

Endangered Species Act 40th Anniversary Success Stories Maguire Primrose



The beautiful Maguire primrose occurs solely within a 10-mile corridor within Logan Canyon, east of Logan, Utah. It is found on cool, moist, moss-covered dolomite cliff walls within the canyon. This plant is 2-4 inches high and blooms in mid-April thru mid-May. Its distribution is limited by temperature and moisture conditions (seepage from snowmelt). At the time of listing, rock-climbing, trail and campground development and small populations were considered a threat to the species. Since its listing as a Threatened species in 1985, the Forest Service has instituted a program of education, selective climbing closures, physical barriers and designation of Logan Canyon as a Botanical Special Interest Area. These actions have substantially reduced threats to the Maguire primrose and its habitat. Additional primrose populations have been found as a result of Forest Service instituting an extensive survey and long-term monitoring program in 2008. Research and partnerships with academic institutions (Utah State University and University of Utah) have also added to our understanding of its reproductive biology, genetics, and effective population sizes needed for species recovery. Climate change, drying of wet seeps along canyon walls and increasing temperatures will require continued vigilance to ensure this beautiful primrose continues to thrive in perpetuity.



Figure 1. *Primula maguirei* in its dolomite cliff habitat



Figure 2. The rock-climbing community is now helping to monitor the Threatened Maguire primrose in Logan Canyon



Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest –Logan Ranger District

Logan Canyon Ranger District
1500 East, Hwy 89
Logan, Utah 84321

