

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

Volume 20 No. 6

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1987 The Year of the Oregon Endangered Species Act

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Blue Mountain

- 20 June, Sat. Field Trip to BALD MOUNTAIN. Meet at 8:30am at EMCC Greenhouse or at 9:45am at the intersection by Langdon Lake in Tollgate. Leader: Ruth Rouse.
- 11 July, Sat. Field Trip to MT. HOWARD at Wallowa Lake. Bring lunch and money for gondola ride and meet at EMCC Greenhouse at 7:00am or at the Safeway parking lot in LaGrande at 8:15am. Leader: Bruce Barnes.

### Corvallis

- 6 June, Sat. Field Trip to MARY'S PEAK. Leader: Esther McEvoy (754-0893).
- 15 June, Mon. Meeting, 7:30pm. Room 2089 Cordley Hall, OSU Campus. Field trip preview slides of Iron Mountain flora by Henny Chambers and Bob Ross.
- 20 June, Sat. Field Trip to IRON MOUNTAIN-CONE PEAK area. Leader: Dan Luoma (758-8063).

### Emerald

- 6 June, Sat. Field Trip to BIG RIVER OLD GROWTH PRESERVE, south of Cottage Grove. Meet at 10:00am at the Lane Community College south parking lot, adjacent to the Science Building or at the intersection of Big River Road and Stennett Butte Road near the site at 10:45am. Directions to Big River are printed in the April issue of the Bulletin.
- 8 June, Mon. Meeting, 8:00pm. Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard, Eugene. Ed Alverson of the OSU Botany Dept. will give a slide show and talk on the vegetation of Thurston County, Washington, with comparisons to our local Willamette Valley flora.

### High Desert

- All field trips leave from the parking lot behind MacDonald's Restaurant, 2048 NE 3rd, Bend, at 9:00am. Carpools are encouraged. Bring a backpack lunch. Non-members are welcome. For more information call Stu Garrett (382-2681).
- 6 June, Sat. Field Trip to POWELL BUTTE. A moderate 4 mile hike with great views in BLM administered area. Leader: Stu Garrett (382-2681).
- 27 June, Sat. Field Trip to OCHOCO BIG SUMMIT PRAIRIE. Emphasis on riparian areas with an expert from USFS. Leader: Bud Kovalchik.
- 18 July, Sat. Field Trip to CONE PEAK-IRON MOUNTAIN, one of the classic Cascade wildflower displays. Moderate to strenuous 6 mile hike. Leader: Stu Garrett (382-2681).
- 22 Aug. Sat. Field Trip to BROKEN TOP. Spectatular alpine wildflowers and geology. Moderate 5 mile hike. Leader: Stu Garrett.

## Mid Columbia

3 June, Wed.

Meeting, 7:30pm at Pietro's Pizza Place, 3320 W. 6th St. in The Dalles. The program will be FAVORITE LOCAL WILDFLOWERS from the private collection of slides of Janice Merz. Come earlier and join us for pizza. Any puzzling species? Bring a sample for identification help.

## North Coast

4 June, Thurs.

Meeting, 7:30pm. at the Tillamook PUD Building. Election of officers will take place. Slate of nominees is: Pres. Clara Fairfield, Vice Pres. Greg Cline, Sec./Treas. Jean Cline. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the meeting.

## Portland

Reminder: When carpooling on field trips, riders should pay the driver some reimbursement for gas expenses. The suggested amount has been 4¢ per mile.

6 June, Sat.

Field Trip: driving trip in the COAST RANGE. Leave OMSI at 8:00am. Meet leader at 9:00am at intersection of Wilson River Road and Forest Grove Rd., Highways 6 & 8. Leader: Helen Moenke (324-7822).

6 - 10 June

Float Trip on Grande Ronde River to Snake River, 4 days. Leader: Charlene Holzwarth (284-3444).

9 June, Tues.

Meeting, 7:00pm. First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. SCENES OF HIGH DESERT MUSEUM will be shown by Jim Crowell.

12 June, Fri.

Setting up for the Flowers in the Forest Show, afternoon and evening, pot luck about 6pm. Any last minute quandries or offers of help, call Jeanne Huffstetter (244-8224), Florence Ebeling (244-4122) or Louise Godfrey (223-4785).

13 & 14 June

FLOWERS IN THE FOREST. 10am to 5pm at the World Forestry Center, 4033 SW Canyon Road. (WFC admission \$1.50, seniors or those under 18 yrs. 75¢). Early summer flowers of the coast, both sides of the Cascades, the Columbia Gorge, central Oregon displayed in habitat groupings. "Talk up" our show to your friends!

