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Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

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If you have any questions, please contact us at [bulletin@npsoregon.org](mailto:bulletin@npsoregon.org).

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## Only in the Owyhee



**By Corie Harlan, Owyhee Canyonlands Coordinator, ONDA**

17 million years ago, the hotspot that currently fuels the many geothermal wonders under Yellowstone National Park was at work transforming the region where Idaho, Oregon, and Nevada's borders meet today.

Four calderas in the Owyhee Canyonlands area exploded simultaneously, spewing hot volcanic gases, volcanic ash, and large chunks of volcanic rock and molten froth for thousands of square miles. The multiple ash layers and numerous deposits laid down during this time boast a painter's palette of colors, ranging from yellow to green to red with streaks of black and brown throughout.

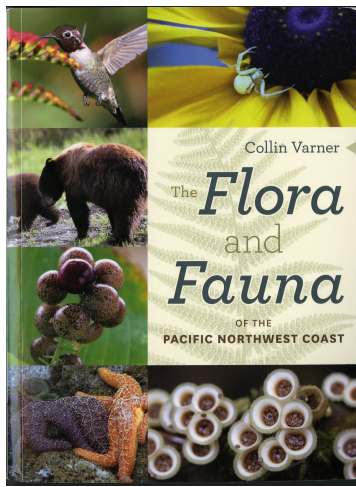
As journalist Tim Neville observed during one of his many visits, "Oregon's Owyhee reminds me a lot of Southern Utah's red rock country... only dipped in fudge."

[To read the full article, click here.](#)

Thank you to [Oregon Natural Desert Association](#) for sharing this article with us!

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## Book Review



### **Flora and Fauna of the Pacific Northwest Coast**

Colin Varner. 2018. University of Washington Press, Seattle, Washington. ISBN 978-0-295-74464-3 464 pp. 2000 color illus. 7.5 x 10 in. Paper. \$34.95

Colin Varner started his career in 1977 in the botanical garden of the University of British Columbia, where he became the university's arborist/horticulturist and also teaches native plant studies. He spent 17 years collecting information and photos for this book. Most of the photos are by the author and most are stunning. The layout is impressive as well. In the author's definition, the Pacific Northwest coast extends from Juneau, Alaska, to San Francisco, California. As if that weren't a big enough area, he extends his coverage inland about 60 miles, so that the species in this book are "the delights that the ambler encounters from the intertidal to the subalpine areas." If one skips over this introduction, it could be confusing to encounter high elevation species in a book about the coast.

As the title indicates, there are two main divisions in the book, flora and fauna. The flora section has eight chapters: Flowering Plants, Berries, Ferns, Shrubs and Bushes, Trees, Fungi and Allies, Invasive Plants, and Marine Plants. The fauna section has six chapters: Birds, Land Mammals, Amphibians, Reptiles, Insects and Associates, and Marine Life.

The Flowering Plants chapter includes mostly forbs with showy flowers, arranged alphabetically by family name, from Asteraceae through Violaceae. Curiously, here he includes three members of the family Lycopodiaceae, which produce spores, not flowers. Goatsbeard, *Aruncus dioicus*, appears twice, once in Flowering Plants and again in Shrubs (pages 87 and 139). The only error we found here was that the photo for *Carex nigricans* on page 43 is a *Juncus* species, possibly *J. mertensianus*. Photos of the other two sedges, *Carex macrocephala* and *C. obnupta*, show the characters beautifully, and the understatement that *Carex macrocephala* is not pleasant to step on with bare feet is a nice touch. This section completely avoids grass species, possibly because the author considers them to be "more obscure species" that are not "visible to the typical viewer," and we can't argue with this.

