



Bulletin

of the

Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 35, No. 7

JULY 2002

Quaking Aspen — Ecology and Restoration

by Edna Rey-Vizgirdas, Boise National Forest, Idaho, reprinted from the Idaho Native Plant Society's Sage Notes

"Where the deer bound, where the trout rise, where your horse stops to slather a drink from icy water while the sun is warm on the back of your neck, where every breath you draw is exhilaration—that is where the Aspens grow."

- Donald Culross Peattie, 1950

Aspen Ecology and Distribution

Perhaps no tree is as important to the view of Western landscapes as quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*). The most widespread tree in North America, quaking aspen ranges from Alaska to New England, the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada, to its southern extreme in northern Mexico. Aspen extends from sea level in the boreal region to nearly 11,000 feet in the southern mountains.

Seventy-five percent of the area occupied by aspen in western states occurs in Colorado (50%) and Utah (25%). In other areas, aspen stands are typically small patches within a matrix dominated by sagebrush steppe and conifer forests. Aspen is most abundant in the narrow elevation zone near the forest/steppe ecotone (Despain 1990). In Idaho, aspen occurs most often in areas where conifers are present. South of the Snake River, pure stands of aspen may be encountered on suitable sites in the sagebrush steppe zone (Johnson 1995).

Thanks to its expansive root system, quaking aspen can survive for years, sending up sprouts when conditions are favorable. Although aspen can reproduce sexually (by seed), vegetative or clonal reproduction via sprouting occurs more frequently in the West. As a result of this vegetative reproduction, an entire grove can be made up of one individual

(one clone) or aggregates of clones.

With 47,000 stems covering nearly 20 acres, one aspen clone in Utah's Wasatch Mountains is the world's most massive known organism—estimated to be at least 10,000 years old (Madson 1996, Mitton and Grant 1996)!

Because they are genetically identical, clones tend to display similar characteristics, the most notable of which are autumn leaf color and spring leaf-out.

Although aspen stands generally account for only a fraction of the total landscape, they have a tremendous impact on local and regional biodiversity. A recent study in Rocky Mountain National Park found that aspen stands contributed a disproportionate amount of plant and butterfly species richness. Aspen comprised only 1.2 % of the vegetation but their stands contained 45% of all plant species in the study area. Many plant species were found only in association with aspen habitats (Chong et al. 2001). In addition, bird species diversity increases with increasing size of aspen stands (Johns 1993). Mature aspen stands have been found to support more bird species than younger stands or those being invaded by conifers (McGraw/Bergstrom 1986). To further illustrate its importance in the ecosystem, aspen is the preferred food of beaver, and beaver populations affect both the extent and type of wetland habitats in an area.

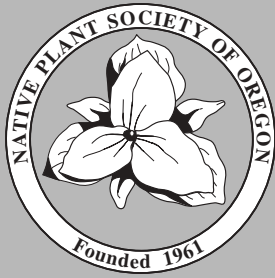
Causes and Consequences of Aspen Decline

Unfortunately, aspen stands are declining in many areas throughout the West. Estimates range from a 49% decline in Colorado to 95% in Arizona. Aspen has been reduced by as much as

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Native Plant Society of Oregon

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Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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ISSN 0884-599. Published 11 times per year. Subscription price \$18/year. Date and issue number on page 1.

The submission date is the 10th of each month for the following month's issue. Send submissions by e-mail to bulletin@NPSOregon.org.

Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors of the articles. They do not represent the opinions of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, unless so stated.

Editor's Note

Submission Information for Next Issue

A reminder that next month's *Bulletin* will cover the last half of August and September. The submission date will be pushed back two weeks to July 24. You should receive this issue the second week of August. The following issue will return to the usual schedule with a submission date of September 10th and should arrive by October 1st. The NPSO board has voted to continue to double up one issue in the summer, giving the editor a much-needed break to go out and look at wildflowers. This will also save the organization some funds that can be put to use elsewhere.

Annual Meeting

A hearty thanks to Elaine Plaisance, Jim Duncan and the Siskiyou Chapter for putting together a terrific Annual Meeting. In spite of the unusually cold temperatures (snow flurries and blowing frost!) it was a well-attended and greatly-enjoyed event. I highly recommend making a trip to the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument to see the amazing diversity of plants from the Cascades, Siskiyou and Great Basin and to enjoy the terrific views. For those of you who weren't able to attend, all the photos in this issue were taken in the Monument during the Meeting.

In spite of its present monument status the area still needs greater protection. As part of the Oregon Wild 2002 Wilderness Bill, 23,000 acres of the 53,000 acre Monument would be set aside as wilderness. It is very important that this biologically-rich area have as much protection as possible. National Monument status is defined individually for each area. There are many opportunities for the multi-use factions to undermine the safety of the Monument. Wilderness status would afford a much greater level of protection. Please contact your legislators now and let them know you support wilderness status for this area as well as for many others around the state. For more information visit www.oregonwild.org.



