Linanthus californicus (Hooker & Arnott) J. M. Porter & L. A. Johnson, PRICKLY PHLOX. Shrub, summer-dormant, spinescent, thin-stemmed and brittle-stemmed, typically several-branched near base but having most branching in upper canopy, ascending to erect but not strictly so (where growing on steep cuts often with spreading or ± pendent branches), in range 30–100 cm tall; shoots with cauline leaves and having tufts of 1–several leaves (fascicles) on unexpanded axillary shoots, prickly with persistent, living or dead, sharp-tipped leaves, short-villous, the hairs nonglandular (sometimes gland-tipped). **Stems:** cylindric, densely tomentose and without glandular heads, greenish turning red, becoming fissured with formation of bark. **Leaves:** helically alternate, deeply palmately divided nearly to base into (3)5 or 7(9) lobes, sessile, without stipules; blade of cauline leaves with ± linear-cylindric lobes, the central lobe 5–12 × 0.4–1.1 mm, the lateral lobes successively shorter to 2 mm long, spine-tipped, the spines colorless, very sharp, venation obscure, glabrous or sparsely villous; blade of fascicled leaves palmately lobed or appearing simple, the lobes shorter than on cauline leaves and not fully developed; glabrous or sparsely villous. **Inflorescence:** cyme, terminal, 1–several-flowered, bracteate, villous; bractlets subtending pedicel or flower 2, opposite, pinnately 3(5)-lobed, with lobes arising < 3 mm from base; pedicel very short or nearly absent on terminal flower but to 4(–5) mm long on successive flowers of cyme. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 27–33 mm across, with a strong, perfume fragrance; **calyx** 5(–6)-lobed, 9–10 mm long, glabrous to tomentose; tube < 6 mm long, portions resembling leaf blade lobes connected by membranous panels; lobes ± erect or curving slightly outward, subequal, linear, extending 4.5–5 mm beyond membranous tube, tomentose; **corolla** 5(–6)-lobed, trumpetlike (salverform); tube + throat narrowly funnel-shaped, (10)12–15(–20) mm long, cylindric tube whitish or pale creamy yellow, in lower throat alternating reddish purple and white; lobes obovate, in range 11.5–17.5 × 8.5–11 mm, reddish purple, bright rose, or dark rose-lavender to white, whitish at base; **stamens** 5, fused to corolla tube at same level slightly above midpoint alternate with corolla lobes; filaments 1.5–2 mm long (0.8–1 mm long in glandular form), white; anthers included, basifixed, dithecal, 2.7–3.1(–3.5) mm long, vivid yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen vivid yellow; **nectary disc** beneath ovary, ringlike, ca. 0.7 mm diameter, darker green than ovary; **pistil** 1, ≅ calyx tube; ovary superior, conic to narrowly ovoid, 1.3–3.1 mm long, green, 3-chambered, each chamber with several ovules attached to center; style ± 4.5 mm long, greenish white, 3-branched < 1 mm above ovary, 2.8–3.5 mm long, the stigmatic branches included, hollow (slightly grooved on outer face), densely papillate. **Fruit:** capsule, loculicidal, dehiscent by 3 valves, with ± 30 seeds, narrowly ovoid, 7–7.5 × 2.8–3 mm. **Seed:** irregular angled to ± rhomboid or wedge-shaped, 1–1.5 × 0.4–0.8 mm, dull brown, translucent on some edges. Late December–mid-June.

Native. Spinescent shrub occasionally encountered in chaparral, especially on open or bare slopes, e.g., on steep road cuts. *Linanthus californicus* is more commonly cited in the literature as *Leptodactylon californicum* Hooker & Arnott. Throughout most of the range, plants have predominantly nonglandular hairs, and have been treated by many authors as subspecies *californicus*. Populations on the easternmost edge of SMM have predominantly glandular hairs, and have been referred to as subspecies *glandulosus* (in *Leptodactylon*), which is not recognized in *The Jepson Manual*, although perhaps should be reconsidered as a good subspecies. In range the glandular form tends to bloom later, and it appears to

have shorter filaments (0.8–1 mm) and much longer anthers (2.7–3.1 mm) than does the typical nonglandular form, which produces longer filaments (1.5–2 mm) and shorter anthers (1.3–1.6 mm).
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