



Bulletin

of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 42, No. 6

JUNE 2009

Intern Report

Collecting Seed from Four Threatened/Endangered Willamette Valley Plants

by Jennifer Bailey and Anna Dennis

In 2008 NPSO/Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE) interns participated in rare plant monitoring, restoration, floristic surveys, and other research projects conducted by IAE staff throughout Oregon and Washington. Last year, 2008, saw our largest group of interns yet (nine!), so instead of individually writing articles, the interns collaborated to write group articles for the Bulletin. In this article, the second of three, interns with the Native Seed Network (Jennifer Bailey, a 2008 graduate from the University of Northern Colorado, and Anna Dennis, a student at Willamette University), describe our efforts to collect seed from threatened and endangered plants in the Willamette Valley. For more information on internship opportunities, please contact IAE at andrea@appliedeco.org, 541-753-3099 ext. 401 or visit <http://www.appliedeco.org>. Thanks again to NPSO for contributing to botanical education and work experience.

-Andrea S. Thorpe Ph.D., Institute for Applied Ecology, Corvallis, Oregon

The Native Seed Network (NSN), a program of the Institute for Applied Ecology, is committed to preserving the genetic diversity of native plants through strategic seed collection and production techniques. 2008 marked the beginning of a five-year seed increase project that involves the production of seed from threatened and endangered species. As part of the NSN seed crew we collected seeds of Willamette Valley Daisy (*Erigeron decumbens* var. *decumbens*), Kincaid's Lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus* var. *kincaidii*), Bradshaw's Lomatium (*Lomatium bradshawii*), and Nelson's Sidalcea (*Sidalcea nelsoniana*).

Endemic to upland prairies in the Willamette Valley, the once prevalent Willamette Valley Daisy is now a rare sight. Blooming in late June to early July, the distinctive composite flowers of the Willamette Valley Daisy have a bright yellow disc surrounded by thin, pale purple rays that often fade to white as they age. Plucking the fluffy seed heads from the stalks of the daisy

was one of the more enjoyable seed collection tasks of the summer. However, collection was not without difficulty. Willamette Valley Daisy is hard to locate given its low lying stature, even when it is in flower! We relied heavily on previous population surveys and landowner knowledge to locate populations. Once identified, the variable timing of seed maturity posed a second challenge. Within a single population of the daisy, it was not uncommon to find some individuals in peak flower and others that had already dispersed their seed.

Kincaid's Lupine, like other lupines, has distinctive star-like leaflets and a plume of delicate flowers. However, Kincaid's is easily distinguished by the distinct ruffle on its flower and a unique odor—something between grapes and dirty socks! Aside from its threatened status, Kincaid's Lupine is ecologically important because it serves as the larval host for the Fender's Blue Butterfly.

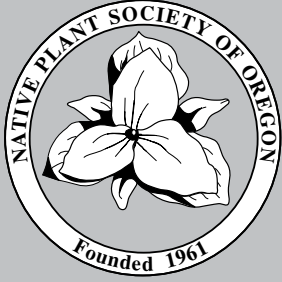
The plant's habitat is varied, it

can be found in prairies, on roadsides, and in disturbed pastures. It is often threatened by pollination and seed production issues. We observed

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Native Plant Society of Oregon

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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.

Wayne Rolle Receives Prestigious U.S.F.S. Award

On May 6 in Washington D.C., the U. S. Forest Service awarded its 2009 Excellence in Rare Plant Management national award to Wayne Rolle, who is a botanist on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest (and, we might add, a Siskiyou chapter member of NPSO). Each year a Forest Service individual is singled out for this distinguished award. Wayne's outstanding leadership and expertise in rare plant management has been demonstrated in many ways over his career, and there is not enough room on this page to list his many accomplishments. Here are a few, though:

Over the past 20 years, Wayne Rolle has managed the botanical program on the 1.8- million-acre Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, which ranges in elevation from sea level to over 7,500 feet and stretches from the Oregon coast to the Cascades. Many rare plants in this forest are on the Federal threatened, endangered, and sensitive species list. Wayne has worked to help develop native plant materials, especially grasses, for habitat restoration. He's taught courses in grass, rush, and sedge I.D., has mentored other botanists and coordinated with other agencies' personnel in the conservation of over 85 plant species and more than 5,500 rare vascular and nonvascular plant and fungi occurrences. Especially notable was his evaluation made for rare plants and fungi within the Biscuit fire area, when he analyzed the impacts to 39 listed or special status plant species occurring in the burned area, and developed effective mitigation to reach conservation objectives. There's more, much more...

