

Bulletin of the

# NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

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

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## OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

### 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**

5 May, Sun.

**FIELD TRIP.** Joint trip with the Pendleton Bird Club up the Umatilla River to observe riparian flora and fauna. Final destination is the Bar-M-Ranch, so bring your swimsuit as all participants are welcome to swim. Leave from the BMCC Greenhouse at 8am.

6 May, Mon.

**MEETING.** 7:30pm in Room 130, Morrow Hall, BMCC. Jerry will show his slides from the trip to Twin Sisters April 6th, and we will finish planning our summer field trips and any other unfinished business before we adjourn our meetings for the summer.

18 May, Sat.

**FIELD TRIP.** Berta Youtie of the Nature Conservancy will lead a trip to the Lindsay Prairie Preserve. Leave from the BMCC Greenhouse at 8am.

19 May, Sun.

**FIELD TRIP.** Ruth Rouse will lead a trip up Yellowjacket Road to observe the *Lewisia* and the chocolate lily. Date may vary depending on blooming date, call Ruth at 276-4791 to confirm. Leave from the BMCC Greenhouse at 8am.

1 June, Sat.

**FIELD TRIP.** Bruce Barnes will lead a trip up the South Fork of the Umatilla River. Leave from the BMCC Greenhouse at 8am.

### **Corvallis**

5 May, Sun.

**FIELD TRIP** to Finley Wildlife Refuge with Tom Kaye. Leave at 10am from the parking lot across the street from the Monroe Street Beanery. Bring a picnic lunch and appropriate field clothing. Call Esther McEvoy (754-0893) for more information.

13 May, Mon.

**MEETING.** 7:30 at the Herbarium Library (Room 4083 Cordley Hall, OSU). Our guest Speaker will be Dr. Aaron Liston, Director of the Herbarium. His topic is "Botanical Travels in Northwest China".

18 May, Sat. **FIELD TRIP** to Bald Hill with Dick Halse. Bring a picnic lunch and appropriate field clothing. Call Esther McEvoy (754-0893) for more information.

## **Emerald**

11 May, Sat. **MEETING.** 10am at Mount Pisgah Arboretum. Pre-wildflower show planning and collection coordination. Volunteers needed for collecting, setup, and keying. For further information call Jenny Dimling (343-3242).

13 May., Mon. **MEETING.** 7pm at the Kennedy Middle School, Bailey Hill Rd. and West 18th. John Christie of the Oregon Natural Heritage Program will speak on "Mosses, Lichens, and Liverworts...Ranking for Protection".

17 May, Fri.  
18 May, Sat. **MEETING.** 9am at Mount Pisgah Arboretum. Collect, setup and ID for Wildflower Show. For further information call Jenny Dimling (343-3242).

19 May, Sun. **CELEBRATE SPRING** at the **MOUNT PISGAH ARBORETUM/EMERALD CHAPTER NPSO WILDFLOWER SHOW.** View a wide variety of coastal to mountain Lane County flora, natural history exhibits, guided arboretum tours, house and garden plants for sale and food booths.

25 May, Sat. **FIELD TRIP** to recognise **NATIONAL WETLANDS MONTH** and wetland's diversity of flora and fauna. We will visit west Eugene wetlands at TNC Willow Creek Preserve with trip leader Ed Alverson. Depart from South Eugene High School parking lot corner of 19th and Patterson at 9am. Bring handlens, lunch and drink. For further information call John Koenig (935-7677).

8 June, Sat. **FIELD TRIP** to the north shore of Lookout Point Reservoir. We will be completing an inventory of plants along the north shore road in a variety of habitats including open rock outcrops, forested zones and riparian areas. Good opportunity to sharpen your plant keying skills and gain familiarity with both common and some uncommon plants of the Western Cascades. Depart from South Eugene High School parking lot corner of 19th and Patterson at 9:30am. Bring handlens, lunch and drink. Trip leader: Jenny Dimling (343-3242).

## **High Desert**

11 May, Sat. **FIELD TRIP** to Fort Rock District of Deschutes National Forest. Depart from the Juniper Park parking lot (7th and NE Franklin in Bend) at 8:30 sharp. Both natural and prescribed burns will be visited. A dramatic change in the non-forested steppe areas bordering the east side of the National Forest will be seen. Easy hiking. Trip leader is Stu Garrett (389-6981 eves).

9 June, Sun. **FIELD TRIP** to Hatfield's High Desert Ranch. Depart from the Juniper Park parking lot (7th and NE Franklin in Bend) at 8:30 sharp. Doc and Connie Hatfield have invited us to tour their ranch 15 miles north of Brothers. They have practiced innovative ways of running cattle which are kinder and gentler on the land. Prescribed fire, juniper control, and riparian protection are only some of them. Easy hiking. Trip leader is Stu Garrett (389-6981 eves).

## **Mid-Columbia**

1 May, Wed. **MEETING.** 7:30pm at the Mosier School. Keith chamberlain will do a slide program featuring "Plants of Boggy Habitats". Does anyone want to know where "Hickeyville Junction" is?

## **North Coast**

9 May, Thurs. **MEETING.** 7pm at the State Office Building, 3600 Third St., Tillamook. Members will share up to five slides with the group.  
**FIELD TRIP** --to be announced. For more informatin call Ron Exeter (842-4171).



