



Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

Bulletin

December/January 2024/2025 Volume 57, No.10



Western bunchberry (*Cornus unalaschkensis*). July 21, 2008. Linn County, Oregon.

Photo by Gerald D. Carr, Courtesy of OregonFlora.

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If you have any questions, please contact us at bulletinnpso@gmail.com.

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For membership inquiries, contact Willow Elliott, the Membership Chair, by [email](#), or send mail to P.O. Box 902, Eugene, OR 97440.

**Save the Date!**

**NPSO 2025 Annual Meeting May 16 - May 18.**

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**Help us make Oregon's Native Plant**

## Appreciation Month Permanent



Olympic onion (*Allium crenulatum*). Photo by Judi Sanders.

We need your help to make Native Plant Appreciation Month permanent in Oregon. Every year we send a proclamation request to the Governor's Office to proclaim April as Native Plant Appreciation Month. Usually, the governor issues such a proclamation, but it does not always happen. For example, no proclamation was issued for 2023 because the new governor was too busy to issue proclamations early in the year. We celebrated anyway!

Why does having a native plant appreciation month matter? This is NPSO's largest statewide coordinated public education event. Consequently, it makes more people aware of NPSO and the good we do. Further, it encourages people to go outside and learn about and enjoy our native plants, to plant native gardens, to contribute to citizen science about native plants, and much more. A permanent designation of April as Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Month would allow more planning of events around the state and more involvement of partners that want to encourage education about and use of native plants (such as native nurseries). It would also encourage people to be more knowledgeable about native plants as well as the impacts of destructive invasive plant species. Further, it would also support the cultural importance of native plants to our Indigenous communities.

### **What can you do?**

Together with the Portland Garden Club, NPSO is supporting a bill in the 2025 Oregon legislative session. Our chief sponsor is Senator Janeen Sollman and Senator Sara Gelser Blouin, is a co-sponsor. We need more co-sponsors in Oregon's Senate and House. We want each of you to write to your state senators and representatives and ask them to be a co-

sponsor and to notify Senator Sollman of their willingness to be a co-sponsor. We've just received the Legislative Counsel's draft of the bill, and that will be filed in early December. The draft is here: [Draft Legislation for Oregon Native Plant Appreciation Month](#). We'll update any changes and the bill's progress on our update page: [NPAM Bill Updates](#).

We have created a template for an email to your senator and representative. You merely need to copy it into your email and add your senator or representative's information and your own. You can find the template here: [Co-sponsor request template](#). If your senator or representative was not up for election or was reelected, you can find their name and email here: [Oregon State Senators and Representatives](#). Newly elected senators and representatives will be sworn in on approximately January 13, 2025, and will get a government email address then (and the form will be updated). Please let us know who you contact; our email addresses can be found below.

The more people we get as co-sponsors, the more likely our bill is to pass. Similar legislation passed unanimously in California in 2023. While this is not a very controversial resolution, members of the legislature are generally most responsive to the people in their districts, so it is important that everyone sends a request to their state senator and representative.

#### Have questions?

Email Judi Sanders [judi.sanders@gmail.com](mailto:judi.sanders@gmail.com) or Luci Moody [morelucimooddy@gmail.com](mailto:morelucimooddy@gmail.com). Oh, and this will not be NPSO's only legislative activity this year! - *Judi Sanders and Luci Moody*

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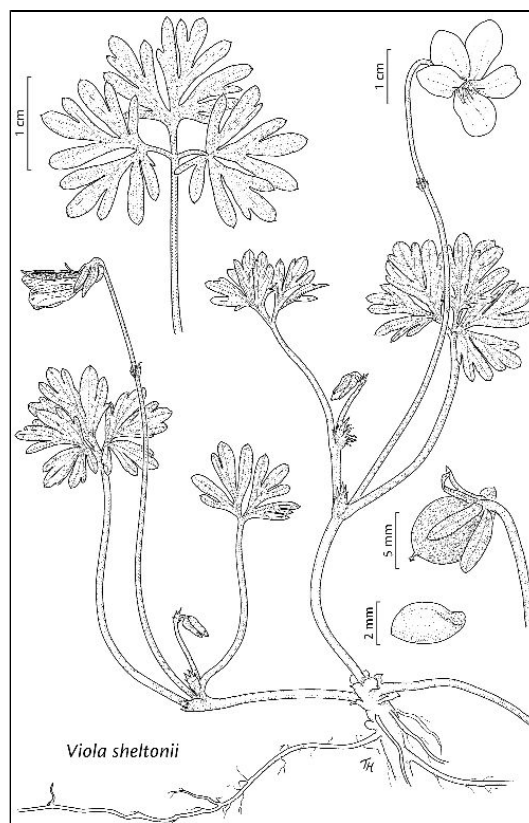
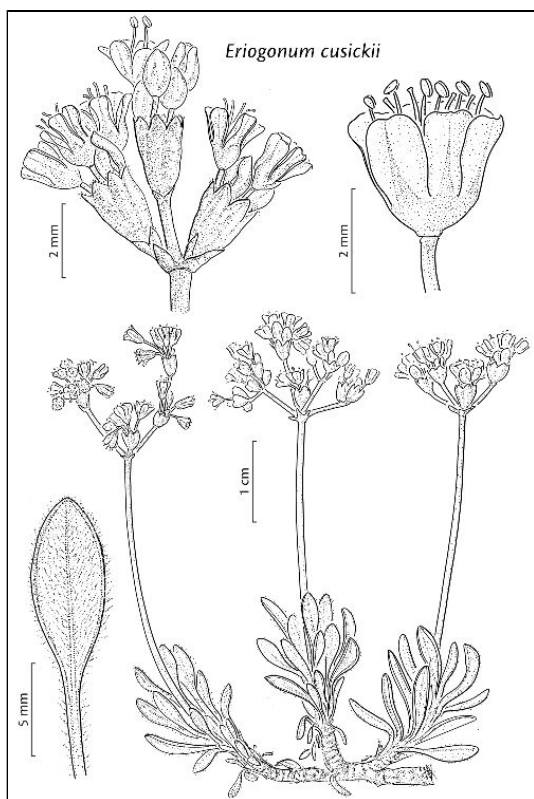
## OregonFlora

The NPSO's initiative to introduce a bill to the Oregon Legislature in support of OregonFlora is a challenging endeavor that- when we succeed- will again demonstrate the impact of the organization. Please add your voice to the request that information about all Oregon's vascular plants remains freely accessible and up to date through the OregonFlora resources. You can do this by emailing your state representative or senator and letting them know how you use OregonFlora, and its importance in the conservation and appreciation of our state's flora. Stay tuned for information about more opportunities as the legislative



process unfolds next year.

