

***Coeloglossum viride* (L.) Hartman**

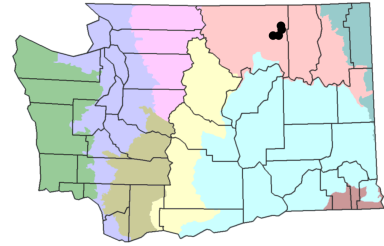
synonym: *Habenaria viridis* (L.) R. Br. var. *bracteata* (Muhl. ex Willd.) A. Gray, *Dactylorhiza viridis* (L.) R.M. Bateman, A.M. Pridgeon & M.W. Chase

long-bract frog orchid

Orchidaceae - orchid family

status: State Threatened, BLM sensitive, USFS sensitive

- rank: G5 / S1



General Description: Stout, leafy-stemmed, hairless, succulent perennial 6-80 cm tall; roots fleshy, slender, palmately divided. Leaves several, alternate, obovate to lanceolate, lacking petioles, the base sheathing around the stem. Blades at midstem are largest, generally 10-12 cm long.

Floral Characteristics: Racemes terminal, spikelike, spreading to densely many-flowered. Floral bracts conspicuous, leaflike, 2-4 cm long, usually longer than the flowers, lanceolate, widely spreading (sometimes ascending). Flowers greenish, sometimes with purple, dull red or brown; pedicel twisted. Upper sepal broadly ovate to ovate-lanceolate; lateral sepals ovate to broadly lanceolate, curved, forming a hood over the filaments, 3-8 x 2-5 mm. Petals linear, much narrower than the sepals, 3-5 x 0.5 mm. Lip oblong, pendant, 3-10 x 0.5-4 mm, notched to 3-lobed at the tip, the middle lobe the shortest (sometimes lacking). Base of lip elongated into an inconspicuous, pouch-shaped spur. Pollen sacs 2, about 1.5 mm long, with 1 mass of waxy pollen grains per sac. Flowers late June through July.

Fruits: Ascending ellipsoid capsules, 7-14 x 4-5 mm.

Identification Tips: *Platanthera chorisiana* usually has 2 nearly opposite leaves near the base of the stem, and much shorter floral bracts (up to 12 mm long).

Range: AK south to WA; Rocky Mts. of MT, WY, UT, CO, NM; throughout most of Canada, and south to MO, TN, and NC.

Habitat/Ecology: Moist to wet forests, meadows, thickets, and coastal heaths and bogs. In WA it grows in coniferous forests east of the Cascades, from 1170 to 1340 m (3840-4400 ft). Associated species include Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), Sitka alder (*Alnus viridis* ssp. *sinuata*), quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*), and pinegrass (*Calamagrostis rubescens*).

Comments: There are 2 small sites in WA. Threats include livestock grazing and timber management activities. Habitat preservation and prescribed burning might benefit the populations. This taxon is rare in several states.

References: Flora of North America 1993+, vol. 26.



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