Contra Costa Goldfields (*Lasthenia conjugens*)
Status - Federal: Endangered    State: None

Photos: Bob Holmes, Travis AFB

Contra Costa Goldfields (*Lasthenia conjugens*), is a member of the Aster family. It is a colorful spring annual, golden yellow in color and about 3 to 4 inches tall with light green finely divided leaves. Flowering season is March to June. CC goldfields grow and flower around the edges of drying vernal pools. They germinate with the first rains and enter a period of dormancy while the vernal pools remain inundated. As the pools start to dry in the spring, the Goldfields resume their growth and begin to form golden rings and patches around the pools. By late spring, small golden carpets around the pools are formed.

Range: The original range of this plant included the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Mendocino, Napa and Solano. Currently, this plant occurs in Alameda, Contra Costa, Monterey, Napa, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, and Solano counties.

Occurrence in Travis AFB: This plant has been on the Federal endangered species list since 1996, and Travis Air Force Base (Solano county) has 30 vernal pools, which contain this endangered species. As part of the base’s environmental management program, several sites on Travis have been set aside as part of a restoration program (see shaded areas in drawing below).

For more information on Contra Costa Goldfields within Travis AFB contact: Bob Holmes (707) 424-5126

California Department of Pesticide Regulation
Endangered Species Project
www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/endspec/index.htm