

Bulletin of the

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY of OREGON

25th ANNIVERSARY 1961-1986

To increase the knowledge of members and public in identification
and conservation of the native plants of the Pacific Northwest

Volume 19 No. 3

March 1986

ISSN 0884-5999

CHAPTER NEWS

Blue Mountain

18 Mar., Tues. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Far West Federal Bldg., Community Room. We will have a presentation by Ed Herbes on WILDFLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY.

Corvallis

3 Mar., Mon. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Orchard Court Community Center (Park on 35th St. between Jackson and Orchard...look for OSU Family Housing wooden sign and walk east down nearby wide driveway about 50 yards. Entrance is to east.) Chester Wilson will speak on VEGETATION OF SUBALPINE BOGS IN THE CASCADES.
MEMBERS, PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MEETING DATE IS 1 WEEK EARLY DUE TO SCHEDULING CONFLICTS.

Emerald

10 Mar., Mon. Meeting, 8:00 p.m. Amazon Park Community Center, North Crafts Room. Tammy Maurer will talk on STEWARDSHIP OF THE STEPPE, a case study of arid grassland protection. It will be a slide presentation on natural history and a variety of studies conducted at the Lawrence Grasslands in north-central Oregon.

High Desert

25 Mar., Tues. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Far West Federal Bank, 1701 NE 3rd Street. Bring your slides of the Sheldon Refuge Trip and we will also discuss the Deschutes National Forest Management Plan.

Mid Columbia

5 Mar., Wed. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Mosier School.

North Coast

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For information about March activities, call Ingeborg Day, 368-5629.

Portland

1 Mar., Sat. Workshop, 10:00 a.m. First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St. QUICK AND EASY METHODS OF PLANT I.D., with Lois Kemp. Share your short-cuts for telling apart similar plant families or species.

8 Mar., Sat. Field Trip, 9:00 a.m. MCCORD CREEK - MOSSES. This is a follow-up on the workshop "Learning to identify mosses". If you did not attend the workshop, contact the leader. Meet at the K-Mart, NE 122nd and Sandy Blvd. (Exit I-84 at 122nd Northbound), south end of the parking lot, or at 10:00 a.m. at McCord Creek in the Columbia Gorge. (509-427-5871).

11 Mar., Tues. Meeting, 7:00p.m. First United Methodist Church. Celeste Holloway will present an illustrated slide program on native orchids of northern United States, emphasizing Oregon.

15 Mar., Sat. Field Trip: ROWENA DELL. Meet 8:30 a.m. at K-Mart, NE 122nd (see March 8), or at Rowena Crest parking lot, Mosier Loop Hwy. at 10:00 a.m. Leaders: Sara Barnum and Joyce Beeman, 639-3353.

22 Mar., Sat. Field Trip, come on a mystery trip east of The Dalles to find the early spring flowers. There will be an alternative location if it's windy. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the K-Mart at 122nd (see March 8). Leader: Doris Ashby, 245-2977.

29 Mar., Sat. Field Trip, NORTH BANK OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the K-Mart, NE 122nd (see March 8) or meet leader at 9:30 a.m. at Hood River Inn parking lot, and pick up anyone in WN. at the convenience store near the bridge shortly after, Leader: Keith Chamberlain, 478-3314.

Siskiyou

- 13 Mar., Thurs. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Room 171 Science Bldg., SOSOC. SPRING WILDFLOWERS will be the topic of a slide presentation by Verne Crawford.
- 10 April, Thurs. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Rm. 171 Science Bldg., SOSOC. Lee Webb, Wildlife Biologist at the Siskiyou National Forest, will present SCENES OF THE SISKIYOU, featuring beautiful slides of native wildlife, both plants and animals.
- 8 May, Thurs. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Rm. 171 Science Bldg., SOSOC. Linda Vorobik will give a slide presentation on FLOWERS OF S.E. ALASKA.
- 12 June, Thurs. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Rm. 171 Science Bldg., SOSOC. Guest speakers will be Denzel and Nancy Ferguson of Sacred Cows At the Public Trough fame.

Willamette Valley

- 17 Mar., Mon. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, Carrier Room, corner of State and Church Sts., Salem; use the Church St. entrance. The topic will be RESEARCHING NATIVE PLANTS: A VIEW FROM THE FIELD. Tammy Maurer will show slides and describe her research on grassland-steppe plants (including lupines) and outline ways that NPSO members can make valuable contributions, without being professional botanists.
- At 6:30 p.m. there will be a meeting of the Wildflower Show Planning Committee.
- 21 April, Mon. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, Salem. JEAN SIDDALL (Portland Chapter) will be our guest speaker for ALASKA: WRANGELL TO BARROW.

Wm. Cusick

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For information about March activities, call Andrew Kratz, 963-9358.

If your 1986 dues are not paid by April 1st, your name will be dropped from the member roster. Please renew now if you have not already done so.

1986 ANNUAL DESERT CONFERENCE

Malheur Field Station will be the location of the 1986 Desert Conference on April 18, 19, and 20. This will be the 8th time conservationists from Idaho, Oregon and Nevada will have met for the annual event.

Friday will feature field trips of the Desert Trail, the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and local Wilderness Study Areas. Saturday, participants will hear presentations from natural resource experts and conservation leaders. A number of the presentations will focus on historical perspective and natural history. Sunday, leaders and activists will gather for the annual desert conservation strategy session. Bird watching, slide shows, a banquet and music are also on the agenda.

For further information and registration forms contact:
Desert Conference VIII
P.O. Box 848
Bend, OR 97709

503-388-0089

WALKER CREEK WETLANDS MEETING

There will be an informational meeting sponsored by Friends of Walker Creek Wetlands, Inc. on Saturday March 29 in McMinneville. For details, call Ruth Yungen at 503-868-7346.

Rhoda Love and her husband will be in West Germany from April 1 to July 10. Glen will be teaching American Literature at the University of Tübingen and Rhoda will be studying hawthorns and the effects of acid rain. If anyone wishes to contact her there, her address will be:
Moltkestrasse 11
7400 Tübingen
West Germany

STEENS ROAD OPEN TO SNOWLINE

Cross-country skiers and snowshoers can drive to the snowlines on Steens Mountain with a BLM permit they can pick up at Steens Mountain Resort (Camper Corral) near Frenchglen. They are loaned a key to unlock the gate into the area. The office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. More information on winter recreation in the area and current road and snow reports are available from BLM's Burns district office.

The 1986 NPSO annual meeting will be hosted by the Corvallis Chapter on the weekend of June 14 and 15 (bring Dad!).

In honor of the 25th anniversary of NPSO, the Saturday morning program will feature short talks on native plant issues and research. Saturday afternoon activities will include field trips to Mary's Peak and Horse Rock Ridge. The banquet, guest speech and business meeting will be held Saturday evening, and the state NPSO Board will meet Sunday morning.

Dorm housing will be available Friday and Saturday nights for \$12-17 per person per night. Lists of other housing options will also be available. We hope to keep banquet costs between \$8-\$12 per person. A small registration fee will be charged to all meeting participants.

Watch for a registration form and complete details in the April and May NPSO bulletins!

Tammy Maurer
Corvallis Chapter

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS), in conjunction with several government agencies, conservation groups, and private corporations, is sponsoring a conference on the conservation and management of rare and endangered plants.

The conference will be held Wednesday, Nov. 5 through Saturday, Nov. 8, 1986, in Sacramento, California. It is designed to be a forum for information exchange through concurrent sessions, poster session, and workshops. Proceedings will be published by CNPS.

Papers describing research on R/E plants are requested. Taxonomic studies are of interest, although emphasis will be placed on management-related topics including specialized field techniques, evaluating, monitoring, and mitigating adverse effects on R/E plants. Experience from regions other than the Western United States is encouraged.

For additional information contact:

Jim Nelson
Conference Coordinator
California Native Plant Society
909 12th Street, Suite 116
Sacramento, CA 95814

2nd ANNUAL OREGON FOREST RESOURCES WORKSHOP PLANNED

Conservation activists interested in forest conservation issues (as well as those who want to become active!) are invited to the Second Annual Oregon Forest Resources Workshop to plan strategy for the coming year. The event will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 8-9, at the Breitenbush Hot Springs Conference Center. The conference is being hosted by the Oregon Natural Resources Council and co-sponsored this year by Portland Audubon Society, Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society. For more information call Eugene: 344-0675; Portland: 244-0201; Prairie City: 820-3714; Bend: 388-0089.