13 June, Sat.

Field Trip for Annual Gorge Hiking Weekend to HERMAN CREEK. Ten miles round trip with 2000 ft. elevation gain. Meet at K-Mart at NE 122nd and Sandy at 7:45am. Leader: Dave Dobak (643-2213).

14 June, Sun.

Field Trip for Annual Gorge Hiking Weekend to MULTNOMAH BOG. Two miles round trip with a 300 ft. elevation gain. Be prepared for wet feet. Meet at Dept. of Motor Vehicles Office, NE 60th and Glisan at 9:00 am. Leader: Dave Dobak(643-2213).

20 June, Sat.

Field Trip to Glenwood area bird refuge, 25 miles north of White Salmon. Leave K-Mart (south end of parking lot) on 122nd and Sandy at 8:00am. Meet the leaders at 9:00am at Bridge Mart, White Salmon. Bring binoculars, birdbooks, wildflower books, lunch, appropriate clothing. Leaders: Stuart & Mildred Chapin (509 493-2823).

27 June, Sat.

Field Trip to BULL OF THE WOODS LOOKOUT and down to PANSY BASIN. Car shuttle. Meet at Estacada USFS Ranger Station at 9:00am with full gasoline tanks. Leader: Charlene Holzwarth (284-3444).

3,4,&5 July

Field Trip to the WALLOWAS, EAGLE CAP WILDERNESS. Friday - Mt. Howard Tramway; Saturday - Hurricane Creek area; Sunday - Ice Lake Trail as time permits. Special invitation to Wm. Cusick and Blue Mountain friends to join us. Camps at Hurricane Creek, Falls Creek, Wallowa Lake. Motels at Joseph (Mountain View Motel & Tr.Pk., Rt. 1, Joseph 97846; 432-2982); Minam St. Park, no electricity; Wilderness Inn, Enterprise, 426-4535; Mingo Motel, Wallowa, 886-2021; Minam Motel, 437-4475 ( no restaurant). Leader: Charlene Holzwarth (284-3444).

11 July, Sat.

Field Trip on PACIFIC CREST TRAIL #2000, west from Lolo Pass Road. Leader: Charlene Holzwarth (284-3444).



## Siskiyou

- 6 June, Sat. Field Trip to SODA MOUNTAIN PROPOSED WILDERNESS AREA. Explore the Pacific Crest Trail and Lone Pine Ridge; great views and wildflowers. Meet at Ashland Bi-Mart at 9:00am. Leader: Juniper Brock (482-4357).
- 11 June, Thurs. Meeting, 7:30pm. Room 171 Science Building, SOSOC. Art Bernstein, author of Trees of Southern Oregon, will give a slide presentation on local trees.
- 13 June, Sat. Field Trip to GREENSPRINGS TO HOBART BLUFF. A real mosaic of plant habitats, some in the Soda Mtn. Wilderness Proposal. Eight miles of hiking with grades, shorter options. Meet at Ashland Bi-Mart at 9:00am. Leader: Diane Meyer (482-2263).
- 20 June, Sat. LICHEN IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP. A short field trip near Ashland to see lichen species in their natural habitats. Followed by a lab experience to identify what we find in the morning. Meet in the parking lot below the Science Building at SOSOC at 10:00am. Leader: Jan Larson (482-4513).
- 12 July, Sun. Field Trip to WHITE MOUNTAIN VIA TINCUP TRAIL. A remote, roadless section of the Siskiyou Crest. High elevation peridotite species. About 8 miles round trip with grades and some cross-country scrambling. Meet at Ashland Bi-Mart at 8:00am., Medford K-Mart at 8:30am. Leader: Larry Loftis (535-3053).

## Willamette Valley

- 5 June, Fri. Workshop: GRASSES UP CLOSE, for all who fear grasses. Lois Kemp and Peter Zika teach recognition of the parts of grasses in the laboratory at Willamette University, Collins Hall, Rm. 118, 7:30pm to 8:30pm. Bring hand lens. Optional: handouts from last year's grass class and Hitchcock.
- 6 June, Sat. Workshop: GRASSES IN THE FIELD. Lois Kemp and Peter Zika teach recognition of the genera in the Salem vicinity, 9:00am to 1:00pm, rain or shine. Meet at South K-Mart parking lot at Mission St. and Airport Rd.
- 7 June, Sun. Field Trip to SLIDING ROCK TRAIL. Carpool at 8:00am at South Salem K-Mart parking lot or Dallas City Library at 9:00am. 90% easy trail. Leader: Clint Urey (743-2802).
- 13 June, Sat. COLUMBIA GORGE DAY. twelve separate hikes. Ask at Salem Public Library. For McCord Creek Falls easy hike, carpool at 8:00am S.Salem K-Mart or meet leader at 10:00am, at Yeon State Park, exit #35 off I-84. Leader: Cheryl Walters (228-1367). Coordinator: Clint Urey (743-2802).
- 20 June, Sat. Field Trip to TRIANGULATION PEAK. Carpool at 7:30am at S.Salem K-Mart. Leader: Frances Schaeffer (393-7492).
- 27 June, Sat. Field Trip to PAMELIA LAKE (tentative). Carpool at 8:00am at Ginger Bread House, Mehama. Leaders: George & Harriet Schoppert (859-2613).

