

### Bulletin of the

# NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

Dedicated to the enjoyment, conservation, and study of Oregon's native vegetation

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 11

November 1990

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# CHAPTER NEWS

### IMPORTANT NOTE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Field trips take place rain or shine, so proper dress and footwear are essential. Trips may be strenuous and/or hazardous. Please contact the trip leader for information about difficulty, mileage, and terrain. Participation is at your own risk. Bring water and lunch. All NPSO activities are open to the public at no charge (other than carpool mileage), and friends, newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

Notice to field trip chairs and leaders: The Forest Service and other Federal agencies have set policies limiting group size in wilderness areas to 12. The reason for this is to limit the human impact on these fragile areas. As we are often in the position of asking them to follow their rules and regulations for conservation of our natural resources, it's time for us to do the same. Each group using wilderness must be no larger than 12.

### Blue Mountain

5 Nov., Mon.

MEETING. 7:30pm in Room 148, Pioneer Hall, BMCC. Bring slides from your summer. Note change in date and place.

### Corvallis

12 Nov., Mon.

MEETING. 7:30pm at the Herbarium Library, Room 4081, Cordley Hall, Oregon State University. Our guest speaker is Boone Kaufmann speaking on "Maintaining and Restoring the Biological Diversity of Rangeland Ecosystems".

#### Emerald

12 Nov., Mon.

MEETING. 7:00pm at Westmoreland Community Center, 1545 W. 22nd. Ken and Robin Lodewick will present "Texas vs. Canada". Our local penstemon experts will compare the flowers of the two areas. Robin and ken know more about Penstemons than almost anybody! Come see their gorgeous slides and hear how they compare Texas with Canada.

18 Nov., Sun.

FIELD TRIP for mushrooms with Freeman Rowe. Bring basket, knife, paperbags and appropriate clothes. Leave from South Eugene High School at 8:30am. We will going to the Coast. For info, call Jenny Dimling (343-3242).

# High Desert

For information, call Bill Hopkins (388-7434).

### Mid-Columbia

7 Nov., Wed.

MEETING. 7:30pm at the Mosier School. Berta Youtie of The Nature Conservancy will present a program on GRASSES; the most significant nativer grasses of Eastern Oregon. Taxonomy keys will be used to identify physical specimens.

5 Dec., Wed.

MEETING. 7:30pm at the Mosier School. Jerry Igo will present his latest video production "Seasons in the Gorge".

### North Coast

8 Nov., Thurs.

MEETING. 7pm at the State Office Bldg., 3600 3rd St., Tillamook. We will have a guest speaker talk

about the Japanese beetle and the gypsy moth.

17 Nov., Sat.

FIELD TRIP. A walk on Bay Ocean Spit. Leave from the gate at 10am. For information call Al Krampert (842-2308).

#### Portland

3 Nov., Sat.

FIELD TRIP with special guest leader, Dr. Robert Pyle. A trip to the Cathlamet White Tail Deer Refuge to study riparian habitats: weeds vs. native plants. Leave 8am from the west side parking lot of Montgomery Park on NW Vaughn St. For more information call Elizabeth Handler (244-5320).

13 Nov., Tue.

MEETING. 7pm at First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Invite your friends to an evening with Dr. Geurrant from the Berry Botanic Garden. Dr. Geurrant will give a slide presentation on the Berry Garden and talk about the seed exchabnge program. For more info contact Tom Chereck Jr. (284-5156).

17 Nov., Sat.

Transplanting Party. We need to move about 200 Barrett's Penstemons for the second phase of the M.P. 68 restoration project on Interstate 84. Previous transplantings of this species have been high ly successful. The highway department will prepare the new site with loose gravel 18 inches deep. Based on past experience, the whole operation should be completed in less than 3 hours, then we can head for hot soup at Pietro's in Hood River. Bring tools for digging (ice axes and hand rakes are excel lent). Leave 9am from the 122nd and Sandy K-Mart parking lot. Othewise, come to the Mosier Interchange (M.P. 69 off I-84) anytime after 10am.