ONRC TO HOLD 5TH ANNUAL WILD OREGON AUCTION

River and pack trips, dinner and theater tickets, outdoor equipment and numerous surprises will be on the auction block when the Oregon Natural Resources Council holds its Fifth Annual Wild Oregon Auction April 5.

The auction will again be held in Studio 1 of Eugene's Hult Center. The public is invited to attend. Admission is free. The silent auction begins at 7:00 p.m. and closes at 8:30 p.m. The oral auction starts at 8:00 p.m. Jazz musicians will entertain auction goers during the auction preview. Call ONRC's Main Office, 344-0675, for more information.

HELP!
2000 SCHOOL CHILDREN
ARE COMING!
MT. PISCAN ARBORETUM
NEEDS
VOLUNTEER GUIDES
ON MORNINGS IN MAY
****TRAINING PROVIDED****
IF YOU CAN HELP
OR WANT MORE
INFORMATION
PLEASE CALL:
KATHY GIESEN 683-1646
THE MPA NEEDS YOU!

A BRIEF OF THE JANUARY 18 NPSO BOARD MEETING

The meeting was held at the Leach Botanic Garden in Portland. Seven of the ten chapters were represented. President Dr. Frank Lang conducted the meeting. Treasurer, Marge Ettinger reports that the Society is solvent despite financing the posters and increasing mailing costs. There has been little growth in the Jean Davis Memorial Award Fund.

Editor Jan Anderson reports no problems with the bulletin however she needs to have more articles for publication.

The resolution published on p. 126 in the Dec. Bulletin concerning Port Orford Cedar was passed by the Board. It appears that some progress is being made for a regional committee has been formed to study ways of saving the cedars. The Conservation Committee has not made much progress on the issue of foraging of marketable plants from public lands. Perhaps the best way to regulate this cottage industry is at the point of purchase.

The Desert Conference this year will focus on the Threatened and Endangered plants in the Wilderness Study Areas in Oregon, Idaho, and Nevada.

The New Social studies book, 'Get Oregonized', was briefly brought before the Board. It was agreed that NPSO should be represented at the February hearing. The main criticism was the neglect of non-economic resources.

The Legislative Committee has been directing its efforts toward producing 'Vanishing Heritage', a slide program that will be for legislative and educational use.

The suggestion was made to the Board that greater effort should be made to express appreciation to those who serve NPSO. Editors will be granted membership while serving and membership after retiring to equal the years served.

The R/E Committee emphasized the need for R/E species to be monitored and reports be filed. Barbara Fox noted that it is also important that all agencies concerned should also receive these reports. The R/E Committee is to have lists of plants to be monitored in the hands of the chapters so the first blooms may be checked. Dr. Lang suggested an incentive plan which would reward the

chapters at the rate of \$1.00 a report for the first 150 plants checked by all chapters. An additional \$50. would go to the chapter making the most reports per capita. This \$50 would be used to attend the California R/E plant Conference in November.

Barbara Fox, who chairs the Desert Wilderness Study Committee, is planning field trips for this summer. She is looking for grant money and for volunteers. She would also like to have a NPSO Research Grant Committee appointed.

A realistic budget was presented by the budget committee and after some modification it was approved. Later in the meeting a proposal was made and passed that NPSO give \$500 toward the purchase of the Anderson Addition to Rowena.

Tammy Maurer reported that it seemed likely that the High Desert museum will become the trustee of the Malheur Field Station. If this happens it is likely that NPSO will become a contributing member of the Field Station

The Annual meeting of NPSO is being planned by the Corvallis Chapter. The date is June 13-15 in the Laselle Stewart Center in Corvallis.

The Nominating Committee presented a full slate of officers and have them ready to publish in the Bulletin.

A resolution concerning livestock grazing in Research Natural Areas was passed by the Board. This reminds the BLM that NPSO is concerned about the impact of grazing on these areas.

A new roster has been prepared by Shep Wilson and Susan Kephart. The Board was pleased with the roster and expressed their appreciation.

Rhoda Love suggests that NPSO should be doing more toward education since that is listed as one of the organization's purposes. It was decided to consider the development of an Education-research Committee. Their aim should be toward getting 'native plant' information into schools of all levels.

Submitted by Florence Ebeling
Secretary

1986 BUDGET

The following NPSO state budget for 1986 was approved at the January 18, 1986 meeting of the Board of Directors.

ESTIMATED INCOME:

Balance brought forward	\$5,300.
Membership dues	6,700.
Posters	1,000.
Notecards	600.
Interest	300.

TOTAL \$13,900.

ANTICIPATED EXPENSES:

Bulletin	\$3,400.
Dues refunds (@35%)	2,300.
Grants	600.
Legislative Committee	500.
Anderson Hilltop Acquisition	500.
R/E Committee	400.
Roster	380.
Conservation Committee	300.
Annual Meeting/Speaker	300.
Membership Chair	275.
President's Expenses	240.
Secretary's Expenses	225.
Desert Wilderness Committee	200.
Flyers	200.
R&E Incentive	200.
Malheur Consortium	200.
*Mileage	200.
ONRC	100.
Board & Committees	100.
Frnds Walker Creek Wetlands	50.
Nominating Committee	50.
Treasurer's Expenses	45.
State Non-Profit Registration	5.

TOTAL \$10,770.

* Mileage over 200 miles per meeting (non-cumulative) to be reimbursed @ \$0.15/mile for state board members attending state board meetings.

The Board suggested that annual balance brought forward should not fall below \$3,000. 1986 Budget Committee: Rhoda Love, Dan Luoma, Esther McEvoy.

Jean Davis Award

NPSO will award a scholarship to a worthy student in an Oregon college, with his or her major study in plant systematics or plant ecology. The scholarship is in the amount of \$1,000, and is to be used toward the student's tuition within the following academic year. Deadline for applications is April 1, 1986; the award will be made by May 1, 1986.

Donations to the scholarship fund are tax deductible and are welcome at any time. All interest earned from the donations is apportioned out to as many scholarships as possible in the spring of each year, at \$1,000 each.

All communication regarding this fund should be addressed to Mary Falconer, Committee chairman, 1920 Engel Ave. NW, Salem, OR 97304.

* * Rules for Scholarship Awards * *

- 1) Scholarships are available to students in Oregon colleges, planning their major study in Plant systematics or ecology.
- 2) Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$1,000 to worthy students who will complete at least 2 years of satisfactory college work by July 1 of the year of receipt of application, & are full time students. Graduate students may be eligible if they meet all qualifications except that of "full time student".
- 3) Awards are made in the following manner:
 - a) a certificate presented to the recipient
 - b) a check in the amount of the award, submitted to the school of choice, as set forth in rule 1, to be used toward tuition within the following academic year
- 4) If an award recipient fails to enroll, changes his or her major, or leaves the school before completing the period for which the award was granted, the full amount or unused part of the money shall be returned to the Jean Davis Memorial Scholarship Fund.
- 5) Applicants are required to submit:
 - a) in their own handwriting, a statement of academic & career intent
 - b) two letters of reference from persons able to judge to student's ability to successfully complete study in the area of plant systematics or plant ecology
- 6) All applications together with items listed in rule 5 must be received by the Chairman of the Jean Davis Memorial Fund Committee no later than April 1. The award will be made by May 1.
- 7) Scholarships are not granted to members or relatives of any person currently serving on the Scholarship Committee.

