

# Douglasia

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*Journal of the*  
WASHINGTON  
NATIVE PLANT  
SOCIETY

*To promote the appreciation  
and conservation of Washington's  
native plants and their habitats  
through study, education,  
and advocacy.*

## **American Alps Legacy Project**

Page 2

## **The Marion Ownbey Herbarium**

Page 7

## **Native Plant Signage at Capitol Lake**

Page 11



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish

## Information for Contributors

Members and others are invited to submit material for publication in *Douglasia*. Articles, book reviews, poetry, photography or illustrations are welcome. All materials submitted should relate to the study of Washington's native plants. Acceptance will be based on space and appropriateness, and materials are subject to copyediting (substantive editing with author's permission). Contributors are reminded that the *Douglasia* audience ranges from professional botanist to the interested enthusiast. For more information about how to contribute, see [http://www.wnps.org/publications/douglasia/douglasia\\_contributors.html](http://www.wnps.org/publications/douglasia/douglasia_contributors.html).

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| Deadline                 | Issue  | Members receive approximately |
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| June 1                   | Fall   | August 1                      |
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## A Note About This Issue

As I write this in early April, the wind is blowing and it is raining sideways, so I am grateful to be working on this issue which includes articles that help me look ahead to better weather to come, and suggests great opportunities to go out and enjoy the natural wonders of our state. We have two very enticing articles in this issue guaranteed to lure you out this summer. The first details the efforts of the North Cascades Conservation Council to expand the North Cascades National Park giving vivid descriptions of less protected areas surrounding the park. The second is a description of the Blue Creek Trail in the Teanaway area south of Blewett Pass, complete with descriptions of the amazing flora that will be found there.

We are grateful to all of our contributors who take the time to let us know about these areas that we might not be familiar with, as well as those who keep us informed about various projects ongoing around the state that positively impact our natural habitats. If you have a favorite botanical destination or are involved in a restoration project, or have other ideas for articles, we welcome your participation. *Douglasia* offers the opportunity to generate interest in and share your experiences with members from around the state. If you have questions about contributing, check the website for instructions for contributors, or feel free to e-mail me with your questions. Enjoy the summer!

Cynthia Spurgeon  
Managing Editor

**Front Cover:** The illustration of *Cypripedium montanum* by Jeanne R. Janish was reprinted from *Flora of the Pacific Northwest* by C. Leo Hitchcock and Arthur Cronquist. See page 12 for an article by Don Knoke.

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## Letter to WNPS Members

*Ed. note: The following is a letter from Pene Speaks of the Washington Department of Natural Resources, expressing thanks for support from Native Plant Society members to maintain funding for the Natural Heritage Program, and to inform us of the outcome of the budget process. Great job, everyone, we can make a difference!*

The staff of the Natural Heritage Program all extends heartfelt thanks for the Washington Native Plant Society's efforts regarding our funding in the recently passed state supplemental budget. The letters and other outreach you and your members did really made a difference in promoting and defending the Natural Heritage Program to legislative committees, staff and individual legislators. We are so appreciative of your work in support of the NH program and the effort to ensure we can continue to connect science and conservation action for the state. I wanted to give you a brief synopsis of the final outcome.

### Budget

The State Legislature has finally passed a budget and gone home for the year! The good news is that the Natural Heritage Program did not receive any further reduction in funding. Of course, nothing in this budget world is quite that straight forward or simple. The adopted supplemental (mid-biennium) budget does reduce general funds for the NH program by \$150,000 but that funding is replaced by money in the NRCA Stewardship Account as a one-time patch to the program's budget. The Stewardship account is a dedicated account for the Natural Areas and Natural Heritage Programs, is appropriated by the legislature and has carried a balance of ~ \$250,000 for the past few years with a small biennial appropriation (\$34,000) going to the NA program. So, the NH and NA programs remain funded at the level we started with on July 1, 2009. (There may be some internal reductions due to overall agency reductions, but I'm hoping those will be minimal.) That still is much reduced from the '07-

'09 budget and we are beginning to strategize about our approach for the '11-'13 budget process to see how we can restore funding for both programs. All in all, though, the final budget is a good outcome for us.

### Fee for Service Bill

As you recall, the Department of Natural Resources proposed legislation, based on Office of Financial Management direction, that would allow the Natural Heritage Program to charge fees for information provided from the NH database. The legislation directed us to charge \$100 annual fee for information covering up to a county in geographic area and \$1000 for statewide information. The bill looked like it had good support but met opposition from a number of groups who felt the state should not charge fees for this type of scientific information or were generally opposed to imposing fee for services that had been at no cost in the past. The result was that the bill did not pass.

We will begin developing our program and agency budget proposals for the 2011-2013 biennium soon. I would like to discuss some potential outreach strategies for the Natural Heritage and Natural Areas Programs' requests if that is something with which you would be interested in helping. Thanks again for your great support.

Also, the Native Plant Appreciation Week poster was (as usual) very lovely this year. It must have been hard making the final image decision, given the terrific photos you had to choose from.

Best wishes,

*Pene Speaks*

*Assistant Manager, Forest Resources and Conservation*

*Division*

*Washington Department of Natural Resources*

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# American Alps Legacy Project

by Jim Davis, Executive Director, North Cascades Conservation Council

The American Alps Legacy Project is an initiative to complete the original conservation vision for the North Cascades National Park. The North Cascades Conservation Council (N3C) and the Mountaineers are leading the effort to expand the park and protect this unique and pristine area.

The project is examining public lands from Marblemount to Mazama to determine whether they should be included in the park. These rugged and remote lands have long been known as the American Alps. As many who have visited the American Alps know, they are a truly spectacular area, comparable to the best national parks in the world.

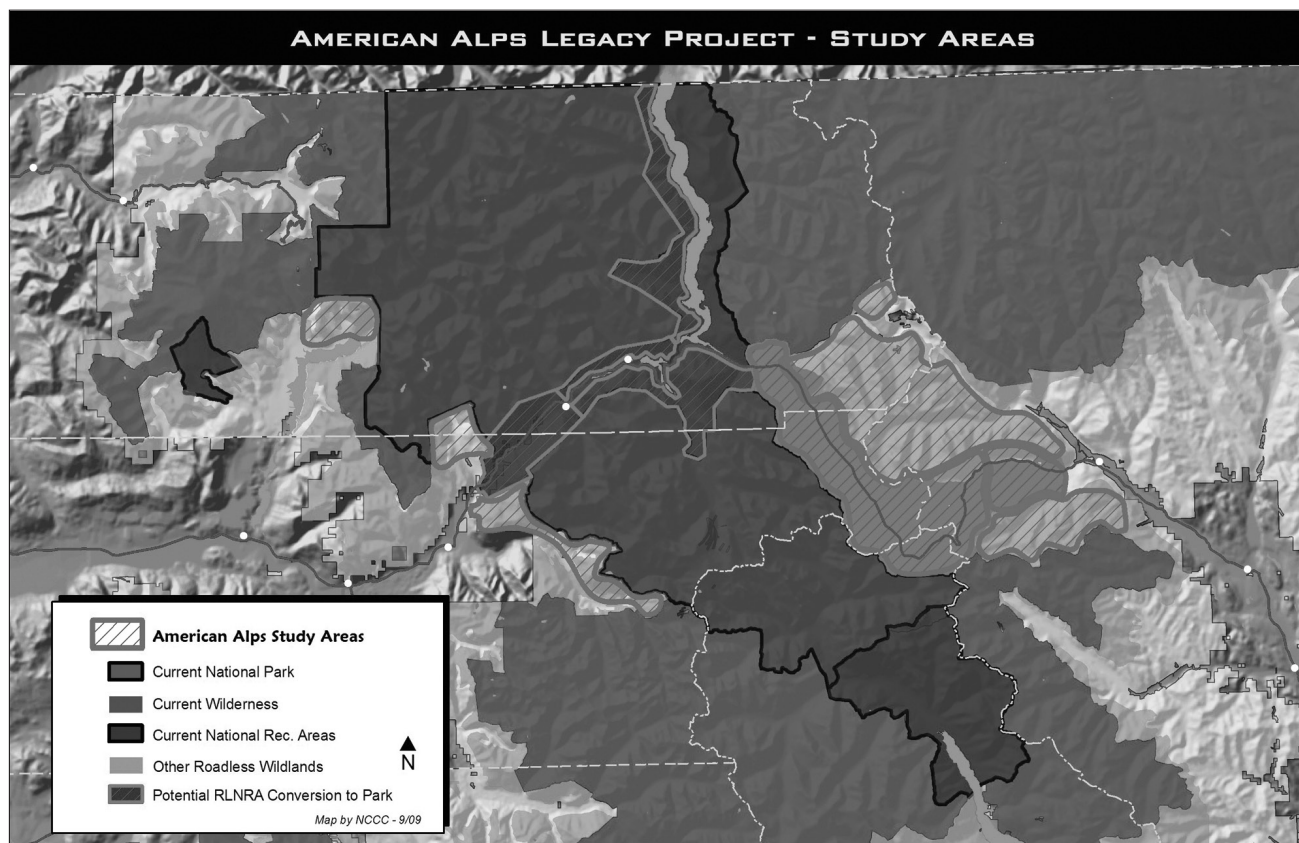
Most people believe that the American Alps are fully protected as national park or wilderness. Unfortunately, much was left out when the park and adjacent wilderness areas were created. Core wildlife habitats, lowland old growth forests, pristine rivers and streams, magnificent mountains, and popular recreation areas still remain

