Bulletin

of the

Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 43, No. 6

JULY 2010

Lawrence Grasslands Fieldtrip NPSO Annual Meeting, Clarno, June 2010

by Jim Long, Umpqua Chapter

Our driver-guide-interpreter suddenly seemed to remember the bumper sticker "We brake for wildflowers." He slowed, pointed out the window, and commented he'd photograph the blazing big-headed clover on our way back.

This hike was on The Nature Conservancy's 370-acre Lawrence Memorial Grassland Preserve. Our guide, Dr. Stu Garrett, had helped establish the Newberry National Volcanic Monument 10 miles south of Bend in 1990. A hiking companion was Paul



Big-headed clover ablaze during NPSO hike to Lawrence Memorial Grassland Preserve



Horned lizard enjoying Stu Garrett's warm hands the morning of our hike

Schlichter, photographer, plant enthusiast and writer about hiking the Pacific Northwest.

The Lawrence Preserve in the scab lands of the 3,000 to 4,000-foot Shaniko Plateau is dominated by tall native bunchgrasses on the scattered deep soil "biscuits" known as Mima Mounds which today still puzzle geologists. The Preserve so well illustrates Oregon's native meadow-shrub steppe communities that the Department of Interior named the Preserve a National Natural Landmark, one of only a few in the Pacific Northwest. It honors University of

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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.

Oregon's Own "Resource Extraction" Debacle

by Rhoda Love, Emerald Chapter

Every nature-lover is appalled by the photographs of oil spilling relentlessly into the Gulf of Mexico destroying vegetation and wildlife. But here in Oregon we should also be concerned with the outcome of another ill-conceived scheme to extract mineral wealth from a pristine landscape. I refer to the 2003 seeding of many acres in southwestern Josephine County with the invasive European annual, *Alyssum murale*, known by the common name "yellow tuft."

This fast-growing member of the mustard family is known to be a "hyper-accumulator" of heavy metals, and was planted in the Kerby area supposedly to sequester nickel from the mineral-rich soils. Viridian Resources of Texas oversaw the planting of thousands of *A. murale* seeds with the promise that all would be harvested before flowering and seed set. We know now of course that the promise was not kept; the plants were not harvested in time. As might have been anticipated, the project was an economic failure for Viridian; the alien allysum has spread through the Kirby area and is moving into the unique and vulnerable Rough and Ready Botanical Wayside.

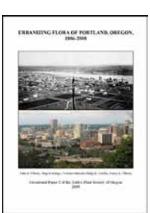
An article by reporter Jeff Duewel of the *Grants Pass Daily Courier*, which was reprinted in the May 26 *Eugene Register-Guard* provides an excellent account of the boondoggle and what will now take place to try to mitigate against the spread of this rapacious annual invader which has no natural enemies in Oregon. Viridian Resources has donated funds to try to undo the environmental disaster --does this sound familiar? Herbicides have been sprayed south of O'Brien and many volunteers are hand-pulling the plants at Rough and Ready. The alyssum has also spread to other nearby areas due to local flooding in December 2005. And I am dismayed to learn that the plant has recently been spotted on Eight Dollar Mountain. One can't help but remember the folk song of the 1960s: "When Will They Ever Learn?"

Now Available: NPSO Occasional Paper 3

Urbanizing Flora of Portland, Oregon, 1806-2008

NPSO Occasional Paper 3: 1-315. by John A. Christy, Angela Kimpo, Vernon Marttala, Philip K. Gaddis, and Nancy L. Christy (2009)

This compilation of the vascular plants of the Portland-Vancouver area analyzes changes in the region's vegetation that have occurred since 1806. A total of 1,556 taxa in 125 families are represented in a catalog that compares historical conditions with those of today. Based on herbarium specimens, publications, and unpublished manuscripts, it tracks the changing fortunes of native and exotic species shaped by an expanding urban environment. It includes a history of botany in



Portland, a gazetteer of historical and modern place names, botanical miscellanea from 19th and early 20th century Portland, and lists of rare spe-

cies for use by local planners and land managers.