ATIYEH APPOINTS LOVE TO COUNCIL

Governor Victor Atiyeh has appointed former NPSO President Rhoda Love to the Natural Heritage Advisory Council. The Natural Heritage Advisory Council (NHAC) is a body set up by state law to advise the Oregon State Land Board (which is made up of the Governor, the Secretary of State and the State Treasurer) on matters of conservation of natural resources. Nine of the 14 members of the Council are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate. Appointees serve 4-year terms. Present Council members are Richard Craiger, Chair, Ellen Benedict, Deborah Davis, Jefferson

Gonor, Dayton Hyde, Otis Swisher, and Caryn Throop. Rhoda has been appointed to fill the vacancy created by David Wagner's resignation this month. Rhoda's candidacy was supported by Dr. Wagner, former Council Chair Yvonne Knouse, Senate President John Kitzhaber, State Representative Carl Hosticka, Eugene Water & Electric Board President Camilla Pratt, Eugene Parks and Recreation Executive Manager Ernest Drapela and Gubernatorial Candidate Norma Paulus. Rhoda wishes to thank all those who wrote to the Governor on her behalf.

CONSERVATION ALERT: HELLS CANYON

The grandeur and originality of the views presented on either side beggar both the pencil and the pen. Nothing we have ever gazed upon in any other region could for a moment compare in wide majesty and impressive sternness with the series of scenes which here at every turn astonished our senses and filled us with awe and delight.

Capt. B.L.E. Bonneville
speaking of Hells Canyon

In 1975 Congress passed the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Act, which designated a 660,000-acre NRA, including 194,000 acres of wilderness, in Oregon and Idaho. The Act also designated 67 miles of the Snake River as a part of the National Wild and Scenic River System. In addition, it classified three areas as Wilderness Study Areas, and called for a study of the lower 33 miles of the Snake River for possible addition to the Wild and Scenic River.

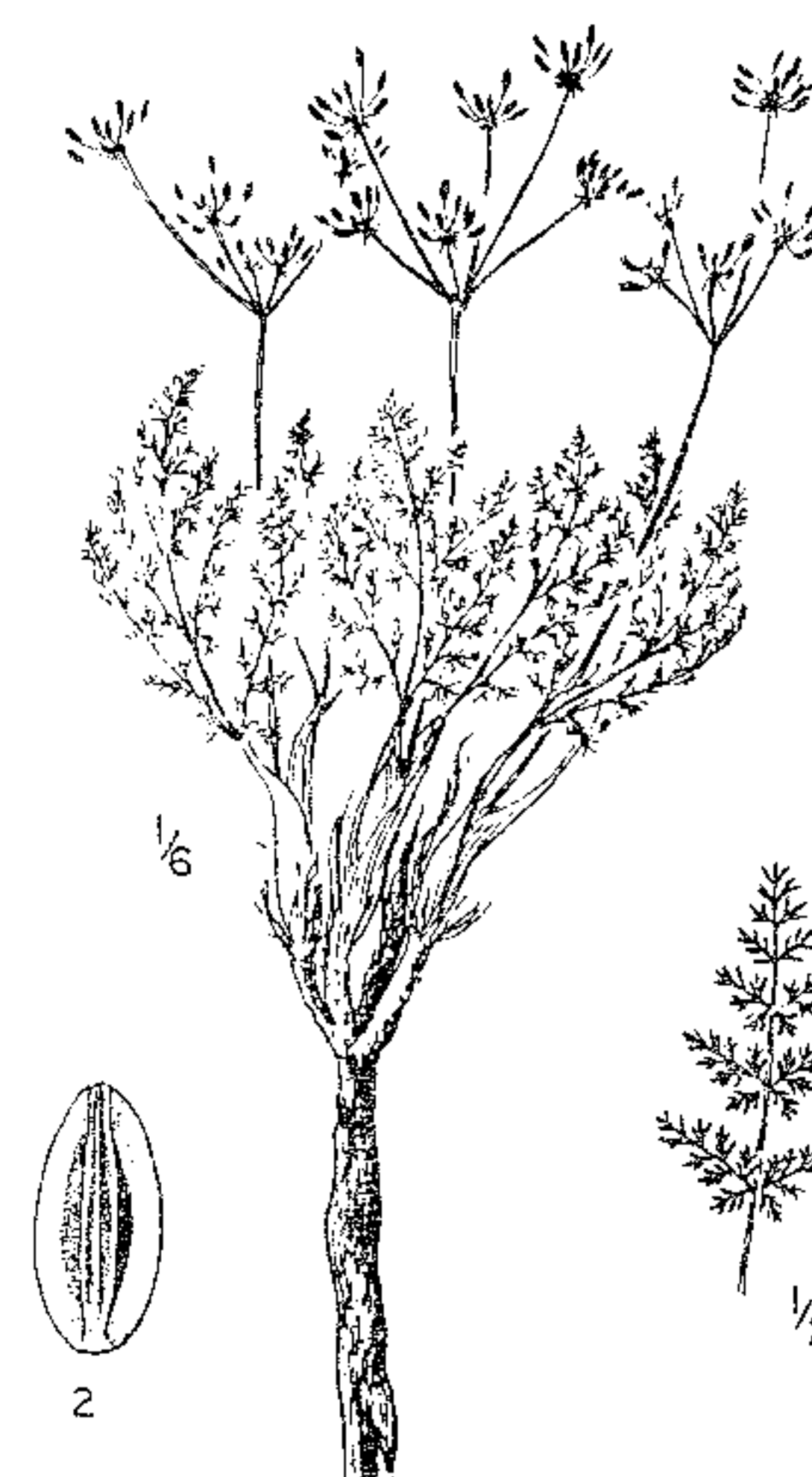
The Hells Canyon NRA offers a spectacular variety of landscapes, ranging from the alpine mountain peaks to the high plateau areas of the Lord Flat country and the deep and dissected Snake and Imnaha River canyons. Dense forests on the plateau and north sloping draws contrast sharply with the vast grasslands of the canyons. Canyon walls consist of alternating cliffs and terraces with massive intervening talus slopes.

The Snake River canyon and its immediate tributaries are home to several endemic plant species, including Mirabilis macfarlanei, one of Oregon's two federally listed Endangered species. Other species restricted to the Snake River Canyon area are Astragalus vallis (Snake Canyon milk vetch), Lomatium rollinsii (Rollins desert parsley), L. serpentinum (Snake Canyon desert parsley), Leptodactylon hazelae (Hazel's prickly phlox), Rubus bartonianus (Barton berry), R. nigerrimus (Northwest raspberry--only found along the Snake in Washington), and Penstemon elegantulus (elegant beardtongue). In addition, the only Oregon locations of Cheilanthes feei, Fee's lipfern, are in the Snake River Canyon.

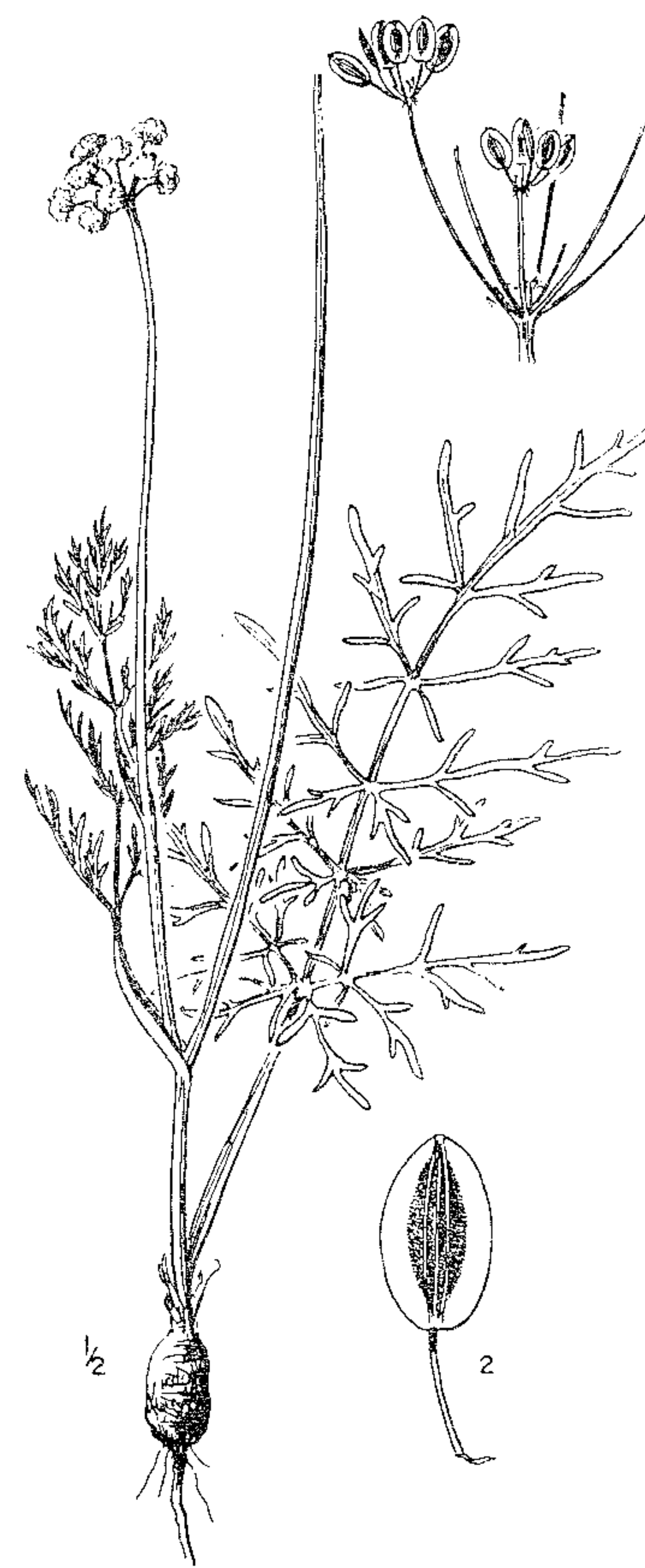
There is some evidence that several of these endemics are remnants of a more southern desert flora which expanded into the Northwest during a warmer climatic period. With the return of cooler temperatures, these plants (or their precursors) became increasingly restricted to the warmer canyons and finally isolated from their relatives.

