

Bulletin of the

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

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

VOLUME 25 NUMBER 1

JANUARY 1992

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ITS RENEWAL TIME!

2ND NOTICE

The NPSO membership year is January to December. Now is the time for members to renew.

But first...check your address label on the back page of the *Bulletin*. You may already be paid for 1992. If there is a 91 on the top line, you need to renew now.

A remittance envelope was included with the December issue of the *Bulletin*. Or you can use the membership form on the inside back page.

NPSO membership gives you access to field trips, programs, classes, and two publications: the monthly *Bulletin*, and the annual *Kalmiopsis*.

It is also a good time to consider a tax-deductible contribution to our special funds. The Leighton Ho Memorial Award is used for summer research projects in Western Oregon, and can be a matching grant in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy. The Rare and Endangered Plant Fund supports work with our most threatened plants. The new Sallie Jacobsen Memorial Fund goes to creation of an interpretive project in memory of Sallie Jacobsen. This fund was subject of an article in the December issue of the *Bulletin*. Contributions can also be made to the NPSO general fund.

Your membership and donations make it possible to carry out more of the many projects that are needed to pursue the goals of NPSO.

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. Each group using wilderness must be no larger than 12.

Blue Mountain

6 Jan., Mon.

MEETING. 7:30 pm in Room 130, Morrow Hall, Blue Mountain Community College. Program to be announced.

Corvallis

PLEASE NOTE: THE CORVALLIS CHAPTER NOW MEETS ON THE 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, RATHER THAN ON MONDAYS.

14 Jan., Tues.

MEETING. 7:30pm in the Corl House, 3975 NW Witham Hill Rd., Corvallis. Tom Kaye will talk on the "Reproductive Ecology of Bradshaw's Lomatium".

Emerald

13 Jan., Mon.

MEETING. 7:30pm in the Library, Kennedy Middle School, 2200 Bailey Hill Road, Eugene. Dr. Ethen Perkins will show slides and speak on: "Reproductive Biology of Butterfly Milkweed, *Asclepias tuberosa*." Dr. Perkins will explain the results of his research on this beautiful milkweed of the East and Midwest. For more information, call Jenny Dimling (343-3242).

18 Jan., Sat.

WORK PARTY: Dave Dunlap, Lane County Roadside Vegetation Management Director will coordinate efforts to replant *Sidalcea campestris* along county road right-of-way. These plants were previously moved for protection during highway construction activity. Participants should bring a shovel, gloves and hard soled shoes. Lunch and drink optional as this project should be completed around noon. Meet at Mt. Pisgah Arboretum at 10am. For more info., call John Koenig (935-7677).

10 Feb., Mon.

MEETING. 7:30pm in the Library, Kennedy Middle School, 2200 Bailey Hill Road, Eugene. Dr. Daphne Stone, an expert on lichens, mosses and liverworts, will show slides and speak on: "The Ecology of Lichens and Some Interesting Lichens of Alaska, Oregon, California and Georgia." Dr. Stone's new brochure, "Lichens and Mosses of Mount Pisgah Arboretum," will be available. For more information, call Jenny Dimling (343-3242).

9 March, Mon.

MEETING. 7:30pm in the Library, Kennedy Middle School, 2200 Bailey Hill Road, Eugene. Ellen Deehan Clark, Lane Community College Botanist, will show slides and speak on "Belize: Mayan Jungle and Coral Reef." Ms. Clark will discuss her recent explorations of the rain forest jungle and the shoreline of this Central American country on the Caribbean. For more information, call Jenny Dimling, 343-3242.

High Desert

28 Jan., Tues.

MEETING. 7:30pm at The Bend Senior Center on NE Marshall. Sue Anderson, lepidopterist supreme, will speak about "Butterflies and Botany". She will share slides of her years of research into the types of butterflies in Central Oregon and the kinds of plants they prefer. Don't miss this one.

Mid-Columbia

8 Jan., Wed.

MEETING. The 2nd Wednesday of the month due to the New Year's holiday! 7:30pm at the Mosier School. Mike and Jerry Igo will present a multimedia review of their BLM Cost Share Challenge project surveying for *Astragalus peckii* species near Tumalo.