The Berries chapter is mostly edibles; it includes two blackberries that are on several invasive species lists (*Rubus armeniacus* and *Rubus laciniatus*). The Fern chapter describes ten common ferns. In the Shrubs and Bushes chapter, photos show fruits or flowers and leaves or growth habit. Trees are also organized alphabetically by family

name, which serves, conveniently, to present the hardwoods first, followed by the conifers. Fungi and Allies starts with members of the sub-family of Ericaceae (Monotropoidae) and finishes with fungi ranging from *Amanita* to dog vomit slime mold. The problem with this is that whether one defines “allies” as related species or as species that help one another, the term does not fit here. Fungi are more closely related to a human baby than they are to plants (Dan Luoma, pers. comm.); the plants described in this chapter are now considered mycotrophytes.

The final chapter in the Flora section is a thorough and comprehensive collection of non-native plants. The author’s coverage is impressive and underscores the prevalence of introduced species in mild coastal environments. We are curious only about why, in the alphabetical listing of families, he chose to include wild proso millet (in the family Poaceae) in between the families Chenopodiaceae and Convolvulaceae. Compared to European beachgrass and cordgrasses, this is a relatively innocuous weedy grass. The more aggressive and easily identified genera of *Ammophila* and *Spartina* are not mentioned.

In the Marine Plants Chapter, one would be able to identify *Nereocystis* from the photo alone, but not *Macrocystis*. The rockweeds and sargassum are adequately presented; algae covered are most of the larger kelps and commonest greens and reds. Let’s say this chapter serves as an introduction to the uninitiated. The remaining chapters cover the fauna, but beyond admiring the photos, we won’t detail that section for this plant society review.

We don’t recommend this book as a technical guide, but as the author indicated, he wrote it for casual observers not deeply familiar with the natural history west of the Coast Range. The book is a bit too large to easily carry as a field guide, but with its lovely photos, it’s a book that visitors would be delighted to find in any vacation rental house along the coast.

— Kathleen Sayce, *Filipendula* Chapter and Cindy Roché, *High Desert* Chapter

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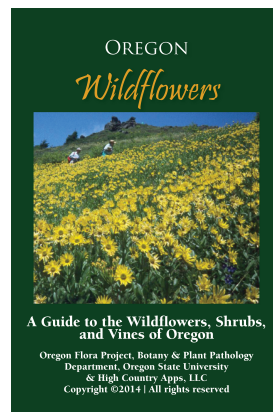
## OregonFlora



By: Dr. Linda K. Hardison

Director, [Oregon Flora Project](#)

Warmer weather and longer days are here, meaning it's time to get outside and explore the local flora! The Oregon Wildflowers app is an excellent resource to help you identify flowering herbs and shrubs you may encounter anywhere in Oregon. There are 751 species in the app that occur in the Siskiyou Mountains ecoregion, making this a must-have for your outings at the annual meeting this year!



Drawn from information of the Flora of Oregon, each of the 1,000+ plants in the app have multiple photos, a distribution map, and a brief description. The app also includes information about the plant families represented—a great way to learn the plant diversity of our state.

Purchase a copy for your [iPhone](#), [Android](#), or tablet from links given here, or from the [Oregonflora.org](http://Oregonflora.org) home page. A portion of the funds provide support for our program.

OregonFlora will be hosting a silent auction at the annual meeting. We hope you come prepared to bid generously in support of the work of OregonFlora, and take home some treasures in doing so!

Contributions can be made online ([www.oregonflora.org/supportOFP.php](http://www.oregonflora.org/supportOFP.php)) or mailed directly to: Agricultural Research Foundation, 1600 SW Western Blvd. Ste. 320, Corvallis, OR 97333. Please make checks payable to the Agricultural Research Foundation and include "OFP" on the memo line.

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## State & Chapter Notes

### State Notes/Announcements:

**State Board Meeting** - The next State Board Meeting is scheduled for July 14th, 9:00am to 1:00pm at the Annual Meeting (Pacifica: A Garden in the Siskiyou).

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Chapter Notes:

Blue Mountain

For information on Blue Mountain Chapter, call Jerry Baker, 541-566-2244. To get on our email list, contact flora.id@wtechlink.us.

