

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.*

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Balsamorhiza rosea

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/douglasia/douglasia_contributors.html.

Email submissions to: cspurgeon@msn.com

Deadlines for submission		
Deadline	Issue	Members receive approximately
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March 1	Summer	May 1
June 1	Fall	August 1
September 1	Winter	November 1

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E-mail: Linda Ellis (lindaellis@wnps.org)

Mail: Washington Native Plant Society, 6310 NE 74th Street, Suite 215E, Seattle, WA 98115

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www.wnps.org

Managing Editor

Cindy Spurgeon
cspurgeon@msn.com

Layout Editor

Sonja Nelson
sonjan@wavecable.com

Editorial Board, Chair

Kathy Murray
kandmmurray@verizon.net

Douglasia Editor Emeritus

Dr. Art Kruckeberg (ARK/Doug)
(206) 546-1281 h
(206) 543-1976 w
ark@u.washington.edu

Send changes to:

Washington Native Plant Society
6310 NE 74th St, Suite 215 E
Seattle, WA 98115-8171
(206) 527-3210 or
1 (888) 288-8022
wnps@wnps.org

Catherine Hovanec
Executive Director
wnps@wnps.org

Linda Ellis
Office & Program Assistant
lindaellis@wnps.org

A Note About This Issue

Many of you will have noticed right away that this issue of *Douglasia* has a slightly different look. We've made some changes to the format that will make better use of available space, and that will make the content even more easily accessible. First, the Table of Contents appears on the back cover, so you have easy access to all of the information inside. Second, we have grouped the WNPS related items together making them easier to find.

While we are always trying to improve *Douglasia* I don't think it is possible to improve on the quality of our contributors, and this issue is no exception. You will find articles on monitoring the Whiskey Dick and Quilomene Wildlife areas to determine the effects of grazing on the sensitive shrub-steppe eco-system. You will also find this year's study weekend information and a registration form. The Central Puget Sound Chapter is hosting this year and is providing a wonderful array of interesting field trips and programs. Sign up early. It's sure to fill up fast.

On a sad note, we mark the passing of Mary Fries, a dedicated and tireless supporter of our native flora, and a long-time member of the Society. In this article, you can read about her many contributions to the Native Plant Society, and to the preservation of our native habitat. She is an example for us all.

Cynthia Spurgeon

Managing Editor

Front Cover: The illustration of *Balsamorhiza rosea* 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 David Giblin.

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Thoughts on Conservation

by John Browne, Jr.

Conservation Committee Co-chair



Recalling this past summer in the post-Thanksgiving reverie has given me plenty to be thankful for in the big picture context of habitat restoration. Two very large, very important river deltas, on two separate saltwater arms of the sea in the greater Puget Trough, draining from two separate mountain ranges (while lying less than 30 miles apart) are being returned to their original tidal flats/salt marsh conditions. The Skokomish delta sports wonderful accessibility via boardwalks provided by Tacoma Public Utilities whose power lines from dams on the North Fork of this system cross the delta, and who installed a wooden causeway to maintain access to their lines. The boardwalks also provide the Skokomish Tribe access to beaches that have been integral to tribal culture. Levees around more than 100 acres of former tidelands have been lowered and breached in places, and a transformation is taking place at every high tide. Another 200 acres will soon be allowed to return to their historic interaction with salt water. The largest river on Hood Canal (and the most frequently flooded) is on a path to recovery.

In the Nisqually Delta, another diked and farmed former salt marsh is also undergoing a big change, in another major river system with hydroelectric intervention in place upstream. The Nisqually River Delta is the site of a National Wildlife Refuge, extensive Nisqually Tribe restoration efforts, and a few farms. A parallel watercourse, McCallister Creek, also runs into the delta and the majority of newly-added salt marsh will be located between the two streams. More than 800 acres that have been farmed behind dikes for over 80 years will be inundated this winter providing an opportunity to re-establish the native plant communities that agricultural development had eliminated.

At the mouth of the Skagit River one finds major agricultural developments, and another effort by Indian tribes (this time the Swinomish and the Sauk-Suiattle) to re-establish salt marsh habitat that was displaced by draining, tide-gates, and dikes. A large part of the delta is managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) as the Skagit Wildlife Area. The Wildlife Area covers around 16,000 acres, of which about 165 (or 1%)—Wiley Slough on Fir Island—is transitioning to

salt marsh this winter. One result has been the purchase by the WDFW of nearby land adjacent to Padilla Bay to be replacement for bird-watching and upland game-bird hunting which one hopes will also become an area of native plant enhancement, as well.

In all these cases, as well as the work and plans in place for the Dungeness Spit and the eventual removal of dams on the Elwha (God willing), it has been the pursuit of better juvenile fish habitat by local tribes that has moved the actual recovery process along. The very contentious listing of salmon under standards in the Endangered Species Act, fish (and fisheries) to which these tribes are entitled via treaty rights, has produced action on the restoration front in these saltwater and riparian enclaves. When one looks back to examine the responsibilities for earlier conversion and usage of much of the land bordering salt water in our state, one finds only the most minimal oversight and authority. In the case of the Skokomish the courts were used to condemn a right-of-way through the reservation for the passage of power lines, and this wasn't an uncommon procedure. The expansion of industry and commerce was enabled by its political and economic leverage to change things—nothing new there.

The reemergence of the tribes and the coalition of State, Federal, and tribal entities along with counties, timber companies, farmers and ranchers, public and private utilities, non-governmental organizations, and non-profit groups have all had some input into these efforts, and that includes the Washington Native Plant Society, as well. It's ironic that the parties with both rights and real estate that have kept some form of conversion for development away from their places should be the Indian tribes, on the one hand—the original settlers in these parts—and on the other, the U.S. Army (and other branches of the Federal Government), who were charged to contain, control and “pacify” those same Indians.

Just as tribes have suffered inroads into their holdings, the Army at Ft. Lewis is under a developmental siege to bisect their holdings to provide a highway (designated State Highway 704, if built) to a planned community that doesn't exist yet, except on paper. This process, if undertaken, will rip a big gash through one of the largest relatively intact oak prairie fragments in the state. The politician who has engineered this extraordinary bit of pork has had it inserted in EVERY alternative transportation plan in the region's future, aka “Vision 2040.” Even with an economic slowdown, the low-intensity assault upon shrub-steppe and oak prairies continues. For our shorelines, however, there are reasons to hope—and to give thanks.

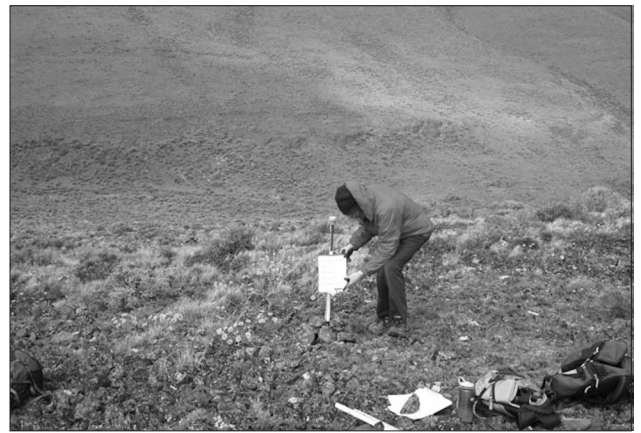
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Monitoring Changes in Vegetation on the Whiskey Dick and Quilomene Wildlife Areas, 2009

by Michael Marsh, Conservation Committee
Co-chair

Reports in *Douglasia* (Vol. 31, #3, #4; Vol. 32, #4) have documented some recent actions by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to permit grazing on designated wildlife areas that it owns and/or manages, and our monitoring of Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area in 2007 and of the Quilomene Wildlife Area in 2008. In this article I report on our field work to monitor both Whiskey Dick and Quilomene Wildlife Areas in spring of 2009. Our reason for monitoring these two wildlife areas is to compare year-to-year changes in vegetation in the presence and in the absence of grazing. Our expectation was that Whiskey Dick would not be grazed, but that Quilomene would be grazed each spring. An important consideration on the Whiskey Dick plots was that in 2007 we used the Daubenmire monitoring method, which involves estimating the percent cover of each species of vegetation seen in a 1/10th meter plot frame. When measuring vegetation on the Quilomene Wildlife Area in 2008 we began using the point plot method (described below), a widely accepted monitoring method used by WDFW. My plan, when monitoring Whiskey Dick in 2009, was to use both the old and new methods on the original transects on Whiskey Dick. This would allow a comparison of the vegetative cover estimates provided by the two methods and make it possible to estimate changes in vegetative cover on that land between 2007 and 2009.

Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area was grazed until the late 1980s, when it was acquired by WDFW. The lower portion of the Quilomene Wildlife Area was acquired by the Department in 2007. It had been grazed in the immediate past, and the Department acquired it under a provision that grazing continue to be permitted, so it was grazed in spring of 2008. In 2008 the Department announced a plan to permit grazing on both the Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Areas in 2009 and for 5 years thereafter. An environmental group, Western Watersheds Project, then threatened a lawsuit and forced the WDFW to comply with a requirement of Washington state law that a formal environmental review must be completed before



Documenting a line point intercept transaction, Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area. PHOTO: RICK ALWAY

allowing grazing on lands which have not been grazed for over a decade. A decision on the resulting environmental impact statement was not completed before the grazing season was to commence last year, and the environmental impact statement (EIS) apparently was placed on the “back burner” after that date. Thus, no authorized grazing took place on either the Quilomene or the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Areas in 2009.

When originally planning for field work on the Whiskey Dick and Quilomene Wildlife Areas last spring, I anticipated, on the basis of experience in 2008, that it would take a day to complete work on each of the 20 study plots. Work on Whiskey Dick would include setting up the transects on each plot, but the Quilomene plots had already been set up with permanent markers for each transect, so I hoped we would save time there, and perhaps visit two plots each day. In fact, our workers were so competent and efficient that we finished work on Whiskey Dick in 7 days and on Quilomene in only three.

Participants over the three years have included Don Knoke, Brett Johnson, Julia Bent, Frank Harris, Janka Hobbs, Dan Paquette, James Duemmel, John Browne, Jr., Ted Couilliard, Linda Ellis, Linda Marsh, and Barbara Downward, as well as a larger field crew which launched the 2008 monitoring season on the Quilomene Wildlife Area. Edd Bracken, a rangeland and wildlife scientist recently retired from the WDFW, led a training session for our volunteers on April 16th.

On April 15th, four of us went over to Whiskey Dick to locate the original iron rod (rebar) markers which Don, Brett and I had set up in 2007 for one of our Daubenmire plots. Then we completed the required layout for the new “line point intercept” monitoring system; three 50 meter transects oriented at 120 degrees from each other around a

central point. It took us a little over an hour to lay out the plot which we then proceeded to monitor. On the 16th, Edd joined us and led us, including those who had not used the method the previous year, through steps in the LPI method on a different plot. It requires the observer to drop a thin wire, or “pin” at every meter mark on the tape, and record each plant species that the pin touches. At 5 meter intervals the height of the first species hit, or “top canopy,” is measured. We finished measuring the transects and making species lists for the adjacent 10 meter by 30 meter plots before 4 p.m. Much of the vegetation had not begun to flower this early in the spring, and there were a lot of unknown seedlings to deal with. We earnestly wished for a field guide that described plant seedlings.