# Siskiyou

8 Nov., Thurs.

MEETING at 7:30pm in Room 171 of the Science Building at Southern Oregon State College. Barbara Williams will give a botanist's perspective of biodiversity in the Klamath National Forest of

California.

### South Coast

For information on formation of this pending chapter, contact Jim Curran (396-4939).

# Umpqua Valley

15 Nov., Thurs.

own

MEETING. 7pm, Indian Room, Campus Center Building, Umpqua Comunity College. Bring your slides of Douglas County natives. Short plant ID sketch plus field trip reports. Take exit 219 off I-5, 5 miles north of Roseburg.

17 Nov., Sat.

FIELD TRIP. Explore Douglas County's plant diversity. Meet 8am BLM parking lot, 777 Garden Valley Rd., Roseburg, for carpooling trip to Twin Lakes with stops at Colliding Rivers and Horseshoe Bend. Leader: Richard Sommer (673-3709).

### Willamette Valley

To hear about unscheduled mid-week trips to places near & far, call Clint Urey (581-1805) or Barbara Halliday (371-1025). 19 Nov., Mon.

MEETING. 7pm, Room 225, First United Methodist Church, corner of SE Church and State Sts., Salem (use the NE entrance on State St). David Dunlop will speak on Lane County's Roadside Vegetation Management Program, focusing on the variety of methods for dealing with vegetation on

roadway rights- of-way's in what may be the first such innovative program in the nation.

# William Cusick

For information, contact Karen Antell (963-0267).

# SAVING OREGON'S REDWOODS, PART III: RE-CREATING, RESTORING AND ENHANCING OREGON'S REDWOOD FORESTS

This is the third in a series of articles by me on Oregon's coast redwoods, Sequoia sempervirens. In my first piece, which appeared here in February of this year, I wrote that redwoods are our state's largest and one of our oldest species. I stated that when the white man arrived, Oregon and California had perhaps 4 million acres of redwood forests, but that this has now been reduced by logging to only about 160,000 acres with most of the remaining trees in California. In Oregon, only about 720 acres of redwoods are protected and the rest, 600 acres on the Winchuck River, were scheduled to be cut this year. I asked readers to write to the Siskiyou National Forest to protest plans to cut these trees, and to request that all remaining Oregon redwoods be saved.

My second redwood article appeared here in April of this year. In that article I urged Bulletin readers not to be lulled into thinking that Oregon redwood logging had been halted. I reported that redwoods were still being cut daily on Forest Service land in Curry County and that we would have to be very vigilant if we were to prevent the loss of the remaining stands on Bear Ridge and Peavine Ridge in the Winchuck drainage.

In my letters to Siskiyou National Forest, I asked to be kept informed of all decisions regarding redwoods on the Forest. Having heard nothing from them by June of this year, I decided to drive to Curry County to see the situation for myself.

Glen and I visited the Siskiyou National Forest on June 29 and 30 of this year. We saw clear evidence that redwoods were still being cut in June. On the Chetco and Winchuck roads, a good deal of fibrous red bark on the roadways was evidence that redwood logs were being hauled out. I feel quite certain that, outside the Brookings area, most Oregonians would be shocked to learn that the logging of redwoods was going on this spring and summer. I was informed by a local resident that these redwood logs were destined to be milled in California.

We camped at Loeb Park east of Brookings, and walked a mile up the Chetco to the Redwood Nature Trail. This pretty little hillside forest of mixed redwood and other species is lovely; however, it is touted in Forest Service press releases as "120 acres of redwoods." This, of course, is

not the case. Redwoods are scattered in thearea and cover only a small percentage of the total acreage. Nevertheless, the trees present are beautiful, and some young trees are present as well, and we can be grateful that even these few trees were saved here on the Chetco. As we walked from Loeb Park, it was obvious that we were walking through a former redwood forest which, from the size of the stumps, must have been truly magnificent. Unfortunately, today, not even a redwood seedling could be seen all along this stretch of the river. And, amazingly, at the Redwood Nature Trail area, I saw not one redwood seedling beyond the boundaries of the protected area. After logging, this area had all been replanted with Douglas fir.

