



# *Bulletin* of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

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VOLUME 27

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## Catherine Creek Alert -- Page 126

## State News

Jan. 28, Sat. **State Board Meeting:** In Eugene. Details in future Bulletins

Spring 1995 **Annual Meeting:** In Portland. Details in future Bulletins.

## Chapter News

### Blue Mountain

**Meeting:** No meeting in October.

### Corvallis

Oct. 10, Mon. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. Room 2087, Cordley Hall, OSU campus. Tom Kaye will talk on the re-introduction of pink sand verbenas.

### Emerald

Oct. 24, Mon. **Meeting:** 7 P.M., at Morse Ranch Park. Directions from downtown Eugene: Take Willamette St. south to Crest Dr. (right through "Y" for Donald, between 32nd and 33rd Aves. E). Go right (W) on Crest 4 blocks, turn right into Morse Ranch parking lot. Chris Orsinger, president of the Friends of Buford Park/Mt. Pisgah, will give a talk and slide show on native plant restoration, inventory and mapping at Buford Park/Mt. Pisgah. He will also present future management plans, including land acquisition and riparian restoration for the complex of lands at the confluence of the coast and middle forks of the Willamette River.

### High Desert

Oct. 25, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. at Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 Nw Kansas, Bend. A Nature Conservancy ecologist will talk about prescribed fire and fire ecology at the Lawrence Memorial Grassland Preserve. Call Cindi O'Neil, 389-3085 for questions.

## Mid-Columbia

- Oct. 5, Wed. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. at Mosier School. We are pleased to have Keith Karroly, botany professor at Reed College, who will present a program on plant mating systems in lupines, meadowrues and glacier-lilies.
- Nov. 2, Wed. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. at Mosier School. Karen Sturgeon, botany professor at Linfield College presents: "Church bells, cow bells and harebells; botanizing in the Swiss Alps."

## North Coast

- Oct. 25, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. Room 5, Nehalem Bay Center, 36155 9th St., Nehalem. Planning session for field trips, programs and projects for the coming year.

## Portland

- Oct. 8, Sat. **Field Trip:** Mt. Hood Meadows, to help restore heavily impacted area, with USFS botanist, Susan Nugent, 352-6002. No strenuous hiking, but digging and plugging will give exercise. Take gloves. Tools supplied. Meet at ODOT, NE 60th & Glisan, 8 A.M. 2nd meeting place, Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Area parking lot, 10 to 10:15 A.M.
- Oct. 11, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. First Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Nancy Fredricks will present a program called "Plants and Fungi in Late Successional and Old Growth Forests; How the President's Plan Will Address Them." Nancy contributed to this part of the president's plan and will provide an authoritative view of how the plan should work. (The room will open at 6:30 P.M. for socializing.)
- Oct. 15, Sat. **Field Trip:** 2-4 P.M. Native plant landscape tour of suburban yard in Aloha, with Mike McKeag and Kathleen McAllister, 642-3965. (Since moving into their new house, Mike and Kathleen have spent the last three years going native, while their neighbors have planted lawns. Discuss techniques, issues and designs and come away with some free red fescue. Their landscape architect, Gretchen Vadny, will also be on hand. **Meet at Newport Bay parking lot, 185th and Sunset Highway, at 2 P.M.,** to car pool. Call Mike to register. Limited to ten persons.
- Oct. 16, Sun. **Field Trip:** Mirror Lake, with U.S.F.S. pathologist, Diane Hildebrand, 326-6697, to discuss some of the pathologies that attack our native trees, shrubs and other plants. Meet at Oregon Department of Transportation, 60th and Glisan, 9 A.M., or Mirror Lake parking lot area, on Hwy. 26, at 10:30 A.M.

## Siskiyou

- Oct. 20, Thurs. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M., room 171, Science Building, SOSOC, Ashland. Dr. David Wagner presents "Wagner's Worts -- liverworts and moonworts -- botanical explorations -- slides and specimens." More attention is being given to these species at present, since being listed in the Record of Decision for the "President's Plan" for forest management.

## South Coast

Call Paul Bakke, 439-7234, for information on activities.

## Umpqua Valley

- Oct. 13, Thurs. **Meeting:** 7 P.M., room 310, Douglas County Courthouse. Please bring slides and/or

stories about your summer activities. Call 672-5903, for information.

