

ASSESSMENT OF THE GENUS *MIMULUS* (SCROPHULARIACEAE)  
WITHIN THE INTERIOR COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN  
OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. introduction and Biogeography of the Genus in the Columbia River Basin	1
2. Major Species Groups and individual Species Treatments	3
<i>Table 1.</i> Groups and individual Species Treated in this Report	4
Group Assessments: Representative Common Species	
<i>Mimulus guttatus/M. nasutus</i>	7
<i>Mimulus lewisii/M. tilingii</i>	9
<i>Mimulus moschatus/M. floribundus</i>	10
<i>Mimulus nanus/M. cusickii</i>	11
<i>Mimulus primuloides/M. breviflorus/M. breweri</i>	13
Individual Species Assessments: Candidate or Sensitive Taxa	
<i>Mimulus ampliatum</i>	14
<i>Mimulus clivicola</i>	15
<i>Mimulus evanescens</i>	17
<i>Mimulus hymenophyllus</i>	18
<i>Mimulus jepsonii</i>	19
<i>Mimulus jungermannioides</i>	21
<i>Mimulus latidens</i>	22
<i>Mimulus patulus</i>	23
<i>Mimulus pulsiferae</i>	25
<i>Mimulus pygmaeus</i>	26
<i>Mimulus suksdorfii</i>	27
<i>Mimulus tricolor</i>	28
<i>Mimulus washingtonensis</i>	30
3. Preferred Successional Stages or Vegetation Structural Classes for <i>Mimulus</i>	32
<i>Table 2.</i> Estimated Range of Successional Stages or Vegetation Structural Classes for Groups and Individual Species of <i>Mimulus</i> Evaluated	32
4. Species Occurrences by Successional Stages or Vegetation Cover Types	36

## 5-6. Key Environmental Correlates and Functions of *Mimulus*

Grouped Taxa		
	<i>Mimulus guttatus</i> / <i>M. nasutus</i>	36
	<i>Mimulus lewisii</i> / <i>M. tillingii</i>	37
	<i>Mimulus moschatus</i> / <i>M. floribundus</i>	39
	<i>Mimulus nanus</i> / <i>M. cusickii</i>	40
	<i>Mimulus primuloides</i> / <i>M. brevipetalus</i> / <i>M. brevipetalus</i>	4
Individual Taxa		
	<i>Mimulus amplifolius</i>	43
	<i>Mimulus clivicola</i>	45
	<i>Mimulus evanescens</i>	46
	<i>Mimulus hymenophyllus</i>	48
	<i>Mimulus jepsonii</i>	49
	<i>Mimulus jungermannioides</i>	50
	<i>Mimulus latifolius</i>	52
	<i>Mimulus patulus</i>	53
	<i>Mimulus pulcherrima</i>	55
	<i>Mimulus pygmaeus</i>	56
	<i>Mimulus suksdorfii</i>	58
	<i>Mimulus tricolor</i>	59
	<i>Mimulus washingtonensis</i>	61
7.	Special Habitats	63
	<i>Table 3.</i> Summary Information on Special Habitat Requirements for Selected Species of <i>Mimulus</i> in the CRB	63
8.	Range Maps for <i>Mimulus</i> Species in the CRB	65
9.	Conclusions: Issues for Analysis, Potentially Important Unavailable Data, and Areas of Future Research Concentration	66
	<i>Table 4.</i> Research Needs for <i>Mimulus</i> Species in the CRB	68
10.	Assumptions	73
11.	Selected Bibliography (Including Literature Cited and Reviewed in the Text)	75

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## 1. Introduction and Biogeography of *Mimulus* in the Columbia River Basin

The monkeyflower genus *Mimulus* (Scrophulariaceae) is a predominantly western North American group of annual and perennial herbs, currently believed to comprise 100 (Holmgren, 1984; Thompson, 1993) to 150 (Munz, 1959) species. This report is intended to provide information on the genus as it occurs in the Columbia River Basin (hereafter **CRB**) of Washington and Oregon, as defined by the U.S. Forest Service for the **Eastside Ecosystem Management Project (EEMP)**. Limited coverage of the genus for adjacent west-central Idaho is provided as well. The emphasis in this report will be on species that are state or federally listed as threatened or endangered, candidates for listing, or any of the **taxa** on the current lists of endangered, threatened, or otherwise sensitive species as recommended by the Oregon or Washington Natural Heritage Programs (ONHP, 1993; **WNHP**, 1994).

The great majority of monkeyflowers occur in and west of the endemic-rich Sierra Nevada of California (Grant, 1924; Pennell, 1951; Munz, 1959; Thompson, 1993), although the genus is found worldwide with the exception of Europe and Antarctica. Secondary centers of distribution occur in southwestern South America, primarily in Chile and adjacent Argentina, and in the inland Pacific Northwest of North America, especially in eastern Oregon and adjacent **Idaho** and Washington. Many of the species are conspicuous and showy flowered, and are frequently prominent elements of native spring **floras**.

In the most recent monograph of the genus, Grant (1924) subdivided *Mimulus* into ten sections based on morphological similarities. **The** section *Diplacus* is today usually considered to constitute a separate genus, primarily because of its woody habit. Otherwise, most current floristic treatments in the United States still follow the basic phylogeny and species alliances proposed by Grant (1924), with her taxonomic sections generally corresponding to easily recognized, evidently natural groupings. Genetic studies by Vickery (1978) and Hiesey et al. (1971) have confirmed the existence of crossing barriers between several of these groups, although evolutionary relationships within much of the genus are still not well understood.

Even though *Mimulus* was reasonably well defined at the sectional level, there were a number of small species complexes that Grant (1924) found difficult to place. These were **organized** into the section *Paradanthus*, a problematic and probably

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

paraphyletic group (Argue, 1980, 1986). The 40-50 species presently referred to this section primarily occur in California and Oregon. The traits used by Grant (1924) to recognize *Paradanthus* were a prismatic **calyx** with equal or **subequal** teeth, funnelliform corollas, and a central placental column that (upon maturity of the fruit) separates only near **the apex** or not at all. She believed that additional characteristics distinguishing species groups within *Paradanthus* did not warrant separate taxonomic status, and she elected to align all species into a single section for the sake of convenience. She conceded that elements of *Paradanthus* were not necessarily closely related and that their taxonomic affiliation had limited phylogenetic implications.

*Paradanthus* is represented in the Pacific Northwest primarily by two **yellow-flowered** species assemblages, one centered around the common *Mimulus moschatus* Dougl. in Lindl. and the other around the rare and local *Mimulus washingtonensis* Gand. The former group includes the widespread species *M. primuloides* Benth. and *M. floribundus* Dougl. in Lindl., and both *M. floribundus* and *M. moschatus* are geographically and morphologically linked to several less common **taxa** occurring in California. *Mimulus moschatus* and *M. floribundus* occur throughout western North America and are represented by many taxonomically unrecognized geographic races in the **CRB**. The *M. washingtonensis* complex, as defined by Grant (1924), consists of *M. washingtonensis*, *M. pulsiferae* Gray, and *M. ampliatus* Grant, three locally distributed annuals from eastern Oregon, extreme southern Washington, western Idaho, and northern California. Other rare members of this group in the **CRB** include *M. hymenophyllus* Meinke, *M. evanescens* Meinke, and *M. jungermanniioides* Suksd. Diagnostic traits for these **taxa** include yellow, bilabiate flowers (**usually** strongly zygomorphic), firmly adherent placentae, cylindrical fruiting **calyces**, long-pedicelled flowers, viscid pubescence, and petiolate leaves. Several of these characters were also shared by members of the *M. moschatus* complex, and Grant (1924) implied a close relationship between the two species groups.

Recently, taxonomic interest in **the** section *Paradanthus* has been generated by the discovery of several new endemic or otherwise rare species in California and Oregon (Meinke, 1983, 1995; Heckard and Shevock, 1985; Heckard and **Bacigalupi**, 1986). It is in this section that the majority of monkeyflowers that are considered sensitive in the CRB are found. However, section *Eunanus* contributes two species (*M. jepsonii* Grant and *M. clivicola* Greenm.) as does section *Oenoe* (*M. tricolor* Lindl. and *M. pygmaeus* Grant), all of these with predominantly magenta or reddish corollas, except for the diminutive, yellow-flowered *M. pygmaeus*.

In addition, the *Mimulus guttatus* DC complex (in section *Simiolus*) is well represented throughout the **CRB**. Although none of these species are rare or endangered,

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

their extreme diversity of form surely encompasses considerable genetic variation. The **same** general scenario **exists** for *M. Zewisii* Pursh (section *Erythranthe*), which is prevalent along montane streams and subalpine meadows east of the Cascade Range, as well as *M. nanus* Hook. and Am. and *M. cusickii* (Greene) Piper (in section *Eunanus*), **two** extremely widespread and variable **taxa** frequenting **xeric** pumice or basalt soils in much of the western CRB, most common after ample winter precipitation.

The distribution of endemic *Mimulus* species in the CRB is primarily centered in north-central to northeastern Oregon, on thin-soiled basalt shelves or cliffs, in or along the drainages of the Columbia, Snake, and John Day Rivers and their immediate tributaries. This pattern of edaphic endemism contrasts with that of California, where species are often restricted to granitic or calcareous substrates (Grant, 1924; Munz, 1959; Thompson, 1993). These basalt-obligate **taxa** include all of the rare, related species in the *M. washingtonensis* complex. Eastern Wallowa County, Oregon and nearby Idaho's portion of Hell's Canyon exhibit the most interesting and diverse **array** of localized *Mimulus taxa*. However, other **endemics** and extremely rare species are sporadically scattered across the entire region, from the base of the Oregon Cascades to western Idaho (although not much in Washington), with little phytogeographic affinity. This may be due in part to the fact that rare **CRB** species that are not members of **the** yellow-flowered *M. washingtonensis* group are generally considered distantly related within the genus.

The ownership of the vast majority of **rare Mimulus** habitat and populations within the **CRB** is federal, and almost entirely within Oregon. There are no privately owned or other non-federal lands that could conceivably play an important role in the conservation of **this** genus, including both rare and common **taxa** (except possibly for *M. ampliatus* -- see Section 2.). It is interesting to **note that** every National Forest or BLM District within the CRB in Oregon has, or is suspected to have, populations and suitable habitat for one or more **rare Mimulus** species, with the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and the Hell's Canyon **NRA** probably harboring the most diversity in the genus. Other areas of above average endemism or diversity for *Mimulus* include the Prineville District of **the** BLM and the **Winema/Fremont** National Forest complex along the California-Nevada border. Table 1. in Section 2., identifies major species of *Mimulus* in the CRB, including all of the rare or sensitive species to be treated individually in this report (with narratives following Table 1.).

## 2. Major Species Groups and Individual Species Treatments

Selected widespread species of *Mimulus* from the CRB have been identified and grouped together for the purpose of this assessment. These groupings are based on shared habitats and ecological requirements, and include most common species with potential for

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

use as ecological indicators of local environmental conditions. These species are listed below in Table 1. Sensitive species given individual assessments (defined in the first paragraph of Section 1.) are also **listed** and summarized in Table 1. All species and species groups are discussed in more detail in this section, following the table.

Table 1. Groups and Individual Species Treated in this Report.

<b><i>Taxonomic Groups (Representative Common Taxa):</i></b>	<b><i>Overview</i></b>
<i>Mimulus guttatus/M. nasutus</i>	Common species distributed throughout most of the CRB at lower to mid elevations; extremely widespread on a broad range of mostly moist to wet habitat types
<i>Mimulus lewisii/M. tilingii</i>	Common species at middle to higher elevation in mountain ranges east of the Cascades; along cold stream margins and <b>lakes</b> to wet meadows
<i>Mimulus moschatus/M. floribundus</i>	Common but local species distributed in <b>areas</b> of vernal moisture at lower to middle elevations; in well-drained soils of open forests, rangelands, drying <b>streambeds</b> , and cliffs
<i>Mimulus nanus/M. cusickii</i>	Common species forming discrete patches in open or disturbed <b>areas</b> of extremely well-drained volcanic soils, at lower to higher elevations in range, forests, and subalpine barrens; extremely <b>xeric-adapted</b>
<i>Mimulus primuloides/M. breviflorus/M. breweri</i>	Common but locally distributed species, typically of moist lower or middle elevation (or occasionally higher) areas, in moist to wet meadows, or bogs (for <i>M. primuloides</i> )

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<i>Individually Assessed Taxa:</i>	<i>Overview:</i>
<i>Mimulus ampliatus</i> (= <i>M. washingtonensis</i> subsp. <i>ampliatus</i> )	Recently re-discovered Idaho endemic; <b>only</b> sensitive species of <i>Mimulus</i> from the <b>CRB</b> not known in the state of Oregon; considered imperiled in Idaho ( <b>IDFG</b> , 1994).
<i>Mimulus clivicola</i>	Considered sensitive (federal 3C) in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington (ONHP, 1993; WNHP, 1994) -- recent work shows the species to be most common in north-central Idaho, but not currently known in Washington ( <b>Lorain</b> and Moseley, 1989, 1990)
<i>Mimulus evanescens</i>	Recently discovered mid-elevation' <b>range/riparian</b> species in the process of being published (Meinke, 1995); two extant sites globally, but historically more widespread according to herbarium collections; expected to be listed as a federal candidate in California, Oregon, and Idaho in the near future
<i>Mimulus hymenophyllus</i>	Extremely narrow endemic found west of Hell's Canyon (Meinke, 1983, 1991; Meinke and <b>Carlson</b> , 1995) and perhaps along the lower Grande Ronde River in Oregon, possibly occurs in Idaho as well; currently a federal candidate (C2)
<i>Mimulus jepsonii</i>	Regional endemic occurring along the east base of the Cascades, extending from central Oregon into northern California; not a federal candidate but sensitive in USFS Region 6 (Meinke 1992, 1993a, 1995a)

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<i>Mimulus jungermannioides</i>	Regional endemic in north-central Oregon on riverine cliffs, populations isolated and sporadic (Meinke, 1991); historically known from a single collection from the Columbia River Gorge in Washington; currently a federal candidate (C2)
<i>Mimulus Zatidens</i>	Disjunct in Lake County, Oregon, known from one site in the CRB (Shelly, 1986); should be considered endangered in Oregon, although it is more common and not sensitive in central California (ONHP, 1993); not a federal candidate
<i>Mimulus patulus</i>	Local endemic in extreme northeast Oregon in drainages west of the Snake River; recent work has greatly increased the number of known sites, but the species is still considered very rare (Meinke and Carlson, 1995a); currently a federal candidate (C2)
<i>Mimulus pulsiferae</i>	Scarce species occurring along or near the east base of the Cascades (Meinke, 1991); considered sensitive in Washington (WNHP, 1994) but secure in Oregon (ONHP, 1993)
<i>Mimulus pygmaeus</i>	Regional endemic, from Lake County, Oregon into northeastern California; once considered very vulnerable (Lassen National Forest, 1991) and currently a C2 federal candidate -- recent work from the 1993 field season (Meinke et al., 1994) indicates this species is locally common and recommends downlisting to federal Category C3

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<i>Mimulus suksdorfii</i>	Common in Oregon but peripheral in Washington (WNHP, 1994), where sensitive; not a federal candidate
<i>Mimulus tricolor</i>	Extremely rare and local species in the CRB, found in south-central Oregon (Meinke et al., 1994); also rare in western Oregon but apparently common in much of California (ONHP, 1993); not a federal candidate
<i>Mimulus washingtonensis</i>	Localized John Day River system (Oregon) endemic (Meinke 1991, 1993) -- see also <i>M. ampliatus</i> ; historically known from Washington; currently a state and federal candidate (C2), but recent inventories suggest downlisting to federal Category C3 may eventually be appropriate (Umatilla NF and Prineville BLM, personal communications)

GROUP ASSESSMENTS:  
REPRESENTATIVE COMMON SPECIES

**Taxon Group:**

*Mimulus guttatus/Mimulus nasutus* ecotype complex

Criteria Used For Assessment:

This is the most widespread species complex in **the** genus, **with** *Mimulus guttatus* by far the most visible and common species. Various **ecotypes** of *M. guttatus* occur throughout the entire CRB at most elevations and in virtually all **mesic** to aquatic habitats below high montane. The species is particularly common in most riparian areas, along ditches, in disturbed and undisturbed meadows, on wet cliffs, and in all manner of seepage or moist microsites in lower to mid-elevation range and dry forest habitats. As such, it seems a logical species to **include** as a barometer plant for wetland and riparian conditions.