Price: \$15 postpaid, checks payable to Native Plant Society of Oregon. Orders: Prepaid only Contact: John Christy

7050 SW Canyon Crest Drive Portland, OR 97225-3623 john.christy@oregonstate.edu Please remember to include your mailing address and telephone number.

NPSO CALENDAR

Blue Mountain

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

Cheahmill

For more information visit the chapter Web site: www.oregon-nativeplants.com

No chapter meetings June through August, but field trip opportunities exist. Email Marna Porath, program chair, at marna@onlinemac.com or call at her 503-835-1042 to be notified when dates are announced.

July 13, Tuesday, 5 - 7 pm

Summer Work Party: Native plant garden at the McMinnville Library. New volunteers are always welcome. Bring gloves and your own garden tools. Please let Susan know that you're planning to attend. 503-538-1865, helgesusan@comcast.net.

Upcoming Events:

Fieldtrip: Walker Flat ACEC. BLM manager Kurt Heckeroth will lead a weekday field trip to Walker Flat ACEC, but a date has not been set. He also will lead a work party at Yampo ACEC on a weekend, also no date yet.

Work Party: The Nature Conservancy will offer a plant survey day to augment their list at Yamhill Oaks for NPSO members only; this date has not been set, either. The chapter is participating in The Nature Conservancy work party at Yamhill Oaks on Aug. 14; there is a wait list for last-minute cancellations.

Corvallis

For questions, information on upcoming events, or to be on the Corvallis chapter email list, contact Laurel Moulton at lamoulto@yahoo.com.

July 10, Saturday, 8 am

Field Trip: Iron Mountain. Spectacular wildflowers with over 200 species of vascular plants recorded along this botanically rich trail west of Santiam Pass. The all-day hike will be approximately

5 miles through moderately difficult terrain. Bring good boots, lunch, and water. Directions: Meet at 8 AM at the OSU parking lot SW of The Beanery, 26th and Monroe, Corvallis. Information: Contact Dan Luoma, 541-752-8860.

Emerald

The Emerald Chapter Web site has a new address: http://emerald.npsoregon.org. Though the address is different, the site still has all of the latest chapter events, plant lists and botanical information about Lane County plants and the people who love them.

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.

June 26, Saturday, 9 am

Field trip: Sahalie Falls and Sand Mountain Lookout. Sahalie Falls pours over the southernmost edge of the Sand Mountain lava flow that dammed Clear Lake. After stopping there to meet Don Allen of the Sand Mountain Society and look at the falls, we will continue to Sand Mountain to see alpine wildflowers and habitat restoration work. The Sand Mountain hike is approximately 3 miles with an 800-foot elevation gain. Bring hiking shoes, warm clothing, snacks, and water. Meet at 9 am at South Eugene HS or Thurston area Albertsons (far NE Parking). Information: 541-746-9478.

July 10, Saturday, 8:00 am Field Trip: Tour of Upper Elk Meadows South of Cottage Grove. Led by Alan B. Curtis. We will leave South Eugene High School parking lot at 8 am. The site is 30 miles southeast of Cottage Grove on paved roads. Elevation of the meadow is 4,000 feet. Over 200 species of vascular plants have been identified here. Of special interest is Frasera umpquaensis at its most northerly location. Surrounding the meadow is an old-growth Abies amabilis, Abies grandis and Pseudotsuga menziesii forest. Wear boots as we will cross the meadow. There is no trail and we will walk about 1 1/2 miles. Bring lunch and water. Return to Eugene by 4 pm. Information: Alan at 541-345-2571.

