

Bulletin of the

Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

Volume 26 Number 2

February 1993

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State News

The NPSO 1993 Annual Meeting will be in Corvallis on June 5th and 6th. Reserve these dates and stand by for further information!

Chapter News

Blue Mountain

Feb. 1st, Mon.

Meeting, 7:30 pm in Room 130, Morrow Hall of Blue Mountain Community College. Due to a postponement from January due to a toothache, Marilyn Lieuallen will give her presentation of "Wildflowers of the Oregon Trail". For more information call Jerry Baker at (503) 566-3381.

Corvallis

Feb. 8th, Mon.

Meeting at 7:30 pm at the Unitarian fellowship, 2945 NW Circle Blvd., Corvallis. Speaker Paul Hammond will discuss "Conservation of Endangered Butterflies on Native Grasslands in Western Oregon". This talk was originally scheduled for Jan. 11th, but was postponed because of inclement weather. For more information, call Duncan Thomas at 752-6529.

Emerald

Directions to meetings:

From downtown Eugene, take Willamette St. south to Crest Dr., (Right thru Y for Donald, between 32nd & 33rd Ave E.) Turn right (W) on Crest and proceed about 4 blocks. Turn right into Morse Ranch Park parking lot. Walk east to the white farmhouse.

Feb. 20th, Sat.

Work Party 9:00 am. Prune and clear exotic brush in the oak savanna at Morse Ranch Park (see meeting directions; gather in the parking lot). Bring water, loppers, protective clothing and gloves. We'll also consider providing nature trail information and a site plant list.

Feb. 22th, Mon.

Meeting 7 pm. Dr. David Wagner will show slides and talk about "Botany of Alton Baker Park and the future of Alton Baker Park Nature Sanctuary. Pending changes threaten the restoration of a native riparian forest.

Mar. 13th, Sat.

Field Trip 8:30 am. "Mosses of Fall Creek" led by Dr. David Wagner. Meet new friends and impress old ones by rattling off names and ecological details of the lives of the native old growth forest mosses! Meet at South Eugene High School parking lot, across from the YMCA on 20th and Hilyard.

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR 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 or chapter representative about difficulty, mileage and terrain to be expected on field trips. Bring water and lunch. Participation is at your own risk. All NPSO field trips are open to the public at no charge (other than carpool mileage), and newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

NOTICE TO FIELD TRIP CHAIRS AND LEADERS:

The Forest Service and other agencies have set policies limiting group size in wilderness areas to 12. The reason for this is to limit human impacts on these often fragile areas. Each group using wilderness areas must be no larger than 12.

High Desert

Feb. 23rd, Tues.

Meeting, 7 pm at the Central Oregon Environmental Center. "Ecology of Oregon Grasslands: What We're Not Hearing From Our Land Managers" by Dr. Joy Belsky, Range Ecologist for Cornell University.

Klamath Falls

For information on the pending formation of this chapter, contact Bruce Rittenhouse (888-9328).

Mid-Columbia

Feb. 3rd, Weds.

Meeting 7:30 pm at the Mosier School. John Kallas of the John Inskeep Learning Center will present a program on edible weeds.

Feb. 27th., Sat.

Workshop / Fieldtrip 1:00 pm at the Mosier School. Dr. Daphne Stone, an expert on lichens, mosses and liverworts, will conduct a workshop on lichen ecology and identification. Following the indoor session, we will take a short hike near the school to test our learning abilities.

Mar. 3rd, Wed

Meeting 7:30 pm at the Mosier School. We are pleased to have Nancy Fredricks speak to us about *Calochortus* this month. After the meeting is a planning session for our upcoming Annual Wildflower Show on Sunday April 11th, 9 am to 4 pm at Mosier School.

North Coast

Field Trip To be announced For information, call Jim Winslow at 842-2246.

Feb 23rd Tues.

Meeting, 7 pm at the Carl Rawe Meeting Room at the Tillamook PUD, 1115 Pacific, Tillamook. For information about the program, call Jim Winslow at 842-2246.

Portland

Feb. 9th, Tues.

Meeting, 7 pm at the First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson Street, Portland. Cheryl McCaffrey, Botanist-Plant Ecologist, will present an overview of the BLM Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon. The discussion will include management of rare plants

Winter Study Workshops: For more information about Portland Chapter's Winter Study Workshops, call John or Elizabeth King at 292-6539.

Feb. 6th, Sat.

Workshop Russ Jolley will provide a program on "Hidden Wild Areas in the Columbia River Gorge". The workshop will be held at Audubon House, 5151 NW Cornell Road, Portland, at 10 am.

Feb. 13th, Sat.
at 10 am.

Workshop Maxine Wilson will provide a program on "Having Fun With Container Gardening" featuring native plants. The workshop will be held at Audubon House, 5151 NW Cornell Road, Portland,

Feb. 20th, Sat.

Workshop Dr. Daphne Stone will provide a program on "Identifying Mosses, Lichens and Liverworts". This program is sponsored jointly with Mid-Columbia Chapter and will be held at Mosier School in Mosier at 1 pm. Following the indoor session, we will take a short hike near the school to test our learning abilities. Bring handlens and dress in warm clothing for field trip.

Feb. 27th, Sat.

Workshop Phil Parker of Klein Nursery will provide a program on "Propagating Native Perennials and Bulbs". Some bulbs and plants will be available for sale. The workshop will be held at Audubon House, 5151 NW Cornell Road, Portland, at 10 am.