But given space limitations, all we can do is say from the heart "Great job, Wayne, and congratulations!"



The unusual, asymmetrically arranged, diamond-shaped petals easily distinguish diamond clarkia (Clarkia rhomboidea) from our other species. They are pinky-purple and usually speckled with deeper red. The buds are nodding. The leaves are lanceolate to ovate. The first leaves of the season (right photo) are large with conspicuous deep red veins, reminiscent of a coleus. As the flowering stem grows, the red mostly disappears and these lower leaves die back leaving just a hint of red on the smaller pairs of stem leaves and the stem.

NPSO CALENDAR

Blue Mountain

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

Cheahmill

For more information visit the chapter website: <http://www.oregon-nativeplants.com>

June 20, Saturday, 12 pm-4 pm

Annual Membership Meeting/Potluck/Propagation Demo/Field Trips:

After a short meeting and lunch, Ted Gahr, Cheahmill chapter member and owner of Gahr Farm Nature Reserve, 18605 S.W. Masonville Rd., McMinnville, will demonstrate propagation techniques for the endangered *Sidalcea nelsoniana* (Nelson's Checkermallow). Field trips to restored wet meadows and hillside forest round out the day. Bring rubber boots and potluck dish. For directions or questions, call 503-472-6960 or see <http://www.gahrfarm.com>.

Corvallis

To join the Corvallis e-mail list to receive notification of upcoming events, please e-mail matt@appliedeco.org

June 16, Tuesday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Field Trip: McGowan Prairie. Travel to a secluded prairie site in the Coburg Hills where grows a singularly large display of Oregon Geranium and Mule's Ears, as well as other species such as Field Checkermallow, White Bog-Orchid and Woodland Phlox. Removal of invasive Teasel will follow. Meet promptly at 8:30 am at the Institute for Applied Ecology, 563 S.W. Jefferson (northeast corner 6th and Jefferson, Corvallis). Street parking only. Bring rain gear, boots, gloves, water and lots of food. Matt, 541-231-9861, matt@appliedeco.org.

June 27, Saturday, 8 am

Field Trip: Iron Mountain. Spectacular wildflowers occur along this trail

west of Santiam Pass, with well over 200 species of vascular plants growing in the area. Moderately difficult 5-mile hike. Meet 8 am at OSU parking lot southwest of The Beanery, 26th and Monroe. Note: This is earlier than the usual mid-July peak bloom, and snowdrifts may be on trail.

Contact Matt at matt@appliedeco.org.

Emerald

June 16, Tuesday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Field Trip: McGowan Prairie. Join us in a joint trip with Corvallis chapter (see their calendar notice) to a 2,000-foot-high meadow in the Coburg

IMPORTANT NOTE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Field trips take place rain or shine, so proper dress and footwear are essential. **BRING WATER AND LUNCH.** 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. Dogs are not allowed. 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 some 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.

Hills. A mixture of plants commonly found in the Willamette Valley is growing along with plants of the Cascades. *Geranium oreganum* is especially abundant. Some invasive plant eradication will also be done. Bring boots, gloves, water and lunch. Meet at 9 am at Campbell Senior Center. Return time flexible. Dave Predeek, 541-345-5531 or dpredeek@msn.com.

High Desert

To be added to the e-mail list for upcoming events, please contact Maria Britton at mebritton@bendbroadband.com. For questions or more information, please contact Eileen Obermiller at hd_president@NPSOOregon.org.

June 13, Saturday

Field Trip: Native Grass ID. Berta Youtie will lead a field trip to the Crooked River National Grasslands and point out the characteristics of both native grasses and problem annual invasive grasses. Back by 2 p.m. For carpooling and other information, call Eileen at 541-923-2777 or see the chapter's blog at <http://highdesert.npsoregon.org/blog/>.

June 13, Saturday

Weed pull in numerous Deschutes County locations. Wear long sleeves and sturdy shoes. Gloves provided for both adults and children; bring water. For locations and additional details go to <http://www.letspulltogether.com/>.

