

Bulletin of the  
**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
OF OREGON**

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

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VOLUME 23 NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 1990

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## CHAPTER NEWS

### IMPORTANT NOTE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Field trips take place rain or shine, so proper dress and footwear are essential. Trips may be strenuous and/or hazardous. Please contact the trip leader for information about difficulty, mileage, and terrain. Participation is at your own risk. Bring water and lunch. All NPSO activities are open to the public at no charge (other than carpool mileage), and friends, newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

Notice to field trip chairs and leaders: The Forest Service and other Federal agencies have set policies limiting group size in wilderness areas to 12. The reason for this is to limit the human impact on these fragile areas. As we are often in the position of asking them to follow their rules and regulations for conservation of our natural resources, it's time for us to do the same. Each group using wilderness must be no larger than 12.

### Blue Mountain

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For information, call Bruce Barnes (276-5547).

### Corvallis

27 Oct., Sat.

**FIELD TRIP** for a Cascade Mountains Mushroom Hunt. Leave at 8:30am from the parking lot across from the Monroe St. Beanery. Bring lunch, appropriate clothes, and collecting equipment. Contact Dan Luoma (758-8063) for more information.

### Emerald

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For information, call Diane English (484-9287).

### High Desert

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For information, call Bill Hopkins (388-7434).

### Mid-Columbia

5 Sept., Wed.

**MEETING.** 7:30pm at the Mosier School. Ron Halvorson will present an overview of selected botanical activities on the Prineville BLM district. Opportunities for chapter involvement will be discussed and plans made. The White River south of Tygh Valley will be one highlight.

3 Oct., Wed.

**MEETING.** 7:30pm at the Mosier School. Don Eastman, author of the newly released book, "Rare and Endangered Plants of Oregon" will be our guest speaker. We will see a sampling of his fine photography from his extensive travels and botanical research.

### North Coast

6 Sept., Thurs.

**MEETING.** 7pm at the State Office Bldg., 3600 3rd St., Tillamook. Sallie will discuss dune ecology.

22 Sept., Sat.

**FIELD TRIP.** A walk on the beach to study beach ecology. Leave 9:30am from the Cornet lot, or meet at Barview State Park at 10am. For information call Al Krampert (842-2308).

## Portland

- 1 Sept., Sat. **FIELD TRIP** to the white gentians of Hellroaring Meadows, and other flowers of Mt. Adams. Leave at 8am from the NE 122nd and Sandy K-Mart parking lot. Leader: Bryan Boyce (655-4457).
- 8 Sept., Sat. **FIELD TRIP** to the Indian Heaven Huckleberry fields. Leader: Elizabeth Handler (244-5320). Wilderness regulations require no more than 12 persons in the group. Please call for advance registration. Leave at 8am from the NE 122nd and Sandy K-Mart parking lot.
- 11 Sept., Tue. **MEETING.** 7pm at First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Invite your friends to an evening with Ed Alverson. Ed will be showing slides of the Bald Hill Park Restoration in Corvallis. Also Tami Katz from the Cascadia Landscape Center will show a few slides on previous Cascadia Conferences.
- 15 Sept., Sat. **FIELD TRIP** to the Deschutes River and Celilo area. Leave 8am from the 122nd and Sandy K-Mart parking lot. 2nd meeting at Shilo Inn in The Dalles at 9:30am. Leader is George Lewis (292-0415).
- 22 Sept., Sat. **FIELD TRIP** for a mushroom adventure with Jan Lindgren (1-206-573-6918) Leave 8:30am from the 122nd and Sandy K-Mart parking lot.

## Siskiyou

- 13 Sept., Thurs.  
sert, **MEETING---**Share summer plant hunting adventures at our annual fall Potluck Social, 6pm at Lithia Park. Meet across the creek from the upper duck pond. Bring your favorite main dish, salad or dessert setting and a half dozen slides of your summer adventures. At 7:30pm we will adjourn to the Southern Oregon State College Science Bldg., Rm 171, for a short meeting and the slides.

## South Coast

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For information on formation of this pending chapter, contact Jim Curran (396-4939).

