

# *Bulletin* of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

---

VOLUME 27

NUMBER 6

JUNE 1994

---

ISSN 0884-599

## State News

**State Officers:** The following new state officers have been elected: Bruce Rittenhouse, president; Rhoda Love, vice president; Julie Thiel, secretary; Kari Yanskey, treasurer; Jerry Igo, Ethen Perkins, Peter Zika, directors. The nominating committee wishes to thank all those who ran for office.

## Chapter News

### Blue Mountain

**Meeting:** No meeting in June.

June 4, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Car pool to Bull Prairie Reservoir, south of Heppner. Meet at the NE corner of the Safeway parking lot, Pendleton, 8 A.M. Leader: Karl Urban, 276-8371.

June 11, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Caravan from Ukiah to Heppner, with stops along the way. Meet at the Ukiah USFS office, 10 A.M. Leader is Kari Yanskey, USFS, Ukiah.

### Corvallis

June 11, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Loren Russell will lead to Sanno bog. Meet, 8:30 A.M., OSU parking lot, 26th and Monroe. Bring lunch. Call Dick Brainerd, 758-4500, for information.

June 13, Mon.

**Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. Room 2087 Cordley Hall, OSU campus. Jim Oliphant, OSU botanist, will speak on "The Orchids of Oregon." Call Keli Kuykendall, 758-8409, for more information.

### Emerald

June 11, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Hike up Horsepasture Mt., in the McKenzie Ranger District, with Dave Predeek and Cheryl Friesen. Meet at South Eugene H.S., 8 A.M. Call Jenny Dimling, 465-6321, for more information.

**Meeting:** No meetings until September.

## High Desert

**Meeting:** No meetings until September.

June 18-19  
Sat.- Sun.

**Field Trip:** Fort Rock Valley/Christmas Valley. Overnight trip to see a variety of central Oregon landmarks -- Fort Rock, Fossil Lake and the sand dunes, the Lost Forest, the Black Hills RNA and the state's largest junipers. We will dry camp in an undeveloped spot in the desert. Call Stu Garrett, 389-6981 evenings, for information.

July 9, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Lookout Mountain. This spectacular wildflower hike to a protected area of the Ochoco National Forest is led by Richard Helliwell, Big Summit District botanist. Moderately difficult 5 mile hike. Meet at Ochoco Ranger Station, 9:30 A.M. Call Richard, 447-9645 days, 447-2249 evenings, for details.

Aug. 6, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Broken Top volcano. Annual trip to view spectacular glaciated scenery and alpine wildflowers west of Bend. Moderate to strenuous 5 mi. round trip, with 1500 foot elevation gain. Mostly off-trail hiking through Three Sisters Wilderness, so number limited to 12. **Pre-registration required!** Call Stu Garrett, 369-6981 evenings, to sign up.

Aug. 20, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Three Creeks lake and meadow. Easy hike, led by USFS botanist, Cindi O'Neil, through superb sub-alpine areas to see the unusual Newberry's gentian and other high-elevation flowers. Call Cindi, 389-3085 evenings, or 383-5564 days.

## Mid-Columbia

June 1, Wed.

**Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. Mosier School. A full evening to catch up on many projects and activities. Bring slides, flower prints, or places to find them. We'll share stories.

June 25-26

**Show:** Wildflower show, including plants used by Native Americans and early settlers, at Crates Point Living History Park in the Dalles.

July 6, Wed.

**Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. At Stuart and Mildred Chapin's house in White Salmon. Barbara Robinson will present a program on the wildflowers of the high country.

## North Coast

June 4, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Easy hike on newly restored Peninsula trail on Trask River to see *Sidalcea hirtipes* and *Dodecatheon austrofrigidum*. Meet at Tillamook PUD parking lot, 9 A.M., for car pooling. Trip leader is Jim Winslow, 842-4131.

June 12, Sun.

**Field Trip:** Mountain biking trip to Blue Lake Ridge. Area has flora similar to Saddle Mt., with some of the highest peaks in the Coast Range. Moderate biking on good, gravel roads, with 1,500 foot elevation gain. Trip size is limited. Call Jim Winslow, 842-4131, for more information, and to **preregister**.

June 28, Tues.

**Meeting:** 7 P.M. Tillamook YMCA, 610 Stillwell Ave. Program to be announced. Call Jaylen Jones, 842-7710, for information.