Associated Cover Type(s):

CRB: Water; Agricultural Land Use; Mixed Grass-Agriculture-Shrubland; Seral Shrubland Herbaceous. **SAF**: Potentially all cover types below Engelmann Spruce-

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Subalpine Fir and Whitebark Pine. **SRM:** Potentially **all** cover types except Salt Desert Shrub.

Within the above cover types this species group occurs in standing water, seepage zones, springs, drying watercourses, along ditches, in wet and often disturbed meadows, among damp rocks, riparian areas, **etc.**

General **Geographic** Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

Distributed in favorable microsites throughout the CRB.

Sensitivity to Disturbance:

Although seemingly thriving in wet disturbed situations, *M. guttatus* is nonetheless vulnerable to heavy grazing (it is very palatable) and drought. The disappearance of populations which are not naturally re-introduced over time (e.g., 2-3 years) is a possible indicator of deteriorating range conditions in riparian and spring habitats. The species does reasonably well in all but the most degraded sites.

Population Trends:

No studies of population trends in this common species are available. Anecdotal observations suggest it is holding its own throughout the **CRB**, but is occasionally extirpated locally as a result of changes in hydrology or excessive grazing or substrate intensive land use. The species is a very prolific seeder (as are most monkeyflowers), and is generally quite capable of reestablishing populations locally or via immigration from nearby sites.

Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

Dispersal for *Mimulus guttatus* and its relatives is almost exclusively via water (see Waser et al. 1982), at least at lower elevations. Upper elevation ecotypes may have seed wind-dispersed to some degree, **but** running water probably plays a role in the **seed** dispersal and migration of all populations.

Members of this species group are both self- and insect-pollinated (Harris, 1979). Although outcrossing is not mandatory for seed set, genetic vigor is presumably maintained by at least occasional outcrossing. Pollen dispersal is probably local except in rare cases where honeybees or hummingbirds visit large-flowered plants.

Usefulness as Bioindicator:

*Mimulus guttatus* is a potential indicator of changes in the hydrologic regime of lower elevation sites in the **CRB**, as well as an indicator (by its disappearance) of deteriorating conditions in and around riparian areas, waterholes, springs, etc. The presence of this species complex is not necessarily an indication of a healthy, diverse community, but is always an indication of well above average soil moisture at some point in the growing season.

**Taxon Group :**

*Mimulus lewisii/Mimulus tilingii*

**Criteria Used For Assessment:**

These species are common, middle to upper elevation **taxa** found in wet meadows, near lake margins, and in and along running water within **shrubby** or forested habitats.

**Associated Cover Type(s):**

CRB: Subalpine herbaceous. **SAF:** Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir; Whitebark Pine; White Fir; Western Larch; Grand Fir; Western White Pine; Aspen; Lodgepole Pine; Pacific Douglas-Fir; Douglas-Fir-Western Hemlock.

*Mimulus lewisii* occurs from low **montane** to subalpine habitats, in a range of perennially moist or aquatic sites, often near open or running water but also in meadows, near snow melt zones, or along well-drained ditches adjacent to mountain roads. *Mimulus tilingii* tends to occur in similar habitats but at consistently more subalpine to alpine elevations, nearly always in cold, running, typically unpolluted water, or along the edges of cold lakes or bogs.

**General Geographic Range. Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:**

One or both species is locally common in suitable sites above 1700 meters from the east slope of the Cascades east throughout the CRB (sporadic in southeastern Oregon and adjacent Idaho).

**Sensitivity to Disturbance:**

Both species (particularly *M. lewisii*) will respond favorably to (or will at least tolerate) limited disturbances. Examples include activities associated with ski facilities and the creation and maintenance of drainage ditches along gravel roadways. Extreme disturbances, however, as in the case of *M. guttatus*, will evidently eradicate populations.

**Population Trends:**

No known studies on the demography of either species in the CRB have been completed. Casual observation by many observers, however, suggests that both species are represented by numerous, healthy populations across the **mesic** higher elevations of the CRB. Both species are excessively common in the Cascades and the northern mountains of Oregon and adjacent Idaho.

**Dispersal Mode and Requirements:**

As with many perennial *Mimulus* species, both of these depend heavily on running water to disperse their seeds. Evidence of this is often observed in *Mimulus Zewisii*, which commonly migrates along the ditches of higher elevation roads in the Blue and Wallowa Mountains (and undoubtedly elsewhere). *Mimulus tilingii* is confined to

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

subalpine and alpine areas and it is less commonly subjected to disturbance. It likewise **utilizes** running water to disperse seeds and will expand its patches by vegetative propagation. The tough white rhizomes may also break off and be dispersed longer distances by water. Both species are principally outcrossed and require pollinators (hummingbirds or large bees, rarely flies) to effect pollen dispersal.

Usefulness as Bioindicator:

These species could be considered high elevation **counterparts** to the lower elevation *Mimulus guttatus* group, and are obvious indicators of considerable soil moisture or perennial streamflow. Disruption of montane or alpine meadow hydrology could be indicated by shifts in population **structure** of **these taxa**, especially in *M. Zewisii*, which is much more apt to frequent sites also frequented by humans. Changes in water quality might also be reflected by such population shifts, as could increasing levels of recreational activities around montane lakes and streams that are popular as camping and fishing destinations.

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**Taxon Group:**

*Mimulus moschatus/Mimulus floribundus*

Criteria Used For Assessment:

These are closely related (Grant, 1924), common species that occupy comparable habitats in the lower to middle elevation dry forest and open range ecosystems.

Associated Cover Type(s):

**SAF:** Interior Douglas-Fir; Western Red Cedar-Western Hemlock; Oregon White Oak; Cottonwood-Willow; Interior Ponderosa Pine. **SRM:** Potentially occurring in all the **SRM** cover types in the **CRB** except Salt Desert Shrub.

Both species are inhabitants of sandy to volcanic, well-drained soils at lower to occasionally middle elevations, usually in open areas with ample vernal moisture. Plants will continue flowering as long as the soils are moist but quickly die back or senesce as substrates dry out. Typical microsites include drying **streambeds**, sandy spots in meadows, desert springs, seeps along cliffs or among boulders, and sandy or gravelly banks of rivers, creeks, or reservoirs.

General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

Both species occur commonly throughout the CRB in Oregon, Washington, and Nevada, although less frequently in the northern half of Washington. They are restricted to lower elevations with hot summer temperatures, or (in the case of *M. moschatus*) extending into dry, mixed coniferous forests at middle elevations (up to 3000 meters farther south in the Nevada Great Basin).

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

### Sensitivity to Disturbance:

**Both** species occur in a wide range of sites, from pristine to heavily impacted. These **taxa** are extremely fecund, typically producing many thousands of seeds per plant. They are excellent colonizers and can withstand grazing pressure (the foliage is probably undesirable as forage due to the extremely viscid hairs). They are sensitive to moisture levels and populations will fluctuate considerably during swings in annual precipitation (especially for the annual *M. floribundus*).

### Population Trends:

There have been no studies undertaken on the demography of these species. Scattered observations by the author over the last 15 years indicate both species are very widespread and locally abundant in suitable habitat.

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

These species often disperse seeds via running water, although populations of both **taxa** are not necessarily restricted to microsites near perennial water sources (suggesting that localized dispersal by wind is also likely -- seeds are dust-like and probably easily wind-blown when dry). Gene flow may be primarily via seed dispersal since both species can readily self-pollinate (especially the flowers of *M. floribundus*) -- floral morphology that promotes **autogamy** makes outcrossing a secondary consideration in these species.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

*Mimulus moschatus* and *M. floribundus* are often encountered in sites where moisture routinely occurs but is at a premium. A continuous presence of robust populations of these **taxa** suggest that riparian areas or springs are in at least reasonable condition (as far as the herbaceous flora goes) and that soil moisture is dependable. Their presence does not necessarily indicate, however, that grazing levels are optimal or not impacting native riparian vegetation. Elimination of populations over time suggests that sites are deteriorating or that the local hydrology is undergoing a shift towards drier conditions, either through continued natural drought, overuse of available water, or a combination of these factors.

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### **Taxon** Group:

*Mimulus nanus*/*M. cusickii*

### Criteria Used For Assessment:

These are closely related, very common annuals occurring in pristine as well as disturbed situations in **xeric** microsites of the CRB (in contrast with most other abundant monkeyflowers in our area, which prefer moist to wet habitats).

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Associated Cover Type(s):

**CRB:** Barren. **SAF:** Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir; Whitebark Pine; Interior Douglas Fir; White Fir; Western Larch; Grand Fir; Western White Pine; Lodgepole Pine; Interior Ponderosa Pine; Sierran Nevada Mixed Conifer. **SRM:** Potentially in all the SRM cover types except Chamise Chaparral and Salt Desert Scrub.

Populations of *Mimulus nanus* are especially widespread and will occur in dry microsites well into harsh alpine areas and throughout a variety of open, dry forest types. However, this species (and *M. cusickii* exclusively) is far more common in xeric sagebrush/bunchgrass/bitterbrush habitats. Neither species is associated with springs or vernal moisture, and will bloom well into the heat of summer (as late as September) on the driest of volcanic or other sandy substrates.

General Geographic Range Within **CRB** of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

One or both species occur throughout most of the lower two-thirds of the CRB west of the Rocky Mountains.

Sensitivity to Disturbance:

Neither species appears particularly vulnerable to disturbance. Both apparently maintain large seed banks which can result in massive spring/summer blooms after wet winters. *Mimulus nanus*, in particular, is commonly observed forming large monospecific patches along highways east of the Cascades in volcanic cobbles and pumice substrates. It is also encountered in other disturbed areas, including many developed recreational sites near the Cascade Mountains, and is often abundant after fires on national forests in central Oregon. Although quite resilient and seeming to favor moderate disturbance, both species are expected to be vulnerable to excessive habitat alteration. For example, neither *M. nanus* or *M. cusickii* will remain common in heavily overgrazed range or in clearcuts where the substrate has been extensively altered or seeded.

Population Trends:

Many populations are known for these species throughout most of the CRB. Although no monitoring studies have been implemented due to the frequency of the species, observations over the last decade indicates that both taxa remain exceedingly abundant in many areas, and are consistently occurring in stable or even increasing numbers along numerous roads and developments (especially near the Cascades for *M. nanus*).

Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

Neither species occurs near open water, so wind is apparently the primary dispersal agent. Vehicles may also aid in dispersal of seeds shed along roadways. Both species are often found near or on ant mounds, suggesting another local dispersal method.

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Roth are usually bee-pollinated (but are nominally autogamous), and generally require insect visitation for effective pollen/gene flow and reproduction.

Usefulness as Bioindicator:

These species are representative of the high desert/dry forest herbaceous flora. Although apparently not especially sensitive to disturbance, they are common **taxa** whose decline in any given **area** might signal a general deterioration of range or forest conditions. Unlike most other **CRB** monkeyflowers they are not indicative of moist conditions.

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**Taxon Group :**

*Mimulus primuloides/Mimulus breviflorus/Mimulus breweri*

**Criteria** Used For Assessment:

This is a trio of species occurring locally in a range of moist to wet meadow habitats at lower to upper elevations. These are probably **the** most exclusively “**meadow**” species in the genus, although many other monkeyflowers will occur in **meadow** habitats.

Associated Cover Type(s):

**CRB:** Subalpine herbaceous. **SAF:** Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir; Whitebark Pine; Interior Douglas-Fir; White Fir; Western Larch; Grand Fir; Western White Pine; Aspen; Lodgepole Pine; Western Red Cedar-Western Hemlock; Pacific Douglas-Fir; Douglas-Fir-Western Hemlock; Interior Ponderosa Pine; Sierra Nevada Mixed Conifer. **SRM:** Probably within any of the SRM cover types (except **Saltbush Scrub**) inasmuch as they occur within a matrix that includes one or more of the SAF types.

Since these widespread species are montane and occur in meadows for the most part, the surrounding cover types are **quite** variable. Within the meadows the species occur in dryish to wet microsites (in order, **from** *M. breweri* to *M. primuloides*), generally in very open or exposed areas.

General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

Widespread throughout montane **areas** of **the CRB, with *Mimulus primuloides*** becoming less frequent in the drier ranges of southeastern Oregon and southern Idaho.

Sensitivity to Disturbance:

There is less opportunity to evaluate potential sensitivity of these species since there are comparably fewer major disturbances in the habitats they occupy. Grazing activities in montane meadows is prevalent throughout the CRB, however, and have reduced populations of all three **taxa** in parts of eastern Oregon (Meinke, unpubl.). It is likely that among the commoner monkeyflower species in the CRB, these three are the

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

most sensitive to habitat disruption, based on the fact that they are seldom observed in communities with any significant exotic component.

### Population Trends:

Not known, since there have been no specific studies on the abundance or demography of these **taxa** in Oregon, Washington, or Nevada. Casual observation over the last 15 years suggests that their populations, while **locally** distributed due to comparatively narrower habitat requirements, are nonetheless abundant and widespread on a range-wide basis (although populations of the tiny annuals *M. breviplorus* and *M. breweri* are often inconspicuous).

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

A combination of wind and flowing water disperse the seeds of these species. *Mimulus primuloides* also produces vegetative propagules (**turion-like bulbils**) that may spread by stolons or become detached and disperse via running water (Douglas, 1981). This species is principally outcrossed (although self-compatible), based on greenhouse observations (Meinke, unpubl.), and requires bees to most effectively set seeds (although it reproduces very efficiently by vegetative means). The other two **taxa** are annuals, highly self-pollinated, and do not require pollinators to effect gene flow.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

As species common to relatively undisturbed meadow habitats in the CRB, populations of these **taxa** (along with other common meadow natives) may be useful in monitoring conditions of these ecosystems, and are probably good indicators of meadow biodiversity. *Mimulus primuloides* is particularly prevalent in sensitive boggy sites, which rarely have any exotic **taxa**, and its disappearance from a meadow might signal hydrologic shifts or overgrazing. The other **taxa** are often components of the Scarce annual flora indigenous at moderate to higher elevations, and their presence and continuation at sites (as opposed to exotic annuals) could be considered an indicator of relatively healthy conditions for the drier, herb-dominated meadows.

## INDIVIDUAL SPECIES ASSESSMENTS: CANDIDATE OR SENSITIVE TAXA

### Taxon:

*Mimulus ampliatus* (= *M. washingtonensis* subsp. *ampliatus*)

### Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species (USFS Region 6); imperiled in Idaho (IDFG, 1994)

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Associated Cover Type(s):

**SRM:** Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Idaho Fescue-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Ponderosa Pine-Grassland; possibly others -- most sites for the species are historic and habitats are poorly documented.

