

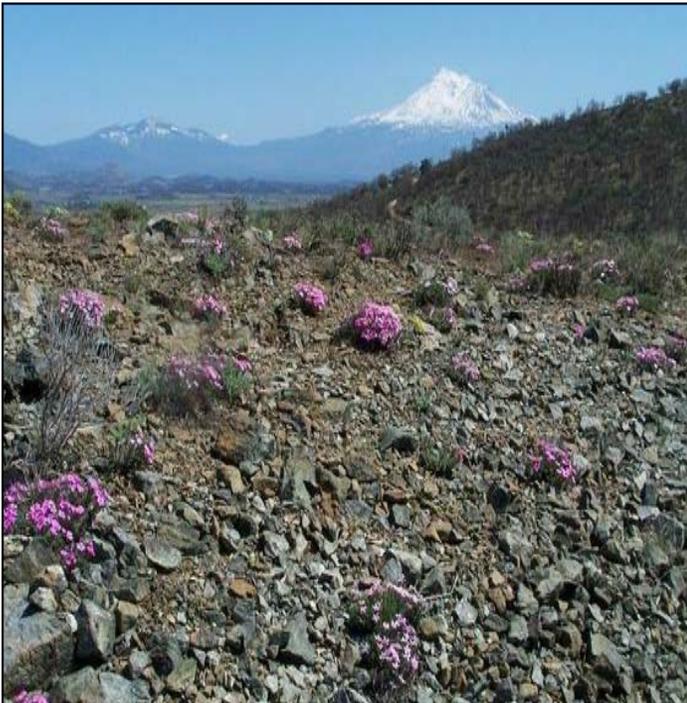
Endangered Species Act 40th Anniversary Success Stories Yreka Phlox Recovery

In 2000, *Phlox hirsuta* was listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. A serpentine endemic, it is known from only five locations in and around the City of Yreka, Siskiyou County, California. At the time of listing, the primary direct threats were residential development and extirpation from random events due to the small number of populations. The Yreka Phlox Recovery Plan, published in 2006, outlines a recovery strategy that includes protecting population occurrences, population and threat monitoring over 10 years, creating a seed bank, surveying for undiscovered occurrences, conducting biological research, and increasing public participation in recovery actions.

Klamath National Forest staff contributed to the development of the recovery plan, and continue to assist in implementation of recovery actions and monitoring.



Phlox hirsuta. Photo by USFWS Mike Jurrell.



Phlox habitat on China Hill, Yreka, CA.

Photo by Marla Knight.



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Many recovery actions have been implemented since 2006. Seed collection, willing seller property acquisition, non-native invasive plant control, research on breeding system, reproductive success, and evolutionary relationships have all been conducted by multiple partners committed to the conservation of this species.

The city of Yreka adopted *Phlox hirsuta* as its official flower, and the Siskiyou County Mother's Day Flower Show, an annual event conducted by the Klamath and Shasta-Trinity National Forests, highlights this species with a special display. Species looking similar to Yreka Phlox are displayed side by side so the different characteristics that positively identify the species can be easily understood.