



Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

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It's Renewal Time

The NPSO membership year is January to December. Now is the time to renew. First check your address label on the Bulletin. You might already be paid up for 1995. If there is a 94 on the top line, you need to renew now.

A remittance envelope is in this issue of the Bulletin. Or use the membership form on the inside of the back leaf.

NPSO brings you field trips, programs, classes, the monthly Bulletin and the annual Kalmiopsis.

This is also a good time to consider a tax-deductible contribution to our special funds. The Leighton Ho Memorial Fund is used for summer research projects in western Oregon, and is a matching grant in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy. The Rare and Endangered Plant Fund supports work with our most threatened plants. The Jean Davis Fund awards scholarships to botany students in Oregon. 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.

Membership Directory to be Published

The 1995 edition of the NPSO Membership Directory will be published in April. Anyone wanting a copy should add one dollar to their renewal payment.

State News

Jan. 28, Sat.

State Board Meeting: 10 A.M. in Eugene, at Lane Community College. Directions: From I-5, just south of Eugene, exit to L.C.C. and 30th Ave. If northbound, turn left on 30th, southbound turn right. Go 1/4 mi. to Eldon Shaffer Blvd., turn left, go up hill past parking lot and building, turn right into lot above building. Go downstairs to south side of building, and enter room 109.

Spring 1995

Annual Meeting: In Portland. Details in future Bulletins.

Chapter News

Blue Mountain

Dec. 5, Mon. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. Small Business Development Center, SE 1st & Dorian, Pendleton. Janet Ebaugh will talk on the Umatilla tribes project on Wildhorse Creek.

Corvallis

Dec. 12, Mon. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. Dessert potluck and slide show. Take 12 of your favorite slides and/or dessert to share to 3420 SW Willamette Ave., Corvallis. Call Keli Kuykendall, 758-8409, for more information.

Emerald

Dec. 3, Sat. **Ivy Pull.** 10 A.M. We need 20 volunteer hours, to pay for our meeting space at Morse Ranch, and restore native vegetation. Wear long gloves. Take Tecnu and cutters. 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.

Dec. 26, Mon. **Christmas Meeting:** 7 P.M. Take ten slides of 1994 field work, exploration, or whatever. Directions: See above. For information, call 485-0891.

High Desert

Officers: New officers are: Stu Garrett, president; Cindi O'Neil, secretary/treasurer.

Meeting: No meeting in December. Call Cindi O'Neil, 389-3085, for information.

Jan. 24, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend. Reid Schuller will present a program on the national parks of Australia.

Feb. 28, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend. The fire history of the Metolius and Black Butte area will be presented by Dr. Robert Sherman.

March 28, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend. Slide show night. Bring your favorites to show fellow members.

April 25, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend. Linda Rexroat, Range Ecologist, The Nature Conservancy, will discuss restoration ecology at Sycan Marsh.

Mid-Columbia

Dec. 7, Wed. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. at Mosier School. Jerry Gabay will give a slide show, "From Luderitz to Mfeting -- the desertification of southern Africa," based on his recent travels in Africa.

North Coast

Dec. 11, Sun. **Christmas Potluck:** 1 P.M., at Christine Stanley's, 179 E. Coolidge, Cannon Beach.

Please take a dish to share for afternoon brunch. Weather permitting, a short excursion will follow. Call Christine Stanley, 436-0161, for directions.

New Officers: Christine Stanley, president; Jim Winslow, vice president, secretary and field trip chair; Al Krampert, treasurer.

Portland

Dec. 13, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. First Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Mr. Jonathan Stoll, The Nature Conservancy, will tell us about "Fire ecology and restoration management of the Lawrence Grassland Preserve." (The meeting room will open at 6:30 P.M. for socializing.

Siskiyou

Dec. 15, Thurs. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. Room 171, Science Building, SOSC, Ashland. "Wildflowers of Alaska - from muskegs to alpine." Joan Seevers, Rick Prusz and Frank Lang will show slides from those areas.

