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Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

November 2020

Volume 53, No. 9



Oregon's fall colors. Photo by Lisa Schomaker.

We hope you enjoy the November eBulletin!

Seeking new eBulletin editor! Are you interested in contributing to our monthly eBulletin? Our current editor is transitioning to a new job and will be passing the baton of editorial duty in the next few months. Please email bulletin@npsoregon.org if

you'd like to help out or have any questions about the responsibilities. Training in MailChimp (or similar) will be provided!

Membership Renewal Note: This year, membership renewal notices will go out early in December. Throughout November we will be testing a new membership management service with the hopes of launching it for renewal season. If you would like to join the Membership Committee and be part of the team, please contact membership@npsoregon.org - Margaret Conover, NPSO Membership Chair

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If you have any questions, please contact us at bulletin@npsoregon.org.

Leading and Learning from a Distance: A New Era of Fieldwork

**By Nadav Mouallem, Crew Lead
Institute for Applied Ecology's Conservation Research Internship Program**

In the spring of 2017, after receiving my cap and gown from Reed College in Portland, I accepted the position as NPSO Conservation Research Intern with the [Institute for Applied Ecology](#) (IAE) in Corvallis. This was the start of my ecological career and my first field season monitoring many of Oregon's native and threatened plants, and I was more than excited.

Our projects took us from the sagebrush steppe of eastern Oregon to the shores of Willapa Bay. The 2017 season flew by and left me in awe of Oregon's natural landscapes,

cementing my love for ecological work. Now, three years later, I returned to IAE as the Crew Lead of the same crew that was so formative for me. I knew I had big shoes to fill, and I was eager and nervous.

But this time it was different. COVID-19 was sweeping the globe, leaving everyone with uncertainty and fear. Our in-person intern crew was reduced from three to one, [Justin Ford](#), a Corvallis local. But we were overjoyed to have our first virtual intern, Amy Slentz, who joined us in video discussions ranging from ecological justice to biological illustration.



A healthy Kincaid's lupine is never too far away to measure, as evidenced here by Conservation Research Intern Justin Ford.

Our season started at Herbert Farm and Natural Area, a local site purchased by the City of Corvallis that has undergone restoration and is now home to many native plants. We met with masks on and stayed six feet apart. Our timing was perfect, and we were greeted by fields of *Sidalcea virgata*, *Camassia leichtlinii*, *Ranunculus occidentalis*, and my personal favorite, *Delphinium menziesii*. It was Justin's first introduction to many of these showy native flowers, so our outing ended with a brief crash-course on keying plants.

The following week was our first big trip, and we traveled south to Roseburg to monitor populations of Kincaid's lupine (*Lupinus oreganus*). As the obligate host plant for larvae of Fender's blue butterfly, an endangered species, healthy populations of Kincaid's lupine are critical for their survival. We set up transects, measured foliar cover, and counted racemes at four sites in the area, stopping to look at flashy flowers like *Linanthus* and the parasitic ground cone, *Boschniakia*, along the way.

After Roseburg we prepared for our most adventurous trip: monitoring Mulford's milkvetch (*Astragalus mulfordiae*) in eastern Oregon. Mulford's milkvetch is listed as a sensitive plant species, and thrives in the sandy substrate of the shrub steppe habitat.

IAE has monitored this species for over 10 years, with the goal of understanding its population dynamics and impact of ungulate grazing, off-highway vehicle use, and invasive grass encroachment. Each day we visited a different site, collecting plant demography and transect data. We were happy to see the prickly *Opuntia* and showy flowers of *Phacelia* and *Balsamorhiza*.

After our week-long trip to eastern Oregon, we immediately hit the road back to the Roseburg area to monitor crinite mariposa lily (*Calochortus coxii*), a rare species endemic to a ten-mile serpentine ridge system between Riddle and Myrtle Creek. We climbed serpentine ridges to establish and monitor new transects in an effort to estimate the population size before the installation of the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, which we feared would cut through the heart of this delicate plant's population.

