

**Agency/Organization:** US Geological Survey

**Project Name:** Seed Ecology of Threecorner Milkvetch

**Project Number:** 2023-USGS-2385A

**Reporting Period:** January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026

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**QUESTION 1: What did you accomplish during this reporting period? How did these accomplishments help you reach the goal of your project? If relevant, what indicators or benchmarks were used to determine your progress?**

In early March 2026, we surveyed for *Astragalus geyeri* var. *triquetrus* (ASGET) within and near plots we watered during winter 2026 at California Wash and Muddy River populations as part of Project 2021-USGS-2075A. Emergence at California Wash was sufficient for us to locate and assign seedlings to the various herbivory (cage vs. no cage, M18), invasive competition (removal vs. intact neighbors, M19), and pollination treatments (bagged vs. unbagged flower buds, M22). In contrast, we found sparse seedling emergence at the Muddy River population despite our expanded searches to areas with many historical occurrences; thus, we assigned these seedlings to only a subset of the treatments.

These Milestones are instrumental towards Field Experiments 1 (Herbivory, Invasive Plant Competition, and Pollination Limitation) and 2 (Seed Longevity) and developing our final deliverables for this project.

**QUESTION 2: What, if any, problems were encountered? Briefly describe those problems and the manner in which they were dealt.**

Seedling emergence at Muddy River was so low this year that we could not locate and assign a full array of treatments. By the end of March, those seedlings we had located grew very little and did not exhibit any reproduction. Concurrent to tracking these seedlings, we learned seedling emergence occurred at the Weiser Wash population – 5.5 miles northwest of the Muddy River population – and we visited the site to determine if seedling emergence met our needs for this project. Finding sufficient seedlings that were still early in phenology, we initiated communication with BLM and Nevada Division of Forestry to request that our permit cover research activities at this population.

**QUESTION 3: What, if any, proposed activities were not completed? Briefly describe those activities, the reasons they were not completed and your plans for carrying them out.**

None.

**QUESTION 4: What is the calculated percent of work completed?**

We are approximately 26% toward project completion.

**QUESTION 5: Do you foresee any upcoming problems with future project activities? If so, how do you propose to overcome those problems?**

None anticipated.

**QUESTION 6: Is there anything else you want to tell the DCP about this project?**

We have nothing additional to note concerning this project.

**QUESTION 7: What was produced during the reporting period?**

During the reporting period, we produced this Quarterly Progress Report (D15).