South Coast

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

Umpqua Valley

Dec. 8, Thurs. **Christmas Party:** 6 P.M. at Richard Sommer's, 240 Vinyard Lane, Roseburg. Take finger foods and your own table service. Call Richard, 673-3709, for information.

Willamette Valley

Meeting: No meeting in December. Will resume in January.

Wm. Cusick

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

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.

President's Column

I just got back from the Rare Plant Conference in Bend (in spite of the snow) and would consider the meeting a success. I want to thank Stu Garrett, Cindi O'Neil and Lisa Croft for their efforts in organizing the meeting. The facilities were outstanding!! I would like to see NPSO continue to sponsor future meetings. At the meeting, representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management updated participants on listing packages and sensitive programs. Most of the participants were botanists from the BLM and FS. I want to encourage NPSO members to attend future meetings.

Writing this just after the election, I was disappointed that Ballot Measure 14 (on mining restrictions) failed. Only time will tell what will happen in southeastern Oregon.

The Native Plant Symposium is going on as planned. (See the article in this issue of the Bulletin.) The dates are November 15 - 17, 1995. And the place is the LaSells Stewart Center in Corvallis. If you are interested in speaking or helping, please give me a call.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Bruce Rittenhouse
NPSO President

NPSO Officers Needed

It is that time again when volunteers are needed to be NPSO officers. We need volunteers for president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and three at-large board members. If you, or anyone you know, is interested, please call Bruce Rittenhouse, at 888-9328.

NPSO to Sponsor Symposium on Native Plants

Mark your calendars for November 15th to 17th, 1995. This is when the Native Plant Society of Oregon will sponsor a symposium, "Conservation and Management of Oregon's Native Flora." It will take place at the LaSells Stewart Center on the Oregon State University campus in Corvallis.

The symposium will consist of four themes, the titles of which will be forthcoming. Two of the themes will include research on Oregon's rare species, and the restoration of native species and plant communities. The other two are still being developed. Each theme will have a keynote speaker, followed by other speakers elaborating it. Concurrent sessions are a possibility, depending on the number of speakers. A poster session will also be included.

This symposium is a great opportunity for graduate students, university faculty, agency personnel and private consultants to make presentations on Oregon's native flora.

There will be a registration fee for those who would like to attend. It is tentatively set at \$40 for NPSO members and \$50 for non-members. (If you are not a member and would like to attend, this is the time to join.) The registration fee will include an evening dinner on the 15th.

There will be more information in future issues of this Bulletin. If you are interested in presenting a paper, please feel free to call me at 503-756-0100, extension 225, or 503-888-9328, at home.

Bruce Rittenhouse

ORV's and Rare Plants

I plan on doing an article for Kalmiopsis on the impacts of off-road vehicles on rare plants in Oregon. If you have information on this issue on either public or private lands in Oregon, please send me the details. I feel this is an important issue and no one has the "big picture" in our state.

Stu Garrett
1501 NE Medical Center Drive
Bend, Oregon 97701

Transforming Forest Eyesores

Imagine that you are given a free hand to transform the power line and ski-lift corridors, located in our national forests, with native vegetation! What would you like to see there? What is your vision? Let your imagination flow.

Three lucky Portland Chapter NPSO members had the opportunity to do just that, on a field trip with Zigzag Ranger District, Special Forest Products Officer, John Davis -- and you do too. John is eager to hear your ideas on what native plants would create more beauty and provide the local people with incomes.

John's own ideas include planting these areas with *Vaccinium membranaceum* -- "big" huckleberries -- the ones that turn red in the fall -- and *Xerophyllum tenax* (bear grass) and *Prunus emarginata* (bitter cherry). He would also try to encourage some mushroom species, and have trees hiding the towers. Essentially, he would plant the areas in species native to the area that have commercial value, and issue permits for harvest that would help pay for the transformation. The permittees might also accomplish some of the maintenance in the areas as they pruned their boughs or harvested their bear grass or bitter cherry for basketry.

