



NEVADA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

The Nevada Native Seed Partnership recently announced a new award of “\$3.74 million for habitat restoration in the Great Basin”

From their news release:

RENO, Nevada– The Nevada Native Seed Partnership announced today that it was awarded \$3.74 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)/Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR) funding to increase native seed collection, production, and use in restoration across the Great Basin.

"A lack of readily available native seed and plant materials prevents us from successfully restoring ecosystems," said Sarah Kulpa, botanist and restoration ecologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Reno, Nevada. "This funding will help us, in the Great Basin, increase the supply of native seeds to meet the growing restoration demand, as these seeds are one of our most powerful tools for conserving and restoring healthy and resilient ecosystems."

Across the Great Basin there are 3,189 native plant species. The right native seed exists on the landscape, unfortunately, much of the infrastructure and resources needed to collect, grow, clean, and store native seed doesn't. The Nevada Native Seed Partnership will use this funding to jump start new or shore up existing projects or initiatives to help bridge gaps in the native seed supply chain.

"I am so excited about this project, as it is going to create the resources in Nevada to

tackle all parts of the restoration cycle," said Elizabeth Leger, foundation professor and director of the University of Nevada Reno Museum of Natural History. "Historically, we have relied on surrounding states for some of these steps, and not surprisingly, the native plants that grow naturally in Nevada haven't been their main targets. Now, we will be able to collect Nevada's plants, clean and store seeds in-state, move them to growers for increase, and then get them back out on Nevada's wild lands!"



Native Seed Supply Chain ©Bureau of Land Management

Thirty-three million dollars were made available in fiscal year 2024 to support BIL/BAR habitat restoration needs across the Department of Interior, and additional funds are anticipated in fiscal years 2025 and 2026.

This year's funding will be distributed to various partners across the Great Basin in support of the following efforts: \$1.4 million for seed collection, \$1.2 million for seed production, \$548,831 to establish an equipment network to support native seed growers, and \$536,188 for seed cleaning and storage

"There is an ever-growing demand for native seed in order to address the threats and restoration needs of our natural habitats," Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Great Basin Research Center coordinator Kevin Gunnell said. "The information to facilitate the production of native seed at the needed quantities is as important as the seed itself. This funding will help to ensure we can empower seed producers with the knowledge and resources needed to meet and sustain active restoration efforts across the Western U.S."

Funding to support the use of BIL/BAR to proactively develop plant materials was approved by the Department of Interior Fire Directors. This funding was focused on landscapes that are unlikely to recover naturally from large-scale high-severity wildfire by ensuring plant materials, like native seeds or nursery plugs, are available to

revegetate and restore habitat impacted by wildfire. By focusing investments now on developing the infrastructure necessary to collect and produce native seed, land managers across the Great Basin will be able to procure and use the right, locally adapted native seed in post-fire restoration projects in the future.

About the Nevada Native Seed Partnership:

Inspired by the National Seed Strategy, the Nevada Native Seed Partnership was established in 2017 to help Nevada increase the availability of locally adapted native seed to restore diverse plant communities and sustainable landscapes across the state. The NNSP is guided by the Nevada Seed Strategy and is made up of the following agencies: the Bureau of Land Management, Nevada Conservation Districts Program, Nevada Department of Agriculture, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Nevada Division of Forestry, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, University of Nevada, Nevada Division of Natural Heritage, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, The Great Basin Institute, U.S. Geological Survey, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Walker Basin Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy and the Nevada Department of Transportation.

For more information, visit their website: <https://www.partnersinthesage.com/nevada-native-seed-partnership>

Call for volunteer citizen scientists in central Nevada!

Dr. Benjamin Wong Blonder, an Assistant Professor at UC Berkeley, needs volunteers to collect leaf tissue from quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) stands in the mountain ranges of central Nevada. This leaf tissue will be used for DNA sequencing as part of a Department of Energy and US Department of Agriculture-funded project to understand the genetic basis of drought tolerance and climate risk in the species.