September 20, Monday, 7:30 pm Meeting: Rare and Endangered Plants of the McKenzie River Water**shed.** What is a rare plant and why are some plants rare? Charlene Simpson, Emerald Chapter R & E Co-Chair, explores these questions and discusses plants found in the McKenzie River watershed that are of conservation concern with few known populations or whose survival is threatened by natural or human caused events. Charlene draws from her 30-year slide archive to illustrate her program. EWEB Training Room at 500 East 4th Avenue, Eugene. Information: 541-746-9478.

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@NPSOregon.org.

Klamath Basin

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

Mid-Columbia

No meetings are scheduled for July and August.

North Coast

For information on the North Coast Chapter call Janet Stahl at 503-842-8708.

July 11, Sunday, 1 pm

Field Trip: Janet Stahl will lead an easy walk to see spring plants in bloom on the Bay Ocean Sand Spit. Participants may walk the spit on the ocean side or the bay side. Meet at the parking lot, at 1:00 pm. Directions: From Tillamook, West on 3rd. St., turn right at large sign to Cape Meares and Cape Meares Lighthouse, follow along Tillamook Bay to Large Sign on right explaining the Bay Ocean Sand Spit, turn right, drive to end of the road parking lot. Information: 503-842-8708 or jjs@oregoncoast. com

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.

July 11, Sunday, 10 am

Field Trip: Balch Creek. Meet at the parking lot at lower trail head on Upshur. Balch Creek gently winds its way up from trail head to the Upper Macleay Park trail head near the Audubon Society on Cornell road. What lies between is one of the most beautiful

urban canyons to be found in the area. We will be walking at a measured botanical pace and the hike should last around 2-3 hours. Directions: From I-405 in downtown, take exit 3 for Highway 30 towards St. Helens. Immediately exit onto NW Vaughn Street and drive .3 miles to NW 26th Street. Turn left, make an almost immediate right onto NW Upshur Street, and then follow Upshur for half a mile to the parking area at the end of the street. Find the path by walking under the suspension bridge. The park will funnel you towards the trail. Public Transportation: The Sunday Bus # 77 will get you to the stop at 27th and Vaughn, you will have to walk up Upshur to Lower Macleay Park for about 4-5 blocks. Look on Trimet web site for bus schedules. Information: Contact Erin Riggs at erin.riggs14@gmail.com for questions or carpool.

July 31, Saturday, Time TBA Field Trip: Mt. Hood Meadows Trail

667. Search subalpine and alpine meadows and balds for mountain flowers and sedges with spectacular views south and east. Gentians, buckwheats, goldenrods and butterflies galore! The trail climbs 1200 feet from Mt. Hood Meadows parking lot to the top of ski lifts. About 6 miles with some steep cross-country rambling included. Contact Paul Slichter for more info, meeting time and place at 503-661-3292 or pslichter@verizon.net.

August 15, Sunday, Time TBA Field Trip: Gifford Pinchot N.F.

Huckleberries. Hike near the southern Cascade crest in search of late huckleberry flowers and ripening berries. We will also spend time along the road near one of the leader's favorite berry patches (bring appropriate collection devices). Destination to be determined by ripening of the berries. Drive distance up to 120 miles. Contact Paul Slichter for meeting time and place at 503-661-3292 or pslichter@verizon.net.

Siskiyou

The Siskiyou chapter e-mails meeting reminders and last-minute information

such as field trip cancellations. To be added to the list, please send your e-mail address to oregonbk@mind.net.

June 26, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Bolan Lake area. Located within the confluence of the Klamath Mountains and the Coast Range, with influences from the Cascades, the region at the top of Happy Camp Road above the Illinois Valley offers a host of botanical attractions. We will drive from Happy Camp Road to Bolan Lake, exploring several spots along the way that showcase varying geology and plant habitats, including pine forest, serpentine outcrops, and marsh/fen areas. Bolan Lake has a fine Forest Service campground which may be open by the end of June. Directions: Meet at 9 am at the O'Brien Store, 6.5 miles south of Cave Junction on U.S. 199. Information: Contact Norm Jensen at normjensen@gmail.com.

