

NPSO FELLOWS AWARDS

Tanya Harvey

Tanya grew up in New England, the daughter of avid gardeners. She's been in love with nature, especially plants, as long as she can remember. As a child, she spent as much time out of doors as possible, driven to learn all she could about the natural world. She particularly recalls going on a nature hike and wanting to be like the naturalist leading it. She revealed artistic talent at an early age, filling notebook after notebook with sketches and watercolors. Although she obtained a BA in Mathematics from Dartmouth College in 1980, it was her early passions that led to her career as a multimedia artist and designer who is inspired by nature and the outdoors.

She has held a succession of paid and volunteer positions in graphic design and publishing. She sells and displays her art, craft, and design work on tanyaharveydesign.com, and for many years sold her work at the annual Portland Audubon Wild Arts Festival. Lately, however, she's too busy for the festival. Since 2012 she's been employed by OregonFlora to work on the three-volume *Flora of Oregon*. She was responsible for design, layout, and editing of the two volumes already produced and is now working on the third. She also contributes photos and some illustrations. Many of her photos and species lists appear on the OregonFlora website (oregonflora.org). Tanya's knowledge of the flora of Oregon in general and the Western Cascades in particular is among the most comprehensive of any botanist in the state. She edited every treatment thus far submitted for inclusion in the *Flora of Oregon*, evaluating it from two standpoints: that of an end user of the *Flora* and that of a reviewer or contributor. She also does editing and layout for the remaining volumes of the *Flora of North America*.

In 1987 she met her husband, Jim Babson, in California. They moved to Oregon in 1992 and settled on 55 spectacular acres in Fall Creek, where Jim renovated a fixer-upper house. Much of the land is in a semi-natural condition, and Tanya is lovingly restoring its native vegetation, with special attention to the oak and grassland habitats. She also maintains a fenced garden, which she has filled with woodland and rock garden species, many

of them native. She worked with the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council (MFWWC) to obtain funding for her restoration, and she recently hosted a MFWWC tour for her neighbors.

Tanya joined the Native Plant Society of Oregon (NPSO) in 1999 (soon after arriving in the southern Willamette Valley) and became a life member in 2004. As a member of the Emerald Chapter, her contributions include the following:

- Produced the monthly *NPSO Bulletin* (including both editing and layout) for nearly nine years (from April 2000 through 2008), producing almost 100 print issues;
- Designed posters, t-shirts, and more for the state board and her chapter, including for the Mount Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower Festival from 1998 to 2005;
- Chaired the field trip committee and served as the Friday night speaker for the 2008 annual meeting hosted by Emerald Chapter;
- Presented 16 slide talks to various NPSO chapters and another 17 talks on plants to other organizations in Oregon;
- Led over 20 field trips for numerous annual meetings and various NPSO chapters and botany hikes for a number of other organizations;
- Conducted a rare plant survey for Citizen's Rare Plant Watch.



Soon after joining NPSO, Tanya became active in a number of other

local botanical and conservation organizations. She joined the local chapter of the North America Butterfly Association, edited the newsletter for the Eugene Hardy Plant Group and served as President of the Emerald Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society.

Throughout all that, Tanya has taken every opportunity to botanize and photograph the Western Cascades, the oldest part of the Cascade Range. In fact, she so loves these mountains that she and Jim were married atop one! Having taken over a thousand hikes in the Western Cascades solo or with fellow plant lovers, she's a supremely authoritative field trip leader. During her explorations she has found a number of uncommon species, which she collected for the OSU Herbarium. Since 2010, she has maintained a popular website, westerncascades.com, where her jaw-dropping photographs accompany more

than 300 information-packed trip reports. It also includes descriptions and her personal plant lists for numerous botanically interesting locations. Eventually, she plans to develop the information from each of the 150 or so locations she has botanized into a complete field guide to the Western Cascade flora. Her book has been on hold since she started working on the *Flora of Oregon*.

Tanya's Mountain Plants of the Western Cascades website and blog is an incredibly useful and well-organized resource for all wildflower enthusiasts. Through stunning

photos, captivating natural history stories, and expert botanical knowledge, she brings the flora of this region of Oregon alive for a broad audience. When I bought acreage near hers, Tanya connected me with MFWWC's Restoration Projects manager, which advanced my savanna restoration. Tanya identified multiple native and introduced species and gave me seeds for native plants. It is a privilege to nominate Tanya for this honor she richly deserves.—*Karl Anderson, Emerald Chapter.*



The Sierra Nevada blue (*Agriades podarce*) is an uncommon butterfly of wetlands in the southern Cascades. Their caterpillars feed exclusively on species of shooting star (*Dodecatheon jeffreyi* and *D. alpinum*). Here a female is nectaring on great camas (*Camassia leichtlinii*) in the Calapooya Mountains. Photo by Tanya Harvey.

BOOK REVIEWS

A Place for Inquiry, A Place for Wonder: The Andrews Forest

William G. Robbins

2020. ISBN 9780870710193

Oregon State University Press, Corvallis, Oregon.