unprotected by park or wilderness status.

Very few people ever actually enter the North Cascades National Park. Motorists on the North Cascades Highway never enter the park, but only pass through the Ross Lake National Recreation Area. Then, just three miles east of Ross Lake, the highway enters a National Forest Service “scenic highway corridor” passing through thirty miles of spectacular mountain scenery.

Awareness of the ecological importance of lowland forests has grown, along with the realization that there is much more to mountains and wild lands than just scenery. Salmon spawning areas are at lower elevations, as are critical winter habitats for many species of wildlife. Protecting watersheds in the North Cascades is also the most cost effective way to protect Puget Sound.

New threats to the American Alps have also arisen in the past four decades. Energy shortages and high costs are prompting calls for new hydropower facilities that threaten rivers and streams. Climate change is disrupting wildlife habitats that are essential for the movement and survival of many species. Shrinking glaciers are reducing water availability, threatening fresh water habitats for salmon, and prompting calls for water storage dams. Puget Sound population increases and motorized recreation



American Alps Study Area Map

are threatening to overrun recreation resources in the American Alps.

The American Alps campaign recognizes that public lands conservation does not occur in a vacuum. Public lands hold many values for many people. We are committed to designating new park lands in a way that meets recreation and community needs, as well as conservation needs.

The American Alps Legacy Project will ensure that recreation access and visitor facilities in the North Cascades will be fully preserved and even enhanced in some places (i.e., development of new park visitor centers and low elevation trails). American Alps is working closely with gateway communities to the North Cascades National Park to ensure they receive the economic benefits of park designation. We recognize that conservation will best be served in the long-run through the active support of those who live and/or recreate in the American Alps.



Spring avalanche in the Cascade River Valley. PHOTO: TOM HAMMOND

Going around the map of the American Alps Legacy Project, the following are some of the places we are examining for park designation.

**Skagit River:** At what should be the western gateway of the North Cascades National Park, one instead enters the Ross Lake National Recreation Area (NRA) at Marblemount. This section of the Skagit River was excluded from the park and placed into NRA status to allow future construction of the Copper Creek dam, which would have flooded the Skagit Valley from Copper Creek upstream to Newhalem. Fortunately, Seattle City Light is no longer

interested in a dam at Copper Creek. This part of the Skagit River remains an important salmon spawning area, along with its tributaries, Goodell, Newhalem, and other creeks. This big, low elevation, verdant westside valley system with its extensive bottomland forests of maple and cottonwood would make an ideal western gateway to the national park.

**Bacon Creek:** The Bacon Creek carve-out sticks up like a sore thumb into the North Cascades National Park, and contains the most obvious logic defying boundaries



Hardy Peak and Upper Snowy Lake at the Cascade Crest. PHOTO: TOM HAMMOND

included in the 1968 bill. This is among the sections of land that were most cherished by timber interests and were excluded from the park. Bacon Creek remains a productive salmon stream with direct connection to the ocean via the Skagit River system. Although logged at lower elevations, most of this valley retains park qualities that make it a prime candidate for inclusion in the North Cascades National Park.

**Cascade River:** Another area of illogical and truncated boundaries, most of the North Fork Cascade River watershed is within the national park, with the rest remaining in national forest. The most popular alpine hiking destination in the North Cascades National Park, Cascade Pass, is reached from a national forest road that suffers frequent and severe storm related damage. American Alps is exploring the option of putting everything north and east of the mainstem of the Cascade River into the park. This would give the park responsibility for the road leading to the Cascade Pass trailhead and ensure access for hikers.

**Shannon Creek:** An area stretching from Mt. Shuksan down to Baker Lake and Baker River has no formal

protection as park or wilderness. Ranging from lush lowland valleys along the Baker River to rugged mountains, much of this area is inaccessible to all but the most adventuresome explorers. A road to the Shuksan climbing trail offers incredible views of this mountainous terrain. Large sections of the area provide excellent overwintering habitat for North Cascades wildlife. The outstanding conservation values of this pristine area should certainly make it a prime candidate for inclusion in the park.

**Big Beaver Creek:** This magnificent valley and its western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*) forests, among the most amazing in the Northwest, were excluded from the national park to allow their flooding by the once-planned High Ross Dam. A coalition of conservation groups stopped that project, and saved the valley and the cedars. As one of the outstanding old-growth forests of the American Alps, the Big Beaver watershed should be considered for inclusion in the national park, along with everything else on the west side of Ross Lake.

**Thunder Creek:** Thunder Creek is a big, low elevation, forested valley surrounded by high glaciated peaks, one of the most impressive places in the American Alps. Its



Liberty Bell and Early Winter Spires from the Washington Pass Overlook. PHOTO: KEN WILCOX

lower reaches were left out of the park because Seattle City Light originally wanted to build a dam to store additional water on Thunder Creek, upstream from Diablo Lake. This pristine and remote area could be added to the park along with Ruby Mountain, which was excluded in the original park bill because of a once-planned tramway to its summit, an idea abandoned long ago.

**Granite and Bridge Creeks:** The long and scenic Granite Creek valley, which the North Cascades Highway follows for many miles from Ross Lake up to Rainy Pass, has outstanding scenic characteristics that are often associated with national parks. Many visitors have wondered how it was ever excluded from the North Cascades National Park. Upper Bridge Creek, with its high peaks and pristine meadows, and a major section of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, also deserves consideration for inclusion in the park.

**Golden Horn and Upper Methow:** Every year thousands of visitors marvel at the sights from the viewpoints at and near Washington Pass. Here is the scenic climax of the North Cascades Highway, with iconic Liberty Bell Mountain and Early Winter Spires rising in salmon-hued, neck-craning relief. Here too is the high point of the Skagit watershed in the United States, with headwaters in the currently unprotected Swamp Creek valley. On the east side of the crest, the headwaters of the Methow River are critical to both ranchers and salmon. This area should definitely be considered for national park.

The story behind the current park boundaries is related by Harvey Manning in his classic work *Wilderness Alps: Conservation and Conflict in the North Cascades*. Noting how many of the boundaries “look like they were drawn by a lunatic,” Manning relates how some years after the

establishment of the park, a Forest Service employee who had been closely involved paid a visit to Manning’s Cougar Mountain home. When Manning asked him who drew the crazy lines, the man proudly replied “I did.” It turned out that he was a fan of hut-to-hut hiking as practiced in parts of the Swiss Alps, had grand visions for the same thing in the North Cascades, and was in a position to make sure that what he considered to be good hut sites were kept outside of the park.

Reflecting on the compromises that were necessary to establish the North Cascades National Park in 1968, Harvey Manning said: “In 2000, they will say of the North Cascades Conservation Council, ‘You were too timid. You compromised too much. You should have been more far-sighted, more daring.’ I hereby place on record my personal apologies to the year 2000. In our defense, we will then only be able to say, ‘We did not ask for protection for all of the land we knew needed and deserved protection. We did, for a fact, compromise in the name of political practicality. We tried to save you as much as we thought possible.’”