I suggested arnica, valerian, anemone, lomatium and Oregon grape for both their beauty and their income-producing potential as medicinal herbs. With the National College of Naturopathic Medicine, an herbalist guild, a plethora of herb courses, several herbal medicine companies and the growing popularity of herbal medicines in the area, these can become -- if they are not already -- "Special Forest Products" whose harvest the USFS might need to oversee with permits. USFS might also inoculate stumps and downed wood with *Ganoderma* (artist's conk) species to take advantage of its growing popularity as an "herb of spiritual potency and medical wonder."

John treated us to a tour of six different sites that are already being managed for special forest products -- products such as tepee poles, posts, rails, boughs, pipsissewa, bear grass, moss, lichens, natural bonsai, Matsutake and other mushroom species. These uses may surpass timber as we move towards the 21st century. He would be willing to do the tour again for a larger audience, so I will reschedule a tour in the spring with pre-registration to assure a reasonable group size. Meanwhile,

please get in touch with John directly, if you have any ideas about re-vegetating power lines or ski areas. He can be reached at 622-3191 or 666-07 (Portland), extension 653.

Mary Vogel
Vice President for Field Trips
Portland Chapter

The Plant Puzzle

Sponsored by the Siskiyou Chapter

The immense genus *Carex* has some odd members in Oregon. For example, the sandpaper-like texture of the achene covers of *Carex livida* are distinctive at 10-15 X magnification. To win this month's prize, be the first to name four Oregon sedges in the genus *Carex* with such peculiar prominent punctate perigynia.

Send your guesses on a postcard to:

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

Mary Maret of Newport was the first to solve the November puzzle, golden fleece, *Ericameria arborescens* (*Haplopappus arborescens*).

Summer Intern Reports

Following is the second in a series of five articles in which NPSO conservation biology interns discuss their activities during the 1994 field season. Interns were selected from a pool of about 30 applicants, and worked with scientists from the Oregon Department of Agriculture/OSU Plant Conservation Biology Program in carrying out research related to threatened and endangered species in the northwest. Project locations ranged from Hell's Canyon to vacant lots in Klamath Falls, and for one participant included a molecular systematics laboratory at OSU. Interns were jointly funded by NPSO, state and federal dollars, and plan to use their experiences in furthering their careers in botany. Thanks again to NPSO for contributing to botanical education.

Bob Meinke, Program Leader

Blazing Composites

"I can't believe it; that spider looks like it eats botanists for breakfast. Yeow! Here it comes." The screams of my field partner Armand brought the rest of the crew scrambling over to inspect the hairy arachnid crawling amidst a dense patch of Snake River goldenweed. As the spider lumbered clumsily towards us, I thought I could detect a glint of malice in its eyes. "Take a picture. Take a picture! April, put your hand next to it for scale!" After a bad experience with a yellowjacket earlier in the summer, my hand was not going anywhere near that venomous beast. I spent the summer of 1994 working with a crew of four other interns who were sponsored by the Native Plant Society of Oregon and supervised by the Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) Plant Conservation Biology Program; we helped with rare plant inventory and monitoring projects all over the state. We met the spider while working on *Haplopappus radiatus*, the Snake River goldenweed.

As August was winding down, we found ourselves headed east, destination Baker City. With the exception of Monday and Friday, designated driving days, the week was spent monitoring *Haplopappus radiatus*. Evaluation of this plant, which is a state-listed endangered species, has been going on since 1991 as a cooperative project between the Vale BLM and the ODA. One goal of this project is to experimentally study the effect of cattle grazing on the population dynamics of *Haplopappus*. Several years ago, the Vale BLM, using a prison work crew, built cattle exclosures at several of the populations. Every year since then the ODA has monitored the population dynamics of Snake River goldenweed, both inside and outside the exclosures.

Beautiful weather was there to greet us every morning at 5 A.M., the start of each day. After a cup of java, we were ready to roll. Each of the three sites was reached after a short drive followed by a brisk hike. The Baker County area is the only place in Oregon where *Haplopappus radiatus* is found; it also has limited occurrences across the Snake River in Idaho, but nowhere else. Bunchgrass meadows, open hillsides, and plains provide the environment Snake River goldenweed requires. Due to the potential threat that weeds promoted by cattle grazing pose, plants are in constant competition for resources. Although biotic competition maintains balance in the plant community, too often the competitors aren't native, but introduced. Species like cheatgrass (*Bromus*

tectorum), whitetop (*Cardaria draba*) and goats-beard (*Tragopogon dubius*) are common. The introduced species may be too invasive, pushing the native plants out.