Dr. Blonder needs help starting in early June, or whenever leaf-out occurs. He has a collection permit from the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest under which any volunteers could work. The fieldwork is simple; the hard part is getting to the sites. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Dr. Blonder for instructions and collecting materials at benjamin.blonder@berkeley.edu

Native plant nursery blossoms with new growth and community initiatives

by Amy Wruck

It's hard to believe that just a month ago we were still covering our plants overnight. It has been a warm May here in Smith and Mason Valley, and the plants have forgotten all about winter in the Yerington nursery. Small-leaf globemallow (*Sphaeralcea parvifolia*) is blooming, the Hooker's evening primrose (*Oenothera elata*) is bolting, and 75 other species of native shrubs, forbs, and grasses are verdant with spring growth.

Over in Smith Valley at the Conservancy's new production facilities, we have a cold stratification chamber up and running, along with two polytunnels full of propagation flats. We have seeded 309,000 plugs of 36 species this year, with 56 more species to come, and germination rates overall have been higher than expected. The hardworking nursery staff – Kate, Lori, Jamie, and Melissa – are staying attentive to all the new plant material. They have potted up over 57,000 plugs so far.

Examples of plants we are growing at scale include typical restoration species, such as 12,000 antelope bitterbrush (*Purshia*

tridentata) for a revegetation project at Hallelujah Junction Wildlife Area led by Backcountry Hunters and Anglers. We are also propagating forbs: *Argemone munita*, *Asclepias* spp., *Balsamorhiza sagittata*, *Clematis ligusticifolia*, *Crepis acuminata*, *Eriogonum umbellatum*, *Grindelia squarrosa*, *Heliomeris multiflora*, *Iris missouriensis*, *Lomatium* spp., *Lupinus argenteus*, *Penstemon* spp., and *Potentilla gracilis* – to name a few. One of the nursery's goals is to increase the local supply of native forb plants because they are often difficult to source in large quantities for plantings.

Many of these forbs are featured alongside native flowering shrubs at the entrance to the Smith production nursery in a pollinator garden that AmeriCorps crews planted this winter from plants grown in the nursery. Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) and slender cinquefoil (*Potentilla gracilis*) are already blooming in the garden. Besides supporting plantings and landscape-scale restoration, we also hope that the Conservancy's nursery in



Smith Valley pollinator garden ©Amy Wruck

Smith will serve members of the local community and spread appreciation for Nevada native plants.

On this front, we are building a point-of-sale system for retail and a nursery website to provide availability and horticultural information to the public. In the meantime, the Yerington nursery is open by appointment. Inquiries can be made through the contact form on the Conservancy's website: walkerbasin.org. We will also be opening our doors at the beginning of summer for a tour of our Smith property. **Mark your calendars for June 25th at 10am**, when the Walker Basin Conservancy will host an open house as part of the Nevada Native Seed Partnership's roadshow series.



Sphaeralcea parvifolia in the nursery ©Amy Wruck

Featured plant: *Hydrophyllum alpestre* by Christopher Mackessy AKA Trash Panda Permaculture

Where are the flowers?! The Alpine Waterleaf is one of the few herbs in our woodlands that are often first recognized by their foliage, despite their beautiful and lovely-scented floral parts. A perennial herb native to the Western United States, this plant has the unique characteristic of stationing its flowers amidst the soil beneath its leaves. However, take a closer look, and you'll find one of the most stunning wildflowers in northern Nevada.

Often confused with the *Phacelia* genus which commonly grows right alongside, *Hydrophyllum* are typically differentiated by the form of their inflorescences (and roots). *Phacelia* typically present as coiled, scorpion-tail-like while *Hydrophyllum* is often spherical. While *Hydrophyllum* previously was in the Hydrophyllaceae family, they are now considered Boraginaceae. Debate continues to ensue.

So, beginning there, on *Hydrophyllum alpestre* (A. Nelson & P.B. Kenn.) we find a densely hairy globose cyme. Its flowers are bell-shaped, often occurring in shades of purple but can also range from blue to nearly white. There is a reduced or essentially



From above ©Jared Manninen



From the side ©Steve Matson

non-existent stem for each cyme, accounting for its low stature. The flowers are in bloom typically from May to July, depending on elevation. They often enjoy shade in our more arid climate east of the crest but we've found them in full sun in more moist conditions.