## Portland



June 2-5, Th-Sun. **Field Trip:** Special 4 day trip to Hart Mt. National Wildlife Refuge, led by Lucile Housely and other botanists, to discover and photograph wildflowers in that unique geological region of southern Oregon. Meals, transportation and accommodations included for \$395, with 9-person maximum, 6-person minimum. A \$5- tax deductible donation will go to NPSO. Call Annmarie Housely, 282-0189, for information.

Regular field trips meet, 8:30 A.M., at Oregon Dept. of Transportation, NE 60th & Glisan, unless otherwise specified. Distances given are for round trips. Take lunch and rain gear. Contact trip leaders, or Mary Vogel (see below), for other questions.

June 4, Sat. **Field Trip:** Hamilton Mt. in the Columbia Gorge, led by Carroll Dubuar, 234-4135. 2nd meeting place at trailhead parking area, Beacon Rock State Park, 1/4 mi. north of WA Hwy. 14, 9:15 A.M. Hike passes waterfalls, rocky outcroppings, dramatic cliffs, on the way to wildflowers. Distance: 9 mi. loop; Elev: 2100'; Car miles: 76.

June 12, Sun. **Field Trip:** Grassy Knoll in the Columbia Gorge, led by Jon Shane, 235-0013. Hike traverses forest communities on the way to a grassy bald, offering spectacular views and fields of wildflowers in bloom. 180 species, including 3 rare CG endemics are found here. Distance: 5.5 mi.; Elev: 1200'; Car miles: about 140.

June 14, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Dr. Joy Belsky will provide a stimulating, provocative argument supporting her thesis, "Why grazing should not be allowed on public lands." Here is your opportunity to hear the facts on this controversial subject from a rangeland expert.

June 18, Sat. **Field Trip:** Salmon River Trail, Mt. Hood National Forest, led by Maxine Wilson, 655-1523. Explore the plant communities of the old growth forest and rocky outcropping along the trail. Distance: 7.4 mi.; Elev: 800'; Car miles: 88. **Meet at Ashley's Restaurant, junction of highways 26 and 212.**

June 25, Sat. **Field Trip:** Little Crater Lake, led by Lance Holmberg, botanist at Bear Springs Ranger District, 328-6211. 2nd meeting place, Skyline Sno Park, Forest Service road 42, off Hwy. 26, 9:45 A.M. Distance: 3 mi.; Elev: reaches 5000'; Car miles: 140. Features pale blue-eyed grass, penstemons, "flowering log gardens." Take waterproof footwear for the meadow.

July 2, Sat. **Field Trip:** Bald Mt.-Salvation Springs up Lolo Pass. *Erythronium montanum* is likely to be in bloom. **Meet at Ashley's Restaurant**, as above. Call field trip coordinator Mary Vogel, 645-1992, for more information.

**Officers:** New officers elected were: Sue Allen, president; Mike and Nancy Fahey, first vice president/programs; Mary Vogel, second vice president/field trips; Marvel Gillespie, secretary; Jean France, treasurer.

## Siskiyou

**Meeting:** There will be no meetings until September.

June 11, Sat. **Field Trip:** Barbara Mumblo will lead to Miller Lake Botanical Area. Will see Baker's cypress and Brewer's spruce. Meet, 9 A.M., Star Ranger Station (7 miles south of Ruch).

June 25, Sat. **Field Trip:** Working field trip. Please come and help pull star thistle from the summit of Table Rock. Work with folks from The Nature Conservancy and BLM. Meet at Lower Table Rock trailhead, 8 A.M.

July 4, Mon. **Show:** Irene Hollenbeck Memorial Wildflower Show, at Lithia Park. Call Barbara



Mumblo, 899-1812 (at work), if you want to help.

**Officers:** New officers are: Joan Seevers, president; Rick Prusz/Frank Lang, vice presidents; John McClendon, secretary/treasurer; Barbara Mumblo, field trips. David Kennedy, conservation chair.

## South Coast

June 4-5,  
Sat.-Sun.

**Field Trip:** Vulcan Lake, Kalmiopsis Wilderness. **Pre-registration required.** Enjoy day hikes into Kalmiopsis Wilderness to see many rare plant species including *Kalmiopsis leachiana*. Limit of 12, because of wilderness restriction. May have two groups if interest is high. For information and registration, call Bruce Rittenhouse, 888-9328.