## Umpqua Valley

- Informal **FIELD TRIPS** every Tues. and Sun. with the Museum herbarium staff. Contact Mildred Thiele (673-5397) for more info.
- 20 Sept., Thurs.  
in **MEETING.** Gene Hickman, range conservationist of SCS will present plant ecology and soil surveys SW Oregon--vegetation communities across different soil types. 7pm in the US Forest Service conference room, 2900 Stewart Parkway, Roseburg.
- 22 Sept., Sat. **FIELD TRIP.** Plant ecology and soil surveys in the Cow Creek watershed. 8am BLM parking lot, 777 Garden Valley Rd., Roseburg, for carpooling.

## Willamette Valley

- To hear about unscheduled mid-week trips to places near & far, call Clint Urey (581-1805) or Barbara Halliday (371-1025).
- 17 Sept., Mon. **MEETING.** 7pm at Room 225, First United Methodist Church, corner of SE Church and State Sts., Salem (use the NE entrance on State St). John Christy, botanist for the Nature Conservancy, will speak on "Lake Labish and other Ghost Stories".
- 6 Oct., Sat. **FIELD TRIP** to Jefferson Park for the fall colors in the high country. Approx. 5 miles each way. Number of hikers limited due to wilderness regulations, call trip leaders to register. Leaders: George and Harriet Schoppert (859-2613, Stayton).

## William Cusick

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For information, contact Karen Antell (963-0267).



## NPSO R&E COMMITTEE NEWS

Hi! I have recently volunteered to attempt to replace Jean Siddall as the Native Plant Society of Oregon's R&E Chairperson. While this is going to be a difficult job, with your help we should be able to continue the excellent work that NPSO has been doing in the past.

Since it is the middle of the summer now, I am not going to try to do any organizing of activities for this field season. This fall is the biennial Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plant Conference, which is to be held sometime in the second or third week of November, at the University of Oregon in Eugene. Based on the comments and results of this conference, we plan on republishing the booklet, "Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals of Oregon". This year, we hope to make the conference and publication a cooperative venture between the Natural Heritage Data Base, the Native Plant Society, and the Plant Conservation Biology Program of the Oregon Department of Agriculture; with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife cooperating on the animal portion of the publication.

The conference is our best opportunity to reassess the status of the various plants in Oregon. It also can allow us to come up with ideas as to the best use of the Native Plant Society's energies, ways to work with the many new (and old) Forest Service and BLM botanists, cooperative efforts between the Department of Agriculture's program and NPSO, and the best way to share our expertise and resources. Please plan on being there if you can--and write down any notes about suggested changes to the list (new species to add, significant sightings or species which should be dropped). We will likely have the conference on Thursday-Saturday (if it goes for three days) or Friday-Saturday (if only two days). Agency botanists have requested the weekday dates to be able to attend. We have assumed that most NPSO members would prefer the weekend dates --but we need to hear from you. Can you make it during the week? Would you come only if we hold the conference on the weekend? Drop me a postcard at home (1724 SE 57th Ave., Portland, 97215) or give me a call at work (229-5078) and let me know your preference so we can set a date soon.

If anyone would like to help this summer or fall in the publication of the booklet--we do need help. To have a cooperative project between the different agencies, we will need to change the current format of the booklet--which now emphasizes the Oregon Natural Heritage Program status. We were planning on adopting a format similar to that used in the most recent book done by the California Native Plant Society, and so will have to re-key much of the information. Anybody who lives in the Portland area and has some time and typing skills is welcome to help with this project. Call me or Sue Vrilakas at the Heritage Data Base office (229-5078) if you are interested.

---Jimmy Kagan

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### STATE BOARD TO MEET SEPTEMBER 29TH

Ever wonder how the Native Plant Society of Oregon manages its diverse statewide activities? Your next chance to see our far-flung State Board organization in action is September 29th. All NPSO Board meetings are open to the public and members are encouraged to attend and participate. The meeting will be at 10am in Science Room 214 at Southern Oregon State College in Ashland.

Please send AGENDA ITEMS to President Stephanie Schulz by Sept. 10th.