## Wm. Cusick

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For information, contact Rachel Sines (963-0674).

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### LEGISLATIVE FUND DONATIONS

Any new donations to the NPSO Legislative Fund for SB 533 should be made out to the Oregon Natural Resources Council, not to NPSO. This is because we have reached the legal limit on the amount that NPSO can spend on legislative work as an organization. The address of ONRC is 1161 Lincoln Street, Eugene, Oregon 97401.

### FIELD TRIP REPORTS

A number of NPSO members have indicated an interest in reading about the field trips that the various chapters participate in during the year. Would someone from each chapter be willing to send in to the Editor of the Bulletin short articles about your trips? They could be in the form of summaries or highlights or longer versions if you like.

State Membership chairman requests that a membership blank be completed and submitted with any request for new or renewing memberships. Sending just a check will delay the registration of the membership in the files, and leaves much to guess-work on the part of the membership chairman.



## FLOWERS IN THE FOREST

A Display of OREGON WILDFLOWERS  
by the Portland Chapter  
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY of OREGON

Sat.	10am	Sun.
June 13	5pm	June 14

WORLD FORESTRY CENTER  
Main Exhibit Hall

Admission \$1.50 adults  
\$.75 under 18 yrs or Senior

No extra charge for flower show

### THE JESUP COLLECTION OF WOODS

When visiting the World Forestry Center in Portland to see the NPSO Flower Show in June, don't miss the outstanding "Jesup Collection of Woods of the United States of America" display upstairs. Approximately 500 species of trees, some in massive form, represent the North American woods. The collection, now more than one hundred years old, has preserved samples that in their own environment would have long ago disappeared.

For each species a five foot section of the trunk with bark intact was obtained and cut to show a cross, longitudinal and oblique section of the wood. The collection includes representatives of every significant tree type north of the Mexican border.

LEGISLATIVE BILL INFORMATION NUMBER

1-800-332-2313

### CHAPTERS ELECT NEW OFFICERS

#### Corvallis:

President: Tom Kaye  
VicePresident: Phil Hays  
Secretary: Beverly Clark  
Treasurer: Lynette Dillon

#### Portland:

President: Herb Armentrout  
VicePresidents: Lois Kemp (Programs)  
Charlene Holzwarth (Field Trips)  
Secretary: Maxine Wilson  
Treasurer: Ruth Oliver

#### Willamette Valley:

President: Pat Rogers-Rochna  
VicePresident: Margie Willis  
Secretary: Claire Carder  
Treasurer: Harry Demaray

### BLM AWARDS NPSO

On May 8, 1987, the State Office of the Bureau of Land Management presented NPSO a "Volunteers for the Public Lands" Award. This is a national award for our volunteer work during the summer of 1986 on BLM lands in the Burns District. Our award is one of 61 given nationwide, and recognizes the work of the NPSO Grants Committee and the four researchers for work on BLM desert wilderness lands and Research Natural Areas. The recipients of the award are Barbara Fox, Chairperson, and researchers Lois Kemp, Peter Zika, Dave Gross and Carolyn Wright. We appreciate the work and cooperation of Cheryl McCaffery, Zone Botanist, of the Burns BLM District.

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

#### NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

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TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

517



June 13, Sat. TOM MCCALL PRESERVE

A short walk on the Rowena Plateau offering panoramic views of the east end of the Gorge and meadows of wildflowers. Led by Keith Chamberlain of the Mid Columbia Chapter of NPSO (503-478-3314). Meet at 8:30am at Lloyd Center parking lot, NE 16th and Clackamas Sts. for carpooling. Or meet the leader at 10:00am at Rowena Crest Overlook (Mosier exit 69 off I-84, then east on Hwy. 30 for 6.6 miles).

June 13, Sat. HERMAN CREEK

Trail leads deep into lush forest, past side streams, waterfalls and sunny hillsides. Hike 10 miles with 2000 ft. elevation gain. Led by Dave Dobak of the Portland Chapter of NPSO. (643-2213). Meet at 7:45am at the south end of the parking lot at the K-Mart on 122nd and Sandy.