## Umpqua Valley

June 4, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Down the Coos Bay Wagon Rd., and up Cherry Creek, to see the Cherry Creek "big fir," enjoying roadside flowers along the way. Picnic at Big Tree Park. Meet at BLM parking lot, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., 7:45 A.M., for car pooling, with 8 A.M. departure. Call Jack Stubbs, 673-8046, for information.

June 9, Thurs.

**Meeting:** 7 P.M. Room 310, Douglas County Courthouse.

June 18, Sat.

**Field Trip:** To Eel Creek in Coos County. Meet at BLM parking lot, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., 7:45 A.M. for car pooling, with 8 A.M. departure. Call Richard Sommer, 673-3709, for more information.

## Willamette Valley

June 4, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Estacada-Detroit loop driving trip, led by George and Harriett Schoppert. Easy trip for everyone, to see mountain flora and points of interest along the way. Meet, 8 A.M., South Salem K-Mart parking lot on Mission Street, or 9 A.M., Gingerbread House, Hwy. 22 at Mehama.

June 18, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Bruno Meadows, led by Clint Urey. A mid-mountain wet meadow, with a variety of interesting flora. Easy hike. Meet, 8 A.M., South Salem K-Mart, on Mission Street.

June 20, Mon.

**Meeting:** 6:30 P.M. Meet in St. Mary's parking lot for car pooling from Shaw to the Mader farm. You can get to Shaw by taking the Silver Falls exit off Highway 22, east of Salem. For more information call, 399-9680.

June 24-25  
Fri.-Sat.

**Field Trip:** Illinois River Valley of southwest Oregon, led by Glenn and Barbara Halliday, to see the great floral diversity of the area, including Volmer and Bolander lilies in flower. Come for one, or both, days. Meet, each day, 8 A.M., at grocery store in Selma, U.S. Hwy. 199, southwest of Grants Pass.

July 9, Sat.

**Field Trip:** French Creek Ridge, a mid-mountain trip east of Salem, led by Wilbur Bluhm. Great plant variety includes the white rhododendron. Easy to moderate hike. Meet, 8 A.M., South Salem K-Mart parking lot, on Mission Street.

July 31, Sun.

**Field Trip:** Coast Range with Larry Scofield. Details in next month's Bulletin.

Wm. Cusick

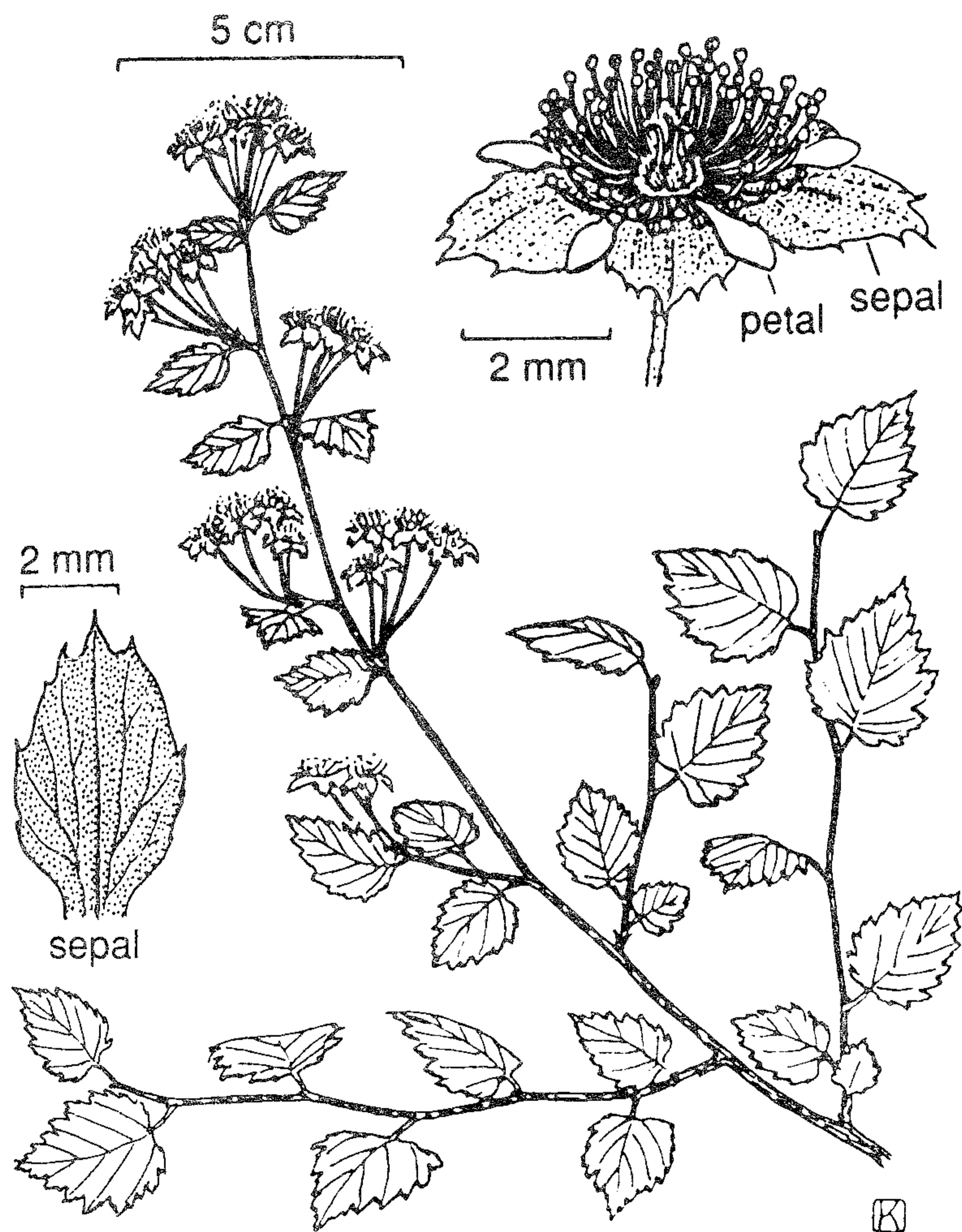
Meeting: Call Bob Ottersberg, 963-6043, for information.