The voting members of the State Board of the NPSO include State Officers, Chapter Presidents, and the Directors of the organization. The number on the State Board varies but currently is 22. A quorum is needed at each meeting to conduct business. Each Board member has a report to make on the activities they direct or oversee, as do all state committee chairs. In an organization such as ours communications are essential in carrying out our purposes and in reaching our goals. Attendance by all Board members is needed to assure the clearest communications possible within our organization. If Board members or committee chairs cannot attend, they should either send a representative or submit a written report to the secretary before the meeting.



## OREGON STATE PARKS RESPONDS TO ROOSTER ROCK GRAZING CONCERNS

*The following letter and position paper were sent to those who sent letters or went on the July 28 field trip.*

This is in response to your concern on grazing at Rooster Rock State Park.

State Parks concurs on the value of the natural resources located south of the Interstate Highway 84 at Rooster Rock. Large portions of the wetlands and riparian areas there are important vegetation resources. Other areas, such as the eastern 87 acres and certain places dominated by reed canarygrass, are less significant because of severe impacts over the years. The eastern acreage, acquired in 1985, was intensively grazed for decades. However, the grazed areas provide a characteristic pastoral scene which is in keeping with the scenic values of the Columbia Gorge.

Parks is aware of the threats to the significant wetland and riparian areas from grazing intrusion and from invasive weeds and is working towards better protection of these resources. We also recognize the need to control the invasion of brush in the open areas to preserve the visual qualities of the scene as viewed from Crown Point and from the scenic highway.

The Department's short-term goal is to update the vegetation management plan for the area of Rooster Rock State Park located to the south of the Interstate Highway. We will be assembling an advisory group of experts to assist us in this task. We anticipate representation from the Native Plant Society, the Audubon Society, and the Wildlife Federation.

Parks would like to provide better public access to this area of Rooster Rock for interpretation and enjoyment of the open space. The need for improved public access was identified in the 1981 master plan, but it has not received funding, due to lean agency budgets since that time.

Our long term goal is to address the vegetation management issue for all of the state parks in the Columbia Gorge in the course of master planning the entire district. Parks recognizes the Gorge District as having a high priority for the master plan update.

Finally, I would like to address a number of points which have been alluded to in several letters and comments made by the public:

----State Parks initiated grazing at Rooster Rock as a means of vegetation control, not as a source of revenue. The grazing permittee performs various maintenance and repair tasks for the park in return for his grazing right.

----Grazing is a historic use in much of the southern part of Rooster Rock State Park. A photograph of the area, taken before the construction of Bonneville Dam, shows that much of the park's wetlands were intensively used for agricultural lands at that time.

----Restoration of these historically pastoral areas to native wet meadows would be extremely difficult and costly. Letting these pastoral lands return to natural riparian woodland would mean the loss of the characteristic scenery of that area and of the open space potential for recreational use.

State Parks appreciates the comments and concerns which have been voiced about the protection of significant plant communities and scenic open areas at Rooster Rock. Parks shares those concerns and is working towards managing these resources for future public enjoyment and preservation of significant natural values. Attached is a short historical background for your information.

Sincerely,  
Larry Jacobsen  
Deputy Director

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### ROOSTER ROCK STATE PARK GRAZING ISSUE

Rooster Rock State Park, in the Columbia River Gorge, encompasses approximately 873 acres. The park is located on both sides of the I-84 freeway with the main day use area located between the Columbia River and the freeway. A portion of the area south of the freeway is under permit with Robert McMillen for grazing.

The grazing issue at Rooster Rock State Park has been controversial since the mid-1970s. At that time, a request was made from an adjoining landowner to lease land for grazing purposes. The concern over grazing had to do with the fact that there were several wetland areas within the land south of the freeway, as well as an area with an uncommon water plant, Wapato. Wapato was once thought to be threatened in Oregon.



At that time, State Parks sought the advice of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department and others who indicated that controlled grazing could offer some benefits to wildlife as well as vegetation management as long as the wetland areas and Wapato areas were protected. A task force appointed by Governor Straub to study Columbia Gorge issues also agreed that a controlled grazing program would be a compatible use of the property. As such, Parks issued a grazing permit and the property has been grazed since that time.