The pinnately lobed leaves arise from their rhizomes and are positioned atop a reddish petiole. Like the other parts, these are also quite hairy in their presentation. Fruits follow this theme though sometimes become glabrous in age, eventually giving way to brownish seeds. While a variety of pollinators assist (including bees, flies, and even hummingbirds!), all *Hydrophyllum* species are capable of self-fertilization.

The species name of *alpestre* comes from the Latin 'alpestris' meaning something that is growing nearly in the alpine. It also holds the secondary meaning of land that is simply higher than the surrounding areas. *Hydrophyllum* on the other hand, comes from the Greek and translates to Waterleaf, where we also derive its common name. One of the few times where the common name (Alpine Waterleaf) is a nearly exact match to the binomial.

Ethnobotanically, all parts of the plant were used traditionally as food. The sweet flowers accompanied many Native American dishes as an edible, tasty garnish. Tender meristematic leaves and stems were harvested as greens and utilized both raw and cooked. Some tribes also boiled or steamed the large and fleshy

rhizomes. With that said, Alpine Waterleaf is now listed as vulnerable in Nevada (S3 state ranking; Explorer.NatureServe.org) and has a limited distribution, primarily in the Eastern Sierra Nevada and other high-elevation ranges in the state. Care should be taken not to disturb or harvest these plants today, especially in Nevada.

The next time you're out on the trails of the Eastern Sierra Nevada, don't forget to get down on your belly and look under to find these magnificent flowers.

Editor's Note: Synonyms for this species include *Hydrophyllum capitatum* Douglas ex Benth. var. *alpinum* S. Watson; *Hydrophyllum alpinum* (S. Watson) Greene ex Brand, inval. - Jepson eFlora.



Flowers close up ©Trash Panda Permaculture



Cyme side view ©Steve Matson

Featured research:

When did flowering plants appear and evolve to dominate life on Earth?

by Rose Strickland

Answering these complex questions has engaged 279 researchers from 27 countries in a groundbreaking study that mapped the genetic relationships and timelines of over 9,500 flowering plant species in building a tree of life for all 330,000 known species of flowering plants on Earth. The study used the plant's primary genome, stored in the cell's nucleus instead of the genome of the plant's chloroplast on which previous research was based. This technique enabled the sequencing of a wide diversity of plant material, both live and stored as specimens in 163 herbaria across 48 countries.

Led by the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, researchers sampled 7,923 angiosperm genera, charting the evolutionary and genetic connections of flowering plants since their beginning burst of biodiversity 150 million years ago in the late Jurassic and early Cretaceous periods when dinosaurs still thrived on the planet (see Figure 1 on page 6). These plants rapidly overtook other vascular plants, including gymnosperms. In order to scale the Tree of Life and the plants' evolutionary history, the researchers studied 200 fossils of flowers. Until 40 million years ago when the planet cooled, they found that the steady evolution of the plants was interrupted by another surge in biodiversity, until flowering plants now account for about 90% of all known plant life on land, from farm fields to tropical forests, from alpine areas to deserts.

Since their origins, flowering plants "...have had a pervasive influence on the biosphere of the Earth, shaping climatic changes, supporting the structure and assembly of biomes, and influencing the diversification of other organisms, such as insects, fungi, and birds," according to the authors.

In addition to enhancing our understanding of the genetic and evolutionary history of flowering plants, the enhanced Tree of Life is extremely valuable to future biodiversity research. According to one researcher, "large analyses such as this can provide context for conservation strategies, sustainable agriculture, and many other applications that need basic biodiversity knowledge. Understanding how organisms are related is the building block of all biodiversity science and applications."

When asked about this comprehensive DNA plant research and its impacts on Nevada species, Arnold Tiehm, Curator of the UNR Herbarium, said "The more plants that have their DNA extracted, the more hidden species will be found. We have several under investigation in Nevada that came to light from DNA work. So, some things will change."