Siskiyou

Feb. 18th, Thur.

Meeting, 7:30 pm in Room 171, Science Building, Southern Oregon State College. Topic: "Plant Medicine of a Mayan Shaman". Betty Saust, Anthropology Professor at Southern Oregon State College, will discuss her experiences with a medicine man in collecting over 200 plant specimens in the Yucatan. The public is invited. For information, call Linda Knight at 488-3608.

South Coast

For information on the pending formation of this chapter, contact Bruce Rittenhouse (888-9328).

Umpqua Valley

Feb. 11th, Thur.

Meeting, 7:00 pm in Room 311 at the Douglas County Courthouse, Roseburg. Guest speaker will be Bob Craft of Wildlife Safari, who will discuss plans for a conservatory which will feature Pacific Northwest Native Plants. For information call Russ Holmes at 672-4635.

Feb. 13th, Sat.

Field Trip led by Jack Housotter to look at twigs and first blooms. Trip will leave at 8 am from the BLM parking lot, 777 Garden Valley Road. For more information, call Jack Hausotter (874-2462).

Willamette Valley

Feb. 22nd, Mon.

Meeting, 7 pm in Room 225 of the First United Methodist Church, 600 State Street, Salem. **Please Note, this meeting is on a fourth Monday of the month so we can avoid a holiday conflict!** Margie Willis will give a slide show on "Tropical Fruits and Flowers". Margie has participated in research and has travelled extensively in Central America. For more information, call Kathy Connelly at 327-1212.

Mar. 15th, Mon.

Meeting, 7 pm in Room 225 of the First United Methodist Church, 600 State Street, Salem.. Jerry Igo, an active Mid-Columbia Chapter NPSO member, will present a video on "Showy Wildflowers of Oregon". For more information, call Kathy Connelly at 327-1212.

William Cusick

For information, call Bob Ottersburg at 963-4907.

Welcoming Our New Members....

The following are the new NPSO members for the period from November 2nd to January 2nd, 1993:

At Large

Doug & Robin Finch
Sylvia Gindele
Barry Glick
Karl E. Holte
Beth Horn

Blue Mountain

Helen Adams
Lenore Barkan

Corvallis

George & Dorothy Burt
Karen Dunham

Emerald

Penny Brown

High Desert

David Ashwill
Mary L. Hanson
Dave Langland
Mike & Brenda Simpson

Mid-Columbia

Laura Tesler

North Coast

Judy Schwartz

Portland

Dr. & Mrs. Michael T. Brodeur
Liane M. Brown
Ellie Godfrey
David Pivorunas
Jennie Tucker

Siskiyou

Dan Freeman
Joyce Schillen

Umpqua Valley

Cindy Cripps
Ben J. Fawver
Estella Morgan
Tim Rodenkirk
Louise Voyles

Willamette Valley

Jennifer Butler
Robin L. Hansen
Erika Moseley
Robert L. Peacock

William Cusick

Randy Krichbaum
Roger Mongold

The Plant Puzzle

Sponsored by the Siskiyou Chapter

There is an unusual dicot native to Oregon with radially symmetrical three-petaled flowers and pinnate leaves. (It is not an aquatic plant.)

Do you recognize this native plant? The first person to give the correct scientific name will win a prize.

Send your guess on a postcard to:

Peter Zika
4230 NW Clubhouse Place #1
Corvallis OR 97330

Bruce Newhouse of Eugene was the first to solve the January puzzle: *Botrychium virginianum*, Virginia Grapefern.

Portland Chapter Changes

John King, President of the Portland Chapter, announces with regret the resignation of George Lewis from the office of Vice President in charge of field trips and study classes. The Society expresses great appreciation for the leadership George has rendered through many terms holding major offices over the past 25 years and his being an inspiration to fellow members to study our Oregon heritage of native plants. He will be succeeded by the Chapter Board's appointment of Elizabeth Handler-King to serve the remainder of his term.

TWENTY-EIGHT OREGON PLANTS TO RECEIVE FEDERAL PROTECTION

Environmentalists received a wonderful holiday gift in the waning days of the year and of the Bush administration when, on December 15, the Biodiversity Legal Foundation announced an out-of-court settlement of a lawsuit against the federal government which will result in the listing as Threatened or Endangered of nearly 400 species of U. S. plants and animals, including at least 28 Oregon plants and one Oregon fish, by no later than September, 1996.

The lawsuit was brought last summer by a consortium of environmental groups and individuals including The Fund for Animals, the Defenders of Wildlife, In Defense of Endangered Species, and individual activists including especially Jasper Carlton of Colorado and others from Montana, Florida, Alabama, Arizona, Washington and Vermont. Being sued were Manual Lujan, Bush's Secretary of the Interior, and John Turner, Director of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The suit targeted the indefensibly slow pace of the federal listing process. As part of the final settlement, the defendants agreed that the government will now begin listing approximately 400 domestic species of Category 1 plants and animals, many of which face imminent extinction and have been waiting for federal protection for well over a decade. According to Jasper Carlton, "This settlement will result, in the next few years, in a huge increase in the number of species that are protected under the Endangered Species Act. It represents a desperately-needed and long-overdue commitment by the government to take more seriously its obligation to protect our nation's dwindling biodiversity."