Harvey Manning and other conservationists never stopped thinking about filling in the gaps and finishing the job. We invite you to join N3C and the Mountaineers in finishing what was started in 1957, and partially completed in 1968. It is time to complete the North Cascades National Park, and put the final pieces in place that will protect the wild forests, scenic mountains, and pristine rivers that make the North Cascades, our “American Alps,” one of the most important and fascinating wild places on Earth.

*For information on the American Alps Legacy Project, visit [www.americanalps.org](http://www.americanalps.org). If you want to help with the campaign, contact us at [info@americanalps.org](mailto:info@americanalps.org) or 360-296-5159.*

*JD*

## A Look at Washington's Rare Plants: Snow Cinquefoil (*Potentilla nivea*) and Five-leaved Cinquefoil (*Potentilla rubricaulis*)

Washington State Sensitive Species

*Although these two species range across varying parts of Canada and southward through the Rocky Mountains, they only occur in one county in Washington. Okanogan County provides a home to fewer than 20 known occurrences of *P. nivea* and just one disjunct population of *P. rubricaulis*. *P. nivea* was last documented at the following site in 1978, and no population data were recorded. Rare plant monitor Scott Batiuk counted 170 plants. *P. rubricaulis* was last documented at the site in 1992, at which time 200 plants were counted. Scott documented over 900 plants in 2009. This is eighth in a series by Washington Rare Plant Care and Conservation featuring Washington's rare plants.*

by Scott Batiuk, Rare Care Volunteer

*Potentilla nivea* and *Potentilla rubricaulis* are both high-elevation, perennial cinquefoil species that occur in rocky areas with very thin soil. Both are small and have yellow flowers, but *P. nivea* can easily be distinguished from *P. rubricaulis* by the white-wooly underside of its leaves.

At my assigned site, the two cinquefoils were associated with such species as whitebark pine (*Pinus albicaulis*),



*Potentilla nivea*. PHOTO: GEORGE THORNTON



*Potentilla rubricaulis*: PHOTO: SCOTT BATIUK

subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*), Engelmann Spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), moss campion (*Silene acaulis*), and eight-petal mountain avens (*Dryas octopetala*). The site is in a preserve in an area that was once a nunatak, the area above a glacier that was not under snow and ice year-round. The glaciers are long gone from the preserve, but because of the isolated and extreme nature of nunatak habitat, a distinctive plant community remains. Within this habitat at the preserve, *P. nivea* and *P. rubricaulis* can be quite common in certain areas, but the nature of their habitat is what makes them sensitive.

For my assignment, I had the pleasure of being accompanied by George Thornton, a man who is supremely knowledgeable in all things related to the preserve, be it the flora, the mining history, or the unauthorized cattle grazing. Before reaching the assigned site, we came to a promising location that, even to George's surprise, turned out to have both cinquefoils we were looking for, sometimes right next to each other. I decided to tally up everything because I expected the numbers to be small, but the more we looked, the more plants we saw. At the end of the day, there was still a large area of potential habitat in addition to the assigned area that we did not have time to survey, but overall the mission was a success. That we were unable to survey everything is unfortunate, but at least now someone else has an excuse to see the area and work with George.

Learn more about Rare Care's efforts to conserve Washington's rare plants at <http://www.dept.washington.edu/rarecare/>. To inquire about volunteering or to receive our semi-annual print newsletter, e-mail [rarecare@us.edu](mailto:rarecare@us.edu) or call 206-616-0780.



# The Marion Ownbey Herbarium: Pressing Forward

by Larry Hufford, Director

The Marion Ownbey Herbarium at Washington State University aims to enhance knowledge of the flora. We serve broadly plant research and educational interests and provide botanical outreach to the public. Our mission is accomplished not only by building and maintaining a herbarium collection that represents the flora, but also by providing access to specimens, assistance with plant identification, information on plants, and programming for education. The uses of the herbarium are limited only by imagination, and we help to fulfill the needs of botanists, whether they are amateurs, students, or professionals.

The Ownbey Herbarium currently has more than 377,000 specimens of plants. About 95% of the collection consists of pressed and mounted specimens of flowering plants; the other 5% includes bryophytes, lycophytes, ferns and allies, and gymnosperms. About 50% of the collection consists of plants collected in Washington, Oregon, or Idaho, and all three states are well represented. The herbarium is especially rich in material collected east of the Cascade Mountains. Outside of the northwestern states, the floras of California, Montana, and the intermountain West are particularly well represented.

## Early growth

The herbarium was established in the early 1890s at the beginning of Washington State College by one of its first faculty, Charles Piper. Collections made by Piper and his

colleague R. Kent Beattie served as the basis for *Flora of the Palouse Region* (Piper and Beattie, 1901), *Flora of the State of Washington* (Piper, 1906), *Flora of Southeastern Washington and Adjacent Idaho* (Piper and Beattie, 1914), and *Flora of the Northwest Coast* (Piper and Beattie, 1915). The young herbarium purchased about 6000 specimens collected by frontier botanist William Cusick in the early 1900s in the Wallowa and Blue mountains.

Harold St. John, director of the herbarium through most of the 1920s, was an avid collector and namer of species. The herbarium grew with the addition of more than 14,000

specimens, including 123 types, collected by St. John. These collections were important to St. John's publication of his *Flora of Southeastern Washington* (1936).

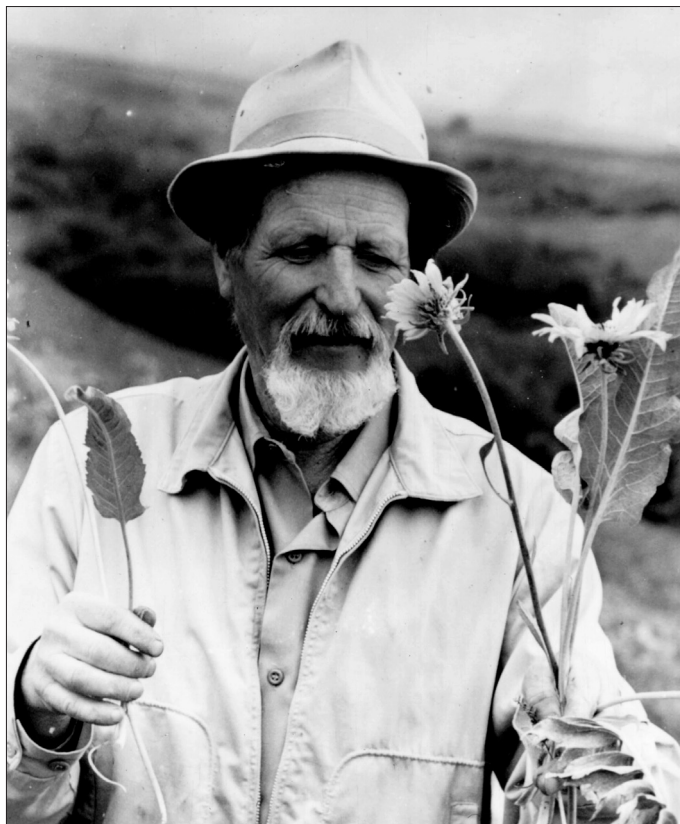
## A Legacy Bequest

The Marion Ownbey Herbarium grew dramatically in 1932 from Wilhelm Suksdorf's bequest of his 30,000-specimen personal herbarium to Washington State College. After an education at Grinnell College and the University of California at Berkeley and work as Asa Gray's assistant in the herbarium at Harvard College in the late 1800s, Suksdorf collected widely in the Pacific Northwest, making a livelihood from selling plant specimens and seeds. Curation of the

Suksdorf collection fell largely to Marion Ownbey and his students as part of project called *Florula Suksdorfiana*, which aimed partly to uncover where Suksdorf's scantily labeled specimens had been collected.

## Ownbey years and after

Marion Ownbey arrived in 1939 to direct the herbarium, serving until shortly before his death in 1974. The herbarium expanded greatly during Ownbey's long tenure, growing from about 90,000 specimens in 1939 to 273,000 at his death in 1974. His research emphasized the monographic and biosystematic themes that reigned in systematics during his era, and the Ownbey Herbarium



Marion Ownbey and *Balsamorhiza*. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MARION OWNBEY HERBARIUM ARCHIVES

now has important collections of groups that he studied, including mariposa lilies (*Calochortus*), onions (*Allium*), and Indian paintbrushes (*Castilleja*).

