

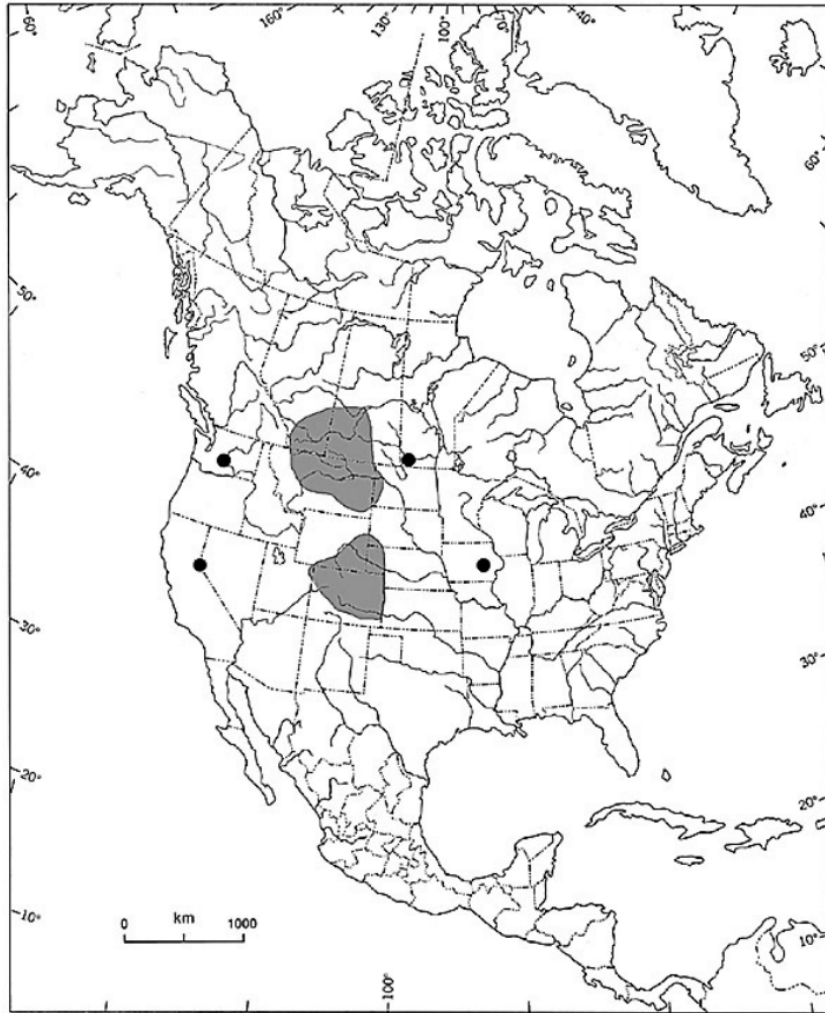


# Species at Risk Profile Series: Smooth Goosefoot



- Smooth Goosefoot is listed as Threatened in Canada.
- Look for a 20-80 cm (8-30 in) tall plant with several branching stems and 1-3 cm (0.5-1.5 in) long, thin leaves.
- It has very small green or red flowers that open from June to August.
- It is wind- or self-pollinated, so it does not rely on insect pollinators.
- Seed germination occurs the most during wet years with more rain.
- It grows in mixed grass prairie with sandy soil, specifically on the edges of stabilizing sand dunes, on eroding south- or west-facing slopes, or in dune slacks.
- It is capable of tolerating high salt conditions, as well as dry conditions.
- It is an annual plant whose seeds remain dormant until suitable growing conditions occur.
- Seeds rarely disperse very far, but are buried by shifting sand.





## Conservation

- Habitat loss, particularly due to sand dune stabilization, is the greatest threat to Smooth Goosefoot.
- Grazing, erosion, and fire all destabilize sand and create more habitat.
- Most sand dunes are on lands used for cattle grazing.
- Invasive species reduce diversity and habitat quality.

## Get involved

- Read the assessment report for Smooth Goosefoot [here](#).
- Allow minor grazing around sand dunes to destabilize the dunes.

Photo credit: Smooth Goosefoot by Nature Saskatchewan used with permission (front)  
Range map credit: COSEWIC. 2006. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Smooth Goosefoot *Chenopodium subglabrum* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. vi + 33 pp. ([www.sararegistry.gc.ca/status/status\\_e.cfm](http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/status/status_e.cfm)).