242 pp. 22 b&w photos, map, chart, table, index. 6 x 9 in. paper. \$29.95.

William Robbins has produced the first comprehensive historical account of the origins, development, and importance of the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest. This

renowned research forest, commonly referred to as the Andrews, is located near Blue River and managed cooperatively by the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station, Oregon State University, and the Willamette National Forest. The author is an Emeritus Distinguished Professor of History at Oregon State University who has previously written about the forest. He waded through countless historical documents to glean the turning points of a 70+ year chronology. In two hundred pages, he outlines the external forces that shaped the early direction of research, highlights the most pivotal personalities,

programs, and events, and traces how research emanating from this Place for Inquiry has shaped national policy.

But the wonder is missing. I was fortunate enough to experience that wonder several times. I found it amid the peace and sanctity of the old-growth forest itself while undertaking an undergraduate research project in 1991. Later, as a graduate student, I experienced it while delving into the collective wisdom of the generations of researchers who came before me. I was awed by the continuity of time and the complexity of the products of natural selection and humbled by the scale of my own contributions and the insignificance of our species in an ecosystem that has vastly less need for us than we have for it.

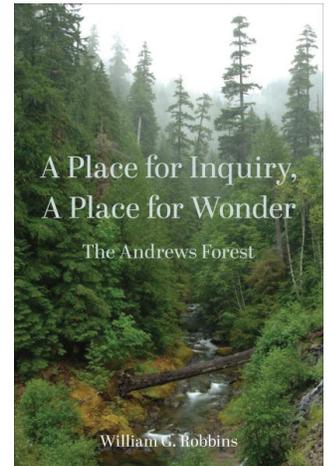
In the introduction, Robbins provides a dispassionate, albeit concise, summary of the history and importance of the Andrews, and the subsequent seven chapters continue to trace that history in dry detail. In the first chapter, he describes the historical context of its 1948 establishment and initiation into the International Biological Program. The subsequent multi-disciplinary ecosystem research that led to its participation in the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere and the NSF-funded Long Term Ecological Research programs is the topic of the second chapter. The origins of old-growth research on the Andrews are recorded in the third chapter, including how this research led to the listing of the northern spotted owl as an endangered species and to the advent of a new, less commodity-oriented philosophy toward forest management known as “new forestry.” The fourth chapter highlights the political fallout of these developments, which culminated in a Northwest Forest Plan meant to balance needs for both wildlife habitat and economic stability. Robbins frankly reports on the success of the plan to conserve old-growth, as well as its failure to sustain timber-dependent communities.

In the fifth chapter, Robbins characterizes the adverse political climate in which research into ecosystem science took place at the end of the 20th century. He describes public and educational outreach (e.g., the NSF-funded Research Experiences for Undergraduates program in which I participated) as well as ongoing research into biodiversity. In the final chapter, Robbins documents the experiences, and quotes the resulting works, of various writers who found inspiration while in residence at the Andrews (and Mt. St. Helens) through programs promoting the intersection of the sciences and the humanities. In conclusion, Robbins notes that the decades-long research at the Andrews continues to shape forestry, scientific thought, and national and global environmental policy at a critical time for understanding the ecosystem-wide effects of climate change.

The consummate academic historian, Robbins has produced a mechanistic accounting of the times, places, events, and some of the people comprising the Andrews—which makes for a satisfactory documentary record, but a disappointing casual read. Although the elements of history have been strung together in a chronological sequence, in the absence of a narrative thread readers are

left to piece together linkages on their own. The extensive but dusty documentation from which this history was extracted is presented with unnecessary repetition and factual quotations that provide little insight. Historical tidbits suddenly appear without preamble, context, or interpretation, choppily tied together. Periodic attempts to humanize the text by interspersing personal accounts seem to be detached digressions, only tangentially related to the Andrews. Even the quotations of artists who spent time at the Andrews fail to convey the sense of wonder their visits must surely have inspired.

Which is a little surprising, because wonder flows from at least two wellsprings on the Andrews. I can appreciate how a casual visitor might miss the academic wellspring—perhaps only a fellow researcher can feel humbled and awed by the accumulated wisdom and voluminous research spanning over seven decades. But the wonder and majesty of the old-growth forest underlying this research is easily accessible to the public through the Lookout Creek Old-Growth trail. The trail winds through the forest under towering 500-yr-old trees too large to hug and alongside massive logs rotting so slowly that they remain obstacles for centuries after toppling to the ground. To be fair, academicians must walk a tightrope between objectivity and passion, but the products of the former should not be mistaken for popular literature. Read *A Place for Inquiry, A Place for Wonder* to understand how it came to be a place for inquiry but *visit* the Andrews to discover it as a place for wonder.—*Jeri Peck, former Oregonian, now Research Associate at Pennsylvania State University*



The View from Cascade Head: Lessons for the Biosphere from the Oregon Coast

Bruce A. Byers

2020. ISBN 9780870710353

Oregon State University Press, Corvallis, Oregon.