We drove east to see Wheeler Creek Research Natural Area. In Forest Service news releases, this RNA is said to be 336 acres in size. It is located approximately 10 miles from the coast, and may be quite close to the limits of the species' range. Again, the 336 acres of the RNA are not entirely of redwoods. This is an area of high diversity, mixed forest. Some of the redwoods in the RNA are quite striking in appearance, but to claim this represents 336 acres of protected redwoods is an exaggeration. In addition, the most disturbing feature of the Wheeler Creek area to me is that the RNA sits as a virtual island in the midst of clearcuts and so-called "managed forests," and it is clear that when these mixed forests of redwoods and other species were cut, the clearcuts were replanted, not as the highly diverse mixed forests they originally were, but as Douglas fir monocultures. Ronald McCormick, Supervisor of Siskiyou National Forest wrote to me last January: "... to maintain redwoods as a part of a healthy ecosystem, we need to have all age classes: seedlings, juveniles, middle-aged trees and old growth." Do Bulletin readers wonder, as I do, how the Forest Service proposes to maintain all redwood age classes, when they do not replant with redwoods when redwoods are logged?

After hiking in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness Area, Glen and I drove south and then west along the Winchuck River. Between the Winchuck and the California border are Bear Ridge and Peavine Ridge where, in both mixed and pure stands, most of Oregon's finest remaining redwoods grow. Peavine Ridge is only about 3 miles from

the coast and is fog-shrouded enough that many of the redwoods are truly magnificent in size. Also, in the Peavine area some vigorous natural regeneration of redwoods is taking place. I was very cheered by this sight and feel, as a long-time botanist and ecologist, that on these ridges, every effort must be made to preserve all remaining redwoods. In addition, I feel strongly that, in the previously cut parts of the Winchuck drainage, managed areas should be replanted with both redwoods and Douglas fir so that these wonderful high diversity mixed stands can be maintained.

My real reason for writing this third article in my series, is to urge all Bulletin readers to write the Siskiyou National Forest and urge them to begin now to re-create, restore and enhance redwood forests and mixed redwood forests in previously logged parts of Curry County. If, for example, redwoods were reintroduced into the Loeb Park Area and along the lower Chetco and lower Winchuck Rivers now, redwood forests of respectable size could be enjoyed there within half a century. Along with the restoration and reintroduction of redwoods along these rivers, there could be reestablished the sort of riparian redwood ecosystems which still exist in a few places in California. Most particularly, wildflowers now extinct in Oregon, such as the lovely Clintonia andrewsiana, could be reestablished in Oregon.

I have already suggested to a representative of Oregon State Parks, that they begin to plant young redwoods at Loeb Park and environs, especially between the park and the Redwood Nature Trail area. One would hope that the city fathers of Brookings might begin a redwood planting campaign for their town. Tourism is obviously the wave of the future for this most attractive part of our coast, and in not too many years, I can envision Brookings calling itself "the Gateway to Oregon's Redwood Empire," and collecting tourist dollars from those folks who spill over from the California parks.

If you feel as I do that Oregon deserves to have restored to her the beautiful redwood forests which have been taken away through careless logging practices, please write to: Ronald J. McCormick, Forest Supervisor, Siskiyou National Forest, 200 NE Greenfield Road, PO Box 440, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526-0242.

Oregon Redwoods Forever!
Rhoda Love,
Emerald Chapter

### RARE PLANT CONFERENCE AGENDA 11/29 THROUGH 12/1 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, EUGENE ERB MEMORIAL UNION

Thursday (federal agencies only)

9:30 a.m. -- 12 Noon
Discussion of government botany
programs

12 Noon -- 1:30 p.m.
Lunch

1:30 p.m. -- 4:30 p.m.

Continuation of federal agency workshop

### Friday

8:30 a.m. -- 9:15 a.m.

Registration and coffee

9:15 a.m. -- 11:45 a.m.

Discussion of federal and state listed and candidate species

11:45 a.m. -- 1:00 p.m.

Lunch break

1:00 p.m. -- 4:45 p.m.