After referring to old data sheets, it was obvious that *H. radiatus* had seen better days. Seedling survival rates were very low, and many of the adults had already dried up. Plant density seemed greater inside the exclosures, but even there, signs of insect and mammal predation were present. The exclosures served as barriers to cattle, but not to animals such as deer and rabbits. We found that many of this year's flower heads were aborted. On close inspection of randomly selected heads, the problem of insect predation was brought into perspective. Only a small percentage of the seeds were viable, with midge larvae and weevils present in every stage of their life cycles. Moth larvae were also found, particularly in the receptacle area of the head. Different insects were dependent on specific areas of the flower, which seemed to be a kind of ecological niche partitioning.

The measurements taken during data collection included the number of leaves, length of the longest leaf, and the number of flower heads that were abort versus reproductive. New seedlings were mapped and recorded, and the amount of herbivory and what caused it (bovine or grasshopper) was estimated. Jean Findley and Clare Button, botanists with the Vale BLM, arrived to provide encouragement, and to help with data collection in the heat of the day.

Temperatures that week soared into the 90's and 100's. Of course, everyone was on the lookout for black widow spiders, whose webs were everywhere. A few were spotted, but nothing compared to the enormous spider that no one could identify. Luckily it held still long enough for a photograph. Evenings were spent enjoying magnificent lightning and thunder displays, making the heat of the day seem worth it. You can be sure the air-conditioned rooms didn't go unappreciated.

Aside from the botanical experience and knowledge I gained, this summer was one of personal growth for me, thanks to Jack Greenlee, Bob Meinke, Tom Kay, the Native Plant Society, the ODA and everyone on the field crew. The many personalities represented in the 1994 field crew made for a humorous and most enjoyable summer. Hopefully, we made the future for a few dwindling plant species a bit brighter.

April Sunshine Cameron

Call For Articles

"Hortus Northwest," a Pacific Northwest native plant directory and journal, is asking writers to submit original manuscripts (or queries) to the editor for consideration for publication. The emphasis is on native plants of the Pacific Northwest for restoration, gardening and wetland projects. Articles require a practical focus, must be botanically precise, and can be technical, particularly when lending support or background to topics. Thoroughness and logical organization are crucial. All plants discussed must be referenced with **both** the botanical and common names. **Indicate your source for all plant names** (Jepson, Peck, Hitchcock, etc.).

Suggested Topics:

Weed management; seed and plant predation issues; soil-plant relationships; aquatic species; establishing plants in problem environments; designing with natives; botanical reviews of communities, genera, species; canopy density of riparian species; plants for constructed wetlands; non-flowering native plants, et cetera.

Previously Published Articles:

Profiles of Pacific Northwest Fescues
Northwest Natives as Landscape Groundcovers
Basic Principles for Establishing Native Grasses
Vegetative Growth Habits of Sedges
Bulrushes for Wetland Restoration
Native Alpine Plants for Rock Gardens
Use of *Eriogonum* for Reclamation

Submissions:

We accept five and a quarter or three and a half inch diskettes in a PC format. Be sure to enclose a hard copy. Use no tabs. Allow one character space between sentences, double space between paragraphs, and use hard returns only at end of paragraphs.

Query Letters:

Send a query letter briefly outlining the proposed idea. Enclose clips of your published work. We do not accept queries or manuscripts sent via FAX.

Send to:

Editor, Hortus Northwest, PO Box 955, Canby, Oregon 97013.

1994 Oregon Rare Plant Conference in Bend

On November 4th and 5th over 70 professional and amateur botanists from across the northwest met at Central Oregon Community College to discuss Oregon's rare plant species. This meeting, held every other year, is the one time experts from NPSO, BLM, USFS, Oregon Department of Agriculture, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Oregon Natural Heritage Program all get together to decide what listing status Oregon plant species need to assure their survival.