The lomatiums, in particular, are sensitive to grazing damage. For Mirabilis macfarlanei, "the mere presence of livestock trampling the ground and causing soil erosion appears to be a potential hazard", according to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 1985 Mirabilis macfarlanei Recovery Plan. Logging is a problem primarily because of road construction which inevitably accompanies timber harvest. For every mile of road built, four acres of vegetation are affected. Roads also cause erosion and encourage the spread of invasive exotic weeds which compete with native plants.

Unfortunately, the Forest Service's management of Hells Canyon NRA has been so bad that Congress must strengthen the original act or watch the area be devastated by roads

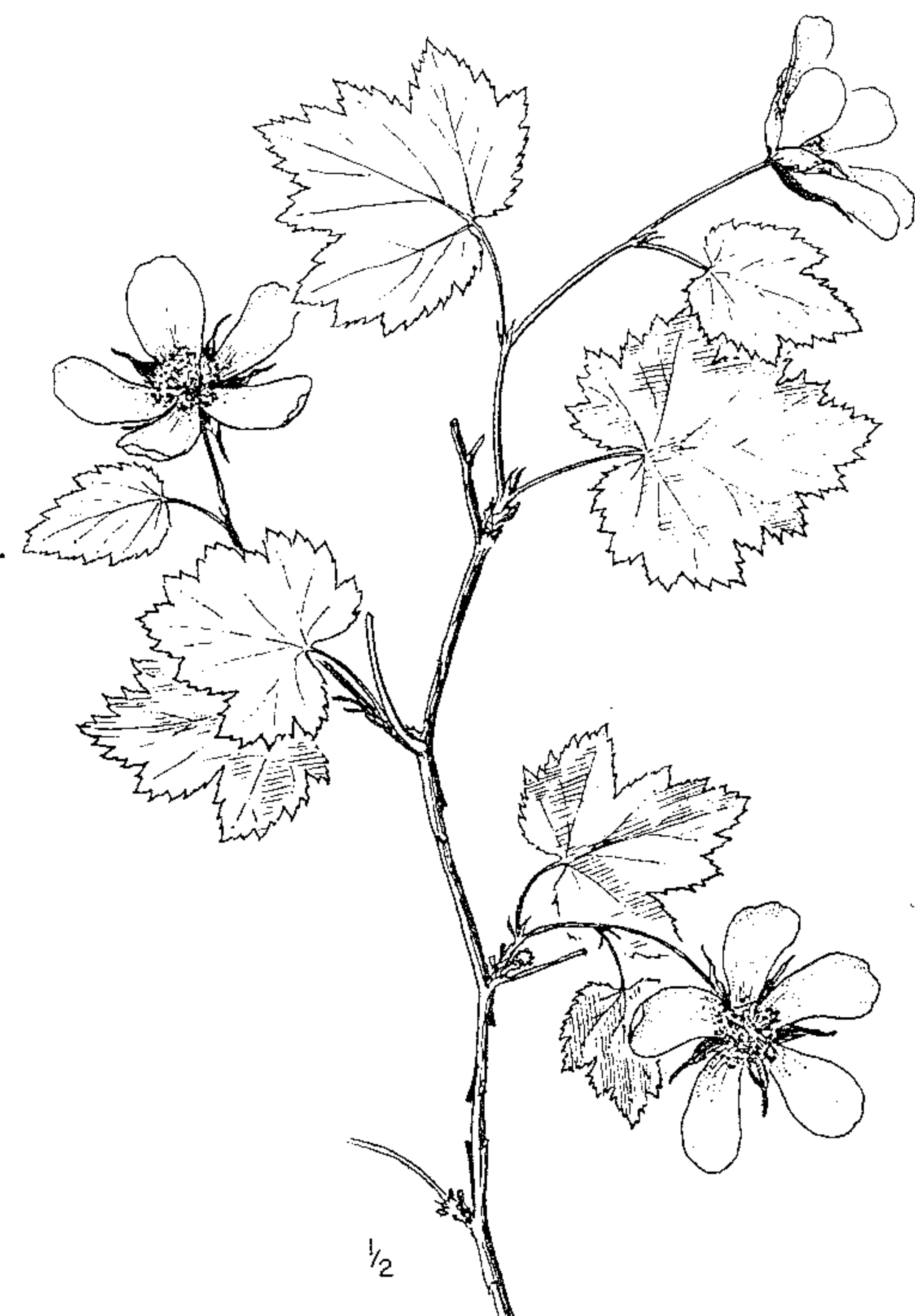


L. serpentinum



L. rollinsii

(Illustrations on this page are from Hitchcock et al., *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*; used with permission from the publisher.)



Rubus bartonianus

and logging. Logging, grazing, and road building were allowed to continue by the 1975 act, but in theory, only at levels and in areas where it would not adversely affect the values for which the NRA was established--wildlife, fish, plants and plant communities, recreation, and scenery. Since the Forest Service has already hauled logs through a stream when salmon were spawning, ignored over-grazing on both public and private lands in the NRA, and bulldoze a road through the flood plain of the Imnaha River, it stands to reason that protection of the NRA values may be in jeopardy as planned timber harvests accelerate to nine million board feet per year in the next five years.

Legislation introduced by Senator Bob Packwood would help to ensure that the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is protected. (Senator Packwood was also the champion of the original act.) The bill, S. 1803, would designate about 300,000 acres of Wilderness, add the lower section to the Snake Wild and Scenic River, and limit the timber harvest to one million board feet per year with no clear-cutting. The bill does not address the grazing problem, which is a political hot potato the Senator does not want to shake hands with right now.

A LETTER IS NEEDED FROM YOU RIGHT AWAY!!!

Please write a short letter to Senator Mark Hatfield (Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510) supporting the bill, and adding that you hope that grazing will also be curtailed to protect the NRA's biological diversity and its scenic and recreational values. Send a copy of your letter to Sen. Packwood (same address) and to your Congressman: Les Aucoin, Ron Wyden, Jim Weaver, Bob Smith, or Denny Smith, House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515.

For more information about Hells Canyon NRA, or if your chapter would like to see an informative slide program on Hells Canyon and its future, contact the Oregon Natural Resources Council in Portland, Dekum Building, Suite 706, 519 SW 3rd, Portland 97204; 224-0201.