## Portland

- 5 May, Sun. **FIELD TRIP:** Easy half-day tour of Native Plant Garden at Clackamas Community College's John Innskeep Environmental Learning Center and the Recycling Center. Meet at 1pm at the Pauling Center in CCC, Oregon City. Take the Park Place exit (#10); head SE about 3.5 miles to CCC entrance (follow signs), left onto campus, keep right at yield sign to parking area on left (2nd drive is closest). Field Trip Guide will be Bob Misley of the Botany Department. For more info contact Nancy Fahey at 206-694-2902.
- 11 May, Sat. **FIELD TRIP:** This will be the first of several trips to McCord Creek to visit the diverse habitats there--home of several western Columbia River Gorge endemics. Bring Hitchcock and we will add to the plant list for McCord Creek. Leave at 8am from the SW corner of the K-Mart parking lot located at 122nd and Sandy. Field trip guide will be Charlene Holzwarth (284-3444).
- 14 May, Tue. **MEETING.** 7pm at First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Lois Kemp will be showing slides of native plants of Oregon.
- 18 May, Sat. **FIELD TRIP:** Visit the clackamas River area to see *Iris tenuis* (endemic to this drainage) and other native plants. Leave at 9am from the new Estacada Ranger Station. Guides will be George Jeffcott (639-9126) and Herb Armentrout (658-2751).
- 25-26-27 May  
Memorial Day Weekend **FIELD TRIP:** Guided Tour and learning session on the flora of Southwestern Oregon. Meet each day at the Cave Junction Inn at the following times (Cave Junction is SW of Grants Pass on Oregon 199):  
25 May---Meet at 1pm for a half day of botanizing.  
26 May---Meet at 8am for visit to Bolan Lake area.  
27 May---Meet at 8am for botanizing on the way back to Portland.  
Guide will be George Lewis (for info. call (home) 760-2316 or (work) 796-7052). Rooms are available at the Cave Junction Inn and the Holiday Motel in Kerby.
- 1 June, Sat. **FIELD TRIP:** Lois Kemp will show slides of unusual plants of the Gorge between 10 and 12am at Leach Botanical Garden. She will also show how to identify plants using Hitchcock to key a weed species. Bring lunch to eat besides Johnson Creek. After lunch see fern propagation and more of the garden. Meet 10am at the garden's Manor House, located at 6704 SE 122nd Avenue, south of Foster. Park south of the bridge. For info., call Charlene Holzwarth (384-3444).
- 9 June, Sun **FIELD TRIP:** Join Del Blackburn of Clark College when he leads his botany students to Gumboot Bog in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Leave at 9:30am from the 134th St. Park and Ride off of I-5 North of Vancouver, Wa., or at 11am at Sunset Campground on the Lewis River. For information call Nancy Fahey (206-694-2902).
- 15 June, Sat. **FIELD TRIP:** Carroll DuBuar will lead a joint NPSO-Friends of the Columbia River Gorge moderate 6.5 mile hike along the Pacific Crest Trail. The route will pass Gillette Lake and go to Greenleaf Basin Overlook. Leave at 8:30am from the DOT parking lot at 60th and Glisan, Or at 9:30am at the trailhead, across Washington State Highway 14 from Donneville Dam (2 miles west of the north end of the Bridge of the Gods). Leader is Carroll DuBuar (234-4135).
- 28-30 June **CONFERENCE WITH FIELD TRIPS:** Jointly sponsored by the Portland Chapter NPSO, Leach Botanical Garden, Berry Botanic Garden and Hoyt Arboretum. The theme is "Nature in the Garden" and "The Garden in Nature". Registration fee is \$75.
- Siskiyou**
- 9 May, Thurs. **MEETING.** 7:30pm in Room 171 of the Science Building at Southern Oregon State College. Ray Prag from Forest Farms will speak on landscaping with native plants.
- 11 May., Sat. **FIELD TRIP:** Lyman Creek/Doe Hollow Botanical Area. Barbara Mumblo will lead a field trip to a low elevation botanical area on the Applegate Ranger District. This is an easy trip in the botanical area and possibly around Squaw Lake. Leave from Star Ranger Station at 9:30am. For information call Barbara Mumblo 899-1812.
- 25 May., Sat. **FIELD TRIP:** Rainy Falls along the Rogue River. Leave at 9am from the Food 4 Less lot in Medford or at 9:45am from the Siskiyou National Forest Supervisor's Office (at the North Grants Pass Exit on I-5, turn right at stop sign, then another quick right onto Greenfield Road, Driveway on left). For information call Barbara Mumblo 899-1812.

9 June, Sun.

**FIELD TRIP:** Babyfoot Lake and proposed Howell Memorial Drive. Anita Seda, botanist for the Illinois Valley Ranger District will lead us to Babyfoot Lake, Fiddler Mountain, and the proposed Howell Memorial Drive. Plants we'll see are *Draba howellii*, *Fritillaria glauca*, Brewer's spruce, and *Lewisia cotyledon* var. *purdyi*. Leave at 8am from the Food 4 Less lot in Medford, at 8:45am from the Grants Pass BiMart or Selma Market at 9:30am. Contact Anita Seda (592-2166) for more information.

## Umpqua Valley

9 May., Thurs.

**MEETING.** Frank Callahan will present a *Calochortus* species update. 7pm in Room 310, Douglas County Courthouse Auditorium, Roseburg. Frank will lead a field trip on to see *Calochortus* the following Saturday. For more information call Mary Carlson (672-3479).

11 May, Sat.

**Field Trip.** Look for ferns in rock, field and forest, especially *Pellaea andromedaefolia* and *Polystichum californicum*. Meet 7:45 am BLM parking lot, 777 Garden Valley Road for carpooling, leave 8 am. Coordinator, 673-3709.

8 Jun., Sat.

**Field Trip.** This is a good time to look for *Calochortus umpquaenses* in its habitat from river to 2000' elevation. Meet 7:45 am BLM parking lot, 777 Garden Valley Road for carpooling, leave 8 am. Coordinator, 673-3709.

13 Jun., Thur.

**MEETING.** NE US alpine flora by Peter Zika. 7pm Room 310 Douglas County Courthouse, Roseburg. For more information call Russ Holmes (672-4635).

## Willamette Valley

18 May, Sat.

**FIELD TRIP.** Elaine Joyner will give a guided tour of the Willamette University Botanical Garden. Meet at 10am in front of Sparks Center on the Willamette University Campus.

20 May, Mon.

**MEETING.** 7pm at First United Methodist Church, Room 225, 600 State St., Salem.

## William Cusick

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For information, contact Paula Brooks (523-7564).

## NEW OFFICERS FOR THE PORTLAND CHAPTER

**PRESIDENT:** Michael D. Fahey

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:** David Dobak

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT:** Nancy Fahey

**SECRETARY:** Rosemary Kenney

**TREASURER:** Jean France

## APOLOGY TO KRISTA THIE

We apologize to Krista for the error in the date of her field trip to Burdoin Mountain. We also apologize to those who met in Bingen to take this field trip.

---Mike Fahey



## NEWS FROM THE THREATENED AND ENDANGERED PLANT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Hi! I am indeed alive, and a T&E program may be lurching slowly forward. At the suggestion of Rhoda Love and Esther McEvoy, I have drawn a map outlining boundaries for the Threatened and endangered Species responsibilities of each of the chapters. This map is a first draft, is totally non-binding, and has nothing to do with the legal organization or boundaries of the state chapters. It is just an attempt to help local chapters get organized, and to divide up a very diverse state.

