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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

August-September 2020

Volume 53, No. 7



Cistanthe umbellata on the lower slopes of Broken Top, July 18, 2020. Photo by Lisa Schomaker.

We hope you enjoy the combined August and September eBulletin!

NPSO Membership News

The Membership Committee is happy to report that there are currently 851 members in the Native Plant Society of Oregon, representing a 10% increase in memberships over 2019. Yet each year about 25% of our members fail to renew, and of course we'd like to know why. So recently, the NPSO Board authorized us to conduct a survey, for the purpose of assessing the needs and interests of our members as we continue to transition to our digital platform. **We urge you to take a moment to complete the survey, available at this link:** <https://forms.gle/Rn5GsWrQMReax1YH7>

Thank you!

Margaret Conover, Willow Elliott, Claire Carder, Karl Anderson, Emmalyn Garrett, and Cindy Roché

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If you prefer to read a hard copy, click on the link at the top of this email that says "view this email in your browser," and then "print" this e-newsletter as a PDF.

If you have any questions, please contact us at bulletin@npsoregon.org.

Oregon Mystery Plant

Last month's mystery plant revealed: Malheur Cryptantha, or Idaho Cryptanth (*Cryptantha propria*, formerly *Oreocarya propria*). This species was once considered rare

and had status on ONHP List 4, but it was dropped in 2010 because it was “too common.” Except for one old collection in Wheeler County, its distribution is limited to southeastern Oregon north to Baker County and in adjacent southwestern Idaho. Habitat is described as “dry, open, clay or ash-barren basins” but Roché found it in a lava scabland on top of a ridge. It flowers in late May and early June, but since nutlets are so helpful in Boraginaceae, it should be easy to identify later in the season. *Cryptantha propria* is distinguished from species in the area by its lack of bristly hairs on the upper surface of the leaves; they are definitely bristly-hairy on the margins and under surface. Because so many of the plants in southeastern Oregon are part of the Great Basin flora, a good key to use for *Cryptantha* there is *Flora of Steens Mountain* by Donald Mansfield (OSU Press 2000).



New mystery plant! This matted plant was photographed by Kareen Sturgeon who found it growing on a rocky/gravelly slope at about 9700'. In Oregon, the species is found only in Malheur and Harney counties. Can you guess the ID of this plant? The answer will be revealed in the next eBulletin.

Do you have an Oregon Mystery Plant to share? Send it in to the editor:
bulletin@NPSOregon.org.

- Lisa Schomaker

Central Oregon Pop-up Grass Workshops



I will be teaching one-day grass identification workshops in central Oregon this summer and early fall. Participation is limited to 6 students per workshop. We will meet at a field location and use the *Field Guide to Grasses of Oregon and Washington*. If you are interested in attending, please send an email to grassesandmore@gmail.com to be placed on the notification list.

- Cindy Roché, High Desert Chapter

Plant of the Month: *Lithospermum incisum*



This plant is known by a number of common names: Fringed puccoon, Narrowleaf gromwell and Narrowleaf stoneseed. "Puccoon" is a Powhatan tribe term derived from the word "poughkone" which refers to plants that yield a dye - in this case a red dye obtained from the roots. I discovered a scattered colony of these plants growing on a dry riverbank above the Snake River in extreme northern Malheur County, Oregon. The scientific name of this plant is *Lithospermum incisum*, the epithet *incisum* referring to the incised petals. *Lithospermum ruderale* (Western stoneseed) grows nearby, and both plants are in the Boraginaceae. This is the first known report of this plant in Oregon.



OregonFlora



OregonFlora is developing a comprehensive resource about the plants of Oregon for nature enthusiasts, restoration practitioners, land managers, scientists, and gardeners of all ages and levels of interest. The information within the three-volume *Flora of Oregon* books and the extensive database used to organize the information forms the foundation for our website, oregonflora.org and the Oregon Wildflowers mobile app. These digital resources bring the beauty and diversity of Oregon's plant life to the public with thousands of photographs, interactive maps, and intuitive identification tools.

Your financial support allows us to keep providing free access of digital information to the public. Our program relies on competitive grants and donations from individuals and groups to fund all of OregonFlora's direct operating expenses. The contributions people give of their time and financial resources are a critical part of our budget. If you would like to be a part of the team that keeps OregonFlora progressing, please contact us at ofpflora@oregonflora.org.

Contributions can be made online (<http://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.

- Linda Hardison

State & Chapter Notes

State Notes/Announcements:

NPSO Membership News

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Thank you!

Margaret Conover, Willow Elliott, Claire Carder, Karl Anderson, Emmalyn Garrett, and Cindy Roché

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## **Chapter Notes:**

### **Blue Mountain**

To get on the Blue Mountain Chapter email list, contact Bruce Barnes at [flora.id@wtechlink.us](mailto: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](mailto:ch_president@NPSOregon.org).

Check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NPSO.Ceahmill/>.

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](mailto:co_president@NPSOregon.org). Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/CorvallisNPSO](https://www.facebook.com/CorvallisNPSO).

**Sunday, August 30th, 10 am to noon**

**Native Plant Garden Work Party at the Avery House.** Bring a mask, water, clippers, trowel and some energy. We will space ourselves out to different parts of the garden. Contact Esther for more information at 541-990-0948 or [estherco@peak.org](mailto:estherco@peak.org)

**Sunday, September 20th, 10 am to noon**

**Native Plant Garden Work Party at the Avery House.** Bring a mask, water, clippers, trowel and some energy. We will space ourselves out to different parts of the garden. Contact Esther for more information at 541-990-0948 or [estherco@peak.org](mailto:estherco@peak.org)

### **Emerald**

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.