Cheahmill

For questions, or to be added to the Cheahmill Chapter's email list for reminders of upcoming programs and events, please contact the Cheahmill Chapter President at ch_president@NPSOregon.org. Check out our Facebook page at [facebook.com/Native Plant Society of Oregon: Cheahmill Chapter](https://facebook.com/NativePlantSocietyofOregon).

Meeting and work party location: Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library, 225 NW Adams St. (corner of Highway 99W and SW Second St.), McMinnville. The library parking lot may be entered from either Adams or Second streets. Meetings start at 7 pm. Doors open at 6:45 pm for socializing.

Corvallis

For questions, information on upcoming events, or to be on the Corvallis Chapter email list, contact co_president@NPSOregon.org. Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/CorvallisNPSO.

Emerald

Our chapter meets the 3rd Monday at 7 pm through April, at the Amazon Community Center. Visit the Emerald Chapter website at <http://emerald.npsoregon.org> to learn more about the latest chapter events, plant lists and botanical information about Lane County plants and the people who love them.

We want you! If you have leadership or coordination experience, are looking to build your resume, or enjoy sharing your knowledge of native plants, we want to hear from you! The Emerald Chapter is currently seeking officers to join our active board. Positions include president, vice president, secretary, and publicity and field trip committee chairs. If interested, please send an email to em_president@npsoregon.org.

Saturday, June 22, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

Field Trip: McKenzie River Trust and the Native Plant Society Partner to Lead Tour of Spectacular Finn Rock Reach

This recent land acquisition of MRT contains about two miles of river front, numerous side channels, ponds, wetlands, and old floodplain forest in the scenic McKenzie River Corridor. The terrain does include some uneven ground. You will need to bring layers, water, and snacks. If you wish, bring binoculars and a hand lens. All participants need to register online through a link on the McKenzie River Trust Website after May 22. Go to mckenzie-river.org. Meet 10:30 am at the Finn Rock Reach parking area located just past milepost 39, near the bus stop on the right. (Just over a mile past the old Finn Rock Grill.) If you wish to pool rides you can join us at 58th and Main St. behind the McDonald's Restaurant at 9:15 am in Springfield. For more information call Dave at 541-345-5531 or email dpredeek@msn.com.

Saturday, July 6, 9 am - 4 pm

Field Trip: Upper Elk Meadows

Alan Curtis leads this hike, located about 30 miles from Cottage Grove at 4,000 feet elevation. Over 200 species of vascular plants have been identified here. We expect to see *Fraseria umpquaensis* and several orchid species. Surrounding the meadow is an old growth forest of *Abies amabilis*, *Abies grandis*, and *Pseudotsuga menziesii*. We will walk 1.5 miles through moist meadow. Wear boots and bring lunch and water. Location: meet at South Eugene High School at 19th and Patterson. For more information, call Alan Curtis at 541-345-2571 or email abcwoods1@gmail.com.

Filipendula

For more information, visit our Facebook page: NPSO-Filipendula Chapter, or contact Field Trip Chair Carla Cole, carlajeancole@gmail.com.

All year: North Oregon Restoration Partnership potting days in Tillamook, OR at the nursery, with Maysa Miller

We will share the volunteer activity dates, and encourage everyone to join during the year to help the nursery with potting up native plants. It's a great way to pick up new skills in potting and handling native plants. Contact Carla Cole to sign up; her email address is carlajeancole@gmail.com.

June 5th, Wednesday, 9:00 am

***Iris tenax* in bloom at Ecola State Park**

Hiking a section of the Oregon Coast Trail between Crescent Beach and Indian Beach, round trip of 3 miles. This is the northernmost known population of *Iris tenax* on the Pacific Northwest coast. Other species seen on this trail include *Sidalcea hirtipes* and several violets. Entry to Ecola State Park requires a state park permit. Start time is 9 a.m. End time is around 1 p.m. Wear boots and weather appropriate clothing; bring food and water. Hike organizer is Kathleen Sayce. Contact Carla Cole to sign up; her email address is carlajeancole@gmail.com.