TANYA HARVEY

Western peony, Paeonia brownii, is the only plant in its family, Paeoniaceae, in the state. It has a large and most striking and fascinating flower. The maroon petals surround many yellow stamens. The foliage is quite lovely—waxy-blue and deeply-lobed leaves 6-24" tall. It grows in sagebrush and pine forests in arid areas of Oregon and the Great Basin.

State

October 5, Saturday

Board Meeting: The next State Board meeting will take place in Coos Bay. More details will be announced later.

Blue Mountain

For information on the Blue Mountain Chapter call Jerry Baker at 541-566-2244.

Cheahmill

July 13, Saturday, 10:00 am

Field Trip: Larch Mountain, Oregon.

This area provides an ideal place to see transition of valley plants to mountain plants. We will see Beargrass, Pacific Rhododendron, *Penstemon cardwellii*, *Anemone deltoidea*, and many other flowers in bloom. Did you miss some of the valley spring blooming flowers? We will be at 4000' and will see many valley plants blooming such as Trillium, Violets, Starflower, and more. The area is dominated by Silver and Noble Fir and several species of Huckleberry. This is a walk, not a hike, of less than a mile on paved trails uphill to an observation platform with great views of Cascades including Mt. Adams, Hood, Rainier and others. Bring your camera. Start time is 10:00 am for a 2 hour walk. For more information, directions, and to register, please call Chuck and Patti Buffett at 503-474-1386.

August 10, Saturday, 9:00 am

Workshop: Plant Identification.

Kareen Sturgeon, Botany Professor at Linfield College & Past President of the Cheahmill Chapter will lead a 3-hour workshop on "Plant ID". Workshop to be held in Murdock Hall Rm 208, Linfield Campus-McMinnville. Participants will learn terminology used by botanists to describe plants, characteristics of major plant families represented in the Oregon flora, and how to use a dichotomous key.

\$25/person. Pre-registration is necessary. Class size is limited. Registration deadline is Monday, July 15. Reserve a space in the class by mailing a check payable to "Cheahmill Chapter NPSO" to: S. Williams, 29601 NE David Lane, Newberg, Oregon 97132-6457. Questions?? Contact Susan at 503-538-1865 or helgesusan@attbi.com. NOTE: Participants should bring a copy of *Handbook of Northwestern Plants* by Gilkey and Dennis and *Plant Identification Terminology: An Illustrated Glossary* - 2nd ed. by James and Melinda Harris.

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. Participation is at your own risk. Be prepared to sign a release form indicating this. For a sample copy check out the NPSO website. Please contact the trip leader or chapter representative about difficulty, distance, and terrain to be expected on field trips. Bring water and lunch. All NPSO field trips are open to the public at no charge (other than contribution to carpool driver) and newcomers and visitors are always welcome. National Forests require a Northwest Forest Pass for many field trip locations. Permits can be acquired at forest headquarters and ranger districts.

NOTICE TO FIELD TRIP CHAIRS AND LEADERS

The Forest Service and other agencies have set policies limiting group size in many wilderness areas to 12. The reason is to limit human impacts on these fragile areas. Groups using wilderness areas should be no larger than 12.

Corvallis

July 20, Saturday, 8:00 am

Field Trip: Iron Mountain. Spectacular, botanically-rich area west of Santiam Pass. Forest and meadow wildflowers will be the main attractions. 4-5 miles, moderate hike. Meet at 8:00 am OSU parking lot, SW of The Beanery, 26th and Monroe, Corvallis. Call Dan Luoma, 541-752-8860, for more info.

Emerald

July 13, Saturday, 9:00 am

Field Trip: Bohemia Mountain.

Bruce Newhouse will take us on a natural history expedition to view and learn about flowers, butterflies and birds on and near this rocky 6,000 foot summit southeast of Cottage Grove in the famous Bohemia mining district. Walking may be up to 3 miles, some a bit rough. Meet 9:00 am at South Eugene High School, and please do not try to plan to meet up with the group in the Bohemia area, as they will decide their own itinerary as they go along based on snow levels and group whim and fancy. Questions: call Bruce Newhouse at 541-343-2364.

August 15, Thursday, 9:30 am

Herbarium Workshop: Assist with mounting and organizing specimens in the Lane Community College Herbarium.

Meet in the Science Building Rm 117 from 9:30 am to noon. Refreshments provided. No background necessary and all assistance is appreciated. Learn some valuable skills and contribute to our wonderful collection. Contact Gail Baker, Science, Lane Community College, 541-463-5085 or bakerg@lanec.edu.

August 18, Sunday, 8:00 am

Field Trip: Cupit Mary Meadow. Barbro McCree will lead us to Cupit Mary Meadow just west of Waldo Lake to enjoy summer flower displays. We will begin hiking at 5,800 feet elevation

and drop 600 feet elevation to the meadow over primitive trails. Round trip distance is 4 miles. Grass of Parnassus should be in bloom. The area is in Wilderness and participation will be limited to 12 people. Please RSVP. Bring lunch and water. Meet 8:00 am at South Eugene High School or at 8:45 am at the Middle Fork Ranger Station just west of Oakridge. For further information and to RSVP call Barbro McCree at 541-782-3919.