June 14, Sun. SILVER STAR MOUNTAIN

A moderate hike of less than 5 miles total with two choices for enjoying this highpoint: the Indian Pits with Don or the Sturgeon Rock plant study with Ed. Led by Don Cannard (206 694-1648) and Ed Robertson (206 694-1648) of the Suksdorfia Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Washington. Meet at 8:00am at the Fort Vancouver Regional Library, Mill Plain Blvd. at Fort Vancouver Way in Vancouver.

June 14, Sun. MULTNOMAH BOG

Explore a meadow that lies just below the summit of Larch Mountain. Two miles round trip with a 300 feet elevation gain. Be prepared for wet feet. Led by Dave Dobak (643-2213) of NPSO. Meet at 9:00am at the Dept. of Transportation parking lot at NE 60th and Glisan.



Arching stalks of somnolent fiber  
Rays of light cast ever less obliquely  
Profound stirrings welling from within  
Rising tufts of green  
Atop delicately drooping racemes of white  
Indian plum  
Irrepressible signal  
Of Spring's triumphant unfolding  
- Peter Kendall

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

CORVALLIS

Gerry & Julie Barclay  
Dorothy Mathews  
OSU Kerr Library

EMERALD

Ada Brockett  
Jenny Dimling  
Forrest O'Farrell  
Ann Porterfield  
Freeman Rowe  
Daphne Stone

PORTLAND

Erma Engels  
Will Clinger  
Anne Hartheimer  
Patricia Justice  
Jefferson Kincaid  
John Kistler  
Dr. & Mrs. Edward Mulder  
Ralph Rogers  
Jill Schatz  
Robert Thompson  
G.J. Throop

HIGH DESERT

James Crocker  
Barbara & Roland Pitschel

SISKIYOU

Carol Harmount  
Rosemary Leen

MID COLUMBIA

Ray Hotka  
Ginny Irving  
Dorothy Leininger

WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Paula Brooks  
Gemini Cameron  
Tom & Linda Jenkins  
Elizabeth King  
Sharon Leopold  
Don Mason

NORTH COAST

John & Robyn Allen  
Hennie Wooldridge

LONG DRAW RNA UPDATE

Over the last weekend of April, 1987, we revisited Long Draw RNA, one of three RNA's we did floristic surveys in last year under a grant from NPSO (see the April Bulletin). The purpose of our latest trip was to see if there were any early blooming Spring plants we might have missed last year.

We were able to identify eight more plants, including one rare one, *Cymopterus purpurascens*. This plant is listed by the Oregon Natural Heritage Data Base as Taxa Threatened in Oregon But More Common Or Stable Elsewhere. Previous to our find at Long Draw the species was known from only one other site in Oregon, located about six miles to the southeast.

We also went to Mickey Basin RNA but didn't find any additional plants there.

After leaving Mickey we drove east looking for a place to camp. At 7:00 PM at a well at the base of the Sheepshead Mountains we met a couple camped out, their three horses grazing in the corral. They asked for directions to Burns Junction. We more or less pointed east and said "ride into the sun in the morning and turn left at the pavement". We ended up talking with them for about half-an-hour and it turned out they were on their way from Sacramento, CA to North Dakota. On horseback. There are always surprises on the desert.

It appears that it is going to be a very dry year in Southeast Oregon. This lack of water will have an affect on the flora of the desert. Many annuals may not even try to come up but save their seed for a more favorable year. In retrospect, we don't think we would have come up with as complete a species list this year as last for the three RNA's we surveyed.

David Gross and Carolyn Wright, Mid-Columbia Chapter



It was 1978. Scott Sundberg and I were stumbling through a dense stand of Salix hookeriana and Pyrus fusca on Sutton Lake in coastal Lane County. We were searching for a Sphagnum mire that we never found. When squeezing through a tangle of branches, I came face to face with what I thought was the relatively common moss Climacium, and I collected a few plants. I thought no more about the specimen until I keyed it out two years later in Elva Lawton's Moss Flora of the Pacific Northwest. It wasn't Climacium at all, but Limbella fryei, cited in Lawton's key as "very rare," and in the description as "found once in Oregon, near the coast." It had been collected in Coos County by T.C. Frye in August 1922. Here was a plant that hadn't been seen since it first was collected 56 years ago!

The problem was intriguing. The 1922 collection was described in 1933 as a new species, Sciaromium fryei (Limbella is now the correct generic name). In her moss flora of 1971, Lawton stated that L. fryei was the same as L. tricostata, a species endemic to the Hawaiian archipelago. After careful study, including analysis of morphology, chromosomes, biochemistry and habitat, I was convinced that L. fryei was not the same as L. tricostata, but was a species endemic to the Pacific Northwest.

