

DO NOT DISTRIBUTE NM CAREX KEY

Flora Neomexicana III: Dichotomous Keys for Sedges in the genus *Carex*:

Final Report to NMNPS

Dec. 27 2011

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The primary goal of this project was to develop a key to the 80+ *Carex* taxa known to occur in New Mexico. The generous \$1,000 grant awarded to me by NMNPS early in 2011 facilitated my travel to herbaria at New Mexico State University (November 2011) and the University of New Mexico (December 2011), where I was able to examine specimens of *Carex* collected in this state that are unavailable in the herbarium of my home institution, Western New Mexico University. These funds were also used to defray costs of shipping problematic *Carex* specimens to national sedge expert Dr. Anton Reznicek at the University of Michigan. The initial version of this key is now complete and will appear in the upcoming (mid-late 2012) volume of Flora Neomexicana III by Dr. Kelly W. Allred. I have attached the key as evidence of this work; *please do not distribute at this time.*

The results of my examination of herbarium specimens in the above two herbaria, and consideration of the collection records available on-line resources (e.g., SEINet), include identification of four new species of *Carex* for NM: *Carex gynocrates*, *C. leptopoda*, *C. limosa*, and *C. vesicaria*. Furthermore, I discovered that more than 20 *Carex* taxa currently not documented from New Mexico have been collected in counties adjacent to this state in Arizona, Colorado and/or Utah. I have incorporated all of these *Carex* taxa into the key to raise awareness of potential new sedge species in New Mexico, particularly in the northern and southwestern counties of this state.

I thank NMNPS for their gracious award that funded my travel and shipping costs for this project.

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