Hi Gil,

Please add the attached list to the NANSH website. This is the G1-G3 list for Arkansas. I used G1-G3, and it still only got us up to 77 taxa. Arkansas tracks over 600 species on its list, but it looks like the majority of the species tracked have range limits in/near our state, and so they are secure in other portions of their range.

I've cc'd the typical Arkansas players in NANSH on this email, but I've also included Theo Witsell from the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, so he is up-to-date on how the list may be used in our research project.

Best,

Travis

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Hi everyone. I wanted to elaborate on the G1-G3 list that Travis sent out for Arkansas. That list was made by sorting the list of species of state conservation concern tracked by the Heritage Program. There are actually some G3 taxa that occur in Arkansas that aren't tracked by Heritage and are thus absent from that list. A few examples that come to mind are Matelea baldwyniana, Castanea pumila var. ozarkensis, & Saxifraga palmeri, not to mention some G3G4s like Triphora trianthophora, & Panax quinquefolius... I'm sure there are others. It also doesn't appear to include G4-G5 T1-T3 taxa (infraspecific taxa that meet the G1-G3 criteria at the infraspecific level but not the specific level), even those tracked by Heritage. A couple of examples of T1-T3 taxa in Arkansas include Helianthus occidentalis ssp. plantagineus, Galium arkansanum var. pubiflorum, and Cardamine angustata var. ouachitana.

Revising Travis's list to get the T1-T3 species tracked by Heritage would be pretty easy but getting the G1-G3s that aren't tracked would probably involve getting some data from NatureServe Explorer. It's possible though that the Arkansas list could reach 100 if these categories were included. But Arkansas is only as rich as it is (modestly so) in G1-G3 taxa because of the Interior Highlands (Ozark Plateau and Ouachita Mountains) and some rare habitats endemic to the Upper West Gulf Coastal Plain. States outside of the Coastal Plains (Atlantic or Gulf), especially those that were glaciated, will have even fewer as Anna pointed out in her email with the Michigan list.

Theo

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