July 3, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Grizzly Peak. Walk between walls of tower larkspur and monkshood to the top of Grizzly Peak, and then check out the summer bloom along the loop trail. Distance: 5 miles; elevation gain: 1,350 feet. Directions: Meet at 9 am behind the Oil Stop on Ashland St, just west of the BiMart/ Shop 'n Kart parking lot in Ashland, about 1/4 mile west of I-5, exit 14. Information: Contact Alex Maksymowicz at 541-482-1964

July 4, Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm

Event: 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 Siskiyous, and the valleys in between. Free admission. Information: Contact Jim Duncan at 541-482-7629.

July 17, Saturday, 4 pm

Field Trip: Bigelow Lakes Moonlight Hike. Lee Webb's Traditional Evening Mt Elijah and Bigelow Lakes Hike! Lee will show us ideal places for botanizing

and long-eared owl and bat watching. Bring dinner, warm clothes, flashlight, and sturdy hiking boots. Nearly a full moon and a good way to escape the heat in the valley. Directions: Meet at 4 pm at the Illinois Valley Visitor Center, Cave Junction (1/2 block from Hwy. 199 on Hwy. 46); return by midnight. Information: Contact Lee at 541-479-6859.

July 24, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Willow Witt Ranch. At nearly a mile high in the Southern Cascades near Ashland, Oregon, our 440 acres feature meadows, conifer and oak woodlands, springs, wetlands, and streams flowing from the crest of the Bear Creek Watershed. A tour of Willow-Witt Ranch brings together Southern Oregon's historic past, innovative present, and sustainable future. Directions: Meet at 7:50 am behind the Oil Stop on Ashland St, just west of the BiMart/Shop 'n Kart parking lot in Ashland, about 1/4 mi west of I-5, exit 14. Information: Contact Sasha Joachims at sasharain71@gmail.com or 541-661-3492.

July 31, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Mt. Ashland, Rabbit Ears and Grouse Gap. Enjoy the midsummer bloom on Mt Ashland. We will visit the summit area, Rabbit Ears, and Grouse Meadows. Expect 1-2 miles of easy walking with modest elevation gain. Directions: Meet at 9 am behind the Oil Stop on Ashland St, just west of the BiMart/Shop 'n Kart parking lot in Ashland, about 1/4 mi west of I-5, exit 14. Information: Contact Alex Maksymowicz at 541-482-1964.

Umpqua Valley

Visit www.umpquavalley. npsoregon.org for more information on chapter activities.

July 8, Thursday, 6 pm (Program at 7 pm)

Meeting: Note Time and Place change. We will have our business meeting starting at 6 pm at the Douglas County Museum. Gardner Chappell has invited Umpqua Valley Chapter to hold our meeting there again this month. Program: Photo highlights of the NPSO annual meeting held in Clarno. Jim Long and Sam Friedman will talk about the annual meeting they attended and show us photo highlights of several field trips they participated in while in Clarno. **Directions:** I-5 to exit 123. Museum address is 123 Museum Drive, Roseburg, Oregon. Information: Contact Donna Rawson during the evening at 541-459-2821.

July 10, Saturday, 8 am

Field trip: Cougar Bluff. We will be taking a field trip up the North Umpqua River with a destination of Cougar Bluff. Watch our website and email alerts for more information. This will be an all day trip.

July 24, Saturday, 8 am

Field trip: Fish Creek Meadows. Fish Creek Meadows is located near Fish Mountain. We will see a wide assortment of native plants in bloom including several different species of *Mimulus* and *Penstemon* as well as *Viola macloskeyi* and *Ribes erythrocarpum*. Bring lunch, drinking water, and hiking boots or appropriate shoes to keep your feet dry. Directions: Meet at the corner of Fowler St. and Diamond Lake Blvd., (behind the Douglas County Courthouse) to carpool. Information: Contact Sam Friedman at 503-358-9526.

