

Alaska Rein Orchid

(*Platanthera foetida* = *Piperia unalascensis*)

- The Alaska Rein Orchid is a very slender, white-flowered, perennial orchid. It is 15-70 cm tall.
- In Newfoundland, this orchid develops flowers by early August.
- Seeds of this plant require a mycorrhizal fungus association in order to germinate.



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Provincial Distribution



Habitat/ Range

This orchid can be found in damp or dry, moss-dominated, open areas of coniferous and mixed evergreen forests. This species has been recorded in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, and Québec, as well as the United States. It is known in Newfoundland and Labrador in only one small population near Eddies Cove West.

Population Trends

A recent survey found approximately 100 mature, flowering individuals. Population trends are unknown.

Limiting Factors and Threats

This species may be collected by orchid hunters, either for personal cultivation or for sale.

Special Significance

This orchid is a western North American Cordilleran species. The population on the island of Newfoundland is disjunct (separated) from the majority of the species' range.

You can help protect the Alaska Rein Orchid:

- Stop habitat destruction by keeping bikes, all-terrain vehicles and trucks out of bogs and fens.
- If you see a flower, take a picture instead of picking it.

Department of Environment & Conservation

Wildlife Division

Endangered Species & Biodiversity

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