January 1986
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE, NPSO

Julie Kierstead, Chair (PO)
11505 SW Summerville Ave.
Portland 97219
636-4112 W
760-6872 H

Wayne Rolle (SI)
P.O. Box 531
Ashland 97520
482-0093

Veva Stansell (SI)
P.O. Box 959
Gold Beach 97444
247-7153

Rhoda Love (EM)
393 Ful Vue Dr.
Eugene 97405
345-6241

Dan Luoma (CO)
3020 NE Lancaster
Corvallis 97330
758-8063

Ingeborg Day (NC)
Box 58
Nehalem 97131
368-5629

Jimmy Kagan (PO)
525 SE 16th Ave.
Portland 97214
233-1048

Elise Augenstein (PO)
6522 SE 17th
Portland 97202
239-0259

Mariana Bornholdt (WV)
5084 Skyline Rd. S
Salem 97306
585-2057

Jean Massie (WV)
P.O. Box 83
Salem 97308
378-9633

Krista Thie (MC)
Rt. 3 Box 274
White Salmon, WA 98672
(509) 493-3649

Carolyn Wright (CO)
Rt. 1 Box 55
Dufur 97021
467-2218

Stuart Garrett (HD)
361 NE Franklin
Bend 97701
389-6981

Katherine Skirvin (BM)
P.O. Box 75
Adams 97810
566-3634

Andrew Kratz (WC)
1207 Y Ave.
La Grande 97850
963-9358

Barbara Fox (PO)
Desert Wilderness Chair
11455 SE 35th
Milwaukie 97222
659-2445

To all NPSO vagabonds and roamers of the plant world who enjoy a good treasure hunt, WE NEED YOU. This season we will be searching for plants which have been recommended for addition to the Oregon R/E list, but for which we have too little information to determine status --the Review List.

Some like Callitriche marginata, the winged water-starwort, are known in Oregon only from "near The Dalles and at Grant's Pass," according to Hitchcock, et al., VPPNW. The most recent collection we know of for this plant was made in April 1887, almost 100 years ago. Is it now extinct?

There are very few collections for either Erysimum concinnum, the coast wallflower, or Cymopterus purpureus, the purple cymopterus. Are they really as rare as they seem, or do they bloom so early no one is out there looking?

Is there any Lycopodium obscurum, groundpine, in Oregon? It has been found on the Washington side of the Columbia.

We will also be searching for the sites of old herbarium collections to see whether the plants still grow there. This may be fun to do as a group. The more people looking for the plants, the better the chance of finding them.

So if you want to help, contact your Chapter R/E Chairman for instructions and sighting report forms. Lend NPSO your sharp eyes and knowledge of the country. Join the search.

To help you know when to look for what, I have divided the Review List according to blooming time. This Bulletin has those plants which begin blooming in March and April.

CHAPTER R/E CHAIRMEN

Blue Mountain: Karl Urban, Box 266, Pendleton, OR 97801 276-8371
Corvallis: Esther McEvoy, 3290 SW Willamette, Corvallis, OR 97333 754-0893
Emerald: Charlene Simpson, 1992 Lake Isle Dr., Eugene, OR 97401 465-1059
High Desert: Stuart Garrett, M.D., 361 NE Franklin, Bend, OR 97701 389-6981
Mid-Columbia: Stuart and Mildred Chapin, Rt. 5, Box 90, White Salmon, WN (509) 493-2823
North Coast: Richard Smith, pro tem, 1605 Third St., Tillamook, OR 97141 842-4324
Portland: Elizabeth Handler, 4712 SW Iowa, Portland, OR 97221 244-5320
Siskiyou: David Garcia, Box 972, Jacksonville, OR 97530 899-9039
"South Coast": Veva Stansell, PO Box 959, Gold Beach, OR 97444 247-7153
William Cusick: Andrew Kratz, pro tem, 1207 Y Ave., LaGrande, OR 97850 963-9358
Willamette Valley: Wilbur Bluhm, 743 Linda Ave, NE, Salem, OR 97303 393-2934

PLANTS BLOOMING IN MARCH-APRIL FOR FIELD-CHECKING 1986

NORTHWEST OREGON

		<u>Blooms</u>	<u>Historically known from:</u>
<u>Meconella oregana</u>	Oregon meconella	March-April	Hood River
<u>Mimulus cardinalis</u>	scarlet monkeyflower	April-Oct.	Lane
<u>Montia diffusa</u>	branching montia	March-July	Lane, Marion, Clackamas, Multnomah
<u>Navarretia leucocephala</u>	white-flowered navarretia	April-July	Lane
<u>Ranunculus lobbii</u>	Lobb's buttercup	March-May	Benton
<u>Scribneria bolanderi</u>	Scribner grass	April-May	Multnomah, Hood River

NORTHEAST OREGON

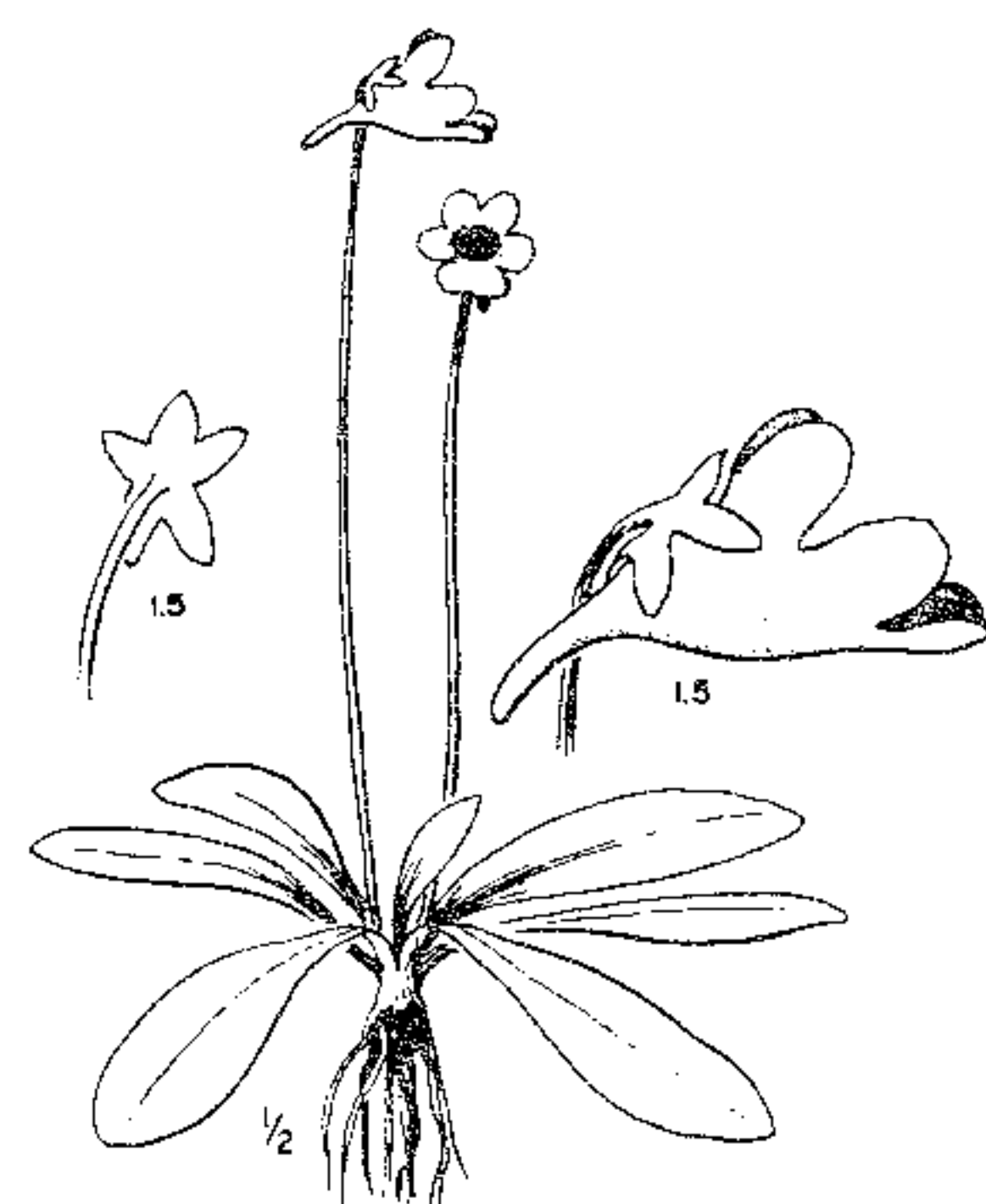
<u>Asclepias cryptocera</u>	pallid milkweed	April-June	Crook, Grant, Baker
<u>Callitriche marginata</u>	winged water-starwort	March-May	Wasco
<u>Chaenactis douglasii</u> var. glandulosa	dusty maidens	April-July	Baker, Wallowa
<u>Cryptantha rostellata</u>	beaked cryptantha	April-June	Wasco, Jefferson, Wheeler, Umatilla, Baker
<u>Lesquerella douglasii</u>	Douglas' lesquerella	March-July	Wasco, Gilliam, Grant, Morrow
<u>Linanthes bakeri</u>	Baker's linanthes	April-June	Wasco, Baker
<u>Meconella oregana</u>	Oregon meconella	March-April	Wasco
<u>Navarretia leucocephala</u>	white-flowered navarretia	April-July	Crook
<u>Phlox colubrina</u>	Snake River phlox	March-June	Baker, Wallowa
<u>Pinguicula vulgaris</u>	butterwort	April-August	Wallowa
<u>Ranunculus lobbii</u>	Lobb's buttercup	March-May	Wasco
<u>Ribes klamathense</u>	Klamath gooseberry	April-May	Jefferson