**Monday, September 21st, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Online program: From Extinction to Recovery? Reintroducing Golden Paintbrush to the Willamette Valley**

Dr. Tom Kaye, founder and Executive Director of the Institute for Applied Ecology, will present this topic on Zoom. Members of Emerald Chapter will receive more information on registering in our September newsletter. Last documented in the wild in Oregon in 1938, golden paintbrush (*Castilleja levisecta*) was apparently extirpated from Oregon through agriculture, urban development and habitat invasion by exotic weeds. Several populations remained in Washington and British Columbia, but even these have been in decline in recent years. The species was listed as Threatened by the federal government in 2000, and in 2004 became one of the first plants in the country to have a written reintroduction plan. Since 2010, the Institute for Applied Ecology has teamed with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to reintroduce this iconic prairie plant to western Oregon grasslands in an attempt to bring it back to the state, and in the process contribute to its full recovery and potential removal from the threatened species list. This process has faced many challenges, including the need to restore habitat for the species in the process and unravel its basic biology, from seed germination to its hemiparasitic relationships with host plants through root-to-root connections. This presentation will provide a tour of the history of the species in Oregon, research into its habitat relationships, and a summary of reintroduction and habitat conservation successes (and failures) in Oregon and rangewide.

**\*Note:** At this time Emerald Chapter has no in-person events confirmed in August or September. However, if this changes, Emerald Chapter members will be notified by email and events will be posted to our website at <https://emerald.npsoregon.org/> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/emerald.nps/>

**Filipendula**

For more information, visit our Facebook page: [NPSO-Filipendula Chapter](#)

**High Desert**

For information and to sign up for hikes, visit the High Desert Chapter website: [www.highdesertnpsoregon.org](http://www.highdesertnpsoregon.org) and Facebook page: [Native Plant Society of Oregon: High Desert Chapter](#), or email [highdesertnps@gmail.com](mailto:highdesertnps@gmail.com).

**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](mailto:mc_president@NPSOregon.org).

## Portland

Our members receive *The Calochortus*, our monthly newsletter with field trips, programs, news, and events for the Portland area. If you are not receiving it, check your spam folder and notify [po\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:po_president@npsoregon.org) of any email address change. You'll also find our monthly programs and additional field trips posted on our Meetup page at <https://www.meetup.com/NPSO-Portland/>. Our Facebook page is regularly updated with current wildflower bloom status and photos at <https://www.facebook.com/nps.portland/>. Please visit our chapter website at <https://portlandnativeplants.org/> for more information.

**\*Note:** *The Calochortus* newsletter and Meetup page are currently paused until September when we will begin presenting our monthly programs online via Zoom. Check your next *Calochortus* newsletter, our website, or our Meetup page for the link and instructions for our Zoom programs.

**Programs are “Virtual” for September - November 2020!** The Portland Chapter usually has in person meetings the second Thursday of most months, excluding July and August. This year, due to our venue being closed, we are providing presentations by excellent presenters, those proficient at using a “live” virtual method like a Zoom meeting. \*December is usually a members Holiday Photo Slide Show and is TBD.

**Thursday, September 10th, 7:00 pm**

**Program: How to use iNaturalist**

**Presenter: Michael McKeag, Photographer**

**Thursday, October 8th, 7:00 pm**

**Program: Native Plant Research in the OSU Garden Ecology Lab**

**Presenter: Dr. Gail Langellotto, OSU Dept. of Horticulture & Statewide Master Garden Program Coordinator**

**Thursday, November 12th, 7:00 pm**

**Program: Global Warming Effects on Native Flora**

**Presenter: Tom Kaye, Institute of Applied Ecology, Corvallis**

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:detweiler.katelyn@gmail.com). Join us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/SiskiyouChapterNativePlantSocietyOfOregon>

## **WE MISS YOU!**

The Siskiyou Chapter has cancelled summer hikes, programs, and events to help protect our community. We do plan on carefully holding some hikes later this summer - stay

tuned - and plan on sharing online programs in the fall. Lately, our presence on social media has increased - check out our Facebook page and please feel free to share content.

### Umpqua Valley

Visit [umpquavalleynativeplants.com](http://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](http://www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO). Not online - call Donna Rawson 541-643-0364.

We meet in Roseburg then carpool or caravan to destination. If you plan to participate, you must RSVP Rod Trotter 541-672-1907 or Donna 541-643-0364 to confirm your participation. Plans can change on short notice due to weather or flower bloom. NOTE: Many field trip destinations offer no facilities. Umpqua Forest Service advises to protect yourself from mosquitoes in the high country this time of year.

\*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](mailto:john@straubcenter.org).

### 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](mailto: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.

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### **NPSO State Officers**

- President: Dan Luoma, [president@npsoregon.org](mailto:president@npsoregon.org)
- Immediate Past President: Lisa Blackburn, [past\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:past_president@npsoregon.org)
- Vice-president: Lisa Blackburn, [vice-president@npsoregon.org](mailto:vice-president@npsoregon.org)
- Secretary: Steven Yeager, [secretary@npsoregon.org](mailto:secretary@npsoregon.org)
- Treasurer: Michael Hartman, [treasurer@npsoregon.org](mailto:treasurer@npsoregon.org)
- Directors: Gail Baker, Jason Clinch, Sarah Ratay, Dave Garcia, Linda Hardison, Bruce Waugh

### **Committees & Chairs**

- Budgets and [Grants](#): [Dan Luoma](#)

- Conservation: [Dawn Anzinger](#)
- 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 Roché and Kareen Sturgeon](#)
- Bulletin Editor: [Lisa Schomaker](#)
- Webmaster: [Sunia Yang](#)
- More information about our NPSO Fellows [here](#).

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

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Website



Facebook

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