If you are searching for a thoughtful holiday gift that's carbon neutral, does not collect dust, and will be useful for decades, consider sponsoring a part of Volume 3 of the *Flora of Oregon*! Your honoree will see their name included in the front acknowledgements of the published book and will share with you the chance to be part of Oregon's botanical legacy. Visit the Publications\Flora of Oregon webpage to see the [sponsorship opportunities](#). Below are some of the illustrations that will be presented in Volume 3 that need your sponsorship; this original artwork is by OregonFlora team members John Myers and Tanya Harvey.



Flora of Oregon Volume 3 illustrations.

*Eriogonum cusickii* by John Myers. *Viola sheltonii* by Tanya Harvey.

Your financial support of any amount is deeply appreciated. Contributions to OregonFlora can be made online through our [PayPal](#) account, or by sending a check to the address on our [Donate](#) page. Please make checks payable to the Agricultural Research Foundation and include "OregonFlora" on the memo line. - Linda Hardison

## Statewide highlights

- **Website:** After many years in development, thanks to the hard work of the Website Working Group, we finally have a new website. We also have a new webmaster, Tom Pratum. Websites are always a work in progress and so will continue to be developed but, as it stands, it is lovely, functional, and a huge improvement from the prior website developed more than two decades ago. The Website Working Group has now become a committee with Tom Pratum as chair.
- **Elections:** We held officer elections. Steven Yeager was re-elected as president, Judi Sanders was elected as vice-president, Kimberly Brown was re-elected as secretary, Sean Cawley was elected as treasurer and our three newly elected directors are Marshall Doak, Dick O'Donnell, and Megan Westby.
- **Annual Meeting—NPSO's 2024 Annual Meeting** was held at Grand Ronde and hosted by the Cheahmill and Corvallis Chapters. More than 110 people attended the three days of hikes and festivities. The 2025 Annual Meeting will be at the Hood River Inn May 16 to 18, 2025, hosted by the Portland Chapter.
- Jason Clinch was named an NPSO Fellow at the Annual Meeting.
- Governor Kotek declared April as Native Plant Appreciation Month and it was celebrated throughout the state with walks, talks, workshops and an iNaturalist Florablitz. The Florablitz had nearly 36,000 observations of 1666 wild plant species by 3164 observers and about 70% of the taxa identified to the species level are native. NPSO is leading the way to have April declared as Native Plant Appreciation Month permanently through a resolution in the Oregon legislature.
- In partnership with OregonFlora, the Oregon State University Herbarium, and the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center we continue to sponsor the iNaturalist project Flora of Oregon: Vascular Plants which has over 973,700 observations of 4820 species by 43,808 observers. In November we sponsored an Id-a-thon event to increase the number of research grade observations of these species.
- We have an ongoing organizational development working group led by our hired consultant Rachel Werling (Siskiyou Chapter President).
- The Legislative Committee is supporting legislation to fund Oregon Flora through the budget of Oregon and continues to work on funding the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Rare and Endangered Plant Programs.
- We currently have more than 1100 members in eleven chapters across the state.

## Research and conservation activities:

- After several years of conservation committee inactivity, Dick O'Donnell and Kaitlin Andersen were appointed as co-chairs of the conservation committee and are working on issues for which the NPSO State Board might choose to express their opinions.

- We agreed to support the following research/conservation efforts:
  - The Understory Initiative's Adopt-a-Rare-Plant program. Adopt a Rare Plant is a community (citizen) science project facilitated by the Siskiyou Chapter of the NPSO, The Understory Initiative, and the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center. Adopt a Rare Plant community scientists monitor the rarest native plants in Southern Oregon - species that are in most danger of disappearing forever.
  - Continuing support of Citizen's Rare Plant Watch Program (CRPW), including reimbursement for some CRPW staff activities related to training expenses (travel, meals, lodging, etc.) and roughly equates to one field monitoring trip. Typical field monitoring trips may have anywhere from two to six people (volunteers and one paid CRPW staff).
  - Sponsorship of the Center for Plant Conservation's work on *Dodecatheon austrofrigidum* providing an "endowment" for that species at the Rae Selling Berry seed bank.
  - Research by Kevin Mason to describe five subspecies within *Lomatium macrocarpum*. One of these subspecies grows only in the Willamette Valley of Oregon and is rarely encountered.
  - A large grant to OregonFlora for completion of Volume 3 of the Flora of Oregon.  
-Steven Yeager, President and Judi Sanders, Vice-President

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## NPSO Annual Membership Dues

The State Membership Committee announced a decision reached by the NPSO State Board members on October 19, 2024. After much consideration and in agreement with a majority of respondents in the member survey this summer, the rate of member contributions of annual dues will be increased beginning in 2025. The renewal season will begin on December 1 and run through February 28, 2025. Personal renewal messages will be sent to you by email based on your current level of membership and reflected in your membership profile in the membership database. We know personal finances and priorities change from year to year. You can change your membership level if desired once a year when you renew by clicking on the level name and rate amount. The increases will feel like a big change, but they are similar to other native plant societies in the western U.S. and will likely remain the same for many years into the future.