July 17th, Wednesday, 9:00 am

Streamside walk at Oswald West State Park

Most visitors walk west to the ocean's edge. We will walk upstream along one of several streams, looking for low elevation *Filipendula*

occidentalis plants and other coastal stream species. Meet in the main parking lot (by the restrooms) at 9 am to start. End time is around 1 pm.

Wear boots and weather appropriate clothing; bring food and water. Hike organizer is Kathleen Sayce. Contact Carla Cole to sign up; her email address is carlajeancole@gmail.com.

High Desert

For information, visit the High Desert Chapter website: www.highdesertnpsoregon.org and Facebook page: Native Plant Society of Oregon: High Desert Chapter, or email highdesertnps@gmail.com.

Friday, June 7th, 8 am - 3 pm

Big Summit Prairie Wildflower Hike, Ochoco National Forest

Enjoy one of Central Oregon's premier wildflower viewing spots with a guided meander lead by Susan Berger and Jennifer Curtis. Balsamroot, Indian paintbrush, and *Calochortus* lilies will be some of the many floral delights seen. Limited to 12 participants; paid High Desert chapter members will be given priority for sign ups. Participants will need to RSVP

via EventBrite on the High Desert website. Meet at 8:00 am at Wilco parking lot, Hwy 20 in Bend to carpool. Easy walking over flat terrain and short distances. Bring water, lunch, snacks, and appropriate gear for a day in the sun.

Saturday, June 29th, 8 am - 3 pm

Metolius River Trail Hike

Summer flowers will be in abundance along the lush, riparian community of the Metolius River. A relaxed hike of 1-3 miles will allow participants ample time to view and photograph along the trail. Limited to 12 participants; paid High Desert chapter members will be given priority for sign ups. Participants will need to RSVP via EventBrite on the High Desert website. Meet at 8 am at the Starbucks on N Hwy 97 (Cascades Shopping center) to carpool. Bring water, lunch, snacks, and appropriate gear for a day in the sun.

Sign up for hikes at <http://www.highdesertnpsoregon.org/>.

Please contact High Desert chapter (highdesertnps@gmail.com) for more information on hikes and other events.

Klamath Basin

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, visit <http://klamathbasinnps.com>.

Mid-Columbia

For information on the Mid-Columbia Chapter, contact Sara Wu at mc_president@NPSOregon.org.

Portland

Take a look at our Facebook page. Native Plant Society of Oregon-Portland-Chapter. It will have the most up-to-date information on hikes and other events as well as great plant pictures. All hikes and programs, plus many more hikes, are also posted on our Meetup page: <https://www.meetup.com/NPSO-Portland/>

The Portland Chapter meets the second Thursday of most months. Meetings and programs begin at 7 pm. MEETING PLACE: TaborSpace at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, 5441 SE Belmont St., Portland. We will meet in Copeland Commons; enter the church through the main door off Belmont and turn right to enter the room. Parking is available in the church lot on the NW corner of SE 54th and Belmont.

June 8th, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Trip/Location: Larch Mountain, Mt. Hood National Forest, Oregon

Leader: Ron Klump

Description: This is a moderate to strenuous hike that consists of an approximately 7 mile loop with an elevation gain of 1,300' through mostly forest and some riparian. We will also view wildflowers that have emerged within the last several weeks from the recent snow melt. Bring lunch and water. Meet at the Gateway Park & Ride (Portland) at 9:00 am to carpool. Drive is 60 miles round-trip from Gateway Park & Ride area (Portland). Contact Ron at klumpron@gmail.com for more information on meeting place or to sign-up.

