



NEVADA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



Pinyon Jay - Jeffrey Pine seed disperser on Peavine Mountain north of Reno. Photo by Alan de Quieroz

SEED DISPERSAL: WHERE THE BIODIVERSITY CRISIS MEETS THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Story by Rose Strickland

Most Nevadans who spend time outdoors during summer and fall have experienced why Forget-Me-Not or Sticktight live up to their common name. It might be a tough job to get these seeds out of one's clothes but this allows these

plants to easily disperse their seeds to new locations. We humans make great seed dispersers for plants like these, but did you know half of all plant species are dependent on animals to disperse their seeds in beaks, dung, fur or wool?

When animal populations decline,

plants can lose important seed dispersers and their ability to establish new populations that are more favorable from a changing climatic standpoint. Researchers reported in the journal *Science* that 60 percent of plants globally are already facing threats in adapting to climate change because of population declines of seed dispersing species (Fricke et al. 2022).

More information can be found at the link to the Smithsonian article below (Gamillo, 2022).

REFERENCES

Fricke, E. C., Ordonez, A., Rogers, H. S., & Svenning, J. C. (2022). The effects of defaunation on plants' capacity to track climate change. *Science*, 375(6577), 210–214. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abk3510>

Gamillo, E. (2022, January 24). With fewer animals to move their seeds, plants are stuck in threatened habitats. *Smithsonian.com*. Retrieved March 31, 2022, from <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/declines-in-seed-eating-animal-populations-are-affecting-plants-abilities-to-adapt-to-climate-change-180979448/>

RAWA: RECOVERING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE ACT

By Rose Strickland

The Nevada Native Plant Society wishes to thank members of the Nevada delegation who are co-sponsoring the bi-partisan S. 2372 and H.R.2773, and to ask for the support of other members. Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) would provide approximately \$1.3 billion annually from currently existing revenues

to states and tribal nations for fish and wildlife through implementation of state wildlife action plans for species of greatest conservation need. RAWA is widely supported by hunters and fishermen, bird watchers, plant and bird societies, partnerships, industries, alliances, etc.

Nevada is one of the most biologically diverse states in the U.S. with over 256 species of greatest conservation need in 22 key habitats. If enacted, RAWA would make eligible \$30 million annually to Nevada to fund wildlife conservation, habitat management and restoration, outdoor recreation and education programs. RAWA explicitly includes plants as eligible for funding if plants are included as a part of the State Wildlife Action Plan. Our State plan is currently being updated and once plants are added, will eventually include up to \$1 million annually for protection and conservation of Nevada plants of greatest conservation need. The Nevada Department of Wildlife would be responsible to approve and administer the grant program to fund conservation projects submitted by state agencies, conservation organizations, land trusts, universities, private landowners, etc.

SOCIETY NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 7th, 7pm - Ann Howald:

Ann will be discussing flora of Mono County. Ann has some interesting stories to tell about native plants we share with California. Don't miss it! Please join us via Zoom for this talk.

April 24th, 10:30a - 5:30p -Earth Day:

We are seeking volunteers to attend the NNP booth for the Reno EarthDay Event at Idlewild Park. If anyone would like to volunteer please let our Events Chair, Shannon Swim, know. You can email her at events@nvnps.org. Note: applications for a booth are due April 8th.

May 5th, 7pm - Zachary Ornsby:

Zachary Ornsby will be discussing *Photography: What's the Story?* Please join us via Zoom for this talk.

MARCH 3RD NNPS MEETING NOTES

By Charlene Duncan

Simply, ethics is the way we treat one another. This includes how we treat all living creatures and how we respect the land. In 1992, the International Society of Ethnobiology established an Ethics Committee to develop a Code of Conduct; in 2006, the ISE Code of Ethics was adopted at the meeting in Chiang Rai, Thailand. The Code embraces the value of "mindfulness," defined as "a continual willingness to evaluate one's own understandings, actions, and responsibilities to others" (ISE 2006). The Code enumerates more exacting principles of research ethics standards and international human rights and environmental law into the study of indigenous cultures, communities, and extends to the surrounding environment upon which humans depend, acknowledging rights and obligations to both living and non-living, past, present, and future (ISE 2006). That said, members of our Society have a responsibility to respect regulations of the State of Nevada, the US Federal

Government, private property, and the sovereignty of our indigenous peoples, in any gathering of plant materials, or collection of native seeds (see links below). We do not condone the digging of native plants from the wild.

- NNPS website: <https://nvnps.org/growing-native-plants>
- BLM Seed Collection Policy: <https://www.blm.gov/policy/im-2013-176>
- Nevada Regulation: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nac/NAC-527>
- NRCS Field Office Guide to Collecting Wildland Seed (MT-50): https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/home/?cid=nrcs144p2_057738

CONSERVATION NOTES

By Rose Strickland

As the newly appointed chair of the NNPS Conservation Committee, I did some online research about plant conservation issues - ones we can learn more about and ones we can take action. Among the many opportunities and needs, I was initially struck by three issues - a global plant issue (See page 1; Seed Dispersal: Where the Biodiversity Crisis Meets the Climate Crisis), a legislative proposal to fund state efforts for species of greatest conservation need, and a federal agency proposal to protect the critical habitat of an endemic Nevada plant species. In this newsletter, I write about the first two issues. I will cover the last issue in the next newsletter. Please send me ideas on plant conservation issues you are interested in or contact me to join the Conservation

Committee and help us work on plant conservation for NNPS.