Oct. 15, Sat. **Work Day:** 8 A.M., BLM office, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd. A short work day to set stakes and place plaques to identify trees, shrubs and other plants in the BLM yard. Call Russ Holmes, 672-4635, for information. Shouldn't take more than 2 hours

Oct. 29, Sat. **Field Trip:** To Mare's Eggs Springs, near Fort Klamath, to see the rare Nostoc algae. If possible, we also plan to visit a rock formation called Football Scarp. Jack Stubbs and Jack Hausotter will co-lead. Meet at BLM parking lot, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., for car pooling. 7:30 A.M. departure. Call 672-5903, for information.

### Willamette Valley

Oct. 17, Mon. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. United Methodist Church, 600 State St. NE, Salem. Glenn and Barbara Halliday will give slide presentation of a wildflower tour of southeastern Oregon.

### Wm. Cusick

Oct. 25, Tues. **Meeting:** Opening meeting of the winter season. Volleyball at Birnie Park, 5:30 P.M., followed by a potluck supper at the La Grande Forest Sciences Lab., Gekeler and C Avenue. There will be slide show on a topic to be announced. Call Bob Ottersberg, 963-6043, for more information.

Oct. 29, Sat. **Fun Work Party:** 1 P.M. Gangloss Park. Nature trail/work party/potluck picnic. For more information call Bob Ottersberg, 963-6043.

#### 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.

#### Guidelines for Contributors to the Bulletin

NPSO Bulletin published monthly as a service to members and the public.  
All kinds of contributions welcome. **Copy due by the 10th of the month.**

**CREDITS:** Identify author and affiliation. If not original, cite source and date.

**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Line drawings, prints and high contrast black-and-white prints are useable.  
Some McIntosh graphics can be used. Contact editor for our current needs,  
or send illustrations with article.

**BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE:** Follow "Flora of the Pacific Northwest" by Hitchcock,  
or "The Jepson Manual," where appropriate.

**FORMAT:** Submissions can be in any form, but at present editor prefers hard copy. Use of a modem is not possible at this time. Editor follows "The Associated Press Stylebook."  
For further details consult editor.

**ORIGINALS:** Submissions are not returned, unless requested.

## President's Column

A few comments about the election next month. Ballot measure 14 will add operating and reclamation requirements to chemical mining, ban chemical releases into the environment, require backfilling of open pits. This ballot measure is targeted primarily at cyanide leach gold mining. It is sponsored by STOP'M (Stop Toxic Open Pit Mines). Currently, Oregon is the only western state not yet plagued by open pit cyanide leach gold mining. This process removes large quantities of rock which contains tiny flecks of gold. The gold is leached out of the rock with cyanide. Following the mining, all that typically remains is a large open pit with a tailings pond laced with cyanide. The mining interests say this measure will make it unprofitable to operate open pit mines.

Many areas in southeast Oregon already have existing claims, and according to Gary Brown, from STOP'M in Ontario, many of these claims, if mining occurs, would impact sensitive species. Some of these claims are apparently near Succor Creek. Gary adds that the USGS feels there is a 90% likelihood of seven or eight open pit gold mines occurring in the near future. Many claimants of these large gold mines are foreign companies, having no interest in reclamation following the mining, leaving the clean-up costs to U.S. taxpayers. I urge all NPSO members to vote YES on this measure.

In this month's Bulletin you will see a letter to Denny Smith, in reply to his comments about Siskiyou National Forest Botanist Linda Mullens' efforts to protect sensitive plants during wildfires this past summer. Mullens, and the forest archaeologist were guiding a bulldozer to avoid rare plants and some historic cabin sites, so that a backfire could be set which would prevent the fire from entering the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. Smith, who felt the Forest Service was more concerned about the plants, said the Endangered Species Act is "out of whack" and they "should have run the guy over." Earlier, he had made comments about "insignificant species" which receive more consideration than people, but felt that it is okay to set aside areas for gorillas (Oregon having so many). I am not going to make any endorsement for governor. But, do we want someone who thinks like this as our governor? I'll let you decide.

Finally, on a positive note, I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer, and had an opportunity to see

Oregon's native plants. And remember, spring is just around the corner (at least here on the south coast).