General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

This **taxon** is not actually recorded from the focus-area of this report, although it possibly occurs in **Wallowa** County, Oregon. It is currently recorded in Nez Perce, Idaho, and Lewis counties, all in western Idaho (Bob Moseley, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game, personal communication). Included here for the sake of completeness, this is the only sensitive ***Mimulus* taxon** in the CRB not specifically known to occur in Oregon.

Sensitivity to Disturbance:

Unknown; this annual is presumably is very sensitive to competition with introduced weeds that are widespread through its range and habitat., Sites near Hell's Canyon are small and infested with annual exotic grasses. Populations probably require vernal moisture (either trapped precipitation or seepage -- the latter is reported on historic specimen labels from the Lake Waha area in Nez Perce County, Idaho).

Population Trends:

Unknown; this **taxon** is still very poorly understood and has been collected **only** a handful of times. It is much rarer and probably more vulnerable than the related ***Mimulus washingtonensis*** subsp. ***washingtonensis***, which occurs to the west in Oregon's John Day River drainage. This is probably the only monkeyflower where private lands could perhaps play a significant role in conservation efforts. Historic collections from Lake Waha in Nez Perce County, Idaho suggest that populations may have once been locally plentiful there. Today much of this area is privately owned for vacation homes and is heavily posted, limiting access for inventory.

Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

Unknown; probably comparable to ***Mimulus washingtonensis*** populations in the John Day River area (see discussion for that **taxon**).

Usefulness as Bioindicator:

As populations of this species are relocated they may be good indicators of changes in local hydrology' or increases in annual grasses. Considering the scarcity of populations, any that are located during future surveys may also be good indicators of unique native habitat that has managed to stay unscathed from livestock grazing.

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**Taxon:**

***Mimulus clivicola***

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

### Criteria Used For **Assessment**:

Sensitive species (**USFS** Region 6; **BLM**); 3C federal candidate

### Associated Cover Type(s):

**SAF**: Interior Douglas-Fir; White Fir; Grand Fir; Interior Ponderosa Pine. **SRM**: Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Idaho Fescue-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Idaho Fescue- Slender Wheatgrass; Ponderosa Pine-Grassland.

This is an annual monkeyflower of rocky,-talus outcrops or gravelly, mineral soils, within a matrix of dry coniferous forest and patchy bunchgrass, often with species of ***Lomatium*, *Scutellaria*, *Penstemon*, *Phacelia*, *Achillea*, *Sedum*, *Clarkia*, *Arabis*, and *Allium***.

### General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

The species is a regional endemic, from the Hell's Canyon area (on the upper slopes and adjacent mountains) in **Wallowa** County, Oregon and possibly extreme southeast Washington, north through Idaho to Shoshone County, near the western Montana border.

### Sensitivity to Disturbance:

***Mimulus clivicola*** is relatively tenacious, as most monkeyflowers in section ***Eunanus*** arc, and may even require moderate disturbance. It is evidently capable of reseeding itself in disturbed sites, but severe logging or road-building could possibly result in local extirpation.

### Population Trends:

Recent work in Idaho (**Lorain** and Moseley, 1990) indicates this monkeyflower is not as rare as was once considered. However, as an annual species, there are no specific studies that accurately reflect the long-term population trends of the species. Evidence from other species with comparable life histories, such as the annual ***M. jepsonii*** (see Meinke, 1992, 1993a, 1995a), suggests that this species probably retains a significant seed bank from which to recolonize sites.

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

Dispersal of seeds is primarily via wind; **local** dispersal is possibly accomplished by ants, in the same fashion as ***Mimulus nanus*** (see earlier discussion). Pollen dispersal is by small native bees, based on field observations in northeastern Oregon. The species is capable of limited self-pollination (demonstrated in greenhouse studies; Meinke, unpubl.), but seed set is more dependable and gene flow is expected to be enhanced if flowers are visited by insect pollinators.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

Representative of mid-elevation annual flora in rocky, talus sites in Oregon, where grazing **has** had minimal impact and associated native species are plentiful. Populations

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

are not associated with above average surface soil moisture during the flowering season, although the subsurface substrate is usually moist during at least the early reproductive stages.

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### **Taxon:**

#### *Mimulus evanescens*

#### Criteria Used For Assessment:

Considered extremely vulnerable throughout it's range (Meinke, 1995); will be **recommended** for addition to federal candidate and USFS and BLM sensitive species lists.

#### Associated Cover Type(s):

**SRM:** Western Juniper-Big Sagebrush-Bluebunch Wheatgrass (for extant populations; based on herbarium records, historic sites for the species are probably from a broader range of cover types, **but** the label information on these older collections is not sufficient to evaluate this).

Occurs in drying pools, along streambeds, adjacent to pond margins, in wet areas near boulders, etc. Associated herbs include species of ***Phacelia*, *Linanthus*, *Collomia*, *Collinsia*, *Allium*, *Microsteris*, *Plagiobothrys*, and *Trifolium*.**

#### General Geographic **Range** Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

Scattered but very rare annual (based on herbarium work; Meinke, 1995) recorded across much of the southern CRB, extending from extreme northeastern California into southwestern Idaho.- Currently extant in the CRB only in Lake County, Oregon. There are a total of roughly ten historic sites known from several counties in central and southeastern Oregon and adjacent Idaho (Meinke, 1995).

#### Sensitivity to Disturbance:

This diminutive annual is speculated to have vanished from much of it's former range **due to** pressure from grazing on **riparian** habitats (Meinke, 1995).

#### Population Trends:

Unknown; the population in California has been extant for at least six years, while the one in Oregon was only just discovered. The **latter** consisted of thousands of plants, collectively producing potentially millions of seeds. However, it occurred along a large reservoir that has yearly fluctuations in water levels and is exposed to grazing and recreational activities -- it has not been re-visited by botanists since 1994.

#### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

Based on habitat and herbarium label data, seed dispersal is probably often accomplished via water flow. Plants are entirely self-pollinating (Meinke, 1995) and do not require insect pollinators to effect pollen or gene flow.

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

The species is an indicator of moist soil conditions, although this would generally be evident from the habitat. Any large populations discovered would be of note, suggesting that grazing or other disturbances were not impacting the site too severely and that the local herbaceous flora was comparatively rich.

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### Taxon:

#### *Mimulus hymenophyllus*

#### Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species (USFS Region 6); federal candidate

#### Associated Cover Type(s):

**SAF:** Interior Douglas Fir; Interior Ponderosa Pine; Grand Fir. **SRM:** Idaho Fescue-Bluebunch Wheatgrass.

This unusual species occurs only on rock walls and steep, vertical, shaded cliffs above thickets dominated by species of *Physocarpus*, *Amelanchier*, *Ribes*, and *Rosa*, within steep draws along perennial cold water creeks; populations occur as part of a species-rich cliff community of ferns, bryophytes, and herbs, including species of *Penstemon*, *Thelypodium*, *Saxifraga*, *Poistichum*, *Adiantum*, *Marchantia*, *Bolandra*, *Selaginella*, *Heuchera*, *viola*, *Sedum*, *Arabis*, *Tonella*, and *Stellaria*.

#### General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

*Mimulus hymenophyllus* is a narrow endemic restricted to the Horse and Cow Creek drainages in eastern **Wallowa** County, Oregon (Meinke, 1983; Meinke and Carlson, 1995). Unvouchered reports place the species across the Snake River in Idaho County, Idaho (within Hell's Canyon), and possibly on shaded cliffs along the lower Grande Ronde River of extreme southeastern Washington just west of the Snake River (Peter Zika, personal communication).

#### Sensitivity to Disturbance:

The species is a delicate, annual herb adapted to an obligate existence on vertical rock walls; removal of adjacent forest would open the overstory, with the increased sunlight and temperature representing possible threats to plant growth and to seed dispersal (see below). *Mimulus hymenophyllus* is dependent on trickling springs to replenish the seeps on the cliffs -- populations are likely to be very sensitive to changes in soil moisture.

#### Population Trends:

Populations of *Mimulus hymenophyllus* are small and fluctuate yearly with available moisture. No demographic studies have been completed for this species, but the

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

populations did not appreciably change overall from 1982 until the last visit by the author in 1990. The remote locality for all known sites for the species make it extremely unlikely that any human-caused disturbance has resulted in any decrease in population numbers.

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

*Mimulus hymenophyllus* is routinely visited by native bees, but is capable of **self-pollination** as a last resort, based on greenhouse work (Meinke, unpubl.). Pollen dispersal is probably very local judging by the small species of **bees** visiting flowers. Plants disperse seeds onto cliff surfaces in an unusual form of autochory, wherein fruiting pedicels become negatively phototropic after fertilization and turn towards dark crevices in the rock prior to capsule dehiscence (Meinke, 1983). While some seeds are lost to gravity, many manage to get "planted" on the cliffs in mid-summer, and germinate in the fall or following, spring.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

This species is a strong indicator of seepage, and may represent part of a rare association of species now confined to cool, shaded refugia in side canyons off the Snake River -- there **are** no other northwestern *Mimulus* species comparable to this peculiar **taxon**. The diversity of plant species in these isolated canyons is especially rich, even for northeastern Oregon. Populations would be worth monitoring for changes, in the unexpected event of local logging (or perhaps a devastating fire) in the drainages to the immediate west of the Snake River.

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### Taxon:

#### *Mimulus jepsonii*

### Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species (USFS Region 6)

### Associated Cover Type(s):

**SAF:** Interior Douglas Fir; Lodgepole Pine; Interior Ponderosa Pine. **SRM:** Ponderosa Pine-Grassland (rare).

This annual species is almost entirely restricted to the more or less sterile understory of lodgepole pine forests, in the open or partially shaded, within moderately to poorly drained soils. It has few herbaceous associates, including *Collinsia* and *Collomia*.

### General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

*Mimulus jepsonii* extends from Deschutes County, Oregon, south into northern California, along the east flank of the Cascade Mountains -- it continues well into northern California.

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

### Sensitivity to Disturbance:

Populations tolerate disturbances such as trampling (as at **recreation** sites; Meinke, 1995a), low to moderately intensive road construction and subsequent vehicle use, logging activities, etc. Not unlike its close relative *Mimulus nanus*, **this** species occurs in large patches (of hundreds or **even** thousands of individuals in wet years), often in association with natural or human-caused disturbance, such as at Diamond Lake on the Umpqua National Forest. Unlike the other showy, pink or reddish-flowered annual monkeyflowers in the CRB (except **perhaps** *M. clivicola*), this species does not grow in **xeric** sites, but prefers soils that retain moisture into the summer (Meinke, 1992, 1993a). As with most **annual** monkeyflowers east of the Cascades, *Mimulus jepsonii* evidently buffers itself from environmental heterogeneity and substrate disturbance by maintaining a dormant seed bank. This assumption is based on the significant fluctuations observed in population size between years, which are apparently related more to winter precipitation than to the size of the prior year's seed crop.

### Population Trends:

No monitoring projects have been implemented for this species that have yet yielded any meaningful demographic data, although plots were set up in 1994 at several locations (Meinke, 1995a). Repeated visits (from 1991 to 1995) to the largest known populations for the species in Oregon, **near** Diamond Lake and Davis Lake in the Cascades, indicate little change in average population size. However, this does not reflect any potential changes in the seed bank.

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

*Mimulus jepsonii* disperses seeds primarily via wind and gravity. Like *M. nanus* and *M. clivicola*, this species has also been observed on or near ant mounds, raising the possibility of dispersal by foraging ants. What makes this group of monkeyflowers so attractive to ants is unknown, but the insects may actually be instrumental in localized gene flow in some areas. *Mimulus jepsonii* is genetically self-compatible and facultatively autogamous (Meinke, 1992, 1993a, 1995a), but seed set is enhanced if insects (small **native** bees) effect pollination. Pollen flow is also probably very local, judging by the foraging behavior and flight patterns of the floral visitors.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

This species is one of the very few annual species of any genus that seems closely tied to the lodgepole pine forest types (at least in the **CRB**). It is also a species generally tolerant of moderate disturbance, and in fact is probably dependent on natural disturbance and the creation of forest gaps to facilitate population growth (Meinke, 1995a). As such, its disappearance from forest areas may signal undesirable **changes** in the forest understory

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

that may also negatively affect other organisms (e.g., fungi, invertebrates, etc.) that co-exist in this rather unusual habitat for an annual angiosperm.

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### **Taxon:**

#### ***Mimulus jungermannioides***

#### Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species (USFS Region 6, BLM); federal candidate

#### Associated Cover Type(s):

**SRM:** Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Idaho Fescue-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Antelope Bitterbrush-Bluebunch Wheatgrass.

***Mimulus jungermannioides*** is a functional perennial (with annual ramets) that inhabits vertical basalt cliffs overlooking river or **streambank areas** or washes, with ***Alnus*, *Amelanchier*, *Rosa*, *Ribes*, *Celtis*, *Dipsacus*, *Cirsium*, *Rhus***, and/or ***Clematis*** species as common riparian associates. This ***Mimulus*** is part of an interesting “hanging garden” community of plants in vertical seepage zones, that include species of ***Penstemon*, *Thelypodium*, *Aquilegia*, *Poa***, and at least two other monkeyflowers (***M. floribundus*** and ***M. guttatus***). **Populations** occur in shaded as well as open and sunny sites.

#### General Geographic Range Within CRB of **Oregon/Washington/Nevada:**

Virtually **an** Oregon endemic, ***Mimulus jungermannioides*** is known sporadically from widely scattered sites along the low elevation portions of major river drainages and immediate tributaries in the north-central part of the state (from the Deschutes River east to the Umatilla, including the **eastern** Columbia River Gorge). Possibly still extant in extreme southern Washington (Jimmy Kagan, personal communication), but probably extirpated there for the most part due to impounding of the Columbia River.

#### Sensitivity to Disturbance:

***Mimulus jungermannioides*** is another cliff obligate heavily dependent on seepages to maintain populations, and any reduction of local water tables could severely impact the species. The plants, while technically perennial, have little opportunity to develop a seed bank, and evidence shows populations are potentially vulnerable to extinction after one or two failed reproductive years (Meinke, 1984, 1991) -- see discussion under “**Dispersal Modes**” below. Populations are also at risk due to road building or widening in some **areas**. Many of the sites for this species (through riverine canyons) coincide with convenient routes for roads, and are occasionally blasted to facilitate traffic.

#### Population Trends:

There are no demographic data available for this species. Long-term observations by the author, however, indicate little change in population sizes over the last decade with

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

chances for population expansion very slim. This is due to the limited cliff surface available for new plants at any given site and the improbability of successful long-distance dispersal to suitable, uncolonized rock walls, which are often hundreds of meters or even many kilometers away.

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

The species produces copious amounts of easily germinated, non-dormant **seed** yet is dependant on vegetative reproduction to persist, through specialized adaption to it's vertical habitat (Meinke, 1984, 1991). Plants produce narrow stolons in late summer in response to declining photoperiods, the tips of which creep into fissures and crevices in the rock. When they contact moist soil in sufficient darkness, an imbricated turion (a bulb-like structure with overlapping leaf scales) is formed, which overwinters deep in the rock face after the parent plant dies. These starch-rich turions then bolt in the spring, in response to rising temperatures and seepage flow. Although plants flower and produce many fruits (often via insect pollination), nearly all plants produced in nature **originate** vegetatively (Meinke, 1984). This leads to considerable between-population variation and within-population sameness, due to the isolated nature of sites coupled with the lack of gene **flow** and recombination resulting from cloning (**Messinger** and Meinke, unpubl.). Long-distance dispersal may rarely be accomplished by seed or turions floating down rivers, and this may explain the one and only collection of the species (the type specimen, as luck would have it) from Washington, on sand in the Columbia River Gorge. Finally, by relying on vegetative **propagules**, *M. jungermannioides* avoids the dangers of depending on tiny, easily lost seeds to annually replenish populations. However, the species has little if any opportunity to persist beyond one or two failed reproductive years if seeps dry up, since populations seem largely incapable of maintaining a perennially dormant bank of seeds or buds.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

Since this species is dependent on perennial seeps in an otherwise very arid ecosystem, disappearance of populations would certainly be an indication of at least local depletion of ground water. The species may represent a remnant of a pre-Hypsithermal plant community, adapted to a much wetter overall climate, that retreated to dripping cliffs as the **CRB** became more arid during the post-Pleistocene. The potential for rare or relict invertebrate species to be associated **with** these ***Mimulus-dominated*** seeps is unknown, and may be worthy of investigation.