June 13th, 7:00 pm

Program: Plants of Isle Royale National Park, Upper Peninsula of Michigan

Presenter: Lisa Appel, Conservation Outcomes Specialist, OR Watershed Enhancement Board

How could a rocky island in Lake Superior with harsh winters support over 600 flowering plants, from pond dwelling duckweeds to rare eastern paintbrushes and yellow mountain saxifrages? Learn about the geologic and glacial forces that formed the Great Lakes and this special place so different from the NW by a former member of the Michigan Native Plant Society now transplanted to the Cascadia Region.

June 15th, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Trip/Location: Saddle Mountain, Saddle Mountain State Park, Oregon

Leader: Rick Shory

Description: This botanic gem in the Oregon Coast Range is chock full of wildflowers including *Dodecatheon austro-frigidum*, *Corydalis scouleri*, *Allium crenulatum*, *Lewisia columbiana*, *Sidalcea hirtipes*, *Polypodium amorphum*, *Saxifrage caespitosa*, and many others. If we make it to the summit and the weather cooperates, we'll be treated to a view from Mt. Rainier to Mt. Jefferson. Full day. The hike is 5 miles round trip with 1,600 feet of elevation gain, although we will go at a botany pace (slow). Meet at the Sunset Transit Center Park & Ride. 160 miles round trip from Portland. Contact Rick at rickshory@gmail.com for more information or to sign-up.

July 6th, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Trip/Location: Lookout Mountain, Mt. Hood National Forest/Badger Creek Wilderness

Leader: Ron Klump

Description: Only the foundation remains of an old Forest Service fire lookout but the views are astounding! Mt. Adams, Mt. Hood, Mt. Jefferson and the Three Sisters can be seen on a clear day. Many wildflowers, interesting geology and alpine meadows make this a great early summer hike. Distance is an easy 3 mile roundtrip hike with elevation gain of 565 to the lookout at 6,525 feet! Mt. Hood looks like you could touch it! This hike is limited to 12 people due to federal Wilderness Area restrictions. Contact Ron Klump after signing up on "Meetup" or email klumpron@gmail.com to get specific directions to the meeting places in either Portland or Hood River for carpoolers. The trip includes driving on gravel roads for about 5 miles each way on a Forest Service road to and from the parking lot below the trailhead.

August 10th, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Trip/Location: Mt. Hood Meadows Chairlift

Leaders: Ron Klump & Nancy Chapman

Description: This hike uses the Mt. Hood Meadows chair lift (\$10 for the day) normally taking skiers to the snowy slopes, to quickly access the high mountain meadows for stunning displays of a variety of alpine flowers. When the wildflowers have dried out everywhere else in Oregon, this is the place to go in the late season! Join us for fresh mountain air and a magical day on Mt. Hood. Carpools will leave Portland and Hood River to meet at Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Area off of Hwy 35. Contact Ron at klumpron@gmail.com for more information on carpooling and to register.

Siskiyou

To join the Siskiyou Chapter email list: Send an email, from the address at which you want to receive announcements, to announce-join@siskiyou.npsoregon.org. No subject or message is required. You will get a confirmation email. If you would like to volunteer to lead a hike, make a suggestion, or provide feedback regarding the field trip program,

please contact Katelyn Detweiler, detweiler.katelyn@gmail.com. Join us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/SiskiyouChapterNativePlantSocietyOfOregon>

Tuesday, June 25th, 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Botany and Butterfly Community Science Survey at Vesper Meadow

Join in the community science monitoring at Vesper Meadow. In its inaugural year, participate in surveys for butterfly diversity, take inventory of blooms, and help establish the baseline information to guide wildlife habitat restoration efforts. This upland wet meadow, providing big sky views of Mt. McLaughlin, will be in prime Camas bloom in May, and Wyethia and Corn Lily bloom in June. Additional community science opportunities may also be available, such as: seed collection, invasive weed pulls, and GPS recording. Please be in touch with jeaninemoy@gmail.com for questions or inquiries.