The new sliding scale 2025 membership level rates are below. The amounts are the same as many past years for the Student level of \$12, and a new category of "Living Lightly" is

the same low rate of \$25 as the former Individual rate.

Student - \$12

Living Lightly - \$25

Individual - \$45

Family - \$60

Sustaining - \$120

Patron - \$300

Life - \$1,000

Please be aware when you log in to the membership database to renew, you will need to have a new password of twelve characters or more ready to type in. Yes, it's one more detail to deal with, but this is a standard annual requirement of our Wild Apricot database to keep all of our personal information secure for over 1,230 members. Thank you each and every member who has faithfully paid your annual dues for many years to support the important work of our respected non-profit founded originally as a club in 1961! You are the foundation of everything NPSO stands for and make it possible for us to reach many thousands more native plant enthusiasts with our website and outreach activities from each of your eleven regional chapters around the state of Oregon! - *Willow Elliott, State Membership Chair and Alex Kurowski, Membership Database Manager*

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## Photo Gallery

Welcome to the *Bulletin* Photo Gallery! Share your photos of Oregon's native flora, field trips, restoration projects, work parties, and activities with other NPSO members. Send photos with the following information: species/event, photographer, names of any people shown in photo, date of photo, location, and any other information you would like to have included in the photo caption to [bulletinnpso@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinnpso@gmail.com). Please get consent from any people included in your photo prior to sending it.





Great purple monkeyflower (*Erythranthe lewisii*). Crater Lake National Park.

August 18, 2024. Photo by Rod Trotter.

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## Oregon Mystery Plant

Do you have an Oregon Mystery Plant to share? Send it to the editor  
at [bulletinnpso@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinnpso@gmail.com)

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## NPSO Conservation Committee Report

The Conservation Committee (CC) monitors government programs that affect Oregon's national forests and participates in the development of these programs to promote behavior consistent with NPSO's values. The CC takes notice of planned activities associated with the programs that could adversely affect native plants and their habitats and brings these planned activities to the attention of NPSO members and the NPSO State Board with recommendations for a response.

In this report, the CC draws attention to the developments of the Northwest Forest Plan Amendment and the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision. The developments of these closely related projects are running concurrently and when completed will affect the activities of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) throughout Oregon for at least a decade. The CC hopes that NPSO members will recognize the significance of these wide-ranging and long-duration projects and make their concerns known directly to the USFS in comments or to the CC which will consolidate members' comments with its own when filing comments.

### 1. Northwest Forest Plan Amendment

The Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) was adopted in 1994, largely in response to declining populations of the northern spotted owl, an endangered species that inhabits mature and old-growth forests. The area of the NWFP encompasses the range of the northern spotted owl, which includes seventeen National Forests, ranging from Western Washington and Western Oregon down to Northwestern California.

On December 18th, 2023, the USFS published a Notice of Intent (NOI), initiating Phase 1 of the amendment process. The NOI outlines five main goals for the project: fire resistance and resilience, adapting ecosystems to climate change, protecting mature and old-growth ecosystems, incorporating Indigenous inclusion, and supporting and protecting rural

communities. During this phase, a voluntary group of various stakeholders such as tribal leaders, environmental advocates, and timber industry representatives formed the Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) and developed a list of recommendations for the USFS to implement into the amendment.

In Phase 2, the USFS developed a proposed amendment, taking into account the FAC recommendations, tribal consultations, and public comments made after the NOI release.

Most recently, the USFS released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on November 15th and initiated Phase 3. The DEIS outlines the impact of the proposed amendment developed in Phase 2 and compares it with several different alternative management plans, as well as the impact of leaving the current NWFP in place without changes.

The CC will be doing a critical, deep-read of the DEIS and will provide guidance and recommendations to the NPSO membership in the February issue of the *Bulletin*. We encourage NPSO members to read about the NWFP (and to join the CC if they are interested!) so they can make their voices heard. The deadline for public comment on the DEIS is March 17.

The USFS is hosting a public webinar about the NWFP Amendment on Thursday, December 5, from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm. You can register to attend [here](#). Stay tuned for more information in the next *Bulletin* issue!

## **2. Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision**

Running parallel to the NWFP Amendment which applies to forests west of the Cascades, the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision is a process with similar goals for eastside forests. Among the first steps in this process is to identify the “need to change” from the previous forest plan to a revised one. To that end a Draft Preliminary Need to Change document was issued and comments solicited. The document identifies preliminary needs to change management direction in the 1990 forest plans for the Malheur, Umatilla, and Wallowa Whitman National Forests. It helps define the proposed action, purpose and need, and decision framework for the environmental analysis related to the forest plan revision process. The need to change establishes the framework for the development of plan components and other plan content, including the monitoring program. The deadline for comments on this document was November 7th, 2024.

The public meetings the USFS originally scheduled for December to describe the progress and plans of the Forest Plan Revision have been rescheduled for early 2025. The original subject

matter for the public meetings included:

- The development of the draft Land Management Plan.
- Updates on the National Wild and Scenic Rivers review, the preliminary Species of Conservation Concern lists, and the review of lands that may have Wilderness characteristics.
- The NOI approval process along with the forthcoming Environmental Impact Statement development.
- The formal scoping period commences when the upcoming NOI is published in the Federal Register in early 2025, along with the associated public engagement tools.

For questions and more information, links are available at <https://tinyurl.com/ythmbdnt>.

The next step, after evaluating the initial comments on the Draft Preliminary Need to Change, is to assemble a DEIS. “Early 2025” has been given for the publication of the DEIS. Typically, the public has 45 days to comment. - *Dick O'Donnell and Kaitlin Andersen, cochairs of the NPSO Conservation Committee*

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## Annual Meeting Update



*Balsamroot* sp., *Lomatium* sp. and other forbs and grasses at the Russ Jolley Wayside Adopt a Highway site on Interstate 84 near Mosier, Oregon. March 2024.