After weeks of camping and travel, our final field trips were all local: monitoring Kincaid's lupine at Oak Basin, a site holding its largest known population, and Fir Butte, an 18-acre prairie located on the outskirts of Eugene. By this point we moved through transects with ease measuring foliar cover and counting racemes. Tucked between bracken fern and *Rubus*, we were overjoyed to find little white dots on the underside of the lupine leaves, eggs of Fender's blue butterfly!



Crew lead Nadav Mouallem and intern Justin Ford wade through a

sea of non-native tall oatgrass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) in search of Kincaid's lupine at a restoration site just west of Eugene.

Despite the obstacles presented by the pandemic, the 2020 season was a success. We accomplished so much and got to see so many wonderful sites and native plants along the way. A special thanks to Matt Bahm, Denise Giles, and Lisa Schomaker, for without their guidance, assistance, and knowledge none of this would have been possible. A special thanks to IAE NPSO Conservation Research Interns Justin Ford and Amy Slentz, for their flexibility and enthusiasm.

- Nadav Mouallem, IAE

Oregon Mystery Plant

Last month's mystery plant revealed: The mystery plant last month was alderleaf buckthorn (*Rhamnus alnifolia*), not previously reported for Linn County. It was known from the southern Cascades in Klamath County and from the Blue Mountains in northeastern Oregon, but not from the western Cascades in northern Oregon. It is dispersed by birds (and bears), so large gaps between populations are common for this species. It is distinguished from Cascara buckthorn (*Rhamnus purshiana*) by its finely toothed leaf margins and acuminate leaf apex. Also, the veins in the leaves of Cascara buckthorn loop to connect on the leaf margins.



New mystery plant! This diminutive annual was photographed on a steep, rocky slope in southeastern Oregon where it reaches the northernmost limit of its range in the deserts of the western US. Leaves are cobwebby-silky, pinnately to bipinnately lobed; stems may be glabrous or puberulent; discoid heads are mostly white but may be pale pink or yellow.



Photo by Kareen Sturgeon.

Do you have an Oregon Mystery Plant to share? Send it in to the editor:
bulletin@npsoregon.org.

- Lisa Schomaker

Take Your Best Shot: 2021 Poster Contest

Take Your Best Shot: 2021 Native Plant Appreciation Week Poster Contest

Summer's over, but remember all those great photos you took of native plants in Oregon this spring and summer - or maybe even last winter or fall? Now that you're probably spending more time indoors, you could take this opportunity to select the best of your photos and submit them for the Native Plant Appreciation Week Poster Contest. Entries must be emailed

to npawphotos@npsoregon.org. Each person may enter two photos of Oregon native plants (photographed in Oregon with photographer name, scientific name, common name, photo location, and photo date). **All entries must be received by**

January 15, 2021. Photos will be rated and selected by the poster committee based on subject matter, composition, and technical excellence. The poster designer has sole discretion of not using an image should it not work into the overall layout or is deemed to not be of satisfactory quality. The selected photographer(s) must be able to provide a high-resolution and preferably unedited image (at least 300 dpi) version of the image and must allow NPSO to reproduce the image free of charge for our poster, website, and related publicity material. If you have any questions, please email them



to npawphotos@npsoregon.org.

- Judi Saunders

Plant of the Month: *Layia fremontii*



Fremont's tidy-tips (*Layia fremontii*) Asteraceae

Fremont's tidy-tips (*Layia fremontii*) is known in Oregon only from the sandstone Payne Cliffs Formation north of Sams Valley in Jackson County. It is a low growing flower to 5 inches tall and is in the sunflower family (Asteraceae). In the one Oregon location where it was found, it is common in openings of the chaparral habitat whiteleaf manzanita (*Arctostaphylos viscida*) and wedgeleaf ceanothus (*Ceanothus cuneatus*). It is limited to sunny openings on shallow soils derived from sandstone. I discovered the population of tidy-tips in May 2012. Since then, a new property owner has denied access to the site.

- Frank Callahan, Siskiyou Chapter



OregonFlora

The redesigned OregonFlora [website](#) is now available! Our website is a digital, interactive version of our complete flora. We share the details about Oregon's plants in ways that let all kinds of people to learn about them and how plants relate to their lives.