North Coast

18 Jan., Sat.

FIELD TRIP. Meet at 10am at Cape Lookout parking lot for hike on beach to observe sand dunes, whales and birds. For more info., call Jim Winslow (842-2246).

28 Jan., Tues.

MEETING. 7pm at Tillamook PUD Meeting Room, 1115 Pacific, Tillamook. Members should bring 5 slides of plants to share.

Portland

14 Jan., Tues.

MEETING. 7pm at First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Diana Reeck will talk on "Gardening with Native Plants".

Siskiyou

16 Jan., Thur.

MEETING. Changes in the alpine flora of the Eastern United States", by Peter Zika of the Bureau of Land Management. 7:30pm in Room 171, Science Bldg., Southern Oregon State College. For information, call David Kennedy (535-6383).

Umpqua Valley

16 Jan., Thur.

MEETING. Help plan the meetings and field trips for the coming year. Bring your ideas and slides. 7pm in Room 310 of the Douglas County Courthouse, Roseburg.

Willamette Valley

20 Jan., Mon.

MEETING. 7pm at First United Methodist Church, Room 225, 600 State St., Salem. Member's Melody night. Please bring 10-15 of your favorite wildflower slides or UFO's (unidentified flowering objects) to share with us. For more info., call Kathy Connelly (393-1834).

William Cusick

14 Jan., Tue.

MEETING. 7:30pm LaGrande City Hall, 1000 Adams, LaGrande. Mary Corp, Umatilla County Weed Supervisor, will present a slide show on weed control strategies in relation to sensitive native plants.

11 Feb., Tue.

MEETING. 7:30pm Forest and Range Sciences Lab, C Street and Geckler Lane, LaGrande. Two Cusick Chapter members will share their experiences with plants of the tropics. Marty Stein will talk about the ethnobotany of the Philippines and Kent Coe will present a program on plants in Botswana.

10 March, Tue.

MEETING. 7:30pm Forest and Range Science Lab, C Street and Geckler Lane, LaGrande. Presentation by Jim McIvor of the Forest and Range Sciences Lab entitled "Insect involvement in the life of *Lupinus caudatus*, Kellogg's lupine."

7 April, Tue.

MEETING. 7:30pm ESD office, 2100 Main St., Baker City. Charlie Johnson, Zone Ecologist, US Forest Service, Baker, will present a slide show on endemic plants of the Blue Mountains.

For more information call Bob Ottersberg, 963-4907.

WELCOMING OUR NEW MEMBERS....

We have 45 new members to report!

<u>Blue Mountain Chapter</u>	Kathleen Cheap John Day Fossil Beds National Monument Alice L. Miller Ruth M. Rouse Don Rydrych Patricia Tempinski
<u>Corvallis Chapter</u>	Stephen J. Ahearn Sue Danver Karen Finley M. Anne Fox Julie Kintzi Colleen Llewellyn
<u>Emerald Chapter</u>	Maureen Culligan Kent Fergusson
<u>High Desert Chapter</u>	Frank & Joanne Cleland Mary Ann & Jon Ebbs Allison Hannan Jody Meier John & Louise Morton
<u>North Coast Chapter</u>	John Gerke
<u>Portland Chapter</u>	Betsy Becker Dalice Bromfeld Jeremy Coate Miel R. Corbett Linda S. Craig Kay Dodge Lurh Jensen
<u>Siskiyou Chapter</u>	Heather Barnes Phyllis Gustafson Karen Verhaaren
<u>Umpqua Valley Chapter</u>	Jeanne Cureton
<u>Willamette Valley Chapter</u>	Diane E. Hall Emily Gladhart
<u>William Cusick Chapter</u>	Chuck & Joyce Coate Kent & Priscilla Coe Joanne Druist Lucinda Gurney Shelly & Steven Josephson Bob Ottersberg Verna C. Slane