In the two days of meetings each of the above-mentioned agencies updated participants on their future conservation plans. The ODA is planning to list a number of rare plants under this state's endangered species law. The USFWS is making plans to deal with the Oregon species covered by the Fund for Animals lawsuit that was successfully settled two years ago. The USFS is planning changes to its sensitive species list that could remove several important species from Oregon's USFS sensitive plant list. The BLM is pursuing Conservation Agreements for several species, and the ONHP is digitizing maps of rare species occurrences statewide. These agencies will provide details of their activities in future issues of the Bulletin.

Under the expert guidance of Lisa Croft, Cindi 'Neil and Jimmy Kagan, we were able to work through a list of over 300 species and discuss changes needed in their status on the rare plant list for Oregon. Each agency will now use the results of this conference in their decisions regarding species for which they have management responsibilities. The High Desert Chapter of NPSO sponsored and organized the conference and made sure there was time for informal discussions, in addition to the two days of hard work. Sales of the Siskiyou Rare Plant Poster (a spectacular one) and conference coffee cups (still available from Lisa Croft for \$5) generated funds for the conference and for publication of the rare plant booklet in 1995 by the Heritage Program. NPSO was proud to sponsor this conference and looks forward to doing it in the future.

Stu Garrett
High Desert Chapter

Endangered Species Act Update

Congress took no action on reauthorizing the Endangered Species Act, before recessing in October. This means the new Congress, convening in January, will have to begin again -- introducing new bills, probably holding new hearings, and voting -- first in committees, then in the full House and Senate.

Timing is uncertain. A Republican-led Senate means that John Chafee, Rhode Island -- a strong supporter of the ESA -- would chair the Committee on Environment and Public Works. In general, however, it can be expected that the new Congress will be even more difficult to work with in efforts to protect and enhance the ESA.

The Endangered Species Coalition (an organization of more than 145 national, state and local organizations committed to getting passed a strengthened ESA) has just opened a regional office in Seattle. Becky Dinwoodie, Northwest Regional Coordinator, can be reached at 1516 Melrose Avenue, Suite 202, Seattle, WA 98122, (206) 623-2734, FAX 206-623-2624.

The Coalition will sponsor a regional conference at the Mountaineers Club in Seattle, January 21-22, 1995, its theme, "Reauthorizing the ESA -- Mobilizing for Action." Conference organizer, Melanie Reeves, invites other environmental organizations to cosponsor the event. For a \$50 donation to the Coalition, the organization's name will appear as cosponsor, it will receive one complimentary registration (fee \$30), and will provided a display table. Checks are payable to: NAS Endangered Species Coalition, at the above address, and sent by Nov. 18, 1994, for brochure inclusion.

Faith Campbell leaves the Natural Resources Defense Council at the end of the year to work for the Exotic Pest Plant councils. She will be sorely missed. To continue receiving timely information about ESA, write to be put on the mailing lists of, Roger Featherstone, Endangered Species Coalition, 666 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Wash., D.C. 20003, and Pam Eaton - "Green Fire," The Wilderness Society, 907 17th St. NW, Wash., D.C. 20006.

Mariana D. Bornholdt
Willamette Valley Chapter

Opal Creek Needs Your Help

The Opal Creek Forest Preserve Act of 1994 (HR 3905) permanently protects 22,000 acres of Opal Creek Ancient Forest. The bill passed unanimously in the House of Representatives last fall, and was strongly endorsed by the administration. But, Senator Hatfield "killed" it in the Senate during the last days of the 103rd Congress. Action may be taken during the "lame duck session" (December 1-5, 1994) if we let Senator Hatfield know how important its passage is to us. PLEASE write, call or FAX Senator Hatfield TODAY, urging his support of HR 3905. Messages must reach him before December 5.

Honorable Mark Hatfield
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-3753; 503-326-3386; 503-588-9510
FAX 202-224-0276

Kate Dwire
Westside Conservation Chair

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, "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.