One interesting observation from that first day was the striking difference in vegetation on a deep soil community (most of plot #58 was in this community) and an adjacent shallow soil or “lithosol” community. Bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*) and big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) were the dominant flora of the former, while stiff sagebrush (*Artemisia rigida*) and low-lying woody species like narrow-leaf goldenweed (*Nestotus stenophyllus*) and some buckwheat species (*Eriogonum* sp.) dominated the lithosol. Wildflowers such as the sagebrush violet (*Viola trinervata*) and daggerpod (*Phoenocaulis cheiranthoides*) were blooming on the lithosol at this time. Hooker’s balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza hookeri*) big-headed clover (*Trifolium macrocephalum*) and yellow bells (*Fritillaria pudica*) were getting ready to bloom as well. Finding spiny hopsage (*Grayia spinosa*), on this well-drained upland site was a surprise, as I had previously seen it on low-lying, probably alkaline soil in Benton County.

Spurred by our efficiency so far, we planned to set up and monitor two plots on Friday, the 18th. One was an upland plot and the other was on a steep, north-facing slope and extended to the other side of the dry ravine bottom, thus giving us good samples of two community types. On the north-facing slope three 50 meter transects were spaced 100 meters apart and all oriented north-south.

Our success in measuring two plots in one day led us to plan to finish the remaining six plots in Whiskey Dick in a four day stint April 29 through May 2.

One of the sampled plots was at the bottom of Rocky Coulee, which contains an intermittent stream in this region of its course, but which has a diverse riparian community. The shrub and tree flora in the ravine bottom is browsed back to short sticks each year, which makes one wonder how abnormally high the elk grazing pressure is under current wildlife management practices. The damage



Jumping Elk. PHOTO: MIKE MARSH

could not have been caused by domestic livestock, for they have not grazed here for at least 20 years.

On the way to this plot we visited a hillside spring or seep which had been “developed” in years past to provide water for livestock. The development included a deep standpipe or well with a manhole cover, a large circular concrete holding tank, perhaps to hold reserve water during the dry season, and a drinking trough for livestock and, of course, for wild game. Vegetation in the vicinity included choke-cherry (*Prunus virginiana*), serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), wax currant (*Ribes cereum*), and woolly breeches (*Hydrophyllum capitatum*), among other wetland-adapted species. These rare water sources in a dry environment are easily found because the choke-cherry and serviceberry trees are visible at a distance.



Trifolium macrocephalum. PHOTO: RICK ALWAYS

Saturday, our last day on Whiskey Dick, our field crew had dwindled to three. We walked down a dry hillside to our last plot, finishing our work there just as a few drops of rain began to fall. Frank Harris’ vehicle, a VW Westfalia camper, had only two-wheel drive, and we worried whether it would have difficulty on a rain-slick road, so we hurried back to the road. The rain abated, and we emerged from Whiskey Dick without difficulty.

At the end of May we returned to monitor the plots positioned in the Quilomene Wildlife Area. Three sites were monitored on Wednesday, May 27th, and it was a full

day. We worked from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. One of the plots we did first in 2008 with a large group of volunteers. Upon our return we had a good deal of difficulty finding the rebar transect markers, which are supposed to be covered with white plastic pipe. I believe that only one of the iron bars was actually wearing its plastic pipe at this time, and I remembered that last year someone carefully collected all of the white pipes after we had finished our work on the plot. On Thursday morning we monitored a complicated plot with three pairs of transects, one on each side of the south fork of Parke Creek, then walked to two hillside plots in nearby Black Rock Canyon to finish the day a little after 6 p.m.

On Friday we got up at 5 a.m. to measure vegetation on the last three Quilomene plots. The weather was perfect, although a little warm at noon. At 1 p.m., after working on a 60% south facing slope above the south fork of Parke Creek, some of us soaked our feet in the clear, cool creek water under the shade of a ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*). Then Frank drove us around to North Parke Creek and we tackled our last plot, finishing at 6:20 p.m. with a mile to walk back to the car.

Camping arrangements for field crews were somewhat varied. In 2008 we had found a pleasant camping spot by a large ponderosa pine on the south fork of Parke Creek, so we returned there for our first night while working on Whiskey Dick. The night was pretty chilly, but we were still surprised in the morning when after we walked up the road a way to look at the vegetation, it began to snow lightly. As we drove out from Parke Creek we passed through farmland, and we saw a herd of more than 20 elk inside a farm fence beside the road. We stopped because some elk had already jumped the fence and crossed the road, and we watched while the rest of the herd followed suit, each one clearing the 5 foot fence in turn.

On our second visit to Whiskey Dick we decided to save travel time, so we camped right by the Vantage Highway in the parking area by the wildlife area entrance. Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area is inhabited by elk during the winter months and in early spring when does are calving. WDFW had closed the area to vehicle traffic during that time period to avoid excessive disturbance to the elk herd. On May 1st the Department was scheduled to open the area to motor vehicle travel. We were anxious for that to happen, because it would greatly shorten the distances that we would have to walk to study plots. Sure enough, at exactly 6:03 a.m. a pickup truck pulled in, the string barrier with the “no admittance” sign came down, and the vehicle left before I could get up and see who it was. That afternoon when we returned from our monitoring work

we were passed by three or four 4-wheel buggies. Near the entrance a row of pickup trucks, some with trailers, gave notice that there were more off-road enthusiasts in the wildlife area.

Our work this past spring was particularly important, because we were able to obtain data on both wildlife areas in the same year, to obtain data comparing to successive years in Quilomene Wildlife Area and to obtain data in two monitoring methods simultaneously in Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area that will enable us to interpret the 2007 data obtained using 1/10th meter Daubenmire plots. By finishing the work on the Quilomene in three days this week, we got a clear record of the status of vegetation on all plots at essentially a single point in time.

The data from this work will give us, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, a clearer picture of what the consequences of livestock grazing can be in arid shrub-steppe lands. Preliminary analyses already show that the native grass cover on Whiskey Dick is half again as high as on the Quilomene plots, while annual grass cover, mainly the invasive cheat grass (*Bromus tectorum*), is only one quarter as much as on Quilomene. Lichen crust, which suffers from trampling, was 7.4% on Whiskey Dick but only 1% on Quilomene. It appears that resting the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area for 20 years has allowed it to recover from past grazing impacts.

In November 2009, a final EIS was issued by WDFW, deciding that both the Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Areas will be grazed. A final grazing plan does not appear in the final EIS, but the grazing plan in the draft EIS indicated that grazing would commence on Whiskey Dick in the second year of the plan (which would have been 2010). The final EIS states that grazing on the affected wildlife areas will depend on hiring of a monitoring specialist and on completion of fencing and spring “development” in each Area. Our decision on whether to monitor again this spring will depend in part on the Fish and Wildlife Department’s decisions on allowing further grazing activity.

Without the willing participation of some very intrepid WNPS volunteers we could not have finished this year’s monitoring. I’m very grateful for their perseverance and their willingness to continue after normal working hours, day after day. I’m especially grateful for the knowledge, time, and energy that they have contributed to this monitoring project over the last three years that gives us a solid baseline for measuring changes through time in the Whiskey Dick and Quilomene Wildlife Areas.



A Look at Washington's Rare Plants: Strawberry saxifrage (*Saxifragopsis fragarioides*)

Washington State Sensitive Species

Rare Care volunteers have successfully located two documented occurrences of Saxifragopsis fragarioides. In 2006, volunteers even collected seeds from one population, found in association with mosses on granite cliffs; the seeds are now stored in the Miller Seed Vault. The following population is more challenging. Two years before Meagan's attempt, another volunteer couldn't get past a locked gate. Monitoring rare plants sometimes requires several attempts and several dedicated volunteers. This is seventh in a series by Washington Rare Plant Care and Conservation featuring Washington's rare plants.

by Meagan McManus, Rare Care volunteer

As I pounded the dry dusty trail, fat cold drops of Central Washington rain began to pelt my back. I was about three miles in, with several more to go, on a quest to find the elusive, state sensitive species, strawberry saxifrage (*Saxifragopsis fragarioides*). I hoped to find the plants perched high atop the talus slopes of the north central Cascades.



A Rare Care volunteer found *Saxifragopsis fragarioides* blooming in mid-June at approximately 1,760 feet in Chelan County. PHOTO: MICHAEL MUSCARI

Strawberry saxifrage is a spring blooming herbaceous perennial with many glossy basal leaves and a flower stalk of small cream-colored flowers. It grows perched atop rocky or 'talus' slopes within the cracks and crevices of rock outcroppings. Growing amongst mixed wildflower communities of field chick-weed (*Cerastium arvense*), arrowleaf balsam root (*Balsamorhiza sagittata*), Tweedy's lewisia (*Lewisia tweedii*), and native lupine species, it flowers in June and July.



Rock outcrops and cliffs such as this one provide habitat for *Saxifragopsis fragarioides*. PHOTO: MICHAEL MUSCARI

Its absence from areas with richer, more fertile soil suggests that it likely cannot compete with many other types of vegetation. Strawberry saxifrage has adapted to and taken advantage of the harsh, isolated setting of cracks in rock outcrops and cliffs.

Though this rare plant is known to occur from northern California to southwest Oregon, it is widely disjunct in Washington State, known only in Chelan County in the eastern Cascades. There are four known occurrences, all located within the same relative vicinity in the Cascade Mountains. Though the populations occur in relatively inaccessible locations, rock-climbing and other human activities threaten the survival of the species.

As the torrential downpour continued, I came to a stream crossing. The current raged as the mountain spewed forth water from the upper watershed. A wide, swollen stream stood between me and the remainder of the trail. I searched up and down the trail for alternative crossing points, but to no avail. The crossing was too dangerous. I turned back. About seven miles in, with about seven more to go to search for the sensitive plant, I was defeated by the raging high waters of the Cascade Mountains.

The elusive strawberry saxifrage waits still, high atop the Cascade Mountains, for the next Rare Care attempt...for those other adventurous souls who dare to seek it!

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@uw.edu or call 206-616-0780.



Western Washington Flora: the Past, Present and Future

Spend the Weekend Exploring the Puget Sound Basin, May 21-23, 2010

The Central Puget Sound Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society invites you to join us for a beautiful spring weekend of botanizing in the Cascade foothills and surrounding area. Within a small radius, pockets of remnant habitats hint at the flora of the past, while restoration projects improve habitats with the future in mind. Botanize across a range of habitats and witness our present flora, both native and naturalizing.