Week of June 29th

Two-Day Data Collection of Pumice Grape-Fern (*Botrychium pumicola*): volunteers are needed to help Forest Service employees collect data at two sites located about one hour southeast of Bend, several miles southeast of Pine Mountain. Charmane Powers, botanist, Bend/Ft. Rock Ranger Dist., Deschutes National Forest, cpowers@fs.fed.us, 541-383-4730.

June, Dates TBA

Volunteer needed to monitor 6 miles of Little McKay and McKay Creeks and take subsamples in a few areas along the creeks to measure the spread of woody species planted by the Forest Service, as part of a bank stabilization and insect habitat enhancement project. Equipment supplied. Barbara Franano, 541-416-6485, bfranano@fs.fed.us or Eileen Obermiller, 541-923-2777, eileen@dappledearth.com.

Klamath Basin

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, contact Sarah Malaby, 541-884-5703, smalaby@cs.com.

Mid-Columbia

June 11, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: Topic and speaker to be announced in an e-mail and local newspapers at the end of May. Board Rm., Bldg. I, Columbia Gorge Community College, The Dalles.

North Coast

For information on the North Coast Chapter call Vivian Starbuck at 503-377-4141.

Portland

If you would like to receive the chapter's semi-official e-mail newsletter, The Calochortus, e-mail Don Jacobson at donjphoto@gmail.com.

June 11, Thursday, 7 pm

Talk: Cooper Mountain Nature Park. Metro's nearby new Nature Park opens very soon. Curt Zonick, Metro naturalist, will tell about the habitat restoration taking place from forest to prairie to oak woodland, and discuss native flora, fauna and programs. Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, SE Belmont at 54th. Parking in Church lot permitted. Call Billy, 503-515-1708.

June 14, Sunday, Time TBA

Hike: Saddle Mountain. This is a

challenging hike of 5.5 miles, 1600-foot elevation gain to the ultimate rock garden site near the Oregon coast. Look for Copperbush, *Lewisia columbiana* var. *rupicola*, *Dodecatheon austrofrigidum*, *Delphinium oregonum*, and other floral gems. A 160-mile roundtrip. Contact Paul Slichter, pslichter@verizon.net, or 503-661-3292.

June 28, Sunday, Time TBA

Hike: Tamanewas Falls. The trail parallels the east fork of the Mt. Hood River for ½ mile, then turns and follows Cold Spring Creek to the spectacular falls. Wildflowers are abundant. About a 4-mile roundtrip with a 500-foot elevation gain. To sign up for this limited-group-size hike, contact Don Jacobson, leader, at 503-235-6234 or donjphoto@gmail.com.

Siskiyou

June 7, Sunday, 9 am

Field Trip: Calochortus howellii. Howell's Mariposa Lily grows on the dry serpentine slopes of Eight Dollar Mountain. Some driving, short hikes, and a visit to a *Darlingtonia* fen. Itinerary set by what is blooming. Co-led by Suzanne Vautier, 541-592-3939 and Karen McCullough, USFS.

June 13, Saturday, 8 am

Field Trip: Devils Garden, a fascinating volcanic "moonscape." Blooming plants may include Sand Lily, Dwarf Onion, Bitterroot, Dwarf Monkey Flower, Checker Lily, Showy Penstemon, and (for the very sharp-eyed) the diminutive Purple Mat. About 100 miles one way from Ashland. Early departure, late return. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, camera. Meet in Rite-Aid parking lot next to Albertson's in Ashland, just west of I5 Exit 14. Norm Jensen, leader, may be contacted at normjensen@gmail.com.

July 4, Saturday, 10 am-4 pm

Wildflower Show: The Siskiyou chapter of NPSO will host the annual Irene Hollenbeck Memorial Wildflower Show at the Ashland Community Center, 59 Winburn Way (across from Lithia Park

in Ashland). The show features over 300 species of flowers from the volcanic Cascades, the much older Siskiyou, and the valleys in between. Free admission. For more information, call Jim Duncan, 541-482-7629.

July 11, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Mt. Ashland and Rabbit Ears. At Rabbit Ears, we'll see Mt. Ashland Lupine, Henderson's *Horkelia*, and others; then observe many plants at the roadside seep below Rabbit Ears and along the Pacific Crest Trail in Grouse Meadows. Easy 1-2 mile walk. Meet at 9 am behind Oil Stop on Ashland St., next to the Ashland Bi-Mart/Shop n' Kart parking lot (1/4 mile west of I5, Exit 14). Leader: Alex Maksymowicz, 541-482-1964.