In September of 1989, the Parks Master Planning Unit identified significant natural and wetland areas and made recommendations regarding the grazing permit. These recommendations were incorporated into the 1990 permit for grazing use and include the following:

1. Repair of existing fences as well as construction of additional fences to protect wetland and riparian areas.
2. Control of blackberry, ash, thistle and other noxious weeds.
3. Development of a grazing plan in coordination with the Oregon State University Extension Service which will include a schedule for cattle rotation and the number of cow/calf pairs that may be grazed on the property.

The permittee has been very cooperative in accepting the additional conditions that have been placed in the permit. This is evidenced by the fact that he built a fence to totally exclude the cattle from a large area of the pasture after a recent complaint about the cattle being within a couple of hundred feet from the Wapato area.

Parks goals for this area are to maintain the pastoral view by using integrated vegetative management practices without high labor costs. The 1981 Rooster Rock Master Plan suggests development of an interpretive trail connecting the day use area at Rooster Rock with Latourell Falls.

The current permit is Parks effort to improve management of this area. The permit will be reviewed at the end of the year to determine what additional provisions should be included or whether grazing should be terminated.

Parks will include interested parties (Native Plant Society and the Audubon Society and the Wildlife Federation) and experts as we review and update our management plan for this portion of the park.

## REPORT ON OUR FIELD TRIP TO ROOSTER ROCK STATE PARK WETLANDS

The NPSO field trip of July 28th, 1990, to the wetlands of Rooster Rock State Park (south of I-84) revealed to all the shocking degradation of these wetlands caused by ongoing cattle grazing.

Thirty-one people walked along the dirt road parallel to Mirror Lake, then through the barbed wire fence into the wetlands beside Young Creek. The participants were appalled by the disgusting morass created by cattle in the soft wet earth and by the destruction of native plants such as Wapato. In some areas along Young Creek, all plant life had been trampled or eaten away, leaving only churned mud and cowpies.

Some of the group made a short excursion to Latourell Creek where cattle cannot easily go. Along Latourell Creek were only the light tracks of deer, raccoon, and beaver. Several people remarked about the beauty of this natural scene.

Participants in this field trip included representatives from Portland Audubon, National Wildlife Federation, The Wetlands Conservancy, Friends of the Columbia River Gorge, Mazamas, Trails Club, and the NPSO was represented by Portland Chapter president Mike Fahey. Jack Wiles, the new Region 1 State Parks Supervisor, was an important participant. Also of importance was the presence of Gay Greger, a member of the State Parks & Recreation Commission.

Jack Broome's (The Wetlands Conservancy) bird list for this 1.5 hour trip included an osprey, two great blue herons, kingfishers, tree and violet green swallows, a pair of northern orioles, common yellow throat, mallards, wood ducks, great horned owl, and song sparrows.

A very partial plant list included Wapato (one seen in bloom), *Lysimachia ciliata*, *Veronica scutellata*, *Myosotis laxa*, *Scutellaria lateriflora*, *Potentilla rivalis*, *Potentilla anserina* (one in bloom), and *Helenium autumnale* (a few seen in bloom).

Although State Parks gives vegetation management, including control of blackberries, reed canary grass, and thistles, as its reason for allowing cattle into these wetlands, it was obvious to all present that the greatest amount of all these was



in the most heavily grazed areas! Indeed, no evidence was found that the cattle had eaten the blackberry vines, even the tender green shoots. It was clear that, rather than controlling the unwanted vegetation such as reed canary grass, Himalayan blackberry, teasel, Canada thistle, and bull thistle, the cattle were themselves the agents for proliferation of these weeds into the wetlands.