The research was published in the journal *Nature* in April 2024 and is open and freely accessible to the public and scientists, including through the Kew Tree of Life Explorer.

Citation: Zuntini, A.R., Carruthers, T., Maurin, O. et al. Phylogenomics and the rise of the angiosperms. *Nature* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-024-07324-0>

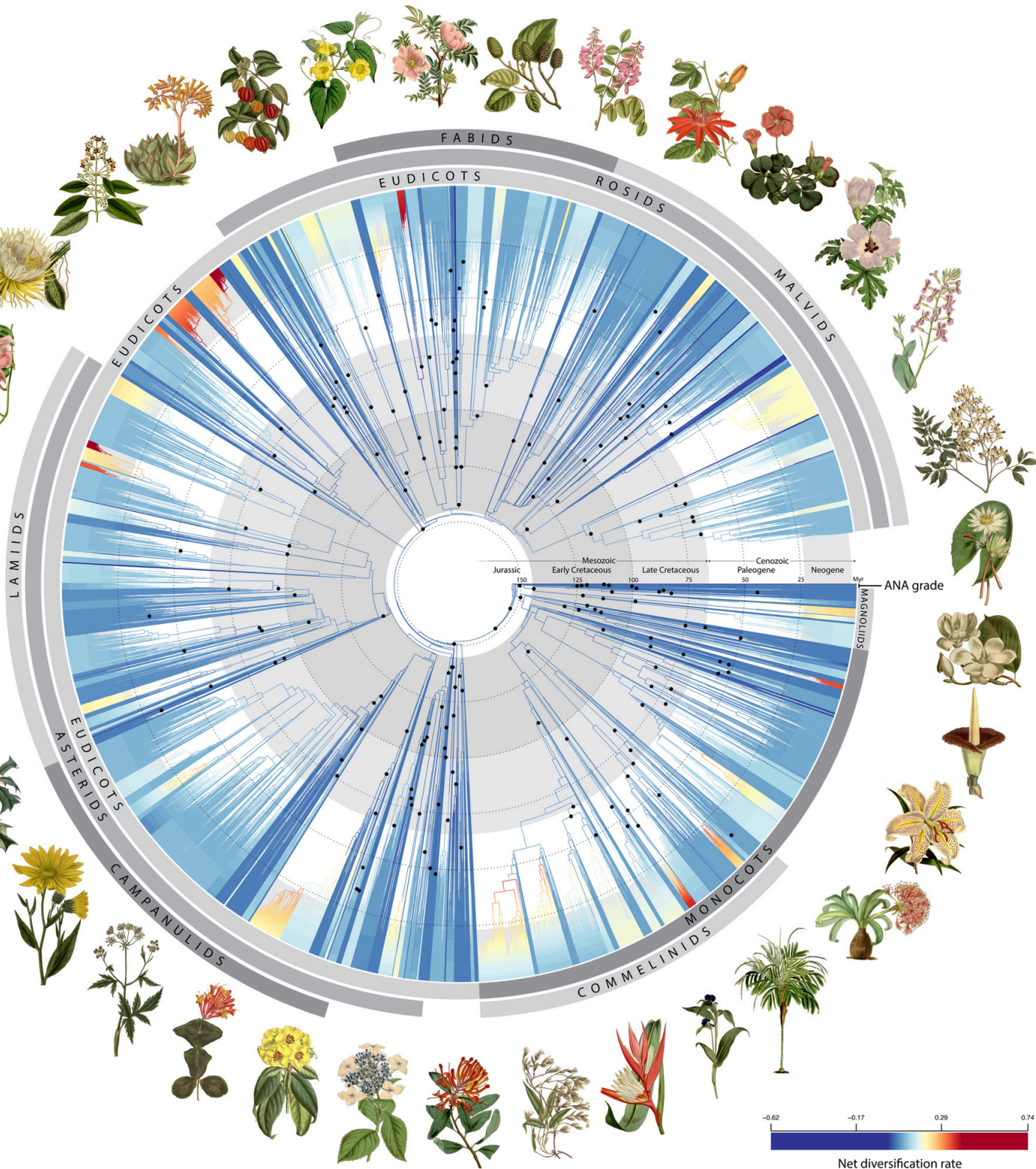


Figure 1 from the Nature paper: “Time-calibrated phylogenetic tree for angiosperms based on 353 nuclear genes. All 64 orders, all 416 families and 58% (7,923) of genera are represented. The young tree is illustrated here... with branch colours representing net diversification rates. Black dots at nodes indicate the phylogenetic placement of fossil calibrations... Plant portraits illustrating key orders were sourced from Curtis’s Botanical Magazine (Biodiversity Heritage Library). These portraits, by S. Edwards, W. H. Fitch, W. J. Hooker, J. McNab and M. Smith, were first published between 1804 and 1916 (for a key to illustrations see Supplementary Table 2). A high-resolution version of this figure can be downloaded from doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10778206 (ref. 55).”

New home for the Wesley E. Niles Herbarium

by Hermi Hiatt

The April 4th meeting of the Nevada Native Plant Society was held at the College of Southern Nevada's Henderson Campus with about twelve members present in person and the remainder on Zoom from Reno. Our speaker was Dr. Marcus Hooker, Collections Manager of the Wesley E. Niles Herbarium. He introduced us to the history of the herbarium and its 2023 relocation to CSN. The Herbarium was started in 1970 by Dr. Wesley Niles when he began curating the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' collections of dried and pressed plants. By 1974, the collection had grown to the point that it was designated as one of 105 American Herbaria to be considered a "National Resource Collection" (Hooker, M. 2024: NNPS Newsletter Vol. 50, No. 1). The current collection consists of almost 70,000 specimens, with the majority of the plants from Nevada, and less than 1,000 each from California and Arizona. Marcus also described the oldest specimen in the collection, *Ceanothus crassifolius* from 1882, and 112 Type Specimens from 28 families and 48 genera.



Oldest specimen from Nevada in the facility
©Wesley E. Niles Herbarium



Herbarium interior ©Marcus Hooker