Where was the type locality for L. fryei, and did that population still exist? Several clues helped answer these questions. The original description of L. fryei, and the label of the type specimen used for the description, cited the type locality only as "Cape Arago, Oregon." Labels of two duplicates of the type specimen were considerably more informative: "Coos County, Cape Arago, 1-1.5 miles northeast of Charleston on east side of highway." One of these duplicates contained a map and note written by Frye in 1950. The map placed the type locality in the present community of Barview, along an approximately 1-km segment of Cape Arago Highway, with Fossil Point as the midpoint of the segment.

In his note, Frye stated that the "type spot is now the back yard of a house." It is not clear whether the population of Limbella still existed in 1950, or whether it had been destroyed by construction of the house. Elva Lawton could not recall with certainty whether Frye actually returned to Barview in 1950. In 1980, Dr. Lawton gave me additional details regarding the Barview locality:

In 1956 before we went on a collecting trip to Oregon Dr. Frye told me a little more about the place where he collected the moss. He said there was a grove of trees (a dozen or more, I think douglas fir), beyond and on the opposite side of the road from where he got the moss. I am

sure I found the place, the trees were larger than he had described as it was some years later. Some houses had been built in the area but there was plenty of undisturbed ground and a small stream. I hunted all over the area without finding the moss.

Having pinpointed the type locality at Barview, what was the habitat there like in 1922? T.C. Frye died in 1962, and it is unlikely that we will ever know the answer to this question. The best we can do is reconstruct the habitat from a few scanty clues.

Did the habitat at Barview differ from that at Sutton Lake? At Sutton Lake, a dense stand of mature Salix hookeriana and Pyrus fusca, with an understory of Carex obnupta, Lysichitum americanum and scattered Spiraea douglasii, had developed on a bed of waterlogged, fibrous peat at least 1 m in depth. Pools of water occurred here and there. Sand, gravel and rocks were absent.

The habitat at Barview was described only as "more or less wet pasture land," certainly not the same as that at Sutton Lake. Aside from this brief description, the only other evidence concerning habitat was some extraneous litter found in Frye's specimens. I compared this litter with that from my own collections from Sutton Lake, and found some important clues concerning habitat. Aside from numerous arthropods, cases of aquatic caddisfly larvae, small clams and snails, the material from Sutton Lake contained litter from all the dominant vascular plants of the habitat, giving a good profile of the vegetation type. Litter from the Barview collection, though scanty, included culms of grass, caddisfly cases and seeds of Rubus parviflorus.

Based on this evidence, the only similarity between the two habitats was the presence of Limbella and water. Water at Barview was evidenced by the presence of caddisfly cases and Frye's observation of "more or less wet pasture" even in the typically driest month of August. The remains of the caddisfly cases from Barview were constructed entirely of sand, supporting evidence for location of the type locality at that place. Barview is situated on a marine terrace composed of late Pleistocene beach and offshore deposits, mostly sand with some clay, gravel, peat layers and woody remains. The sandy soils of Oregon's marine terraces often develop iron-cemented hardpans, impeding drainage and forming vernal or perennial pools. Therefore there could have been both aquatic habitat for the caddisflies, and sand for their cases. In contrast, the caddisfly cases from Sutton Lake were composed entirely of plant remains, including leaves of Limbella, which correlates with the absence of sand at that site.

The evidence from the litter suggested that L.



fryei could occur in at least two very different habitats, one a closed, dense, swampy shrub-carr and the other a wet pasture. Because the Sutton Lake habitat is undisturbed, and because L. fryei appears to thrive there, it does not make sense that the moss would do equally well in an obviously disturbed pasture associated with seral species such as grass and thimbleberry. It is possible that the Barview site once may have been a shrub-carr that had been cleared prior to Frye's visit in 1922. Cultivation of L. fryei in a growth chamber, including survival of an electrical malfunction that raised the temperature from 18°C to 34°C for 12-18 hours (lethal for most aquatic bryophytes), indicated that the species is hardy. It is possible that Limbella could survive the radical change in light, temperature and humidity associated with sudden removal of overstory, as long as an adequate supply of water remained. Some mosses are known to be more resistant to such changes than are vascular plants.

Did Lawton search in the correct habitat in 1956, even though she may have found the type locality? If she thought that the Barview



*Climacium dendroides*

Drawing from Common Mosses of the Pacific Coast by Harthill and O'Connor.

plants really were the Hawaiian L. tricostata, perhaps this caused her to look in the wrong places. In her letter of 1980 she stated:

"Because the [Hawaiian] habitat had been described as often in streams with waterfalls etc. I thought that this was an entirely different habitat and not suitable for the moss, and that it might possibly have been introduced and then died out."