“Study Weekend Central” is Camp Waskowitz, located 3 miles east of North Bend, just off of I-90, and situated on the South Fork of the Snoqualmie River.

Details and a registration form are included in this copy of *Douglasia* (and on-line at www.wnps.org), so complete the form, submit by mail and mark your calendars! A good time is planned for all!

Tentative schedule:

Friday, May 21

4:30-6:30 p.m. Registration and Socializing
6:30-7:30 p.m. Dinner at Waskowitz Dining Hall
7:30-9:00 p.m. Evening Program

Saturday, May 22

8:00 a.m. Breakfast and pickup box lunches
9:00 a.m. Assemble for Field Trips
4:30-6:30 p.m. Social Hour
6:30 p.m. Dinner at Waskowitz Dining Hall
7:30-9:00 p.m. Evening Program, Jack Nisbet

Sunday, May 23

8:00 a.m. Breakfast and pickup box lunches
9:00 a.m. Assemble for Field Trips

Activities following the evening program will include a campfire by the river and star-viewing (depending on weather and visibility). At dawn, groups will depart for bird watching before breakfast. Camp Waskowitz has 372 acres to be explored. During our free time, Fred Weinmann and others will lead surveys of the trails so that we can create a complete plant list for the camp. Due to limited parking, carpooling is recommended. Please leave pets at home.



Kinnikinnick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*). PHOTO: ROD GILBERT

Dormitories: Two buildings, each divided into eight cabins with access to centrally located restrooms and showers. Most cabins accommodate from 8 to 13 people with individual bunks. Don't forget your sleeping bag!

Camping: There is a soccer field where tents can be pitched, but no hookups. Restrooms and showers are available to all campers in the dormitories. All vehicles, including RVs, must be parked in the lot located on the north side of the Dining Hall.

Meals: All meals will be served family style in the camp Dining Hall. Box lunches will also be provided for Saturday and Sunday field trips. All meals will have a standard and vegetarian option.

Programs: Friday's program will be announced in the registration letters and online. On Saturday, Washington author Jack Nisbet will be discussing his latest book, *The Collector: David Douglas and the Natural History of the Northwest*. Douglas was the premier botanical explorer in the Pacific Northwest and his discoveries include hundreds of western plants, most notably the Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). *The Collector* tracks Douglas' fascinating history, from his humble birth in Scotland in 1799, to his botanical training, and finally to his adventures in North America discovering “exotic” new plants for the English and European market.

Field Trips

Trips will leave shortly after 9:00 a.m. and return by 4:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise. Scheduling changes will be posted. Trips range in difficulty from easy to strenuous. Register for field trips by selecting your top three choices for each day and writing them on your registration form. Trips are generally limited to twelve to fifteen participants, assigned on a first-come-first-served basis, with priority given to those who stay at Camp Waskowitz. Directions

for all field trips will be posted. Driving times are one-way. Carpooling is recommended! Additional trips may be added based on leader availability and demand. Please check the website (www.wnps.org) for more information.

SATURDAY TRIPS

1. Cedar River Watershed, Clay Antieau (returns by 5:00 pm)

The Cedar River Watershed is part of the City of Seattle's municipal water supply serving more than 1.4 million people, and is closed to uncontrolled public access. See choice spots in the watershed and its recovery from early logging. The trip will explore some of the watershed's wetland and lake ecosystems, including the Eagle Ridge fen, one of the most intriguing among the diverse habitats in the watershed. Other stops may include sedge meadows in the drawdown zone of Chester Morse Reservoir, restoration projects in a forested wetland, and a true bog. This tour involves short hikes through brush on uneven terrain.

2. Silver Creek, Joe Arnett

The Silver Creek Trail starts about a mile north of the Easton airstrip at an elevation of about 2400 feet. It climbs fairly steeply for the first mile or so on the hillside west of Silver Creek through a forest of Douglas-fir, with some ponderosa pine and grand fir. For the next couple of miles, the grade is quite gentle, and the trail stays closer to the stream. It eventually climbs to over 5000 feet through mountain meadows, though that area may be under snow.

3. Duwamish River Restoration Sites and Schmitz Park Preserve, Mark "Buphalo" Tomkiewicz and Dylan Mendenhall

Mark will take the group to several sites in various stages of restoration, which are accessible from one car park (plenty of parking). Then, the group will drive to Schmitz Park to view the type of habitat the Duwamish restoration projects are hoping to ultimately mimic. Schmitz Park Preserve is a roughly 53-acre forest, virtually untouched by logging, making it a relatively pristine old growth stand. The vegetation ranges from upland to wetland/riparian. Within the past 50 years, English ivy (*Hedera* spp.) and Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus discolor*) have encroached on the park - mostly along the edges. There are also several ongoing restoration projects.

4. Shadow Lake Bog and Echo Mountain, Brenda Running

Shadow Lake Bog in Maple Valley has bog-associated species, such as Labrador tea (*Rhododendron groenlandicum*), bog laurel (*Kalmia microphylla*), bog cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccos*), the insect-eating round

leaf sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*), Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), western white pine (*Pinus monticola*), and many species of sphagnum mosses, lichens and fungi. The bog trail takes about one hour but can be longer or shorter depending on questions, photography stops, etc. Nearby Echo Mountain (aka Cedar Mountain, Spring Lake, Otter Lake), in Renton, has a rocky bald at the top with numerous native plants. The Peak Trail to the summit rises to about 800 feet above sea level with beautiful views.

5. Native Plants and Native Peoples, Linda Storm (returns by 5:00 pm)

Come learn how native peoples used our native Pacific Northwest plants. Learn about the origin stories of the people, the places they inhabited before Euro-American settlement, and the significant role of specific plants in relationship to the origins of people. For example, did you know that camas was featured prominently in many Coast Salish peoples' origin stories? In the past the role of Native peoples' active ecosystem management of plant resources and habitats was much more extensive than most people today realize. Plants provided medicines and materials to meet many health and home needs. Learn how managing different habitat patches at different elevations provided for peoples' diverse needs and how these human practices enhanced species and habitat richness in the indigenous landscapes inhabited by the peoples of the Pacific Northwest. The trip will hike the Rattlesnake Ledge trail, 1,100 ft elevation gain, 1.5 miles.

6. Bryophytes (Mosses and Allies), Paul Yurky

Take a close look at nonvascular land plants. Since mosses and their allies lack tissues to transport water, they depend on water in the environment to transport their spores. Bryophytes thrive in the damp lowland forests in Western Washington. The exact location has yet to be determined, and will be announced closer to the Study Weekend.

7. Snoqualmie/Kings Lake Bog, David Wilderman

Kings Lake Bog and Snoqualmie Bog Natural Area Preserve total 309 and 111 acres, respectively. They both preserve sphagnum bog ecosystems that are now extremely rare in the Puget Trough. We'll see examples of bog plant communities including Labrador tea (*Rhododendron groenlandicum*) and white beakrush (*Rhynchospora alba*), and a number of other bog-loving plants such as bog cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccos*), western swamp laurel (*Kalmia microphylla*), and sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*). The sites also support populations of sensitive plant species including few-flowered sedge (*Carex pauciflora*) and flat-leaved bladderwort (*Utricularia intermedia*), as well as rare beetles found only in sphagnum

bogs. The hike in to both sites is short and flat (<1/2 mile) but is mostly off-trail through forest and brush. NOTE: trip is limited to 6 participants.

8. Weeds of the Greenway, Sasha Shaw

This trip will take us to several scenic stops along the Mountains to Sound Greenway to see invasive plant species and to learn how they are impacting native plant habitats. From North Bend and the Mt. Si NRCA to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River (including an area proposed for Wild and Scenic River status), and then up to the Twin Falls/Ollalie State Park area of the South Fork Snoqualmie, we will see how invasive plants are moving in to natural areas far from the urban centers of the Central Puget Sound region. Some of the invasive plants we will see include blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), Asian knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), English ivy (*Hedera helix*), English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), yellow archangel (*Lamium galeobdolon*), hawkweeds (*Hieracium* sp.), knapweeds (*Centaurea* sp.), tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*), and Scot's broom (*Cytisus scoparius*). We will drive to several stops with short walks on varied terrain, including one lovely hike along an oxbow lake, through a Sitka spruce forest and down to the river.

9. Vashon Island: Whispering Firs Bog and Fern Cove, Tom Dean

Tour two distinct ecosystems, one an inland sphagnum bog and one a shoreline estuarine system. The Whispering Firs Bog is a mat of sphagnum moss, a 7,000 year-old ecosystem. This Class 1 wetland hosts a plant community including bog laurel (*Kalmia microphylla*), Labrador tea (*Rhododendron groenlandicum*), sundew (*Drosera* sp.), and stunted hemlock (*Tsuga* sp.) and fir (*Abies* sp.). Characteristic of sphagnum bogs, a moat and scrub-shrub wetlands circle the bog's interior, supporting spiraea (*Spiraea douglasii*), native crabapple (*Malus fusca*), skunk cabbage (*Lysichiton americanum*), sedges (*Carex* sp.) and rushes (*Juncus* sp.). Access to the bog is a short walk which traverses a fallen log. Footing is a bit tricky, so wear sturdy footwear with good traction. Fern Cove is the estuary of salmon-bearing Shinglemill Creek and contains a salt marsh populated by a variety of salt-tolerant plant species. This will be a short walk through a riparian forest and down to the delta, passing through the salt marsh in between. The tide will be fairly high, so waterproof boots are suggested. If time allows, the walk will be extended to include a stretch following the creek upstream into a second growth lowland forest. The vegetation along the creek bed testifies to numerous flood events and stream channel migrations. Additional cost for ferry fare.

10. Little Mt. Si, Laura Potash-Martin

The Little Mt. Si trail boasts a varied flora with great views of the Snoqualmie River valley. WNPS members have compiled an extensive (85 species) plant list throughout the years—this will be a good opportunity to update it. There are several weedy species near the trailhead, but there are also a variety of ferns and non-vascular plants. Some flowers that might be blooming include evergreen violet (*Viola sempervirens*), prickly currant (*Ribes lacustre*), and foamflower (*Tiarella trifoliata*). You'll get to see flora associated with rock outcrops, shady forests, riparian habitat, and then at the very top a dry-site ecosystem dominated by lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) and bristly manzanita (*Arctostaphylos columbiana*). Little Mt. Si is a moderate hike, 5 miles round trip with an elevation gain of 1,200 feet.

SUNDAY TRIPS - FULL DAY

11. Botanical Illustration, Louise Smith and Joe Arnett

Sharpen your observational skills and engage your creativity at the same time! You're far from civilization and you see an unknown species. You look carefully and take photographs. But back at the lab, the key asks for more detail than you noticed. A sketch helps you see and notice more details to record, and allows you to capture the context of the moment as no photo can. Expert botanist Joe Arnett will provide practical pointers from his own sketching experience, while the instructor will follow up and engage the class in a variety of different approaches to accurate drawing and sketch approaches. Add depth and pleasure to your native plant experiences with this class.

