

## ***Myriophyllum ussuriense* (Regel) Maxim.**

Ussurian water-milfoil  
Haloragaceae (Watermilfoil Family)

**Status:** State Review Group 1

**Rank:** G3SNR

**General Description:** Adapted from Douglas et al. (1999): *Myriophyllum ussuriense* is an aquatic or semi-aquatic plant from a rhizome, with stems that are up to 10 in. (25 cm) tall. The leaves that rise out of the water are in whorls of 3 or opposite, 1/16 to 1/3 in. (1-8 mm) long, linear or lanceolate in outline and entire or pinnate with 1-3 pairs of segments. The submersed leaves are in whorls of 3 and pinnate, and broadly egg-shaped in outline, with 2-7 alternate segments on each side. The winter buds are 1/8 to 1/4 in. (3-7 mm) long, threadlike, and formed in the leaf axils. Male and female flowers develop on separate plants in the axils of the floral bracts. The floral bracts are similar to the leaves, and usually entire, or with a few stubby segments on each side. The white petals of the male flowers fall off in age and are about 1/8 in. (3 mm) long, with 8 stamens that fall off in age. The female flowers are inconspicuous and greenish, with 4 feather-like stigmas.

**Identification Tips:** In Washington *Myriophyllum ussuriense* may be mistaken for the common *M. aquaticum* (parrotfeather), which is a noxious weed in the state. *M. ussuriense* has some leaves visible above the water surface, and the leaves are in whorls of 3 or opposite and less than 1/2 in. (1 cm) long, whereas the leaves of *M. aquaticum* are usually submerged until the time of flowering, in whorls of 4-6, and 1 to 2 in. (2.5-5 cm) long. A technical key is recommended for identification.

**Phenology:** In Washington the species was observed in July.

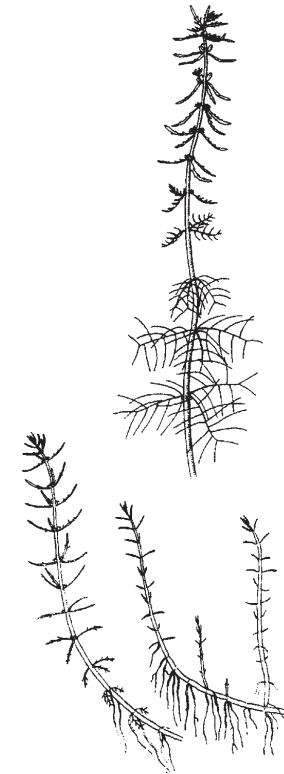
**Range:** The primary distribution of this species is in eastern Russia, China and Japan. In North America it is known only from British Columbia, Washington and Oregon. In Washington it was found in Wahkiakum County.

**Habitat:** This species was found at an elevation of 5 feet (1.5 m), in mud along a slough of the Columbia River that received daily saltwater tidal inundation.

**Ecology:** This species is found around the world under varied ecological conditions.

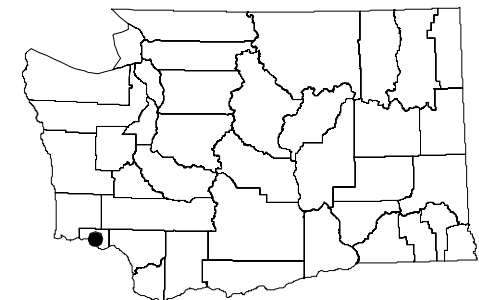
## ***Myriophyllum ussuriense***

Ussurian water-milfoil



©1999 by Province of British Columbia. Illustration by Oldriska Ceska

Known distribution  
of *Myriophyllum ussuriense*  
in Washington



● Current (1980+)  
○ Historic (older than 1980)

## ***Myriophyllum ussuriense***

Ussurian water-milfoil

## ***Myriophyllum ussuriense***

Ussurian water-milfoil



John A. Christie

**State Status Comments:** In Washington *Myriophyllum ussuriense* is known from only one occurrence. Because this species was recently added to the Washington rare plant list, not much is known about the degree of its rarity in the state at this time.

**Inventory Needs:** Appropriate habitats in Washington should be systematically surveyed for additional populations.

**Threats and Management Concerns:** This species may be vulnerable to changes in hydrology.

**Comments:** *Myriophyllum ussuriense* is not listed in Hitchcock et al. (1961). Use Douglas et al. (1999) for identification.

### **References:**

Douglas, G.W., G.B. Straley, D. Meidinger, and J. Pojar. 1999. *Illustrated Flora of British Columbia* vol. 3: *Dicotyledons (Diapensiaceae Through Onagraceae)*. Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Victoria, British Columbia. 423 pp.

Hitchcock, C.L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, J.W. Thompson. 1961. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest Part 3: Saxifragaceae to Ericaceae*. University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA. 614 pp.