Besides the 400 Category 1 plants and animals specifically noted in the settlement's Exhibit A, the agreement calls for the official assignment of 900 to 1,400 more species (Exhibits B and C) to an official listing priority within the next year. These are primarily Category 2 species which the Fish and Wildlife Service has classified as "warranted but precluded," in other words, too busy to review or list! According to Al Manville, senior biologist for Defenders of Wildlife, "The

government's process for listing species has, during the past decade, been an administrative and scientific nightmare. Along with expediting protection of hundreds of species, this settlement will help enormously in the creation of an orderly, sensible system for all listing decisions in the future." The December 15 out-of-court settlement follows similar ones in recent years that added 189 plants in Hawaii and about 50 plants in California to the federal endangered species list. (Category 1 species are those for which there is "sufficient information" to propose for listing. Category 2 species are those for which the government claims there is "insufficient information.")

Here in Oregon, the biggest impact of the settlement seems to be to increase by over ten-fold the number of Oregon rare and endangered plants which will receive federal protection. Since the Federal Endangered Species Act was passed in 1973, that is 20 years ago, Oregon botanists have succeeded in winning federal listing for only three species: *Lomatium bradshawii*, *Mirabilis macfarlanei* and *Stephanomeria malheurensis*. As my colleagues and students know, I have often grumbled over the slowness of federal listing, pointing out that at the rate of 3 species in 20 years it would take over 650 years for Oregon's 100 or so rare plants to receive the protection they need to avoid extinction! Now, at least 28 species will be added by 1996, giving Oregon a total of over 30 listed plant species in the next 3 years. And, it seems certain that the listing of many other candidate species will be expedited under the terms of this ground-breaking settlement. Further, the agreement also formalizes a U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service commitment to emphasize, where possible, multiple species listings and / or proposals that address entire ecosystems.

Before the December 15 settlement, the Native Plant Society of Oregon, along with its co-petitioners the Portland Audubon Society, Oregon Natural Desert Association, Concerned Citizens for Responsible Mining and Oregon Natural Resources Council authorized a Eugene attorney to file a 60-day notice of intent to sue the Department of Interior over the failure to list 7

rare plants of eastern Oregon. (See NPSO *Bulletin*, January, 1993, p. 5). Three of these plants, all 7 of whose listing packages were submitted to the USF&WS in October, 1991, are noted in Exhibit A of the present settlement. Two are on Exhibit B, and the other two are not included as part of this settlement, and it may be that NPSO will wish to contact the Fish and Wildlife Service soon with requests for information regarding the status of these two species. Also unclear is the fate of other Oregon plants whose listing packages have been making their glacially slow way through the federal process. Among these latter are *Sidalcea nelsoniana*, *Astragalus applegatei* and *Botrychium pumicola*. These species also are not named in the settlement, and NPSO should be in touch with the USF&WS to learn how soon we can expect them to be listed.

In our pleasure over this sudden and unexpected blasting of the federal listing log-jam, we must not lose sight of the fact that opponents of the Endangered Species Act are still dedicated to weakening the Act when it comes up for re-authorization during the next legislative session. Even though most of the 400 species which will be given federal protection under this settlement will have little impact on logging, agriculture or industry, the agreement itself has further enraged these opponents who are using it as a rallying cry to concentrate efforts to undermine the Act. Those of us who care about the disappearing plants, animals and ecosystems of Oregon and the country must send the new Clinton administration two very important messages: (1) That we strongly support the Endangered Species Act and its goal of conserving the biodiversity of our great land; and (2) that we also support adequate funding for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service so they may proceed with the development of recovery plans for the newly-listed species. Please write to President Clinton, Vice-President Gore, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, and your senators and Congresspeople today!

The 28 Oregon plants whose names appear specifically in Exhibit A of the settlement are:

Amsinckia carinata, Malheur Valley Fiddleneck. (Borage Family.) Malheur County.
Artemisia campestris var. *wormskioldii*, Northern wormwood. (Aster Family.) Sherman County & Washington State.
Astragalus mulfordiae, Mulford's milkvetch. (Pea

Family.) Deschutes and Klamath Counties.
Castilleja levisecta, Golden paintbrush. (Figwort Family.) Linn, Marion and Multnomah Counties and Washington State and British Columbia.
Delphinium pavonaceum, Peacock larkspur. (Ranunculus Family.) North Willamette Valley.
Erigeron decumbens var. *decumbens*, Willamette Daisy. (Aster Family.) Willamette Valley including Lane County.
Eriogonum chrysops, Golden buckwheat. (Buckwheat Family.) Malheur County.
Fritillaria gentneri, Gentner's fritillaria. (Lily Family.) Jackson and Josephine Counties.
Hackelia cronquistii, Cronquist's stickseed. (Borage Family.) Malheur County.
Haplopappus radiatus, Snake River Goldenweed. (Aster Family.) Baker and Malheur Counties and adjacent Idaho.
Hastingsia bracteata, Large-flowered rush-lily. (Lily Family.) Eight-dollar Mountain, Josephine County.
Howellia aquatilis, Howellia, (an annual aquatic plant). (Campanula Family.) Western Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, Montana.
Lilium occidentale, Western lily. (Lily Family.) Coastal in Coos and Curry Counties and California.
Limnanthes floccosa var. *pumila*, Dwarf meadow-foam. (Limnanthes Family.) Jackson County.
Lomatium cookii, Agate Desert Lomatium. (Parsley Family.) Jackson and Josephine Counties.
Lomatium erythrocarpum, Red-fruited Lomatium. (Parsley Family.) Baker County.
Lomatium greenmanii, Greenman's lomatium. (Parsley Family.) Wallowa County.
Luina serpentina, Colonial luina. (Aster Family.) Grant County.
Lupinus aridus ssp. *ashlandensis*, Mt. Ashland lupine. (Pea Family.) Mt. Ashland.
Mentzelia mollis, Smooth mentzelia. (Blazing-star Family.) Malheur County, Idaho and Nevada.
Oenothera wolfii, Wolf's evening primrose. (Onagraceae Family.) Curry County and California.
Plagiobothrys hirtus, Hairy popcorn flower. (Borage Family.) Douglas County.
Pleuropogon oregonus, Oregon semaphore grass. (Grass Family.) Lake and Union Counties.
Ranunculus reconditus, Dalles Mountain buttercup. (Ranunculus Family.) Wasco County and Washington State.
Senecio ertterae, Ertter's senecio. (Aster Family.) Malheur County.