July 18, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Lemmingsworth Gulch Research Natural Area Serpentine. Meet 9 am at the Fred Meyer parking lot in Brookings (Hwy. 101) toward the back near the gas station. The drive to the Packsaddle Mountain trailhead takes 1 hour; the trail is fairly flat, mostly ridgeline for 2 miles. Then we leave it to see some *Darlingtonia* bogs/fens, where rare plants like *Streptanthus howellii*, *Arctostaphylos hispidula*, *Carex scarbriuscula*, *Viola primulifolia* var. *occidentalis*, and possibly *Gentiana setigera* and/or *Silene serpentinicola* grow. A 2-mile extension involving river fording may occur; wear appropriate clothing. Leader: Clint Emerson, 541-247-3656.

July 19, Sunday, 9:30 am

Field Trip: Bear Camp. On the crest between Galice and Gold Beach, this area at the meeting of the Klamath, Coast Range, and Cascade regions is geographically and botanically influenced by all three. See a mix of plant species, some far out of their normal range. If coming from points east: meet 9 am, Grants Pass Fred Meyer parking lot, near the gas station (two blocks down Grants Pass Parkway/Redwood Hwy. from I5, Exit 55). Alex Maksymowicz will lead. If coming from coastal areas: meet 9 am at the Gold Beach Forest Service Ranger Station, 29279 Ellensburg Ave. (aka Hwy 101). Norm

Jensen will lead. The groups join at the Bear Creek overlook about 10:30 am. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, camera; prepare for unlikely bad weather. Questions? Contact Norm at normjensen@gmail.com.

Other trips in July/August include: (details in July Bulletin)

Saturday July 25 – Dutchman Peak.

Leader: Jim Duncan.

Sunday, July 26 - Lee Web's traditional evening Mt. Elijah and Bigelow Lakes hike.

Saturday, August 1 – Bolan Lake field trip. Leader: John Roth.

Saturday, August 8 - Alex Hole, Siskiyou Crest. Leader: Barbara Mumblo.

Saturday, August 15 – Squaw Meadow, Mt. Shasta field trip. Leader: Alex Maksymowicz.

Saturday, August 29 – Mt. Elijah and Bigelow Lakes field trip. Leader: Norm Jensen.

Umpqua Valley

Visit <http://www.umpquavalley.npsoregon.org> for more information on chapter activities.

June 11, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: Program to be arranged, followed by our monthly business meeting. Learn more about our chapter at our meetings or at the chapter website, <http://www.umpquavalley.npsoregon.org>. We meet every second Thursday at 7 pm in Room 1 of the Mercy Community Education Building, 2459 NW Stewart Parkway, Roseburg. Questions? Contact Donna Rawson, 541-459-2821.

June 20, Saturday, 9 am-12 pm

Please join us for **Rough Popcornflower monitoring** at the City of Sutherlin Park, on East Central Ave. (a few blocks east of the Library). In 2007, the count (done on hands and knees) was about 3,000 of the tiny plants in the big portion of the population, and 38 in the east portion; in 2008, the population

had grown considerably to over 8,500. Each year we learn more valuable facts about its ecology. Refreshments will be provided at the end of the counting! For more information, call Sam Friedman at 541-673-0589.

Willamette Valley

June 13, Saturday, 9 am-2 pm

Field Trip: Kingston Prairie Preserve.

This 52-acre Nature Conservancy Preserve southeast of Stayton is the best example of native prairie remaining in the central Willamette Valley. Both wet and dry prairie habitats harbor native grasses and host several rare wildflowers. Bring water and lunch. For directions

or questions, call John Savage at 503-399-8615 after 7 pm.

William Cusick

Visit our website at <http://williamcusick.npsoregon.org> for updates and general information.

The William Cusick chapter will be holding a series of spring/early summer field trips, including some to Hell's Canyon and the End Creek restoration area. Please check the chapter website (above) for further details.



NPSO Items for Sale

Native Notecards. Beautiful, high-quality notecards with art by Terry Peasley, Cheahmill chapter member, are available. See the cards at <http://www.terrypeasleyart.com/pages/cards>. Eight cards are offered through NPSO's Cheahmill chapter: trillium horizontal, trillium vertical, fawn lily, red columbine with hummingbirds, varied thrush on oak, kingfisher on red osier dogwood, Bewick's wren on Douglas spirea, and western tanagers on oak. The cost is \$3 each including envelopes, or 4 for \$10. Contact Marna Porath at P.O. Box 726, Amity, OR 97101, marna@onlinemac.com or 503-835-1042.