Continued discussion of state and federal species; discussion of other species (i.e., non-candidates) as time allows

4:45 p.m. -- 7:00 p.m.

Dinner (non-hosted)

7:00 p.m. -- 10:00 p.m.

NPSO board meeting

### Saturday

8:00 a.m. -- 8:30 a.m.

Coffee

8:30 a.m. -- 11:45 a.m.

Non-candidate species (continued from Friday)

11:45 a.m. -- 1:00 p.m.

Lunch break

1:00 p.m. -- 3:30 p.m.

Open discussion -- topics will include format of 1991 rare plant booklet, the listing process, etc.

# 1990 RARE PLANT CONFERENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON SECOND NOTICE

This is a reminder to the NPSO membership of the upcoming Rare Plant Conference to be held at the University of Oregon in Eugene on November 29 and 30, and December 1 (Thursday through Saturday) in the Erb Memorial Union. All NPSO members are invited and urged to attend, even if you do not happen to have specific information to offer on any of the species we are scheduled to review. The purpose of this biennial meeting is to give everyone an opportunity to come and hear about rare plant species, and to interact with the professionals and amateurs who manage and study these valuable natural resources.

The Conference will be similar to previous years, except that we have elected to provide more than a single day to discuss all the species on our various lists. On Thursday (November 29) there will be a pre-Conference meeting between public agency botanists to discuss government botany programs and agency sensitive species lists. On Friday morning we will begin the Conference in our traditional format, with everyone participating. To enhance the proceedings this year, we hope to have slides of many of the listed and candidate species to view as we progress through our discussion. We will focus on species with state and federal status on Friday, and then move on to non-candidate species Friday afternoon and finish up on Saturday. This should give us time for a relaxed general discussion on Saturday afternoon, something we have rarely had time for in the past due to the meeting being crowded into one day. If you have questions or concerns you would like to see addressed, this is the time to bring them up. We encourage NPSO members to participate in this discussion and to voice their opinions.

Rather than have a formal banquet on Friday night, as was hinted earlier, we will provide suggestions during the Conference concerning local dining establishments. There should be ample opportunity for groups to get together for informal socializing on both Thursday and Friday evenings.

As many of you may have noticed, we are asking for a \$5.00 registration fee from Conference participants this year. This is to defray costs of the 1991 version of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plants and Animals of Oregon (a copy of which will be sent to each registered conferee when it is completed next year), and to help with other incidental expenses associated with the meeting. Leftover money will be given to NPSO. You are of course welcome to donate more than \$5.00 when registering, with assurance that this money will go towards future rare and endangered plant work sponsored by NPSO. Unless you have already pre-registered by mail (see the October issue of the Bulletin), plan on bringing your \$5.00 with you on Friday morning, and MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO NPSO. If you do not pre-register, make sure you provide your name and address for our mailing list when you pay on Friday morning.

Contact Bob Meinke (378-3810 or 737-4106) or Jimmy Kagan (229-5078) if you have any questions about the Conference. We look forward to seeing a substantial NPSO turnout.

--Bob Meinke
Plant Conservation Biology Program
Oregon Department of Agriculture
635 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97310-0110

### WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST 1990 BOTANY PROGRAM

This year the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest began a forest-wide botany program to inventory and manage for Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive plants. Botany surveys were conducted to search for and protect sensitive plants in timber sales, range allotments, road construction projects, wildlife burns, stream improvements, and recreation projects. Fifty-three new rare plant sites were found during these surveys. The work was done by a diverse mix of professional botanists, biological technicians, and forest service personnel specially trained to search for the target species. There was a total of twenty-six people working on surveys on the forest at least part-time during the summer. The lead botanists on the districts were: Dan Leavell on Baker District (BAK), Caroline Lindstedt on LaGrande District (LAG), Nick Otting on Pine and Unity Districts (PIN and UNI), and Marty Stein on the Wallowa Valley Zone (WAV), which includes Wallowa Valley District, Eagle Cap Wilderness and Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area.

our forest sensitive list. Another important find from LaGrande District was a male fern (Dryopteris filix-mas) site; this species has been found on the Umatilla National Forest, but this is the first time it has been found on the Wallowa-Whitman. The new locations of Bridge's cliffbrake (Pellaea bridgesii) are of note because two populations were found in the Elkhorn Mountains (one each on Unity and Baker Districts), whereas it had previously only been found in the Wallowa Mountains for Oregon (it is common in the Sierras of California). The twelve new sites of Henderson's ricegrass (Oryzopsis hendersonii) on the Wallowa Valley District were the result of a Challenge Cost Share Project with the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Natural Heritage Data Base. Sue Vrilakas specifically searched for this species in all potential habitat on the district. Before this summer there were only two known sites on the forest for this species.