High Desert

August 24, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Broken Top Volcano. This is our annual trek to view the spectacular glaciated scenery and alpine wildflowers in the High Cascades west of Bend. This is a six-mile round trip, moderate-to-strenuous hike with a 1,700 foot elevation gain. We will do mostly off-trail hiking through the Three Sisters Wilderness, so hiker numbers are limited to 12. Meet at Pilot Butte Lot at 8:30 am. If we can't go to Broken Top we will hike Black Crater. Pre-registration is required! The sooner the better!! For more information, write or call field trip chairman, Stu Garrett, 1501 NE Medical Center Dr, Bend, OR, 97701, 541-389-6981 evenings.

Klamath Basin

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, call Sarah Malaby, 541-884-5703, smalaby@cs.com; or Mike Cutler, 541-850-9012, cutler@cvc.net.

Mid-Columbia

July 3, Wednesday, 6:30 pm

Meeting: Join us for our annual summer potluck at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center. Bring a food item and if the weather allows, we will eat outside in the picnic area and have a little tour of the grounds afterwards. Exit 82 off I-84 in The Dalles and follow the signs.

August 7, Wednesday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: Photography Studio Visit and Slide show. Wilma Roberts, noted local photographer, has graciously invited us to her studio to see some of her beautiful wildflower slides, and as a special treat also some of her classic slides of fishing at Celilo Falls before the falls was covered by the pool of The Dalles Dam. We will also get to view the many splendid photos hanging in her studio. Don't miss this! Directions: From westbound I-84 take the first Downtown The Dalles exit. Park in the parking lot of *The Dalles Chronicle* at 317 E, 3rd St. in the heart of downtown. Cross the alley and look for a door with a sign "Cybertime Cafe". Go upstairs to the studio.

North Coast

General for field trips: Unless otherwise stated, the group will meet at 10:00 am at the front parking lot of the PUD building at the south end of Tillamook at 11th and Pacific. Guests are welcome, pets are not. Bring brown bag lunch, water and appropriate clothing for the weather. For further information and if you intend to go, contact John Gerke 503-842-5366 or johnroyal@juno.com or phone Nancy Eide (503-861-1837) or Kathleen Sayce (360-665-5292)

July 13, Saturday, 9:00 am

Field Trip: Kelp Bed in Front of Ter-rimore Motel. Meet at the Happy Camp Parking Lot at 9:00 am. Low tide at about 9:40 am. We'll wade and examine the many types of kelp attached to the rocks there. Wear knee high boots or foot gear you don't mind getting wet. At about 10:30 am those who were not with the group last year will tour the Oyster Hatchery on the Bay Road. There we will learn how oyster seed is fed and grown and also, using microscopes, be able to see some of the smaller algae. Lead by Susan Shupert, phycologist. Phone John.

July 27, Saturday, 10:00 am

Field Trip: Nature Trail at Blimp Base. Less than 2 miles and about 100 ft. elevation, some muddy parts possi-

ble. This is a chance to become familiar with an area that is close and has many wild flowers especially in the spring. Leader will be Val Lichner.

August 10 Saturday

Field Trip: Possible Tillamook Forest Hike. Summit to Gales Creek, Jones Creek to Site of new visitors center or a new place? TBA Phone John.

September 7, 14 or 21

Field Trip: Huckleberries, red and blue, at Mt Hebo summit. Date depends on ripeness of huckle berries—last year it was on August 25, Saturday. If berries are not ripe, this trip will be rescheduled for September 22 or 23. Short hike. Bring bucket. Also expect bunch berries, miner's lettuce, etc. Phone John.

Portland

July 6, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Bald Mtn. About 6 miles round trip, about 800' elevation gain. Hike from Lolo Pass Road up the PCT to an alpine meadow with a very close view of Mt. Hood. Rhodies in bloom on way up and possible *Allotropa virgata*. *Lilium washingtonianum* and Mariposa calochortus at top. Plenty of butterflies too. Meet at Gateway Park & Ride, SE corner of parking lot, at 8:30 am. Call Beth Magnus for more information, 503-226-7919.



TANYA HARVEY

A number of Cat's ears (Calochortus tolmiei) in the Monument seem to have more than their normal share of three petals.

July 9, Tuesday, 7:00 pm

Meeting: The Owyhee Canyonlands—A Landscape to Love. Come learn more about this stunning and imperiled ecoregion in the most remote and rugged corner of Oregon. Joe Walicki will discuss the High Desert Committee's current public education campaign to permanently protect the Owyhee. The Oregon portion of the Owyhee Canyonlands comprises over a million acres of desert sagebrush, bunchgrass, mahogany woodland, canyonland, and riparian ecosystem (large portions of which are roadless) providing habitat for endemic, threatened, and endangered species. The slide show will showcase the Owyhee's ecological values, natural history, current threats, and plethora of jaw dropping landscapes. This is not a show to miss! Fireside Room (#355) of the First United Methodist Church located at 1838 SW Jefferson St., in Portland. For more information contact Dee White, 503-775-2909.