12. Point & Shoot Wildflowers, Mark Turner

Almost everyone carries a pocket digital camera these days. Spend a day in the field learning how to take advantage of the strengths, and avoid the weaknesses, of the camera in your pocket. We'll work on photo techniques for both individual plants and their habitats. Learn ways to control the light, enhance compositions, and visually tell stories about plants with Mark Turner, photographer and co-author of *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest*. The exact location will be determined by what's blooming, potentially on the grounds of Camp Waskowitz so we spend most of our time photographing and not traveling or hiking. Bring your pocket digital camera, spare batteries and memory cards.

13. Plants and Historic Features of the Cedar River Watershed, Clay Antieau

The Cedar River Watershed is part of the City of Seattle's municipal water supply serving more than 1.4

million people, and is closed to uncontrolled public access. This is an opportunity to join botanist Clay Antieau on a whirlwind botanical tour of some of the important historical sites in the Cedar River Municipal Watershed, including the Chester Morse Reservoir, Masonry Dam, Cedar Falls, Cedar Falls town site, Cedar Falls railroad switchyard, and Barneston town site. This tour involves short hikes through brush on uneven terrain.

14. Snoqualmie Valley Regional Trail, Chris Anderson

The Snoqualmie Valley Regional Trail is 31 miles long and runs from Rattlesnake Lake to Duvall. The Stillwater Natural Area, Stillwater Wildlife Area and Chinook Natural Area are close to the Snoqualmie River. There is fine riparian vegetation to be seen along the trail and it is an excellent place for spotting birds. The trail is level and gravel covered, and is used by cyclists as well as walkers. This trip can be as long as people want to walk.

15. Elk Heights, Don Knoke

This botanical destination follows the Morrison Canyon Road off I-90, up South Cle Elum Ridge. This road is rough, with rocks and ditches; it is better suited for walking than driving. A number of habitats are featured: open, shrub-steppe habitat, open pine, Douglas-fir (*Pinus* sp., *Pseudotsuga menziesii*) forest, and mostly Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) with some grand fir (*Abies grandis*) mixed in. Many different types of flowers grow along the road, and in mid-May we should find a good number of plants in flower. From the start of the road to the ridge top is about three miles and climbs over 1000 feet.

16. Rattlesnake Ridge, David Giblin

This trail winds through lowland western Washington forest, then climbs to the rocky outcropping of Rattlesnake Ledge. From there you can see Rattlesnake Lake below, as well as spectacular views of Mt. Si and Snoqualmie Pass. The hike is about 2 miles to the top of the ledge, with an elevation gain of 1,160 feet. David plans to continue walking along the top of the ridge, so the overall hike will be longer. WNPS members compiled a plant list for the trail in the 1990s, and this would be a great opportunity to update it!

SUNDAY TRIPS - HALF DAY (9AM-1 PM)

17. Lichens of Twin Falls, Katherine Glew and Richard Droker

The Twin Falls area receives more than 90 inches of rain a year, making it ideal for mosses and lichens. The river narrows to a rocky gorge then tumbles to a stair step falls which provides spray that the mosses enjoy. The humidity provides ample moisture for the epiphytic lichens on nearby trees. The first 0.7 miles of the trail passes through

a forest laden with lichens. Several nurse logs can be found with pixie cup lichens and verdant moss. Cloud lichens can be found growing on the side of a talus slope along the trail. We will be examining lichens from a beginner's perspective, but more experienced lichen enthusiasts are welcome. For those who like a challenge, we can examine the trunk of trees for crustose specimens. Bring a hand lens. This trail is three miles with an elevation gain of 500 feet. We will end our lichen journey with lunch and a discussion.

18. Kruckeberg Botanical Garden Tour, Sarah Baker

The Kruckeberg Botanic Garden at Richmond Beach, in Shoreline, Washington, is a public garden dedicated to community enjoyment and educational enrichment. Mareen and Art Kruckeberg assembled the Garden's four-acre plant collection over many years. It is rich in native plants of the Pacific Northwest and unusual species from other lands, set in a wooded, park-like atmosphere. Easy walking.

19. Spring Lake Fen and Echo Mountain, Caren Adams

Caren will lead a walk through the lowland forest of this undeveloped King County Park between Renton and Kent. This is a fairly easy trail with an elevation gain of a few hundred feet to the summit of Echo Mountain, where chocolate lily (*Fritillaria lanceolata*) and fawn lily (*Erythronium* sp.) should be in bloom if the weather is closer to normal than last year. Homesteaders picnicked on this peak, which was probably managed by fire by the Native Americans who preceded them. A fire in July 2009 burned most of the peak and open slope areas. This will be an opportunity to see how the plants respond.

20. Marymoor Park Restoration, Ella Elman

Join Ella Elman, EarthCorps Ecologist, for a tour of a prairie and riparian forest restoration project in Marymoor Park, King County's most popular park. The Eastside Audubon Society has been removing invasive Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) and Himalayan blackberries (*Rubus discolor*) within a large prairie area used by ground nesting birds for the past three years, and have made great progress in planting native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees in the reclaimed areas. The tour will go through the Bird Loop, a trail connecting many types of habitats including prairie, wetland and riparian forests. Hopefully, some of the planted prairie species will be in bloom at this time. This is an easy walk along a flat, paved trail. Any help with identifying introduced grasses would be greatly appreciated!



REGISTRATION FORM

Central Puget Sound Chapter
WNPS Study Weekend May 21-23, 2010
Western Washington Flora of the Past, Present and Future

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Chapter affiliation _____



Viola sempervirens
 PHOTO: Rod Gilbert

T-shirts will be available online starting April 1, 2010!

Registration fee & meals/lodging package: \$ 175.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Includes speakers, lodging at Camp Waskowitz (dorms or camping), 6 meals, and evening activities

Registration only: \$ 65.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Includes evening activities and field trips/workshops

Registration fees will be waived for field trip leaders.

Field trip registration priority will be given to those who stay at Camp Waskowitz!

	Total Fees = \$ _____
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Type of meals: Regular _____ Vegetarian _____

Field trip preference: (Note: many of our field trips are limited to 12-15 people per group)

Saturday Trips	1st choice	# _____
	2nd choice	# _____
	3rd choice	# _____
Sunday Trips	1st choice	# _____
	2nd choice	# _____
	3rd choice	# _____

Registration deadline is April 16. \$20 cancellation fee. No refunds after May 1.

Please make checks payable to WNPS. Registration confirmation and an information packet will be sent to your e-mail address within two weeks of registering. To receive confirmation by postal mail, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped standard sized envelope (#10, legal sized). On-line registration and payment via Paypal will also be available at www.wnps.org. You may also print the registration form from the website.

Send your registration to: Washington Native Plant Society, c/o Maria Yousoufian, 6310 NE 74th St., Suite 215E, Seattle WA 98115. Questions regarding registration may be directed to: Maria Yousoufian, maria@wnps.org or 206-527-3210.

The University of Washington Herbarium's 2009 Field Season

by David Giblin, University of Washington Herbarium (WTU) Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture*

Anyone that has ever been to the Herbarium knows that I do not have the best view from my office. In fact, because the Herbarium is located in the basement of Hitchcock Hall, I actually have no view of the campus (which over the years I have found can be a concern to visitors). So when April comes around, I very much look forward to the fieldwork that lies ahead over the next six months or so.

Washington has a rich flora, and there are many areas in our state for which we have little or no documentation of existing plant diversity. Consequently, my list of places to go each year exceeds the time (and energy) available for collecting. 2009 was no exception in this regard, as my 17 collecting trips only enabled me to get to the western and central areas of the state. The eastern portion will have to

wait until 2010. Nevertheless, I did get to many interesting areas, and I was fortunate to have the outstanding company of nearly 40 volunteers and colleagues. Together we added about 2,000 specimens to the Herbarium's holdings, with about 200 of these being new county records for WTU. Rather than providing a description of each trip, I wanted to focus on only a handful so as to provide a sense of the geography covered and diversity of plants found.

The year began and ended on the east side of the Cascades, and in between I visited areas west of the crest that stretched from the northwest corner of the San Juan Islands to the mouth of the Chehalis River near Hoquiam. In getting started, I'd like to thank everyone who joined us in the field in 2009 and made it such a successful year: Amy Dearborn, Anne Hirschi, Ben Legler, Brianne Cohen, Cheryl Lowe, Cindy Spurgeon, Dave Tank, Dave Wilderman, Dick Olmstead, Sheila Olmstead, Don Knoke, Doug Williams, Elizabeth Gould, Frederica Bowcutt, Hannah Marx, Howard Coleman, Jeff Walker, Jim Rodman, Kara Adern, Kelsey Byers, Luke Ledwich, Natalie Pyrooz, Pam Camp, Pat Liu-Irving, Peter Dunwiddie, Peter Zika, Phil Green, Richard Ramsden, Rick Dillhoff, Robert Goff, Rod Gilbert, Ruth Pelz, Steve Hahn, Suzanne Anderson, Tad Dillhoff, Tracey Scalici, Valerie Soza, and Wendy McClure.



Participants in the 14th Annual Herbarium Foray to the Channeled Scablands of central Washington. PHOTO BRIANNE COHEN



Balsamorhiza rosea (rosy balsamroot) growing along the main hiking trail up Badger Mt. in Benton County. PHOTO: DAVID GIBLIN

Benton County (April 15-17th)

In fall 2008 I attended an invasive species conference in Pasco, and on the drive into town I noticed a large, undeveloped hill that I later learned was Badger Mountain. In spring 2009 Tim Werner, Parks and Facilities Resource Manager for the City of Richland, and Adam Fyall, Community Development Coordinator for Benton County, coordinated permission for me to collect over the entire site. This was particularly good news for me because WTU has very few contemporary collections from Benton County, and much of the wild areas in Benton County that were collected early last century have since been converted for agricultural, industrial, or residential purposes.

Don Knoke was kind enough to help out on this trip, and we spent two half days traversing both sides of the mountain. By far the best find was rosy balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza rosea*), a species that I had never seen before and for which there were only two previous collections at WTU (from 1934 and 1969). Other notable finds included Robinson's onion (*Allium robbinsonii*), with its distinctive pinkish-white flowers, cushion pussytoes (*Antennaria dimorpha*), which is perhaps the most easily overlooked pussytoes that we have here in Washington, and spiny hopsage (*Grayia spinosa*), a shrubby member of the Chenopodiaceae (goosefoot family) with rather modest flowers that later produce showy, wing-margined fruits that resemble thin wafers.

On our way back home we headed north along State Highway 240, which runs along the east side of Rattlesnake Mt. The scale of unbroken shrub-steppe habitat in this area is truly impressive; however it was very discouraging to

observe the large infestations of blue mustard (*Chorispora tenella*) in the lowlands adjacent to the highway. Dense, cloud-like patches of pink between 50-100 acres in size could be seen in several locations. These near monocultures of blue mustard are unfortunately outcompeting and displacing the native species that co-occur in the area.