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New Rare Plant Sites Were Found for the following:					
	BAK	LAG	$\underline{PIN}$	UNI	$\underline{WAV}$
Swamp onion (Allium madidum)		3		<u> </u>	<del>.</del>
Oregon bolandra (Bolandra oregana)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		.,	3
Rough harebell (Campanula scabrella)					1
Male fern (Dryopteris filix-mas)	······································	<b>Tanka</b>		**************************************	·····
Stiff club-moss (Lycopodium annotinum)	3	8		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	5
Ground cedar (Lycopodium complanatum)					
Bank monkey flower (Mimulus clivicola)	·····		7 ''' <b>1.24 </b>		5
Henderson's ricegrass (Oryzopsis hendersonii)					12
Bridge's cliff-brake (Pellaea bridgesii)	1		5	1	
Wallowa primrose (Primula cusickiana)					1
ID gooseberry (Ribes oxycanthoides spp. irruguum)		1	1		

These new plant sites represent a great increase in our knowledge of the range and distribution of rare plants on the forest. One of the more significant finds was the discovery of ground cedar (Lycopodium complanatum) near the Grand Rhonde River on the LaGrande District. This location is a major range extension for this species, previously only known in Oregon from four sites in the Northern Cascades. This species is considered threatened in Oregon, but more abundant elsewhere (Washington, Canada, and the east coast). It was not even on the sensitive list for our forest, but because of the sharp eyes of our botanists, we identified it and added it to

The forest had four important Challenge Cost Share Projects this season. The search for Hendersons ricegrass mentioned above will result in a draft species management guide to help us better manage this rare grass. A similar project was undertaken in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Agriculture to analyze habitat needs and status of Ross' avens (Geum rossii var. turbinatum) in the Elkhorn Mountains. Bob Meinke was in charge of the field work and write up of this project. The two other cost share projects involve MacFarlane's four-o-clock (Mirabilis macfarlanei), which grows in the Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area. It is the only plant ac-

tually on the national endangered species list that occurs on Forest Service land in Oregon or Washington. One of these studies involved setting up monitoring plots to track population trends at one site. Field members on the project included Tom Kaye, Wes Messenger, and Susan Massey from the Oregon Department of Agriculture; Marty Stein, Randy Krichbaum, Jerry Hustafa, and Paula Brooks from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest; and Roy and Rachel Sines from the Native Plant Society of Oregon. The other project was a chemical analysis of compounds produced by cheatgrass and their possible negative effects on the rare four-o-clock. Boise State University cooperated on this project.

All these projects and findings represent a great start for an exciting botany program on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Next year we hope to find and protect even more sensitive plant sites. If any NPSO members are interested in working for the forest next season, please contact Paula Brooks at (503) 523-6391.

---Paula Brooks, WWNF

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### THE POWER OF SMALL THINGS

Traveling off the beaten track used to sound romantic. That was before we heard about cryptogamic soil.

This article by Marla Loe of the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies is from the Sept/Oct. edition of Sego Lily, Newsletter of the Utah Native Plant Society. The information applies well in the dry areas of Eastern Oregon.

You've probably seen it, if you've ever strolled along a sandy path in Southern Utah. It looks in its youth like small black sandcastles pitted by rare desert rains, or, in maturity, a crusty dark moss.