July 14, Sunday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Silver Star Mtn. At an elevation of 4390', Silver Star Mtn. offers a wonderful mix of subalpine meadows full of paintbrush, gentians, cat's ear lilies, and bear grass, dark coniferous forests with several species of anemones along with buckbean, and rock garden species such as Columbia lewisia. On clear days, the views of the Western Cascades are stunning. The hike will range from 3-5 miles with an elevation gain from 500-1000' (depending on road conditions). Meet at Gateway Park & Ride, SE corner of parking lot, at 8:30 am. Call Paul Slichter for more information at 503-661-3292.

July 28, Sunday, 8:00 am

Field Trip: Sheep Canyon. This loop hike on the western edge of Mt. St. Helens's blast zone is 7 miles, 1700 feet elevation gain (low point 3380 ft., high point 4600 ft.). It has old-growth forest with huge hemlocks, firs, and cedars; a half-mile-wide mudflow from the melting of the Toutle and Tallus Glaciers that is being recolonized; and high open meadows with tiger lilies, roses,

beargrass, paintbrush, phloxes, and lupine. Call Elisabeth Magnus to sign up and get meeting place information: 503-226-7919.

August 3, Saturday, 8:00 am

Field Trip: Short Horn Trail on Mt. Adams. Climb through forest and meadow on the southern slopes of Mt. Adams to the Round the Mountain Trail beneath Avalanche Glacier. A plethora of subalpine wildflowers should be seen along the trail as well as close views of the mountain. Mountain-dwelling butterflies should also be out in force. The hike will range from 5-6 miles round trip with an elevation gain of 1600 feet. Driving mileage is approx. 180 miles round trip. Meet at Gateway Park & Ride, SE corner of parking lot, at 8:00 am. A second meeting place will be at the Hood River McDonalds at approx. 9:00 am. The

trail is through the Mt. Adams Wilderness so the hike will be limited to 12. Please call Paul Slichter for more information at 503-661-3292.

Siskiyou

July 4, Thursday, 10:00 - 4:00 pm

Event: Wildflower Show Featuring Diversity of the Siskiyou's Flora. The Siskiyou Chapter will again host its annual Irene Hollenbeck Memorial Wildflower Show in Ashland's Lithia Park on the 4th of July. The show will be held in Pioneer Hall next to Lithia Park at 73 Winburn Way as part of Ashland's celebration of the 4th. Over 200 flowers from Jackson and Josephine Counties will be shown, each with its common and scientific name. For more information call Jim Duncan at 541-482-7629.



Asclepias cordifolia, Purple or Heartleaf Milkweed, grows on dry semiopen forest slopes as was this plant along Highway 66 on the way up to the Green Springs Inn. The flowers are a lovely two-toned red-violet and white and there is red in the stem as well. The leaves are smooth, somewhat heart-shaped, very flat and overlap each other around the stem. As with other milkweeds the flowers are fragrant. All in all it is a very handsome plant.

TANYA HARVEY

July 20, Saturday, 10:00 am

Field Trip: Hershberger Mountain, Rogue-Umpqua Divide. Meet at 10:00am at the Union Creek Store on Highway 62 between Prospect and Crater Lake. Leader: Clint Emerson, US Forest Service Botanist, Diamond Lake Ranger District, 541-498-2531. Spend a hot midsummer day in the cool higher elevations of the Cascade Mountains. We may see such rare plants as *Collomia mazama* (ONHP List 1), *Hazardia whitneyi* (List 2), and possibly *Frasera umpquaensis* (List 1). Mostly a driving trip on gravel roads. Some easy hiking will be involved.

Umpqua Valley

July 6, Saturday, 8:00 am

Field Trip: Short walk to Rube Long Meadows to see sundew and Silent Creek to view *Oxypolis occidentalis*, both are in the Diamond Lake area. Assemble for caravan or carpooling at BLM parking lot 777 Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg prior to 8:00 am departure. For more info call 541-863-5347.

Aug 3, Saturday, 8:00 am

Field Trip: Walk the Castle Crest Wildflower Garden trail to view the abundant Lewis monkey flower. Explore Crater Lake's rim drive pumice fields for subalpines. Assemble for caravan or carpooling at BLM parking lot 777 Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg

prior to 8:00 am departure. For more information please call 541-863-5347.

Willamette Valley

The Willamette Valley Chapter is looking for a President! Our bylaws limit the terms of the four officers to two years, so the current president is "termed out." Consequently, there will be no organized Chapter activities until a replacement is found. If you're interested, please call Karl Anderson at 503-315-7329, or Wilbur Bluhm at 503-393-2934.

William Cusick

For information on the William Cusick Chapter call Frazier Nichol at 541-963-7870.