August 7, Saturday, 8 am Field Trip: Twin Lakes Overlook.

This trip will take us to the trailhead that leads down to Twin Lakes. Not only is the view spectacular, but the abundance of different plants that will be blooming is fantastic. We should see orchids, saprophytes such as candy stick (*Allotropa listeria*), Pinesap, and Pinedrops. Bring lunch, drinking water, and hiking boots or shoes. Directions: Meet at the corner of Fowler St and Diamond Lake Blvd at 8 am to carpool. Information: Contact Sam Friedman at 503-358-9526.

Willamette Valley

For program information contact John Savage at 503-399-8615

Saturday, July 3, 7 am - 5:30 pm

Field Trip: Iron Mountain. Enjoy one of the best summer wildflower hikes in Oregon. Iron Mountain has over 300 different species of flowers amid stands of trees and meadows. John Savage will lead the all-day hike over a seven-mile loop with elevation gain. Bring food and water. Sponsored by the Willamette Valley Chapter of the Native Plant Society. Information: For more information and to register, call 503-399-8615 after 7 pm. Free and open to the public.

William Cusick

Visit our Web site at http://williamcusick. npsoregon.org for updates and general information.

No chapter meetings for May through August, but watch for field trip opportunities during this time. Meetings will resume in September.

OTHER EVENTS

North American Butterfly Association

We are pleased to present a full schedule of field trips in July. July is the best month locally for butterflies and their flowers. For more information about these trips and to register, call Ellie at 541-684-8973 or e-mail at woodnymph3000@gmail.com.

July 7, Wednesday, 8 am

Field Trip: Metolius Seeps and Prairies. We are fortunate to be guided on this trip by Susan Anderson, an entomologist and naturalist who lives in Sisters. Another title for this hike could be *Sorting Out the Blues* because 7 to 8 species are anticipated.

July 17, Saturday, 8 am (Formerly scheduled in June)

Field Trip: Mary's Peak—the Queen of the Coast Range. NABA members,

Randy and Pam Comelo will be our guides for exploration in their home grounds of Mary's Peak.

July 24, Saturday, 8 am
Field Trip: July Butterfly Count at
Browder Ridge, Iron Mt., and Cone
Pk. Our annual count in the meadows
of the central Cascades each year finds
almost 40 species and hundreds of indi-

vidual butterflies.

Ashland Parks and Recreation

Saturdays (July and August only), Sundays, Wednesdays & Fridays, May 2 - September 29, 10 to 11:30 am

Field Trip: Lithia Park Nature Walks, Ashland. Trained volunteer naturalists lead an easy, interesting 1.5 hour nature walk through Lithia Park. Topics

include: trees, flowers, birds, climate, water, geology and the history of the park. Nature walks are free. Please meet us at the park entrance, across from the Plaza in Ashland. Walks are provided by the Ashland Parks & Recreation Department. All ages welcome. Free. Preregistration is not required. Directions: Meet at Lithia Park entrance, Ashland. Information: Call 541-488-5340 or visit www.AshlandParksandRec.org.

Lawrence Grasslands, continued from page 1

Minnesota's Donald Lawrence, professor of botany and ecology.

Among its 150 plus blooming plants were five lomatiums, an onion, and larkspur. Stu Garret wanted us to not miss a thing, even a friendly horned lizard and the microbiotic crust, a coating of lichens, mosses, and fungi growing on the shallow soil that receives less than a dozen inches of precipitation a year. Over 130 species of lichens, bryophytes and fungi have been inventoried on the Preserve; 45 lichens were previously unreported in Oregon before the Preserve was established in 1974; two were seen in the U.S. for the first time in the Lawrence Grassland Preserve. Five species here are found on the state's endangered plant list: Western spring beauty, rock onion, John Day Valley biscuitroot, bristle flowered collomia, and Henderson's ricegrass. At lunch we sampled a carefully selected Indian celery (Lomatium nudicaule).