Following Ownbey, Amy Jean Gilmartin served as director of the herbarium from 1975 to 1989. Under her direction, a compactor system was installed to permit expansion of the herbarium collection. Given current trends in herbaria, it's notable that Gilmartin, an early advocate of digital technologies in systematics, instituted in 1976 a computer system for specimen databasing and label-making. Gilmartin's research focused primarily on neotropical bromeliads, which resulted in a significant collection of these plants in the Ownbey Herbarium.

### **The Contemporary Herbarium**

Each year 2,000-3,000 new specimens are curated and accessioned in the herbarium. Contemporary growth is targeted to support research and teaching at WSU and to facilitate knowledge of the Northwest flora and more generally the North American flora, through representation of diversity and historical changes.

Since I became director of the Ownbey Herbarium in 1993, we have added nearly 60,000 specimens to the collection. While most of these new accessions are from the Northwest, the collection has expanded to include

specimens from arid and mountainous parts of the American West, reflecting my interests in plant evolution of that region.

Recent efforts in the Ownbey Herbarium aim to accomplish our goals of enhancing knowledge of the flora. Our ongoing work emphasizes not only collection development but also outreach and access enhancements. Our outreach efforts have included especially the implementation of web-based resources about Northwest plants (<http://www.wsu.edu/~wsherb/>) and educational programming. We have, for example, worked with teachers in Washington to develop K-12 curriculum materials to teach about plants. We have expanded access to information by developing a database of label data for all of our Washington, Oregon, and Idaho specimens. These data are now served and searchable on the web at <http://herbaria.wsu.edu/web/default.aspx>, and the data will ultimately also be served through the website of the Consortium of Pacific Northwest Herbaria at <http://www.pnwherbaria.org/> after quality checks are completed.

*If you have questions about the Ownbey Herbarium or want to visit or volunteer, please contact us at [wsherb@wsu.edu](mailto:wsherb@wsu.edu).*



## **Marion Ownbey Herbarium**

Larry Hufford  
Director, Marion Ownbey Herbarium

Marion Ownbey Herbarium, School of Biological Sciences, Washington State University is located in Heald Hall, G-9.

Mailing address: Marion Ownbey Herbarium, School of Biological Sciences, Abelson 312, Washington State University Pullman, Washington 99164-4236

Founded in 1892.

Index herbariorum abbreviation: WS

Holdings include over 377,000 accessioned specimens of lichens, mosses, liverworts, lycophytes, ferns and fern allies, gymnosperms, and flowering plants,

Highlights: Cusick, Suksdorf, St. John, Ownbey, and Daubenmire collections; collections of neotropical bromeliads and palms; major Saxifragaceae and Loasaceae collections. Geographic focus: Pacific Northwest, especially areas east of the Cascade mountains, California, Montana, and intermountain West.

Volunteers are welcome. There are opportunities to help with specimen preparation, collection databasing, and other activities.

Collection is open and free to the public, Monday — Friday 8:00-5:00 or by appointment

Contact us by phone at 509-335-3250, e-mail at [wsherb@wsu.edu](mailto:wsherb@wsu.edu), or check the website at <http://www.wsu.edu/~wsherb/>

# Georeferencing: Where Was That Plant Collected?

by John E. Bassett

The geographic location where a plant occurs tells us much about the biology of the species. With modern geographic information system (GIS) technology, the collection location of a specimen provides information about the plant community the specimen lived in, the soil type it grew on, and the temperature and moisture conditions the plant tolerated. Geographic coordinates of a collection location can now be determined easily and with reasonable accuracy (10-20 meters) using a portable, hand-held Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver. In May 2000, the general public gained access to readings of the highest accuracy from the system, which was designed with the ability to control which users got the most accurate information. For current field biologists, GPS has become an indispensable tool to determine a location. Systematic collections, however, also contain specimens collected long before the GPS system arrived on the scene. The University of Washington Herbarium collection ([www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/collections/herbarium](http://www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/collections/herbarium)) contains material collected in other states as early as 1845 and material collected in Washington State beginning in 1860. With the current trend to make information about holdings in systematic collections available on the internet, herbaria have also begun to provide plotting tools which enable the user to map the collection locations of a group of specimens on-line in real-time. Such features require that specimens have a set of geographic coordinates assigned to the collection location and some measure of the accuracy of those coordinates. At the current time, students and volunteers are working to provide the most accurate geographic coordinates possible, either latitude-longitude (lat-long) or universal transverse mercator (UTM), for all specimens in the Burke collection. This information will enable the records to be used by the plotting utility on the web site of the Consortium of Pacific Northwest Herbaria ([www.pnwherbaria.org](http://www.pnwherbaria.org)). I would like to present a brief description of how coordinates are determined for various types of specimens in the collection and some of the not so obvious problems encountered in the project.

Specimens entering the collection currently are assigned geographic coordinates with a hand-held GPS receiver at the point of collection. Traditional paper topographic maps can also be used either in the field or later in the

laboratory for new specimens and for specimens collected prior to GPS. For plants collected before the arrival of GPS, written descriptions of the location are usually provided by the collector and have been transferred to the herbarium's electronic database for presentation on the internet. These verbal descriptions can be converted to lat-long coordinates by any of several internet-based georeferencing programs such as GEOLocate ([www.museum.tulane.edu/geolocate](http://www.museum.tulane.edu/geolocate)) and BioGeomancer ([www.biogeomancer.org](http://www.biogeomancer.org)). These utilities allow automated batch processing of large groups of sites and perform well as long as the location description is reasonably similar to the currently accepted name and spelling of the location. In addition, these utilities are capable of assigning a measure of error, usually in meters, to the coordinates provided. Approximately 80% of a group of sites can be easily georeferenced with these programs.

If the collection location description does not match the currently accepted name of the site, georeferencing the site becomes more challenging. Several common problems with location names have emerged in the process of georeferencing the Burke Museum collection. Specimen labels are often illegible or difficult to read because of bad handwriting or the use of fancy scripts. Also labels become faded and worn, or smeared with age and handling. Information from labels of this type is often entered into the herbarium database incorrectly or not entered at all. Often, the original collector failed to provide a detailed collection location, either written description or geographic coordinates, except state and county. Some specimens are old enough that colloquial place names or colloquial spellings of place names were used on the label. Currently accepted place names are often misspelled on the label or during the process of transfer from paper to the electronic database. Finally, certain collectors from an earlier era (1875-1910) who worked in the Pacific Northwest also named collection locations with names of their choice. These unique place names were ultimately not accepted by geographers, leading to much confusion today. In all these instances, assigning collection site coordinates becomes a problem-solving exercise where each site must be examined individually.

To provide coordinates for the 20% of sites that have one or more of the problems mentioned above, a combination of manual digital maps, reference volumes of place names from the turn of the last century, and information found on-line are employed to first locate the site and then to determine coordinates and an error measure for those coordinates. Manual digital maps such as Topo! Washington ([www.natgeomaps.com/topo.html](http://www.natgeomaps.com/topo.html)),

USGS on-line topographic maps (store.usgs.gov/b2c\_usgs/b2c/start.do), and Google Earth (earth.google.com) are used to find locations and assign coordinates. The accuracy of manually determined coordinates depends in large measure on the degree of certainty that the individual conducting the search has of the final location selected. Accuracy is considered to be high (less the 500 meters) when the collection site exactly or closely matches a named location on the map. The least accurate site coordinates are those where a sample can only be assigned to the county in which it was collected. In that case, the county is treated as an irregular polygon and the center of the polygon is designated as the collection coordinates for that specimen. The accuracy of the selected coordinates (in meters) then becomes the greatest distance from the center of the county to the edge of the polygon used to describe the county.

Georeferencing of specimens in a systematic collection increases the amount of information available to users of the collection. The availability of reasonably accurate geographic coordinates for specimens makes possible quick mapping of selected records by users of the herbarium's on-line portal. Finally, availability of error measurements for the coordinates of a specimen allows users to evaluate which data meet their tolerance for error and which do not.