Its cryptogamic soil. Left to its own devices, this unobtrusive black crust makes the desert stay put. Cryptogamic soil is a term used to describe a type of soil that has a high concentration of microorganisms in it. It is primarily cyanobacteria (sometimes called blue-green algae), along with lichen, fungi and moss. It starts to form by covering the sand with what appears to be a dried mud crust. As it grows, it gets darker and thicker until it becomes about an inch thick. This process can take 50 to 100 years to complete.

Some scientists now think that life on our planet's land (as opposed to the water) began as far back as three billion years ago and that cyanobacteria were the world's first land dwellers. The theory maintains that these microbes were responsible for stabilizing loose rock and allowing the first wide-spread accumulations of soil. Cryptogamic soil is a live plant itself. Pour water on it and it will turn green before your very eyes!

Cryptogamic soil does many useful things. It:

\*keeps sand from blowing or washing away

\*provides a seed bed for new plants to sprout in

\*creates a mulch for the plants that grow in it

\*absorbs and holds water for plants

\*makes atmospheric nitrogen available to plants

If you step on this plant, especially in hot weather, it breaks and crumbles easily. This leaves the area open to soil erosion by wind and water. Offroad vehicles and cattle are especially harmful to these soils; neither was designed to stay on roads or trails.

Damage to this fragile desert soil by humans, animals or vehicles can take 100 years to repair itself. As the signs to many trailheads exclaim: "Watch your step! Help keep cryptogamic soils alive by walking, riding bicycles and driving on existing trails and roads. Take a moment to examine it closely. Point it out to a child. It is one of the most ancient living forms on Earth. And let it continue to function as it has for hundreds of millions of years. Let it be".

# 90-91 Emerald Chapter Officers

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### BITS AND PIECES

### —News and Information From All Over

### Treating Pinyon-Juniper Woodlands

Upset with aggressive BLM logging practices in the Northwest? Perhaps we should feel lucky that here at least they want trees to grow back. In Utah and other Great Basin states, public lands have been subjected to many years of chaining.

