

Sidalcea nelsoniana

Malvaceae

Nelson's checker mallow

Gerald D. Carr



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Institute of Applied Ecology

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

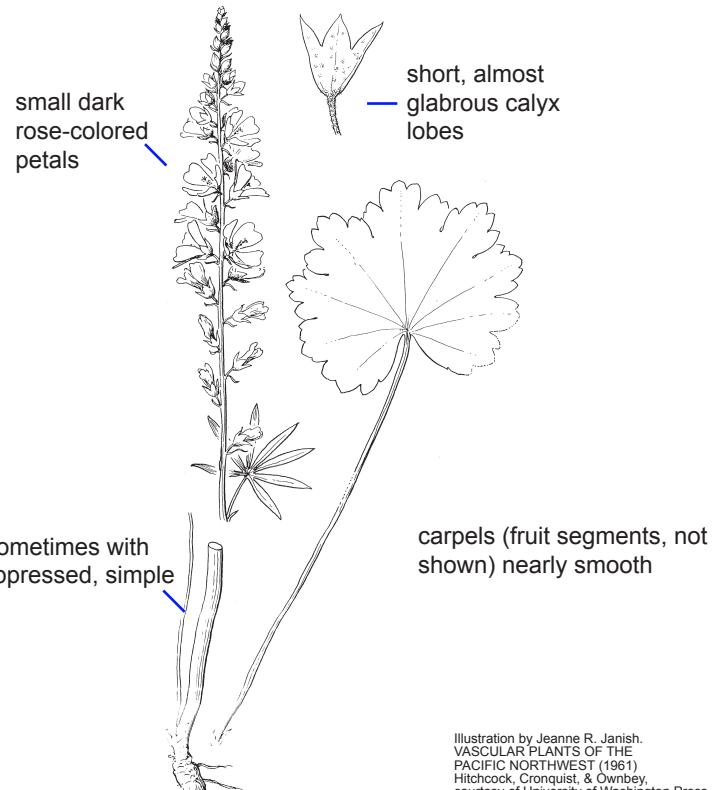
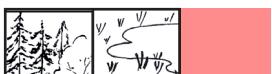


Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
VASCULAR PLANTS OF THE
PACIFIC NORTHWEST (1961)
Hitchcock, Cronquist, & Ownbey,
courtesy of University of Washington Press.

Erect perennial from a stout taproot, plants either bisexual or female. **Stems** 60-100 cm tall, somewhat glaucous, glabrous to pubescent with short, appressed, simple hairs. **Leaf** blades orbicular, extremely variable in lobing, basal leaves shallowly 5-7-lobed, upper ones deeply parted, glabrous above, sparsely hairy with simple hairs beneath, 5-10 cm broad, the lower ones ca. seven lobed, the lobes toothed, upper leaves increasingly deeply cleft. **Inflorescence** a many-flowered, elongate, spikelike raceme; pedicels ca. 3 mm long. **Flowers** bisexual or female, the bisexual ones larger than the females; calyx nearly smooth, 4-6 mm long, purplish tinged, glabrous or pubescent with stellate hairs; petals rose-colored, 5-15 mm long; stamens united in a tube surrounding style. **Fruits** schizocarps; carpels ca. 3 mm long.

Lookalikes

- Sidalcea hendersonii* Restricted to tide flats, calyx taller, more pubescent
- S. hirtipes* calyx longer (9-15 mm), flowers larger (5-15mm), coastal
- S. malviflora* ssp. *virgata* sepals uniformly finely stellate, flowers larger, typically on dry soils
- S. campestris* flowers white to pale pink, larger

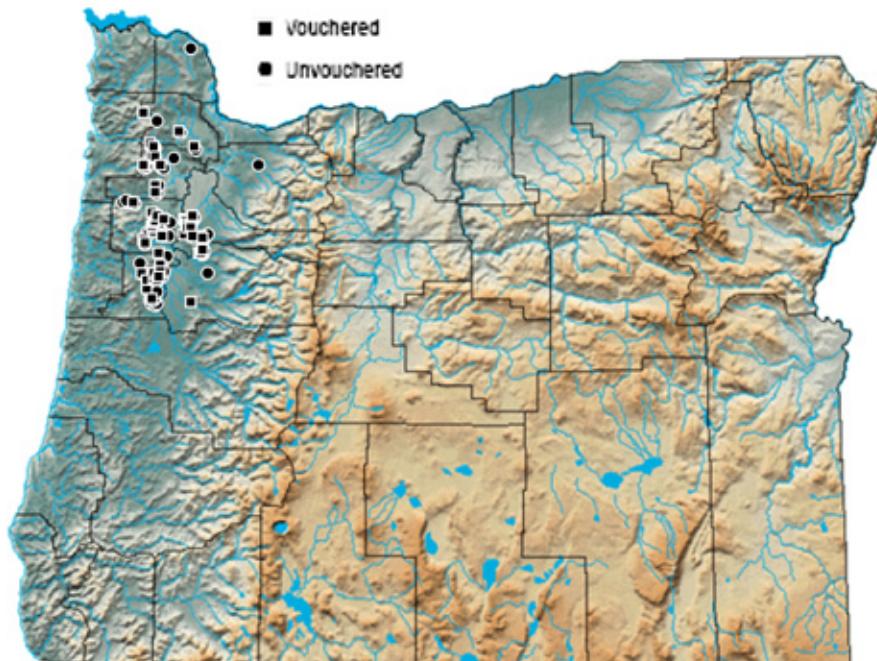
differs from featured plant by

Sidalcea nelsoniana Piper

Nelson's checker mallow

PLANTS symbol: SINE2

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



Distribution: West of the Cascade Mountains, in the Willamette Valley and occasionally in the Coast Range; north to Lewis Co., Central Washington.

Habitat: Relatively open areas on damp soil, in meadows, wet prairie remnants, fencerows, roadsides, deciduous forest edges, occasionally Oregon ash wetlands.

Elevation: 45-610 m

Best survey time(in flower): May-September

Associated species:

Fraxinus latifolia (Oregon ash)

Deschampsia cespitosa (tufted hairgrass)

Geum macrophyllum (large leaved avens)

Anthoxanthum odoratum (sweet vernal grass)



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