After many years of work with our staff, volunteers, multiple programmers and graphic designers, we are excited to announce the release of the new OregonFlora website.

What new things can you do on this Symbiota-based portal?



- Use the website on your phone or tablet!
- [Identify](#) a plant found anywhere in the state, using the characters from your unknown specimen that you can identify.
- Look at fact sheets about every vascular plant growing in Oregon and view its distribution, photos, nomenclature, and description. Search for fact sheets using common or scientific names, too!
- Select [native garden or landscaping](#) species for your particular needs by filtering on any of 17 relevant characters.
 - [Map](#) the distribution of a species or determine the diversity in an area you define with a GIS-based mapping module.
 - Access all digitized specimens of the [OSU Herbarium](#), including fungi, lichens, mosses, and algae.

There are video [tutorials](#) and written instructions for an in-depth explanation of the site's major features. As you explore the tools, you'll discover you can drill in to access details about every data point and photo we provide; you can also gain a broad perspective of an area's biodiversity.

OregonFlora provides this amazing resource freely to the public and to businesses, agencies, and educators. If you find the OregonFlora website informative, inspiring, or helpful as you do your professional work, we need your support! Please [contribute](#) so we can this resource accessible and up-to-date. An accurate and useful website—based on massive amounts of researched plant data—requires continuous work to keep it current, all of which keeps you informed. Contribute [online](#), or mail checks directly to: Agricultural Research Foundation, 1600 SW Western Blvd. Ste. 320, Corvallis, OR 97333. Please make checks payable to the Agricultural Research Foundation and include "OFP" on the memo line.

- Linda Hardison

State & Chapter Notes

State Notes/Announcements:

Seeking new eBulletin editor! Are you interested in contributing to our monthly eBulletin? Our current editor is transitioning to a new job and will be passing the baton of editorial duty in the next few months. Please email bulletin@npsoregon.org if you'd like to help out or have any questions about the responsibilities. Training in MailChimp (or similar) will be provided!

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## Chapter Notes:

### Cheahmill

For questions, or to be added to the Cheahmill Chapter's email list for reminders of upcoming programs and events, please contact the Cheahmill Chapter President, Lisa Blackburn at [blackburnlisag@gmail.com](mailto:blackburnlisag@gmail.com).

Check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NPSO.Ceahmill/>.

### Corvallis

For questions, information on upcoming events, or to be on the Corvallis Chapter email list, contact [co\\_president@NPSOoregon.org](mailto:co_president@NPSOoregon.org). Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/CorvallisNPSO](https://www.facebook.com/CorvallisNPSO).

**Monday, November 9th, 7:30 pm\***

**Zoom Presentation: "Seeing The Small Things in Front of You- Living With Mosses"**

**Presenter: Bruce McCune**

Bruce would like to suggest that people submit in advance a photo of a local moss or have one on hand to hold up (if video cameras are good enough), for discussion. Bruce's email is [mccuneb@oregonstate.edu](mailto:mccuneb@oregonstate.edu).

**\*Note:** Dan Luoma will send out the Zoom link a few days beforehand and members will need to pre-register to attend the meeting.

### Emerald

Visit the Emerald Chapter website at <http://emerald.npsoregon.org> to learn more about the latest chapter events, plant lists and botanical information about Lane County plants and the people who love them.

**Sunday, November 8th, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

**Field Trip: Plant Lover Ramble, Eugene - area location announced with registration.**

Join Emerald Chapter members on our monthly casual plant meet-up. Meet fellow plant lovers and nerd out about native plants! Our Plant Lover Rambles will be held in local wild spaces, rain or shine, year-round. All levels of botany and native plant expertise welcome. This is not a traditional plant walk led by an expert but a group adventure. Come ready to ask questions and share your knowledge of whatever plants we find. This will be a short and flat walk. Due to public health concerns, we ask that attendees pre-register by emailing your name and contact number

to [em\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:em_president@npsoregon.org). We ask that everyone wear a mask, social distance along the trail, and attend only if they are free of symptoms.