The boundaries were drawn on county lines, which conveniently follow watershed boundaries throughout much of the state. Whenever possible, I have stayed on these county lines, because the T&E data is organized by county in the database, and is easily retrieved. Occasionally, I followed major roads (like State Highways 395 and US 97). This process has created some unnatural situations, such as southern Grant County being in the Blue Mtn. Chapter, but this is only for organizational purposes, and this is our first draft. Send comments to Jimmy Kagan, Oregon Natural Heritage Program, 1205 NW 25th Ave., Portland, Or 97210.

While complete lists of plants within each chapter (T&E and otherwise) is an overall goal, in the short term I'd like each chapter organize a few field trips or have a T&E committee responsible for monitoring the three or four most endangered plants in their area, and to attempt to assess the status of at least two view list species in their area each year. This way we can make some steady progress. If this approach seems reasonable, I will send a list of all the state listed and high priority T&E plants in the chapter areas to the chapter presidents, as well as a list containing five or six review list species needing inventory. Sighting locations and maps for all known locations will be included.

I am still working on the 1991 update of "Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals of Oregon". Due to major revisions and time involved, I may not be able to provide the leadership many of you needed or expected. Carolyn Wright was kind enough to volunteer to assist me with questions that the east-side chapters may have. I

am still looking for a way to divide responsibility for the west-side chapters.

Good luck with your rare plant hunts this season. Contact me at the Heritage Program (address above) or your chapter president for more information. --Jimmy Kagan, T&E Committee

### CONTRACT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR *ASTRAGALUS PECKII* NPSO/BLM PROJECT

The Mid-Columbia Chapter of NPSO and Prineville District of the BLM have agreed upon a Challenge Cost Share Project for 1991. This will result in \$600 to be used for inventorying populations of *Astragalus peckii* in a 4400 acre Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) near Tumalo.

Our format is flexible.....so make us an offer! The inventory should ideally be done in June. It could involve several consecutive days or be spread out over weekends. The \$600 can be paid on an hourly or daily basis with respect to the number of acres covered. It could also be designated as reimbursement for expenses like gas mileage. Only a portion of the 4400 acres could be expected to be inventoried considering this funding level. Thus specific section(s) of the ACE will be agreed upon by the selected contractor and Ron Halvorson of BLM. The Mid-Columbia Chapter would like to select a contractor as quickly as possible. The Mid-Columbia Chapter will also be responsible for administering the payment at completion of or through duration of the project. A degree in botany is not a requirement. However, the individual must have good working plant identification skills and be able to use topographical maps. BLM will provide any materials necessary. They advise that camping in the area is both possible and reasonable.

If you are interested and want more details, contact Susan Gabay immediately, at 478-3576 (eves) or 296-4661 (days), or by mail, Box 151, Mosier Or. 97040. You can also contact Ron Halvorson at the Prineville BLM District Office at 447-4115.



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## A PESTY WEED AND A BOTANICAL JOKE

Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) was the greatest Swedish naturalist of the 18th Century. By his genius, voluminous publications, and strength of personality, he completely reformed the science of taxonomy (the description and classification of organisms), and he initiated the system of generic and specific names which continues to be used today for all the world's flora and fauna. Linnaeus was a complex, controversial man. As a prodigy who outshone his contemporaries, he was both admired and envied; his writings have a dominating and authoritative tone to them, clearly implying "I know best, and I make the rules!" In retrospect, this selfconfidence was justified, since his contributions to classification--including his binomial system of generic and specific names, his standardized methods for describing plants and animals, and his principle that names be uniform and universal--have dominated taxonomy ever since.

Could Carl Linnaeus, who obviously took himself very seriously, also have been a man with a sense of humor? In the literature of Latin plant names there are numerous subtle "botanical jokes," where taxonomists have shown their cleverness by inventing names with double meanings, bilingual puns, anagrams, and humorous references to fellow scientists. I want to describe here a case where Linnaeus himself may have done such a trick, involving the generic name for a vulgar, pesty weed--the common cat's-ear or false-dandelion.

In 1753, on page 810 of his great work Species Plantarum, Linnaeus assigned the generic name *Hypochaeris* to cat's-ear. The best known species in Oregon is *H. radicata*, an introduced European weed which, like the common dandelion, infests lawns and waste places everywhere. In 1754, just a year later, Linnaeus published the 5th edition of his companion book Genera Plantarum, giving descriptions of the genera he had only mentioned by name in Species Plantarum. On page 352, he spells the

name of cat's-ear as *Hypochoeris*---substituting -oe for the previous diphthong -ae. What is the significance of this minor change of spelling? For one thing, it created endless confusion for later taxonomists, because only one spelling of a generic name can be correct, but how can we know which spelling Linnaeus really preferred? Did he purposely spell it differently, or was the second spelling only a "slip of the pen"? Prior to Linnaeus, the spelling had always been *Hypochaeris*. However, the two books Species Plantarum (1753) and Genera Plantarum (1754) are the official starting points for botanical nomenclature; we must accept the spelling by Linnaeus--but which one?

As examples of the persistently confused spelling, I have copied four recent reference books on western American flora--by the authors Arthur Cronquist, Morton Peck, Philip Munz, and LeRoy Abrams. They are equally divided, two and two, for the alternative spellings. Not until its 1988 edition did the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature give a definitive answer to this problem. Article 13.4 of the "Code" states: "The spelling of the

### HYPOCHÆRIS.

1. HYPOCHÆRIS foliis dentatis, caule ramoso foliofo, calycibus hispido. †  
Hypochæris hieracii barbati folio, calyce hispido. *Vaill. arb.* 1721. p. 215.  
Hieracium alpinum, dentis leonis folio acuto piloso prosciflo, capitulis pungenti lanugine obsitis. *Cup. catb.* 95. *Raj. suppl.* 146.  
*Habitat in Sicilia.*  
Calycis squamæ asperæ spinulis pungentibus.

