



Perennial herbs 2-5 dm tall.

Scientific Name: *Spiranthes diluvialis* Sheviak

Bibliographic Reference: Sheviak, 1984. Brittonia 36(1): 8-14.

Common Name: Ute ladies'-tresses

Family (Common Name): Orchidaceae (Orchid Family)

Synonyms: *Spiranthes romanzoffiana* Cham. var. *diluvialis* (Sheviak) Welsh

Idaho Native Plant Society Category: Global Priority 2

Natural Heritage Program Rank: S1

Federal Status: Federally listed as Threatened

Distribution: Bonneville, Jefferson, and Madison, counties, Idaho; sw Nevada, n and sc Utah, n Colorado, s Montana, nc Washington, se Wyoming and w Nebraska. Included in this publication because the USFWS considers all of Idaho to be within potential range of the species.

Habitat: Moist streambanks, wet meadows and abandoned stream channels, 1500-1600 m elevation in Idaho.

Phenology: Late July through October.

Look-alikes: Similar to *S. romanzoffiana*, which has short, broad-based, strongly ascending flowers, deeply constricted lip petals and more densely congested, and shorter spikes. Ute ladies'-tresses has a set of characters reflecting its hybrid origin. In aspect plants are leafy with long stems which support ascending flowers with variably free sepals. The stem is disproportionately long for the length of the inflorescence, sepals are basally connate for a short distance, variably positioned and appressed to the rest of the flower, and free spreading or ascending. The hood is rarely evident, the lips are ovate to lanceolate or oblong in outline with a marked median constriction and distinctly parallel veined, but with evident lateral veins.



Closeup of *Spiranthes diluvialis*

Edna Rey-Vizgirdas



Habitat of *Spiranthes diluvialis*

Bob Moseley

Species
Distribution