As a student at UNLV, I collected many plants to be housed at the Wesley E. Niles Herbarium. My interest was mostly in what adaptations plants make to flourish in the harsh Mojave Desert (e.g., sunken stomates to prevent water loss and other tricks). While I did not compare specimens to other collections as part of my work, I understood the value of this Herbarium. For years, the threat to close the Herbarium lurked in the background since UNLV wanted to repurpose the space. According to Marcus, since 1997 over 100 herbaria have closed in North America, including some collections from high powered universities like Duke and Stanford. Relocation of the Wesley E. Niles Herbarium to CSN was a blessing after years of threats to close and dispose of the valuable plant collections. The lecture Marcus presented for NNPS rekindled my interest in Mojave Desert plants and the preservation of specimens. I have been volunteering at Sloan Canyon National Conservation area and the BLM recently asked me to make a plant list. I have already collected a few plants and they are still in a plant press at the Sloan Canyon Visitor Station. Now they have a place to go!

Bottom line, properly preserved plants do matter, and represent irreplaceable records of our flora. Fortunately, the Wesley E. Niles Herbarium still exists to house this collection.

Native bee ID class available this summer

The Museum of Natural History at the University of Nevada, Reno is offering a new class for beginner through intermediate bee observers:

Nevada Bee Course, August 1-2, 2024

- Instructors: Anthony D. Vaudo, Biological Scientist, U.S. Forest Service; Jessica Buelow, Ph.D. Student, Ecology, Evolution & Conservation Biology, UNR; Cynthia Scholl, Education and Collections Coordinator, UNR Museum of Natural History
 - Description: An introduction to bee diversity and identification with a classroom and field component. The classroom portion will use museum specimens to learn the most recognizable genera in the Great Basin and Sierra Nevada. Resources and tips for more difficult genera will be covered along with photography and community science platforms for ID. Native bee natural history, monitoring and survey methods, threats to insect populations, and habitat restoration for pollinators will also be discussed.
 - Cost: \$150 non-student; \$45 student
 - Sign up by emailing Cynthia, cscholl@unr.edu
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Conservation news:

Land purchase secures future for Monte Neva paintbrush by Janel Johnson

There is exciting news for rare plant conservation this year. The privately-owned parcel at Monte Neva Hot Springs came up for sale and the Conserve Nevada fund was able to purchase the land. The state is currently working on plans to protect the endangered Monte Neva paintbrush (*Castilleja salsuginosa*) that is found on the site while providing safe access for the public. Visitation is currently discouraged due to the dangerously hot springs and sensitive habitat where the plants are found. Surveys conducted in 2023 by the Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Nevada Division of Natural Heritage show that approximately 60% of the global population of the paintbrush is found on this property.

At the Hot Spring Hill population of the paintbrush, serious resource damage had occurred due to the unpermitted development of a hot spring tub and recreational vehicles driving through the delicate wet meadows.

Last fall, the BLM constructed a pipe rail fence around most of the population to keep



Monte Neva Paintbrush ©Janel Johnson

vehicles out of the meadow. Walk-in access is still available to the soaking tub. It will take time but hopefully, the scars at this site will heal and the paintbrush, shooting stars, and

other wildflowers will flourish once again. With these two developments, the tiny global population of Monte Neva paintbrush is now much more secure.

Endangered Tiehm's buckwheat faces significant threat at Rhyolite Ridge

by Rose Strickland

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) published a draft Environmental Impact Statement (dEIS) last month on Ioneer's proposed Rhyolite Ridge Lithium-Boron Mining Project (eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2012309/510). The document considers the environmental impacts of the mining proposal and, specifically of great concern to the NNPS, impacts on Tiehm's buckwheat (*Eriogonum tiehmii*). This endemic, endangered plant is known from only one population, comprising eight subpopulations restricted to approximately 10 acres on BLM land (USFWS Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 192), which are all within the proposed mine site. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service also designated 910 acres surrounding the subpopulations as its critical habitat.

The BLM considered the environmental impacts of the mining proposal as described in a Plan of Operations and developed three alternatives to address the potential impacts. The first, no-action alternative would have no adverse impacts on Tiehm's buckwheat since BLM would not approve the mine at that site. The second, proposed action has the most significant adverse impacts on the eight populations of Tiehm's buckwheat as it would result in the disturbance and degradation of 354 acres (34%) of designated critical habitat and the permanent loss of 97 acres (11%) of critical habitat. The third alternative would result in the disturbance and degradation of 197 acres (22%) and the permanent destruction and loss of 45 acres (5%) of the critical habitat of Tiehm's buckwheat. The mining plan of operations includes a deep open pit, tons of excavation and waste rock

dumping, substantial dust generation, multiple roads and trails, and other facilities surrounding the eight subpopulations. A "Buckwheat Protection Plan: Applicant Proposed Conservation Measures for Tiehm's Buckwheat and its Critical Habitat" was voluntarily proposed and developed by Ioneer and is included in the dEIS Appendix 1. In the opinion of the NNPS Conservation Committee, this Plan does not adequately protect the plant and its habitat from substantial degradation and loss disclosed in the second and third alternatives in the dEIS.

The Conservation Committee on behalf of our Society has submitted comments to the BLM supporting the no-action alternative and objecting to the two others for failing to protect Tiehm's buckwheat and its critical habitat as required by the Endangered Species Act.