*John E. Bassett, a retired Research Scientist from the University of Washington, volunteers at the University of Washington Herbarium. A mammalian physiological ecologist by training, he also has a long-standing love affair with bats and their unique biology.*



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## WNPS Fellow Recognition: A Call for Nominations

The Washington Native Plant Society is enormously enriched by the contributions of its volunteers and once every 5 years the society recognizes those who have served with special distinction by honoring them as a WNPS Fellow, the highest honor given to a member of the society.

Since 1995 when the first WNPS Fellows were recognized, 26 members have been so honored. They are listed inside the back cover of each *Douglasia* issue. Each has made outstanding contributions to the understanding and/or preservation of Washington flora or to the success of WNPS.

To nominate someone for consideration as a WNPS Fellow, please write a letter to the WNPS Fellows Committee, explaining why your nominee meets the criteria outlined in the accompanying box.

The Fellows Committee (Pam Camp, Scott Moore, Kathy Murray, and Fred Weinmann) will review nominations for merit and submit their recommendations to the WNPS Board of Directors for consideration at the spring 2011 board meeting. The number of persons honored is at the discretion of the Fellows Committee. If no nominees meet the criteria established, there may be no fellows recognized; conversely, if there are many nominees the committee and WNPS Board will face the difficult decision of ranking nominees in order to limit the number of recipients.

If selected, nominees will be formally recognized at the 2011 Study Weekend where they will be given a framed

certificate of recognition, life-time membership in the WNPS, and lifetime waiver of registration fees for annual study weekends.

Please mail or email your nomination letters no later than November 1, 2010, to:

WNPS Fellows Committee  
c/o Washington Native Plant Society  
6310 NE 74<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 215E, Seattle, WA 98115  
E-mail: wnps@wnps.org

The Committee looks forward to your nominations for this very special recognition.

### Criteria for Selection as a WNPS Fellows

To be selected as a WNPS Fellow, a person must be a current or past member of the society and be recognized for one or some combination of the following:

- Through the actions of this member, a significant and lasting change in the organization has been realized.
- An extraordinary contribution of volunteer time dedicated to WNPS.
- An outstanding act or driving force in terms of conservation, education, research or advocacy of Washington's native flora.
- Longevity of contribution at state or chapter level.

Examples that might be overlooked but fitting under these criteria would be an individual who substantially increased the visibility of WNPS as an organization, or who contributed significantly to the building or maintenance of WNPS' infrastructure, or someone who has exhibited their passion for native plants, and in so doing has served as a mentor within the society to others.



# Native Plant Signage Installed along the Capitol Lake Interpretive Center Trail

*by Fayla Schwartz, Education Chair*

The WNPS Education Committee provided funding support for this Eagle Scout Project in Olympia, Washington. Josh Lobe (18-year-old grant recipient) and Boy Scout Troop 48 installed 84 native plant markers along the Capitol Lake Interpretive Center Trail as part of an Eagle Scout Project in August 2009. The trail is located at the south end of Capitol Lake, and is part of the Capitol Campus.

The signs are 5" x 7" with a color picture and description of each plant. Students from Capital High School also got involved to help with plant descriptions. Students from Capital High and McLane Elementary worked with the Troop on installation.

The signs are mounted on recycled guardrail posts with the message protected by a 1/8" clear acrylic cover over each sign and are fastened to the posts with vandal-resistant, stainless steel screws. If vandalism does occur, hopefully the only thing we will have to replace is the acrylic cover.

Bob Barnes with the Washington State Department of Transportation provided considerable support and oversight for the project. Washington's Department of General Administration also contributed financial support.

Josh worked diligently to raise funds and material donations. According to Josh, the following businesses and associations should be acknowledged for their support:

- A & E Electric
- Color Graphics
- Heritage Bank
- Washington State Depart of Transportation
- General Administration
- Washington Native Plant Society

Josh says the project benefits the communities of Lacey, Tumwater and Olympia and visitors to the area by teaching about Washington's native plants. The next time you're in the area—check it out.



## WNPS Member Donations at Work

This education project was supported in part by a grant from the Washington Native Plant Society.



The crew at work. PHOTO: LIZ LOBE



Installing a sign. PHOTO: LIZ LOBE



Success!. PHOTO: LIZ LOBE

## Blue Creek Trail

by Don Knoke, Central Washington Chapter

The Blue Creek Trail climbs to the top of Teanaway Ridge and the Red Top lookout from a road off US 97 south of Blewett Pass. It passes through a variety of habitats—open ponderosa pine/Douglas-fir forests, mountain meadows, open, rocky slopes, and spring-fed streams—before reaching the steep, rock face near the lookout. Nearly 200 vascular plant species have been found along the trail. But before starting the climb, you should take time to admire the patch of mountain lady-slipper (*Cypripedium montanum*) growing at the upper edge of the road about sixty feet or so up the road from the trailhead; it should be blooming in early June.

If you are into little flowers that are often overlooked, watch for diffuse collomia (*Collomia tenella*) in the trail near the start. This little plant doesn't get the same notoriety as its taller relative, large-flowered collomia (*Collomia grandiflora*), which is also found along the trail,



*Cypripedium montanum*. PHOTO: DON KNOKE



*Prostates hookeri*. PHOTO: DON KNOKE

but it is worth stopping for if for no other reason than to test your keying skills.

In some stretches of the open forest, the ground is covered with the bright yellow flowers of mountain arnica (*Arnica latifolia*). Be aware that heart-leaf arnica (*Arnica cordifolia*) also is found along the trail, and in one of the rare level areas about a third of the way up where the soil is a little more moist you could find the taller nodding arnica (*Arnica parryi*).

The open, rocky areas of the trail host a different selection of species, such as sulfur buckwheat (*Eriogonum umbellatum*), sticky starwort (*Pseudostellaria jamesiana* [*Stellaria jamesiana*]), shrubby bedstraw (*Galium serpyllifolium* [*Galium multiflorum*]) and cut-leaf daisy (*Erigeron compositus*). Arrow-leafbalsamroot (*Balsamorhiza sagittata*) and lava alumroot (*Heuchera cylindrica*) may also be found on these dry slopes, as well as lace lip-fern (*Cheilanthes gracillima*), which unlike most ferns, prefers the dry, rocky areas.

By late June, you should see Alaska rein-orchid (*Piperia unalascentis* [*Habenaria unalascentis*]) poking up along both sides of the trail in the open Douglas-fir sections, where it is often joined by three-tooth miterwort (*Mitella trifida*). But if you want to see white shooting-star (*Dodecatheon dentatum*), you will have to drop down to the little stream to the right of the trail, in the stretch where

the two are close together. Other moisture-loving plants, such as Hooker's fairybells (*Prosartes hookeri* [*Disporum hookeri*]) will be found here too.

The trail traverses through sloping mountain meadows in one stretch, and here you will find masses of blue flowers, blue stickseed (*Hackelia micrantha*). If you are walking the trail in late June or early July, keep a sharp watch for blackheads (*Rudbeckia occidentalis*) in the damper sections of the meadow fifty feet or so below the trail. Fendler's waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum fendleri*) covers the ground in much of the meadow.

In a spring-fed draw filled with slide alder (*Alnus viridis*), search for monkey-flowers just below the spring; common monkey-flower (*Mimulus guttatus*) and musk-flower (*Mimulus moschatus*) both grow in this area. Other species that like a little more moisture, like western meadowrue (*Thalictrum occidentale*) and western sweet-cicely (*Osmorhiza occidentalis*) may also be found under the alders.

As you near the top of the ridge, watch for a patch of red columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*) with mostly yellow-peach-colored flowers. You might be tempted to call it *Aquilegia flavescens*, but it keys out to *A. formosa*. This color of flower is not uncommon in the Teanaway. Pipsissiwa (*Chimaphila umbellata*) may also be found in this area.

The last stretch of trail approaching the lookout is cut out of the rock face, and here you will find plant species new for the hike. Alpine twin-pod (*Physaria alpestris*)



*Chimaphila umbellata*. PHOTO: DON KNOKE



*Erigeron compositus*. PHOTO: ALEX WRIGHT

and fan-leaf cinquefoil (*Potentilla flabellifolia*) grow here in the rock, as well as northern buckwheat (*Eriogonum compositum*), a common shrub-steppe species that is also found at high elevations in suitable habitat. On top of the ridge, look for few-flowered lomatium (*Lomatium martindalei*), a species found over a large range, including in the Olympic and Steens mountains, but only above 5000 feet.