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. Participation is at your own risk. Please contact the trip leader or chapter representative about difficulty, distance, and terrain to be expected on field trips. Bring water and lunch. All NPSO field trips are open to the public at no charge (other than contribution to carpool driver) and newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

NOTICE TO FIELD TRIP CHAIRS AND LEADERS

The Forest Service and other agencies have set policies limiting group size in many wilderness areas to 12. The reason is to limit human impacts on these fragile areas. Each group using wilderness areas should be no larger than 12.



*Nevisia cliftonii*

Reprinted, with permission, from: James C. Hickman, Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California  
Copyright 1993, The Regents of the University of California.



## President's Column

To begin my last column as outgoing president, there are several people I wish to thank for all their patience and support -- the Bulletin editors Bryan Boyce and John Robotham were both extremely flexible and accommodating; Jan and Dave Dobak for all their work, and all the board members who were so cooperative at meetings and made my job so pleasant and easy.. It has been a productive two years for the Society. We have seen great progress being the voice for native plants in Oregon, but we have much left to do. This task will be getting easier, I feel, over the next few years, with the development and implementation of the North American Native Plant Conservation Strategy. I recently represented the Society in a meeting in Phoenix, to begin the initial work on this project. The goal of the first meeting was to build a network for rare plant conservation among federal, state, academic and non-government groups such as ours. The dialog was productive, the task ahead enormous, and the interest, energy and enthusiasm high. We spent the first day outlining our expectations for the session and spent the second day in break out groups for research, conservation actions, public awareness and education and information and data bases. From these groups we generated action items and prioritized tasks. The third day was spent in regional groups. It was the strong feeling of the entire group that the strategy would best be implemented on a regionally coordinated level. The group assembled was not meant to be all inclusive this time, only representative of native plant interests. There are plans for a larger session next year. One exciting outgrowth of this was the decision among native plant societies to form an umbrella organization for the purposes of coordination, and possibly better representation to law makers.

Lisa Croft

As the incoming president, I hope to continue with these efforts and continue to strengthen our role in conservation issues in Oregon. I am looking forward to the challenges ahead and look forward to your input on the direction for the Society to take.

Bruce Rittenhouse

## We Welcome New Members Joining 2/20/94 - 4/17/94

### Blue Mountain

Whittaker, Jim and Ruth

### Corvallis

Brophy, Laura  
Damitio, James  
Pyke, David A.  
Stilwell, Frances P.

