

**CONSERVATION STATUS OF PTERIDOPHYTES IN THE 49
CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES: A PRELIMINARY REPORT**

S.P. GRUND & J.C. PARKS

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, 209 Fourth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15222, USA
& Biology Department, Millersville University, Millersville PA, 17551, USA

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ABSTRACT

The United States flora has about 556 pteridophyte species, 425 on the continent and 131 in Hawaii. Of these, 160 species (29%) are at-risk including 59 ranked critically imperiled. Of the 425 pteridophyte species of the continental U.S., 71 (16.7%) are endemic. At-risk continental US pteridophytes are noted; and political, land use, and scientific issues affecting their conservation are summarized.