216 pp. 16 B/W illus. 1 map. 6 x 9 in. paper. \$22.95.

The frontispiece reveals that the name *Cascade Head* in the book title refers to the Cascade Head Biosphere Reserve, which encompasses a number of discrete components, including the Neskowin Crest Natural Research Area, Cascade Head Experimental Forest, The Nature Conservancy Cascade Head Preserve, Sitka Center for Art & Ecology, Salmon River and Estuary, Camp Westwind, and Cascade Head Marine Reserve.

In 15 chapters, Byers tells the story of the Biosphere Reserve, arranging his narrative by he calls the “re” words:

resistance, research, restoration, reconciliation, and resilience. Byers uses the metaphor of “the eagle’s view” to unite his essays around these themes and to explore ethical implications for our human behavior and that of our culture. The theme of resistance speaks loudly and clearly as we learn how, in 1973, local individuals (including Senator Bob Packwood), alarmed at encroaching development surrounding Cascade Head, a basalt headland with dramatic ocean views, laid the foundation for what would become the reserve. Their efforts illustrate the first of three lessons presented in the book: the commitment and hard work of individuals can make all the difference.

The Biosphere Reserve encompasses 160 square miles, extending along the central Oregon coast between Neskonowin and Lincoln City. In beginning chapters, Byers traces the history of the biosphere concept (it dates to 1890 in Ukraine), a worldwide program “to create a network of places dedicated to monitoring and understanding the diverse ecosystems of the biosphere and developing models and strategies for maintaining or restoring their resilience while still meeting human social, cultural, and economic needs.” Having worked in 34 biosphere reserves in 17 countries, Byers is eminently qualified to reveal the lessons that Cascade Head has to offer.

Over 40 years ago, Byers and I shared an advisor in our graduate programs at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Later, as a biology professor at Linfield College in McMinnville, I led field trips for my students to The Nature Conservancy’s Cascade Head Preserve to study the ecology of temperate rainforests. My plant taxonomy students and I spent weekends at Camp Westwind learning to recognize coastal species. Over the years, I have taken several courses at the Sitka Center for Art & Ecology where Byers was an Ecology Resident in 2018, and we both share a fondness for the molasses bread at the Otis Café. I know this area well, but until I read this book, I didn’t realize how much more there was to learn.

Byers introduces us to a host of ecological concepts, such as succession, species and genetic diversity, nutrient cycling, predator-prey relationships, decomposition, evolution, and symbiosis. We learn the ecological importance of keystone species, such as sea stars that, as dominant predators, maintain species diversity in intertidal ecosystems. Byers documents extensive research that revealed the importance of protecting mature forests for the survival of an entire group of species, including the marbled murrelet, spotted owl, and red tree vole. He outlines how restoration of the Salmon River Estuary was critical to the survival of juvenile salmon and returning adults. Yet, despite extensive research, he highlights a second lesson, that “ecological mysteries” still abound. What explains migratory patterns of grey whales? What caused sea star wasting, and why did the disease suddenly disappear? What is the best way to restore genetically distinct populations of Oregon silverspot butterflies to increase their resilience in coastal prairies?

Byers demonstrates that, over time, researchers have had to increase the scale of their studies from local sites to a landscape level of analysis. For example, research on beavers revealed their critical role in maintaining forest health by regulating the hydrologic cycle on land, reducing runoff and sedimentation of streams. In turn, healthy streams facilitated the return of salmon from the ocean to their natal streams where, upon death, they returned nutrients to the forest. Recognizing this connection between the land and the sea led ultimately to the addition of the Cascade Head Marine Reserve to the larger Biosphere Reserve.

Byers describes a “multi-use shades of green landscape model,” a worldview where ecological, economic and cultural benefits are balanced among stakeholders. He concludes that how we think about our human relationship to nature shapes our individual and collective actions. This third lesson to be gained from the book offers a pathway for reconciliation between often competing interests and opposing worldviews. He shares how his residency at the Sitka Center for Art & Ecology revealed how art and ecology intersect, that art is “one aspect of human ecology, and ecological science is a kind of art.” In this interpretation, art is, like science, an adaptive behavior, helping to protect the biosphere.

The book is attractive, easy to read, and graced with lovely illustrations. A timeline table would have helped me follow the incremental addition of the various components that now make up the reserve and, of course, photos of this beautiful site would have been welcome (but would have made the book much more expensive). The only error I found was in reference to Indian hemp (*Apocynum cannabinum*), which Byers incorrectly described as a noxious weed. Its rhizomatous habit makes it troublesome in gardens and agricultural settings, but this native species is not on the Oregon Department of Agriculture’s list of noxious weeds.

I recommend this book to anyone interested in gaining a deeper understanding of how the Cascade Head Biosphere Reserve has achieved the goals of UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere Program by “becoming laboratories for understanding complex social-ecological systems and models for resolving problems, restoring ecological functions and services, and increasing resilience in the face of climate change and other unpredictable events.”
—Kareen Sturgeon, *Cheahmill Chapter*.