Photo by Willow Elliott.

The Portland Chapter is proudly hosting the statewide NPSO Annual Meeting at an iconic riverside setting at the award winning Best Western Plus Hood River Inn during the peak of wildflower season in the Columbia Gorge! The meeting will be held May 16 to May 18, 2025. You must be an NPSO member to attend an Annual Meeting, so tell your family and friends to join soon if they plan to attend! The first extra Family, Sustaining, or Patron member added to a new or existing membership is free! Note - each member with a 2-person membership must pay the registration fee to cover the conference room costs and to ensure enough seating at the banquets.

**Who will the evening Speakers be?**

The Friday night speakers are Friends of the Columbia Gorge staffers Sara Woods and Frances Fischer with an introduction to the vast region they manage and updates on the Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust acquisitions adding more acreage to sensitive native plant and fauna habitats. Our keynote speaker on Saturday night is the venerable Paul Slichter telling us about "Citizen Science - Rare Plant Monitoring in the Columbia River Gorge."

#### **Where will the field trips be offered?**

We have so many incredible sites to choose from on both the Oregon and Washington state sides of the Gorge! Ten hikes per day are planned to choose from with very knowledgeable guides. A U.S. Forest Service botanist, Washington State Department of Natural Resources ranger, local experts like Barbara Robinson and Paul Slichter, as well as our Portland Chapter hike leaders will be taking groups of twelve to see the endemic and unusual native flora and fauna of this unique landscape east from The Dalles, north to Husum and Trout Lake, Washington, and West to Cascade Locks inside the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Note - NPSO policy is firm about not allowing dogs on any hike.

#### **How do you receive an NPSO discount on a room reservation at the Inn?**

We have reserved a bank of 55 guest room accommodations at a special NPSO group discount rate until April of 2025, but members should make room reservations NOW to have the best selection of the various accommodations with bed sizes and views of the river or budget offerings. "Dog friendly" guest rooms are available at the non-discount rate by calling the Hood River Inn at 541-386-2200 to make that reservation. The popular Inn will reach full capacity for the "high season" well before March. Reservations can be cancelled without a fee until mid-April 2025.

Save this *Bulletin* to make your room reservation with the Best Western Hood River Inn's reservation site via the blue button link below to receive the "Native Plant Society" special rates. Do not call the Hood River Inn to ask for this special rate! Email the Portland Chapter organizers at [npsopdxchapter@gmail.com](mailto:npsopdxchapter@gmail.com) if you need help with your Guest Room reservation.

[Reserve your Room Here](#)

Alternative Campground reservations are also highly recommended via a search of Oregon State Parks at the blue button link below with three maps of the Mid- Columbia River region within ten miles of Hood River. We like the Memaloose State Park the best; it's just east of the town of Mosier on the I-84 westbound river side. Note: all public campgrounds in the

Columbia Gorge are either on the Columbia River prone to winds and commercial vessel traffic noise or adjacent to Interstate I-84 or a train track on the south side! Be forewarned this is not a quiet camping area.

[Find your Campsite Here](#)

#### How much is the Registration fee going to be?

Estimated costs and required gratuity fees for most services and food have increased dramatically since 2023 when we reserved the venue. Every effort is being made to keep the registration fee and meal costs as low as possible below \$200 per person for the weekend. Abundant free parking is available on site; the award-winning Riverside Restaurant and Cebu Lounge Bar with local Hood River brewery and distilleries offerings are onsite, two jacuzzi spas (one outdoor/one indoor) and a large heated outdoor pool are open many hours of the day. River walkways for exercise and access to the waterfront begin at the Inn. It's a fabulous place to stay for the price!

Registration for the meeting will open in early Spring 2025, on a first come, first served basis via our website being built to hopefully accept credit card payments. Attendance is limited to the first 120 members who register. Keep an eye out for the *Bulletin* for more information about registration in early 2025 with access to the Annual Meeting Website to view the menu, sack lunch choices, and field trip locations/choices. Thank you from *The Board of the Portland Chapter*

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## NPSO Grant Proposals Requested by March 1

The NPSO will continue to sponsor small field research grants. The objectives of the program are: 1) to stimulate basic field research into the biology and distribution of Oregon's native and naturalized flora and vegetation, particularly in the more remote areas of the state; and 2) to promote native plant conservation through better understanding of Oregon's flora and vegetation and the factors affecting their survival.

Research proposals are due by March 1, 2025. The program policy and guidelines may be downloaded from <https://www.npsoregon.org/documents/grantguide.pdf>. Questions about the guidelines may be directed to [luomad@oregonstate.edu](mailto:luomad@oregonstate.edu).

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## Call for Nominations for 2025 Fellows Awards

The NPSO Fellows Award is the highest honor bestowed in our Society, recognizing NPSO members for their exceptional contributions to the Society. The award comes with a certificate of recognition and lifetime membership in the Society.

In addition to honoring the recipient, the Fellows Award informs the general membership of the good deeds and long-time commitment of some members in supporting our mission, as well as outstanding contributions to knowledge of native plants. The award serves to inspire and encourage newer members to make their own contributions to the Society.

We hope that individuals who are approached for nomination for the award will accept this recognition of their accomplishments. It is important for others to understand what it takes to run an organization staffed entirely by volunteers.

Guidelines for Fellows nominations are available online at [Fellows - Native Plant Society of Oregon](#) or by request from the Fellows Committee at [fellows@npsoregon.org](mailto:fellows@npsoregon.org). Nominations should be submitted to the Fellows Committee at that email address before December 31 (earlier submission is encouraged.) Nominations must include an essay describing the nominee's accomplishments and a good quality digital photo of the nominee that is suitable for publication. The Fellows Committee will evaluate nominations that meet the submission criteria and recommend awardees to the State Board. Awards will be presented at the next Annual Meeting; biographies and photos of recipients will be posted on the NPSO website.