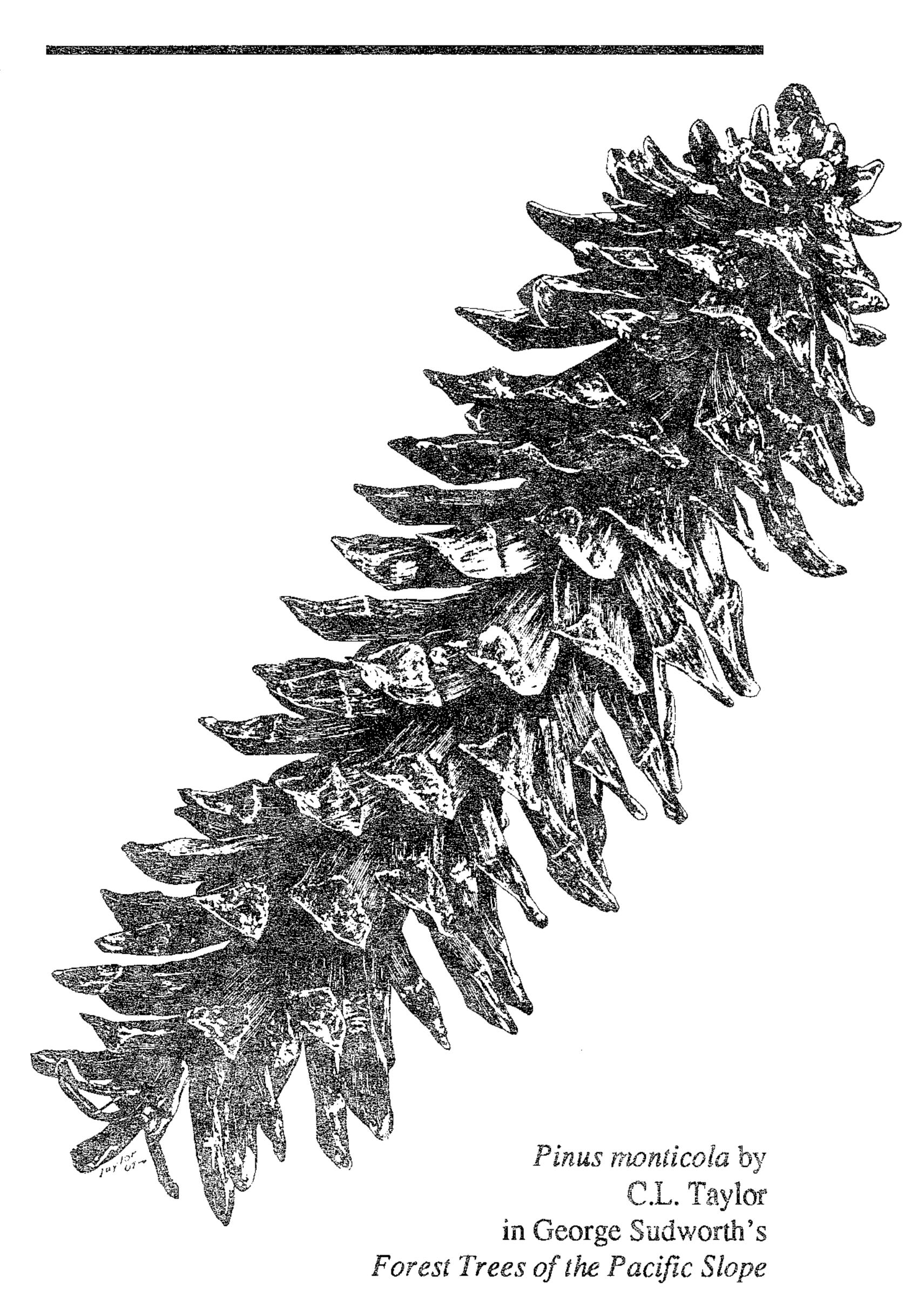
Pinyon-juniper woodlands consist of open stands of small shrubby pines and junipers, and are an important habitat for many plants and animals. The chaining of pinyon-juniper woodlands consists of pulling a heavy chain between two large bulldozers to eliminate the trees. This is often followed by rollerchopping, burning and spraying, leading to the final touch of cattle grazing. Current BLM plans call for "treating" 375,000 acres annually in this fashion. The BLM states that these activities are needed to "modify desired plant communities" by removing "undesirable plant species" (read: the native plant community). According to an analysis by the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, this costs \$320 for every \$1 of return. The purpose of this is to fit more cattle on the land. The BLM claims that is is beneficial to wildlife also, though how destruction of thousands of acres of wooded habitat that is required by many lifeforms does this is not obvious.

Available published research does not support the reasons given to justify chaining. Native American groups were among the first to speak out against this practice. Recent broad-based public opposition has jarred BLM enough to result in a delay in chainings in Utah until case-bycase analyses can be done. Environ-mentalists feel only continued public awareness and pressure will bring about any change in public policy.

"Cryptogam" is a latin-derived word that can be interpreted as meaning 'with hidden reproductive processes'. It is used to denote the older plant types such as mosses, lichens, algae, fungi and ferns. The lesser-known term "Phanerogam" denotes flowering and cone-bearing plants. It can be interpreted as meaning 'with visible reproductive processes'. Use of these terms is increasing with the widening understanding of the web of life and the importance of the many threadsthat make it viable.

### Restoration Forestry & Beyond Conference

A New Forestry conference will take place Nov. 9-11 at Lost Valley Center near Eugene. Subject matter for the talks and forums will cover a wide range of forestry topics, including biodiversity, forest restoration and sustainability, and economic outlooks in sustainable forestry. Publicity for the conference asks "what are ecologically-sound forestry practices for the Pacific Northwest? What can we do, individually and cooperatively, to help reverse the present pattern of forest deterioration across the globe? Come and help answer these questions". For more information contact Michelle Thompson at Lost Valley Center, PO Box 111, Dexter Or. 97431 (503-937-3351). Cost, including lodging and meals, is \$195.



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### In This Issue

Saving Oregon's RedwoodsRhoda Love	119
1990 Rare Plant ConferenceBob Meinke	120
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Botany ProgramPaula Brooks	122
The Power of Small ThingsMarla Loe	123
New Chapter Officers	123
Rits and Pieces	124

126

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