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### Taxon:

*Mimulus latidens*

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species (**BLM**)

Associated Cover Type(s) [in the CRB]:

SRM: Big Sagebrush.

The species is known from a single **localized** occurrence in a vernal moist site with other spring annuals, including species of *Collinsia*, *Descurainia*, *Collomia*, *Phacelia*, *Draba*, *Idahoa*, and *Navarretia*.

General Geographic Range Within CRB of **Oregon/Washington/Nevada**:

The **species** is known in the CRB only from a single population in Lake County, Oregon (Shelly, 1986). It is otherwise common at lower elevations from California south, occurring in the Central Valley to extreme northern Mexico. The peripheral site in Oregon is noteworthy due to its far northern range and sagebrush habitat, as well as the fact it occurs at a much higher elevation than any other known populations.

Sensitivity to Disturbance:

Unknown; however, cattle seem to have been grazing at the site for many years, and there is no **reason** to believe the species was not coexisting with grazing at the site before its relatively recent discovery.

Population Trends:

Unknown; the population persisted for **several** years into the early 1990's, but its current status has not been recently reported.

Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

This is a self-pollinating species that retains seed inside inflating fruiting **calyces** that envelop the **dehiscid** capsule. Seeds are slowly released as the dried plants shake in the breeze, and are presumably carried locally by flowing water or blown about by the wind. It is suspected that migratory waterfowl may have originally carried the seed to Oregon from a more southerly population (the **Lake** County area is along a major flyway), although it is remarkable to think that a spring annual species from lower elevation California could have come pre-adapted to the harsh Great Basin climate of southeastern Oregon.

Usefulness as Bioindicator:

This species has **too** local a distribution in the CRB to indicate much.

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**Taxon:**

*Mimulus patulus*

Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species (**USFS** Region 6); federal candidate

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Associated Coyer Type(s):

**SRM:** Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Ponderosa Pine-Shrubland; Ponderosa Pine Grassland; Idaho Fescue-Bluebunch Wheatgrass.

*Mimulus patulus* occurs in the mosaic of bunchgrass and/or sparse conifer stands along the northeast slope of the **Wallowa** Mountains uplands, just west of Hell's Canyon. It is located in or near moist, occasionally **shrubby** microsites of basalt substrate with **various** species of *Astragalus*, *Lomatium*, *Allium*, and *Delphinium*, often with a significant weedy component dominated by annual bromes and fescues:

General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

The species is now believed to be restricted to eastern **Wallowa** County, **Oregon**, although historic collections have been confirmed from extreme southeast Washington and adjacent Idaho. It is possible the species still exists in underbotanized areas of those states, although many of the historic sites are now underwater due to various Snake River impoundments.

Sensitivity to Disturbance:

*Mimulus patulus* is another of the basalt endemic annual monkeyflowers having an association with vernal seeps. Not restricted to cliffs *per se*, it typically occurs at the base of outcrops or on shallow soils overlying basalt bedrock or shelves along slopes. These sites typically do not have enough flow to attract cattle as water sources, but the associated greener and more lush vegetation often make for a natural congregating area for livestock. Moreover, the sites are often not so rocky that introduced weeds are excluded (as they often are on the harsher habitats of monkeyflowers *like Mimulus washingtonensis*, or the obligate cliff species). Recent inventory (Meinke and Carlson, 1995a) has resulted in the discovery of more populations in the last two years on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest (Hells Canyon NRA), but all are small and potentially vulnerable to grazing or spring development.

Population Trends:

There are no demographic data for this species. Until 1993, only two tiny populations were known to be extant.

Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

*Mimulus patulus* is a highly self-fertile, autogamous annual that cannot **outcross** due to within-bud pollination (Meinke, 1991). Seeds of the species are apparently distributed locally by wind, and only rarely by flowing water (at least in observed populations).

Usefulness as Bioindicator:

As a rare indigenous annual of natural seeps and springs in an otherwise bunchgrass dominated cover type, presence or absence of this species may be indicative of

deterioration of moist sites subject to grazing pressure and invasion by various exotic weeds.

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**Taxon:**

***Mimulus pulsiferae***

Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species -- peripheral in Washington (WNHP, 1994)

Associated Cover Type(s) [in the CRB]:

**SAF:** Interior Douglas Fir; Lodgepole Pine; Interior Ponderosa Pine; Oregon White Oak. **SRM:** Antelope Bitterbrush-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Western Juniper-Big Sagebrush-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Ponderosa Pine Grassland.

A species of vernal pools or other similarly moist areas within dry forests at middle elevations (in the CRB), usually with an array of other annuals including ***Trichostema*, *Linum*, *Juncus*, *Psilostrophe*, *Collinsia*, and *Navarretia***; occurring in well-drained volcanic soils.

General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

The species extends intermittently from southern Washington south to Douglas County, Oregon, mostly along the eastern foothills of the Cascade Mountains. Crossing the Cascades around Douglas County, **the species** extends south into the northern Sierra Nevada of California on the west side of the Cascade-Sierran axis.

Sensitivity to Disturbance:

Populations of ***Mimulus pulsiferae*** will tolerate moderate disturbance, and have been observed in Oregon growing along logging roads, on moist roadbanks, in partial cuts (sheltered under standing trees), and at the edge of **graveled** parking lots. The species requires vernal moisture, however, and populations have disappeared after slash burns and sheep grazing on the Deschutes National Forest (Meinke, unpubl.). Aside from such major impacts directly on populations, the species does not appear especially vulnerable and has a broad ecological amplitude as long as soil moisture is not limiting.

Population Trends:

No formal demographic studies have been completed for this annual species, which has dormant seeds that probably result in some level of seed storage in the soil. However, informal monitoring of several sites in Oregon have shown the species to remain essentially constant over the last decade and to fluctuate remarkably little over the years. This may be due to the more consistent precipitation (relative to most of the CRB) that laps over from the **nearby** high Cascades. In general, patches of ***M. pulsiferae*** are less dense than any of the other rare annuals described in this report.

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

Seeds are readily shed **from** cylindrical fruiting **calyces** and are dormant at maturity. They are probably locally dispersed by spring runoff or occasionally small brooks, although the species does not **typically** frequent the edges of running or open water while in flower and fruit. Although highly autogamous, *M. pulsiferae* will **outcross** if visited shortly after corolla expansion, either by native solitary bees or more commonly small, hovering bee flies. Pollen dispersal by these vectors is undoubtedly very local.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator: :

The habitat for *Mimulus pulsiferae* is too general, and populations are too sparse and scattered, for this species to indicate much more than better than average soil moisture.

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### Taxon:

#### *Mimulus pygmaeus*

#### Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive Species (**USFS** Region 6; **BLM**); federal candidate

#### Associated Cover Type(s) [in the CRB]:

**SAF**: Interior Douglas-Fir; Interior Ponderosa Pine. **SRM**: Western Juniper-Big Sagebrush-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Ponderosa Pine Shrubland; Ponderosa Pine-Grassland.

*Mimulus pygmaeus* typically occurs in moderately to poorly-drained ecotonal **areas** in silver sage and low sage communities, or in associated scab or rocky meadows. It is typically associated with species requiring considerable spring moisture, including various members of *Ranunculus*, *Juncus*, *Lomatium*, *Navarretia*, *Collinsia*, *Plagiobothrys*, *Hesperochiron*, and *Polygonum*.

#### General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

Recent studies (Meinke et al., 1994) indicate this tiny annual species is actually widespread and locally very common (evident in wet years like 1993) in south-central Oregon, from Lake County west to Jackson County. Populations of *Mimulus pygmaeus* extend well south into the transmontane Sierra Nevada of northeastern California.

#### Sensitivity to Disturbance:

*Mimulus pygmaeus* appears indifferent to moderate grazing, possibly because the low sage-silver sage associations are not as vulnerable to disturbance as many deeper soiled range sites. Although the species was thought extremely rare prior to 1993, surveys that year uncovered numerous large populations that sprouted from a large reservoir of presumably dormant seeds in the soil, some with millions of individuals (Meinke et al., 1994). These sites were virtually all in grazed areas, but there were few

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

other disturbances evident. In general, the sites were in good condition (i.e., with comparatively few exotics), so this cannot be considered evidence that the species resists all perturbations. Major soil movements (such as pipeline construction or a series of roads) is likely to be detrimental. Livestock probably ignore the species as forage, due to its extremely small size.

### Population Trends:

Contrasting 1993 with the previous decade or so, it might be tempting to state that trends for the species are headed up. In all probability, however, the seeds were there all along, and the successive years of drought simply kept surveyors from appreciating the true extent of the local populations (above and below ground).

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

Very localized seed dispersal is the rule for this species. Capsules remain attached to the parent plants, and dehisce only after soaked in water for several days -- as a result, the species cannot reproduce well without pooled water or heavy precipitation (such as from a heavy downpour or dripping snowbank). Seeds are quite dormant at maturity, but germinate after prolonged soaking in near freezing water (Meinke, unpubl.). Since the plants are so small, entire individuals probably act as dispersal units, floating down creeks or temporary runoff gushers. Although more or less chasmogamous, flowers are believed to be entirely self-pollinated (in the bud), based on the position and maturation rates of floral organs.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

*Mimulus pygmaeus* is representative of the spring herbaceous flora associated with low sage and silver sage habitats along the southwestern edge of the CRB. Its presence in abundance is indicative of a reasonably healthy community of native forbs, and of a substrate capable of storing a significant seed bank. The species is also an indicator of poor to moderate soil drainage, particularly when associated with silver sage.

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### Taxon:

#### *Mimulus suksdorfii*

### Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species -- peripheral in Washington (WNHP, 1994)

### Associated Cover Type(s) [in the CRB]:

CUB: Subalpine Herbaceous. **SAF:** Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir; Whitebark Pine; Interior Douglas-Fir; Interior Ponderosa Pine. **SRM:** Western Juniper-Big Sagebrush-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Mountain Big Sagebrush; Wyoming Big Sagebrush.

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

The species occurs in dry or occasionally moist herbaceous communities within sagebrush-steppe or dry forest, or occasionally to subalpine slopes. It has a very broad distribution and is actually rather common over much of its range outside of Washington. It commonly **co-occurs with** species of *Ipomopsis*, *Collomia*, *Calochortus*, *Penstemon*, *Kelloggia*, *Castilleja*, *Lithophragma*, and *Festuca*.

General Geographic Range Within **CRB** of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

From Yakima County, Washington south and east through much of the CRB into California, Nevada, Arizona, and Wyoming.

Sensitivity to Disturbance:

There are no existing biological or ecological studies for *Mimulus suksdorfii*. Based on casual field observation, the species is commonly found in semi-disturbed or natural open sites in the shrub-steppe, sometimes in dry, sandy pockets. Since it is an annual species of cold winter climates, it probably has dormant seeds and develops a seed bank (based on information known for similar species), but this is uncorroborated. It is expected the species would fare poorly only after major habitat altering disturbances that removed or heavily churned the topsoil, and that it may benefit from wildfires that open the shrub cover.

Population Trends:

There are no demographic studies available for this miniature monkeyflower. Herbarium records, however, show this to be a **commonly** collected species outside of **Washington**, despite the fact it is so inconspicuous. This suggests that populations are not declining, but there are no data to back this up.

Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

*Mimulus suksdorfii* almost certainly disseminates seeds via wind and gravity -- the species is rarely found near open water, so this can be discounted as a routine mode of dispersal. The plants are presumably self-pollinated due to the tiny corolla size. However, the petals are reflexed rather than partially closed (as in many of the small, autogamous annuals in the genus, such as *M. patulus* and *M. brevisflorus*), and limited outcrossing might be possible. Any pollen dispersal by this means would almost certainly be extremely local since the pollinators would have to be tiny bees or flies.

Usefulness as Bioindicator:

Distribution and habitats for this species are too broad for it to be of any practical use as a bioindicator.

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**Taxon:**

*Mimulus tricolor*

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

### Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species (**USFS** Region 6); considered peripheral in Oregon (**ONHP**, 1993)

### Associated Cover Type(s) [in the CRB]:

**SAF**: Interior Douglas-Fir; Interior Ponderosa Pine. **SRM**: Western Jumper-Big. Sagebrush-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Ponderosa Pine Grassland.

Populations occur in wet depressions along rivers, watering holes, or vernal pools in sagebrush or open forest cover types, with various graminoids and annual herbs. These include species of ***Downingia*, *Psilostrophe*, *Poa*, *Plagiobothrys*, *Juncus*, and *Navarretia***.

### General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

The species is restricted to northwestern Lake and eastern **Klamath** counties, Oregon in the CRB, but extends west to the **Willamette** Valley and south well into cismontane California.

### Sensitivity to Disturbance:

***Mimulus tricolor*** develops extensive seed banks, evidenced by mass occurrences of the species in 1993, at **Lake** County sites that had produced only a handful of plants over the previous several years (Meinke et al., 1994). While livestock had heavily utilized the area prior to this major bloom, the population seemed **largely** unaffected. However, timing of cattle grazing is probably crucial, and ideally should occur only **after** fruits have been set, to facilitate replenishment of the seed pool. The species is very dependent on a pooled water source (in the spring at least), and any actions which destroy or alter this type of habitat (i.e., construction, spring enhancement or other drainage actions, excessive trampling, etc.) are likely to locally eradicate the species.

### Population Trends:

There are no current demographic studies for this species, yet field observation over at least the last seven years have shown CRB populations to remain consistently at the known localities. However, as mentioned earlier, these populations **can** fluctuate dramatically in size and area covered, indicating that the seed bank can stay viable for at least several years. As with ***M. pygmaeus***, this species is probably in much better shape at the localities it occupies than was previously thought. However, unlike ***M. pygmaeus***, ***M. tricolor*** is predominantly a **westside** species occurring at the periphery of its range, and is accordingly a much rarer and potentially more vulnerable species in the CRB.

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

**The** capsules of ***Mimulus tricolor*** are bone-hard and mostly indehiscent at maturity, opening only upon lengthy exposure to water (Meinke et al., 1994). The species cannot reproduce without pooled water for the capsules to soak in. Seeds are dispersed by water, but the dispersal distance may not be great unless precipitation is ample enough to flood vernal pools or depressions. Seeds commonly remain in the opened capsule and

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

germinate more or less simultaneously, with the result being clumps of seedlings growing together and competing for resources. Pollination apparently results in considerable outcrossing, **based** on floral morphology, and flowers are visited by a range of semi-social and solitary native bees, occasional bumblebees, and a few beeflies. Pollen dispersal is presumably fairly local due to the isolated nature of patches and the foraging habits of the dominant pollinators species.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

In the few areas where this species grows in the CRB, it could be used as an indicator of an interesting and scarce vernal pool community. While cattle do not seem to seriously affect populations, this observation can only be considered **conjecture** at this point in the absence of long-term monitoring. Ideally, sites where the species occurs or is discovered could be set aside as rare examples of vernal pool communities east of the Cascades Mountains. There is very little information on the dynamics of **North** American vernal pools outside of California.