### Emerald

Bohn, Barbara  
Koester, Heiko  
Landon, Jim  
Pauly, Linda

### High Desert

Castillo, Steve  
Harless, Susan  
Jeffers, Cindy  
Padgham, Joyce

### Mid-Columbia

Buchholz, Martha  
Duncombe, Sally  
Herzig, Tom and Connie

### North Coast

Bartlett, Jan  
Gienger, Sally

### Portland

Allen, Alyce  
Bowers, Prudy  
Cromwell, Debra J.  
Fast, M. Beth  
Grimm, Nancy  
Gross, Dave  
Hartline, Jane  
Karoly, Keith  
Orlean, Debra  
Plov, Giner  
Wilcox, Susan

### Siskiyou

Maurer, Carrol  
Straw, Richard

### Umpqua Valley

Yates, Zola

### South Coast

Button, Clair  
Field, Dana  
Slane, Verna

### Willamette Valley

Hays, Ron  
Murray, Lenore and Harold

### At Large

Eno, LeAnn  
Rondeau, J. Hawkeye



*Because of the excess of material received for publication in the Bulletin, the following article, and one to be published next month, have been held over for several months.*

## Botanical Treasures on Public Lands

### Chapter One

Field season 1993... Botanists, students, volunteers and others working for (or with) the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) were hiking, walking and crawling the public lands of Oregon and Washington "in search of ..."

Nearly 32, 000 acres were inventoried last year, involving over 60 different plant species. Discoveries were many, including several notable range extensions. Monitoring of almost 55 species and an array of vegetation plots turned up more new discoveries. These activities were frequently coordinated and conducted with other federal and state agencies, as well as with universities and private organizations. Chapter one focuses on the highlights of the 1993 field season for the "east side" Oregon/Washington BLM districts. Look for the continuing saga in Chapter two, revealing the "west side" district botanical treasures managed on your public lands.

#### Lakeview District (Klamath Falls Resource Area) -- Oregon

Applegate's milk-vetch (*Astragalus applegatei*), listed as one of Oregon's rarest plants, is only known to occur on commercially zoned private sites in the Klamath Basin. Habitat suitable for the species is described as moist to wet meadows. So with that in mind, Resource Area botanist, Lou Whiteaker, focused an inventory on 350 acres of wet meadow on public lands within the Basin. Lou, assisted by botanist Dale Landrum, conducted an exhaustive search, but unfortunately no populations were located. "At this time, we can't be sure of the reason," said Lou, "but it may be due to different types of soil between the inventory site and the known population area."

The entire Stukel Mountain population of Columbia yellow-cress (*Rorippa columbiae*), a federal candidate 2 (C2) species, was surveyed in mid-July. Assisting BLM were 12 botanists representing the Winema, Rogue River and Umpqua National Forests, and their efforts to locate new plants on both public and private lands was a success. Lou

reports findings of 54 plants, many still seedlings. This represents an increase from the 26 plants found in 1992. Of the total, ten were on BLM lands, compared to six previously known.

Responding positively to the effects of the 1992 John Springs fire was blue-leaved penstemon (*Penstemon glaucinus*). Qualitative monitoring of this C2 species on the Yainax Butte proposed Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) showed the population was doing well.

Conducting plant clearances for proposed projects led to new discoveries of a C2 species -- three populations of mariposa lily (*Calochortus longebarbatus* var. *longebarbatus*), as well as several Bureau assessment species -- two populations of wild onion (*Allium campanulatum*), and four populations of fringed campion (*Silene nuda* ssp. *insectivora*).

#### Burns District -- Oregon

Relocating and discovering new populations of several C2 species were the benefits of 1993 inventories conducted by Nora Taylor, range conservationist for the Three Rivers Resource Area (RA). Two previously known (but not recently observed) populations of Columbia yellowcress (*Rorippa columbiae*) were relocated, and two new populations were discovered in the Harney Lake area. Assisting Nora in this effort was a Native American student from the Organization of Forgotten Americans. Three new populations of bastard kenotrophyta (*Astragalus tegetarioides*), and three of Leiberg's clover (*Trifolium leibergii*) were discovered, including the first population of the clover to be found on the west side of the Middle Fork of the Malheur River. All new and previously known populations were vigorous and healthy when observed.

One of the two known populations of Davis' peppergrass (*Lepidium davisii*) was monitored by Rick Hall, plant coordinator for Andrews RA. Rick found that while past droughts had some adverse effects on the number of plants, the wet spring of 1993 dramatically rejuvenated seedling numbers produced by this C2 species. The Burns and Vale district offices drafted a joint Conservation Agreement for this peppergrass with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) which will be completed in 1994.