As you might expect from a lookout, there are great views in all directions. Mt. Rainier dominates the skyline to the southwest, and Mount Stuart to the northwest. The Teanaway country lies below you to the west, and Diamond Head, a popular hawk-watching spot during the fall migration, rises above you to the east. This is a great place to eat lunch and enjoy the view.

Unlike many of the trails in the Teanaway, this trail is not often hiked, and may be hard to find in places. Occasionally it makes sharp turns, and leaves you wandering along a game trail. In the wooded area below the ridge, the snow is often still deep in early June. When you reach the ridge top, you will find a well-used trail along the ridge. Turn left, and climb toward the lookout.

The trailhead is marked by a sign along the road that leaves US 97 a short distance past the Mineral Springs restaurant, and is about three miles from that highway. Keep left at junctions in the road, and watch for the trailhead sign on the right side of the road. The road continues to the top of Teanaway Ridge, and a fork leads to about a quarter-mile from the Red Top lookout. If you are in a group with more than one car, you can leave a car at the top, and ride back to the trailhead.



# Update on the Washington Flora Checklist Project

by David Giblin, University of Washington Herbarium at the Burke Museum

A second phase of work has been completed on the Washington Flora Checklist, which is a synonymized list of all the vascular plant species, subspecies, and varieties (collectively known as taxa) that occur or are thought to occur in Washington State. The checklist is available online at (<http://biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium/waflora/checklist.php>).

By way of a brief history, Fred Weinmann and Peter Zika began the project in 1998 by organizing a team of botanists and enthusiasts from around the state to compile (on a volunteer basis) a list of nearly 3,800 taxa reported from Washington. Their sources included published floras (*Flora of the Pacific Northwest*, *Jepson Manual*, *Flora of North America*, *Illustrated Flora of the Pacific States*), agency reports (e.g., Washington Natural Heritage Program), scientific

journals (e.g., *Madrono*), and electronic resources (e.g., Kartesz's *Synthesis of the North American Flora*, PLANTS database). Paul Rodman generously provided server space to host the information compiled, and handled all database and Web site programming for the project. In 2007 the Washington Native Plant Society and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management funded the checklist's transfer to the University of Washington Herbarium's Web site, where Ben Legler expanded on Paul Rodman's work. Notably, Ben programmed in the ability for contributors to login to the site and edit the treatment for each taxon (singular of taxa), and then linked the treatments to the Herbarium's Image Gallery (<http://biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium/imagecollection.php>).

The recently completed second phase of this project involved my editing each of the 3,800 entries, an effort that I started in earnest in 2008 and completed this April. What do I mean by editing? One task is to ensure that a literature reference, ideally a flora, is provided for each name that appears on the list. This provides transparency to the taxonomy and nomenclature (choice of names) that I follow. The primary reference I use is the ongoing,

multi-volume *Flora of North America* (FNA) because it typically contains the most contemporary, peer-reviewed treatments available. However, only a little more than half of the FNA volumes have been published to date, so this is not a complete solution. Where FNA coverage is lacking, the second tier of references are the *Jepson Manual* (1993), the *Jepson Manual 2nd Edition* (available online only), and the *Illustrated Flora of British Columbia* (1999). These floras are regionally relevant and more contemporary than Hitchcock and Cronquist's *Flora of the Pacific Northwest* (1973).

I use Hitchcock and Cronquist (H&C) as the citation for taxa on the list when there is no FNA treatment and the taxonomy/nomenclature in H&C are consistent with that in the Jepson and British Columbia floras. My justification here



The screenshot shows the Washington Flora Checklist website. At the top, there is a logo of a plant and the title "Washington Flora Checklist". Below the title, it says "A Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State" and "Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium". There is a navigation bar with links: Home, About, Checklist, Data Files, For Authors, and a search bar. A user is logged in as David Giblin, with links to administrative access, account settings, and author accounts. A "Logout" button is also present. The main content area shows the entry for "Gamochaeta purpurea (L.) Cabrera [FNA19]", which is a purple cudweed. It includes fields for Origin (Native), Voucher (WTU), Notes (FNA Volume 19, page 433), and Literature (none). There is a photo of the plant. Below the main entry, there is a table of synonyms with columns for Edit, Delete, and Swap. The synonyms listed are: Gamochaeta ustulata (Nutt.) G.L. Nesom [FNA19], Gnaphalium purpureum L. [H&C], Gnaphalium purpureum L. var. purpureum [H&C], and Gnaphalium purpureum L. var. ustulatum (Nutt.) Boivin [H&C].

Treatment of *Gamochaeta purpurea* on Washington Flora Checklist site. In addition to common name, origin, synonyms, and reference literature are found links to specimen data and the Plants of Washington Image Gallery. PHOTO: DAVID GIBLIN

is that most users of the list in Washington are likely to have a copy of H&C rather than floras from outside of the region. Other items that I address for each taxon treatment are determination of an appropriate accepted name, a listing of synonyms and common names, whether a specimen is known to be present at the University of Washington Herbarium or elsewhere (e.g., Washington State University Herbarium), native versus introduced status, and whether or not a plant is endemic (known to occur only in Washington). I will also add comments relevant to the particular taxon, and cite pertinent literature.

Why is this project important? It is 2010 and sadly we still do not have an exact count of the native vascular plant taxa occurring in Washington State. The list that I started with had 3,800 names on it, and at the time of writing it is down to 3,642. Some of those original 3,800 taxa were synonyms, some did not belong on the list because they do not occur here, and others were incorrect reports. Conversely, other taxa have been added to the list because they were recently documented as part of the flora (e.g., *Castilleja victoriae*, the paintbrush species discovered in the San Juan Islands in 2005). For conservation purposes it is important to know how many “things” we have the responsibility of stewarding and passing along to future generations. It is also very helpful to have a standardized list, a starting reference for scientific names, when discussing the flora. Finally, the flora is a dynamic entity that changes with time due to events both fast (think Mount St. Helens) and slow (spread of a new exotic from cultivation). The Washington Flora Checklist is an editable, online resource that provides a diverse audience of professional and amateur botanists in Washington with up to date information regarding the taxonomy and richness of the state’s flora.

The next phase of the project will involve going through the list and incorporating recent changes in what we know about the relationships among various genera and families. For example, the Scrophulariaceae has been splintered into several families (e.g., Veronicaceae, Phrymaceae), while the Boraginaceae has been expanded to include the Hydrophyllaceae. Integrating these new understandings provides us with a more accurate assessment of Washington’s vascular plant biodiversity. I encourage you to visit the checklist site and see the scope of information available there.



## Weed of the Month: Reed Sweetgrass (*Glyceria maxima*), Class A Noxious Weed in King County, Washington

by Sasha Shaw, King County Noxious Weed Control Program.

Reed sweetgrass, also known as tall mannagrass, is probably more familiar to the gardening community than to weed specialists, unless you are from Ontario or parts of the Great Lakes area in the United States. In the Pacific Northwest, reed sweetgrass is occasionally used as an ornamental grass along lakeshores and wet areas, but it has only begun to show its potential as an invasive weed. However, seeing the impact and invasiveness of reed sweetgrass in parts of Canada and the United States, the Washington State Noxious Weed Board and the Washington State Department of Agriculture acted proactively to prevent future problems. In Washington, reed sweetgrass is classified as a Class A Noxious Weed, meaning it must be removed wherever it occurs, and as a Prohibited Plant, meaning it is illegal to buy or sell it in Washington State. The goal is to catch any new populations quickly before they become entrenched and to stop any future introductions. Now the challenge is to get the word out to gardeners and nurseries to make sure it isn’t being planted, and to locate any places where it was previously planted or has escaped.

Until this year, there was only one known population of reed sweetgrass in Washington, in a private pond in Snohomish County. Although it had been planted originally, there was no doubt that it had begun to spread aggressively as had been seen elsewhere in North America, so actions were taken to start eradicating it. In King County, we were pretty sure it would show up eventually, but we were still unpleasantly surprised to find not one but two populations of reed sweetgrass this summer.