Friends of the Oregon Flora Project

The botanical illustration workshop held in early May as a benefit for the Oregon Flora Project was a rousing success. Instructor Anne Jaster began the weekend with a Friday evening reception and slide presentation on the history of botanical illustration. The 15 participants and an assistant joined Anne at Lane Community College the next morning for two full days of instruction in pencil and colored pencil illustration of native plants. Classroom time allowed plenty of interaction with classmates and the instructor, and a Saturday afternoon session at Mt. Pisgah Arboretum offered a beautiful outdoor setting for sketching camas, larkspurs, and other wildflowers in bloom. Was the class useful? Participants gave an enthusiastic "yes!" "I learned all that I hoped to and more...A most worthwhile class," wrote one student. "Having the registration cost go towards the Oregon Flora Project

convinced me even more so to attend," said another. This event raised \$1350 for the Oregon Flora Project—a wonderful gift to the Project, and a great learning experience for participants. The Friends of the Oregon Flora Project extends sincere thanks to Anne Jaster, Lane Community College, and Mt. Pisgah Arboretum for making this workshop a success.

For more information on becoming a Friend, or to make a contribution to the Oregon Flora Project, contact Linda Hardison at:

Friends of the Oregon Flora Project
P. O. Box 402
Corvallis, OR 97339-0402
www.oregonflora.org



Bonnie Hall, Mary Garrard, instructor Anne Jaster, Kareen Sturgeon, and Chenoah Hartzell in the wildflower illustration workshop.

Berry Botanic Garden Events

Portland's Berry Botanic Garden has a number of native plant oriented events. To register or to get more information on these and other events at the garden call Kris at 503-636-4112x22 or visit their website at <http://www.berrybot.org>.

Lolo Pass Wildflower Hike

Thursdays, July 4, 11, 9am-3pm

We are offering this hike on two dates. Hike a beautiful section of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail near Zig Zag. View Mt. Hood and lovely woodlands filled with rhododendrons and bear grass. Shale cliffs will be popping with penstemon, Indian paintbrush and larkspur. We'll walk at a leisurely pace, enjoying views, snapping pictures. The route is about 3 miles long. Pack a lunch, for we have a favorite outcropping for a luncheon stop. \$10.

Nature Journaling

**Thursdays, July 11, 18, 25,
10am-12:30pm**

The beauty of nature can inspire a doodle, a quick poem, a simple note or observation. A journal can enhance your enjoyment of time outside. Long time naturalist and watercolor painter, Jude Siegel, will guide you through the process of developing your own nature journaling style, in this three-part workshop. The quiet summer garden is the perfect setting for recording and illustrating your connection to the natural world. \$40.

Botanical Illustration

Saturdays, July 13, 20, 1pm-4pm

Spend a relaxing afternoon using your right side of the brain to interpret the garden. Increase your observation skills, and learn to see nature in a different, more personal way. Plan on sketching outside and bring basic supplies (we will move indoors if the weather is uncooperative). The first week, we'll concentrate on pencil drawings, and begin to add color during the second. All levels, including beginners, are welcome. This class takes place on two Saturdays. \$35.

Wildflower ID Basic

Thursday, July 20, 10am-Noon

"Ooh! Look at that little flower. If I could only remember its name..." Your companion hiker, growing ever more impatient with your botanical interest, offers no help. Sound familiar? We're offering this class to help you avoid this

situation. In an entertaining slide show, preview the season's wildflowers in a taxonomic context, and hone your "botanical" eye. Whether you take this class to refresh your memory or meet our wildflowers for the first time, it will be a celebration of our beautiful flora. \$15.

Mount Pisgah Arboretum Events

Seavey Loop Rd., Eugene, call 541-747-1504 for information or to register.

Medicinal Herbs Slide Show & Walk

Saturday, June 29, 9am-Noon

Explore the world of healing plants with naturopathic physician Jan Gagnon. A slide show and herbal walk through the Arboretum will highlight the various species and uses of medicinal herbs. Fee: \$15. Pre-registration required.

Watercolor Landscapes Workshop

Saturday, July 20, 10am-2pm

Come join artist Merideth "Merit" Ferrell for a fun outdoor painting workshop. Merit will demonstrate using vibrant summer colors and watercolor washes and focus on seeing the big picture. You'll get plenty of individual attention at this beginners' workshop, and go at your own pace. Bring a lunch and enjoy a day of art! Materials list provided at registration. Fee: \$25.

Conserving Threatened Habitats

Walk at Mount Pisgah
Sunday, July 21, 1-3pm

Oak savannah and other native Willamette Valley habitats have become highly threatened in today's environment. Find out how Mount Pisgah's habitats are being conserved and restored with Patrick Hurley, PhD student at the U of O. Co-sponsored by the Friends of Buford Park and Mount Pisgah. Suggested donation \$3. Meet at Arboretum Visitor Center.