Additional Fellows Committee members are needed. If you are interested, please send an email to [fellows@npsoregon.org](mailto:fellows@npsoregon.org). - *Lisa Blackburn*

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## Last Chance to Enter Photo Contest

This is the last month to submit your native plant photos for the Native Plant Appreciation Month Photo Contest. This is a fabulous opportunity to show off your amazing plant photos and do a service at the same time. We need photos for the Native Plant Appreciation Month poster like the one below. This poster will create more awareness of the many benefits of native plants. Don't be shy. Your photo could be chosen to represent one of the many incredible plants found in Oregon. Photos can be close-ups, set within the larger landscape, part of a plant, just the flower, or any other possibility. Your photo will receive credit wherever it is published.


*Celebrate!*

# Native Plant Appreciation Month


## April 2024




*Erigeron phillyriaefolius*  
Forest Grove, May 21, 2023,  
Fanny Hakola, NPSO at Hells  
By Tom Kaye




*Penstemon glaucus*, Tallahassee Hills,  
May 6, 2022, Kira's Valley  
By Rachel Waring




*Gerardia trichocoma*, and the  
partly white and yellow flowers  
at Astoria, near the park  
May 21, 2023, Andrew Eisen and  
Nicola Jones  
By Kate Leary



*Asplenium adnigrum*, western  
Oregon, July 28, 2022,  
Mt. Hood, Meadows  
By Melissa Elliott



*Oxyria diglossa*, grassy slope,  
March 23, 2022, Rough and Ready Botanical Wayside  
By Amy Dessert







**Learn more about Oregon's native plants**

- Join your local Native Plant Society
- Attend a program or workshop
- Visit a native plant nursery or garden
- Volunteer for a restoration project
- Hike a natural area
- Add native plants to your landscape
- Purchase a new guidebook or native plant gardening book
- Join our florablitz on iNaturalist

and

- Visit Oregon Flora

*Coronilla anglica*, Victor's desert  
parkway, May 18, 2022,  
Highway 440 Back of Astor, OR  
By Miriam Underwood

Discover local NPSO chapters' events:  
<https://www.npsoregon.org/calendar.html>

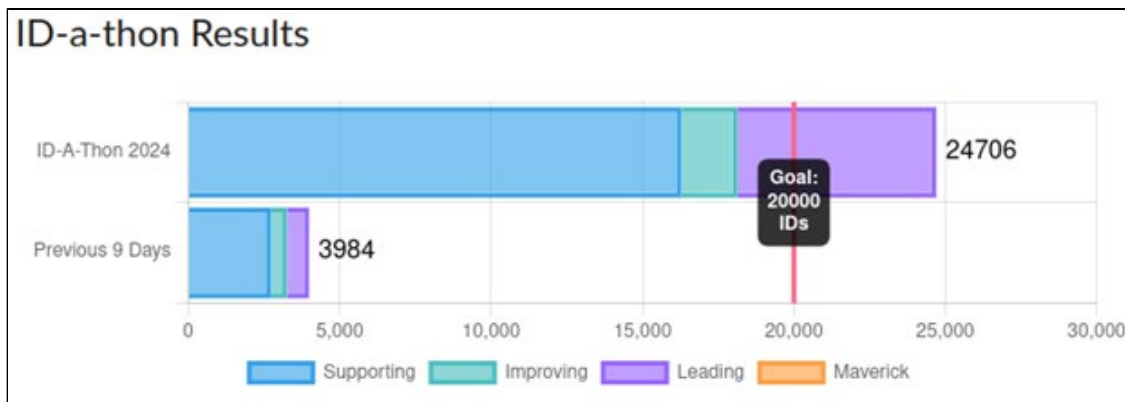
Photo contest rules: Submissions can be sent to [photosnpaw@gmail.com](mailto:photosnpaw@gmail.com) and must be received by December 31, 2024. Any original photograph may be submitted, so feel free to go out and snap new photos or send an old favorite! Each person may enter up to two photos of Oregon native plants photographed in Oregon. Entries must contain the following: photographer name, scientific name of plants, common name of plants, photo location, and photo date. Entries should be high-resolution, unedited photographs of at least 300dpi. Photos will be selected based on subject matter, composition, and technical excellence. All photographers who submit photos give consent for NPSO to reproduce the submitted images free of charge for our poster, website, social media, and related publicity material. Any questions can be directed to Judi Sanders at [judi.sanders@gmail.com](mailto:judi.sanders@gmail.com). - Virginia Bowers

## NPSO iNaturalist ID-a-thon a Great Success

The NPSO iNaturalist Fall ID-a-thon, which ran from November 9th to 18th, exceeded expectations. Our goal was twofold: to reduce the huge number of unidentified plant observations in Oregon, and to inspire new people to help with identifications. Our final tally was 24,706 identifications, well past our goal of 20,000, and more than six times the usual rate of IDs for Oregon plants (3,984 ID's recorded in the nine days preceding the event). The event also added phenology data to about 10,000 observations. We had 357 people identify at least one observation during our ID-a-thon, and eight participants exceeded 1,000 IDs each. Quite a few participants were relatively new to identifying, so we were successful in expanding the population and experience of plant identifiers in Oregon. There was an uptick



in the quality of the IDs as well. The proportion of Leading IDs, where the identification was refined to a lower taxonomic level, jumped from 18% to 27%, and the proportion of Supporting IDs, where an identifier merely agreed with the name already there, dropped slightly. A big “Thank You!” to all participants for improving our collective data on Oregon plants. See the full results here: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/flora-of-oregon-vascular-plants/journal/101610>. -iNaturalist committee



Results of the NPSO iNaturalist Fall ID-a-thon. Data from iNaturalist.