We made a quick stop along the Columbia River just north of the Vernita Bridge, and there we collected several early season shrub-steppe species that included shy gilia, (*Gilia sinuata*), an annual Polemoniaceae (phlox family) with light blue flowers, white layia, (*Layia glandulosa*), one of my favorite annuals in the Asteraceae (composite family), and Columbia milk-vetch (*Astragalus succumbens*) of the Fabaceae (pea family), which is one of the easier members of this species-rich genus to identify due to its rambling nature and large inflorescences.

14th Annual Herbarium Foray (April 30th-May 3rd)

2006 was the last year that we held the Foray in Washington (2007 was in Oregon and 2008 in Montana), and this was the first year that we held the outing in mid-spring. A hearty group of 21 participants braved cool temperatures brought on by spring's late arrival, a marauding group of raccoons in the campground (who decided they didn't like granola cereal after thrashing my box of it), and a downpour the afternoon of the Spaghetti Dinner and Ken Davis Memorial Dessert Contest. We chose the Channeled Scablands of central Washington as our destination because the area possesses remarkable plant diversity and is typically awash in brilliant colors from wildflowers in late April and early May.

Each morning from Friday through Sunday we divided into small groups and then scattered to various collecting localities in Douglas, Lincoln, and Grant counties. Pam Camp of the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Regina Rochefort from the National Park Service facilitated access to lands owned by their respective agencies. We made more than 300 collections over the course of the weekend, and highlights of the more than 150 species that we documented were sagebrush bluebells (*Mertensia oblongifolia*), tarweed fiddleneck (*Amsinckia lycopsoides*), prostrate hutchinsia (*Hutchinsia procumbens*), daggerpod (*Phoenicaulis cheiranthoides*), and flax-leaved plainsmustard (*Schoenocrambe linifolia*).

In an "average" spring we would have sampled more diversity than we did on this trip, but the lingering cold weather delayed the emergence of so many species. However, it's important to remember that an average is composed of both high and low values. Because the phenology data (e.g., presence of flowers, fruits, spores,

cones, leaves) of each specimen is recorded in our database at WTU, researchers in the future will be able to use this information in conjunction with climate data from the area to analyze the response of plant phenology to temperature variation. So, even though all of us on the trip would have enjoyed seeing and collecting additional species, it is satisfying to know that our efforts in the field, soggy shoes, and shredded cereal boxes will pay off in the future.

Bureau of Land Management parcels, Klickitat County (May 11th-13th)

Klickitat County has the highest plant diversity of any county in Washington, and more than 50 taxa (species, subspecies, and variety) on the rare plant list occur there. At the turn of the 20th century, Wilhelm Suksdorf made his home in Bingen, and his botanical journeys throughout the area still provide us with the most comprehensive documentation of the flora of the Columbia River corridor and adjacent southern Cascades. Strangely, no one from WTU has made a systematic survey of Klickitat County since Suksdorf's time. This is not to say that nobody from WTU has collected in Klickitat County, but rather that such activity has been very limited over nearly a century.

With that in mind, I was thrilled when Pam Camp from the BLM inquired as to whether WTU would be interested in conducting botanical surveys on parcels that the BLM owns in Klickitat County. Funds from BLM allowed me to hire Botanist Steve Hahn, who has spent most of the last 18 summers doing botanical work in the backcountry of North Cascades and Mount Rainier national parks. I joined Steve on a survey trip of several BLM parcels in early May, and surprisingly we still weren't able to escape the clutches of the late spring. It snowed on



Upper Klickitat River Canyon on BLM parcel southwest of Goldendale. PHOTO: DAVID GIBLIN

the higher hills the second night out, and we came back across Snoqualmie Pass in near white-out conditions!

The three days of fieldwork that we conducted were very productive and instructional. This was my first time in this particular area of the State, so I saw a lot of species new to me, including Mahala mat (*Ceanothus prostratus*), Suksdorf's desert-parsley (*Lomatium suksdorfii*), Columbia Gorge desert-parsley (*Lomatium columbianum*), rattan collinsia (*Collinsia rattanii*), and unfortunately Western poison-oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*). We turned up several taxa on the rare plant list, including delicate buttercup (*Ranunculus hebecarpus*), gooseberry-leaved alumroot (*Heuchera grossulariifolia* var. *tenuifolia*), and Hooker's bluegrass (*Poa nervosa*). Steve made several other trips in May and June, but previous commitments to other projects prevented me from participating in these. The project will continue for at least another season, so I have already made time on my calendar to accommodate several trips to Klickitat County in 2010 to learn more about this botanically rich area of the state and to bolster WTU's contemporary holdings from this important region of plant biodiversity.

Franklin County (September 29th-30th)

As I've written before, late August through early October is when I make several collecting trips targeting aquatic plants. This year I chose to focus on Franklin County because it is one of the least represented counties at WTU (a total of 403 specimens—for comparison we currently have 6,688 from Chelan County). My primary destination was Scootenay Reservoir, which is part of a man-made complex of lakes and channels resulting from irrigation projects in central Washington. Ironically, the aquatic and riparian areas created by these irrigation networks contribute significantly to local native plant diversity because such habitats would not exist there due to the extreme summer heat.

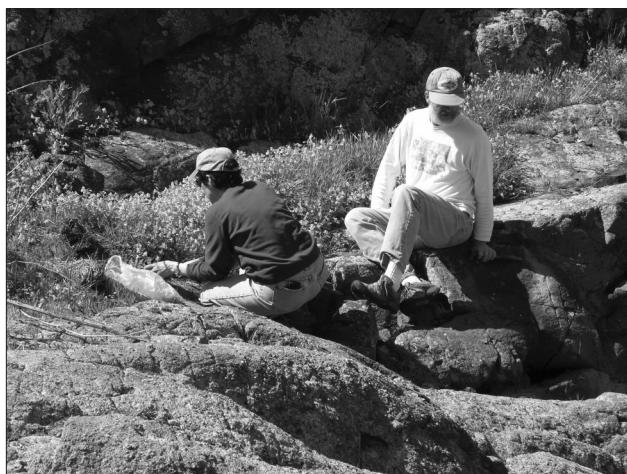
The two days that I spent collecting in and around Scootenay Reservoir were incredibly productive in terms of the number of collections that I made (close to 80) and the percentage of these collections that were new county records for WTU (about 50%). The weather and water were plenty warm for wading and having wet feet all day. Among the interesting finds were three species of pondweed (*Potamogeton*) and the closely related sago-pondweed (*Stuckenia pectinata*). I was surprised to find rice cut grass (*Leersia oryzoides*) growing on the edge of a small irrigation channel, as the only other place that I had ever seen it was west of the Cascades. The next closest documented population of this species was in Yakima

County collected by Hitchcock in 1965. In seasonally moist, slightly alkaline soil adjacent to the Reservoir I found desert centaury (*Centaureum exaltatum*), an annual member of the Gentianaceae (gentian family) that I do not often collect. It too was a county record for WTU. Other less unusual species that I collected, but nevertheless county records, were showy milkweed (*Asclepias speciosa*) and the non-native great mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*). Speaking of weeds, unfortunately I made collections of the non-native, invasive grass, common reed (*Phragmites australis* ssp. *australis*) in Franklin, Adams, and Grant counties over the course of the outing. I also collected a species of *Tamarix* (salt-cedar) near Scootenay Reservoir. I only found one plant, but given the devastation that this species has wrought in riparian areas of the intermountain west, it is important to be aware of any occurrence of this invasive plant.

San Juan Islands (April 22nd-24th; May 27th-29th; September 23-25th)

For the past five years, Peter Dunwiddie and I have been conducting surveys of small islands (<40 acres) throughout the San Juan Archipelago. 2009 marked the final year of this project, and when we completed our final three-day trip in late September we had visited 90 islands (there are about 180 named islands, islets, and rocks in the San Juans). We stayed dry on all of the trips this year, though like everywhere else in the Pacific Northwest this past spring, the April trip was quite cold at times.

In April we were treated to spectacular displays of large camas (*Camassia leichtlinii* ssp. *suksdorfii*) and sea blush (*Plectritis congesta*) in the grasslands, with spatula-leaf stonecrop (*Sedum spathulifolium*) coating the rocky bluffs. In May we saw carpets of the low-growing annual, matted



Cheryl Lowe and Peter Zika collecting *Mimulus guttatus* in San Juan Islands. PHOTO: DAVID GIBLIN

popcorn flower (*Plagiobothrys scouleri* var. *penicillatus*), patches of the spectacular Hooker's onion (*Allium acuminatum*) were on seven islands that we visited, and we found both species of honeysuckle vines, orange honeysuckle, (*Lonicera ciliosa*), and pink honeysuckle (*Lonicera hispidula*) growing on the same island. We wrapped things up for good in September, with notable species including the sprawling silver bursage (*Ambrosia chamissonis*), two native species of saltbush (*Atriplex dioica* and *Atriplex gmelinii* var. *gmelinii*) that can only be distinguished when the fruits are mature, one of my favorite rocky coastal plants, beach sandspurry (*Spergularia macrotheca* var. *macrotheca*), and the ubiquitous hairy gumweed (*Grindelia hirsutula*), which we found on 11 of the islands that we visited on this trip.

Final Thoughts

It is always with a touch of sadness that the field season comes to an end. Though I sometimes get weary of the stress associated with tying up loose ends before leaving town, it is a remarkable and fortunate experience to travel to so many interesting parts of the region for the purpose of documenting the diversity and distribution of both native and introduced plants. The fall and winter months will be spent identifying collections from the past year, and ultimately the information associated with these specimens will be available online through WTU's online database: <http://biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium/collections/vascular/search.php>

I am grateful to all of the support that we received not only from the volunteers previously mentioned, but also from the federal and state agencies with whom we partner (National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US BLM, Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, and Washington Department of Natural Resources). Finally, I would like to thank the generous donors to the Herbarium Endowment and Friends of the Herbarium funds, who make so much of this work possible.

*Herbaria around the world identify themselves with an acronym. For the University of Washington Herbarium this acronym is WTU, which stands for Washington Territory University. The Herbarium was founded in 1882, at which time Washington was still a territory of the United States.

David Giblin is the Collections Manager at the University of Washington Herbarium, Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture. He may be reached at dgiblin@u.washington.edu



620 Wild Plants of North America—Fully Illustrated

by Tom Reaume

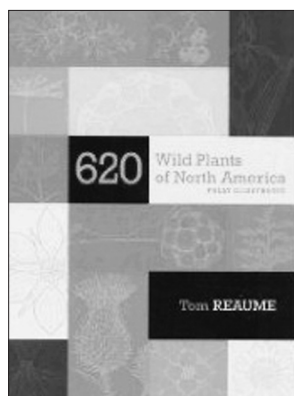
Published by Canadian Plains Research Center,
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Hardcover 784 p ISBN 0889772142,
9780889772144 \$120.