### 352 SYNGENESIA POLYGAMIA ÆQUALIS.

822. HYPOCHOERIS. \* 1711. *Vaill. A. G.* 28.
  21. Achyrophorus *Vaill. A. G.* 1721. 52. 28.
13. 21. 18.

Fig. 1. The two spellings by Linnaeus:  
Top, Species Plantarum, ed. 1, 1753;  
bottom, Genera Plantarum, ed. 5, 1754.



generic names included in the Species Plantarum ed. 1 is not to be altered because a different spelling has been used in the Genera Plantarum ed. 5." Eureka! The correct spelling must be *Hypochaeris*.

Curious to know if there was a difference in meaning between *Hypochaeris* and *Hypochoeris*, I looked for their original Greek derivations in the excellent reference book Composition of Scientific Words, by Roland W. Brown. "Hypo-" is a familiar prefix used in many modern English words and meaning "under" or "less than." Dictionary examples are hypodermic, hypothermia, and hypothesis. The Latin "-chaeris" comes from the Greek word *chairo*, "to rejoice." How appropriate, therefore, that the name *Hypochaeris*, an unattractive and unwanted weed, translates as "less than joyous." But what might be the meaning of Linnaeus' other spelling, *Hypochoeris*? In Latin, "-choeris" derives from the Greek word *choiros*, meaning "pig." Thus, *Hypochoeris* may translate as "under pigs." Yet perhaps this was Linnaeus' little botanical joke, a subtle yet appropriate play on words, in which this unattractive weed (providing "little joy" to humans) is to be renamed, using barnyard analogy, as a plant best suited to having pigs lie on it. This might well be the ultimate botanical put-down.

The American-style pronunciation of this genus name, whichever way it is spelled, is "high-pokee'-riss," with the accent on the long-e. Many English words coming from Latin ones with an -ae diphthong have dropped the "a" and are pronounced as long-e; examples are demon, equal, predict, and sphere.

Ken Chambers,  
Corvallis Chapter

**NPSO 1991 ANNUAL MEETING,  
JUNE 14-16: MONTHLY UPDATE  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE  
MAY 1ST.**

With a bit over a month to go, Emerald Chapter in Eugene, under the direction of Charlene Simpson, Annual Meeting Chair, is putting the final touches on NPSO's big 30th Birthday Annual Meeting. Dates are Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 14, 15 and 16. Registration materials appeared in your March and April Bulletins. If you forgot to fill yours out and send your check last month, do this at once. Deadline for registration is May 1. If you have registration questions, call Evelyn Everett, 345-1746. If you have questions about the field trips, call John Koenig, 935-7677. A schedule of annual meeting events with times and places appeared in the April Bulletin; annual meeting participants will receive an updated schedule when they register. Each chapter is asked to bring a poster illustrating one or more chapter activities. Easels will be provided. Emerald Chapter's poster will illustrate how Federally-listed *Lomatium bradshawii* at Buford Park was fenced to exclude cattle. Jerry Igo, of Mid-Columbia will present a video of chapter activities. Posters will be displayed on Saturday night, June 15, before the banquet. Questions about posters? Call Rhoda Love, 345-6241. General Annual Meeting Questions? Call Charlene Simpson, 465-1059. See you at our 30th Birthday Party!

*Hypochaeris* L. Cats-ear

Similar to *Leontodon*, from which it is distinguished primarily by its chaffy-bracted recep; our spp. European weeds with some or all of the achenes long-beaked, intro chiefly W Cas, fl May-Oct. (Name used by Theophrastus for this or some other cichorioid genus).

#### 89. HYPOCHAERIS L.

Perennial or annual herbs, the leaves mostly in a basal rosette; inflorescence paniculately branched, the heads medium sized or large; bracts of the involucre imbricated in several series; flowers yellow subtended by chaffy bracts; akenes 10-ribbed, mostly distinctly beaked; pappus a row of brownish plumose bristles, or sometimes with a smaller outer row.

#### 170. Hypochoeris L. CAT'S EAR

Annual or perennial herbs with lvs. in radical rosette or cluster and naked stems bearing a solitary head or a somewhat corymbose cluster of long-peduncled heads. Fls. yellow. Invol. cylindric or campanulate, with rather few lanceolate erect imbricated phyllaries. Receptacle flat, the bracts scarious, chaffy, thin. Aks. glabrous, upwardly scabrous, the body 10-ribbed, narrow-oblong or fusiform, truncate or beaked. Pappus-bristles plumose or some of outer shorter and simple. Ca. 70 spp., 12 in Eu., the others S. Am. (Greek name used by Theophrastus for this or some other genus.)

#### 166. HYPOCHOERIS L. Sp. Pl. 810. 1753.

Herbs with a basal tuft of leaves and bracteolate, usually branched, scapose stems. Involucres solitary at the ends of the scapose branches, oblong-cylindric to campanulate, the phyllaries in several series, herbaceous. Receptacle flat, chaffy. Ligules yellow. Achenes oblong to linear, 10-ribbed, constricted above or the outer truncate. Pappus of a single row of plumose bristles, or sometimes the outer ones shorter and not plumose.

Fig. 2. Spellings in (top to bottom):  
Cronquist, Flora of the Pacific Northwest, 1973;  
Peck, Manual of the Higher Plants of Oregon, 1961;  
Munz, A California Flora, 1959;  
Abrams, Illustrated Flora of the Pacific States, vol. 4, 1960



## WANTED--COMPUTER FOR NEW NPSO MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

A new NPSO Membership Committee has volunteered, but does not have a computer. The NPSO is seeking the donation of a computer, either IBM-PC compatible or Macintosh. Any model is useable, but a machine with a hard drive is needed. A black and white monitor is satisfactory. Donation of a printer has already been promised. Donation of either computer or monitor alone will be helpful. Value of the donation is tax-deductible. The donor will be solely responsible for determining value of the item. Contact Jan or Dave Dobak (248-9242 Portland) or Dan Luoma (758-8063 Corvallis).

## BENEFITS FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP

All members of the Native Plant Society will now receive two new free benefits. The first issue of *Journal of the Native Plant Society of Oregon*, *Kalmiopsis*, should be arriving in your mailbox at about the time you receive this *Bulletin*. Created in a high quality magazine-style format, this new publication contains informative, in-depth articles about our native flora and about the issues facing those of us wishing to preserve the natural ecology that our native plants depend on.