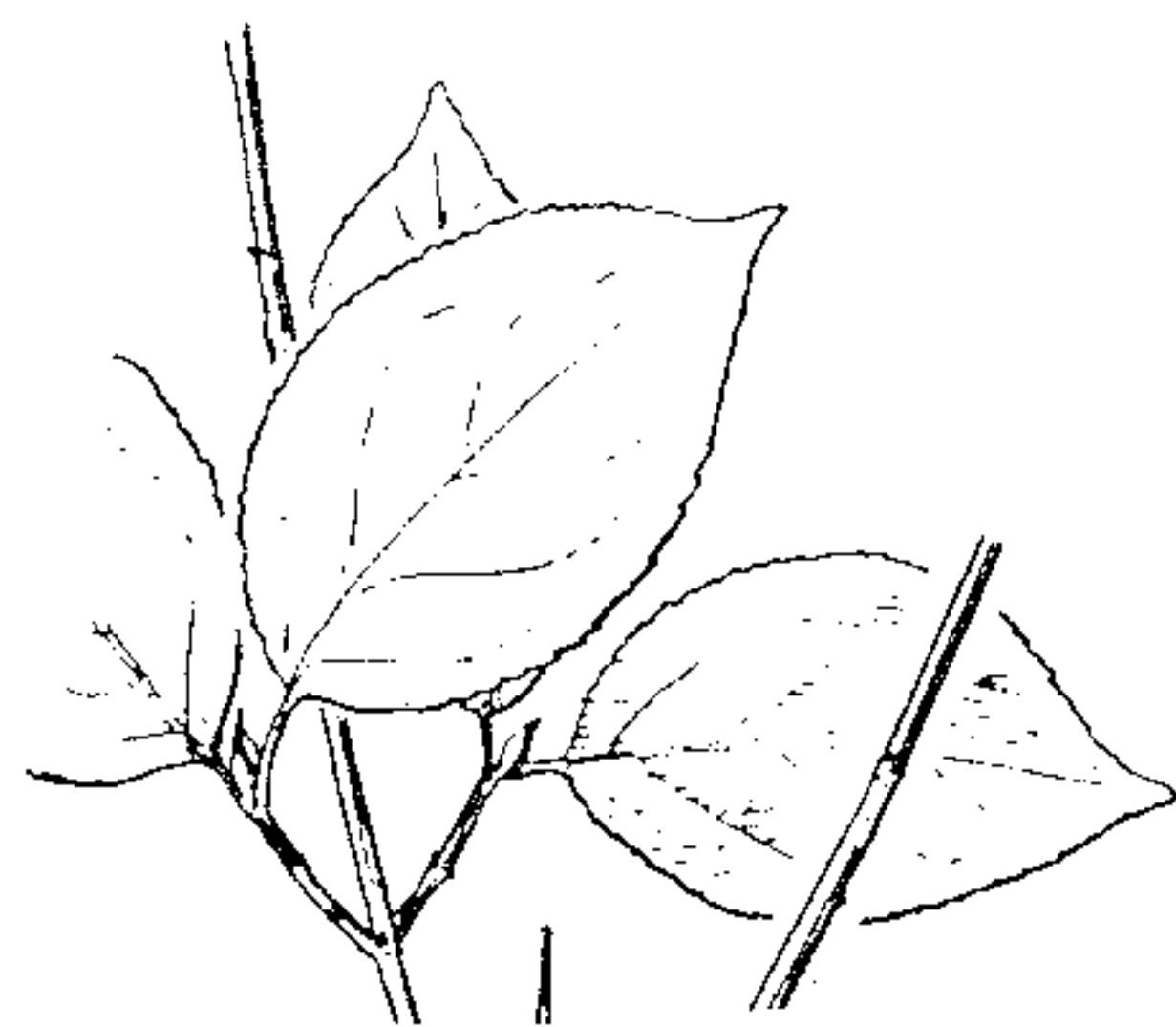
If Oregon State Parks is really serious about vegetation management at Rooster Rock State Park, they will take strong measures to eliminate the expanding patch of Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) near Young Creek. This plant is widely known to be a dire threat to any wetland. If anything its spread is fostered by cattle grazing.

Some of the group felt that the real reason for allowing the grazing of the state park may be rooted in the fact that several present and former state parks officials live in the Corbett area. Offering this low-cost or no-cost grazing to local farmers may have been their way of ingratiating themselves and state parks with the Corbett community. That this "good neighbor policy" is carried out at the expense of the finest wetland complex in the Gorge has apparently been of little importance to Oregon State Parks. Hopefully this will change soon.

It was unanimously felt by the environmental representatives and by Lois Kemp (Botanist, Mt. Hood National Forest) that all grazing should be terminated in the park, and that no new (1991) grazing permit should be issued. New State Parks Region 1 Supervisor Jack Wiles suggested formation of a study group with strong environmental representation to develop a management plan for the Rooster Rock State Parks wetlands, including the option of no grazing.