## NPSO 2025 Annual Meeting Student Scholarship Awards

To encourage students to be active in NPSO activities and native plant studies, the NPSO State Board is offering three “stipends” serving as scholarships (each between \$200 and \$300) to college undergraduate or graduate students to attend the 2025 Annual Meeting at the Best Western Plus Hood River Inn in Hood River, Oregon. The dates of the Annual Meeting are from Friday night May 16 through Sunday morning May 18. The event is being hosted by the Portland Chapter. The gift does not require any labor by the students but invites them as guests.

The stipends will directly pay for the following items: registration fee, Friday night reception, Saturday breakfast, Saturday night banquet, and Sunday breakfast. We will also give students a temporary complimentary membership to NPSO if they are not already a member. The remaining funds may be used for out-of-pocket expenses for travel and lodging. To be reimbursed for the latter, students will need to submit relevant receipts to the NPSO state treasurer, whose address will be available after the stipend is awarded. NPSO members are encouraged to send this information to a qualifying student you know or have knowledge of.

To request an application for the scholarship to be sent or get more information, all

interested students should email [npsopdxchapter@gmail.com](mailto:npsopdxchapter@gmail.com) with the words *Student Scholarship* in the subject line. The deadline to send a completed student scholarship application is February 1, 2025. The three awarded students will be announced in the March *Bulletin*. - Willow Elliott, Vice President NPSO Portland Chapter

## Watch The Wildflower Woman Short Film



From Friends of the Columbia Gorge and filmmaker Monique Trevett, “[The Wildflower Woman](#)” profiles renowned Columbia River Gorge conservation icon Barbara Robinson. The film follows Robinson as she revisits various eras of her life’s work preserving and restoring fragile and ecologically important lands in the National Scenic Area, including the from-her-own-pocket purchase of Tom McCall Preserve in the 1970s, founding the Klickitat Trail Conservancy, landscaping the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum with native plants, and spreading balsamroot seed across the Gorge. Through the film, we hope to shine a light on the life and contributions of one of the preeminent Gorge conservationists to inspire future generations to follow in her footsteps. -Reprinted courtesy of Friends of the Columbia River Gorge. Photo credit Barbara Robinson

[Watch the Film](#)

## Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group: "Flora and Feathers: How Birds and Plants Depend on Each Other"

Dan Gleason, Co-owner of Wild Birds Unlimited stores in Eugene and retired University of Oregon ornithology instructor, will present "Flora and Feathers: How Birds and Plants Depend On Each Other" on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 7:00 pm in the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 West 13th Ave, Eugene, OR.

Birds and plants have a long evolutionary history, and many fascinating relationships have developed between them. Birds obviously nest in plants (trees and shrubs), and they use plant material to construct nests. Many plants depend on birds to disperse their seeds or pollinate their flowers. But how do plants select which birds will carry those seeds, and how do they ensure that it happens at just the right time to benefit the plant? Some insects also play important roles in these intricate relationships. One example presented in this program involves birds, aphids, and the plants on which the aphids feed. In another instance, come learn why, from a bird's perspective, *Nandina* sp. (shooting bamboo or heavenly bamboo) is a very deadly plant, and why poison-oak is good. Learn why a somewhat weedy yard with lots of caterpillars is better for the environment than an immaculate yard with no refuge for insects or birds. This program will detail many of the fascinating links between birds and plants, many which are not well-known to many of us.

For more information about the Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group or this event, visit our website at [www.thehardyplantgroup.org/events](http://www.thehardyplantgroup.org/events) or email us at [info@thehardyplantgroup.org](mailto:info@thehardyplantgroup.org).

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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 at [ch\\_president@NPSOregon.org](mailto:ch_president@NPSOregon.org).

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

**Saturday, December 28, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Work Party: Native Plant Garden at McMinnville Public Library**

**Location: McMinnville Public Library**

Spend a couple hours with a congenial crew and learn how the beauty, diversity, and educational value of this mature demonstration garden is maintained with a minimum of effort. No experience is necessary. Bring gloves, bucket, and gardening tools. Dress for the weather. For more information, contact Catie Anderson at [catie.fishback@gmail.com](mailto:catie.fishback@gmail.com) or 971-241-7634.

The library is located at 225 NW Adams Street (corner of Highway 99 W and SW Second Street), McMinnville, Oregon. The library parking lot may be entered from either Adams or Second Streets.

**Saturday, January 25, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Work Party: Native Plant Garden at McMinnville Public Library**

**Location: McMinnville Public Library**

Spend a couple hours with a congenial crew and learn how the beauty, diversity, and educational value of this mature demonstration garden is maintained with a minimum of effort. No experience is necessary. Bring gloves, bucket, and gardening tools. Dress for the weather. For more information, contact Catie Anderson at [catie.fishback@gmail.com](mailto:catie.fishback@gmail.com) or 971-241-7634.

The library is located at 225 NW Adams Street (corner of Highway 99 W and SW Second Street), McMinnville, Oregon. The library parking lot may be entered from either Adams or Second Streets.

## **Corvallis**

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

## **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.

**Wednesday, December 11, 9:30 am - 2:00 pm**

**Volunteer Outreach: Assist with Native Plant Nursery Tasks**

**Leader: Michelle Osgood**

**Location: Dorena Genetic Resource Center, 34963 Shoreview Drive, Cottage Grove**

Dorena Genetic Resource Center is seeking volunteers to join us on the second Wednesday of each month to help with various nursery tasks, including transplanting, pruning, thinning, spacing, fertilizing, and weeding. Come and join us for a fun day of plant care!

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44A8AA2FA4F4C34-50446437-dorena>

**Monday, December 16, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

## **Event: Holiday Social**

**Location:** [Amazon Community Center](#), 2700 Hilyard St., Eugene

Emerald Chapter celebrates our members and their wildflower discoveries as they share photos and stories of their wildflower destinations from the past year. Bring ten to fifteen slides of plants on a flash drive and share an adventure you had this year. Bring a snack to share. This is an opportunity to get to know your fellow plant enthusiasts a little better. We'll have t-shirts to buy if you like to give plant-themed gifts to your friends and family.