NEW WILLIAM CUSICK CHAPTER OFFICERS

President:	Bob Ottersberg
Vice President:	Shelly Josephson
Treasurer:	Cindy Gurney
Conservation Chair:	Melanie Crocker

NEW CORVALLIS CHAPTER OFFICERS

President:	Duncan Thomas
Vice President:	Esther McEvoy
Treasurer:	Dan Luoma
Secretary:	Phil Hayes

STATE BOARD TO MEET JAN. 25TH

Ever wonder how the Native Plant Society of Oregon manages its diverse statewide activities? Your next chance to see our far-flung State Board organization in action is January 25th. All NPSO Board meetings are open to the public and members are encouraged to attend and participate. The meeting will be on the 3rd floor of the State Parks Building, 525 Trade St., Salem, on the corner of Trade & High. Bring a sack lunch; beverages and snacks will be supplied. Board members will be mailed an agenda, minutes, and map.

Please send agenda items to President Stephanie Schulz by Jan. 10th.

The voting members of the State Board of the NPSO include State Officers, the 11 Chapter Presidents, and the Directors of the organization. A quorum of the 22 current voting Board members is needed at each meeting to conduct business. Each Board Member (including the non-voting *ex-officio* members) has a report to make on the activities they direct or oversee, as do all state committee chairs. In an organization such as ours communications are essential in carrying out our purposes and in reaching our goals. Attendance by all Board members is needed to assure the clearest communications possible within our organization. If Board members or committee chairs cannot attend, they should either send a representative or submit a written report to the secretary before the meeting.

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON POLICY STATEMENT ON REINTRODUCTION OF EXTIRPATED OR RARE PLANT SPECIES

The following was adapted by the Board on Jan. 27th, 1991. Prepared by Tom Kaye and Esther McEvoy

Plant species may become extirpated or so endangered in Oregon that establishment of new populations by artificial means is desirable or necessary to preserve the species. This policy statement addresses the issue of plant species reintroduction, and offers guidelines to those interested in establishing new rare plant populations in a responsible manner. It is intended for people involved in applied plant conservation and restoration ecology. This policy is **not** intended to encourage the reintroduction or establishment of new populations of all rare species, or artificial spread of rare plant seed on a casual basis, nor does it endorse creation of new populations to mitigate population losses or for commercial gain. At this time, reintroductions are appropriate in only a few cases. However, the need for reintroductions may increase in the future, and this document was drafted to anticipate that increase. A list of agencies and organizations that should be contacted before a project of this type is undertaken is provided after the following guidelines.

Reintroduction Guidelines

1. Is it really native?

Confirm through valid records (such as herbarium specimens, discussion in a published flora, etc.) that the plant does or did occur in Oregon before a reintroduction is attempted.

2. Documentation.

Document each reintroduction, and keep records regarding the seed or transplant source(s), and the subsequent fate of the new population(s). Publish this documentation in the NPSO *Bulletin* or other journal. These specific points should be documented:

- * Location and map of source material.
- * Location and map of reintroduction site.
- * Type of source material (seed, cutting, etc.)
- * Justification of particular reintroduction.
- * Monitoring plans and methods.
- * Cost of project.
- * Permits obtained.
- * Names of individual(s) and group(s) involved.

3. Site selection.

Reintroduce plants only into sites where the species was once known to occur, or into typical habitat within the documented range of the species. To avoid genetic contamination of a persisting population (such as one dormant in the soil or present at low density) confirm that the species to be reintroduced is actually absent from the proposed site.

4. Other rare organisms.

Do not displace or reduce populations of other rare organisms by reintroducing a species.

5. Source of plant materials.

The seed or transplant source should be as close to the reintroduction site as possible. All plant material for a reintroduced population should come from a broad sample of one population, unless genetic or other evidence suggests that collections from more than one population would be beneficial. Do not damage the population that supplies the source material.

6. Genetic variability.

If information regarding the genetic variability of naturally occurring populations of the species of concern is available, make every effort to mimic this variability in the reintroduced population.

7. Permits.

Obtain the necessary permits before working with legally protected species or on public lands. Request permits from the US Fish and Wildlife Service or the Oregon Department of Agriculture before working with species listed as threatened or endangered by those agencies. Also, request permits from the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management before taking material of species listed by those agencies from land managed by them.

