

IDENTIFICATION: Mohr's Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia mohrii*) is a member of the Asteraceae family and was listed as a [threatened species on 9-7-1988](#). It is a perennial herb with erect stems that may reach a height of 2 feet or more. The flowers range in color from white, to pale pink or lavender and bloom in a branched arrangement during May and June. The plant grows in moist to wet openings in woodlands and along shale-bedded streams. Some populations are located in swales on rights-of-ways. Soils are typically sandy, alkaline clays high in organic matter and seasonally wet.



It often grows in association with grasses and sedges, and prefers full sunlight or partial shade. [Alabama leather flower](#) (*Clematis socialis*) and [green pitcher plants](#) (*Sarracenia oreophila*), both endangered species, occur at two sites alongside Mohr's Barbara's Button. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with the Alabama Department of Transportation to protect sites on rights-of-ways. Threats to this species on private lands include conversion of habitat to improved pastureland through drainage, seeding with forage grasses or plowing and discing. No critical habitat was designated at the time of listing due to increased risks of vandalism and collection if exact locations of populations were published.

FORESTRY CONSIDERATIONS: This plant can probably tolerate light thinnings. Mechanical site prep and clearcutting could be very damaging to this plant, as would some herbicides. Occasional prescribed fire to reduce woody encroachment is beneficial in maintaining habitat at the appropriate successional stage. Mowing during flowering is discouraged. Care should be taken so as not to disturb the hydrology of the site.

DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTY: Known in Bibb, Cherokee, Calhoun and Etowah counties in Alabama. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service believes it may also occur in Blount, Chilton, Cleburne, Cullman, Fayette, Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair, Talladega, Tuscaloosa, Walker and Winston counties.

Photo Credit: David M. Frings, MSEM



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