SUMMARY OF THE 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

By Kris Kuyper

The 2022 Board of Directors meeting was held on January 16, 2022, via Zoom. The meeting started with a welcome to our new board members: Rose Strickland (Conservation Chair), Ranae Zauner (Newsletter), John Weiser, Jess Kindred, and Tiffany Pereira.

The following motions passed:

- NNPS will investigate a more user-friendly web design program.
- All newsletters will be made available on the website to nonmembers except for the current newsletter.
- NNPS reaffirms its commitment to the Rare Plant Workshop with the intention of holding one at the soonest opportunity.
- The Nominating Committee will convene in September in preparation for elections in November.
- Grant monies for the Margaret Williams grant will be made available in the sum of \$2,500 for 2022.

Summary of Committee Reports

Publications:

Editorial work continues for the Mary Winter's book and the NW Nevada Wildflower Book. 150 rulers were sold,

they have been very popular. 100 NNPS calendars were created with Mixbook and sold in 2021. The submission date for photos for the 2022 calendars will be earlier this year (end of August) to allow more time for editing and production. NNPS archives will be updated where they are stored at the Nevada Historical Society and Special Collections in the library. Janel is stepping down as chair of the publications committed and Jerry Tiehm is taking over.

Website:

We had about 28,000 visitors to our website in 2021. We sold \$835 worth of publications through our website in 2021. We processed \$4040 worth of membership payments in 2021. Committee assignments will be updated on the website.

Newsletter:

We published 6 newsletters this year. Reese is stepping down as newsletter editor and Ranae Zauner will be taking over.

Programs:

We hosted six Zoom meetings for NNPS, March- May, September-November, as well as the evening program of the Eriogonum Society 2021 Annual Meeting in Elko, NV. On average the meeting participants were half members and half Southern or Northern Nevada.

Social Media:

To date, our social media outreach is limited to our Facebook page. Page followers increased from 1,386 to 1,892 over the year. Since the formation of the Social Media Committee in 2021, we have been scheduling three posts a week and sharing additional information such

as Society meetings, job postings, news articles, and posts from other societies and organizations that are relevant to native plants. In 2021 there were 271 posts!

Events:

NNPS did not participate in any events this year on account of the on-going Covid-19 pandemic.

Membership:

There were a total of 197 members across all membership categories in 2021 (+21 members from 2020). The greatest increase was in three-year memberships.

Treasurer:

The overall total of the NNPS bank accounts is \$31,107.86. Total income for 2021 was \$4,509.03 which included a \$2,000 prepayment from the NE Nevada Stewardship Group for the Mary Winter's book. Expenses totaled \$3,573.33 which included \$1,000 in research grants. The net gain for the year was \$935.70.

NEWSLETTER

Have something to share? We would love to consider your recent trip reports, phenology reports, or Nevada botanical musings for the NNPS newsletter. Contact the editor, Ranae Zauner, for details.

CURRENT OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS

President: Vacant

Vice President: Arnold (Jerry) Tiehm,
atiehm@unr.edu

Recording Secretary: Kris Kuyper,
secretary@nvnps.org

Treasurer: Gary Reese
treasurer@nvnps.org

Membership Coordinator (Corresponding secretary): Morgan Triege,
membership@nvnps.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Emma Wynn	Hermi Hiatt
Sarah Harelson	John Weiser
Tiffany Pereira	Jess Kindred

CHAIRPERSONS

Archivists: Vacant

Conservation: Rose Strickland

Events: Shannon Swim, events@nvnps.org

Field Trips: Vacant

Grants: Jim Morefield, grants@nvnps.org

Horticulture & Loring Williams Memorial Garden: Vacant

Mailing: Connie Douglas (newsletters)
Judy Davis (wildflower books)

Newsletter Editor: Ranae Zauner,
ranaezauner@gmail.com
newsletter@nvnps.org

Programs and Hospitality: Charlene Duncan

Publications: Jim Morefield, Arnold Tiehm

Rare Plants: Jim Morefield
rareplants@nvnps.org

Social Media:
Emma Wynn, social@nvnps.org
Sarah Kulpa

Webmaster: Janel Johnson
webmaster@nvnps.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name_____

Phone_____

Mailing Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Email_____ ☐ Renewal

Newsletter preference: ☐ Paper ☐ Electronic

- | | | |
|---|----------|--|
| • Individual, family or group for one year | \$20.00 | Dues are for the calendar year in which you join. Membership expiration dates are on the mailing labels. |
| • Individual, family or group for three years | \$50.00 | |
| • Student or senior citizen, each year | \$15.00 | |
| • Life membership | \$500.00 | |

Gifts, and bequests are tax deductible.

Your donation in any amount is appreciated \$_____

Please make checks payable and mail to: NNPS • P.O. Box 8965 • Reno, NV 89507