8. Last materials.

Plant materials (seeds, cuttings, transplants, etc.) from extremely rare species are of inestimable biological value. Do not commit the **last remaining materials** (e.g. last seeds in a seed bank) of a species to any single reintroduction project, in case the project fails and the species is lost.

* * * * *

It might be argued that to reintroduce species into native or restored habitats is to create artificial populations with little resemblance to natural ones. However, it is the position of the Native Plant Society of Oregon that if the choice is truly between extinction and reestablishment of an endangered species, our duty is to make every effort to ensure the survival of the species.

ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES TO CONTACT PRIOR TO REINTRODUCTIONS:

Bob Parenti
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Boise Field Office
4696 Overland Road
Boise, ID 83705
(208) 334-1931

Cheryl McCaffrey
Oregon State Office
Bureau of Land Management
PO Box 2965
Portland OR 97208
(503) 280-7050

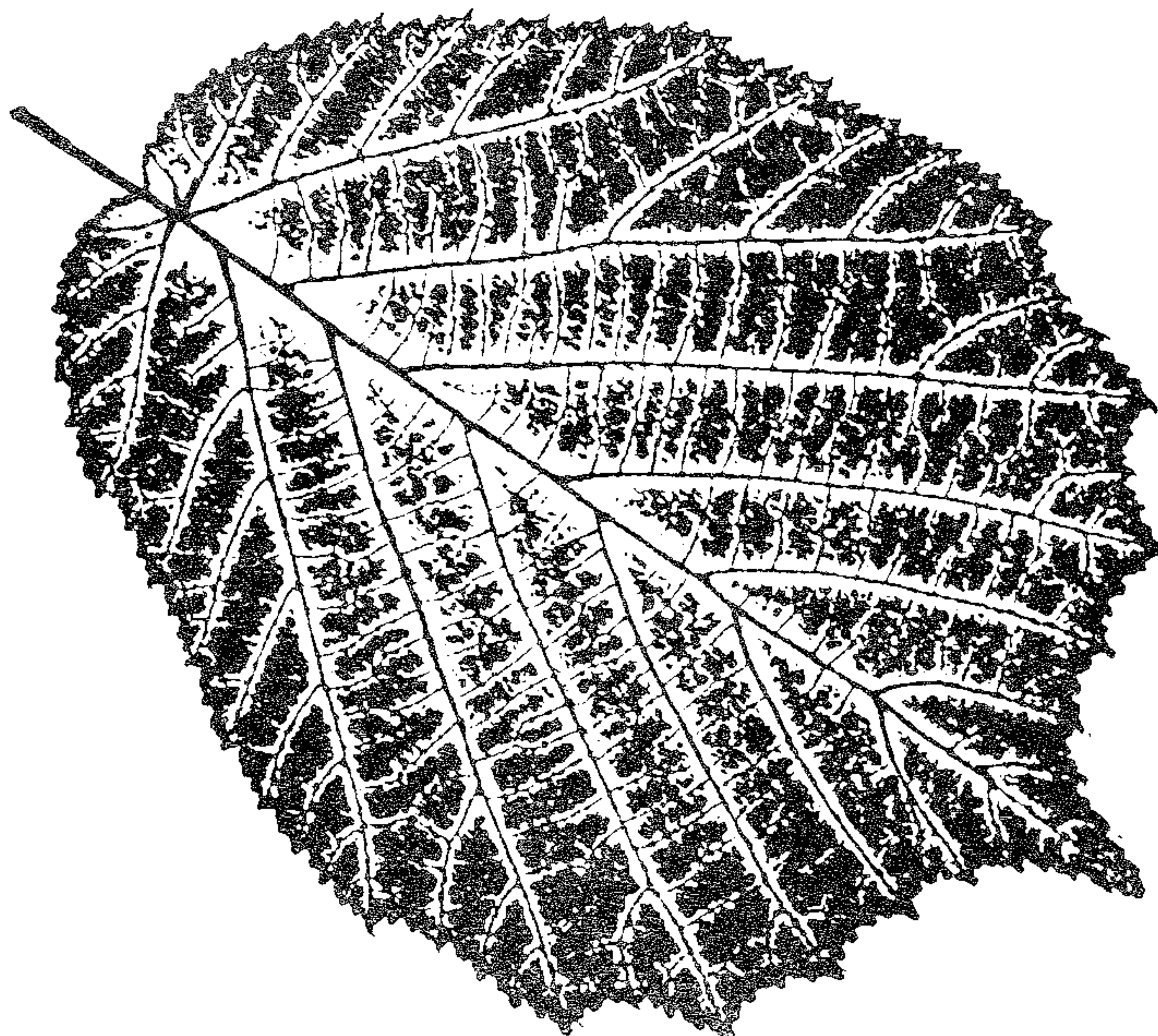
Dean Longrie
United States Forest Service, Region 6
PO Box 3623
Portland OR 97208-4091
(503) 326-4091