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### Taxon:

*Mimulus washingtonensis* (= *M. washingtonensis* subsp. *washingtonensis*)

### Criteria Used For Assessment:

Sensitive species (**USFS** Region 6; BLM); federal candidate

### Associated Cover Type(s):

**SAF:** Interior Douglas-Fir; Interior Ponderosa Pine. **SRM:** Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Antelope Bitterbrush-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Western Juniper-Big Sagebrush-Bluebunch Wheatgrass; Ponderosa Pine Grassland; Idaho Fescue-Bluebunch Wheatgrass.

Populations of this species occur on moist basalt scab or thin-soiled basalt gravels overlying bedrock, within a range of dry forest and range cover types that intermix in the John Day River country of east-central Oregon. Associated species are few on the basalt substrate, and include occasional individuals of *Asclepias*, *Streptanthus*, *Astragalus*, and *Allium* species, as well as introduced **grasses** such as *Bromus tectorum*. Populations of *Mimulus washingtonensis* are often found associating with species of the nitrogen-fixing cyanobacterium (blue-green alga) genus *Nostoc*.

### General Geographic Range Within CRB of Oregon/Washington/Nevada:

The species is now considered endemic to the John Day River drainage of east-central Oregon, in interior Grant, Wheeler, Morrow, and Umatilla Counties. Historic collections from along the Columbia (in Oregon and Washington) are believed to have been waifs washed down river as seeds (Meinke, 1991). These sites are now underwater due to Columbia River dams. The specific epithet notwithstanding, there are no verified

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

collections of the species from the state of Washington, outside of those few from along the shores of the Columbia recorded by Suksdorf (at Bingen) around the turn of the century.

### Sensitivity to Disturbance:

Any activity that disrupts the potential for spring runoff or seeps to vernal moisten sites will impact the species. Field observations in 1993, as with *M. pygmaeus*, revealed a tremendous apparent **seed** bank for *M. washingtonensis*. Numerous large populations were located across the range of the species, which had formerly been considered quite rare and vulnerable. Livestock use is common in the area, but the habitat for the species is generally too harsh and lacking in forage to attract many cattle. Greenhouse studies show the species to be a poor self-pollinator (Meinke, 1993), and disturbance of native ground-nesting bees (the principal floral visitors) may reduce seed set. Research has also shown that *M. washingtonensis* may compete for pollinators (and rather poorly at that) with the often weedy native monkeyflower *M. guttatus* where the two species closely overlap (Meinke, 1995b). *Mimulus guttatus* may increase with disturbance.

### Population Trends:

No demographic data have been specifically recorded for *Mimulus washingtonensis*. However, general BLM and USFS surveys since 1992 (and casual observations by the author since 1982) indicate that the species is locally common and widespread regionally. Populations clearly are represented by many dormant seeds below ground; however, quantitative data on seed pools for this and other ephemeral *Mimulus* in the CRB are lacking.

### Dispersal Mode and Requirements:

Seeds are locally dispersed by wind and temporary winter and spring runoff along basalt channels, and then occasionally into streams and rivers (as suggested by the historic collections along the Columbia River). Pollinators are mostly small, semi-social and solitary bees (Meinke, 1995b), and pollen dispersal is probably less than ten meters in most cases.

### Usefulness as Bioindicator:

Populations of *Mimulus washingtonensis* are strong indicators of sterile sites with vernal moisture or temporary spring runoff. The presence of an extensive population suggests that disturbances have been minimal over the years at the site, permitting the build-up of a thin soil layer and a significant **seed** bank. *Mimulus washingtonensis* commonly co-exists with a pair of sensitive milkvetchs, i.e., two local varieties of the basalt endemic *Astragalus diaphanus* (the *var. diurnus* being listed as threatened under Oregon state law).

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

3. Preferred Successional Stages or Vegetation Structural Classes for *Mimulus*

Table 2. Estimated Range of Successional Stages or Vegetation Structural Classes for Groups and Individual Species of *Mimulus* evaluated in Section 2. (Note: **Codes for range and forest structural stages, from USFS-supplied forms, are given parenthetically**).

<i>Taxonomic Groups</i>	<i>Stage or Class Description</i>
<i>Mimulus guttatus/M. nasutus</i> (all forest and range structural stages except OFM and OFS)	Occurring in a broad range of structural classes, from open shallow-soiled herb-dominated layers to closed canopy forests; ecotypes in this complex occupy a wide range of primary to secondary successional niches, from cracks in cliffs and freshly scoured bedrock, to openings in mature forests and along established rivers
<i>Mimulus lewisii/M. tilingii</i> (SI;SEO;OH;CH;OLMS)	Found within the initial meadow-herb layer, with seedlings often establishing in primary or early secondary successional sites along rushing streams, on wet talus/gravel, or near high elevation lake margins
<i>Mimulus moschatus/M. floribundus</i> (SI;SEO;OH;OLMS;OTS)	These are typically primary to early successional species, establishing in microsites such as drying river beds or rocky outcrops; occasionally within or under herb dominated, shrubby, or dry forest microsites
<i>Mimulus nanus/cusickii</i> (SI;SEO;UR;YF;OH;OLMS;OTSj)	Limited to mainly early primary successional niches, typically on bare or nearly bare volcanic substrates (especially basalt cobbles and pumice); in bare soil, under herb/shrub dominated or open-canopied forest layers

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<p><i>Mimulus primuloides/M. brevisflorus/M. breweri</i> (SEO;OFM;OH;CH;OLMS;OTS)</p>	<p><i>M. primuloides</i> is a colonizer of bogs and wet, disturbed streambanks, ranging from an open meadow herb layer to margins of closed canopy forest; the two annual species are generally limited to herb/shrub-dominated meadow layers, tending to be present in early primary or secondary successional stages, seldom under canopies</p>
<p><b><i>Candidate or Sensitive Taxa Individually Assessed:</i></b></p>	<p><b><i>status:</i></b></p>
<p><i>Mimulus ampiatus</i> (= <i>M. washingtonensis</i> subsp. <i>ampiatus</i>) (OH; OLMS)</p>	<p>Primary or early secondary successional niches (based on evidence from only a few label collections and extant sites); on thin-soiled basalt substrates within a herb/shrub-dominated vegetative layer</p>
<p><i>Mimulus clivicola</i> (SI;UR;YF;OF;OH;OTS)</p>	<p>Primary or more often early secondary successional species; <b>typically</b> associated with forest herb or shrub-steppe layers near or under open forest canopies, but also recorded from forest gap areas, roadsides, banks, and relatively open talus slopes</p>
<p><i>Mimulus evanescens</i> (OH;OLMS)</p>	<p>Early secondary successional species, preferring wet areas with established organic soil base in an herb-dominated stratum, within a shrub-steppe layer (based on two extant sites and limited herbarium data)</p>
<p><i>Mimulus hymenophyius</i> (YF;OFM;OTS)</p>	<p>Primary successional species; a basalt cliff obligate growing in crevices with scant organic soil; in herb layer on the cliffs, under an associated open forest canopy</p>

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<p><i>Mimulus jepsonii</i> (SI;SEO;UR;YF;OFM)</p>	<p>Late primary or secondary <b>successional</b> species, occurring in well-developed forest soil with little associate herb layer; open to nearly closed lodgepole (rarely mixed with ponderosa pine) <b>canopy</b></p>
<p><i>Mimulus jungermannioides</i> (OLMS;OTS)</p>	<p>Primary successional species; <i>Mimulus jungermannioides</i> is a basalt cliff obligate growing in crevices, usually <b>with</b> scant organic buildup outside the cliff cracks; occurs exclusively within the herb stratum on the rock walls, often with an associate shrub-steppe <b>and/or</b> low riparian layer nearby</p>
<p><i>Mimulus latidens</i> (OH;OLMS)</p>	<p>Known from a single locality in the southern <b>CRB</b>; apparently only in the low herb layer within the sagebrush shrub-steppe</p>
<p><i>Mimulus patulus</i> (OH;OLMS;OTS)</p>	<p>Typically a species of late primary or early secondary successional microsites, only known from thin-soiled <b>basalt</b> substrates; commonly within a <b>well-</b>developed herb layer (frequently including many exotics), sometimes located within dense shrub-steppe or bushy <b>riparian/spring</b> vegetation at cliff bases</p>
<p><i>Mimulus pulsiferae</i> (SI;SEO;UR;YF;OFM;OH)</p>	<p>Late primary or secondary successional annual species, occurring in <b>well-</b>developed forest soils with a considerable associated herb layer (usually vernal pool species); sites usually within an open (to nearly closed) ponderosa pine or mixed coniferous canopy (in <b>CRB</b>)</p>

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<p><b><i>Mimulus pygmaeus</i></b> (OH; OLMS)</p>	<p>Early to mid secondary successional species, requiring wet areas with <b>well-</b>established organic soil base in an annual and perennial herb-dominated layer within a shrub-steppe matrix; rarely occurring under open forest canopies of mixed conifers (in CRB), frequently occurring along narrow shrub-meadow ecotones</p>
<p><b><i>Mimulus suksdorfii</i></b> (SI;SEO;UR;YF;OH;OLMS;OTS)</p>	<p>Late primary or secondary successional species, usually occurring in <b>well-</b>developed range or forest mineral soils (sometimes in loose, sandy pockets in sagebrush zones of Washington), with associated annual and perennial herb layer in open to nearly closed <b>shrub-</b>steppe layer, or open dry forest</p>
<p><b><i>Mimulus tricolor</i></b> (OH;OLMS;OTS)</p>	<p>Early to mid secondary successional species, preferring moist to wet areas with an established organic soil base in an annual herb-dominated stratum; drying pool areas within a shrub-steppe or open forest matrix (based on the few general areas of occurrence of the species within the CRB)</p>
<p><b><i>Mimulus washingtonensis</i></b> (OH)</p>	<p>A species of late primary or early secondary successional microsites, virtually always occurring in thin-soiled basalt substrates or on exposed bedrock (a recently discovered site in Crook County, Oregon an exception; Ron Halvorson, personal communication); usually with poorly developed herb layer within the shrub-steppe or open coniferous-grassland/shrub layer</p>

MEINKE: EASTSIDE EcoSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

4. Species Occurrences by Successional Stages or Vegetation Cover Types

Herbarium collections, site reports, and many status surveys generally do not give enough information to accurately reflect particular **species** occurrences within **specific cover types**. Intelligent guesses could be made in some cases, based on provided community information or lists of associated **species**. However, the many 'inevitable errors or misinterpretations would compromise the validity of the **EEMP** model. If this information is considered important, field work to ground-truth selected localities **with** respect to Bailey's **Ecoregion** Map or the **SAF/SRM cover** types would be required.

**5-6.** Key Environmental Correlates and Functions of *Mimulus* (Grouped **Taxa**)  
(Information provided in U.S. Forest Service specified format)

Species or Species Group: *Mimulus guttatus*/*M. nasutus* complex  
Province and/or Section: All' Life Form(s): 4/5  
Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Standing water or wet soil during growing season  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Impoundments, ditches, or other man-made waterways
  2. Steams, lakes, rivers, and other natural bodies of water
  3. Wetlands
  4. Springs and seepage **zones**Applies Seasonally? No
2. Open canopies  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Rangeland sites
  2. Forest sites
  3. Agricultural sitesApplies Seasonally? No
3. Flowing water for seed dispersal  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Streams, creeks, rivers
  2. Runoff and flood **channels**
  3. Flooding pools
  4. Cliff seepageApplies Seasonally? Yes  
Which Seasons? Spring and summer
4. Pollinators to promote seed set and gene flow in large flowered **ecotypes**  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

1. Native bees
  2. Horseflies
  3. Hummingbirds (rarely on large-flowered forms)
  4. Sphinx moths
- Applies Seasonally? Yes  
Which Seasons? Spring and summer

### Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus guttatus*/*M. nasutus* complex):

1. Food and nutrition for pollinating and phytophagous insects
2. Primary producers in *many* wetlands
3. Local bank stabilization (perennial forms only)

### Threats (*Indicate High, Medium, or Low*):

- Change in **Fire** Regimes - Low  
Grazing - Low  
Mining - Low  
Exotics - **Low**  
Development - **Low**  
Timber Harvest - Low  
Roads (explain) - Low

### Key Assumptions:

Habitat and ecological functions/correlates may differ outside the **CRB**.

### Dispersal:

- Pollinators - Bees; flies; sphinx moths; rarely hummingbirds  
Dispersal Mode - Wind and water  
Requirements for Dispersal - Best dispersal accomplished by flowing water

Trend: Stable to increasing in many areas

### Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:--

Taxonomic and genetic studies of this complex outside the **CRB** have shown it to be rich in genetic diversity and a wide **array** of ecotypes. Evaluation of this in our area would be **in** the interest of overall investigation and conservation of biodiversity on public lands, but admittedly impractical.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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Species or Species Group: *Mimulus lewisii*/*M. tilingii*

Province **and/or** Section: All **Life Form**: 4

### Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Saturated soil or open water  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Marshes or **wetlands**
  2. Springs or seeps
  3. Lake margins

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

4. streams  
Applies Seasonally? Yes  
Which **Seasons?** Spring and summer
2. Running water for seed dispersal  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. streams
  2. **Snowmelt** runoff channels
  3. Lakes.
  4. Montane ditchesApplies Seasonally? Yes  
Which Seasons? Summer and **fall**
3. Moderately well-drained substrate  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Granite-based
  2. Basalt- or pumice-based
  3. Mixture of silt and cobbles
  4. SandyApplies Seasonally? No
4. Effective pollinators  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Native bees
  2. Hummingbirds (*M. Zewisii* only)
  3. Occasional fliesApplies Seasonally? Yes  
Which Seasons? Summer

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus lewisii*/*M. tilingii*):

1. Bank stabilization of higher elevation streams and runoff channels
2. **Primary** producers in many montane and subalpine meadows/wetlands
3. Food and nutrition for pollinating and phytophagous insects

Threats (*Indicate High, Medium, or Low*):

- Change in **Fire** Regimes - Low
- Grazing - Low
- Mining - Low
- Exotics - Low
- Development - **Low**
- Timber Harvest - Low
- Roads (explain) - Low

Key Assumptions:

Habitat and ecological functions/correlates for this species group may differ in areas outside the CRB.

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Dispersal:

Pollinators - Native bees; flies; occasionally hummingbirds (*M. lewisii*)

Dispersal Mode - Wind and water

Requirements for Dispersal - Flowing water ideal for seed dispersal

Trend: Stable or increasing in many areas

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Relatively little is known about the functions of montane wetlands and their component species.

Various *Carex* and other dominant wetland taxa, like *M. lewisii*, would benefit from additional study of their roles in wetlands and potential interactions within their habitats.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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Species or Species Group: *Mimulus moschatus*/*M. floribundus*

Province and/or Section: All Life Form(s): 4,5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Well-drained substrates

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Sand/sandy loam
2. Fissured bedrock or cliffs
3. Gravelly dry stream or river bottoms
4. Basalt cobbles

Applies Seasonally? No

2. Sunny, exposed sites

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Forest canopy gaps
2. Dry riverbeds and sandy riverbanks/bluffs
3. South and east-slope hillsides/cliffs
4. Sand dunes

Applies Seasonally? No

3. Effective pollinators (for larger-flowered races)

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Native bees
2. Native **beeflies**

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Spring and summer

4. Flowing water at some time of the year to facilitate seed dispersal

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Perennial streams/creeks/streams
2. Seasonal streams/creeks
3. Late spring runoff from snowmelt/rainshowers

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

4. Flood channels

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Spring **and** summer

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus moschatus/M. floribundus*):

1. Provides nectar and pollen for foraging insects
2. Provide thousands of seed per plant, possibly gathered by invertebrate seed predators
3. Limited bank and channel stabilization (*M. moschatus*)

Threats (Indicate *High, Medium, or Low*):

Change in Fire Regimes - Low

Grazing - Low

Exotics - **Low**

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - Low

Key Assumptions:

Habitat and ecological functions may differ outside the CRB.