Bruce Rittenhouse  
NPSO President

August 20, 1994

Denny Smith  
Oregon Gubernatorial Candidate  
4937 Indian School Road NE  
Salem, OR 97305

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Native Plant Society of Oregon (NPSO) would like to respond to your comments concerning Linda Mullens' efforts to protect sensitive plant species during the recent fires on the Siskiyou National Forest. We are a 33-year old nonprofit organization composed of nearly 1,000 amateur and professional botanists, "dedicated to the enjoyment, conservation and study of Oregon's native vegetation." The NPSO was instrumental in establishing the Oregon Endangered Species Act which passed both the House and Senate unanimously. We were appalled by your comments and feel they were inappropriate for someone seeking the governorship of Oregon. Your comments insulted Forest Service employees, NPSO members, and other who are concerned about Oregon's natural resources.

Employees of the Siskiyou National Forest have shown tremendous professionalism in their decision to allow a botanist and an archaeologist to work with the bulldozer operator during the recent Mendenhall fires. Their dedication to the conservation of unique natural resources is refreshing.

Botanist Linda Mullens is a highly regarded botanist by her peers and NPSO members alike, and her efforts may have actually helped prevent the future listing of seven sensitive plant species under the Endangered Species Act. The policy of federal land management agencies towards sensitive species is "not to contribute to the need to list." Therefore, this type of pro-active work should be rewarded, not chastised. Currently, only four plant species in Oregon are afforded protection under the Endangered Species Act, and none are known to occur in the area of the fires. We support the conservation of all plant species and it is unfortunate that some of these have to become listed.

Your personal judgements on "insignificant species" also need addressing. This shows your lack of knowledge on the importance of protecting biodiversity. Try explaining "insignificant species" to an ovarian cancer patient who was cured by taxol, a chemical derived from Pacific yew, which, ironically, was once thought of as a "trash tree." Currently, pharmaceutical and other private companies are investing millions of dollars into the research and development of medicines derived from "insignificant species." Maybe in the next 20 years another "insignificant species," such as a fungus, insect or plant may be the cure of some disease which saves human lives.

The fundamental reason why the Endangered Species Act was created is this lack of understanding the importance of maintaining ecosystems and biodiversity which are perpetuated by comments like yours. The original authors of the Endangered Species Act had long term natural resource conservation in mind. Federal land management is very complex, and inflammatory remarks, such as these, only create an adversarial atmosphere. It is hoped, that if you are elected governor, you will try to seek to understand the issues prior to making comments.

Sincerely,

Bruce Rittenhouse,  
President, Native Plant Society of Oregon

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Copies of this letter have been sent to the following newspapers: Medford Mail Tribune, Eugene Register-Guard, Oregonian.

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## We Welcome New Members Who Joined From 7/10 to 9/5/94

### **Corvallis**

Chris Hale Miller  
Reed Noss  
Patricia S. Shaw  
M. Gypsy Skylark

### **Emerald**

Katy Young

### **High Desert**

Joe Carli  
Sandy George

Cindy Lee  
Marcia J. Lux  
Reid Schuller  
Stephen Tiktin

### **North Coast**

Kathleen Sayce

### **Portland**

Greg and Cynthia Bentley  
Cheeri F. Brinda  
Melody Hoener  
Kathleen Kollock  
Ginny E. Watts Kramer  
Dawn L. Sanders  
Mary Ann Sweet  
Mark and Robin Tilton

### **Siskiyou**

Don Begnoche  
Shirley Boyce  
Doug Goldenberg  
Karen Hyneman and Gerald Starchvick  
Randy Smith  
Janet Wieberg

### **South Coast**

Greg Enstrom  
Chris Cameron  
Jamie Fereday

### **William Cusick**

Anne Oveson

### **Willamette Valley**

Rob Kimmich  
O.J. Sparrow

### **Members At Large**

Joan Canfield  
Joan Frazee  
Jill Hackett  
Durlin Hickock and Carol Wallace

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## **Many Thanks**

The State Membership Committee members wish to express their great appreciation for the donation of a computer to replace their failing one. We thank NPSO members Art and Mary May, for their generosity.

Jan and Dave Dobak

# Environmental Laws in Danger

The Bulletin has received, from an NPSO member, a letter, signed by fifteen environmental organizations, about the continuing attack on all environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act. The letter, slightly abridged, follows:

Dear Environmentalist:

You have never received a letter like this before. This is the first time the combined leadership of the nation's leading environmental groups have sent a single call to action to our combined memberships.

... It is an urgent appeal for citizen action... **we ask you to write to President Clinton, your two senators and your representative in Congress.**

Even during the Reagan/Watt/Gorsuch years, we have never faced such a serious threat to our environmental laws in Congress. Polluters have blocked virtually all our efforts to strengthen environmental laws, but still they are not satisfied. Now, they are mounting an all-out effort to weaken our most important laws.