Kathy Cushman, district botanist, also reported on monitoring activities for several C2 species. Three populations of weak milk-vetch (*Astragalus soli-*



*tarius*), which had been slightly affected by past drought, are expected to revive following some average rain years. A monitoring station was established near the summit of Steens Mountain to determine the effects, if any, increased recreational use may have on Steens Mountain paintbrush (*Castilleja pilosa* var. *steenensis*). Populations of Biddle's lupine (*Lupinus biddlei*), which were severely impacted by past years of drought, showed an overall decrease in numbers, but it was a good flowering for remaining plants.

### Vale District -- Oregon

During inventory and plant collections along the upper and lower canyon segments of the Owyhee River, new populations of two composites and one legume were discovered. Ertter's groundsel (*Senecio ertterae*), a C1 species, is a local endemic found growing only in volcanic tuff. Cusick's pincushion (*Chaenactis cusickii*), a C2 species is an Owyhee upland ash endemic. Sterile milk-vetch (*Astragalus sterilis*), another C2 species, which prefers growing only in a certain layer of volcanic ash. As its name implies, this last species has difficulty setting fertile seed. While all three species may be found in close association with each other, each depends on a different ash/volcanic formation within the Owyhee River drainage.

Inventory work in the Jordan RA relocated a population of collomia (*Collomia renacta*), a C2 species, last found in 1896! Coordination with another earlier investigator, Elaine Joyal, refined district database information on the type locality.

New populations and significant range extensions for Cronquist's stickseed (*Hackelia cronquistii*) were recorded by Lynda Smithman. She identified numerous populations along the small hill range just east of Payette, Idaho. This is the first time this C1 species has been found across the Snake River in Idaho. Betty White, amateur photographer from Adrian, Oregon, brought photograph of the species to Jean Findley, Vale District botanist. A field visit confirmed the new population, the first identified south of the Owyhee River.

A downward trend continues in populations of Mulford's milk-vetch (*Astragalus mulfordiae*). At a density study site, a large percentage of dead plants were discovered during 1993 monitoring activities. Jean stated that, "Signs of herbivory and a seven-year drought may have been contributing factors in the losses, but we hope to learn more by establishing additional monitoring plots this year."

A management plan was drafted in 1993 for the Leslie Gulch ACEC. The plan was prepared under a Conservation Agreement between BLM and FWS to conserve Ertter's groundsel (*Senecio ertterae*), a C1 species, and two C2 species, grimy ivesia (*Ivesia rhypara* var. *rhypara*) and Packard's mentzelia (*Mentzelia packardiae*).

### Prineville District -- Oregon

Ron Halvorson, district natural resource specialist, reported on new population discoveries in 1993 for several C2 species. In Grant and Wheeler counties, Washington monkeyflower (*Mimulus washingtonensis*) was doing extremely well at 19 new locations. Seven more populations of arrowleaf thelypody (*Thelypodium eucosmum*) were found in remote, nearly inaccessible tributaries of the John Day River. While visiting a proposed land exchange parcel, one new population of Peck's long-bearded mariposa lily (*Calochortus longebarbatus* var. *peckii*) was discovered. Based upon the species as a whole, which is primarily found in the Ochoco NF, this is not a critical population. However, three new populations of Tygh Valley milk-vetch (*Astragalus tyghensis*) were found in the Criterion Ranch area; they were beyond the previously known range for this species, so this was an important discovery.

Although colonial luina (*Luina serpentina*) is found primarily in the Malheur NF, there are three known populations on BLM lands north of the forest boundary. Inventories of remaining potential habitats south of Mount Vernon did not turn up additional populations of this C1 species.

BLM is the primary agency managing the endemic C2, *Astragalus diaphanus* var. *diurnus*, and in 1993, inventories for this species continued along the South Fork of the John Day River. Ron stated that milk-vetch did very well this year, showing a tremendous increase in seedling survival in response to the excellent spring moisture. One new population was found and one known population had significantly expanded within its immediate habitat.

Benefits of a wet spring were evident from studies of another C2 species. A Forest Service employee from the Columbia River Gorge NSA assisted in monitoring smooth lomatium (*Lomatium laevigatum*) by using a transit to locate individual plants on a sheer rock wall. The plants near Biggs Junction appear to be recovering from drought.