Dispersal:

Pollinators - **Bees**, beeflies; often autogamous

Dispersal Mode - Water, wind

Requirements for Dispersal - Flowing water facilitates seed **dispersal**

Trend: Stable to increasing in many areas

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Potential for **taxonomic/genetic** variation between **eastside** and **westside** races of these **taxa** may be worth pursuing.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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Species or Species Group: *Mimulus nanus/M. cusickii*

Province and/or Section: All Life Form: 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Well-drained; volcanic substrates

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Basalt cobbles

2. Pumice fields

3. Roadside gravels

4. Ash or **tuff (some ash/clay ecotypes** in southeastern Oregon)

Applies Seasonally? No

2. **Xeric** general habitat with sunny exposures

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Sagebrush cover types

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

2. Coniferous forests
  3. Bunchgrass steppe
  4. Alpine/subalpine barrens
- Applies Seasonally? No
3. Summer precipitation to facilitate fruit set
- Suitable Categories (Categorical):
1. Thunderstorms
  2. Runoff
- Applies Seasonally? Yes
- Which Seasons? Summer
4. Effective pollinators
- Suitable Categories (Categorical):
1. Native solitary and semi-social bees
  2. Occasional **beeflies**
- Applies Seasonally? Yes
- Which Seasons? Spring and **summer**

### Key Ecological Functions (***Mimulus nanus***/***M. cusickii***):

1. Major source of food reserves for many species of summer-foraging small, native **bees**
2. Possible major food source for seed foragers, including ants and other invertebrates

### Threats (*Indicate High, Medium, or Low*):

- Change in fire Regimes - Medium
- Grazing - Low
- Mining - Low
- Exotics - Low
- Development - Low
- Timber Harvest - Low
- . Roads (explain) - Low

### Key Assumptions:

Habitat and ecological functions/correlates may differ outside the CRB.

### Dispersal:

- Pollinators - An array of small, ground-nesting solitary and semi-social bees
- Dispersal Mode - Seeds are dispersed by wind, gravity, and ants
- Requirements for Dispersal - Open habitat; proximity to ant colonies

Trend: Apparently stable to increasing in **many** areas

### Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

It would be interesting to know if ants actually play a significant role in the dispersal of these species. It would **also be** interesting to know how the plants (especially *M. cusickii*) manage to grow in such nutrient-poor, volcanic sites (**areas** known for extremely low nitrogen levels).

**Monkeyflowers** have never been reported as nitrogen fixers, **but** there has been no research on this topic.

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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Species or Species Group: *Mimulus primuloides/M. breviflorus/M. breweri*

Province and/or Section: All Life Form(s): 4/5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Substrate able to retain soil moisture  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Bogs (*M. primuloides*)/streambanks/seeps/moist meadows
2. Damp to **dry** meadows
3. Edges of vernal depressions
4. Along runoff channels or ditches along mountain roads (annuals)  
Applies Seasonally? No
2. Exposed in the open or under broken canopy; usually bright, sunny microsites  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Forest gaps
  2. Herb/graminoid-dominated meadows
  3. Gravelly, herb-dominated slopes
  4. Gopher moundsApplies Seasonally? No
3. Summer water source  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Thunderstorms
  2. Springs/bogs (*M. primuloides*)
  3. **Substrate** depressions with pooled precipitationApplies Seasonally? **Yes**  
Which Seasons? Summer
4. Acidic substrates (especially *M. primuloides*)  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Bogs
  2. Granite/granodioriteApplies Seasonally? No

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus primuloides/M. breviflorus/M. breweri*):

1. Providers of pollen and nectar for native bee fauna
2. Primary producer in **bog/wetland** (*M. primuloides*)
3. Providers of seed for invertebrate foragers (annuals)

Threats (In&ate *High, Medium, or Low*):

- Change in Fire Regimes - Low  
Grazing - **Low**  
Mining - Low

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Exotics - Low

Development - **Low**

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - Low

### Key Assumptions:

Habitat and ecological functions and correlates may differ outside of the CRB.

### Dispersal:

Pollinators - Annual species are **autogamous**; *M. primuloides* - native bees and flies

Dispersal Mode - Wind; gravity; flowing water (for *M. primuloides*)

Requirements for Dispersal - See above

Trend: Stable to increasing in many areas

### Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

*Mimulus primuloides* is a **clonal** species, reproducing at least in part by vegetative **propagules** (Douglas, 1981) which promotes rapid genetic diversification between populations. It would be interesting to study the genetic variation inherent in the species in the CRB.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

## 5-6. Key Environmental Correlates and Functions of *Mimulus* (Individual **Taxa**)

species: ***Mimulus ampliatus***

Province and/or Section: Idaho

Life Form: 5

### Key Environmental Correlates:

#### 1. Basalt substrates

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Thin-soiled or bedrock sites within bunchgrass/shrub-steppe
2. Exposed basalt shelves or cliffs in shrub-steppe or open forest
3. Basalt cobbles

Applies Seasonally? No

#### 2. Dependable **vernal** and summer moisture source

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Springs
2. Seepage zones
3. Runoff channels
4. Summer thundershowers

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Winter and spring

#### 3. Effective insect pollinators to maximize seed set

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Small. native bees, probably ground-nesting semisocial or solitary species
2. Bumblebees

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Applies Seasonally? **Yes**

Which Seasons? Spring **and** summer

4. Potentially negative interactions with exotic species

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Presence of annual weeds (principally bromes)

2. Presence of livestock

Applies Seasonally? **Yes**

Which Seasons? Spring, summer, and fall

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus ampliatus*):

1. Provides food resources for pollinating bees

2. Provides seeds for local seed foraging invertebrates

Threats (*In&ate High, Medium, or Low*):

Change in Fire Regimes - Medium

Grazing - High

Mining - Low

Exotics - High

Development - Medium (Lake Waha)

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - Medium (highway through Lawyers Canyon)

Key Assumptions:

Information on pollinators and seed dispersal are extrapolated based on work on the very similar *Mimulus washingtonensis* from eastern Oregon.

Comments:

This **taxon** is often referred to as *Mimulus washingtonensis* var. (or subsp.) *ampliatus*, although this taxonomic combination (see Meinke, 1991) has not yet been formally made.

Dispersal:

Pollinators - Presumably small native **bees**; occasional bumblebees

Dispersal Mode - Seeds are dispersed **by** wind and locally by water

Requirements for Dispersal - 'Flowing water (seeps, small creeks, runoff, etc.)

Trend:

There are no known long-term demographic studies underway for this **taxon**; however, the few extant populations are very small and located in areas with a significant exotic floristic component suggesting that populations are, or have been, decreasing in size and numbers over the last several decades (as grazing has increased).

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Further inventory is desperately needed for this exceedingly rare **taxon**. Definitive information on pollination biology, seed germination and viability, response to disturbance, competition with a wide range of exotic species, soil moisture requirements, and habitat characterization are sorely needed.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of **Species**: Medium

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

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species: *Mimulus clivicola*

Province and/or Section: Wallawas; eastern WA; northern ID Life Form: 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Open sites for colonization

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Exposed or eroded banks
2. Forest gaps (natural or artificial)
3. **Roadcuts/skidtrails**
4. Gravelly mineral-soiled or talus slopes

Applies Seasonally? No

2. Effective pollinators

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Small, native bees (mostly solitary, ground-nesting species)
2. Possibly small lepidopterans (secondary floral visitors)

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Spring and summer

3. Vernal precipitation

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Seepage zones within talus or gravelly substrates
2. Pooled rainwater
3. Runoff channels
4. Snowmelt accumulation

Applies Seasonally? **Yes**

Which Seasons? Winter and spring

4. Elevation

Suitable Categories (Continuous):

1. 800 - 1800 meters

Applies Seasonally? No

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus clivicola*):

1. Provides food sources to local bee colonies
2. Provides resources to seed collecting insects (ants) and **other seed** predators
3. Primary provider in herbaceous understory

Threats (*Indicate High, Medium, or Low*):

Change in **Fire** Regimes - Medium

Grazing - Medium

Mining - Low

Exotics - Medium

Development - **Low**

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMUL* us

Timber Harvest - Medium

Roads (explain) - Low

Key Assumptions:

Field observations by the author are limited to Oregon populations.

Dispersal:

Pollinators - Small native bees; possibly small butterflies that visited flowers

Dispersal Mode - Seed dispersed by wind, gravity

Requirements for Dispersal - See above

Trend:

Fluctuates, depending on **rainfall**; **some** populations have shown one or more years decline since 1989, but monitoring is inconclusive.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Additional knowledge concerning seed bank and germination biology would be very useful; relocation of the species in Washington a priority.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species:

Medium over the range of the species; high in Oregon

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**Species:** *Mimulus evanescens*

Province and/or Section: **Owyhee/Southeast** Oregon

Life Form: 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Dependable winter/vernal moisture

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Lake, pond, reservoir margin
2. Stream channel
3. Pooled precipitation
4. Seepage

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Winter and spring

2. Moisture-holding substrate

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Sandy loam
2. Sandy silt mixed with rocks
3. Heavy gravels

Applies Seasonally? No

3. Open exposed microsites

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Beaches/shorelines
2. **Perennially** flooded sites (where water usually recedes by late spring)
3. Low, open-canopied riparian habitat

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

- 4. Dried **Streambeds** or runoff channels  
Applies Seasonally? No
- 4. Interaction with exotic species  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  - 1. Competition with exotic weeds
  - 2. Habitat alteration by livestockApplies Seasonally? Yes  
Which Seasons? Spring and summer

Key Ecological **Functions** (*Mimulus evanescens*):

- 1. Provide food **resources** for larval seed predators (probably **beetles**)
- 2. Primary producer by decomposition in temporary wetlands and along wet shorelines

Threats (**Indicate High, Medium, or Low**):

Change in Fire Regimes - Low

**Grazing** - High

Mining - Low

Exotics - High

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - **Low**

Others - Loss of seeds **due to pre-dispersal** predation (Medium); drawdowns or other human-caused reductions in availability of pooled water sources (High)

Key Assumptions:

This information is based on observations at the two extant sites, coupled with data gathered from historic herbarium collections.

Dispersal:

Pollinators - This species is **autogamous**

Dispersal Mode - Seeds released over time **from** inflated fruiting **calyx**; expected to be primarily dispersed by water

Requirements for Dispersal - Flowing water

Trend:

Unknown; populations almost certainly decreasing in size and number based on only two extant sites over an historic range including Idaho, Oregon, northeastern California, and probably adjacent Nevada.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Seed germination biology largely unstudied; basic inventory across historic range may uncover additional sites; ability to compete with exotic weedy species; characterization of habitat and water quality requirements.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

species: *Mimulus* *hymenophyllus*

Province and/or Section: **Wallowas**

Life Form: 5 (rarely 4)

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Lithic substrate (basalt)

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Canyon walls
2. Overhangs
3. Cave entrances

Applies Seasonally? No

2. Dependable winter/vernal moisture

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Condensation
2. Seeps/perched water tables
3. Summer thundershowers and other precipitation runoff

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Winter, spring, and summer

3. Germination sites

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Moist crevices/fissures as germination sites
2. Cool, humid microsites for seedling growth
3. Dark

Applies Seasonally? Yes (in part)

Which Seasons? Winter and spring

4. Effective pollinators

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Small, native, semi-social bees
2. Medium-sized solitary bees

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Spring and summer

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus hymenophyllus*):

1. Provides resources for pollen gathering bees residing on cliff surfaces
2. Dead plants important source of organic matter for soil development in cliff fissures
3. Dense cliff colonies provide cover/raise humidity for **bryophyte/invertebrate** community

Threats (**Indicate High, Medium, or Low**):

Change in Fire Regimes - Medium

Grazing - Low

Mining - Low

Exotics - Low

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Medium

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Roads (explain) - **Low**

Others - Pollinator loss (species only moderately successful at selfing) (Medium);  
lowering of water table (Low)

Dispersal:

Pollinators - Various native bees

Dispersal Mode - Autochory (see Section 2. of this report)

Requirements for Dispersal - Moist, darkened cliff crevices/fissures

Trend:

There are no demographic studies of this species per se; however, the isolated nature of the habitat suggests *M. hymenophyllus* populations are stable. Increase is unlikely due to the fact that the existing cliff habitat is already well **colonized**.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Although this species has been known for over a decade (Meinke, 1983) we still have only a limited knowledge of it's' geographic range. More intensive surveys near the Snake River in **Wallowa** County (northeast of the Wallowas) may reveal additional populations, in which case the current state and federal status for the species may need to be reevaluated.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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**Species:** *Mimulus jepsonii*

Province and/or Section: **East Cascades**

**Life Form:** 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Volcanic-based substrate

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Pumice/ash/clay mix

2. Pumice/ash/loam mix

3. Cohesive consistency when moist (doesn't run through your fingers)

Applies Seasonally? No

2. Associate species

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Bare **understory/lodgepole** overstory

2. Sparse herb **understory/lodgepole** overstory

3. Sparse herb understory/lodgepoleponderosa overstory

Applies Seasonally? No

3. Soil moisture

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Sites with snow pack through March in normal years

2. Substrate moist below less than 5 cm below surface during flowering

3. Runoff from asphalt and compacted soil (around Diamond Lake)

Applies Seasonally?. Yes

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Which Seasons? Winter, spring, and summer

4. Insect mutualists

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Pollinators (native bees, flies) improve seed set/increase gene flow between patches

2. Ants aid in local dispersal of seed

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Spring and summer

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus jepsonii*):

1. Food resources provided for pollinators (native bees and flies) in a habitat otherwise rather devoid of flowering **annuals**

2. Food resources provided for foraging ants

3. Possible mycotrophic association (considering the nutrient poor habitat)

Threats (**Indicate High, Medium, or Low**):

Change in **Fire** Regimes - Medium

Grazing - Medium

Mining - Low

Exotics - Low

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Medium

Roads (explain) - Low

Others - Habitat stagnation (needs disturbance for populations to flourish) (Medium)

Key Assumptions:

This information is based on the species as it occurs within the CRB.

Dispersal:

Pollinators - Small bees; **beeflies**

Dispersal Mode - By wind; apparently **locally** distributed **by ants**

Requirements for Dispersal - See above

Trend:

Population monitoring is just getting underway for this species. Casual observation over the last five years have shown several key populations to dramatically shift in size, from small to large to small again (typical of many annuals).

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Relationship of ants to seed dispersal -- is this necessary or only incidental to normal dispersal?

Information on nutrient requirements and soil ecology may also be important.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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**Species:** *Mimulus jungermannioides*

Province and/or Section: East **Cascades**

Life Form: 4

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMUL* US

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Lithic **substrate (basalt)**

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Canyon walls
2. Overhangs
3. Cave entrances/ceilings
4. Rock **roadcuts** (rare)

Applies Seasonally? No

2. Dependable moisture source

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Heavy winter precipitation/springtime percolation
2. Perched water tables/seeps/springs
3. Trickling summer runoff from thunderstorms
4. Condensation

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Winter, spring, and summer

3. Suitably dark/moist microsites for vegetative propagule establishment

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Deep fractures and fissures in basalt
2. Hollowed niches in shallow caves or overhangs

Applies Seasonally? No

4. Elevation

Suitable Categories (Continuous):

1. **50-1200** meters

Applies Seasonally? No

Key **Ecological** Functions (*Mimulus jungermannioides*):

1. Dominant plant in unique, **mesic** cliff community of algae, bryophytes, and other vascular plants in an otherwise **xeric** environment
2. Decayed plants provide nutrients and organic matter for soil buildup
3. Provides pollen for foraging colonies of native bees

Threats (**Indicate High, Medium, or Low**):

Change in Fire Regimes - Low

Grazing - **Low**

Mining - Low

Exotics - Low

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - Medium (road construction along I-84 and other local roads and highways may impact some populations)

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Others - Hybridization and possible introgression with the weedy native *Mimulus floribundus* believed occurring in several populations (Medium); lowering of water table (medium)

### Key Assumptions:

This information is based on Oregon populations.