In a recent briefing of public interest groups in Washington, D.C., Congressman Don Edwards "...as deep a crisis as any in all the years I've spent in Congress." Representative Edwards has served in Congress since 1963.

Many of our most important environmental laws are due to be renewed in Congress: The Clean Water Act, The Safe Drinking Water Act, The Endangered Species Act, Superfund, Wetlands Protection, laws to protect America's public lands and resources, laws to protect you from hazardous wastes and pesticides, laws to protect your health and your environment.

All these laws need to be strengthened. Polls show that the American public wants them to be more effective. But incredibly, Congress is poised to weaken them -- all of them.

The biggest strength of the environmental movement has always been its members and supporters. Yet it is the opponents of the environmental laws who are mounting the biggest and most effective grassroots campaigns in Congress. Congress is

hearing more from special interest groups who profit from pollution and from exploiting public lands and resources than from the majority of Americans who want to end pollution and protect our natural resources. ...

We can turn this around, with your help. We have won battles like this in the past, against seemingly insurmountable odds. We have passed laws like the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act over the opposition of the biggest and most powerful industrial lobbies in the country. We have protected our public lands and resources against assaults from the oil lobby, the timber lobby and the mining lobby. But we only won those fights when people like you showed your support for clean air, clean water, and protecting America's remaining wildlife and wilderness.

The opponents of strong environmental laws have been effective because they have reduced their arguments to three simple but misleading anti-environmental messages.

**"Takings"** -- Industry claims that environmental laws take private property unfairly. In reality, they want us to pay them not to pollute our air and water and not to destroy our wildlife and public lands.

**"Cost-Benefit and Comparative Risk Analysis"** -- Polluters want to force the government to justify the benefits of environmental safeguards in monetary terms. But how can we value in dollars and cents the lives of our children, the health of our ecosystems and our right to breathe?

**"Unfunded Federal Mandates"** -- Many states and cities want environmental laws to be voluntary, unless the federal government pays for all state and local compliance costs. Doesn't your state and your town have a responsibility to protect the air you breathe and the water you drink?

...  
These lies are being repeated loud enough and often enough that they are now accepted as truth by your senators and representatives in Washington, D.C. The best way to counter these lies is for the president, your senators and your representatives to hear **directly from you** loud enough and often enough for the real truth to emerge. It is not

enough to tell them you want stronger environmental laws. That alone cannot counter industry's sophisticated lobbying effort. You must tell your elected officials why you oppose the three anti-environmental arguments that industry is using.

... We urge you to fax or mail your letters or postcards immediately. If you don't have time to write to all your elected officials, then write to President Clinton and send copies to Congress. ...

If you want to have greater impact, then contact your representative when he or she is at home during Congressional recess. Let them know -- in person or on the phone -- why you oppose the arguments industry is using to weaken our environmental laws.

We are counting on your support. If millions of us work together, we can win this all-important battle to protect our nation's environment.

Sincerely,

The letter is signed by representatives of: American Oceans Campaign, Center for Marine Conservation, Defenders of Wildlife, Environmental Action Foundation, Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace U.S.A., League of Conservation Voters, National Audubon Society, National Parks and Conservation Association, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club, Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, The Wilderness Society, Zero Population Growth.

**Citizen Action Guide:** The Bulletin's editor has copies of the Citizen Action Guide that were sent with this letter. He will send a copy to anyone calling. The main goal is to respond to the three arguments listed above that are being made by the polluters, and to send your responses to your senators, your representative and the president. Individually worded letters are always said to be the most effective in campaigns of this kind. Telephone calls are also useful. Any library should be able to supply addresses and phone numbers. Also, see Bulletins of March and June, 1994.

