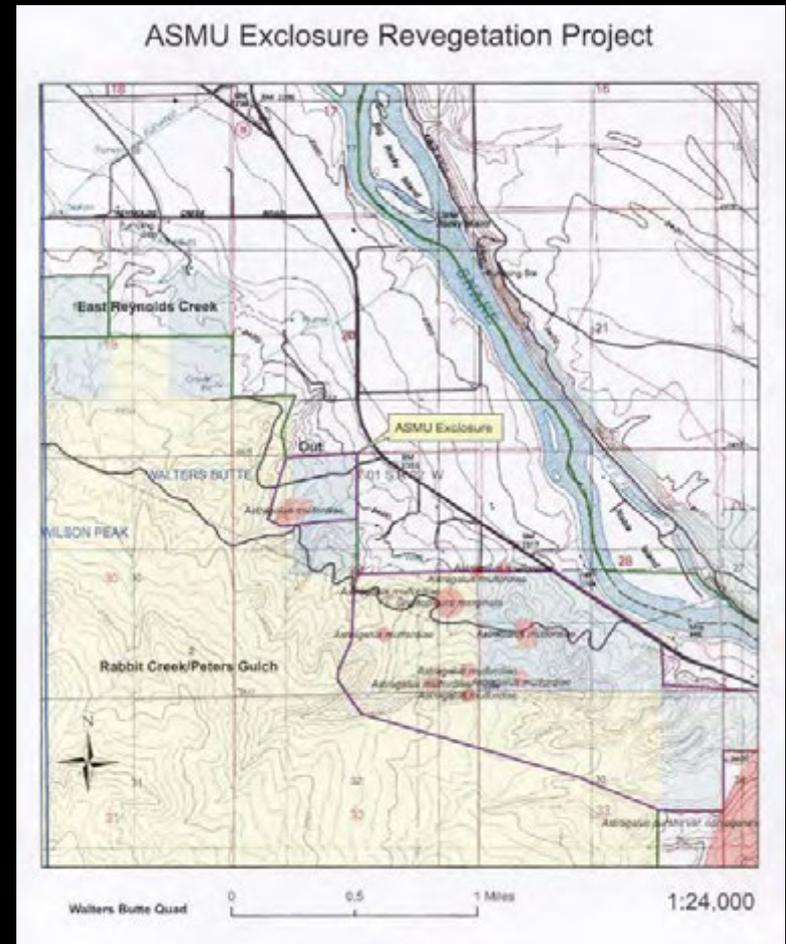
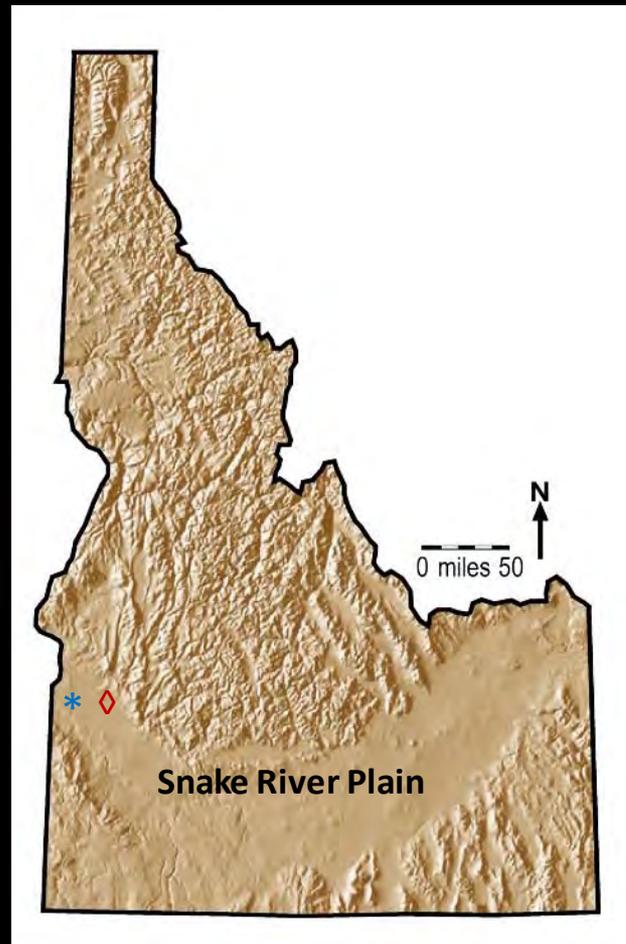
- Habitat degradation
- Weed invasion
- Off-highway-motorized vehicles
- Livestock grazing
- Wildfires



## Conservation

- Fencing protects from livestock
- Protected from OHV (not 100%)
- Noxious weed control (mechanical)
- Seed and plant plug restoration

# Snake River Plain





Understory ?



- Habitat is characterized by loose, sandy substrate derived from lacustrine and alluvial sediments
- In Owyhee Cty. is more often associated with a mix of desert shrub species. (Fourwing saltbrush, horsebrush, gray rabbit brush, prickly phlox, Needle-and-thread grass, Indian rice grass)
- Few Antelope bitterbrush and Sand dune penstemon.



# What makes it unique?



# Seeds planted



Indian ricegrass

Munro's globemallow

Basin wildrye

Shadscale saltbush

Fourwing saltbush

Fernleaf biscuitroot

Sandberg Bluegrass

Arrowleaf Balsamroot

Needle and Thread grass



# Plugs Planted

Blue flax

Bitterbrush

Sandberg bluegrass

Globemallow





# Post Seeding monitoring



Cassandra Skinner. BLM ID



# Early Results

- Increased plant vigor
- Indian Ricegrass establishment on roadscars
- Remnant plants increasing



# Other Challenges





# Mulford's Warriors





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