Silene douglasii var. *oraria*, Cascade Head catchfly. (Caryophyllaceae Family.) Tillamook County.

Silene spaldingi, Spalding's campion. (Caryophyllaceae Family.) Wallowa County and Washington, Idaho and Montana.

Thelypodium howellii var. *spectabilis*, Howell's spectacular thelypody. (Mustard Family.) Baker, Malheur, Union Counties.

—Rhoda Love
Emerald Chapter

Athyrium felix-femina →

Lady fern

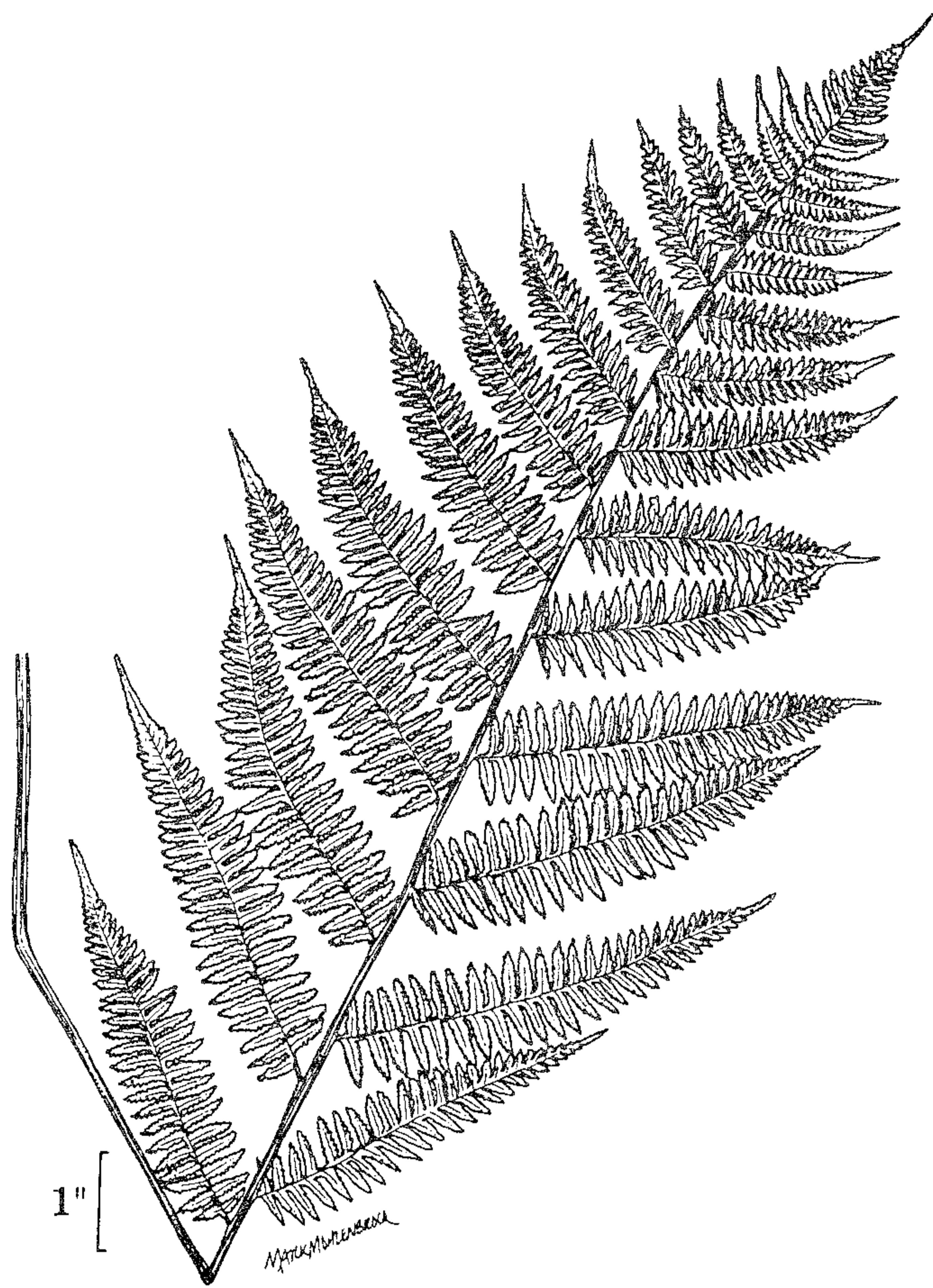
Drawn by Mark Mohlenbrock
From Western Wetland Flora—
Field Office Guide to Plant Species 1993