The Barview population remains lost. Scott Sundberg and I searched unsuccessfully for the plants twice in 1980, and I searched again in 1983. It was unclear which Douglas fir grove Lawton had referred to in her letter, as several such stands occurred along the west side of the highway in that vicinity. Most of the area was covered with housing or commercial developments, and the streams in the area had been impounded. There is no Pyrus-Salix shrub-carr at Barview, as there is at Sutton Lake. At the time we searched the area, a small stand of Salix hookeriana existed in the back yard of a house, but Limbella was not there. Because three individuals trained in bryology were unable to relocate the plants, there is a good chance that the Barview population of L. fryei is extinct.

Loss of the population at the type locality meant that it was critically important to find populations in addition to that at Sutton Lake. Did any such populations exist? In 1983 and 1984 I searched 43 additional sites, almost all Salix hookeriana-Pyrus fusca-Carex obnupta shrub-carrs, along 1600 km of coastline from southern British Columbia to northern California, without finding any additional populations of the moss. This means that the Sutton Lake population of L. fryei is the only living population known to exist in the world. Based on the evidence we have at hand, the moss Limbella fryei is a critically endangered species. It has been given List 1 status, threatened with extinction throughout its entire range, by the Oregon Natural Heritage Data Base. Given the fact that two populations have been documented, 80 km distant from one another, and that the moss flora of the Pacific Northwest is still poorly known, there is still hope that other populations will be discovered.

I think it is imperative that the Sutton Lake population be safeguarded, and have encouraged the Oregon Field Office of the Nature Conservancy to purchase the tract, or obtain a conservation easement for it. I hope sympathetic readers will express their concern to the Nature Conservancy.

John A. Christy  
Milwaukee Public Museum  
800 West Wells St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53233



Editorials similar to this one which appeared in the May 3, 1987, issue of The Register-Guard have appeared in the Portland Oregonian and the Corvallis newspaper. Please, could NPSO members in Medford, Roseburg, Bend, Burns, Pendleton, LaGrande, Coos Bay, etc. contact their newspapers for similar coverage.

## Protect endangered species

With all eyes trained on the goal of economic development, Oregon legislators should have little trouble appreciating the fact that strength lies in diversity. What is true of the economy is true of the environment as well, but Oregon, unlike 25 other states, has failed to protect the diversity of its plant and wildlife communities. The state House of Representatives can remedy that failure by endorsing the Senate-approved State Endangered Species Act.

The act — Senate Bill 533 — would require the state Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish programs for identifying and protecting animal species in danger of vanishing from Oregon. The Division of State Lands would be required to do the same for endangered plant species.

SB 533 is similar to the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, which protects rare plants and animals on lands under federal jurisdiction. The state's companion legislation would extend similar protection to Oregon lands.

The bill would enhance as well as supplement the federal act. The Oregon Natural Heritage Program lists 110 endangered plant species in the state, but only two are currently listed as qualifying for protection under the federal law. Eighty wildlife species, nearly half of them found nowhere but Oregon, are endangered in the state but lack federal protection. The problem is that the federal processes for listing endangered species are slow — so slow that some may disappear before the federal government acts.

Oregon, however, already has a good inventory of endangered plants and animals. The federal government is generally willing to accept state listings for its own purposes. In addition, the federal government provides matching funds for many state programs to protect endangered species. SB 533, then, would not only provide state protection that does not now exist, it would also help make the federal law more effective.

The cost of state programs to protect endangered species is a matter of dispute. After proposed protections for invertebrates were dropped from the bill, the state Department of Fish and Wildlife estimated that it could implement its part of the program at no additional expense. The Division of State Lands estimated that the endangered plant program would cost \$184,000 during the first two years.

At the request of Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's office and the Legislature's Ways and Means Committee, those estimates were revised upward to more than \$1 million per biennium. The new figure for the Department of Fish and Wildlife's program, however, included money that is already being spent to protect endangered animals. And the State Land Board, which supervises the Division of State Lands, rejected the new cost projection for the endangered plant program. While SB 533 undoubtedly would have some fiscal impact, the total seems likely to fall far short of the \$1 million figure.

Even \$1 million would be a remarkably small amount to spend on efforts to preserve a precious and non-renewable resource. Once a species becomes extinct, no amount of money can bring it back. The price of extinction can sometimes be measured in dollars — a promising new oilseed crop called meadowfoam, for instance, has been made self-pollinating through crossbreeding with an endangered plant found only in a six-square-mile area near Medford. Nothing could be more shortsighted than to deny researchers the opportunity to discover the agricultural, medicinal and industrial wealth locked within each species' unique genetic code.

More important, no species — our own included — exists apart from others. The role each plant and animal species plays in supporting the larger community of life is only beginning to be understood. It would be the worst kind of arrogance to presume that one or another species is expendable.