Tiehm's Buckwheat ©Matt Berger

Field trip reports:

April 13th, Lower Thomas Creek and Arrowcreek Openspace

by Emma Wynn

17 people gathered on a sunny spring morning to observe spring wildflowers and learn about the geology and land use in this area. Plants seen in bloom include: *Ribes velutinum*, *Lomatium austinae*, *Lomatium nevadense*, *Antennaria dimorpha*, *Idaho scapigera*, *Astragalus purshii*, *Collinsia parviflora*, *Microsteris gracilis*, *Ranunculus glaberrimus*, *Lithophragma glabrum*, *Viola beckwithii*, *Draba verna*, *Holosteum umbellatum*, and *Erodium cicutarium*. We also saw the leaves of many other plants that will flower later in the year, including: *Calochortus bruneauensis*, *Agoseris* sp., *Lomatium macrocarpum*, *Perideridia bolanderi*, *Senecio integerrimus*, *Trifolium macrocephalum*,

Phacelia heterophylla, *Toxicosordion paniculatum*, and *Delphinium andersonii*. The Beckwith's violets were a highlight of the day with their diversity and density. They made our hearts sing with the joy of spring.



Viola beckwithii ©Emma Wynn

April 28th, Hoge Road on Peavine Mountain

by Connie Douglas

A great group (20 people) of budding botanists and seasoned plant experts gathered on this spring morning to explore the plants on the east slope of Peavine Mountain, at the top of Hoge Road in Reno. Right out of the cars we found Tidy tips, *Layia glandulosa*, both yellow and white *Lomatium*, *Plectritis* with tiny white flowers, and blue Anderson's larkspur, *Delphinium andersonii*. We followed our usual wandering route through the sagebrush, with people gathering around the flowering plants and discussing the genus and species. Among those people who lent their expertise were John Weiser, Emma Wynn, and Christopher Mackessy, as well as trip leaders Tina Nappe and Bonnie Larsen. We saw a few of the small *Aphyllon*, formerly *Orobanche*, and discussed their parasitic nature. On the dry, gravelly hillsides we found two species of *Astragalus*, the low *purshii*, Pursh's milkvetch (or the more descriptive common name, Rabbit's foot milkvetch), and the taller *andersonii*, Anderson's milkvetch. I like the description of *Astragalus purshii* from the

Peavine issue of *Mentzelia*, the Journal of the Northern Nevada Native Plant Society, Number 6, 1992, "Low tufted perennial with soft, slender tangled hairs; pods ovoid to ovoid-acuminate, densely covered with cottony-hairs 2-5 mm long."

Farther along we found several *Penstemon roezlii*, large spreads of *Trifolium macrocephalum*, the impressive big-headed clover, and a few *Lithophragma glabrum*, the delicate rock star. We hoped to find yellow bells, *Fritillaria pudica*, but we found only a small number fruiting. It seemed we were past their peak bloom. In the past, I've found large patches of them a little higher on the mountain, along the Total Recall Trail, and just a little earlier in April. Near the end of the outing, we found a small but beautiful clump of *Lewisia rediviva*, bitterroot, that Emma Wynn had found on a scouting trip. Many thanks to members Tina Nappe (a member since 1975!) and Bonnie Larsen for researching and leading this very enjoyable trip.

May 4th, Tour of Washoe State Tree Nursery

by Emma Wynn

In early May, 16 people braved the wild weather to visit the Nevada Division of Forestry's State Tree Nursery in Washoe Valley. Cory King, manager for the state nursery program and the seed bank program shared the work of the nursery and some of its challenges. Dan Greytak, who founded the Washoe tree nursery in 1978, attended the tour and provided some historical perspectives.

The Washoe State Tree Nursery supplies trees, shrubs, grasses, and perennials native or adapted to the Great Basin and Sierra Nevada. The state nursery program can produce up to 250,000 plants each year and has experience growing 250 different plant species. The nurseries grow most of their stock from seed or cuttings.