NPSO members will be kept abreast of developments in this matter. Be assured that your letters will be needed again.

---Russ Jolley, Portland Chapter



*Euonymus occidentalis*  
Western Wahoo  
Drawing by Jeanne R. Janish in  
*Flora of the Pacific Northwest*,  
by Hitchcock and Cronquist  
University of Washington Press

## BITS AND PIECES ---News and Information From All Over

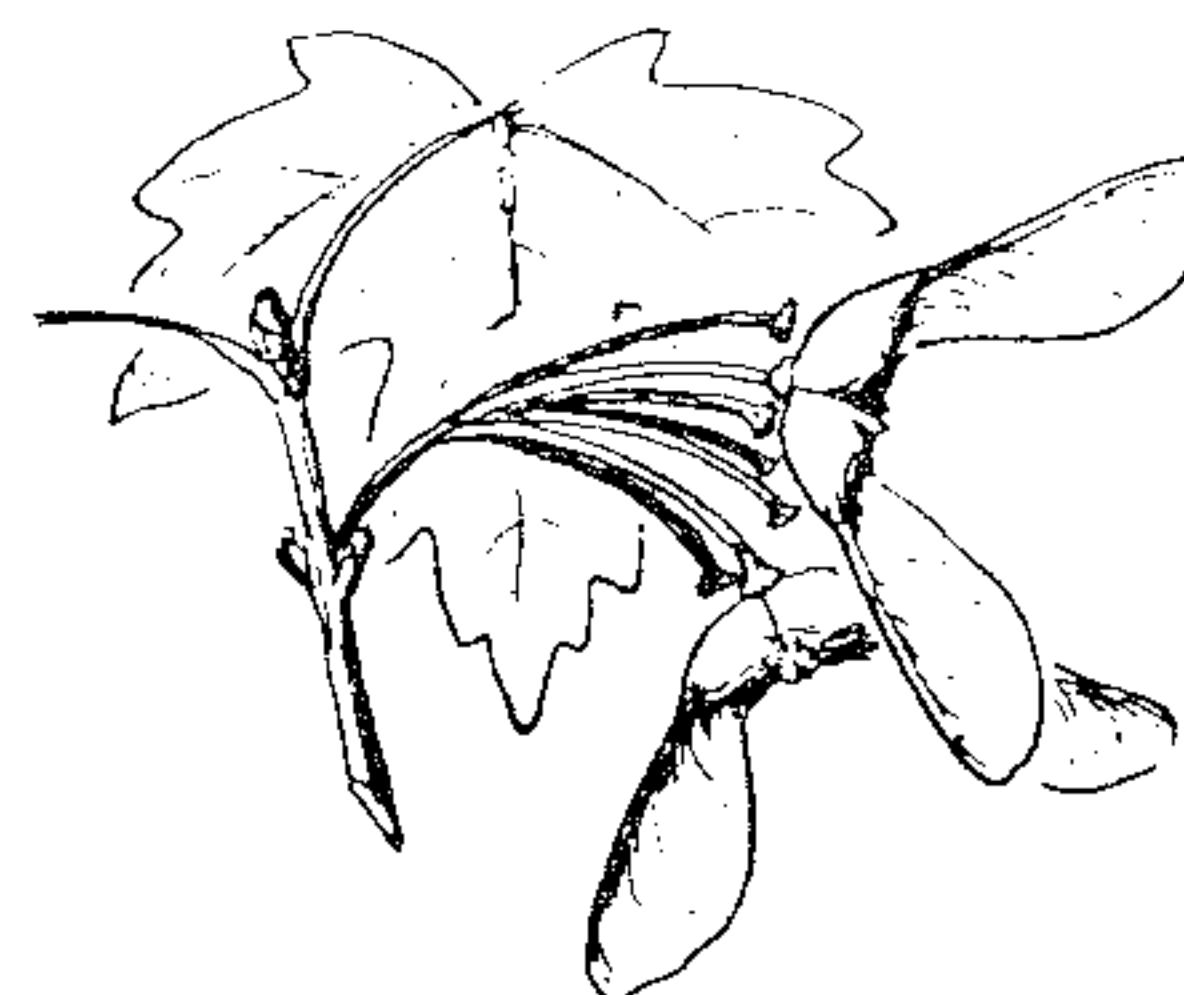
### BLM WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS FIELD TRIPS