Included in this *Bulletin* is one of the new Native Plant Society window stickers. Featuring our official trillium logo, they are green on a white background. They are designed to go on the inside of your car or other windows. They were developed by the High Desert Chapter. More of them can be ordered from the High Desert Chapter, c/o Stu Garrett, 21663 Paloma Drive, Bend, OR 97701. They are \$1 each with a minimum order of five.

*Fritillaria camschatcensis*  
Kamchatka lily  
Drawn by Julie Kierstead  
From Oregon Rare and Endangered Plants  
NPSO Notecards

## UMPQUA CHAPTER FIELD TRIP REPORT

15 NPSOers hiked to Blacklock Point and its RNA under the able leadership of Reg Pullen, BLM archaeologist and Larry, BLM biologist. First we ventured forth across the ankle-deep outlet of Floras Lake, across the deflation plain where we saw *Phacelia* and Larry traced out on the sand the migration route of the Aleutian sub-species of Canada goose. Further south we climbed up on the old marine terrace, which has risen 32 ft. in the past 500 years, going through plant communities associated with the Blacklock soil series (podzol-like), a soil with black silk-like surface and restricted subsoil drainage. Here we saw "pygmy" *Picea sitchensis* similar to the ones found by Hans Jenny on the Mendocino coast. On the coastal cliffs we saw an arctic-alpine shrub community of *Empetrum nigrum*, Labrador tea, dwarf juniper and a host of other native plants. The Blacklock Point meadow overlooking Cape Blanco retains its native grasses and associated species without any European beachgrass, a plague of the Oregon coast. In exchange for this we gave them *Darlingtonia californica* which makes a good home in British Isles bogs. We headed back home through ankle deep water on Blacklock soils. This area needs study and watching for preservation in its natural state.





## WESTSIDE CONSERVATION CHAIR NEEDED

I'm happy to say that Westside conservation issues are well in hand. All correspondence is up to date and stored safely on disk ready to be handed to my replacement in June. I would estimate that I have averaged approximately 12 hours a month on NPSO conservation issues. With Stu Garrett doing an outstanding job on the East side, the conservation job is truly manageable. I agreed to volunteer for this interesting post last fall when another person had not been found for the job--- but only for the remainder of the year. I have been enjoying the challenge very much, but, having retired from full-year teaching, I have other plans for this fall. Our society now needs a new volunteer to keep tabs on important West side issues such as forest biodiversity, rare plant protection, and Willamette Valley native prairie management. I look forward to passing on the West side conservation files to my replacement at the Annual Meeting in Eugene in June, and will be glad to assist the new chairperson next year, whenever I am in town. Please volunteer by calling President Stephanie Schulz at 485-1868. Or call me at 345-6241 if you want more details about just what the job entails. Thanks for keeping NPSO strong and active!

--Rhoda Love, Westside Conservation Chair

## VALE BLM TRACKS RARE PLANTS

Eastern Oregon is a long way from the haunts of most NPSO members. However, many rare species and plant assemblages can be found in this arid region. The Bureau of Land Management, Vale District, has been chipping away at developing an increased understanding of a number of these species. The year of 1990 was a good one for answering some of our questions about plant responses to drought, as well as for accomplishing additional inventories and monitoring. A few highlights from the year follow.

Our temporary employee from Boise, an expert on western Idaho/eastern Oregon flora, Lynda Smithman, conducted a major inventory for sterile Milk-vetch (*Astragalus sterilis*) near the Owyhee Reservoir and Leslie Gulch country. She added 12 new

sitings to the 31 previously known sitings of the species. This milk-vetch is a local endemic, with a few populations known in Idaho and the rest in Malheur County. The light-colored ash soils which support this species also seem to be in the regions where mining claim stakes are appearing. We are continuing to monitor Malheur forget-me-not (*Hackelia conquistii*), for which we have an official Habitat Management Plan. This lovely, pale blue perennial hardly bloomed in 1990, and we observed considerable mortality on previous year's seedlings. The species continues to be locally abundant in the sand hills around Vale.

Mulford's milk-vetch (*Astragalus mulfordiae*) also from the sand hills surrounding Vale, continues to be monitored. Very few populations of this species are found in Oregon. Scattered populations also grow near Boise and Weiser, Idaho. Seed set was poor, but plants of this perennial species experienced no mortality from the drought.

In arid environments, a main adaptation of annuals to drought is long-term storage in soil. Several annuals appeared to have 'gone extinct' in 1990, but we have drought to blame for lack of plants. Harper Valley fiddleneck (*Amsinckia carinata*), a species restricted to odd yellowish soils near Harper, did not come up, nor did smooth blazing star (*Mentzelia mollis*), an endemic of Succor Creek ash beds. However, Packard's blazing star (*Mentzelia packardiae*) and Etter's groundsel (*Senecio eterae*) grew very well in several locations in the Leslie Gulch area. We anticipate adequate seed resources for all these species from the good growing year and high numbers of plants of 1989. Monitoring will be conducted on the rare annuals in 1991 and beyond to verify population maintenance.

On the hope that the district held one of Oregon's federally listed species, we search for several days (one by helicopter) for MacFarlane's four-o'clock (*Mirabilis macfarlanei*) near the confluence of the Grande Ronde and Snake Rivers. The species grows south of the district on Forest Service lands near the Snake. Unfortunately, our efforts were in vain, but more acres are not yet inventoried.

Several new sitings for Snake River goldenweed (*Haplopappus radiatus*) were made in year's field season. We had funded a challenge cost share project with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) in 1989, and numerous new sitings were made then as well. We are now fairly comfortable