Monday, June 17th, 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

5th Annual CSNM Mariposa Preserve Star Thistle Pull

Join Siskiyou Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, KS Wild, Friends of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, and monument staff for an invasive weed pull in the Mariposa Preserve just outside of Ashland. Help clear yellow star thistle in the habitat of the rare Green's Mariposa Lily (*Calochortus greenii*) and observe wildflowers blooming along the way. There will be the option to gather for dinner at 7:30 at a restaurant near the carpool location afterwards. To sign up for carpool details, what to bring, and more details, please visit: <https://www.kswild.org/upcoming-events/2019/6/17/5th-annual-weed-pull-at-the-mariposa-preserve>.

Umpqua Valley

Visit umpquavalleynativeplants.com for more information on chapter activities or to be added to our email list. Check out our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO. Not online - call Donna Rawson 541-643-0364.

We are organizing a monthly work party for landscape maintenance of the three native plant gardens we are continuing to enhance. If you like to work with plants and have some flexible time we could use your help. Contact Donna at 541-643-0364 (call or text).

Willamette Valley

For program information, contact John Savage at 503-779-5414, john@straubcenter.org.

June 9, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Field Trip: Kingston Prairie

John Savage of the Willamette Valley Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon will lead a morning walk to view the wildflowers at the 152-acre Kingston Prairie Preserve southeast of Stayton. The Kingston Prairie Preserve is the best example of native prairie remaining in the Central Willamette Valley. The wet and dry prairies harbor native grasses and host a wide variety of prairie wildflowers including rare and endemic species such as the Willamette Daisy, the Willamette Larkspur, Field Checkermallow, and the Common and Leichtlin's Camas. Bring water, snacks, and appropriate foot gear and clothing for the weather conditions. Location: meet in the parking lot at the Willamette Heritage Center, 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem at 9:00 am. Transportation will be provided to and from the trailhead. Cost: \$5 per person. Space is limited. Registration is required. To register and for more information, contact John Savage, John@strauboutdoors.org or 503-779-5414.

Sunday, June 30, 7:30 am - 5:30 pm

Field Trip: Iron Mountain

Enjoy one of the best summer wildflower hikes in Oregon. Iron Mountain has over 300 different species of flowers amid stands of trees and meadows. John Savage of the Willamette Valley Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon will lead the all-day hike over a six mile loop with 1,000 feet of elevation gain. Bring water, lunch, snacks, and appropriate foot gear and clothing for the weather conditions. Location: meet in the parking lot at the Willamette Heritage Center, 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem at 7:30 am. Transportation will be provided to and from the trailhead. Cost: \$10 per person. Space is limited. Registration is required. To register and for more information, contact John Savage, John@strauboutdoors.org or 503-779-5414.

William Cusick

Chapter notices and communications are done primarily through a Google group. For more information or to be added to the Google group, please contact Susan Geer at 541-963-0477 or susanmgeer@gmail.com. Find us on Instagram at [instagram.com/wm.cusick.chapter](https://www.instagram.com/wm.cusick.chapter). Our website is not currently functional.

NPSO State Officers

- President: Lisa Blackburn, president@npsoregon.org
- Immediate Past President: Kelli Van Norman, past_president@npsoregon.org
- Vice-president: Thea Jaster, vice-president@npsoregon.org
- Secretary: Steven Yeager, secretary@npsoregon.org
- Treasurer: Cyndi Dion, treasurer@npsoregon.org
- Directors: Dawn Anzinger, Alexis Brickner, Esther McEvoy, Dan Luoma, Karl Anderson, Stephen Meyers

Committees & Chairs

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- Friends Of The Oregon Flora Project: Linda Hardison
- Legislative: Vacant
- Membership: Margaret Conover
- NPSO Fellows: Cindy Roché and Kareen Sturgeon
- Rare & Endangered Plants: Jason Clinch
- Publications: Cindy Roche and Kareen Sturgeon
- Bulletin Editor: Alix Danielsen
- Webmaster: Sunia Yang
- More information about our NPSO Fellows [here](#).

Chapter Presidents and contact information [can be found here](#).



Website



Facebook

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