**BOOK REVIEW:
ENDURING SEEDS**

by Gary Paul Nabhan,
North Point Press, 1989

This is a fascinating book. Its 180 pages are devoted to stories of attempts to document and conserve the irreplaceable genetic resources that indigenous peoples around the globe have developed over thousands of years. Nabhan brings a sound biologic background to his task. His solid science is coupled with considerable skill as a storyteller and as an advocate for the preservation of global biological diversity as essential to the ongoing existence of mankind.

Chapters of particular interest deal with the Anazasi occupation of the Chaco Canyon area. He points out that although the Anazasi left the area 800 years ago there is evidence that the vegetation has not yet recovered from their agricultural practices. Archaeologists have recorded more than 100 species of wild plants historically managed by the puebloan peoples and another fifteen species that were encouraged by semi-cultivation. A recurring theme is the point that “traditional farmers realize that the source of their well-being resides as much in the untended margins of their fields as in the rows of crops they have sown”.



Other interesting passages deal with potatoes in Peru, maize in Mexico, the blue corn of the Hopi, Hidatsu beans in the Northern Plains, wild rice in Wisconsin, serpentine endemic sunflowers in California, and the Okeechobee gourd in Florida. In the latter instance, peat soils which supported the gourds have deteriorated from a depth of 11 feet in 1912 to less than four feet today under intensive and unsustainable sugar cane cultivation.

Scattered throughout the book are rich interactions with tribal peoples who have managed to maintain a slim link with their antecedent cultures. Nabhan points out that “Sometimes what has long kept our cultigens and even our peopled landscapes healthy and tolerable is now disappearing. That valuable entity is wildness. If it is lost from the world around us, we will lose something within ourselves as well.” I think he is right and has done a superb job of presenting his concerns. I highly recommend this book to any NPSO member interested in these issues.

—Stu Garrett
Eastside Conservation Chair

WHAT DO NATIONAL FORESTS AND NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEMBERS HAVE IN COMMON?

ANSWER: CELEBRATING WILDFLOWERS!

Last summer across Washington and Oregon members of the Native Plant Society of each state volunteered their time to lead walks on National Forests to Celebrate Wildflowers. It was a first for the Forest Service and it looks like it won't be the last. Over 900 people participated in 79 walks on the National Forests with another 685 learning about our wildflower resources at 26 slide programs. Thirty-one National Forest cooperators, including several Native Plant Society chapters, volunteered 1,060 hours of their time and \$6,765 of materials. Even as you read this, plans are in the works for Celebrating Wildflowers in 1993.

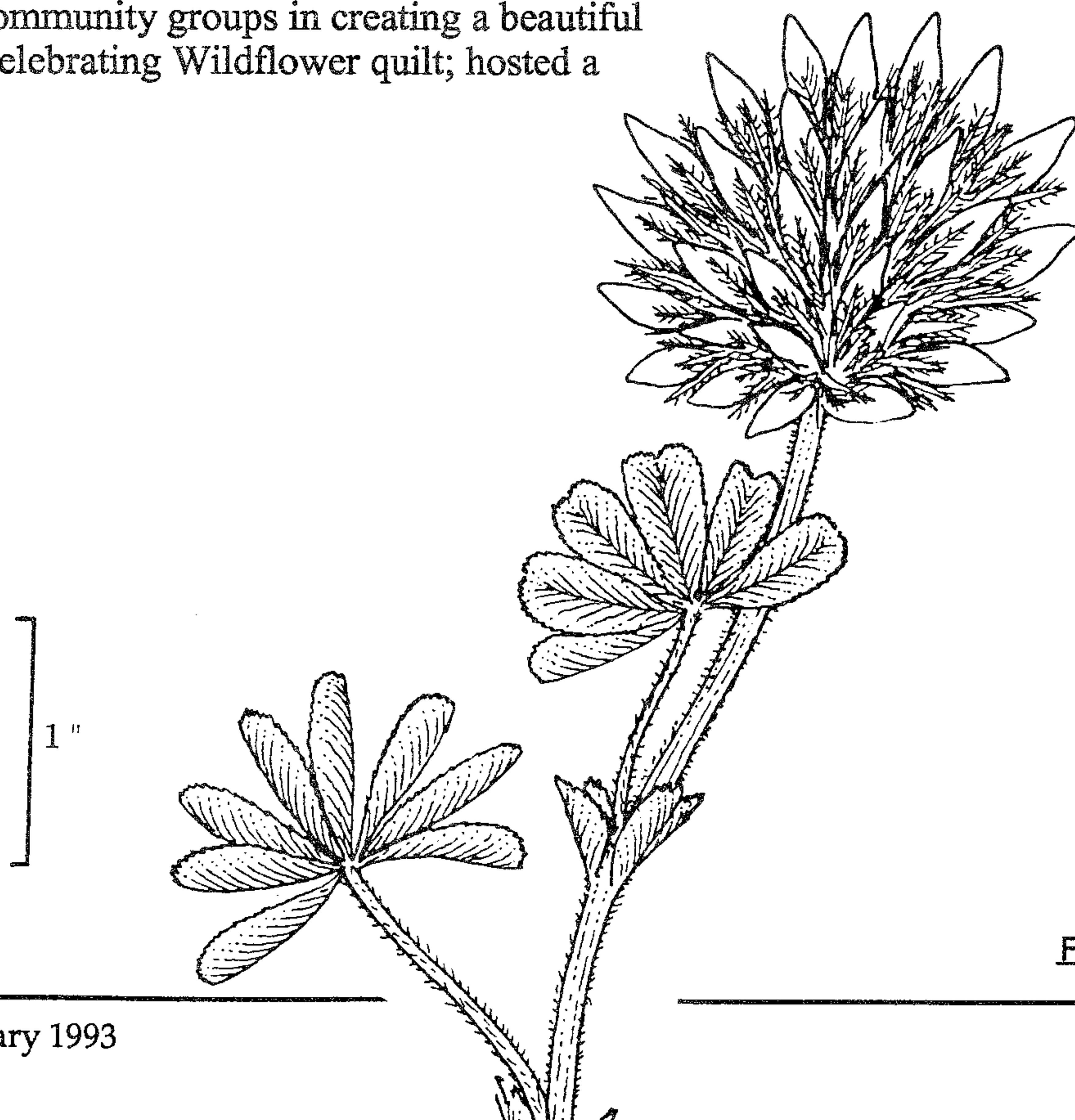
But first, here are some 1992 highlights which illustrate the variety of Celebrating Wildflowers activities:

- The Oregon State Office of the Bureau of Land Management participated in presenting 30 walks for 750 people, 8 auto tours for 315 people and 12 slide programs for 610 people.
- The Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest cooperated with 22 businesses and community groups in creating a beautiful Celebrating Wildflower quilt; hosted a

Celebrating Wildflowers Festival (including an evening of live bluegrass, BBQ and speakers on local wildflowers); and published a Celebrating Wildflowers Forest Newsletter with a printing of 10,000 copies.

- Karl Urban's wildflower drawings were circulated in thousands of wildflower coloring books.
- Thousands of people viewed over 30 Celebrating Wildflowers displays at county fairs, Forest Service offices, visitor information centers, chambers of commerce, libraries, botanical gardens and ski resorts.
- A regional wildflower video was viewed by thousands.
- Staff from the Deschutes, Malheur and Ochoco National Forests contacted over 1,000 children through wildflower programs.
- Two photography displays focused on Forest wildflowers.
- A pamphlet, *Common Plants of the Winema National Forest*, was printed.
- Plant identification signs appeared along a Wallow-Whitman National Forest trail and around the Supervisor's Office at Olympic National Forest.

—Kathy Ahlenslager



Trifolium macrocephalum
Big-head clover
Drawn by Mark Mohlenbrock
From Western Wetland Flora

Field Office Guide to Plant Species 1993

OREGON DUNES NATIONAL RECREATION AREA TO PUBLISH DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (ODNRA), on the Siuslaw National Forest, is revising its management plan. The draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will be published in spring, 1993, at which time the 90-day public comment period begins and work on the final environmental impact statement commences.

Eight alternatives were developed based on issues and concerns raised early in the planning process. The following issues surfaced during the public scoping process: off-road vehicle recreation, non-motorized recreation, interpretation, facilities, roads and trails, vegetation removal, fish and wildlife, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, and research natural areas. The DEIS will describe the alternatives in terms of these issues.

The alternatives differ in how they address the issues, and, ultimately, their effects on plant species and vegetation communities. For example, the alternatives range from closing the entire ODNRA to off-road vehicles to opening more of the area to off-road vehicles. The effects on the botanical resources depend on the final alternative selected.

Some of the ways the alternatives will affect the future of the ODNRA botanical resources include the type and level of recreation, the degree of non-native vegetation management, and the establishment of Research Natural Areas (RNAs).

The public scoping process identified concerns about controlling the spread of non-native vegetation, especially European beachgrass (*Ammophila arenaria*), an aggressive introduced species which colonizes open sand. Some people want this species controlled in order to create more open sand and maintain scenic resources; others want this species controlled in order to preserve habitat for native sand dune plant species. Each of the alternatives in the DEIS addresses the issue of non-native vegetation management.

Currently, the ODNRA contains two potential RNAs: Tenmile Creek and Umpqua Spit. RNAs have unique biologic or physical attributes that are managed in their natural condition as much as pos-

sible to preserve biologically important ecosystems and processes. They are part of a national network of ecological areas designated for research, education, monitoring and maintenance of biological diversity.

The proposed Umpqua Spit RNA supports the most extensive grass, sedge and rush deflation plain communities on the ODNRA. It also contains several large parabola dunes. However, the proposed Umpqua Spit RNA may not be feasible because of a great deal of private property (former mining claim) within its boundaries. The proposed Tenmile Creek RNA includes all the major dune features, except parabola dunes, existing in what is known as the Umpqua Dunes Scenic Area. It also contains good examples of deflation plains in various successional states, tree islands, stabilized forests, and small fresh water lakes typical of the ODNRA. The alternatives differ in whether or not the two areas are allocated as RNAs.