Bob Meinke
Plant Conservation Biology Program
Natural Resources Division
Oregon Department of Agriculture
Salem OR 97310
(503) 378-3810

Oregon Natural Heritage Database
1205 NW 25th Ave.
Portland OR 97210
(503) 229-5078

Ed Guerrant
Berry Botanic Garden
11505 SW Summerville Ave.
Portland OR 97219

President
Native Plant Society of Oregon
PO Box 902
Eugene, OR 97440
(503) 485-1868



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THE PLANT PUZZLE

Sponsored by the Siskiyou Chapter

Do you recognize this plant?
The first person to give the correct scientific name will win a prize.
The illustrated leaves are from a native woody species.

Send your guess on a postcard to:

Peter Zika
4230 NW Clubhouse Pl. #1
Corvallis, OR 97330

Rhoda Love of Eugene solved the December puzzle: *Viburnum edule*, moosewood viburnum, highbush cranberry or squashberry.

GRAZING ISSUE RESPONSES

The grazing issue continues to be a hot topic for readers of the *Bulletin*. Following are more statements about the effects of grazing on our lands. We feel it is important to continue to air opinions and information on this subject.

The impact of grazing varies among the many vegetation associations that exist in the West. As a consequence observations and opinions vary also due to different realities in different plant communities. There may be specific plants or certain vegetation associations which have some adaptation to grazing impacts, as well as the obvious many others which are damaged or destroyed by the same treatment. Management approaches must address the specifics of a site, and even though a certain approach may frequently be justified, there can be special circumstances connected with a certain plant or habitat type which may benefit from different than usual handling. See your November issue of the *Bulletin* for more.

PROTECTION OF NATIVE GRASSLANDS: A GRAZING POLICY FOR THE COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA

In the eastern half of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, the natural bunchgrass plant associations are *Agropyron spicatum* / *Poa sandbergii* (bluebunch wheatgrass/Sandberg's bluegrass) in the area from The Dalles eastward, and *Agropyron spicatum* / *Festuca idahoensis* (bluebunch wheatgrass/Idaho fescue) from The Dalles west to Hood River. After over a hundred years of livestock grazing these once magnificent perennial bunchgrass communities have largely been destroyed and replaced by introduced annual grasses, mainly *Bromus tectorum* (cheatgrass).

In Natural Vegetation of Oregon And Washington (USDA Forest Service General Technical Report PNW-8, 1973), Franklin and Dyrness write (p. 218): "Grazing most seriously affects the larger perennial grasses since they are preferred and are not adapted to withstand grazing. Heavy grazing tends...to eliminate *Agropyron spicatum*, *Festuca*

idahoensis, etc., and to increase annual grasses, particularly *Bromus tectorum*". On p. 232, "In most cases...the perennial grasses and forbs are increasingly replaced by *Bromus tectorum*, and there is little evidence that it will relinquish a site once occupied...The consequence of all this is that communities dominated by *Bromus tectorum* are a permanent and widespread feature of the landscape".