Weeds of Summer Walk

Saturday, July 27, 10am-Noon

Join botanist David Wagner as he explores the non-native and invasive plants in bloom throughout the summer in and around the Arboretum. Learn about the threat of exotic plant species to native ecosystems, and how to identify and deal with these pests. Suggested donation \$3. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center.

Writing about Natural Landscapes

Workshop

Saturday, July 27, 10am-3pm

Literary inspiration is not hard to come by at Mount Pisgah, but knowing how to create well-written essays can be difficult. Join Carol Ann Bassett, professor in the U of O Journalism School and accomplished nature essayist, in this workshop designed to help you develop style, voice, and the theme of landscapes in your writing. Please come with two pages of rough written material. Fee: \$30. Pre-registration required.

Bats! Workshop

Saturday, August 10, 7:30-10pm

Learn about these fascinating flying mammals with Stuart Perlmeter, local bat expert and educator. He'll present a slide show and information, and lead you through amazing close encounters with our native bats in the wild. Fee: \$15, \$5 kids. Pre-registration required.

NPSO Items for Sale

Vascular Plants of Lane County, Oregon: An Annotated Checklist by C. Simpson, J. Koenig, J. Lippert, R. Love, B. Newhouse, N. Otting, S. Sundberg, D. Wagner, and P. Warner. Emerald Chapter, NPSO. This new county checklist includes more than 1,740 species and varieties representing 39 percent of the 4,460 plants currently recognized by the Oregon Flora Project at Oregon State University. It also includes a color map of Lane County's five major ecoregions; and information about rare and endangered species, noxious weeds, and escaped cultivated plants. Information is included for every species on habitat, ecoregion, occurrence frequency, and native or non-native origin. To order, send **\$15** payable to Emerald Chapter, NPSO to Lane County Checklist, Emerald Chapter, NPSO, PO Box 902, Eugene, OR 97440-0902.

NPSO Membership Directory lists names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail address of NPSO members (April 2001). Available from Jan Dobak, 2921 NE 25th Avenue, Portland, OR 97212-3460. **\$3 postpaid.**

Camas Tee Shirt from Cheahmill Chapter. Beautiful moss green or tan tee shirts with botanical drawing in color of *Camassia quamash* by Carlton, OR artist and Cheahmill chapter member Marilyn Karbonski. Short sleeve, high quality, **\$15 plus shipping.** For ordering information call 503-852-7230, or send order to PO Box 291, Carlton, OR 97111.

The "**Atlas of Oregon Carex**" was NPSO's first Occasional Paper. The Atlas has 128 location maps, one for each Carex taxon in the state of Oregon. Also included are a synonymy, fun facts about sedges, a history of the project, and Oregon geography maps. **Price: \$5.**

"Louis F. Henderson (1853-1942): The Grand Old Man of Northwest Botany" by Rhoda M. Love. NPSO's second Occasional Paper is the only existing publication with detailed coverage of the long and fascinating life of this John Muir-like western character. Included: 56 pictures, 133 notes, chronology, list of plants named for Henderson. **Special:** First 25 orders in 2002 receive FREE 9-page annotated bibliography. **Price: \$10.**

To order either or both Occasional Papers, send check for the appropriate amount (made payable to NPSO) to: **Occasional Papers, Native Plant Society of Oregon, PO Box 902, Eugene, OR 97440-0902.**

Oregon's Rare Wildflower Poster depicts Punchbowl Falls and three of the Columbia River Gorge's endemic wildflowers. Text on the back describes the natural history of the Gorge and the mission of the NPSO. Available from Stu Garrett, 21663 Paloma Drive, Bend, OR 97701, 541-389-6981. Individuals may order posters at **\$12 each**, plus \$3 per order for shipping. Posters are mailed in tubes.

Quaking Aspen

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95% throughout the Yellowstone Ecosystem since the late 1800s (Kay 2001). Similar to the loss of other species-rich habitats like riparian zones, such declines have serious consequences for wildlife and plant biodiversity.

Aspen is arguably a "keystone" species in the Rockies and elsewhere, so why are they disappearing from the landscape? The answer may depend on a variety of factors that have far-reaching effects on aspen and other communities.

Fire, Elk and Wolves

Encroachment of conifers into aspen stands is a major problem since aspens thrive on sunlight. Shade-tolerant conifers can reproduce successfully in the understory, and eventually grow to block the sun from the shade-intolerant aspens. Thus, large areas can be converted to pine, fir or spruce forests

over time. Historically, fires would set back this succession to maintain healthy, thriving aspen communities. A fire might destroy all the aboveground trees (conifers and aspens alike), but the aspen rebounds by resprouting and perhaps by successful seed germination. Unfortunately, many decades of fire suppression have tipped the balance in favor of evergreens over aspen.