### Dispersal:

Pollinators - Small native bees (although vegetative reproduction predominates)

Dispersal Mode - Wind and gravity for seeds; **stoloniferous** runners and turions

Requirements for Dispersal - For turions: darkened, moist crevices for rooting

### Trend:

Populations have remained stable over the previous decade (this is based on casual observations of most populations at least three or four times in the last ten years)

### Key Unknowns and Monitoring or **Research** Needs:

Important from a biodiversity perspective is understanding the extent of genetic diversification that has arisen between isolated populations of this unique species. The extent and nature of potential hybridization would also be valuable knowledge.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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**Species:** *Mimulus latidens*

Province and/or Section: **Owyhee/southeast** Oregon

Life Form: 5

### Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Ample winter/spring moisture for germination  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Winter snowpack
  2. Spring/winter thunderstorms (pooled precipitation)Applies Seasonally? Yes  
Which Seasons? Winter and spring
2. Interactions with exotic species  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Weedy annual grasses and other species
  2. LivestockApplies Seasonally? Yes  
Which Seasons? Spring, summer, and fall
3. Elevation  
Suitable Categories (Continuous):
  1. Ca. 1700 metersApplies Seasonally? No
4. Habitat  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

1. Vernal depressions
  2. Sagebrush-dominated
- Applies Seasonally? No

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus latidens*):

1. Primary producer in sagebrush vernal pool habitat
2. Provides seeds and foliage for phytophagous insects

Threats (*Indicate High, Medium, or Low*):

Change in Fire Regimes - **Low**

Grazing - Medium

Mining - Low

Exotics - High

Development - **Low**

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - Low

Others - Drainage or any other alteration impacting water retention of substrate at the site where the **only** population of this species in the **CRB** occurs

Key Assumptions:

This information is based on a single population within the CRB; the species is scattered throughout much of California at lower elevations.

Dispersal:

Pollinators - None needed (species autogamous)

Dispersal Mode - Seeds retained in an inflated fruiting **calyx and** scattered over time as dried plants shake in the wind (seeds locally dispersed by wind and water)

Requirements for Dispersal - Wind and/or local flowing water

Trend:

Unknown; there are no demographic studies of this species in progress.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Further inventory may reveal **additional** populations of this oddity in southeast Oregon. How and why it came to be in Lake County, and how it has managed to persist in what is a vastly different habitat/climate than the rest of the species experiences in California, are interesting questions.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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species: *Mimulus patulus*

Province and/or Section: **Wallowas**

L i f e F o r m : 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. **Substrate (basalt-based)**

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Thin-soiled scab
2. Cliffs, cliff bases

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

3. Lithic runoff channels

**Applies** Seasonally? No

2. Suitable winter/vernal moisture

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Winter **snowmelt**

2. Perched watertables, seeps, springs

3. Vernal wet, thin-soiled basins that support shallow pools

4. Early season thunderstorms

**Applies** Seasonally? Yes

**Which** Seasons? Winter and spring

3. Possible mutualisms

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Populations commonly co-occur with *Nostoc* (blue-green alga)

**Applies** Seasonally? Yes

**Which** Seasons? Spring and summer

4. Interactions with exotic species

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. **Annual**, weedy grasses and other species

2. Livestock

**Applies** Seasonally? Yes

**Which** Seasons? Spring, summer, and fall

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus patulus*):

1. Provides foliage and seeds for phytophagous insects

2. Primary producer in vernal wet basalt sites

3. Part of unique vernal community restricted primarily to seeps within bunchgrass-steppe

Threats (**Indicate** High, Medium, or Low):

Change in Fire Regimes - Medium

Grazing - High

Mining - Low

Exotics - High

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - Low

Others - Lowering of perched water tables or other restrictions on water (Medium)

Key Assumptions:

Based on occurrences outside of Hell's Canyon, where historic sites are inundated. This species is not listed in the floras except in synonymy; it is recognized as distinct from *M. wushingronensis* based on comparative greenhouse studies (Meinke, 1991).

Dispersal:

Pollinators - Not needed; species strictly autogamous

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Dispersal Mode - Locally via wind and trickling water; possibly perennial streams and/or rivers (certainly this was a means of dispersal for historic populations)

Requirements for Dispersal - See above

T r e n d :

There are no population monitoring plans underway for this species; casual observations and recent surveys suggest the species is more common than previously thought, but that populations are tiny, apparently hemmed in by exotic weeds.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Additional field inventory to ascertain extent of populations in **Wallowa** County, Oregon. Also, an understanding of the possible relationship between this species and blue-green algae colonies (see Meinke, 1993) might be instructive, as well as its ability to compete .

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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species: *Mimulus pulsiferae*

Province and/or Section: **East Cascades**

Life Form: 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Dependable winter/vernal moisture source

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Shallow drainage basins
2. Melting snowpack
3. Runoff channels/thundershowers
4. Roadside ditches (gravel/dirt roads)

Applies Seasonally? Yes

**Which Seasons?** Winter, spring, and summer

2. Volcanic soils (basalt origin)

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Coarse sandy-loam
2. Pumice
3. Basalt gravels

Applies Seasonally? No

3. Open microsites

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Forest **gaps/treefall** disturbance
2. Slumps/slides
3. **Roadcuts/ditch** banks
4. Exposed washes (late spring/summer dry)

Applies Seasonally? No

4. Effective pollinators

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

1. Small native bees
  2. Hovering **beeflies**
- Applies Seasonally? Yes  
**Which** Seasons? Spring and summer

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus pulsiferae*):

1. Provides nectar and pollen for **beeflies** and native **bee fauna**
2. Primary producer in dry forest spring annual community
3. Provides resources for phytophagous insects

Threats (**Indicate High, Medium, or Low**):

- Change in Fire Regimes - Medium
- Grazing - Medium
- Mining - Low
- Exotics - Medium
- Development - Low
- Timber Harvest - Low
- Roads (explain) - Low
- Others -

Key Assumptions:

This is based on the species distribution within the **CRB** — populations occurring in California, especially the Sierra Nevada, have different habitat requirements (including a preference for granitic-based substrates).

Dispersal:

- Pollinators - Small native bees (ground-nesting solitary species); **beeflies**; **autogamy**
- Dispersal Mode - Wind-dispersed; water
- Requirements for Dispersal - **Running** water after seeds are dispersed

Trend:

There are no studies in progress or completed that examine the demography of this species. Casual observation of selected populations in Oregon over the 'last decade show the species to fluctuate annually in population size, but with a generally stable trend.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

The degree to which the species self-pollinates and outcrosses; possible mycorrhizal associations.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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**Species:** *Mimulus pygmaeus*

Province and/or Section: East Cascades Life Form: 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Associate shrub cover
- Suitable Categories (Categorical):
1. Silver sage dominated

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

2. Low sage dominated
  3. Meadow/sage flats ecotone
- Applies Seasonally? No

2. Dependable source of winter/vernal precipitation for optimal germination

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Above average snowfall
2. Heavy late winter/early spring rains
3. Condensation
4. Shorelines/streambanks

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which **Seasons?** Winter and spring

3. Interactions with exotic species

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Weedy annual grasses and other species
2. Livestock

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Spring **and** summer

4. Open sites for colonization

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. **Scabland** flats
2. Gaps within sagebrush shrub-steppe
3. **Cutbanks** and slumps
4. Gopher and ant mounds (rare)

Applies Seasonally? No

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus pygmaeus*):

1. Provides seeds and foliage to insect foragers and predators
2. Primary producer in vernal annual litter layer along low-silver sage-meadow ecotone

Threats (**Indicate High, Medium, or Low**):

Change in Fire Regimes - Medium

Grazing - Low

Mining - Low

Exotics - Medium

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - **Low**

Key Assumptions:

This information is based on the distribution of the species in the CRB. It also occurs south well into California, in somewhat different habitats on the east flank of the northern Sierra Nevada.

Dispersal:

Pollinators - None needed; the species is highly autogamous

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMUL US*

Dispersal Mode - Water; wind

Requirements for Dispersal - Flowing water; capsules require water to dehisce

Trend:

No demographic studies are available for this species; population numbers (above ground) fluctuate widely from very low in most years, to countless millions **after** especially wet winters (such as 1993). *Mimulus pygmaeus* is probably stable.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Additional field inventory after a second wet winter (perhaps in 1995) should be conducted to corroborate population numbers in 1993; status can be reevaluated at that time.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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**Species:** *Mimulus suksdorfii*

Province **and/or** Section: All

Life Form: 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Ample winter/spring moisture for germination/establishment

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Winter snowpack
2. Spring/summer thundershowers
3. Pooled precipitation
4. Runoff channels

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Winter, spring, and summer

2. Well-drained substrate

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Coarse **basalt** gravels/sands
2. **Decomposed granodiorites/granites**
3. Various coarse sandy loams

Applies Seasonally? No

3. Open sites for establishment

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Shrub gaps in **sagebrush/bitterbrush/mt. mahogany**-steppe
2. Forest gaps
3. Treefalls
4. **Slides/slumps/cutbanks**

Applies Seasonally? No

4. Interactions with exotic species

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Competition **with** annual weedy grasses and other species
2. Consumption **by** livestock

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Applies **Seasonally?** Yes

**Which** Seasons? Spring and summer

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus suksdorfii*):

1. Provides seed and foliage for phytophagous insects
2. Primary producer in litter layer of forest/steppe annual community

Threats (**Indicate High, Medium, or Low**):

Change in Fire Regimes - **Low**

Grazing - Low

Mining - **Low**

Exotics - **Low**

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - Low

Key Assumptions:

Species is not sensitive throughout most of **CRB**; only in Washington.

Dispersal:

Pollinators - Probably none required; plants have floral morphology that implies high rates of **autogamy**

Dispersal Mode - Wind; possibly seed foraging insects such as ants

Requirements for Dispersal - See above

T r e n d :

Unknown; presumably stable since the species is rather common throughout much of the **CRB**.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

None

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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**Species:** *Mimulus tricolor*

Province and/or Section: East Cascades

Life Form: 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Sufficient winter/vernal/summer precipitation for germination and establishment

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Above average snowpack
2. Spring thundershowers/rain
3. High rivers/streams from winter runoff
4. Consistent summer thunderstorms

Applies Seasonally? **Yes**

Which Seasons? Winter **and** spring

2. Interactions with exotic species

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

**MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS***

1. Livestock
2. Annual weedy grasses and other species  
Applies Seasonally? Yes  
Which Seasons? Summer
3. Substrate/topography adequate for maintaining populations  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Vernal pools
  2. Pond/river margins
  3. River **oxbows**
  4. Drainage ditchesApplies Seasonally? No
4. Effective pollinators  
Suitable Categories (Categorical):
  1. Small to medium-sized solitary or semi-solitary native bees
  2. Bumblebees
  3. **Beeflies**Applies Seasonally? Yes  
Which Seasons? Spring and summer

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus* tricolor):

1. Primary producer in vernal pool/flooded riverside **annual** community
2. Provides food resources for insect pollinators
- 3.. Provides food resources for phytophagous insects and rodents

Threats (**Indicate High, Medium, or Low**):

Change in Fire Regimes - Low

Grazing - High

Mining - Low

Exotics - High

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (explain) - Low

Others - Loss of pollinator habitat for this principally outcrossed spring species, a potential problem where cattle use is moderate to high (Medium)

Key Assumptions:

Based on information for the species in the CRB (at the edge of it's geographic range); *M. tricolor* is common in cismontane California and occasional in western Oregon, in low elevation vernal pools and **swales**.

Dispersal:

Pollinators - Small to medium native bees; bumblebees; **beeflies**

Dispersal Mode - Water; capsules must be soaked in order to dehisce

Requirements for Dispersal - Running streams, rivers; flooded fields

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Trend:

In the CRB *Mimulus tricolor* may be declining, but there are no data to back this up. The habitat is marginal, at best, for the species and has been heavily used by cattle in some areas. Recent changes in management direction for these sites may stabilize and/or increase populations.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Additional inventory in vernal **swales** and pools in Lake and Klamath counties.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

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**Species:** *Mimulus washingtonensis*

Province and/or **Section:** East Cascades

**Life Form:** 5

Key Environmental Correlates:

1. Well-drained basalt substrate

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Exposed bedrock and shelves
2. Thin-soiled, barren gravelly slopes
3. Lithic drainage and runoff channels
4. **Edges** of rock streambanks

Applies Seasonally? No

2. Effective pollinators

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Small semi-social native bees
2. Bumblebees (rare)
3. Syrphid flies
4. Sphinx moths

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Spring and summer

3. Ample winter/vernal precipitation for optimal germination and establishment

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Above average winter snowpack
2. Heavy spring rains
3. **Precipitation** remaining pooled for *several* weeks in drainage **channels**
4. Flowing seeps and springs

Applies Seasonally? Yes

Which Seasons? Winter and spring

4. Possible mutualism with blue-green algae

Suitable Categories (Categorical):

1. Presence of nitrogen-fixing *Nostoc commune* in wet substrate within *Mimulus washingtonensis* colonies

Applies Seasonally? Yes

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

Which **Seasons?** Spring and summer

Key Ecological Functions (*Mimulus washingtonensis*):

1. Provides food resources to a wide array of insect pollinators
2. Provides seed and foliage tissue to phytophagous insects
3. Possible mutualism with blue-green algae colonies

Threats (Indicate High, **Medium**, or Low):

Change in Fire Regimes - Low

**Grazing** - Medium

Mining - Low

Exotics - Medium

Development - Low

Timber Harvest - Low

Roads (**explain**) - Low

Others - Competition for pollinators with similar-appearing allopatric species (mainly *Mimulus guttatus*) (Medium)

Comments:

This **taxon** is often cited as *Mimulus washingtonensis* var. (or subsp.) *washingtonensis*, although this name is not yet formally published (it only comes into existence when *M. ampliatus* is formally made an **infraspecific taxon** within *M. washingtonensis*) – see Meinke (1991).

Dispersal:

Pollinators - Native bees; syrphid flies; bumblebees; sphinx moths

Dispersal Mode - Seeds scattered by the wind; dispersed locally (and potentially long distances) by water

Requirements for Dispersal - Running water

Trend:

The 1993 field season demonstrated that in wet years this species can be very prolific locally. Formal demographic data have not been collected, but there seems consensus among field workers that the species is at least stable.

Key Unknowns and Monitoring or Research Needs:

Further inventory after a second wet winter would be useful in corroborating the 1993 season, and would **be** valuable in reassessing the status of this endemic.