SOUTHWEST OREGON

<u>Allium peninsulare</u>	peninsular onion	March-June	s. Jackson
<u>Arabis breweri</u>	Brewer's rockcress	March-July	Curry, Josephine, Jackson, Klamath
<u>Arenaria howellii</u>	Howell's sandwort	April-June	Curry, Josephine
<u>Arnica cernua</u>	serpentine arnica	April-May	Coos, Curry, Josephine
<u>Astragalus accidens</u>	thicket milk-vetch	April-July	Douglas, Josephine
var. <u>accidens</u>			
<u>Astragalus accidens</u>	Henderson's milk-vetch	April-July	Josephine, Jackson
var. <u>hendersonii</u>			
<u>Callitriche marginata</u>	winged water-starwort	March-May	Josephine
<u>Camassia howellii</u>	Howell's camas	April-June	Josephine, Curry
<u>Camissonia graciliflora</u>	slender-flowered primrose	March-June	Josephine
<u>Camissonia ovata</u>	golden eggs	March-June	Douglas, ?Josephine
<u>Chorizanthe membranacea</u>	spineflower	April-July	Jackson
(Erigonella membranacea)			
<u>Cryptantha leucocarpa</u>	seaside cryptantha	April-June	Curry [coastal]
<u>Erysimum concinnum</u>	coast wallflower	March-May	Curry
<u>Eschscholtzia caespitosa</u>	slender California poppy	March-June	s. Klamath
var. <u>hypecoides</u>			
<u>Fritillaria falcata</u>	-	March-May	Josephine
<u>Lithophragma heterophyllum</u>	hillstar	March-July	s. Curry to s. Klamath
var. <u>campanulata</u>			
<u>Meconella oregana</u>	Oregon meconella	March-April	Douglas, Josephine, Jackson
<u>Mimulus cardinalis</u>	scarlet monkeyflower	April-October	Curry, Josephine Jackson
<u>Montia diffusa</u>	branching montia	April-July	Douglas, Josephine
<u>Navarretia leucocephala</u>	white-flowered navarretia	April-July	Curry, Jackson, Douglas, Klamath
<u>Pinguicula vulgaris</u>	butterwort	April-August	Curry, Josephine
<u>Ranunculus lobbii</u>	Lobb's buttercup	March-May	Douglas
<u>Ribes klamathense</u>	Klamath gooseberry	April-May	Douglas, Jackson, Klamath
<u>Sanicula tuberosa</u>	turkey pea	March-July	Curry, ?Josephine
<u>Scribneria bolanderi</u>	Scribner grass	April-May	Josephine
<u>Sidalcea malvaeflora</u>	mallow sidalcea	April-July	Curry, Josephine, ?Jackson
var. <u>elegans</u>			
<u>Sisyrinchium hitchcockii</u>	Hitchcock's sisyrinchium	April-May	Benton, Douglas

SOUTHEAST OREGON

<u>Asclepias cryptocera</u>	pallid milkweed	April-June	Harney, Malheur
<u>Camissonia palmeri</u>	Palmer's evening primrose	March-May	Malheur
<u>Chaenactis stevioides</u>	Esteve pincushion	March-June	Lake, Malheur
<u>Chaenactis xanthiana</u>	Xanthus' pincushion	April-June	Lake, Harney, Malheur
<u>Cryptantha rostellata</u>	beaked cryptantha	April-June	Harney
<u>Cymopterus purpurescens</u>	purple cymopterus	March-May	Harney
<u>Glyptopleura marginata</u>	carved seed	April-July	Lake, Harney, Malheur
<u>Langloisia punctata</u>	lilac sunbonnet	April-June	Malheur
<u>Malacothrix glabrata</u>	desert dandelion	March-July	Lake, Harney, Malheur
<u>Navarretia leucocephala</u>	white-flowered navarretia	April-July	Harney
<u>Scribneria bolanderi</u>	Scribner grass	April-May	Lake



Pinguicula vulgaris

(reproduced from Hitchcock et al., *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*, with permission from the publisher)

Jean L. Siddall
State R/E Committee Chairman

This is an adventure story. It's a true story, a story of searching, a story of discovery. And even though it all happened a year ago, it still makes for good telling. And that's how I've chosen to write it down. As if you were here, listening to me tell it, and not as some dry, old narrative. I think it's a good story. I hope you do, too.

Herbarium records at Oregon State University in the winter of 1984-85 showed only a few sites for obscure buttercup, Ranunculus reconditus. It was first collected from "roadsides around The Dalles" by Howell in April, 1880. The type collection, (from which the species was described) was also made by Howell at a site in Washington across the Columbia River from The Dalles. An additional seven collections were made in Washington between 1888 and 1938, all from the Klickitat Hills (shown as the Columbia Hills on the U.S.G.S. Quadrangle) and around Goldendale, about 30 miles northeast of The Dalles. The only other Oregon collection was made by Gorman in 1895 from "Grand Dalles". There was one new collection, and that was made in 1981 from the ridge along the top of the Klickitat Hills by Lois Kemp and Russ Jolley, both N.P.S.O. members. And that was it.

I saw my first flowers of 1985 on 19 February. They were Ranunculus glaberrimus, the common sagebrush buttercup, and were in the hills to the west of Tygh Valley. When I mentioned to Carolyn Wright, who held a research assistantship at the herbarium at the time, that I had seen my first buttercup of the year, she reminded me of R. reconditus and suggested I keep my eyes open for it. It hadn't been seen in Oregon for a 100 years or so. I went to Flora of the Pacific Northwest by Hitchcock and Cronquist to get an idea of what to look for and discovered that R. reconditus had a very distinctive leaf. They were "triterately dissected into linear segments".