With tender, nutritious vegetation like aspen sprouts available, the stage is set for herbivory. Elk, moose, and deer seem to find aspen irresistible. Domestic livestock can also threaten aspen regeneration. In areas with large elk populations such as Yellowstone National Park (YNP), elk browsing has been identified as significantly impacting aspen overstory recruitment (Ripple and Larsen 2000). In fact, aspen communities in the Yellowstone region experienced successful regeneration from the middle to late 1700s (as far back as has been recorded) to the 1920s, after

which recruitment essentially ceased. To better understand the effects of herbivores on the ecosystem, we must examine predator-prey relationships.

From 1904 to 1925, over 130 wolves (and probably many more) were killed in northern YNP. Once the local predator populations were decimated, aspen began its downward trend. Anyone who visited northern YNP prior to the reintroduction of wolves in 1995 can recall the striking impacts to native plant communities from the vast ungulate herds. In the Canadian Rockies, increased aspen overstory recruitment has been noted in areas frequented by wolves (Dekker 1985). So, by keeping elk herds in check, wolves may actually have a positive effect on aspen!

Whether its decline is due to fire suppression or excessive browsing or some other factor, the loss of aspen habitat is not irreversible—if appropriate action is taken.

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Highlights of the State Board Meeting, June 9, East of Ashland

by Kelli Van Norman, Secretary

The Sunday morning State Board meeting followed a chilly but great Annual Meeting weekend celebrating the new Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. Thank you to the Siskiyou Chapter for hosting both the Annual Meeting and the State Board's quarterly meeting.

Field Research Grants: Thank you to the Mid-Columbia, Portland, and Siskiyou Chapters for approving additional funding for the field research grant applications discussed at the last NPSO State Board meeting in April.

Membership: NPSO currently has 841 members, and membership renewals are dwindling. The State Board is concerned about why NPSO members are not renewing. The Board is also thinking about how to attract new members as the population of Oregon continues to grow. A subcommittee was formed to bring outreach proposals and ideas to the next board meeting.

Publications: The State Board decided to reduce the number of *Bulletin* issues from 12 to 11 per year, eliminat-

ing the August issue when most of the flowers and field trips have tapered off. This will also allow our *Bulletin* editor, Tanya Harvey, to take a vacation. Cindy Roché, the *Kalmiopsis* editor, has this year's *Kalmiopsis* issue on schedule, and has enough material for the next few issues. The Board decided to have an extra 100 copies of *Kalmiopsis* produced to sell at various nature stores. Occasional Paper Number 2, *Life of L. F. Henderson*, has 13 copies remaining of 250 printed for a total income of \$2,439.

Conservation: The Siskiyou Chapter requested the State Board to endorse opposition to the Mt. Ashland Ski Area expansion into the headwaters of the Ashland Creek watershed. The Board approved this request.

Education Committee: Congratulations to Jerry Igo, the chairperson of the NPSO Education Committee. He was awarded the NPSO Fellows Award at this year's annual meeting. Jerry has been extremely busy communicating the goals of NPSO to the world at

large in part by presenting his video on the flora of the Lewis and Clark expedition. The Board encourages chapters to purchase Jerry's video for viewing by the chapter and then donating the video to your local library or school.

Among new business, the Board voted to endorse a conference being organized by the Institute of Applied Ecology, U.S.D.I. Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service. The conference, entitled "Vegetation Management on Public Lands in the Pacific Northwest: Native Plants, Invasive Species, and Ecosystem Management," will be held February 11-13, 2003 at Oregon State University.

The Portland Chapter is excitedly making plans for next year's annual meeting to be held in John Day. Future annual meetings are to be held by the William Cusick/Blue Mountain Chapters in 2004, the Willamette Valley Chapter in 2005, the Umpqua Chapter in 2006, the Cheahmill Chapter in 2007, and the Mid-Columbia Chapter in 2008.

Quaking Aspen

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Hope for the Future: Aspen Restoration

To arrest this disturbing decline, numerous aspen restoration projects have been initiated by agencies such as the Forest Service and National Park Service. To cite just a few examples from our region, aspen projects have been implemented or are being planned on the Boise National Forest, Sawtooth NF, northeastern Oregon's Blue Mountains, the Wasatch-Cache NF in northern Utah, and Grand Teton National Park.

Most successful aspen regeneration projects involve the use of prescribed fire and/or mechanical thinning, and usually require constructing exclosures to protect aspen stands from browsing by native ungulates or livestock. In

areas with high levels of herbivory, promoting aspen reproduction without adequately protecting stands from browsing animals can have unintended effects such as the loss of these aspen stands altogether.

Land managers need to "take action now and take action often" in their efforts to restore aspen and promote structural diversity (Campbell and Bartos 2001). Monitoring stands, as well as the success of applied treatments, is paramount. The public can help by encouraging aspen restoration projects and notifying land managers of stands that may be at risk. With continued emphasis on biodiversity and habitat restoration, my hope is that future generations will be able to enjoy the flutter of aspen leaves and the delightful mix of plants, wildlife, and color they bring.

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The Northwest Old Growth Campaign: Protect Ancient Forests and Support Community Economic Development and Restoration

The Northwest Old-Growth Campaign calls for the permanent protection of our remaining mature and old-growth forests. We believe it is time to focus on restoring and revitalizing our forests and communities.