*Reviewed by David Giblin, University of Washington
Herbarium, Burke Museum*

I received a phone message this fall from someone wanting to provide the UW Herbarium with a complementary copy of a book on North American plants. A few days later I was presented with Tom Reaume's recently published *620 Wild Plants of North America—Fully Illustrated*, a nearly 800-page book covering common wild plants from 89 families with distributions that fall within some or all of north-central North America (essentially a swath from the Texas panhandle north to the Arctic Circle).

The first thing that struck me about the book was its size. A 9"x12" book with 784 pages means that it is for reference purposes rather than something to take into the field. On opening the book, I was amazed to see that each species treatment included up to a dozen meticulous, beautifully rendered, fully-labeled botanical illustrations of everything from the entire plant to the small diagnostic details of the vegetative (leaves, stems, roots) and reproductive (flowers, cones, spores, etc.) parts. These are extraordinary illustrations, and the drawings within many species treatment include more than one scale of magnification (e.g., 0.5x, 2x). The illustrations alone makes this book a wonderful addition to anyone's library of plant books because the drawings often highlight features that are insightful to understanding the morphology and identification of an entire genus or family.

It is unclear why the author chose 620 species to illustrate, and how he selected the ones covered in the book. He admits in the introduction that the book only covers a handful of the species that occur throughout North America. Regardless of the process, each species treatment



includes a wide range of background information that includes family, scientific, and common names, synonyms for some species, origin (native vs. naturalized), habitat(s) where found, growth habit (wildflower, shrub, vine, etc.), flower color, number of petals, technical descriptions for all plant parts, a map showing the distribution within north-central North America, and, as mentioned above, a series of illustrated plant parts. In places Mr. Reaume is quite contemporary with respect to the scientific nomenclature (names) that he uses for the species that he treats (e.g., *Symphyotrichum* instead of *Aster*, *Krascheninnikovia* instead of *Eurotia*). The back of the book contains an integrated index of scientific and common names, followed by shorter individual indices for common names (e.g., "plantain") and genera, respectively.

Any book that covers the number of species and the geographical focus included in this volume will run into some problems, and *620 Wild Plants of North America—Fully Illustrated* is no exception. Perhaps the biggest shortcoming of the book is that there are no keys, so it cannot be used for identification purposes. Unfortunately, this means that the book is limited in its utility to users who are neither already familiar with the flora of the region treated nor somewhat knowledgeable with the systematics of the North American flora in general. My other major concern is the source of the names used in the book. Mr. Reaume chose to follow the names listed as "accepted" on the Integrated Taxonomic Information Web site (www.itis.gov). My preference for the source of names is a published flora (e.g., *Flora of North America*, *Illustrated Flora of British Columbia*), or a monograph where the person and process of determining what is an accepted name is more transparent. The price of the book (about \$120) will certainly be a deterrent to some as well, however this is not an unreasonable cost given the amount and quality of the drawings provided.

Perhaps the best reason to own *620 Wild Plants of North America—Fully Illustrated* is to serve as a companion volume to many of the field guides for western North America that are based on photographic images in which details cannot be seen. Coming home from a day of wildflower viewing and being able to open up this book to see the details of a particular genus or species would be quite pleasing for many native plant enthusiasts. Similarly, I can see purchasing this book to simply have an outstanding collection of illustrations for many North American plant species that occur here in the Pacific Northwest. Tom Reaume is to be congratulated on completing such an ambitious project, and thanked for his exquisite attention to detail in illustrating this volume.

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In Memoriam: Mary A. Fries

Contributions from Mike Marsh and Clay Antieau, Central Puget Sound Chapter, Helen Engle and Anna Thurston, South Sound Chapter

January 2010

With much sadness, we report that Mary Fries of Tacoma died on December 18, 2009, at the age of 85. Mary was a popular children's librarian at the Tacoma Public Library for 30 years, as well as an active member of Tahoma Audubon Society, the Tacoma Branch of The Mountaineers, and our Washington Native Plant Society (WNPS).

Mary was especially interested in mountain floras. She wrote the text of *Wildflowers of Mount Rainier and the Cascades*, which was illustrated with photos by Bob and Ira Spring. She led work parties to protect rare species in Tacoma city parks, seed collecting trips to locations such as Mt Rainier, and field trips to the Cascades and South Sound prairies—among her favorite botanical haunts. In the late 1980s, she partnered with Hazel Wolf to update and republish *Washington Wildflowers* (Larrison, Patrick, Baker, and Yaich, 1974, Seattle Audubon Society). Despite preparing a remarkable species list with recommended common names—and her best organizational efforts—this “book by committee” never quite made flight, much to Mary's disappointment.

Above all, Mary was an activist focused on the conservation of Washington's flora. Her interest and expertise in invasive plants led to an appointment to the Citizen Advisory Committee to the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board. Her work there over many years helped establish a “no-spray” rule for native plants and led to legislation that prohibited the Board from listing native plants as Class A or Class B noxious weeds. Mary also served as Chair of the WNPS South Sound Chapter's Conservation Committee for many years; in

1997 the State Board elected her a WNPS Fellow.

Her conservation activity focused on management of public lands. She alerted Mike Marsh (then WNPS Conservation Chair) to the US Forest Service (USFS) Stewardship Contracting Program (this by way of a Christmas letter), which permits revenue obtained through timber sales to be retained in the National Forests that were thinned, and which involves local citizen groups in planning each thin. The Skokomish Watershed Action Team (with which Mike Marsh has been associated) is an outgrowth of such a stewardship thinning project. More recently, Mary had advocated aggressively against construction of the Cross Base Highway, which would (will?) bisect Fort Lewis, destroying and fragmenting increasingly scarce Garry oak (*Quercus garryana*) woodland in the process.

Mary wrote to the Chair of the WNPS Conservation Committee many times, and gave valuable pointers on what the proper functions of this post should include. Her letters were never barbed or critical, but were straightforward statements of her beliefs and concerns.

On July 5, 2003, Mary wrote the following, responding to an e-mail to WNPS Chapter chairs regarding the results of a recent WNPS State Board retreat, and potential conservation issues on which the State Conservation Committee should focus:

“The Society's mission state-ment is the basis: ‘to promote the appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through... study, education, and advocacy’...” (Mary's emphasis)

“All native plants and vegetation are affected currently with so many problems; the focus should be on more than one or two, unless a rotating schedule is meant, which might attract more interest (this could be a reflection on our decision to concentrate on Garry oak communities and shrub-steppe in our five year plan). Individual committee members, both state and local, can

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Urbanizing Flora of Portland, Oregon, 1806-2008

NPSO Occasional Paper 3: 1-319

by John A. Christy, Angela Kimpo, Vernon
Marttala, Philip K. Gaddis, and Nancy L. Christy
(2009)

This compilation of the vascular plants of the Portland-Vancouver area analyzes changes in the region's vegetation that have occurred since 1806, and compares historical conditions with those of today. It tracks the changing fortunes of native and exotic species shaped by an expanding urban environment and includes a history of botany in Portland, botanical miscellanea from 19th and early 20th century Portland, and lists of rare species.

Replaces draft release of June 2009, with updates.

**Now Available: Native Plant Society of Oregon
Occasional Paper 3**

Urbanizing Flora of Portland, Oregon, 1806-2008

Price: \$15.00 postpaid

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Oregon

Contact:

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7050 SW Canyon Crest Drive

Portland, OR 97225-3623

john.christy@oregonstate.edu

In Memoriam: Mary A. Fries continued from previous page

focus on 1 or 2 issues. But State and Chapter Chairs need to take a more holistic view of plant protection.”

“In any case, coordination with chapters is important. There has been a lack in recent years.

Your task is to rebuild a viable, active conservation effort. This should probably be approached from several angles....”

“These comments are becoming too lengthy, so I’ll skip a few of the retreat suggestions, either obviously appropriate or obviously ridiculous.”

In Mary’s last letter to the WNPS Conservation Chair (June 2005, written after recovery from a hip fracture), she wrote of her study of the USFS’ final environmental impact statement on Invasive Weed Management. She paid special attention to the published comments from citizens and other interested parties, and was distressed (aren’t we all!) that there was no way to compare the agency response, or lack of response, to individual letters

or their authors. The letter was hand-written, unlike her legendary and usually type-written correspondences, so we must suppose that her typewriter ribbon had run dry.

Mary was a remarkable person. She was knowledgeable, prolific, erudite, generous, and passionate about the native plants she grew up with and studied for the rest of her life. Mary’s persistence and organization, honed by her years as a librarian, enabled her to single-handedly advocate for native plants and their habitats amid many diverse development and land use proposals affecting both public and private lands. We miss her greatly.

A biographical sketch of Mary by Joan Frazee appeared in the February 1998 WNPS Central Puget Sound Chapter newsletter, and was reprinted in *Douglasia* (Winter 2004) in honor of Mary’s 80th birthday (available at <http://www.wnps.org/publications/douglasia/index.html>).



Archiving the Flora of the Pacific Northwest in the Western Washington University Herbarium

by Eric DeChaine, Curator, and Fred Rhoades, Curator of Fungi, Western Washington University Herbarium

Herbarium Name: Western Washington University Herbarium
Location: Western Washington University, Dept. of Biology, room 239, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA 98225
Date founded: 1996
Tag ID: WWB
Number of collections: 4 (vascular plants, non-vascular plants, algae, fungi)
Size of collection: over 26,000 specimens
Open to the public: hours vary, but usually 10-4 on weekdays
Website: <http://myweb.facstaff.wvu.edu/dechaie/herbarium.html>
Volunteers needed: yes, specimen mounting and databasing
Contact information: Eric DeChaine, Curator, (360) 650-6575, eric.dechaine@wwwu.edu
Fred Rhoades, Curator of Fungi, fred.rhoades@wwwu.edu

The mission of the Western Washington University Herbarium (WWB) is to archive and make accessible correctly identified botanical specimens, with an emphasis on those inhabiting the Pacific Northwest. Because a large part of our aim is to share this repository of botanical information, we have an open door policy with scientists, students, and the greater community. Indeed, we are visited by teachers, taxonomists, ecologists, conservation biologists, environmental consultants, ethnobotanists, and amateurs for identification of plants and fungi and information on their morphological variation, distribution, and ecology. As such, the herbarium is an excellent resource for anyone interested in botany and mycology of the Pacific Northwest.

While the main focus of WWB is vascular plants of the Pacific Northwest, the collection also includes non-vascular plants, algae, and fungi from around the region and beyond. Of particular interest is our specialty collection of plants from the North Cascades. With more than 26,000 specimens, the herbarium contains a rich assortment of botanical information. In addition, WWB serves as a portal to other national and international herbaria through specimen loans and exchanges. By being part of the network of herbaria (the Index Herbariorum), we can readily access the wealth of morphological, ecological, geographical, and even genetic data available that is housed in plant collections around the world. Not only do we have preserved specimens, but also a

small reference library on plant systematics and the flora of the region.