**Sunday, November 15th, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

**Field Trip: Fall Fruits and their Dispersal Ecology. By Gail Baker & Steven Yeager.**

Fall Fruits are a joy to explore at Mt Pisgah Arboretum because they occur in such variety and beauty. We'll define a true fruit, botanically speaking, observe fruit diversity, and learn how fruit colors, textures, sizes, ripening times and chemistry influence how their cargos, the seeds, are dispersed. This will be a short and flat walk. Due to public health concerns, we ask that attendees pre-register by emailing your name and contact number to [em\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:em_president@npsoregon.org). We ask that everyone wear a mask, social distance along the trail, and attend only if they are free of symptoms. Passes/parking fee is required at Mt. Pisgah Arboretum.

**Monday, November 16th, 7:00 pm**

**Online Program: 40 years of Plant Walks in Alton Baker Park: the Plants, the People, and Climate Change.**

**Presenters: Bitty Roy, David Wagner and Sarah Ward.**

For the last 40 years, David Wagner and Bitty Roy led plant walks in Alton Baker Park during 15 weeks each spring. On these walks they taught plant identification, told plant stories and recorded when each species they saw first came into flower. Because they were in the park over a period of more than 40 years, their records also included first sightings of new invasive species. They will give you a virtual tour of Alton Baker Park, telling you some of their stories about the plants and people on the walks and they will also show you how this long-term data set is useful for assessing climate. The link for the online presentation will be posted at <https://emerald.npsoregon.org> and will be emailed to NPSO members in advance.

### **High Desert**

For information and to sign up for hikes, visit the High Desert Chapter website: [www.highdesertnpsoregon.org](http://www.highdesertnpsoregon.org) and Facebook page: [Native Plant Society of Oregon: High Desert Chapter](#), or email [highdesertnps@gmail.com](mailto:highdesertnps@gmail.com).

### **Klamath Basin**

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, visit <http://klamathbasinnps.com>.

### **Mid-Columbia**

For information on the Mid-Columbia Chapter, contact Sara Wu at [mc\\_president@NPSOregon.org](mailto:mc_president@NPSOregon.org).

### **Portland**

Our members receive **The Calochortus**, our monthly newsletter with field trips, programs, news, and events for the Portland area. If you are not receiving it, check your spam folder and notify [po\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:po_president@npsoregon.org) of any email address change. You'll also find additional field trips posted on our Meetup page

at <https://www.meetup.com/NPSO-Portland/>. Our Facebook page is regularly updated with current wildflower bloom status and photos at <https://www.facebook.com/nps.portland/>. Visit our chapter website at <https://portlandnativeplants.org/> to find links to recordings of past virtual programs.

**Our monthly programs are “Virtual” as of September 2020.** Links to these second Thursday Zoom presentations are below and in each issue of **The Calochortus**.

**Thursday, November 12th, 7:00 pm**

**Program: Climate Change Effects on Oregon Native Flora**

**Presenter: Tom Kaye, Institute for Applied Ecology, Corvallis**

Description: How will a shifting climate affect native plants, and how can we plan for the coming changes? Dr. Tom Kaye, Founder and Executive Director of the Institute for Applied Ecology, will discuss how atmospheric warming may affect our state's vegetation, including endangered species. He will discuss how we can help our flora and habitats be more resilient to these changes.

Zoom direct link: <https://zoom.us/j/91985637423?pwd=Y002enFvY0wrbHRLZU9zbVN3dUJDQT09>

Meeting ID : 919 8563 7423 / Passcode : 903159

**Thursday, December 10th, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

**Program: Zoom Photo Sharing by NPSO members**

**Presenters: Any Member of any NPSO Chapter, about 10-15 photos each**

Description: We'll provide a Zoom opportunity to revisit spring and summer as participants share photos of favorite places, plants, or habitats found this year. Contact [fghcavebug@gmail.com](mailto:fghcavebug@gmail.com) for instructions on how to share your photos.