Just beyond the boundary fence at the end of a leisurely but intense hike, Stu Garret dug up a biscuitroot (*Lomatium cous*) and offered tidbits for us to taste. Then he turned to photograph the big-headed clover.

For more information about the Lawrence Memorial Grassland Preserve for education and research, readers may contact The Nature Conservancy in Portland, 503.228.9561, and Google the Preserve.



New Pacific Northwest Wildflower iPhone Application

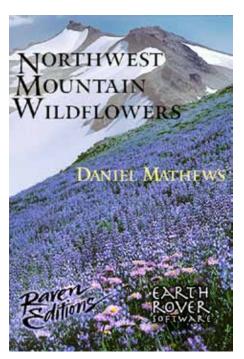
A handy new field guide

by Daniel Matthews

I have prepared a field guide for iPhone and iPod touch, called Northwest Mountain Wildflowers, based on my books *Cascade-Olympic Natural History* and *Rocky Mountain Natural History*, expected to be available at the iTunes store by late June.

This electronic field guide covers 500 species, illustrated with more than 700 photos, and it weighs nothing, or at least adds nothing to the weight of your mobile device. The content is entirely contained in memory; you do not need to be online when using it. You can search by any of several criteria, and in the index you can choose whether you look at scientific names (including synonyms), common names (including several alternates), or scientific and common mixed together. The Oregon Flora Project was used as the top authority on accepted scientific names.

The range covered is similar to Hitchcock and Cronquist, but slightly greater in the east, but does not include the Klamath Range. The 500 species are herbs, exclusive of grasslike plants, plus a few subshrubs small enough to be mistaken for herbs. A companion app covering the trees and shrubs is expected to be released by the end of the year. The software was written by Chris Leger, who has already done a number of wildflower apps with Earthrover



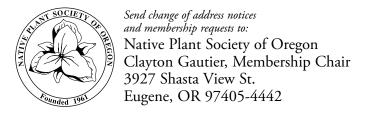
Software.

Though identification comes first, you will also find many pages of "Natural History" text on topics including ecology, mycorrhizal connections, interesting adaptations, plant uses among the native peoples, explanations of the names, recent taxonomic changes, and more. There are articles on naturalist-explorers whom plants are named after, on each plant family, and on each physiographic region or mountain range.

Based on Cascade-Olympic Natural History and Rocky Mountain Natural History, by Daniel Mathews. For additional information, look up Northwest Mountain Wildflowers on the iTunes store, or go to www.earthrover.org. Available for \$9.99.

Native Plant Society of Oregon Membership Form

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Eugene, OR 97405-4442	also be e-mailed to Membership@NPSOregon.org.
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Friends of the Oregon Flora Project

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Stephen Meyers will be joining the OFP staff as our new taxonomic director. Stephen has contributed to Oregon Flora Project efforts in many different capacities. He began working with the OFP in 2002 as a post baccalaureate student, and was a lead worker during that summer's blitz of herbarium specimen databasing. He subsequently became a graduate student, earning his masters under Dr. Aaron Liston and his Ph.D. with Aaron and Dr. Robert Meinke studying taxonomic questions in the Plantaginaceae and Limnanthaceae. During that time, Stephen enthusiastically contributed his expertise

as both a student employee and a volunteer. Years of work with OFP databases and his abiding interest in Oregon floristics make Dr. Meyers the ideal scientist to immediately contribute to the writing and taxonomic editing of the new *Flora of Oregon*. Welcome, Stephen!

Help ensure the timely completion of the Flora of Oregon under Dr. Meyers' leadership with a generous contribution made payable to the Agricultural Research Foundation (include "OFP-4482" on the memo line) and mailed directly to the foundation at: Agricultural Research Foundation, Oregon State University, 100 Strand Ag Hall, Corvallis, OR 97331-2219.