

## WINKLER CACTUS



Proposed for listing as endangered in 1993, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the Winkler cactus five years later as threatened. The species is subject to a draft recovery plan dated 1995, but the Service has provided no recovery funds, and no recovery work is under way. Intermittent survey work is performed by the Interagency Rare Plant team, a partnership with the Bureau of Land Management, Fishlake National Forest and Capitol Reef National Park. The Interagency Rare Plant team work is largely supported by seasonal federal salaries, which are at risk of being terminated by budget cuts.

The Winkler cactus grows only an inch or two tall and, from late March to May, produces peach- to pink-colored flowers large enough to overshadow the plant. Main threats include off-highway vehicle use, domestic livestock, mineral development and collection. Funding is needed to complete a recovery plan and undertake recovery actions, such as determining biological and ecological factors controlling the species distribution and abundance, as well as analyzing off-highway vehicle use, updating locations with global positioning system devices and promoting land planning to design low- or zero-impact designated trails.

Funding from all federal sources in fiscal year 2004 stood at \$9,700, ranking the species 780th among 1,311 listed species.