Booklets on Gardening with Native Plants. Emerald Chapter's three booklets about native plants of the southern Willamette Valley are "Native Herbaceous Plants in Our Gardens," "Native Shrubs in Our Gardens," and "Native Trees in Our Gardens." \$8.00/set of three, mail order. Individual booklets sold from the NGAP booth, at Down-To-Earth, or by check made out to "Emerald Chapter NPSO" with "NGAP Gardening Guides" in the memo line to P.O. Box 902, Eugene OR 97440-0902. Also see online in PDF format at <http://www.emeraldnpso.org> Click on "Gardening with Native Plants."

Field Guide to Shrubs of Southwest Oregon. An 80-page, pocket-sized field guide identifies 56 of the most frequently-encountered shrubs in SW Oregon, and describes each species in detail with words and photos, including habitat, leaves, twigs, fruit, and flowers. Dichotomous keys, illustrations of common plant parts and glossary included. Janet Walker, NPSO Siskiyou chapter member, and Max Bennet, Forestry Agent with Jackson/Josephine Counties. \$7/copy; checks payable to "OSU Extension Service." Mail to Shrub Guide, Jackson County Extension, 569 Hanley Rd., Central Point, OR 97502.

Poseidon's Necklace. Don Begnoche, Siskiyou chapter, has issued an Oregon field guide covering the coastal section, mile by mile, from Astoria to Brookings. Genesis of the coastal landscape and flora found on dunes, headlands and montane slopes; over 500 landscape and floral photographs as well as geologic maps and illustrations. PDF format on a CD. \$19.95 + \$2.50 s/h. Mail checks to Don Begnoche, 439 Herbert St., Ashland, OR 97520

OTHER EVENTS

Berry Botanic Garden

All events will be held at The Berry Botanic Garden, 11505 SW Summerville Ave., Portland, 97219. Unless otherwise noted, for more information or to register, call 503-636-4112 x102 or register@berrybot.org.

Larch Mountain Hike

June 18, Thursday, 10 am-4 pm

A pleasant 6-mile loop wanders through an old growth forest, marshy meadow, and verdant creek. Great views from this old volcano. Free, but donations welcome! Space limited; register in advance.

Bella Madrona Garden Tour

June 21, Sunday, 2 pm-4 pm

Five acres of whimsical and sophisticated gardens, including woody native groves. Wine and refreshments. \$25. Registration required. Location details provided to registrants.

Nearby Nature

Waterwise Garden

August 22, 10 am-12 pm

View and experience this garden, which emphasizes prudent use of water and includes many native plants. Children will also enjoy a snack and a visit from a costumed "Kinder Critter." Meet at the Alton Baker Park Host Residence (between dog run and community gardens). \$2/person or \$5/family. Preregister at 541-687-9699.

North American Butterfly Association

Hike: Butterflies and Their Native Plants in West Eugene Wetlands

June 7, Sunday, 1 pm

Meet at the Red House on Danebo. For questions and to preregister, call Ellie

Ryan, 541-684-8973 or contact her at woodnymph3000@gmail.com.

Flower/Butterfly Hike at Tire Mountain

June 14, Sunday, 9 am

Meet at Campbell Senior Center parking lot, 155 High St., Eugene at 9 am. Group size limited to 18. For questions and to preregister, call Ellie Ryan, 541-684-8973 or contact her at woodnymph3000@gmail.com.

Fetton Green Butterfly Trip

June 20, Saturday, 9 am

Contact Ellie Ryan to preregister: 541-684-8973 or woodnymph3000@gmail.com.

Butterfly Counts and Identification at Mt. Pisgah, West Eugene Wetlands, Spencer's Butte, and more

June 28, Sunday (first of two)

Places we'll visit include Mt. Pisgah, West Eugene Wetlands, Spencer's Butte, and more to look for butterflies on the native plants. Beginners welcome. \$3 fee. Call/e-mail Ellie for more information: 541-684-8973; woodnymph3000@gmail.com.

North Mountain Park Nature Center

620 N. Mountain Ave, Ashland, <http://www.northmountainpark.org>. To register visit <http://ashlandparks.recware.com> or call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606. Registration required unless otherwise noted.