Since the loss of these late seral bunchgrass communities to grazing appears to be irreversible, we should direct our efforts toward protection of natural grasslands where they still exist. In the Columbia Gorge, there are scattered small stands of *Agropyron spicatum* and *Festuca idahoensis* which have been lightly or not at all grazed for a variety of reasons, such as accident of ownership, great distance from water, or the presence of difficult terrain, such as cliffs or talus slopes. These remnant bunchgrass communities are an important natural resource from the scientific, esthetic, and historical points of view. Where these surviving bunchgrasses occur on public lands, especially, they should be protected from all livestock grazing, since Franklin and Dyrness point out (p. 223) "...*Agropyron* decreases with grazing and *Bromus tectorum* increases...."

A second argument against grazing of the remnant bunchgrass stands is that cattle not only pave the way for cheatgrass, but also prepare the ground for invasion by noxious weeds such as diffuse knapweed and yellow star thistle. Both of these weeds are rapidly spreading on disturbed lands throughout the eastern Gorge.

Some might fear that cessation of grazing could lead to an increase in grass cover and corresponding decrease in wildflower populations. In the Gorge, at least, this fear does not appear to be justified. There are areas on both sides of the river which were long ago cut off from grazing by railroad and highway construction. Roughly a century after grazing ceased, these areas are still dominated by cheatgrass, but the wildflowers are abundant and diverse. Balsamroot, for example, is particularly abundant on these formerly grazed lands. Unlike bluebunch wheatgrass and Idaho fescue, balsamroot is able to recover and thrive after cessation of grazing.

In sum, since loss of the large native bunchgrasses to cheatgrass is probably irreversible, the remnants still existing in the National Scenic Area constitute a precious natural resource, which deserve full protection from any further grazing.

--Russ Jolley
Portland Chapter

**...WE MUST REALIZE THAT CATTLE
DISRUPTED THE NATIVE ECOSYSTEM
IN THE FIRST PLACE..."**

The pros and cons article about grazing on public lands was comprehensive and interesting.

Almost all the arguments for grazing or not grazing were advanced. I read all the statements, letters and opinions of those who support grazing and am not convinced by the arguments for "beneficial grazing".

First, we need to remember that for the thousands of years before cattle were introduced to the west, the forest and grasslands thrived and evolved into the marvelous ecosystems of nature that the white man found when he came. No one can prove that livestock grazing has made them better.

They may proclaim, as stated in "Overgrazing, Undergrazing and Grazing" that undergrazing or resting a pasture may make it a biological desert, or that eliminating grazing from Tilden Park caused encroachment of coyote brush and desertification of biodiversity, and invasion of exotic grasses, mustards and hemlock. However, we must realize that cattle disrupted the native ecosystem in the first place. They have extensively interfered with and altered the process of nature.

So damaged have been most of our public lands that livestock is perceived to be the best control for the noxious plants and weeds which are the only flora that remains. However, a few years of careful control and management can soon return the land, soil and wildlife to a wonderful, pregrazed wild condition. A very successful example of this is a 10,000 acre area of BLM land in Washington from which cattle have been excluded for fifteen years.

Using public land to raise beef and sheep for food is not essential as is illustrated by the figure that 98 percent of the cattle used for meat are produced on private pastures and feedlots. While withdrawing grazing allotments might cause temporary hardships for some ranchers, there are alternatives which they can work out....

I heartily endorse the statement of Mary Vogel: "NPSO should take a position of phasing all livestock off all public land".

--Roberta Bates
William Cusick Chapter

CONTACTING YOUR PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Wishing to make your views known to your elected representatives in Congress? Here are the numbers to write or call:

Write to Representatives Les Aucoin, Bob Smith, Ron Wyden, Peter DeFazio, and Mike Kopetski at:

The Honorable _____
US House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515
Phone them via the Congressional Switchboard at 202/224-3124.

Write to Senators Mark Hatfield and Bob Packwood at:

The Honorable _____
US Senate
Washington DC 20510
Phone them via the Congressional Switchboard at 202/224-3124.

Also:

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington DC, 20500
The White House Switchboard number is:
202/456-1414.