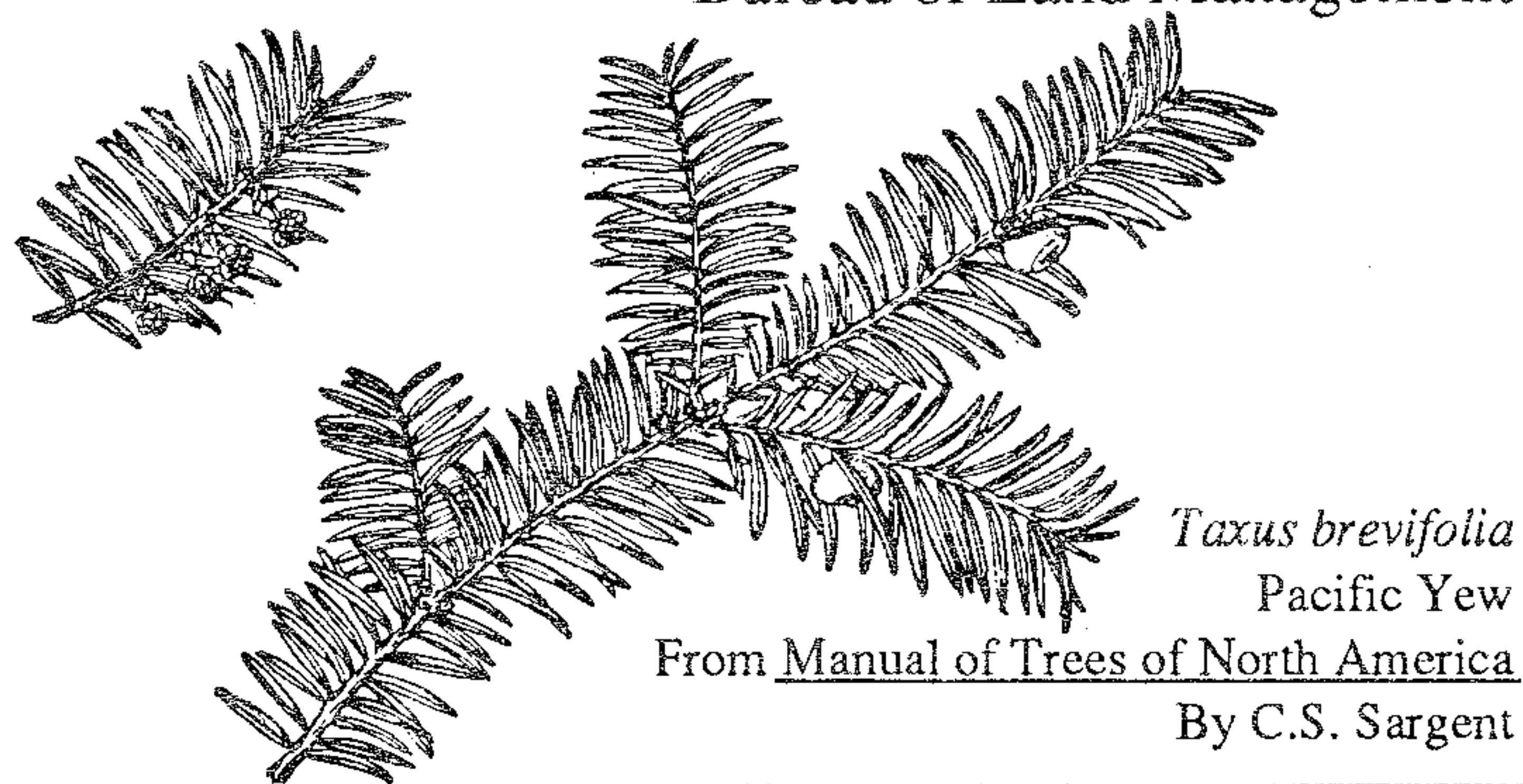
with our knowledge of the range and habitats of this species. Our concerns are now about potential threats to the species, including habitat destruction from livestock grazing and insect predation on seeds. Next year (1992) we are embarking on another challenge cost share project with ODA which includes several fenced exclosures and a study of population dynamics on the goldenweed.

Golden buckwheat (*Eriogonum chrysops*), remarkably rediscovered by Carolyn Wright several years ago near Skull Springs, is thriving. However, at one site rodents seem to be harvesting many individuals of the stand. This very rare buckwheat merits further study, and we are planning to establish permanent study plots in 1991.

Other projects for 1991 include a challenge cost share inventory with The Nature Conservancy primarily for spectacular thelypody (*Thelypodium howellii* spp. *spectabilis*) and Oregon semaphore grass (*Pleuropogon oregonus*). The inventory will be conducted on scattered lands near Baker City. We had also intended to fund a study with ODA on the fiddleneck near Harper, but the continuing drought has led us to change direction and pursue further studies on sterile milk-vetch. We were pleased to welcome several chapters of NPSO, led by Stu Garrett from Bend, to the Leslie Gulch area in May of 1990. The weekend was not only enjoyable but productive as well: three new sitings for the rare Owyhee clover (*Trifolium owyheense*) were added to the district maps.

Although the drought seems to be lingering in our area, all NPSO members, fellow botanists and plant lovers are invited to visit the Vale District during the field season. The best times to come are May through early July. We hope the 1991 season is as interesting and fruitful as last year's. Be sure to keep in touch as you make exciting finds on our public lands.

--Jean Findley, Botanist  
Bureau of Land Management



## YEW TREES NEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

The following editorial, in a slightly different form, appeared in the Eugene Register-Guard in April, 1991:

The NPSO is concerned about the fate of Pacific yew (*Taxus brevifolia*), now that it appears that it may be the source of a life-saving drug for women suffering from ovarian cancer. Our society wishes to see everything possible done to treat this dread disease; on the other hand, NPSO fears that in the rush to satisfy pharmaceutical company demands, consideration of the long-range survival of the yew may be ignored. Wayne Orr, former Forest Service ranger from Oakridge, recently said this about the yew: "It was a weed species. It had no use. You didn't care if it was there or not." NPSO regrets this attitude about native plants. Our society is "dedicated to the enjoyment, conservation and study of Oregon's native vegetation." In keeping with this purpose, we would like to present readers some facts about Pacific yew. Yews are unique. The fossil record shows they have been around since the time of the dinosaurs---100 to 200 million years. They are considerably older than the firs, pines and cedars which are so common here today. Despite its needle-like foliage, it is not a conifer. Yewwood and bark are different from those of conifers and unlike conifers yews have separate sexes, with male trees that produce pollen, and female trees that produce seeds. Finally, the seeds of the female yew trees are not borne in cones, but are produced singly, with each seed surrounded by a fleshy red structure which botanists call an aril, and non-botanists often refer to as a "berry." The wood of the yew is also unique. The xylem cells---the cells that carry water up from the roots---have extra spiral thickenings in their walls. This feature makes yew wood flexible and "springy." Ancient peoples found this feature of yew, and made bows from it. Yew is still in demand today to make the finest bows. The yew family, *Taxaceae*, is not large and most members grow in the Old World and the Far East. Four species of yew grow in North America, but the Pacific yew is apparently unique in that its bark is very rich in taxol. Botanists have always known that yew seeds, needles and bark contain this poisonous compound, but taxol's hitherto unsuspected cancer-fighting properties have caused the sudden rush to harvest yew