The Vale District Bureau of Land Management is offering 5 days of guided field trips to six different Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs). Dates are September 8th through 12th. These are day hikes with car camping between. You may participate in a single dayhike or several hikes and take part in the campouts. Talks and discussions related to the field trips will be held at lunch and in the evening. Some of the WSAs to be visited are noted for high concentrations of threatened and endangered plants, and all have striking geology. The areas are of great natural value, and participation in this series of tours may help in their preservation!

All the hikes are of intermediate difficulty. You will need to provide all your own camping supplies. The BLM can provide transportation from Vale if necessary. For more information, contact BLM Vale District Wilderness Specialist Rich Conrad at 503-473-3144.

### ONRC CONFERENCE AT BREITENBUSH

The Oregon Natural Resources Council's 18th Annual Natural Resources Conference will be held Friday, September 7th to Sunday, September 9th at the Breitenbush Resort. This meeting will feature as speakers Democratic Gubernatorial candidate Barbara Roberts, Senator Bob Packwood, and Congressional candidate Mike Kopetski, among others. Workshops, hikes, and sessions with several prominent environmentalists round out the agenda. For a brochure and registration form, contact ONRC's offices at 223-9001 in Portland or at 344-3590 in Eugene.



*Acer gaudinatum*  
Bigtooth Maple  
Drawing by Jeanne R. Janish in  
*Flora of the Pacific Northwest*,  
by Hitchcock and Cronquist  
University of Washington Press



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GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

The NPSO *Bulletin* is published monthly, as a service to NPSO members and the public. Contributions of all types are welcome.  
**Deadline: Copy is due with the editor by the 10th of the month.**  
**Text Format:** Submissions can be in any form. Camera-ready copy should be in 3.334 in. wide columns up to 9.3 in long, with spacing between columns .22 in. The *Bulletin* uses 12 point "Times" font. Author's name and affiliation are added at the end of the article. Double space between paragraphs, and do *not* indent paragraphs. For special materials (e.g., plant keys) choose an appropriate format, keeping in mind that readers may wish to carry your article pasted inside their favorite field guide.  
**Computer Disks:** The editor prefers articles submitted on MacIntosh

or IBM disks. Please contact the Editor for further details.  
**Illustrations:** Line drawings and high contrast B&W prints are useable. Contact the editor about our current needs, or send along with your article.  
**Credits:** If the item is not original, name and date the source. For original items, identify the author and indicate, for news items, if a by-line is desired. Indicate whether the item is to be used in its entirety or excerpted at the Editor's discretion.

**Scientific Names:** Nomenclature should follow *Flora of the Pacific Northwest* by Hitchcock et al., when appropriate. Use of both scientific and common names is encouraged. *Italicize* genus and species (underline if italic is not available). **Return of Originals:**

Membership in the Native Plant Society of Oregon is open to all.  
 Membership applications, renewals, and changes of address (include old address and zip code) should be sent to the MEMBERSHIP CHAIR.

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter (if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ **Is this a change of address?**  
 If so, please write your *Old Address* here: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\* **DUES** include monthly NPSO *Bulletin*. Full membership is for a calendar year, January through December. New memberships enrolled during September through December are charged a reduced "Quarter Membership" rate.

- ( ) New ( ) Renewal ( ) Quarter Membership (Sep.-Dec.) \$3.00 ( ) *Bulletin* Subscription only \$12.00  
 ( ) Student.....\$ 8.00 ( ) Sustaining.....\$ 30.00  
 ( ) Regular.....12.00 ( ) Patron.....100.00  
 ( ) Family Membership.....18.00 ( ) Life Member .....500.00

\* **CONTRIBUTIONS:**  
 Jean Davis Memorial Award Fund. .... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Leighton Ho Memorial Award Fund. .... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rare and Endangered Plant Fund. .... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* All contributions to the Native Plant Society of Oregon, a non-profit organization, are tax deductible. Please make checks for dues and contributions payable to NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON. Send completed form and full remittance to:  
 Mary Falconer, NPSO Membership Chair, 1920 Engel Court NW, Salem, Oregon 97304.