Lithia Park Nature Walk

May 1 – September 30

Sundays – Wednesdays – Fridays

10 am – 11:30 am

1.5 hour walk through Lithia Park. No registration required. Free. Meet at entrance to Lithia Park.

Invasive Plant Removal in Ashland Parks and Public Lands

June 9, Tuesday, 7 pm-8:30 pm

June 20, Saturday, 9 am-11:30 am;

July 7, Tuesday, 7 pm-8:30 pm

Two dates in August

Register by phone (541-488-6606) or online (<http://ashlandparks.recware.com>). Tools, gloves, and snacks provided.

Demonstration Garden Tours

June 10 and 27, Wednesday and Saturday, 9:30 am-10:30 am

July 8 and 25, Wednesday and Saturday, 9:30 am-10:30 am

August 12 and 22, Wednesday and Saturday, 9:30 am-10:30 am

See varied garden types, including native plant garden(s).

Basics of Fire/Forest Interaction

June 20, Saturday, 9 am- 12 pm.

Meet at the Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink, 95 Winbum Way, Lithia Park. Free. Please preregister at <http://ashlandparks.recware.com>.

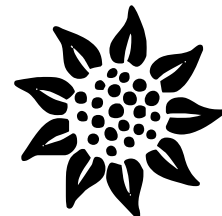
Siskiyou Project

Learn more about the Siskiyou Project and the botanical diversity of the Siskiyou Wild Rivers Area at <http://www.siskiyou.org>.

Hike: Rogue River Trail

July 25, September 19; Saturday, 10 am

Carpools leave the Gooseberries Natural Foods parking lot, 1533 NE "F" St., Grants Pass at 10 am and meet at Graves Creek Boat Ramp at 11 am. Moderate hike of 5-7 miles. Bring food, water, hiking shoes, layered clothing. For information, call Shane Jimerfield, 541-476-6648 (office) or 541-499-2064 (cell/txt).



aborted flowers and poor fruit production at the majority of the sites we visited. One Benton county site was particularly distressing; a population of over 1,000 Kincaid's Lupine plants produced no more than 30 fruits. But despite these initial challenges, we were able to collect seed from a large number of Kincaid's Lupine population. Because the lupine fruits shatter and disperse seeds as they mature, we tied mesh seed collection bags around immature fruits and collected them after the fruits had opened.

Bradshaw's Lomatium, also known as Bradshaw's Desert Parsley, is another federally listed endangered species



Anna Dennis scoping for *Camas* collections

endemic to the Willamette Valley. In April and May, Bradshaw's Lomatium is in bloom with clusters of small yellow flowers adorning thin stalks. Unlike several other species of Lomatium, Bradshaw's grows relatively low to the ground.

In late May to early June, we collected seeds of Bradshaw's Lomatium from sites in Benton, Lane, Marion, and Linn counties. Early fruit is bright green with an oblong and double winged shape. As the fruit matures and is ready to be harvested, the fruits turn brown and papery as the two wings of the fruit split apart. At this stage, the



Reintroduced Bradshaw's Desert Parsley at a restoration site

seeds can be easily picked. 2008 appeared to be a fairly productive year for Bradshaw's Lomatium—we visited several sites with thousands of fruiting plants.

Nelson's *Sidalcea* (formerly known as Nelson's Checkermallow) is a threatened species that can be found throughout most of the Willamette Valley. It is shorter than most other *Sidalcea*, has an inflorescence of small, dark pink flowers and produces cup shaped fruit. Each "cup" contains several seeds which appear brown and dry when ready to be picked.

We faced two challenges collecting Nelson's *Sidalcea*. The first major hurdle was the identification and differentiation of this particular species from other *Sidalcea* of the Willamette Valley. Once out of flower, the distinguishing characteristics between the plants become hazy and definitive identification becomes extremely difficult. The other challenge was that a significant amount of seed had been damaged by weevils known as small snout beetles. We saw a great number of beetles swarming the plants and our collection bags. To help with this problem, we stored the seed we collected in a freezer for two days and then added a small amount

of diatomaceous earth to kill any weevils that survived being frozen. We are hopeful that these post-collection measures minimized any further harm to the seeds.