The reed sweetgrass variety found in Snohomish County and at one of our sites is variegated and quite distinctive with its green and creamy-white striped leaves. However, the other site in King County has non-variegated reed sweetgrass, making it much more difficult to distinguish from its close native look-alike and other tall ornamental grasses. Reed sweetgrass is a *Glyceria*, a genus of grasses that has graceful, open flower stems and is often found in

wet areas. The common native species that it most closely resembles is American mannagrass, *Glyceria grandis*, often found in wetlands and shorelines, just like reed sweetgrass. Both are tall grasses with similar flower stems. Reed sweetgrass, appropriately named *Glyceria maxima*, is generally taller (up to 8 feet tall compared with 5 feet for American mannagrass) and the flower spikes tend to be more upright than droopy. However, they are similar enough that it will probably take an expert to know for sure which *Glyceria* you have.

Katie Messick, our aquatic weed specialist, wasn't entirely sure herself when she discovered the two populations this summer, one on Lake Marcel and one in Renton at a former nursery. A sample of the Lake Marcel population was sent to a *Glyceria* expert in Utah, Dr. Mary Barkworth, who confirmed our fears that it was the European import reed sweetgrass, *Glyceria maxima*. The Renton plants, which are not variegated but otherwise look like the others, were given to local botanist Sarah Cooke for confirmation and she was able to determine that this was also the invasive species. This is the first non-variegated population found in Washington State. Katie then obtained permission from the landowners and controlled both populations this summer and will follow up next year on any re-growth.

We hope that's the last of it, but it would be naïve to think there are no other populations of this plant in the county. Please check your own gardens and lakeshores for any tall grasses that resemble the pictures on our webpage, especially if they have green and cream striped leaves. Similar to many other invasive plants, this grass is very tenacious and develops massive roots, making control of established populations pretty much a lost cause. However, small populations can be removed with fairly good success. So, as with other invasive plants, early detection and rapid response is the key to stopping reed sweetgrass from creating headaches for us all. If you think you see reed sweetgrass growing anywhere in King County, please contact us right away or report the location online. For more information on this plant, check out our website or contact Katie Messick at 202-296-0290.

*Excerpted from King County Weed News October 2009, with thanks to Sasha Shaw of the King County Noxious Weed Control Program.*



## State Adds Species to Quarantine List of Prohibited Plants

*by Sasha Shaw, King County Noxious Weed Control Program*

On August 27, Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) held a hearing in Olympia to consider changes to the state quarantine lists that specify which plants are banned from sale in Washington. The lists are contained in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Chapter 16-752. There are two main quarantine lists, one for aquatic species and one for other noxious weeds, as well as a few related noxious weed rules relating to purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*). These lists are also both included in WSDA's brochure, *Prohibited Plants List*, although the new species haven't been added yet.

The goal for the quarantine is to prevent the introduction of invasive plants into Washington. The rules for the two quarantine lists are pretty much the same. Under the noxious weed quarantine, the rules states that:

It is prohibited to transport, buy, sell, offer for sale, or to distribute plants or plant parts of the regulated species listed in WAC 16-752-610 into or within the state of Washington or to sell, offer for sale, or distribute seed packets of the seed, flower seed blends, or wildflower mixes of these regulated species into or within the state of Washington.

Under the wetland and aquatic plant quarantine, the rule states that:

It is prohibited to transport, buy, sell, offer for sale, or to distribute plants or plant parts of the regulated plants, listed in WAC 16-752-505, into or within the state of Washington. It is further prohibited to intentionally transplant wild plants and/or plant parts of these species within the state of Washington.

The rule changes, which were adopted on September 3, 2009 and went into effect on October 4, included:

- Addition of the following species to the wetland and aquatic weed quarantine list: floating primrose willow (*Ludwigia peploides*), variable-leaf milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*),

>

*I miss*

*the black chinned humming birds,  
a species thought to have perhaps  
soared among the vine maple here*

*and the interrupted space  
that their offspring would  
now ripple and displace.*

*I miss the unscripted movements  
of the chipping sparrows hunting along  
maianthemum and twin flower runs.*

*I miss the star sedge once residing  
at Newman Lake and the insects  
relying on it and Acorus americanus*

*more or less, more of us;  
less of everything else,  
moraless. I miss*

*salamanders gone, their log tenements  
extracted, overcome by lawn  
and single family houses,*

*the leopard frogs leaping, loving along  
the Walla Walla and Pend Oreille;*

*I miss the bobcats,*

*the invertebrates never born, the vegetation  
they lived on, overwhelmed by English Laurel,  
English Ivy, English Holly, English.*

*I miss the murrelets that once flew here  
before the old growth was cut down.  
Even the big logs are gone*

*and the pinned up hair of canopy cover,  
and much of the wavy cotton moss,  
and the lettuce lichens,*

*and squirrels with wings.*

*Can you, can I clothe ourselves  
in their absence? Try*

*closing your eyes. Enable one  
or more of them (or yours) to root  
or roost outside the kitchen window*

*and add your emptiness to mine.*

*Dan Paquette*

The poet recognizes the research and observations of several individuals including: Curtis R. Bjork, Ronald C. Friesz, Willaim R. Leonard, Kathy R. McAllister, Ed Newbold, and resources at the Burke Museum.

## State Adds Species to Quarantine List of Prohibited Plants continued from previous page

ricefield bulrush (*Schoenoplectus mucronatus*),  
and water soldiers (*Stratiotes aloides*);

- Addition of the following species to the noxious weed seed and plant quarantine: false brome (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*), shiny geranium (*Geranium lucidum*), and European hawkweed (*Hieracium sabaudum*);

- Revision of permit requirements for educational or training materials;

- Addition of language regarding botanical synonyms; and

- Increased clarity and readability by removing obsolete definitions and updating the language

For more information about noxious weeds contact

the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board at 360-902-2053 ( <http://www.nwcb.wa.gov> ), or your local County Weed Control Program

To read more King County Weed News, go to the following link:

(<http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds/weed-news.aspx>)

*Excerpted from King County Weed News October 2009, with thanks to Sasha Shaw of the King County Noxious Weed Control Program.*



## In Memoriam: Patricia C. Youngman

### *Contributions from members of Salal Chapter*

Patricia Chambers Youngman, "Pat", passed away in her home in Anacortes on February 24, 2010 at the age of 88. Of pioneer stock, Pat's great great grandparents came out to the Oregon Territory in covered wagons, the McAllister family in 1844, and the Chambers family in 1845.

Pat was born on December 22, 1921 in Yakima, WA, the daughter of Charles T. and Hazel (Phingstay) Chambers. She grew up on the family ranch near Yakima, graduating from Yakima High School in 1939.

She attended Washington State College (now WSU) and graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Bacteriology in 1943. Also in 1943, Pat married WSC classmate Eugene "Gene" E. Youngman. Their one child, a son, was born in 1945. After World War II her husband, Gene, began his 34 year career with General Mills, Inc. taking the family with him on various assignments to Spokane, WA, San Francisco, CA, Sacramento, CA, Minneapolis, MN, Portland, OR, and finally to Los Altos, CA. While living in Los Altos, Pat enrolled in a Medical Assistant course at Foothill College and thereafter worked in a medical office for 25 years, retiring in 1990.

Pat was active in the Sierra Club in California and loved to hike in the mountains. In 1993 she moved to Anacortes, WA, where she resumed her outdoor life and her lifelong passion for plants and wildflowers. One of her first WNPS activities was working with WNPS Fellow Art Kermoade, Pam Pritzl and Arlene Mesman in the greenhouse at the WSU Research Station outside of Mount Vernon. Shortly thereafter, Pat became deeply involved in the startup of the Salal Chapter Native Plant Display Garden

at the WSU site, and continued volunteering at the garden until shortly before her death. Pat's specialty was making sure that plants were identified correctly by their scientific names. Pat has been a mainstay at Salal Chapter meetings and outings, and has long served as the chapter's Corresponding Secretary. Pat is well known locally for her beautiful smile, her interest in continued learning, along with her magic touch with plants. Her plant and wild flower photographs are simply wonderful.