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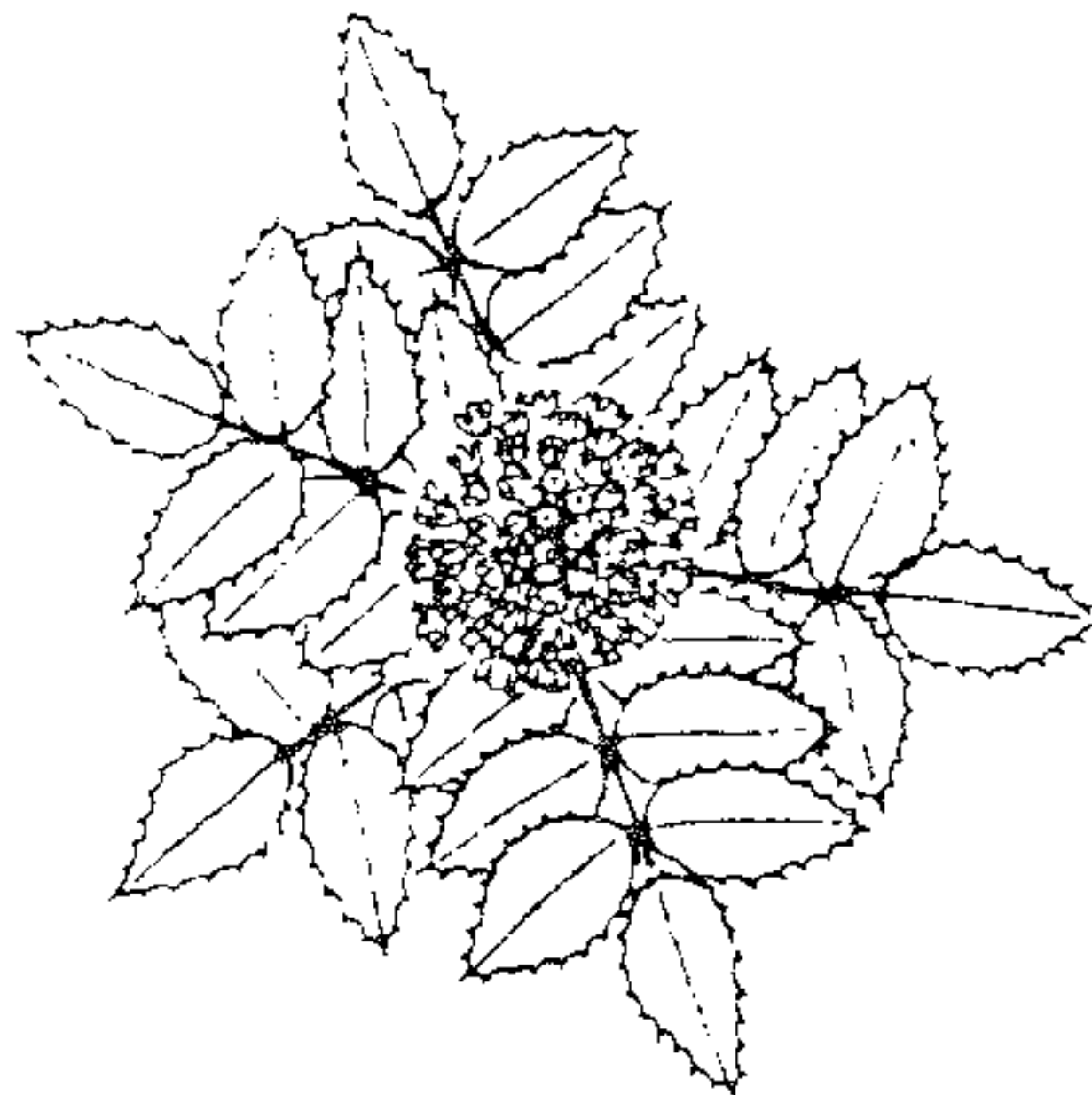
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