The geographic focus of the collection is largely delimited by the Vancouverian Province of the Rocky Mountain Floristic Region. The Region is comprised of two provinces that basically span the western (Vancouverian) and eastern (Rocky Mountain) mountain ranges. The herbarium lies near the geographic center of the Vancouverian Province, which extends from the southern tip of the Cascades, just south of the Oregon-California border, northwards through the Cascades along the coast, and into Alaska. This region is marked by wide changes in elevation across a topographically complex landscape, with some ranges (i.e., the Olympics) isolated from the main cordillera. This heterogeneous terrain offers a diversity of environments that have no doubt promoted the great species diversity and high degree of endemism witnessed across the region.

In systematics, it goes without saying that the process of speciation begins well before distinct species arise. It is the same with the origination of the WWB Herbarium. The following history has been gleaned from anecdotal notes and correspondences found tucked away in the herbarium, and through conversations with those involved with the collections in the early years of the department (with special thanks to Jerry Flora and Rich Fonda). No clear chronology was kept as the herbarium grew, and as such, many of the details have been lost through the years. The herbarium began as a simple teaching collection, built up by faculty members interested in botany, such as Ruth Platt and Leona Sundquist, who pressed, mounted, and preserved plant specimens at what was then known as Western Washington College of Education. During the early stages of the collection, Sundquist served as the Science Department chair, becoming the first chair of the Biology Department that was founded in 1961. At that time, the department was located in Haggard Hall, but there was no official herbarium, per se. In the mid-1950's Jim Martin became the first skilled taxonomist to be involved with the collections. But, it wasn't until Ron Taylor was hired in 1964

that the collections really started to grow. Taylor built up the collections on his own, by trading specimens with other herbaria, and through sampling of specimens from student collections in the Systematic Botany course. In 1977, the college was renamed Western Washington University and it was about that time that the herbarium-proper originated. Taylor continued to augment the collections through 1992 when he retired. David Morgan replaced Taylor and served as the curator from 1993-2005. In the fall of 1996, the Biology Department moved from Haggard Hall into the new Biology Building, which had a room dedicated to the

WWB herbarium with new storage cabinets, desk-space, and dissecting microscopes. Following Morgan's departure in 2005, Barry Wendling, an aspiring graduate student and keen botanist, volunteered as the interim collections manager. And, with Wendling as his graduate student, Eric DeChaine took on the role of herbarium curator in 2006.

The WWB Fungal Herbarium at WWU consists of 5101 specimens, including slime molds (Myxomycota), lichen-forming fungi (Ascomycota and Basidiomycota) and free-living fungi (Ascomycota, Basidiomycota and a few Deuteromycota). This collection was begun by mycologist Richard Haard in the late 1960s and curation has continued by mycologist Fred M. Rhoades from 1977 to the present time. The collection is mainly a teaching collection and includes mostly locally common representatives added to the collection by students over the years. Also included are fungi and lichens from Oregon from the early collections of Fred M. Rhoades, lichens deposited by Bruce Ryan from his Masters Thesis ecological study at Washington Park, Anacortes, WA, and lichens and fungi deposited from studies by Fred M. Rhoades at the Sulfur Creek lava flow (Mt. Baker), Olympic National Park, Lopez Island, and elsewhere in northwest Washington. There is also a nicely packaged collection of Myxomycota from a private collector in California and few exsiccata from other lichenologists. An additional historical note: an early member of the science faculty of the Washington State Normal School at Bellingham (progenitor of WWU) was A. W. C. T. Herre, an early Pacific Northwest lichenologist. He collected here in the 1910 to 1920 time frame and several northwest species are named after professor Herre. However, as far as we know, he left none of his collections at the College—they were all donated to herbaria in California where he originally came from and retired to.

The WWB Bryological Herbarium at WWU consists of 2638 specimens. It was begun in the 1950s by former WWU botanist, Jim Martin and added to over the years by his students, WWU mammologist Clyde Senger, and students of mycologist Fred M. Rhoades who taught Bryophytes back in the 1980s. The collection is mainly a teaching collection and includes mostly locally common representatives. A nice collection of specimens, some from a 1925 class at Friday Harbor taught by bryologist Lois Clark, was donated by Doris Mullen.

In the herbarium, we are currently funded through the National Science Foundation to research how climate change during the Quaternary (~ the last 2 million years) impacted the diversity and distribution of arctic and alpine plants in western North America. The wildflowers that color the

tundra landscape hold clues to the secret of how arctic and alpine species have responded to climate change in the past. During the Ice-Ages, the climate oscillated between cold glacial and warm interglacial periods and habitats shifted accordingly—forcing populations to either persist in refugia, migrate to areas of more suitable habitat, adapt to the changing environment, or go extinct locally. How the plants responded can be inferred from the variation that they harbor within their genomes. By understanding how species were influenced in the past, we can better predict how they may respond to future climate change.

To investigate the consequences of the Quaternary on tundra plant diversity, we are collaborating with Dr. Charles Davis at the Harvard University Herbaria to investigate the systematics of several genera across a broad spectrum of angiosperm families in the northwest. Species include members of the Cyperaceae, Juncaceae, Poaceae, Liliaceae, Polygonaceae, Saxifragaceae, Crassulaceae, Fabaceae, Rosaceae, Lentibulariaceae, Campanulaceae, and Asteraceae. For our research, we are collecting plants from the field, pressing and mounting them for accession in the herbarium, sequencing their DNA, and testing biogeographic and speciation hypotheses. For more information about this research, please visit <http://myweb.facstaff.wwu.edu/dechaie/>. During our collecting expeditions to remote arctic and alpine sites, we not only pick, press, and preserve individuals of the target species of interest, but also voucher specimens of all species we encounter in order to augment the distribution and morphological data available to the botanical community in general. As one might imagine, the number of tundra plants in the WWB collection is growing rapidly! As with any systematic project, this work necessitates examining numerous specimens, not only from nature, but also those curated in other herbaria. Thus, we have many specimens on loan from other herbaria (e.g., the University of Alaska Herbarium in the Museum of the North (ALA), the Harvard University Herbaria (HUH), and the University of British Columbia Herbarium (UBC) to name a few).

In addition to increasing the number of specimens, we are in various stages of databasing our collections. Our goal is to have every specimen in the database, including accession numbers, collection information, and high-resolution images of the specimens so that the geographic, ecological, and morphological data archived within WWB available to all botanists via the internet. Through the involvement of students and other volunteers, we hope to complete this project in the near future.

Contact Eric DeChaine at (360) 650-6575, eric.dechaie@wwu.edu, and Fred Rhoades at fred.rhoades@wwu.edu



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(Donations received
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Highlights of the WNPS State Board Meeting, Fall 2009

by Gary Smith, Secretary, WNPS

The semi-annual WNPS State Board of Directors meeting was held in Seattle on October 17, 2009.

Approval of April 4 and 5, 2009, Board Minutes

Motion to approve and adopt the minutes of April 4 and 5, 2009, passed unanimously.

Executive Board Report

Dean Longrie presented the Executive Committee Report. The report included actions taken and discussion. The following documents were reviewed: WNPS and Washington Association of Conservation Districts memorandum of understanding; WNPS comments on the US Forest Service Decision Notice for the Burdoin Mountain, Coyote Wall, and Catherine Recreation Plan Environmental Assessment, Klickitat County, Washington; Appeal to the Regional Forester, Pacific Northwest Region, of a decision by the area manager of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area; and Building Stewardship and Community: A Record of Achievement/Abstract/Natural Areas Association Conference.

Election Results

Board election results: Ballots were included in the fall issue of *Douglasia* to be returned by the October 1 deadline. There were three nominees for three positions: Matthew Loeser, Fred Weinmann, and Mark Turner. A proposed change to the WNPS bylaws to provide for electronic voting was also on the ballot. All candidates were elected and the bylaws change was approved.

Officer elections. For 2009–2010 the Board elected Dean Longrie, president; Jane Wentworth, vice-president; Fred Weinmann, treasurer; and Gary Smith, secretary.

The Executive Committee consists of the president, vice-president, treasurer, one chapter chair, and one other Board member. Executive Committee members for 2009–2010 are Dean Longrie, Jane Wentworth, Fred Weinmann, Terry Lillybridge, and Brianne Cohen.

Consideration of a Nomination and Governance Committee

A Nomination and Governance Committee meant to enhance Board and organizational governance was discussed and approved.

Policy on Peer Review

The WNPS Board of Directors approved formation of an ad-hoc committee to produce a policy on peer review at the April 2009 meeting. Dean explained that the policy represents some careful thought and that WNPS has members of differing opinions and interests. This policy indicates how the Board develops and defines WNPS policy positions. The Board adopted the policy as presented by the committee with minor edits.

WNPS Budget

The Board reviewed and discussed the several budget documents: Financial Overview, WNPS Draft Audited Financial Statement for 2008, WNPS Statement of Accounts, WNPS Profit and Loss YTD, Overview of Recent *Douglasia*, Calendar, and Occasional Paper Costs, and the Proposed 2010 Budget.

The Board approved the draft WNPS Audited Financial Statements for 2008 as prepared by David Bembridge, CPA, PS.

The Board adopted a proposed budget for 2010 that requires significant cuts in most program activities including grants for

Research, Education, and Conservation. A decline in revenue and the current economy required the Board to take a conservative approach.

As a means of restoring some grant activities, the Board directed Dean Longrie to prepare a letter to chapters to see if they would be willing to support WNPS state grants for Research, Education, and Conservation in 2010.

Thanking Walt Lockwood and Linda Storm

The WNPS Board thanked Walt Lockwood and Linda Storm for their service on the Board and presented them with a framed print of salmonberry photographed by Don Paulson.

Native Plant Stewardship White Paper

Gary Smith explained that the Defining WNPS Stewardship White Paper is an effort to formalize the program and standardize some program aspects to ensure consistency and quality across the state. An executive summary and recommendations were included. There was a Board consensus that this should become a policy and created in a policy format.

WNPS 2011 Study Weekend

Brianne Cohen reported that the 2011 WNPS Study Weekend, to be hosted by the Central Puget Sound Chapter, will be held on May 21st–23rd at Camp Waskowitz in North Bend.

Field Guide to Rare Plants of Washington

Pam Camp reported work continues on the Rare Plant Field Guide, which will contain 324 rare species, photos, illustrations, and maps. The work is collaboration among the federal Bureau of Land Management, the state Department of Natural Resource's (DNR) Natural Heritage Program, WNPS, and the University of Washington Herbarium. The UW Press will publish the document.

Rare Plants Follow Up from Spring Board Meeting

Catherine Hovanic reviewed discussion at the spring board meeting with DNR officials about the status and protection of rare plants in Washington. She indicated that the issue might be incorporated into a study by the Arid Lands Working Group coordinated by The Nature Conservancy with Katrina Strathmann representing WNPS. The ARWG has a number of agencies and organizations working on arid lands issues and could serve as a springboard, in time, for the rare plants issue. It will be important for WNPS to be a participant and involved in comments.