Oregon is the third most botanically diverse state in the nation, after Texas and California. The variety of its animal life is similarly impressive. Such diversity is a great source of strength that is weakened each time a species becomes extinct. The State Endangered Species Act would protect that diversity. The act should be approved by the House of Representatives and signed into law by Governor Goldschmidt.

### STATE PARKS DIVISION NEEDS SPECIES LISTS AND MAPS

Your help is needed to compile species lists and make maps of plant communities in state parks in the Lakeview, Klamath Falls and Lincoln City areas.

Oregon State Parks Division has started the master planning process for the following parks in Klamath and Lake Counties:

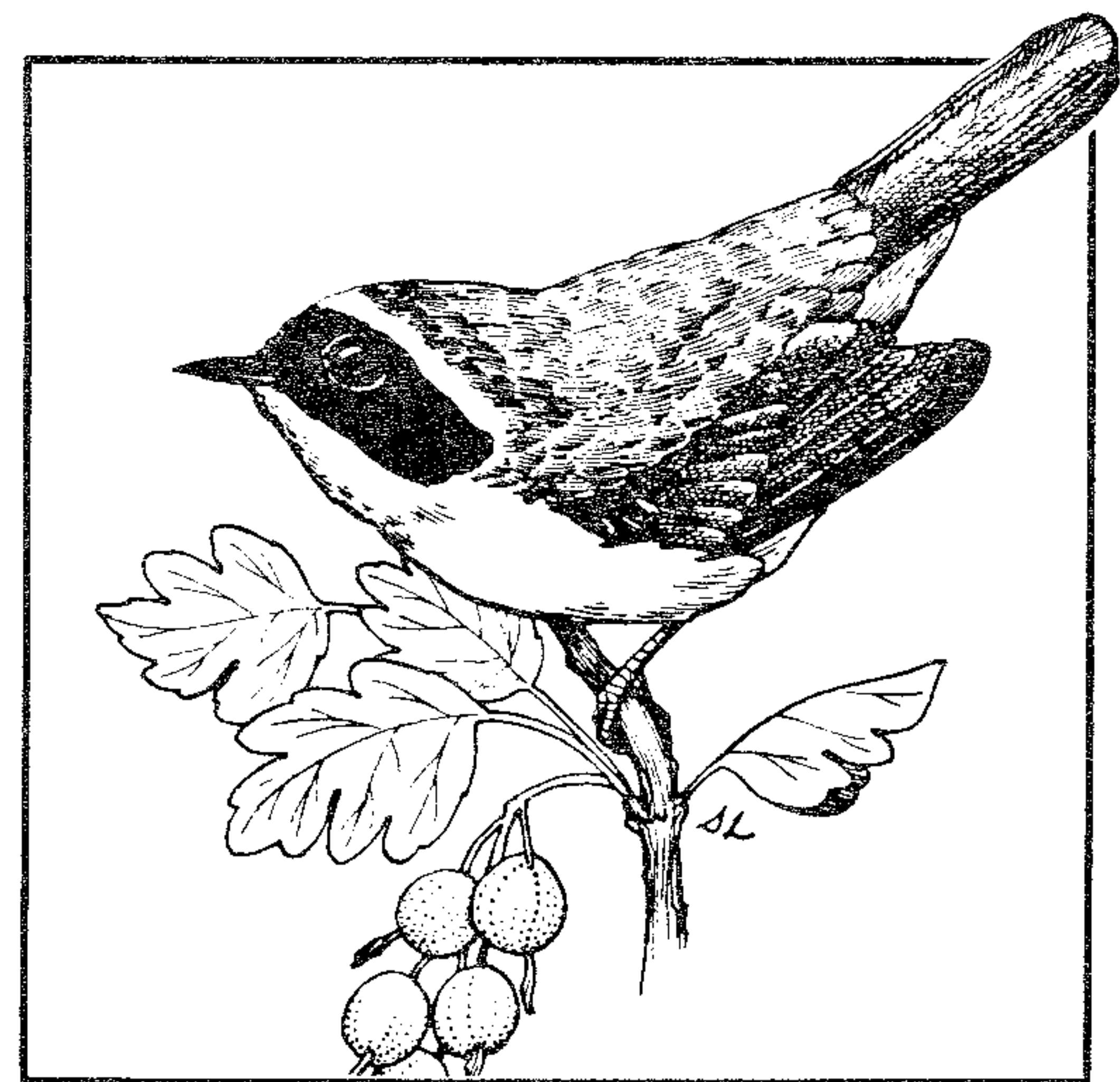
Collier Memorial State Park  
 Jackson Kimball State Park  
 Beaver Marsh Wayside  
 Klamath Falls-Lakeview Forest Wayside  
 Goose Lake Recreation Area  
 Chandler State Wayside  
 Booth State Wayside

and these parks on the north coast:

Devil's Lake State Park  
 H.B. Van Duzer Forest Corridor Wayside  
 Roads End Beach State Wayside  
 "D" River State Wayside  
 Gleneden Beach State Wayside  
 Fogarty Creek State Park

The Division welcomes additional ecological information on other animals, plants and geology. Endangered species searches are needed. These inventories will be used to make land use decisions.