The nursery is not a regular retail nursery though it does sell to members of the public who meet the following criteria: Plants purchased must be used for conservation purposes pursuant to NRS 528.105. The land on which the plants are to be planted must be a parcel of 1 acre or more. For more information, visit: forestry.nv.gov/washoe-state-tree-nursery

We were able to shelter in one of the two greenhouses as the wind battered the area. Growing native plants inside has a variety of challenges, such as water, soil, light intensity, and pest control. The local well water is very alkaline which makes growing conifers and other plants that require acid soils difficult. The soil mix used for seeds is currently a mix of peat moss, perlite, and compost with vermiculite sometimes used as a mulch. That mix is evolving, especially as peat moss harvesting is considered environmentally unsound in many parts of the world. The greenhouses get very hot in the summer and to prevent overheating, liquid shade, a whitewash-type product, is applied to the outside of the greenhouses in the summer. We were intrigued to see pots of *Alyssum* in both

both greenhouses, used as part of the insect pest control efforts as they attract many beneficial insects such as syrphid flies, lady beetles, lacewings, and parasitic wasps, all of which are natural enemies of aphids and other plant-feeding insects. For more information: vanvlietgreenhouses.com/bio-solution-sweet-alyssum

We were interested to find out what was growing in the supercells and D-pots, and we were surprised to see *Elaeagnus angustifolia*, Russian olive, amongst native species like *Rorippa subumbellata*, *Purshia tridentata*, *Artemesia* sp., and *Shepherdia argentea*. Ranchers have typically planted the non-native, invasive Russian olive to use as a windbreak. The *Rorippa* is being grown for the Washoe to use in restoration projects at Lake Tahoe. Most of the plants grown at the nursery are commissioned by different groups for restoration or other large projects. Local seed is used when possible and seed is obtained from sources like prison crews and the Seeds of Success program. There are some mature trees, bushes, and perennials on the property to provide seed as well as show what the mature plants look like.



Cory King talking to NNPS members ©Emma Wynn

Society updates

The Nevada Native Plant Society is on a summer break from meetings until September 8th to focus on in-person field trips and events over the summer. For the latest updates, either reach out to events@nvnps.org; check the calendar on the new website: nvnps.org/calendar; or follow us on Facebook.

NNPS has had a busy events season thus far! We have tabled at four events in Northern Nevada (TMCC Earth Day, Reno Earth Day, May Arboretum Plant Sale, and Celebrate Washoe Valley). In Southern Nevada, there was the Ash Meadows Celebration which was attended by several NNPS members, and the opening party for the Wesley E Niles Herbarium that had about 60 visitors! We spoke with hundreds of folks about the importance and awesomeness of native plants with pictures, games, and resources, including directing them to our wonderful new website! We could not have done it without all our fabulous volunteers who showed up in droves this year. Huge shout out to Emma Wynn, Charlie Duncan, Sarah Kulpa, John Dyer, Kris Kuyper, John Weiser, Carrie Jensen, Alison Agneray, James Gatzke, Tina Nappe, Bonnie Larsen, and Jackee Picciani. And extra special thanks to Emma Wynn, Charlie Duncan, and John Weiser who showed up to all four northern NV events and also provided native plants for the Arboretum plant sale. These events allow NNPS to share our mission and love of native plants with folks from all walks of life and we could not do it without all our wonderful volunteers!

NNPS would love to attend more events in Southern NV. If you are interested in pioneering any efforts down south please reach out to Emma Wynn at president@nvnps.org or Shannon Swim at shannonswim@gmail.com.

As of our new website launch on April 11th, we have 22 new and renewed members. Welcome everyone and thank you for joining! An extra special thank you to Dominic Gentilcore and Elizabeth Leger for becoming lifetime members.

- Tessa Bartz
- Jacob Burgess
- Leslie Castle
- Alexandria DeVita
- David Dewenter
- Belle Eckert
- Mary Eklund
- Marisa Ernst
- Dominic Gentilcore
- Lisa Knudson
- Kris Kuyper
- Megan Lahti
- Jessica Lance
- Beth Leger
- Lynne Llewellyn
- Joshua Lovera
- Denali Lowder
- Christopher Mackessy
- Gabriela Mccord
- Julie Morrison
- Beth Newingham
- Franco Rios
- Leah Saunders
- Kendyl Warren
- Yvonne Williams

If you are interested in having your work featured in the newsletter or if you have any comments, please reach out to Alison Agneray, Newsletter Editor, at aagneray@gmail.com. Newsletters are published six times per year in even-numbered months and distributed only to active NNPS members.

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