Especially in rural areas, maintaining the Northwest's quality of life and preserving intact, ancient forests are the key to our economic future. The region's beautiful landscape attracts new businesses, and the workers who make business strong. Ancient forests also provide us with clean water, excellent recreation opportunities, gourmet foods, and new medicines.

For 18,000 years, a vast cloak of virgin forest blanketed the Pacific Northwest. In the last century, however, 90% of the region's old-growth forests have been cleared or paved over. Fifty years of clear-cutting, single-species replanting, and road-building have greatly altered the structure of forests in the region. As a result, we have lost a critical ecological and cultural heritage. Today, the vast majority of old-growth forest that does remain is found on federal lands—specifically, national forests, national parks, and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands.

There is strong public opposition to old-growth logging and the nation's largest home-builders and do-it-yourself stores—The Home Depot, Lowe's, Centex, and KB Homes—are phasing out the use of old-growth wood. Despite this, the federal government still pursues the logging of old-growth forest on public lands.

Thirteen conservation groups have formed the Northwest Old-Growth Campaign to engage the public on the issue of old-growth logging and appeal to policy makers to protect mature and old growth forests on federal public lands in western Washington and Oregon. We work with scientists to develop alternatives to current logging practices, with rural communities to re-orient the funding of land management agencies, and with members of

Congress to ensure the protection of our ancient forests, once and for all. Today, there is a growing consensus that ecologically-sound forest restoration and value-added resource industries can create jobs that sustain locally-based economies. Watershed restoration, thinning young plantations, road maintenance and removal are components of an emerging restoration economy that can create a range of high-wage, high skill jobs, along with diverse opportunities for small business development.

The Northwest Old-Growth Campaign works with: the public and media to bring attention to old-growth logging on federal lands; scientists to develop alternatives to current logging practices; rural communities to advance local economic and restoration opportunities; market forces that favor alternatives to wood products made from old-growth; and with members of Congress and local decision makers to protect our ancient forests.

By protecting our remaining ancient forests we will:

- Preserve the little that is left for future generations and provide opportunities for old-growth recovery across the landscape.
- Provide a great service to the regional economy by protecting our source and supply of clean drinking water and clean air.
- Respect the value of ancient forests as culturally important and a source of pride to the people of Washington and Oregon.
- Protect endangered and threatened wildlife that thrive in older forests.
- Stabilize our climate by keeping carbon, a green house gas that contributes to global warming, in forests and out of the atmosphere.

Twelve prominent environmental organizations in Oregon and Washington are spearheading this effort. Please help them by contacting our senators and representatives to urge them to support the Northwest Old Growth Campaign!

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON MEMBERSHIP FORM

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DUES include monthly *Bulletin* and *Kalmiopsis* when published.
 Membership is for the calendar year. New memberships enrolled after September 1 include the following year.

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 Student – \$12 Regular – \$18 Family – \$24
 Sustaining – \$50 Patron – \$100 Life Membership – \$500
 Subscription Only (*Bulletin* and *Kalmiopsis*) – \$18 *Only for those who wish to subscribe, but do not want to have full membership status.*

Is this a change of address? If so, please write your old address here:

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Friends of the Oregon Flora Project	\$ _____

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Send completed form and full remittance to:
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 2921 NE 25th Avenue
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Membership in the Native Plant Society of Oregon is open to all.
 Membership applications, renewals and change of address (include old address) should be sent to the Membership Chair.

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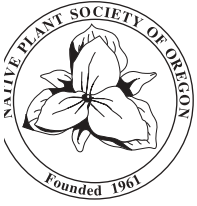
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***Kalmiopsis* Needs an Advertising Manager**

NPSO would like to sell advertising in *Kalmiopsis* to help offset some of the journal costs. The Advertising Manager will be a volunteer role, which will entail working with co-editors Cindy Roché and Linda Vorobik and the NPSO state Treasurer Candice Guth to develop standards and prices, then soliciting ads from businesses such as native plant nurseries and bookstores that feature botany and natural history merchandise. Most of these contacts can be made by mail or e-mail.

If you would like to try your creative skills in public relations and sales, here is a great opportunity to help NPSO. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Cindy Roché at crupinaqueen@charter.net.



TANYA HARVEY

Phlox diffusa, *Allium siskiyouense* and wonderful windswept Mountain Mahogany (*Cercocarpus ledifolius*) grace the top of Hobart Bluff. The 360° view is outstanding as well.

Eastside Conservation Coordinator Still Needed

The Eastside Conservation Coordinator/Chair position is currently vacant, and NPSO needs someone to fill that role. Responsibilities include working with chapters to identify and participate in public input on federal, regional, state, and local conservation-related issues that affect Oregon east of the Cascade crest. Letter writing, research, and occasionally meetings with officials or agency staff are typical duties of the position. A large time commitment is usually not required. If you are interested in serving NPSO in this position, please contact the president at president@NPSOregon.org.