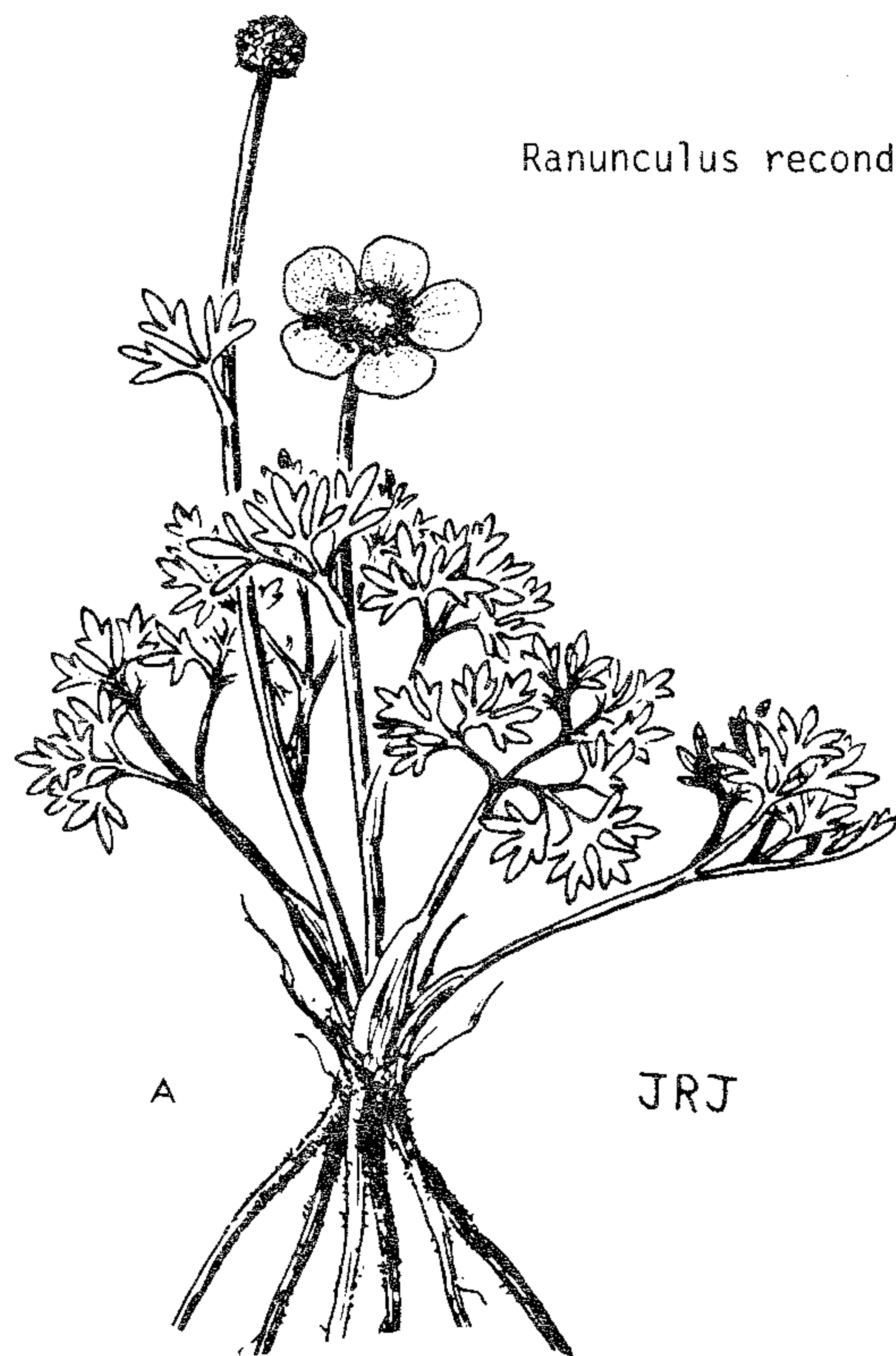
And so, armed with that much knowledge, I started keeping my eyes open, especially along some of the county roads south of The Dalles. But there wasn't anything up in that area those first days of March. Things were popping on the warm, south slopes farther south in Wasco County, but not around The Dalles.

Then, on 10 March, with an open Sunday afternoon, I took my then 13 year old son Kevin and went for a drive into the Klickitats. I had told him a few days before that there was a plant that grew on top of the hills across from The Dalles and nowhere else in the world, at least that anyone knew about, and maybe we would find some more of it. He thought that would be "neat", and so did I, but didn't really hold any hope for it.

So, off we went. I had told him we were looking for a buttercup, something with a yellow flower. When we came around one of the first curves on The Dalles Mountain Road and the hillside was covered with Crocodyrium multicaule, the showy spring gold, I had to say no, we were looking for something with a little bigger flower than that. But we got out and looked at it anyway.

Over the top of the Klickitats we went, and then turned west on the Lyle-High Prairie Road. We stopped as we entered the timber to look down into Swale Creek Canyon, then started out again. Around the next corner I saw a yellow flower growing on top of the cutbank. "Look Kevin, a buttercup". I took out my field glasses and focused on the plant, perhaps only 20 feet away. "What do you need the field glasses for Dad? I can see it fine without them". I replied that I was looking at the leaf. "Oh, OK", he said. Then it was my turn. "We better go take a closer look. They look suspicious".

We found a place to get up on top of the steep cutbank and contoured over to the plants. There was quite a patch of yellow blooms before us. I took one look at the leaves and knew it was R. reconditus. "Kevin, we did it! This is only the third or fourth site for this plant". All he could say was "All right!".



Ranunculus reconditus.

(Illustration from Threatened and Endangered Vascular Plants of Oregon: An Illustrated Guide.)

Kevin counted 37 plants in a flash and we estimated that that was about one-third of the population. I described the site for him as being on a north aspect with a slope of 50 to 60 percent. The plants were growing under as pure a stand of Oregon white oak as I'd ever seen. They were the only thing in bloom, and all I saw coming up was Lithophragma and what I thought was a Lomatium but could have been Orogenia linearifolia just as easily. There was no sun on the site at 3:15 PM and there were still patches of snow in the ditch along the road. A cool site. There also did not appear to be a high degree of disturbance by either livestock or man's activities.

I dug three plants to press while telling Kevin that we never collected a rare plant unless there was a population of at least 20 individuals. "Well", he said, "that's no problem here!".

We continued on along the road to Lyle but found no more.

The next day, 11 March, I decided to try the Oregon side of the river again. My thought was to go up Mill Creek out of The Dalles and concentrate on the ridge between the North and South Fork drainages. I knew that I probably wouldn't get far because the snow always lays in on a shaded stretch of road, but I could always walk. And sure enough, the snow was right where I thought it would be. I parked and started walking south along the crest of the ridge. There was plenty of bare ground but there wasn't anything up anywhere. I managed to get a couple of miles but by the time I got to the old lookout site, with its fine view of Mt. Hood, the snow was covering more of the ground than was bare so I turned back.

After lunch I stood beside the pickup and wondered where to go next. A pair of red tail hawks caught my eye to the north. I watched them whirl through an aerial pas-de-deux, and finally come together in the top of a tall ponderosa pine. I had never seen anything like that before, and so, following instinct or curiosity or a little of both, I headed north along the ridge. I walked along the edge of an old forest fire for a ways, one that I had helped control a long ago day in 1967. Then I dropped down a short hill and broke onto a flat, grassy bench. I continued on for a ways gradually working my way over to the breaks of the North Fork. Along the edge of the canyon ahead of me I noticed rock out-croppings. Thinking that the dark basalt might hold heat and thus make for a warmer microsite than the open ridgetop, I made my way toward the rock. As I approached the rocks I suddenly caught the sight of a few specks of yellow. Buttercups, I thought. But what

kind? I made my way over to the yellow spots, looked at the flower first, then the leaves. Sure enough! It was R. reconditus.

I scrambled on among the rocks. There were little dots of yellow here and there all along. I estimated there were perhaps 25 plants in the 600 feet of out-cropping. The ridge about ended at the same place the rocks did. I stood and looked down into the canyon at the water far below, knowing that I had just seen something that hadn't been seen in Oregon in a long, long time.

Unlike the site Kevin and I had found the day before, this one was very open. There were open grasslands both on the ridge top as well as on the steep slopes that dropped off into the canyon. Timber did occur in stringers down the shadier aspects of the canyon. Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir predominated, with a few Oregon white oak on the drier, grassy slopes.

The ridge top supported scattered pine and oak. Ground cover was composed of bitterbrush (heavily browsed), bunchgrasses, and species of Eriogonum, Lupinus, Lithophragma, Achillea, and Balsamorhiza. But nothing was in bloom. Just the buttercup.

That night my mailbox produced the March N.P.S.O. Bulletin. On page 28 was a drawing of Ranunculus reconditus by Julie Kierstead, and these few words: "Obscure buttercup; still found at a few sites in Washington, but gone from Oregon". And I thought, "no Julie, almost gone, but not quite."

Over the next few weeks I continued to monitor the site. By 4 April it was apparent that my original estimate of 25 plants was way too low. There were a lot more, probably several hundred. In one place the ground was almost solid yellow with blooms. But still, they grew only among the rocks and nowhere else.

