## **Newfoundland & Labrador Species at Risk**

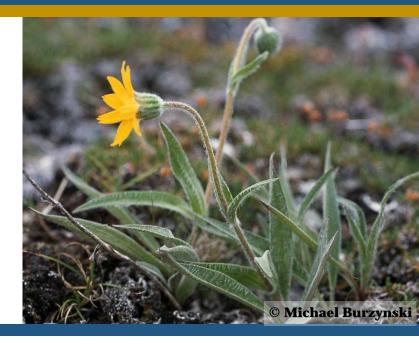
### **Status: Endangered**



# **Wooly Arnica**

(Arnica angustifolia subsp. tomentosa)

- The Wooly Arnica is a slow-growing, long-lived perennial aster.
- It produces a single bell-shaped yellow flowerhead borne 20 to 25 cm above the ground.
- Flowers open from mid-July to early August.
- Its leaves, stem, and the base of its flowerhead are densely covered with wooly white hairs.



#### **Provincial Distribution**



#### Habitat/ Range

The Wooly Arnica is found in western Canada and the northwestern United States, with a small disjunct population on the Island of Newfoundland. In this province, it grows in low heath vegetation at the edges of limestone barrens in Port au Choix, Cape St. George, St. Paul's Inlet, and historically on Table Mountain.

#### **Population Trends**

Population trends are unknown; however, estimates suggest the Port au Choix area supports 67 mature flowering individuals and that this constitutes the largest population of Wooly Arnica in the province. Populations are restricted in area and estimated to cover less than 36 km<sup>2</sup> in total.

#### **Limiting Factors and Threats**

Small isolated populations, restricted limestone habitat, and low seed production limit the Wooly Arnica's distribution and abundance. Other threats include climate change, quarrying, mineral exploration, ATV use, maintenance of roads and trails, flower picking, and trampling by hikers.

#### **Special Significance**

This showy plant has helped build interest in, and stewardship of, the unique limestone barrens of western Newfoundland.

#### You can help protect the Wooly Arnica:

- Stop habitat destruction by keeping all-terrain vehicles on approved trails.
- 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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