**Monday, January 20, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

**Title:** Rivers to Ridges Partnership: Past, Present, and Future

**Presenter:** Fraser McDonald, Willamalane Parks and Recreation District

**Location:** [Amazon Community Center](#), 2700 Hilyard St., Eugene

Fraser is a natural resource planner at Willamalane Park and Recreation District in Springfield, Oregon, where he designs, plans, and implements natural resource management and recreation projects like trail planning and construction and habitat restoration. Prior to working for Willamalane, he worked for Lane County Parks, Lane Council of Governments, Lane Community College, and Long Tom Watershed Council. Fraser has a master's degree in community and regional planning from University of Oregon and a B.S. in natural resource management from University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The Rivers to Ridges Partnership is a voluntary partnership of nineteen organizations that work collaboratively to advance the protection, restoration, and effective management of park and open space resources in the southern Willamette Valley. Through the combined efforts of our partners, a significant amount of what was envisioned in the 2003 Rivers to Ridges vision has been implemented, and a "Vision Refresh" process was recently completed to look forward to what might be possible in our community moving forward over the next 20 years. Join Fraser MacDonald as he shares some of the exciting history of the partnership, where it is headed in the next twenty years, and what opportunities it might create for NPSO members.

## **High Desert**

For information, visit our website: [www.highdesertnpsoregon.org](http://www.highdesertnpsoregon.org) or Facebook page: [Native Plant Society of Oregon: High Desert Chapter](#), or email us at [highdesertnps@gmail.com](mailto:highdesertnps@gmail.com).

Find our latest field trip observations on iNaturalist,

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/high-desert-chapter-nps-field-trips>.

**Thursday, January 23, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

**Presentation:** Habitat Restoration on Deschutes Land Trust Preserves

**Presenter:** Jen Zalewski, Stewardship Manager, Deschutes Land Trust

**Location:** Brooks Room, Downtown Bend Library, 601 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR

## **Klamath Basin**

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, contact [kb\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:kb_president@npsoregon.org), visit

our website: <http://klamathbasinnps.com>, or find us on Facebook: [\(13\) Klamath Basin Chapter - Native Plant Society of Oregon | Facebook](#).

## Portland

Our members receive *The Calochortus*, our monthly e-newsletter with field trips, programs, news, and events for the Portland area. If you are a Portland Chapter member and not receiving it, notify us at [npsopdxchapter@gmail.com](mailto:npsopdxchapter@gmail.com). You'll also find our monthly programs and additional field trips posted on our Meetup page: [meetup.com/NPSO-Portland/](https://meetup.com/NPSO-Portland/). Our Facebook page is regularly updated with current wildflower bloom status and photos: [facebook.com/npsopdx.portland](https://facebook.com/npsopdx.portland). Visit our chapter website at [portlandnativeplants.org](https://portlandnativeplants.org) for archived newsletters and to register for current programs. View recordings of past programs on our YouTube channel. Join one of our iNaturalist projects: [inaturalist.org/projects/npsopdx-collective-annual-projects](https://inaturalist.org/projects/npsopdx-collective-annual-projects). Follow us on Instagram: [instagram.com/npsopdx/](https://instagram.com/npsopdx/).

Members will find links to register for our second Thursday Zoom presentations in each issue of the *Bulletin*, in *The Calochortus* newsletter, and on our social media channels. The Portland Chapter does not host Zoom Programs in July and August.

**Thursday, December 12, 7:00 pm**

**Program: December Photo Show**

**Location: Via Zoom, register [here](#)**

Please join us to share your photos and stories of favorite native plants, field trips, and trails.

Gather your best shots, whether camera or phone, amateur or professional, plants, people or trails, and be prepared to talk (20 photos/7 minutes max) while your photos are shared on screen. Contact Kieran at [Kieranh@gmail.com](mailto:Kieranh@gmail.com) for simple instructions on how to submit your photos. Thursday, December 5 is the deadline to upload your photos. [Register to attend the Zoom program here](#).

**Thursday, January 9, 7:00 pm**

**Program: The Baltimore Woods Story: Saving a Native Woods in an Urban Setting**

**Presenters: Lisa Manning and Jim Barnas, Friends of Baltimore Woods Board Members**

**Location: Zoom, register [here](#)**

The 30-acre Baltimore Woods Connectivity Corridor fills a critical gap in the Willamette Greenway and regional 40-Mile Loop bicycling and walking trails, situated between Cathedral and Pier Parks in North Portland. This unique urban greenway, recognized for its special habitat value to plants and wildlife, faces threats from invasive species and development pressures that could eventually spoil its natural value. Learn how a neighborhood stepped into the position of preserving and restoring this important native habitat. [Register to attend the Zoom program here](#).

**Thursday, February 13, 7:00 pm**

**Program: Cascade Forest Conservancy: Helping to Build Healthy Biodiverse Forest and Aquatic Ecosystems**

**Presenters: Amanda Keasberry, Science and Stewardship Manager for the Cascade Forest Conservancy**

**Location: Zoom, register [here](#)**

Join us for an informative talk about Cascade Forest Conservancy, its stewardship efforts, and lessons learned about building biodiversity and robust ecosystems. [Register to attend the Zoom program here.](#)

## **Siskiyou**

To sign up for the Siskiyou Chapter NPSO monthly eNews on a new platform: [sign up](#)

To view our YouTube Channel and watch past

programs: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXF12J9yp2AYmUzNz0jLLSw>

To join a native plant google group forum: [Siskiyou-Chapter-NPSO-plant-talk@googlegroups.com](mailto:Siskiyou-Chapter-NPSO-plant-talk@googlegroups.com)

To join our Facebook

page: <http://www.facebook.com/SiskiyouChapterNativePlantSocietyOfOregon>

**Thursday, December 12, 7:00 pm**

**Program: Thinking Like an Ecosystem: Collaboration in Native Plant Restoration**

**Speaker: Kathryn Prive**

**Location: In person only at the Phoenix Grange, 209 North Main St., Phoenix, OR, 97535**

This slide presentation explores how The Understory Initiative's grassroots approach is actively helping to restore native ecosystems in southern Oregon. Through collaborative projects like the Rogue Native Plant Partnership and the Upper Rogue Oak Initiative, we'll show how involving local communities and prioritizing their knowledge creates more resilient, thriving landscapes. By thinking like an ecosystem- valuing every part and every voice- we can tackle environmental challenges more effectively.