bark, and this has led to the concern of NPSO about the welfare of the yew. At the present time, taxol is being used experimentally to treat ovarian cancer. If studies by the huge drug conglomerate, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, demonstrate that taxol is indeed an effective anti-cancer agent, it is virtually certain that taxol will eventually be produced synthetically or via genetic engineering. Meanwhile, the National Forests of Oregon and Washington have promised the drug company 750,000 pounds of dried yew bark for experiments this year. It has been predicted that a local bark shredding plant in Cottage Grove will soon be processing 10,000 pounds of bark a day. This rate of harvest of these rare, small, slow-growing trees could wreak havoc on the survival ability of the Pacific yew. As far as the NPSO has been able to learn, the USFS has written no Environmental Impact Statement on the effects of this level of harvest on the Pacific yew. In addition, the Forest Service has not indicated how the harvest of yew bark will be spread over the various National Forests in the region. In fact, they have indicated that they do not know how many of the rather rare yew trees actually grow on our forests. NPSO has written to the Forest Service, asking that they inventory yews throughout the region with special attention to distribution, number and age of trees, distribution of male and female trees and analysis of the trees' genetic makeup. We have also asked the Forest Service to begin replanting yews in logged areas. And we have asked that during replanting, efforts be made to use local genotypes and insure a natural mix of male and female trees. And we have strongly recommended that Forest Service biologists write a long-range plan which will provide for a sustainable taxol harvest while preserving yews as part of the natural biodiversity of our forests. The NPSO believes that it is a serious mistake to rush to harvest hundreds of thousands of pounds of yew bark for experimental purposes, when knowledge of the numbers and natural distribution of the yew tree is incomplete. The former Forest Service ranger quoted above claims that he doesn't remember ever seeing a yew tree. Now there is a mad scramble to cut thousands of these rare, unique and ancient trees before it is known how many exist and before plans are in place to protect the species. NPSO asks the Forest Service to issue only limited permits for yew bark harvest until the biology of Pacific yew is better understood. Only when they are certain that a sus-

tainable harvest can be maintained, should the Forest Service, the guardian of our public lands, decide if they can provide the amount of bark requested by the drug companies. In the short run, a few more cancer deaths may be prevented by overharvesting now, but in the long run, many more lives can be saved by keeping yew trees alive and well, and reproducing in the Northwest woods as they have for over a hundred million years.

--Rhoda Love, Emerald Chapter

## MUCHAS GRACIAS!!!

I very much appreciate the NPSO "Wise Use of Native Plants Award" for the Rowena Crest Native Plant Garden. I felt as if we had won a Nobel Prize. Many people have worked hard to restore the mounded prairie topography and plant the natives indigenous to these sites in the Columbia River Gorge. I'd like to give special thanks to Russ Jolley for collecting all the wildflower seed for this year's plantings and to the Oregon State Parks for all their construction efforts. Volunteers planted over 2,000 grasses and wildflowers the first week in March through snow and rain. The weather was great for the plants, not for the planters. The Portland Garden Club members grew many good seedlings for us to transplant this year. The project is beginning to take shape and look very professional with the addition of the species ID signs volunteered by Susan Wilcox of the Berry Botanic Garden. I would like to invite all NPSO members to help us dedicate the Robert E. Ellis Memorial at the Rowena Crest Garden on June 16th as part of the celebration of the Scenic Highway's 75th anniversary. It was a grant from the Oregon Roadside Council in memory of this Oregon Conservationist that enabled TNC to undertake this project. Hope to see you there or at our knapweed control work parties May 11th and June 29th.

I'm enjoying life out here in La Grande. Come visit The Nature Conservancy's Northeast Oregon office at Eastern Oregon State College.

---Berta Youtie,  
NE Oregon Stewardship Ecologist  
PO Box 1188  
La Grande Or. 97850  
503-962-3903



## BITS AND PIECES

---NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM ALL OVER

### THIS SEASON AT TOM MCCALL PRESERVE

On Sunday, May 19th at 9am a guided birding hike to the top of McCall Point will feature birds in a variety of habitats. Ospreys, hawks, eagles and a variety of other birds are expected.

Knapweed pulls will take place on May 11th and June 29th. Help control the invasive diffuse knapweed and enjoy the spectacular views and flowers of the Gorge. Bring weedpulling tools, gloves, lunch, drink, and energy. Meet at the Rowena Crest Viewpoint.

Guided wildflower walks are scheduled to take place May 4th and 25th. Meet at the Preserve entrance at 1pm. A naturalist will be available at the preserve weekends through May 26th, 11am to 4pm.

Please preregister for all events, and gather further information, by calling The Nature Conservancy Office at 228-9561.

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### Arizona Revises Native Plant Laws

This state last year overhauled its laws meant to protect its native flora. They emphasize 'salvage' of native plants during development-related disturbance, as well as outright preservation on site.

This new law has five categories for native plants:

- \* "Highly safeguarded"--Includes Threatened and Endangered Plants, including federally listed species.
- \* "Salvage restricted"--Covers most of the Cacti.
- \* "Export restricted"--Covers plants threatened by collection or other depleting forces.
- \* "Salvage assessed"--Includes most common desert trees.
- \* "Harvest restricted"--Includes forest trees harvested for wood.

More information about these laws can be found by calling Elaine Arena at 602-860-2727.

### MOUNT PISGAH ARBORETUM

#### WILDFLOWER SHOW MAY 19TH

This major show features both collected wild-flower displays and the native plants growing throughout the Arboretum. Also featured is a plant sale, sales of posters, teeshirts and other items, an exhibit on David Douglas, a Rare and Endangered plant slide show by NPSO's Charlene Simpson, and special exhibits and activities for children. William L. Sullivan, author of 100 hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades, and Don Eastman, author of Rare & Endangered Plants of Oregon, will both be selling and autographing their books. For further information call Susan Lowenkron (747-3817).

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### HPSO NATIVE PLANT WORKSHOP

This workshop to be presented by the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon will discuss incorporating native plants and natural scenery into landscapes. Emphasis will be on specific plant groupings, cultural requirements, and natural design features, as well as garden tours and plant sales. Speakers will include C. Coleston Burrell, curator of plant collections at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, and Linda McMahan of Berry Botanic Garden. The date is May 25th, and the location will be the new Portland Convention Center on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Portland.