Pat was preceded in death by her husband Gene in 1976. She is survived by her son, Kirk Youngman, daughter-in-law Jacqueline, and loving friend of nearly twenty-five years, Norman Ainslie.

Donations in Pat's memory can be sent to: WNPS/Salal Chapter, c/o Susan Alaynik, 13625 11th Ave NE, Marysville, WA 98271.



*JS*

## Urban Flora of Portland, Oregon

Christy, J.A., A. Kimpo, V. Marttala, P.K. Gaddis, N.L. Christy. 2009.  
Urbanizing Flora of Portland, Oregon, 1806-2008.  
Occasional Paper 3 of the Native Plant Society of  
Oregon. 319 pp. ISSN 1523-8520. Softcover. US \$15.  
Ordering information: <http://www.npsoregon.org/publications.html>

by Aaron Liston, Oregon State University  
Herbarium

Don't judge this book by its title. The word "urbanizing" is not a common one, and even if it is familiar to you, reading about the decline of native plants and their replacement by those adapted to an urban environment may not strike you as an enjoyable read. Perhaps more attractive is the prospect of learning about the past 200 years of botanical activity in the Portland area, and that is the subject of the first 60 pages of this book. Topics include a chronology of botanical exploration in the region, biographies of the principal plant collectors, and the historic and modern vegetation and habitats of the Portland-Vancouver region. The text is well-illustrated with historical photographs of the city environs and the botanists who collected here. This section concludes with a thorough analysis of the factors contributing to the historical and ongoing changes in Portland's flora, and provides an excellent perspective on the dynamic interplay between native and exotic plants in an urban environment.

Several well-known plant collectors played important roles in the botanical history of the region, but the star of this story is Martin Gorman (1853-1926). Gorman's profession was accounting, while his passion was botany. He was also a founding member of the Oregon Alpine Club and Mazamas, and curator of the Forestry Building from 1906-1926. Built for the 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition, the Forestry Building was a "hub of botanical activity" during Gorman's tenure. Gorman collected about 200 plant specimens from the Portland area, and most importantly, he wrote several articles on the region's flora, culminating in his *List of Plants in the Vicinity of Portland, Oregon* published in 1916 and 1917. Tragically, the botanical journal *Muhlenbergia* ceased publication before the complete manuscript was published, and the issue containing the last installment (over 200 species) was never distributed! One of the most significant

contributions of Christy et al. is the first publication of Gorman's complete species list and notes (transcribed from the only known original housed in the University of Oregon's Knight Library). Gorman's information is conveyed in tabular format, together with other historical and current information. This "catalog" fills 186 pages, and encompasses 1553 native and naturalized plants known within the same region that Gorman defined: a 15 mile radius from downtown Portland. One column of the table combines Gorman's text in bold with other historical records (gathered from herbarium specimens and other publications). A second column summarizes the "current condition" of each plant including whether it is native or exotic, rare or common, its period of introduction, modern records, and miscellaneous comments. Much fascinating information is contained in this table, and it is an extremely valuable resource for anybody interested in the plants, and changing flora, of Portland and the Pacific Northwest.

An extensive bibliography and six appendices complete the text. These include a gazetteer, additional excerpts from Gorman's papers containing many observations of historical interest, and lists of 580 rare native plants, 312 rare exotic plants and 279 ballast plants (it was a popular pastime among Portland area botanists to collect the plants that grew from the soil used by ships for weight, transported around the globe, and dumped on the banks of the Columbia River in Portland).

The five authors are to be congratulated for producing a valuable addition to our understanding of the interactions of plants and people in the Pacific Northwest. They expertly combine historical scholarship with a comprehensive presentation of the current Portland flora. The floristic treatment is based on the authors' own botanizing, extensive data from herbarium records compiled by the Oregon Flora Project, and several other sources. The book is an important reference for Oregon and Washington botanists, and establishes a well-documented baseline for future studies of the region's flora.

Aaron Liston can be reached at [listona@science.oregonstate.edu](mailto:listona@science.oregonstate.edu)

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The WNPS State Board of Directors wishes to thank the many chapters and their boards of directors who stepped up to the plate to provide financial assistance in 2010 for WNPS Research, Education and Conservation Grants. While not all chapters could do so at this time, some chapters were able to tap into their own limited budgets to enable the continuation of funding in 2010 for WNPS grants to others which support good research, education and conservation efforts related to Washington's native plants. Grants awarded this year will be supported by funds from the following chapters: Central Puget Sound, Columbia Basin, Koma Kulshan, Olympic Peninsula, Salal, and the South Sound in addition to funds from the WNPS state account. Like most budgets of agencies and organizations nationwide, we needed to do a little belt-tightening and we are most grateful for the support of our chapters and WNPS members who so generously help us year after year.

## WNPS Annual Backpack Trip July 9-12, 2010

The 2010 annual backpack trip will be a hike up the Kettle Crest Trail in the Colville National Forest, located north of Sherman Pass 17 miles east of Republic or 25 miles west of Kettle Falls, WA. We will meet at the Kettle Crest Trailhead 0.1 mile north of the pass at 9:30 on Friday morning. From there we will hike up past Columbia Mountain with a possible side trip up to the old lookout site. Our first camp (if all are agreed) will be near Jungle Hill, or beyond near Wapaloosie Mountain. We will encounter rolling mountain ridges of granite and schist with flower covered meadows between stands of subalpine forests and parkland. A Northwest Forest Pass may be required for parking and needs to be obtained for each vehicle. For more information **and to sign-up** contact: Jim Riley, Box 458, Randle, WA 98377, e-mail: [dalife@juno.com](mailto:dalife@juno.com) or phone (360) 497-5193.

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## Plant Lists Available Online

Before you set out on your next hike, check out the "Native Plant Lists" link at the WNPS web site [www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org). Here you'll find plant lists from more than 500 sites throughout the state, compiled by some of the most respected names in Washington botany. Updates will be done once a year and members are invited to contribute their own lists. If you have suggestions about the plants lists or would like to contribute a plant list, please contact Don Knoke at [donknoke@live.com](mailto:donknoke@live.com).

## UW Herbarium and WNPS Cosponsor Sedge Workshop in July.



*Carex scoparia*. PHOTO: PETER ZIKA

The genus *Carex*, known as sedges, dominates many meadows in Washington. Learn the common species and how to identify the rare ones. Many species are critical in the ecology of wetlands and riparian zones, providing structure, stable banks, food and cover. *Carex* is the largest genus of flowering plants

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### Table of Contents

|                                                                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Letter to WNPS Members. . . . .                                                         | 1  |
| American Alps Legacy Project, <i>Jim Davis</i> . . . . .                                | 2  |
| A Look at Washington's Rare Plants:                                                     |    |
| Snow Cinquefoil ( <i>Potentilla nivea</i> ) and                                         |    |
| Five-leaved Cinquefoil ( <i>Potentilla rubricaulis</i> ), <i>Scott Batiuk</i> . . . . . | 6  |
| The Marion Ownbey Herbarium: Pressing Forward <i>Larry Hufford</i> . . . . .            | 7  |
| Georeferencing: Where Was That Plant Collected? <i>John E. Bassett</i> . . . . .        | 9  |
| WNPS Fellow Recognition: A Call for Nominations . . . . .                               | 10 |
| Native Plant Signage Installed along                                                    |    |
| the Capitol Lake Interpretive Center Trail, <i>Fayla Schwartz</i> . . . . .             | 11 |
| Botanical Destination: Blue Creek Trail, <i>Don Knoke</i> . . . . .                     | 12 |
| Update on the Washington Flora Checklist Project, <i>David Giblin</i> . . . . .         | 14 |
| Weed of the Month: Reed Sweetgrass ( <i>Glyceria maxima</i> ),                          |    |
| Class A Noxious Weed in King County, Washington, <i>Sasha Shaw</i> . . . . .            | 15 |
| State Adds Species to Quarantine List of Prohibited Plants, <i>Sasha Shaw</i> . . . . . | 16 |
| Poet's Page, <i>Dan Paquette</i> . . . . .                                              | 17 |
| In Memoriam: Patricia C. Youngman . . . . .                                             | 18 |
| Book Review: Urban Flora of Portland, Oregon, <i>Aaron Liston</i> . . . . .             | 19 |