The time to comment about the potential RNAs is during the 90-day comment period after the DEIS is published this spring. In order for both areas to become RNAs, the final environmental impact statement must allocate them as such. Then, once the management plan is signed, establishment reports will be completed for the area(s) recommended for designation, and the establishment reports are then submitted to the Regional Forester for signing.

This is an important time to give the ODNRA your input about which alternatives and issues are important to you. This management plan will guide the ODNRA for many years to come. To get on the mailing list to receive an executive summary of the DEIS, write or call:

Oregon Dunes National Recreational Area
Siuslaw National Forest
855 Highway Avenue
Reedsport, OR 97467
(503) 271-3611

—Katie Grenier,
Siuslaw National Forest

**UPDATE — NPSO — ODA
INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE**

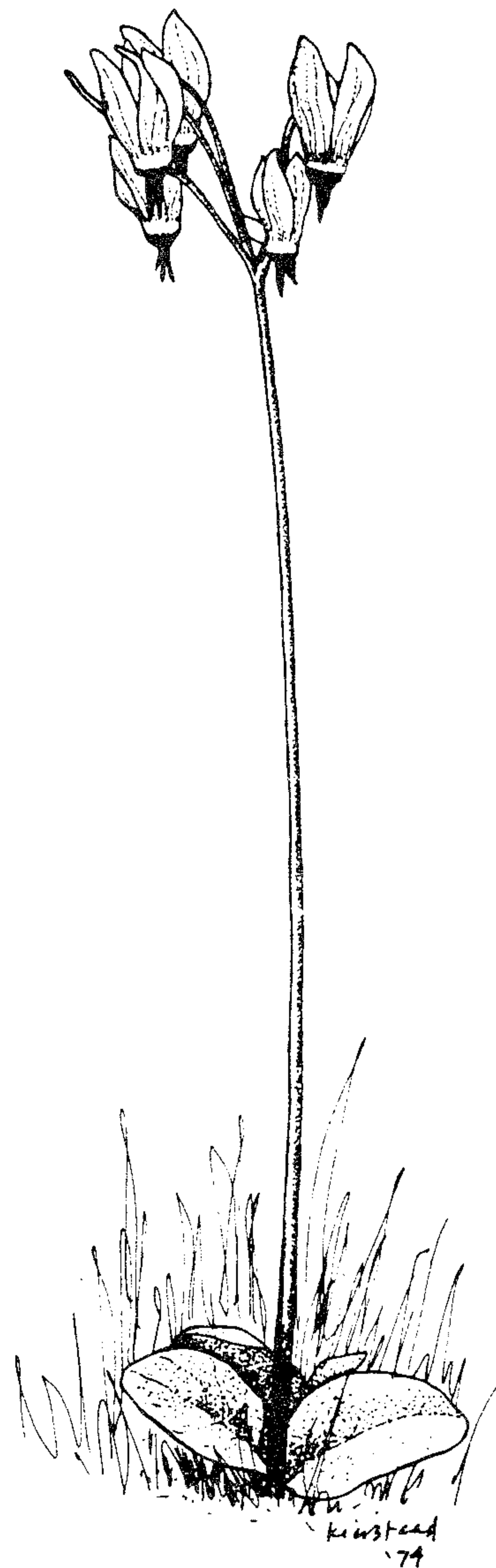
Three summer intern positions are available: two short term (two weeks) and one 3 month position.

- **Short Term.** The Oregon Department of Agriculture's Conservation Biology Program and NPSO expect to co-sponsor two limited duration internship positions for summer 1993 field work. The internships last approximately two weeks (the weeks do not have to be consecutive) during which the intern works with ODA staff conducting research on endangered plants, often in remote parts of the state. Participants must be willing to travel, camp overnight (should have personal camp gear), hike and work outdoors, often in inclement weather. All work associated with these positions will be in the field, and most or all of it will involve overnight stays. Scheduling of the internship is somewhat flexible, and participants receive a \$300 stipend from both ODA and NPSO. Preferred dates for these positions include most weeks in July or August. By September 1993, each intern must write a description of their research activities to be published in the *NPSO Bulletin*.

- **Full Summer.** In addition ODA hopes to offer a 3 month internship position in 1993, based in OSU (in Corvallis) and tentatively set for June 14th through September 10th (the ending date is negotiable). This position will acquaint the intern with several threatened and endangered species and all aspects of field research. The participant will receive a stipend of \$800 per month plus limited expense money, and be expected to accompany ODA field staff on a regular, full-time basis. It is anticipated that roughly 80% of the days will involve field work, much of it including overnight travel (some or all will be camping — you'll need your own basic equipment). In the fall, the individual will prepare a narrative describing his or her 1993 summer experience for presentation in the *NPSO Bulletin*. Funding for this position is not yet secured, but we are very optimistic and expect to have final confirmation no later than March 1993.

Anyone may apply. Deadline is March 19th. If you are interested, please contact:

Tom Kaye or Bob Meinke
Oregon Department of Agriculture
Plant Conservation Biology Department
635 Capitol NE
Salem OR 97310
(503) 378-3810
(503) 737-2317 (OSU)



Dodecatheon hendersonii
Henderson's shooting star
Drawn by Julie Kierstead

BITS AND PIECES

—NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM ALL OVER

FOLIAGE OF SOME ORNAMENTAL YEWS FOUND TO CONTAIN HIGH LEVELS OF TAXOL

While Federal land management agencies are forging full speed ahead with Pacific yew harvest guidelines (on the assumption that our native species is the only viable source of taxol), researchers from The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station published findings that show ornamental cultivars of non-native yew can contain in their foliage more than double the levels of taxol found in the bark of our native *Taxus brevifolia*.