Zoom direct link: <https://zoom.us/j/96534598716?pwd=SWdQMw8xV2hHOGp3eVN0d0JPZmlSUT09>

Meeting ID: 965 3459 8716 / Passcode : 826376

### **Siskiyou**

To join the Siskiyou Chapter email list: Send an email, from the address at which you want to receive announcements, to [announce-join@siskiyou.npsoregon.org](mailto:announce-join@siskiyou.npsoregon.org). No subject or message is required. You will get a confirmation email. If you would like to volunteer to lead a hike, make a suggestion, or provide feedback regarding the field trip program, please contact Katelyn Detweiler, [detweiler.katelyn@gmail.com](mailto:detweiler.katelyn@gmail.com). Join us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/SiskiyouChapterNativePlantSocietyOfOregon>

### **Umpqua Valley**

Visit [umpquavalleynativeplants.com](http://umpquavalleynativeplants.com) for more information on chapter activities or to be added to our email list. Check out our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO](https://www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO). Not online - call Donna Rawson 541-643-0364.

We meet in Roseburg then carpool or caravan to destination. If you plan to participate, you must RSVP Rod Trotter 541-672-1907 or Donna 541-643-0364 to confirm your participation. Plans can change on short notice due to weather or flower bloom. NOTE: Many field trip destinations offer no facilities. Umpqua Forest Service advises to protect yourself from mosquitoes in the high country this time of year.

\*We are organizing a monthly work party for landscape maintenance of the three native plant gardens we are continuing to enhance. If you like to work with plants and have some flexible time we could use your help. Contact Donna at 541-643-0364 (call or text).

### Willamette Valley

For program information, contact John Savage at 503-779-5414, [wvnpsso@gmail.com](mailto:wvnpsso@gmail.com)

**Thursday, November 19th, 7:00 pm**

**Virtual Program: Traditional Uses of Pacific Northwest Native Plants**

**Presenter: Greg Archuleta, Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde**

Greg Archuleta is Clackamas Chinook, Santiam Kalapuya, and Shasta. He is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde where he serves as an instructor for their Lifeways program.

An artist and educator, he specializes in Western Oregon tribal culture and history, which includes ethnobotany, carving cedar hat making, Native art design, and basketry. Greg will explain traditional gathering, preparation, and use of native Northwest plants that Indigenous Peoples of the Northwest have used for thousands of years. Registration is required. To register and for more information on accessing the virtual presentation, contact John Savage at 503-779-5414 or at [wvnpsso@gmail.com](mailto:wvnpsso@gmail.com).

### William Cusick

Chapter notices and communications are done primarily through a Google group. For more information or to be added to the Google group, please contact Susan Geer at 541-963-0477 or [susanmgeer@gmail.com](mailto:susanmgeer@gmail.com). Find us on Instagram at [instagram.com/wm.cusick.chapter](https://www.instagram.com/wm.cusick.chapter). Our website is not currently functional.

## Native Plant Interest Groups:

### Filipendula

For more information, visit our Facebook page: [NPSO-Filipendula Chapter](#)

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### NPSO State Officers

- President: Dan Luoma, [president@npsoregon.org](mailto:president@npsoregon.org)
- Immediate Past President: Lisa Blackburn, [past\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:past_president@npsoregon.org)
- Vice-president: Lisa Blackburn, [vice-president@npsoregon.org](mailto:vice-president@npsoregon.org)

- Secretary: Steven Yeager, [secretary@npsoregon.org](mailto:secretary@npsoregon.org)
- Treasurer: Michael Hartman, [treasurer@npsoregon.org](mailto:treasurer@npsoregon.org)
- Directors: Gail Baker, Jason Clinch, Sarah Ratay, Dave Garcia, Linda Hardison, Bruce Waugh

### Committees & Chairs

- Budgets and [Grants](#): [Dan Luoma](#)
- Conservation: [Dawn Anzinger](#)
- Friends Of The Oregon Flora Project: [Linda Hardison](#)
- Legislative: [Vacant](#)
- Membership: [Margaret Conover](#)
- NPSO Fellows: [Cindy Roché and Kareen Sturgeon](#)
- Rare & Endangered Plants: [Jason Clinch](#)
- Publications: [Cindy Roché and Kareen Sturgeon](#)
- Bulletin Editor: [Lisa Schomaker](#)
- Webmaster: [Sunia Yang](#)
- More information about our NPSO Fellows [here](#).

Chapter Presidents and contact information [can be found here](#).

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Website



Facebook

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