For maps and additional details, contact Marjorie Willis, Natural Resource Planner, Oregon State Parks, 525 Trade Street SE, Salem, OR 97310; phone 378-6290. The deadline for receiving information on the parks in Klamath and Lake Counties is July 1, 1987; for the Lincoln City area parks, it is August 1, 1987.



Common Yellowthroat on *Ribes*  
*Geothlypis trichas*  
 By Susan Lindstedt, Malheur  
 Field Station

#### STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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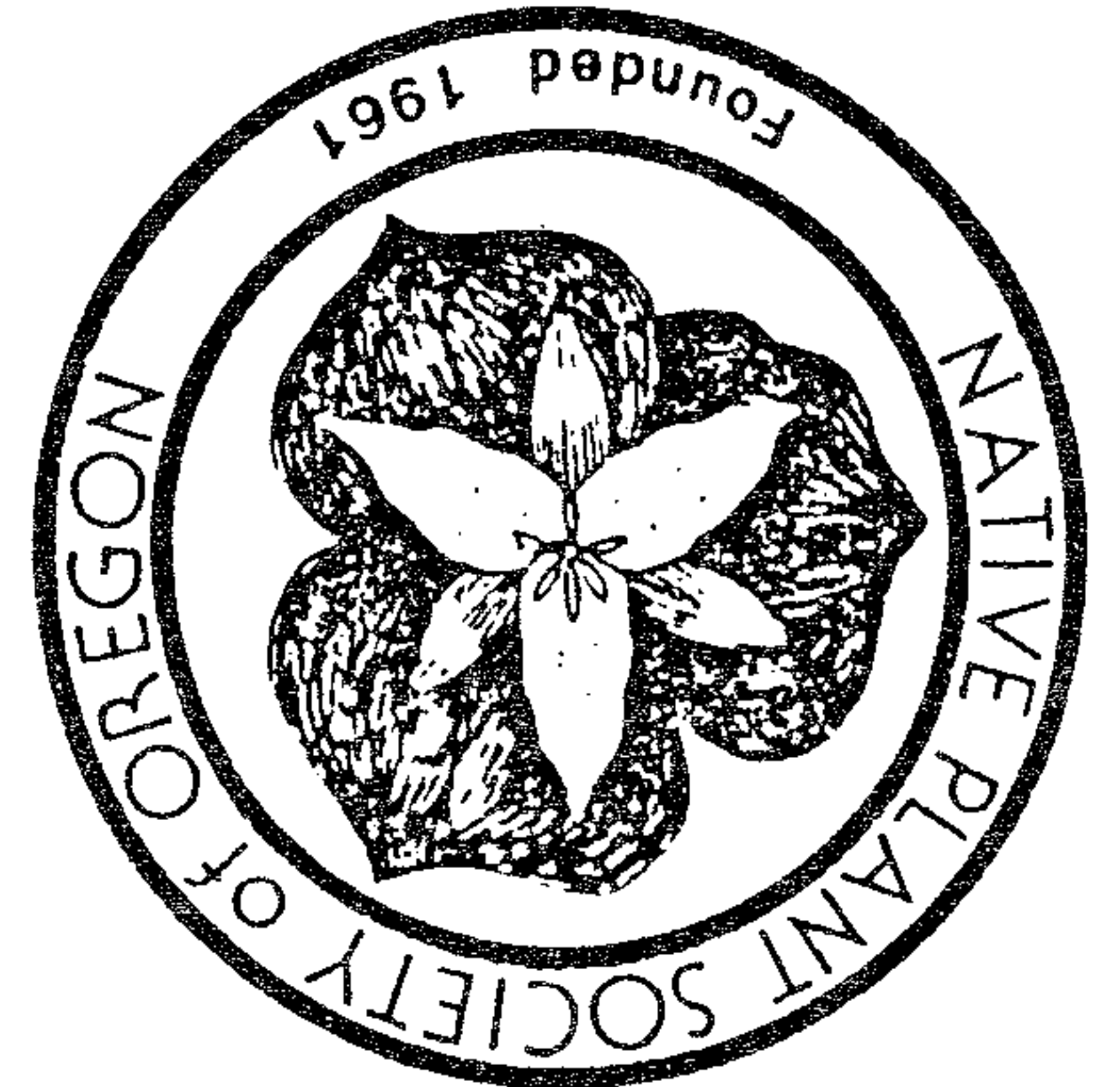
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