Besides checking the site, I looked for more. I looked along road sides and in canyons. Among rock out-croppings. Along streams. On top of ridges. In a lot of likely looking habitat, and some not so likely. But there was none.

On 22 April they were all gone. There were only a few plants left, and they were in seed. There was no sign that just a few weeks before there had been a riot of yellow among the rocks. The flowers were gone, the plants were gone. Withered and blown away.

The Washington site also produced a surprise. On a return visit a couple of weeks after the initial find, it was apparent that

Please turn to page 34

Kevin and I has vastly underestimated the size of that population, too. Or else they hadn't all been up yet. Either way, there were a lot of buttercups around the two or three acres of our first sighting, all R. reconditus.

The three plants I had pressed from the Washington site were taken to the herbarium at Oregon State. They were mounted on a standard herbarium sheet and the label attached. Kevin's name was listed along with mine as the collectors.

I took Kevin and his brother Karl to Corvallis later in the spring for a weekend visit. While we were there we went to the herbarium. I showed them the three plants, now pressed flat, glued to a piece of paper. I think Kevin was a little surprised at how they looked. But I think what pleased him the most was the fact that his name was there for all to see. "Yes", I could hear him think, "I helped my dad find that plant."

I hope he remembers that day for a long time. I know I will. And I'll remember the next day, too. When obscure buttercup became a little less obscure.

David C. Gross
Mid Columbia Chapter

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ONRC'S SPRING WHALE WATCHING CRUISES

The Oregon Natural Resources Council is extending its whale watching cruises into the spring to catch the northward migration of the Gray whales. Cruises are scheduled every Saturday March 1 to April 26, 1986. One and a half hour cruises depart from Newport at 1 p.m. Advance registration of \$15 per person is required. Contact ONRC's Main Office for more information: 1161 Lincoln Street, Eugene, OR 97401 (344-0675).

HINTS FOR PLANT WATCHERS

This is a brief outline of a presentation by Tammy Maurer at the 1985 NPSO Annual Meeting.

Field trips, favorite botanical haunts, and individual exploits can all be valuable sources of information useful to plant ecologists, botanists, and conservation organizations. Instead of just checking off the plants you've seen, you have the opportunity to contribute some very useful information just by taking a few quick notes on some of the questions presented below.

Also, although the fully flowering stage of the plant is often the most showy, other stages of the plant's lifecycle can be as important to those interested in monitoring plants for conservation or beneficial management purposes. For example, information on the timing and approximate numbers of fruits and seeds is very important for an understanding of the dynamics of plant populations.

Visiting the same area several times during a season may allow you to make more detailed and interesting observations. You might even want to mark CAREFULLY a few individuals and note changes - this is often a good way of focusing your attention. However, do this with respect for the plants and habitats - trails and other disturbances created by frequent visits can be a real threat to the existence of the plants you are watching.

Here are a few questions to get you thinking about your favorite plants:

- When do they first begin to "green up"?
- When are seedlings present?
- When do leaves first appear?
- When do flower stems and buds first appear?
- When are the first and last dates of flowering?
- How many flowers are produced? (estimates) How long do individual flowers stay open?
- Any insect visitors? (especially any pollinators)
- Any Signs of eaten parts on plants?
- When do fruits appear?
- When do fruits mature or dry out?
- How many seeds are produced in a single fruit?
- What other plants are found near this plant?

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

NPSO Wildflower Poster Alan Curtis
2370 Douglas Drive, Eugene, OR, 97405; 345-2571

Notecards George Lewis
8230 SW Cashmur Lane, Portland, OR, 97225; 292-0415

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4135 Alder St., Eugene, OR, 97405; 345-1746

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 535 Taylor St., Ashland, OR, 97520; 482-5235
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CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Blue Mountain (NE Oregon) Bruce Barnes
 731 NW 5th, Pendleton, OR, 97801; 276-5547
 Corvallis Tammy Maurer
 139 NW 35th St., Corvallis, OR, 97330; 752-6170
 Emerald (Eugene area) Chester Wilson
 2156 Patterson, Apt. 12, Eugene, OR 97403; 344-2669
 High Desert (Bend area) Stuart Garrett
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 Mid-Columbia Keith Chamberlain
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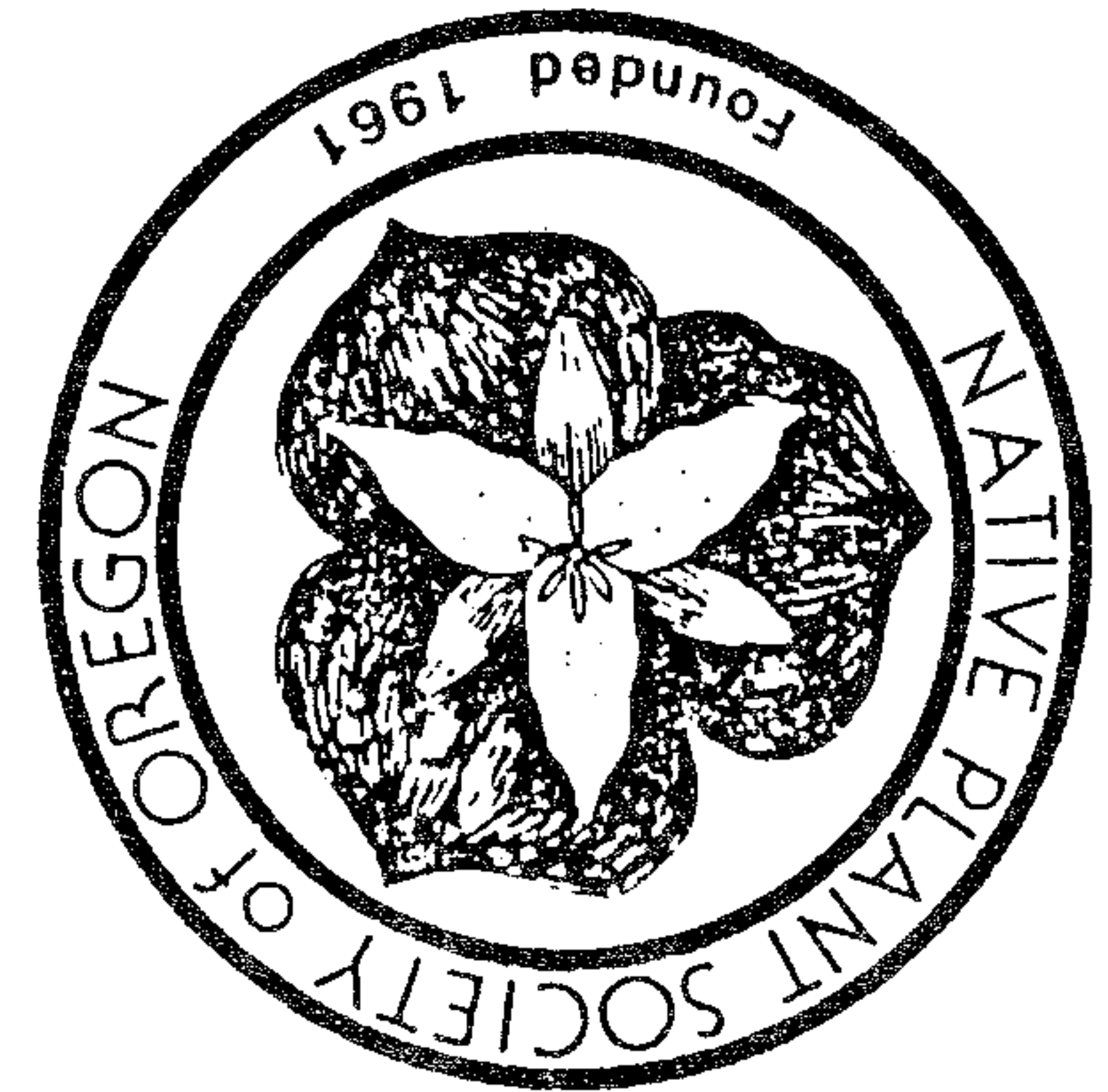
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