## Plants With Scary Names (and a few fungi)

bleedingheart	*****	bloodroot
<i>Boletus satanus</i>	***	boojum tree
California strangler	**	chokecherry
cleavers	***	creeping charlie
daggerpod	**	dead-nettle
deadly nightshade	****	
deadman's foot	****	
	***	****
		death camas
death cap	*****	
destroying angel**		Devil's dipstick*
Devil's club****		Devil's dragonhead **
****		felonwort
		fetid adder's tongue
ghost flower *		hackberry *
***		king devil *
		madwort
		medusa head
		*****
		mother-in-law's tongue
old-witch grass *		panic grass *
		phantom orchid
poison oak		poison hemlock****
		rattlesnake
plantain		*skeleton-weed***
		skullcap
snakeweed***		spider plant***
		tromp du mort
***		viper's bugloss***
		wind witch***
		witch hazel
		witch's butter*****
		wolf's bane*

Happy Halloween

-----Tom Kaye-----

Corvallis Chapter

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## MacFarlane's Four O'clock (*Mirabilis macfarlanei*)

This wildflower, a perennial found in Idaho and Oregon canyonlands, was proposed August 26, 1993, for reclassification to Threatened. MacFarlane's four o'clock is characterized by strikingly large magenta flowers atop stems that have oppositely arranged succulent leaves. IN 1979, when the species was listed as Endangered, only 25 to 30 plants in three colonies were known. Today, thanks to improvements in grazing management, the discovery of 15 additional colonies, and the stable status of these colonies, the species is estimated to number 8,600.

Reprinted from: Endangered Species Technical Bulletin, Vol. XVIII, No. 4 (1993), p. 21.

## Catherine Creek Alert

### Help the Forest Service Write a Management Plan for the Catherine Creek Natural Area (Columbia River Gorge)

#### Please Attend the Forest Service Workshop October 8, Hood River, Oregon

Workshop participants will be asked to come up with a "Desired Future Condition" for the Catherine Creek Natural Area. In 1989, the Washington Natural Heritage Program recommended three management objectives for this area of **about twenty five hundred acres**. They were to:

- (1) "maintain the site's natural diversity"
- (2) "improve the condition of plant communities"
- (3) "maintain viable populations of rare plant and animal species."

These objectives best define the "Desired Future Condition." Uses which conflict with these objectives should not be permitted. Two destructive uses -- cattle and motor vehicles -- have been excluded from Catherine Creek by Forest Service decisions. However, other incompatible activities, including horses, mountain bikes, firearm use, and camping remain threats. None of these uses is currently established at Catherine Creek, and it is vital that the Forest Service prevent them from becoming established.

Horses - The Washington Natural Heritage Program lists horseback riding as an incompatible use at Catherine Creek. Horses spread noxious weeds, cause soil disturbance and erosion, trample and eat plants, and cause user conflict with visitors on foot. As of September, 1994, there is no evidence of current or recent horse use in the Catherine Creek Natural Area, and it should not be allowed to get started.

Mountain Bikes - These cause many of the same problems as horses, but to a lesser degree. Since even foot travel may, in the future, need to be limited at Catherine Creek, it would be unwise to allow any vehicle use to get started.

Firearm Use - Shooting the wildlife upsets the natural diversity and balance. Also, hunting and target shooting are threats to human safety and should not be allowed at Catherine Creek, just as they are not allowed at Forest Service camp-

grounds or in state parks.

Please attend the October 8 workshop to oppose horses, wheels and guns at Catherine Creek. Don't miss this chance to strike a blow for wildflowers!!

Time: Saturday, October 8, 9:30 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Place: National Scenic Area office in Hood River. From I-84, take Exit 63 into downtown Hood River. Take first available right, continuing 4 blocks to 7th Street. Turn right on 7th to a large white building with plenty of parking. The workshop will be in the 3rd floor conference room.

Submitted by Russ Jolley  
Portland Chapter

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### MEMORIAL GIFT

Grayce Folsom has given the Native Plant Society of Oregon a gift, in memory of Dr. Lloyd G. Anderson. The Society is most grateful.

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### Volunteers Needed!

The NPSO State Board is seeking volunteers to serve on the nominating committee for candidates for next spring's election of officers. This is a very important service for our organization. Please consider serving. For more information, call Bruce Rittenhouse, President, Native Plant Society of Oregon. His home number is 888-9328. At work, he can be reached at 756-0100. His address is 550 Fillmore, Coos Bay, OR 97420.

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### Oregon Artist Features Native Plants

Longtime member of the NPSO, Mary Moffat, again shares her love of our native plants. During October, at Collier House, U of O campus, 1177 E. 13th, Eugene, her artworks will be shown from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M., Monday to Friday. Lunches are served from 11 A.M. to 6 P.M. The opening reception will be on October 7, from 7 to 9 P.M., following the First Friday Gallery Walk.

Mary draws directly from life, often enlarging her drawings many times over, for the final painting. She shows the process from beginning sketch to final product.