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### SPROUTS

This interesting new publication from the Mount Hood National Forest is subtitled "New plans for the Mt. Hood National Forest". It contains short feature articles on Environmental Impact Statements and other plans for the National Forest, as well as hints on how to become involved in the Planning process. A listing by Ranger District of many proposed development activities on the Forest ranges from campground creation to logging to road obliteration to ski area expansion. The 8 pages of the first issue seem a sincere effort to inform the public about the many development and use issues facing Mount Hood National Forest today. Contact the Forest at 2955 NW Division, Gresham OR 97030 (666-0700) for more info.



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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 each month.  
**Text Format:** Submissions can be in any form. Camera-ready copy should be in 3.334 in. wide columns up to 9.3 un. long, with .22 in column spacing. The *Bulletin* uses 12pt. 'Times' font. Author's name and affiliation are added at the end of the article. Do not indent but double space between 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 output:** The editor prefers articles submitted on Macintosh or IBM disks, or via Macintosh modem. Contact the editor for details.

**Illustrations:** Line drawings, prints, and high contrast B&W prints are useable. Some Macintosh graphics can be used also. Contact the editor about our current needs, or send them 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 both scientific and common names if possible. *Italicize* genus and species (underline if italic is not available).  
**Return of Originals:** Submissions are not returned unless requested.

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.

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\* **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.

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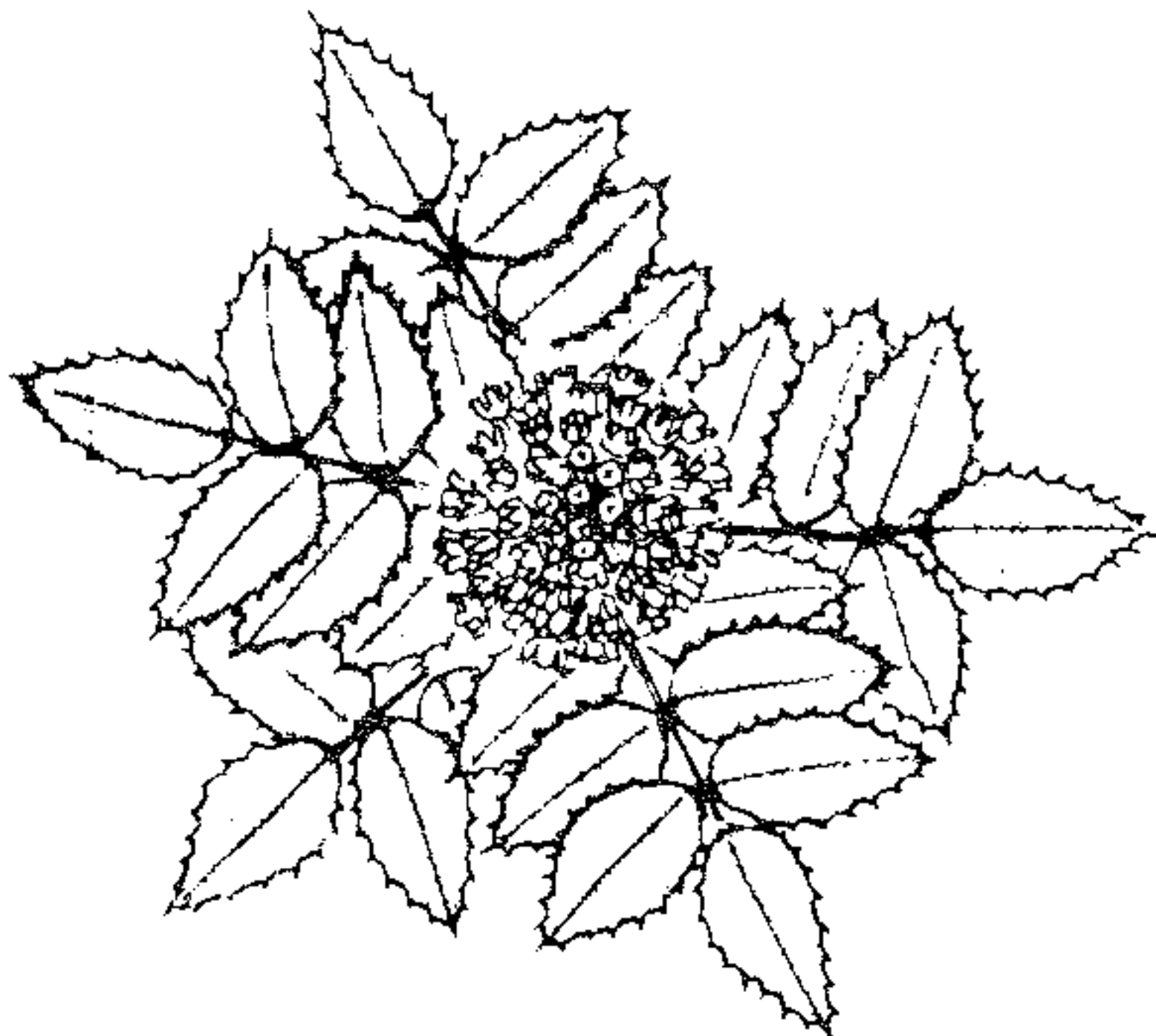


**IN THIS ISSUE**

Threatened and Endangered Plant Committee---Jimmy Kagan. . . . . 59  
Contract Announcement for Rare Plant Survey---Susan Gabay. . . . . 59  
A Pesty Weed and a Botanical Joke---Kenton Chambers. . . . . 60  
1991 Annual Meeting: Monthly Update. . . . . 61  
Wanted---Computer for New Membership Chair. . . . . 62  
Benefits from Your Membership. . . . . 62  
Umpqua Chapter Field Trip Report. . . . . 62  
Westside Conservation Chair Needed---Rhoda Love. . . . . 63  
Vale BLM Tracks Rare Plants---Jean Findley. . . . . 63  
Yew Trees Need Management Plan---Rhoda Love. . . . . 64  
Muchas Gracias!!!---Berta Youtie. . . . . 65  
Bits and Pieces---Bryan Boyce. . . . . 66  
Society Information. . . . . 67

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