Kathryn Prive has a M.Sc. in population genetics and ecological restoration from Oregon State University and a B.S in Environmental Science from the University of Oregon. Kathryn has expertise in partnership coordination, population genetics, ecological restoration, and botany. She is passionate about native plant community restoration and seed production. Kathryn's role at The Understory Initiative is to guide program development and foster greater support for herbaceous plant community restoration in Southern Oregon. Kathryn is also the founder and co-coordinator of the Rogue Native Plant Partnership.

**Thursday, January 16, 2025, 7:00 pm**

**Program: Stochasticity in Plant Communities Year Effects and Priority Effects in Recovery from Disturbance.**

**Speaker: Chhaya Werner, Ph.D**

**Location: In-person presentation at our chapter meeting at Southern Oregon University Science Building, Room 161. Join us in-person or via Zoom from home. To register for Zoom, go to <https://bit.ly.npsotalks>.**

As we work to understand and predict ecological interactions in plant communities, we find that timing is an incredibly important component in recovery from disturbance or drought, and the impact and outcome of restoration projects. In particular, the timing and year of community assembly—year effects—and the order of species arrival—priority effects—can have large and lasting impacts on plant communities. We will explore the theory behind these ideas and observations of their impacts in systems including post-fire recruitment, dam removal, and restoration planting.

Dr. Chhaya Werner is an Assistant Professor of Ecology in the department of Environmental Science, Policy & Sustainability at Southern Oregon University. Her PhD work at the University of California, Davis examined the impacts of fire, drought, and priority effects on plant communities, advised by Dr. Truman Young and Dr. Susan Harrison. Her postdoctoral research included developing methods to quantify species interactions in diverse communities, applied to patterns of coexistence in California grasslands. Her current research focuses on mechanisms underpinning plant community dynamics in fire-dependent systems, mountain meadows, and the Klamath reservoirs.

## **South Coast**

The South Coast Chapter covers Curry and Coos counties. Guests or members of other chapters are welcome at our events. To join our mailing list, please contact Andrea Burke at [andreasueburke@gmail.com](mailto:andreasueburke@gmail.com).

Visit our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/NPSOSouthCoastChapter>.

## **Umpqua Valley**

Check out our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO](http://www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO). Not online? - call Donna Rawson at 541-643-0364.

## **Willamette Valley**

**Thursday, December 12, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

**Zoom Program: Gardening for the Bees, Butterflies, and Birds**

David Kollen, Xerces Society Ambassador, will give a Zoom presentation about Oregon pollinators and the critical role they play in our natural and food systems. He will cover the diversity and natural history of our pollinators, the threats facing them, and what we can do to conserve pollinators in our landscapes and communities.

David's work as a Xerces Society Ambassador involves education and outreach. He is an



Oregon Master Naturalist and Apprentice Master Melittologist. He is involved in many citizen science projects and writes pollinator-related articles for the Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs newsletter, *Mahonia*.

Registration is required. For more information and to register for this Zoom presentation, email John Savage at [wvnpsogmail.com](mailto:wvnpsogmail.com).

**Saturday and Sunday, December 14 and 15, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**Field Trip: Silver Falls State Park Winter Festival**

Members of the Willamette Valley Chapter of the NPSO will lead walks to view the conifers and hardwoods of Silver Falls State Park at 11:00 am on both days of the Silver Falls State Park Winter Festival. Other activities include guided mushroom and bird walks; a class on winter plant propagation; and interactive “discovery tables” about the winter solstice, animal tracks, mosses and lichens, bigleaf maple syrup, and how the waterfalls change with the seasons. Visitors can also build bird nest boxes and make wreaths, bird feeders, and paper birds. The guided walks will meet in South Falls Lodge courtyard. All activities are free, but a \$5 parking permit is required. For more information about the Winter Festival, visit the events calendar at [stateparks.oregon.gov](http://stateparks.oregon.gov) or call 503-873-8681. For more information about the tree walks, contact John Savage at [wvnpsogmail.com](mailto:wvnpsogmail.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). Our website is not currently functional.

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Native Plant Interest Groups:

Filipendula

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

NPSO State Officers

- **President:** Steven Yeager, president@npsoregon.org
- **Immediate Past President:** Dan Luoma, past_president@npsoregon.org
- **Vice President:** Judi Sanders, vice-president@npsoregon.org
- **Secretary:** Kim Brown, secretary@npsoregon.org
- **Treasurer:** Sean Cawley, treasurer@npsoregon.org
- **Directors:** Jason Clinch, Dave Garcia, Alexis Larsen, Dick O'Donnell, Marshall Doak, Megan Westby

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- Budgets and Grants: [Dan Luoma](#)
- Bulletin Editor: [Faye Streier](#), Proofreaders: Kaitlin Andersen, Ken Berg, Camille Stewart
- Conservation: [Dick O'Donnell](#) and [Kaitlin Andersen](#)
- Friends Of The OregonFlora Project: [Linda Hardison](#)
- iNaturalist: [Gail Baker](#)
- Legislative: [Dave Garcia](#)
- Membership: [Willow Elliott](#)
- NPSO Fellows: [Lisa Blackburn](#)
- Rare & Endangered Plants: [Jason Clinch](#)
- Webmaster: [Tom Pratum](#)
- More information about our NPSO Fellows [here](#).

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



Website



Facebook

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