

Howellia aquatilis

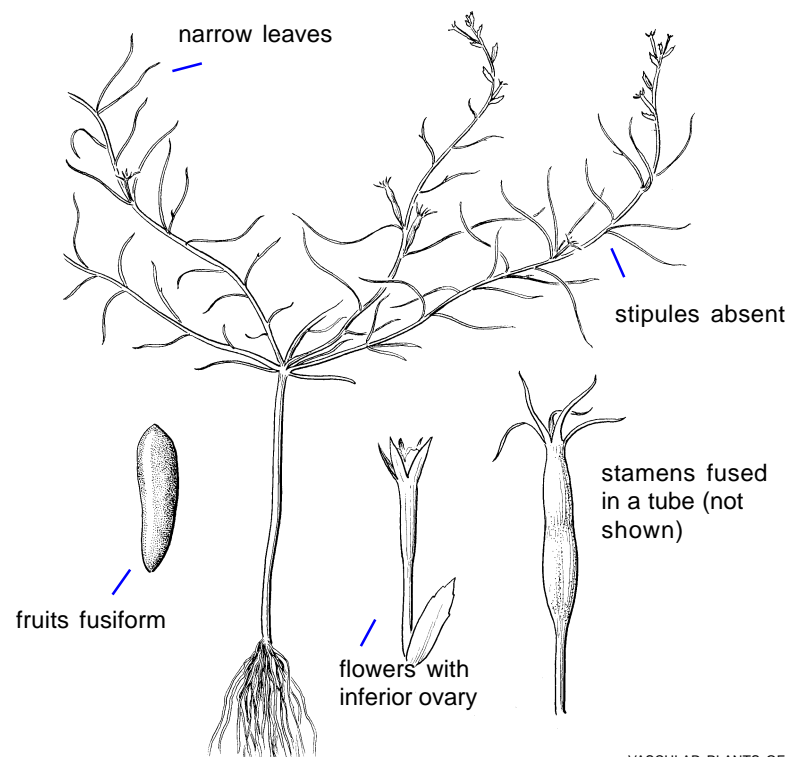
Campanulaceae

howellia

Gerald D. Carr



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VASCULAR PLANTS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST (1959)
Hitchcock & Cronquist,
courtesy of University of Washington Press.

Melissa A. Carr



Glabrous, annual, aquatic herb. **Stems** branched above, the branches spreading or floating, 10-60 cm long. **Leaves** numerous, alternate, or some of them opposite or whorled in threes, not hollow, flaccid, linear or linear-filiform, entire or nearly so, 1-4.5 cm long, up to 1.5 mm wide; stipules absent.

Inflorescence elevated above the surface of the water, a raceme of 3-10, axillary, flowers widely separated; bracts absent; pedicels stout, 1-4(8) mm long. **Flowers** with calyx lobes 1.5-7 mm long; corolla 2-lipped, with a tube that is split along one side, white (or pale lavender?), ca. 2-2.7 mm long, or absent; filaments and anthers joined in a tube; ovary inferior. **Fruit** 5-13 mm long, 1-2 mm thick, tapering on both ends; seeds ca. 5 or fewer, 2-4 mm long, shiny brown.

Lookalikes

differs from featured plant by

Potamogeton spp. flower parts 4, inconspicuous, greenish, stipules present (pondweeds)

Ruppia maritima occurs in brackish water, sepals and petals absent, stipules present (ditch grass)

best survey times
J|F|M|A|M|J|J|A|S|O|N|D

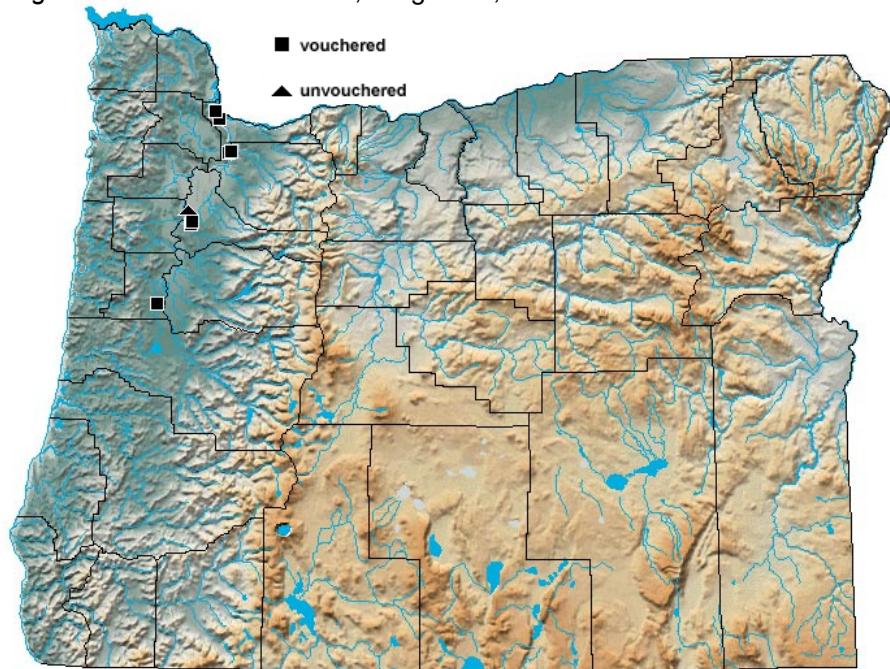


Howellia aquatilis A. Gray

howellia

PLANTS symbol: HOAQ

August 2019 status Federal:LT; Oregon:LT; ORBIC: List 1



Distribution: Willamette Valley ecoregion (currently known from only one population south of Corvallis, but historically widespread); Washington; northern Idaho; Montana; California.

Habitat: Freshwater ponds, lakes, sloughs that may dry up by the end of summer.

Elevation: 0–100 m

Best survey time(in flower): May-June (August)

Notes: When in flower, this aquatic plant can be easily distinguished from all other species. Sterile plants look similar to pondweeds and other submerged aquatics with narrow, delicate leaves. In our area these species typically have stipules at the base of the leaves.