Arid Lands Working Group

Katrina Strathmann submitted brief notes on the meeting she attended with representatives from the Bureau of Land Management, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Natural Heritage Program, The Nature Conservancy, Washington State Parks, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Biodiversity Council. There was Board consensus that coordination among multiple agencies is necessary for conservation of the shrub-steppe. A planning process will help identify conservation targets, threats, and strategies. Inclusion of additional stakeholders will be needed for development and implementation of a successful plan.

Standing Committee and Chapter Reports

Written reports were submitted for the Board's information.

2010 Events

- Society for Ecological Restoration NW—February 16th through 18th, 2010; Tulalip Resort Conference Center
- Native Plant Appreciation Week—April 25th through May 1

>

WNPS Chapters Support 2010 Research, Education and Conservation Grants

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 or phone (360) 497-5193.

Highlights of the WNPS State Board Meeting *Continued from previous page*

- Botany WA—to be announced
- WNPS Fellows Awards Nominations

2010 Board Meeting Dates

April 17, 2010
October 16, 2010

For the complete minutes of the WNPS State Board Meeting:
http://www.wnps.org/about_wnps/administration/records/state_board/index.html

For information on WNPS State Policies:
http://www.wnps.org/about_wnps/administration/policies/index.html



Giving at the Workplace



Workplace giving is a means by which you can donate to WNPS and other charitable organizations through payroll pledges. Giving through automatic payroll deductions makes it easy to give. The Washington Native Plant Society is a member of Earth Share of Washington, a federation of leading environmental and conservation organizations. Many companies sponsor Earth Share of Washington giving campaigns through which you can designate a donation to WNPS. Federal, Washington State (including UW and WSU), King County, City of Seattle and other governmental agencies also sponsor giving campaigns that include WNPS as a charitable option. For a complete list of participating companies check out the Earth Share of Washington web site at www.esw.org. If your company has only a United Way giving campaign, you can still contribute to WNPS by designating Washington Native Plant Society in the "specific organization" or "donor option" section of the United Way pledge form.

New WNPS On-line Store

There is something new on the Washington Native Plant Society website... For members who wish to purchase our Wildflower Poster, our 2010 Native Plant Photo Calendar, sets of new wildflower cards, and other items, we now have a way to shop on line. Check out the WNPS home page www.wnps.org and look for the link to the On-line Store on the left navigation bar or go directly: <http://www.wnps.org/shop/index.html>

You will see all the items offered for sale and can order them directly. Just in time for the holidays and a good way to support the Washington Native Plant Society.

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. 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.

Sign Up for WNPS List Serve

Want to get involved with discussions about native plants and related issues with other WNPS members? The WNPS list serve offers announcements, news, and discussion relevant to native plants and the WNPS membership.

How to sign up: Email wnps@wnps.org and ask Catherine Hovanec to be added to the list. You must be a current WNPS member. Catherine will forward your request to our list provider who will add you to the list and email you with instructions for posting and unsubscribing.



Membership in WNPS entitles you to:

- A subscription to *Douglasia*
- Special price on Occasional Papers, studies of native plants
- A chapter newsletter with local news and information
- Field trips to see wildflowers and unusual plant communities
- Classes by expert botanists
- Annual study weekends
- Conservation and restoration activities
- The fellowship of plant lovers from all over the State of Washington

WNPS State Board of Directors: Meetings 2010: April 17 & October 16.

For information on agenda and location contact the WNPS office.

Join the Washington Native Plant Society

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| ☐ Central Puget Sound (Seattle) | ☐ Palouse (Pullman, inactive) |
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Seattle, WA 98115

Welcome New Members

9/16/2009 through 1/7/2010

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Floyd Baldwin (Gift from Chelsey Loeffers), Shannon Blackburn, Sandra Bowman, Stephen Cooper, Lindsey and Connie Cramer, Keri Detore, David Doop and Family, Stephanie and Bruce Fairweather, Erika Gierok, Christine Green, Karen A. Grove, Wendy and Leeds Gulick, Jan Herdman and Rich Wilson, Enid Kriewald, Henri Kruse (Gift from Kathy Jones and Diane), Josh Lawlor, Michael Little, A. Lexine Long, Philip C. Magasich, Kay and Danny Baird Mahlik, Lynda Mapes (Gift of Douglas MacDonald), Marcia Massey, Elaine McEnergy, Fata Padgitt, Melissa Poe, Miriam Preus, Maggie Robinson, Ann L. Ross, Lori Scott, Laurie Shumate and Family, Lynnette M. Spear, Laura Tudor, Lauren Williams, Karen S. Wolfe-Fritz, Andrew and Erin Young, Clayborne Jack Youngblood III

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Columbia Basin Chapter

Susan Baker, Priscilla Dauble and Family, John Orrell (Gift from Lillian "Randy" Slovic), Martine Purcell, Nora Parkhurst

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Washington Native Plant Society Directory

Officers & Elected Directors

(Director's term follows name)

President

Dean Longrie 2007-2010
20611 NE 245th Ave
Battle Ground, WA 98604-8803
(360) 687-5148
deanpl@aol.com

Immediate Past President

Fred Weinmann 2006-2009
242 Cedar View Dr.
Port Townsend, WA 98368
(360) 379-0986
fweinmann@cablespeed.com

Vice-President

Jane Wentworth 2007-2010
8901 Woodbank Dr. NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110-3486
206-842-7178
janew@ckwentworth.com

Treasurer

Fred Weinmann 2009-2012
242 Cedar View Dr.
Port Townsend, WA 98368
(360) 379-0986

Secretary

Gary Smith 2007-2010
8936 179th Pl SW
Edmonds, WA 98026-5313
(425) 672-1370
yeesmith@comcast.net

Terry Lillybridge 2007-2010
1505 Third St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801-1736
(509) 663-2869
lillybridgejt@msn.com

Matthew Loeser 2009-2012
12350 US Hwy 12
Naches, WA 98937-9220
(509) 480-0679
matthew.loeser@gmail.com

Scott Moore 2008-2011
7009 23rd Ave. NW
Seattle, WA 98117-5630
(206) 784-4471
skirpus@msn.com

Katrina Strathmann 2008-2011
P.O. Box 986
Naches, WA 98937
(509) 653-1375
katstrathmann@gmail.com

Mark Turner 2009-2012
2414 C Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 671-6851
mark@turnerphotographics.com

Standing Committees

Conservation

John Browne, Jr, Co-Chair
20929 111th Ave SW
Vashon, WA 98070
(206) 463-9641
jbrowne001@centurytel.net

Mike Marsh, Co-Chair
3434 14th Ave W
Seattle, WA 98119-1613
(206) 281-8976
swamp@blarg.net

Bill Brookreson
B.brookreson@comcast.net

Rita Moore
rmoore@eds.org

Scott Moore
skirpus@msn.com

Linda Storm
lstorm61@aol.com

Katrina Strathmann
katstrathmann@gmail.com

Kathleen Winters
kathl@scn.org

Education

Fayla Schwartz, Chair
10032 31st Ave NE
Seattle WA 98125-7706
(425) 388-9451 w
fschwartz@everettcc.edu

Diane Doss
Ddoss@spssc.ctc.edu

Mike Marsh
swamp@blarg.net

Mark Turner
mark@turnerphotographics.com

Plant Inventory and Research

Pam Camp, Chair
1014 Westmorland
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 663-5491
pacamp@nwi.net

Dr. Elizabeth Binney
ebinney@gmail.com

Dr. Peter Dunwiddie
pdunwidd@u.washington.edu

Terry Lillybridge
lillybridgejt@msn.com

Lou Messmer
lmessmer@reachone.com

Dr. Sarah Reichard
reichard@u.washington.edu

Editorial Board

Chair, Kathy Murray
kandmmurray@verizon.net

Joe Arnett
joseph.arnett@dnr.wa.gov

Dr. Elizabeth Binney
ebinney@gmail.com

David Giblin
dgiblin@u.washington.edu

Catherine Hovanick
wnps@wnps.org

Linda Storm
lstorm61@aol.com

Mark Turner
mark@turnerphotographics.com

Jane Wentworth
janew@ckwentworth.com

Kathleen Winters
kathl@scn.org

Fundraising

Chair, Vacant

Douglasia Editor Emeritus

Dr. Art Kruckeberg (ARK/Doug)
(206) 546-1281 h 206-543-1976 w
ark@u.washington.edu

Earth Share Representative

Peg Pearson
(206) 524-5564

Chapter Chairs

Central Puget Sound

Brianne Cohen
14830 Bothell Way NE #144.
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155
(206) 465-5055
brianne.e.cohen@gmail.com

Central Washington

Katrina Strathmann
PO Box 986
Naches, WA 98937-0986
(509) 653-1357
katstrathmann@gmail.com

Columbia Basin

Janelle Downs
41703 W Knox
Benton City, WA 99320-7653
(509) 588-9094
sagejld@aol.com

Koma Kulshan

Barry Wendling
1061 Nevada St.
Bellingham, WA 98229-2804
(360) 671-8403
Wend1061@aol.com

Northeast Washington

Robin O'Quinn
729 W 15th Ave.
Spokane, WA 99203-1007
(509) 979-7477
freya.oquinn@gmail.com

Okanogan

Joyce Bergen
PO Box 1085
Winthrop, WA 98862-1085
(509) 996-7808
magpie@methownet.com

Olympic Peninsula

Sharon Schlentner
581 Saddle Dr.
Port Townsend, WA 98368--8905
(360) 379-9810
sschlentner@waypoint.com

Salal

Susan Alaynick
13625 11th Ave NE
Marysville, WA 98271-6717
(360) 659-8792
s_alaynick@hotmail.com

San Juan Islands

Sara Ficklin
PO Box 926
Lopez Island, WA 98261-0926
stotheara@live.com

South Sound

Reba Olsen
13015 19 Ave. Ct. S
Parkland, WA 98444-1144
(253) 531-9652
reba.sue@comcast.net

Suksdorfia

Virginia VanBreemen
PO Box 559
La Center, WA 98629-0559
(360) 263-3046
ginymetro@tds.net

Wenatchee Valley

Susan Ballinger, co-chair
2009 Skyline Dr.
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2380
509-664-8955

Pam Camp, co-chair
1014 Westmorland Dr.
Wenatchee, WA 98801-1238
509-663-5491
pacamp@nwi.net
Palouse - inactive

WNPS Fellows*

William Barker**
Nelsa Buckingham**
Tom Corrigan**
Melinda Denton**
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Betty Jo Fitzgerald
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Amy Jean Gilmartin**
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Ann Weinmann
Fred Weinmann

* To become a WNPS Fellow is the highest honor given to a member by our Society. This title is given to those who have made outstanding contributions to the understanding and/or preservation of Washington's flora, or to the success of WNPS.

** Deceased

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6310 NE 74th Street, Suite 215E
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