In an article in *Frontiers of Plant Science*, Vol. 445 #1, Fall 1992, published by The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, results are given from chemical analysis of foliage of cultivars of English yew, Japanese yew, and hybrids of the two. Levels of taxol contained by each cultivar varied with collection site, and even more significantly, between cultivars. No one species consistently contained high or low levels of taxol.

Pacific yew bark averages 400 parts per million of taxol, and unlike foliage harvest the tree must be cut to harvest. Foliage of the cultivar with highest concentration of taxol, *Taxus X media* 'nigra', contained over 600 ppm of taxol at one site and over 800 ppm from another. As propagation and production of such a cultivar for foliage is done with comparatively rapid and simple agricultural techniques (homeowners in our area can use hardwood cuttings with a high success rate), it may be time to rethink any harvest schedules proposed for the Pacific yew. Ornamental yews, including the 'nigra' variety, are commonly produced as a field crops by Oregon nurserymen, and with a few year's lead time unlimited quantities could be produced. The FDA has not yet approved use of yew species other than Pacific for taxol production.

Taxol's future as a cancer-fighting drug is exciting, but the natural supply of Pacific yew is not up to the potentially enormous demand. It is imperative that an alternative source of the drug be found quickly.

TEMPORARY BOTANIST POSITION

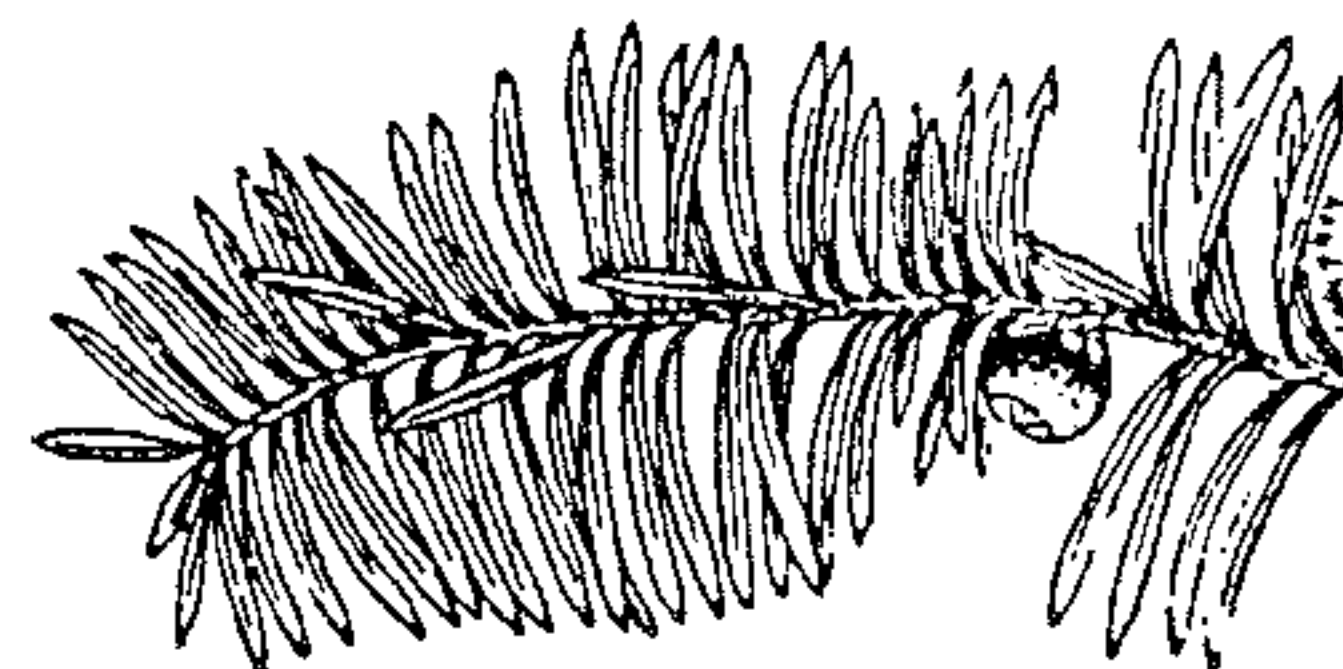
The Roseburg District of the Bureau of Land Management is planning to hire a temporary botanist to work in the rare plant and Research Natural Area programs. The appointment will begin in April and will last for four months. Anyone interested should contact:

Russ Holmes
Bureau of Land Management
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd.
Roseburg OR 97470
(503) 440-4930

ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT NATURE?

Would you like for others to enjoy the outdoor wonders as much as you do? Begin by influencing youngsters and help start their life-long excitement for nature, a free recreation which can be found outside their own front doors.

Hoyt Arboretum is seeking nature guides for elementary school students. This is a chance to share your enthusiasm, get regular exercise, and learn more about the plants and animals in our northwest forests. Requirements are simple: you must enjoy sharing a forest experience with youngsters and be available 3 to 5 hours a month. Training begins in late winter. Call the Hoyt Arboretum Visitor Center at 228-8733 to find out more about becoming a nature guide.



Taxus brevifolia
Western yew

From Trees – Yearbook of Agriculture 1949

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