By the end of summer, 2008, we had accumulated a good amount of seed from these four threatened and endangered plant species. The seed will eventually go into production fields to increase plant materials available for local restoration projects. With any luck, the work done last season will help to boost the slowly declining populations and restore some of the genetic variation of these four unique Willamette Valley species.

Annual Meeting: Need a Place to Stay?

If you receive this issue in time to attend the Annual Meeting, here's a possible place to stay:

NPSO member Berta Youtie has rented a house in Yachats for Friday, June 5th and Saturday, June 6th, and has room for four to share it, at \$25/night. 541-447-8166 or byoutie@crestviewcable.com.

Two Northwest Region Orchids Strut Their Stuff

The tremendous appeal of the orchid is undeniable, mainly because this large family of plants (around 23,000 species worldwide) is unique and bears flowers of unparalleled variety. Some resemble birds in flight, others suggest insects, animals, fanciful figures, or faces. Flower shapes range from flat and open (as in *Phalaenopsis*); complex (as in *Stanhopea* and *Coryanthes*); frilled-edged (*Oncidium*); pointy-petaled (*Zygopetalums*) and lady slipper shape (*Paphiopedilums* or *Cypripediums*).

The Pacific Northwest actually has quite a few orchids that call it home, all very beautiful in their own quiet (or not) way. None are as showy as the Mountain Ladyslipper and the Fairyslipper. Neither of these are saprophytes; both have green stems and leaves which may be withered by the time the plant produces blooms.

The flowers of the Mountain Ladyslipper (*Cypripedium montanum*), a member of the orchid family, look

quite a bit like those of *Calypso bulbosa*, the Fairyslipper, also an orchid. Each has a “lip” which has been expanded into a pouch-like structure. And each has wonderfully fragrant and colorful blooms, *Calypso*’s of a rose-purple color and *Cypripedium*’s being white with purple veins. Mountain Ladyslipper has touches of copper in the sepals and some petals, and its rhizomatous stem is 20-70 (and sometimes to 100) cm tall. Legend has it, and this may well be true, that it takes this orchid 15 years to flower. Growers must obviously have an abundance of patience. The Latin name *Cypripedium* means “Aphrodite’s Foot,” referring to the shape of the flower’s lower lip; Kypris was an old name for Aphrodite (or Venus).

Not to be outdone, Fairyslipper (a much smaller plant overall) has an interesting history to its Latin name, *Calypso bulbosa*, as well. Calypso was a goddess made famous in Homer’s *Odyssey* who took the form of a beautiful nymph hidden in the woods on

the island of Ogygia who was found by the shipwrecked Odysseus. “Calypso” means “concealment.” The plant is found at low to middle elevations, mostly in forests whose soil is rich with leaf mould, under which it can conceal itself.

Fairyslipper’s large lower lip is yellow to whitish and streaked and spotted with royal purple. There is a cluster of golden hairs above and a spotted, double spur below the lip. Its single, dark green leaves are produced in the fall at the top of the corm, lasting through the winter but withering in summer. Stems are very delicate, yellow-purple to brown-purple in color, 10-25 cm tall. Its corms are attached by easily-broken, delicate roots, and though widespread originally, this orchid is rapidly being exterminated in more populated areas by picking and trampling.

Both orchids are dazzling...but dazzle extracts a price. If you happen upon either or both of them in the woods, realize how fortunate you are to see some of most beautiful species of orchids anywhere—and pass on, keeping their location a secret between you and Mother Nature.

The information about these two orchids was drawn almost entirely from Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast compiled and edited by Jim Pojar and Andy MacKinnon, Lone Pine Publishing, 1994.



ANDREW KRATZ, USDA FOREST SERVICE

Mountain Ladyslipper is agreeable to many habitats: dry to moist, fairly open woods to roadsides. The sepals of the flower are copper-colored, with a long, twisted form.

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A comprehensive, cumulative index for *Kalmiopsis*, volumes 1-15 has been available for a few months now. It covers all articles, authors, book reviews, subjects such as NPSO Fellows and Plants of the Year, and more, that have appeared in all the *Kalmiopsis* issues to date. It is in a PDF format file. A link for accessing it can be found in the Newest Site Updates section on the home page of the NPSO website: <http://npsoregon.org>.

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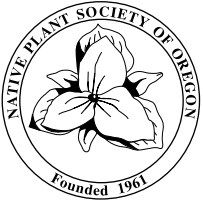
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