Degree of Confidence in Knowledge of Species: High

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

7. Special Habitats

Table 3. Summary Information on Special Habitat Requirements for Selected Species of *Mimulus* in the CRB. [*The special habitats described below, if located and preserved or restored, would greatly enhance the potential conservation of these taxa.*]

<i>Taxon</i>	<i>Habitat Description</i>
<i>Mimulus ampliatus</i> (= <i>M. washingtonensis</i> subsp. <i>ampliatus</i> )	This species prefers vernal depressions or basalt seeps within bunchgrass and shrub-steppe in western Idaho, free of exotic weeds and livestock grazing; such sites are essentially non-existent now within the range of this <b>taxon</b> , except for cliffs or steep basalt bluffs where cattle and sheep have historically been excluded
<i>Mimulus evanescens</i>	Pristine stream or riverbanks (and sandy riparian sites in general) are the apparently preferred habitats for this species, as well as drying streambeds, margins of ponds or lakes, or significant vernal depressions within the <b>sagebrush</b> -steppe of the lower CRB and adjacent northern Great Basin; such habitats were obviously common in the past, but virtually <b>all</b> have been moderately to severely impacted by open range livestock grazing promulgated by the BLM -- ungrazed sites are now extremely infrequent within this geographic area; the restoration of habitat for <i>M. evanescens</i> may be possible if cattle are excluded from sites through <b>exclosures</b> -- however, restoring annual species in highly impacted areas is very problematic

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<p><i>Mimulus hymenophyllus</i></p>	<p>This cliff endemic frequents fractured basalt cliffs with annual seepage, within a matrix of mixed coniferous forest and xeric bunchgrass steppe; the forest, its understory of <b>mesic</b> forbs and shrubs, and the associated herb communities on the cliff faces are all maintained by cold air drainage from the uplands forming the northeast <b>flank</b> of the <b>Wallowa</b> Mountains; as long as logging does not take place in these drainages, little needs to be done to maintain these habitats in an essentially undisturbed state due to their isolated location and vertical orientation</p>
<p><i>Mimulus jungermannioides</i></p>	<p>This cliff obligate is also restricted to fractured basalt cliffs with annual seepage, adjacent to riparian vegetation of major rivers and tributaries, but within a matrix of xeric bunchgrass and shrub steppe (no coniferous forest); not all population sites for the species fit this habitat description, but the majority of known localities do -- unspoiled examples of this habitat are extremely uncommon due to destruction via road building in canyons, and deterioration of riparian conditions due to grazing by domestic livestock in the upper <b>CRB</b> of Oregon; fortunately, populations of this species seem to be resilient to moderate levels of disturbance, as long as the natural hydrology is maintained and cliffs are not disturbed</p>

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<p><i>Mimulus patulus</i></p>	<p>This species prefers vernal basalt seeps, wet depressions, or moist slopes around springs, within the bunchgrass and shrub-steppe in eastern <b>Wallowa</b> County, Oregon, free of exotic weeds and livestock grazing; such sites are essentially nonexistent now, except for seep zones on steep bluffs or rocky outcrops where cattle and sheep have historically been excluded -- generally, if there is any consistent soil moisture, the increase in local vegetative cover will attract livestock</p>
<p><i>Mimulus washingtonensis</i></p>	<p>This annual occurs chiefly on vernal basalt seeps, shallow-soiled runoff channels, or vernal moist basalt gravel slopes, within the ponderosa forest and shrub-steppe in east-central Oregon, free of livestock grazing, with intact cryptogamic crusts containing healthy cyanobacteria populations and thriving native bee colonies; such areas are easily disturbed -- although grazing is not yet a major threat on all sites for the species, cattle trailing and accompanying substrate disturbances potentially disrupt important soil organisms and impact pollinators, with as yet unknown consequences</p>

**8.** Range Maps for *Mimulus* species in the CRB

Maps for the species covered in this report are provided separately, using registered mylar overlays and a base map of the CRB provided by the U.S. Forest Service.

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

9. **Conclusions:** Issues for Analysis, Potentially Important Unavailable Data, and Areas of Future Research Concentration

***Objectives of the EEMP include:***

- assessing general species trends (including historic, current, and potential future trends under various management schemes);
- analyzing the distribution and abundance of species in relation to potential viability effects under a range of planning alternatives; and
- assessing how changes in species will affect the environment.

A major problem faced by the EEMP is that these objectives are largely unobtainable for the vast majority of **taxa in the CRB**, even **those** such as ***Mimulus*** for which considerable information is available. You simply cannot predict demography, distribution, abundance, or effects of population changes without a reasonable base of **biological** information. Unfortunately, except for a handful of economically important species, there are virtually no relevant biological data on the majority of species (plants or animals) being evaluated by **EEMP** panels and experts.

Vascular plants, arguably the most studied groups of organisms on public lands after major vertebrate species and pathogenic forest fungi, provide a good gauge of where we are in terms of biological knowledge of our native biota. Outside of a few timber species, the handful of shrubs or grasses important for grazers or browsers, and the odd taxonomic group studied by an academic botanist, we are basically ignorant of the life history traits and biotic interactions of an estimated 95% or more of our indigenous **taxa**. This includes the great majority of sensitive and listed plant species that increasingly affect management actions on Forest Service and BLM lands. If these agencies are required to develop credible models that forecast the fate of species and ecosystems under different management scenarios, then a greater commitment is needed in gathering relevant biological information.

One important issue to consider is that of **species trends**. What precisely does this mean? Presumably it refers to demographic projections through time and space for species and/or populations. Yet only a handful of species (rare or otherwise) have monitoring studies in place that are generating the type of year-to-year data that can be analyzed to reasonably predict population direction. And for which species are there reliable pools of information regarding **historic** trends? Most of this is guesswork, which reduces any model's accuracy. With long-range prediction being a major goal of this exercise, panelists feel obligated to come to some conclusion concerning the "trends" of

## MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

the species they are reviewing, but in general this will be based on gut instinct rather than empirical data.

Another interesting issue relates to the desire to anticipate distribution and abundance of **taxa** under various planning alternatives (in terms of “potential viability effects”). However, this cannot be accomplished for species lacking documentation of important life history characteristics, specific habitat requirements, and relevant biotic interactions. Other than basic life form (annual, perennial, etc.), information on only two aspects of vascular plant life history is explicitly requested of panelists and experts for the **EEMP** database, i.e., pollinators and dispersal mechanisms (the latter not distinguished between seed and pollen dispersal), both of which are unlikely to be known about most **taxa**. Important traits *not* specifically requested (although they could, of course, be designated *as Key Environmental Correlates* if the panelist so chose) include **seed biology** (germination requirements and responses, presence or absence of soil seed banks, seed longevity); **breeding system** (this is much more than just knowing the “pollinators” -- is the species genetically self-compatible? Do flowers actually require insects to achieve optimal **set seed**? Are there specific pollinators required, or are all floral visitors effective at pollination? What habitat requirements might *these* insect have); **ability to reproduce vegetatively** (is this apt to be enhanced or suppressed under particular disturbance regimes?); **presence and rates of predation** (pre- and post-dispersal seed predation, flower and foliage predation); and **responses to competition** (especially from the exotic annuals that dominate much of the landscape in the CRB). Obviously, the majority of the above traits will not be known for **most** species, either -- however, if pollinators and dispersal ability were singled out on EEMP forms, then some of these might also have been included, to encourage panelists to think along **the** same lines.

**In *Mimulus***, there is a need to establish monitoring protocols for particularly rare or vulnerable species. This is not a straightforward procedure since most of these are annuals, notoriously difficult to monitor accurately from year to year without incorporating data on the below ground individuals in the population (Le., the dormant seed pool). In lieu of a genus-wide demographic study in the CRB (impractical at best), representative species could be selected from a range of life histories (e.g., annual with non-dormant seeds, annual with dormant seeds, perennial, obligate cliff species, species with vegetative reproduction, etc.) and monitored over time. In addition, a set of the most important species (these could be the most sensitive, most typical, or whatever) could be studied with the goal of further substantiating some of the important life history information described in this section. This approach may also be worth considering for other selected major genera in the CRB that presently lack any substantive biological information. Constructing a model based on a handful of well-studied species may be

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

more desirable than fitting one using data from a large number of poorly understood **taxa**. Finally, inventory for several monkeyflower species is still incomplete, and a number of **areas** within the CRB are still underexplored botanically. The following table suggests areas where important data are lacking for specific *Mimulus taxa* in the CRB.

Table 4. Research *Needs* for *Mimulus* Species in the CRB.

<i>Taxon</i>	<i>Data or Research Needs</i>
<p><i>Mimulus ampliatus</i> (= <i>M. washingtonensis</i> subsp. <i>ampliatus</i>)</p>	<p>Additional inventory (concentrating in Idaho and in eastern <b>Wallowa</b> County, Oregon), monitoring plan, possible competition problems, potential dependency on particular pollinators, breeding system (genetic compatibility and <b>inbreeding</b> depression), seed biology and germination requirements (dormant versus non-dormant), and the potential for seed bank development are all important considerations for this imperfectly known and very local <b>taxon</b> (thought extinct until only a few years ago). [<i>Mimulus ampliatus is ostensibly closely related to M. washingtonensis from the John Day River area in east-central Oregon (Meinke, 1991). It would be worth comparing the biology of this taxon with that of the John Day River entity, for which a good &amp;al of ecological information is already available. It might also be valuable to assess the taxonomic relationships of M. ampliatus using techniques other than morphologic comparisons, to further evaluate its uniqueness.</i>]</p>

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<p><i>Mimulus clivicola</i></p>	<p>Additional information on the <b>taxon's</b> distribution in Oregon and Washington (but not in Idaho) is needed, as are data on seed germination, seed bank size, pollinator type and their vulnerability to disturbance, and selfing rates in nature. The potential role of ants in the local distribution of seeds would make interesting study.</p>
<p><i>Mimulus evanescens</i></p>	<p><b>This</b> newly discovered annual species (published in 1995) is <b>in critical</b> need of inventory across the southern CRB, especially on BLM properties -- only one extant population is known in the CRB, and only two globally (the other in <b>nearby</b> California). <b>Areas</b> of focus should include Lake, Hamey, and Malheur counties, Oregon, and adjacent Owyhee County, Idaho. Additional studies are also needed on basic seed biology (augmenting the greenhouse work at <b>OSU</b>), and the ability of populations to persist over time at a given site. Data on competitive abilities in relation to disturbance and the proliferation of exotic-grasses would be valuable information. Vulnerability of the species to flower and seed predators would also be worth investigating. Cryogenic seed banking of existing populations (at the Berry Botanic Garden) is recommended, as new sites for the species are located.</p>

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<p><i>Mimulus hymenophyllus</i></p>	<p>Although this cliff species is fairly secure, due to its very isolated habitat and distribution, further inventory is warranted. If this results in the discovery of enough additional populations in the remote Snake River country of <b>Wallowa</b> County (and perhaps Idaho and/or adjacent Washington), the species may need to be removed from the sensitive and candidate lists at both the state and federal levels. Genetic studies of this very unusual endemic would help in establishing its level of uniqueness <b>with</b> the genus. Information on pollinator abundance and the species' <b>dependance</b> on insect visitors in the field is mostly lacking. Cryogenic storage of seeds of this species (at the Berry Botanic Garden) is recommended, considering it's extremely narrow distribution.</p>
<p><i>Mimulus jepsonii</i></p>	<p>Monitoring studies of several populations of this annual (initiated in 1994 for the Umpqua National Forest) should be continued annually if possible, or at least every three years. Further evaluation of the role disturbance plays in the ecology of this species may be valuable in future assessments of its status in the CRB. The extent to which ants play a role in seed dispersal may also be worth investigating.</p>

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<p><i>Mimulus jungermannioides</i></p>	<p>Continued studies on the genetic variation between populations of this unique clonal endemic are needed (expected to be supported by BLM in <b>1995</b>). Further studies on the role of sexual reproduction in population maintenance would also be valuable, and is planned for 1996. Cryogenic <b>seed</b> banking of various'populations (to be prioritized after genetic studies) is recommended. A monitoring plan for selected populations on public lands should be initiated, to keep track of population growth or decline in relation to available water from seeps. The possibility and extent of hybridization with the common species <i>M. floribundus</i> also needs further investigation -- steps may need to be taken to eradicate the latter <b>common</b> species in any sympatric populations.</p>
<p><i>Mimulus latidens</i></p>	<p>This extremely rare peripheral disjunct is a curious species that merits additional inventory in Lake County, Oregon. Artificial seed banking of the Oregon population is recommended considering the unique biogeographic aspects of this highly allopatric occurrence. Taxonomic and genetic comparisons with the rest of the species in California may be instructive.</p>

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<i>Mimulus patulus</i>	Recent studies have shown this species to be more common than once believed; further inventory (including areas of nearby Washington and Idaho) would be useful, and may result in a status re-evaluation if new populations continue to be found. The ability of this annual species to withstand competition with other species, especially weedy introductions and aggressive, ecotypes of <i>M. guttatus</i> , needs investigation. Cryogenic seed storage is recommended for a minimum of five populations.
<i>Mimulus pulsiferae</i>	Further inventory in Washington is needed.
<i>Mimulus pygmaeus</i>	Additional inventory in a reasonably good field year should reveal enough about population size and distribution to substantiate a 1993 recommendation to remove this species from the federal candidate list. Subsequently, sites known to have robust populations should be loosely monitored after each future above-average winter (in terms of precipitation).
<i>Mimulus suksdorfii</i>	Further inventory in Washington is needed.
<i>Mimulus tricolor</i>	Additional inventory east of the Cascades in the southern CRB is required. Populations from the east side need to be artificially seed banked, as they may represent a unique ecotype.

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

<i>Mimulus washingtonensis</i>	This is a comparatively well-studied species. Various populations should be artificially seed banked to record the genetic variation that may exist between different sites. Vulnerability of pollinators <b>may</b> also need additional study. Sites known to have robust populations should be loosely monitored after each future above-average winter (in terms of precipitation).
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10. Assumptions

A final word about assumptions and disclaimers relating to the development of this report. It was generally assumed that data records and reports supplied by state Natural Heritage data bases, herbaria, and other sources are accurate -- where there were reasonable doubts the information was not used. It is also assumed **that** in some cases, it was acceptable (and necessary) for the author to use best judgement and past experience with related species in developing narratives, dealing with habitat, aspects of species biology, and (especially) species “trends” and cover associations. Insects listed as “Pollinators,” for example, are in most cases only confirmed as floral visitors, with experience with related pollination systems suggesting that they are almost certainly effective at pollen transfer and fertilization. Inferences are also made regarding the various presumed “Threats” to species, when hard evidence is lacking but experience suggests that certain land actions do pose a probable hazard. There simply is not very much useful information on most of these species (or many others in our flora, for that matter) in reports or publications that can be readily incorporated into the format specified for the EEMP. Even where previously written material exists, it is virtually always lacking significant information on the biology or habitats of species.

The current vegetation map of the CRB (supplied by the Forest Service) was of minimal value in this project, due to the considerable scale limitations and legend inconsistencies. Here are two (among several) examples of the latter: (1) Vast acreage in southeastern Oregon and northern Nevada are coded bright yellow on the map, yet there is no yellow whatsoever in the legend (i.e., color key) for the SAF or SRM cover types. The yellow is associated with what appears to be Salt Desert Shrub vegetation, but

**MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS***

the significance of this is not clear. (2) Also in the legend, a non-descript shade of burnt orange is used to denote the Wheatgrass-Needlegrass, Wyoming Big Sagebrush, **and** Valley Grassland cover types. Although there may, in fact, be subtle differences between the various burnt oranges on the map, there is no way the average human eye can readily distinguish them (even with a hand lens). This is unfortunate, since burnt orange is the dominant map color in eastern Oregon and southern Idaho.

While some of the information presented here is compiled in various reports and papers (and cited herein), much is not (as alluded to above). Where statements are not attributed to a source, it is to be understood that they represent unpublished observations of the author. It is also understood that information from sources other than the author's papers, reports, unpublished work, and observations shall be appropriately and reasonably cited once or more in the text. Any omission of credit or lack of citation for any facts or conclusions presented herein is purely unintentional.

MEINKE: EASTSIDE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT: *MIMULUS*

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