

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.*

Study Weekend Reports

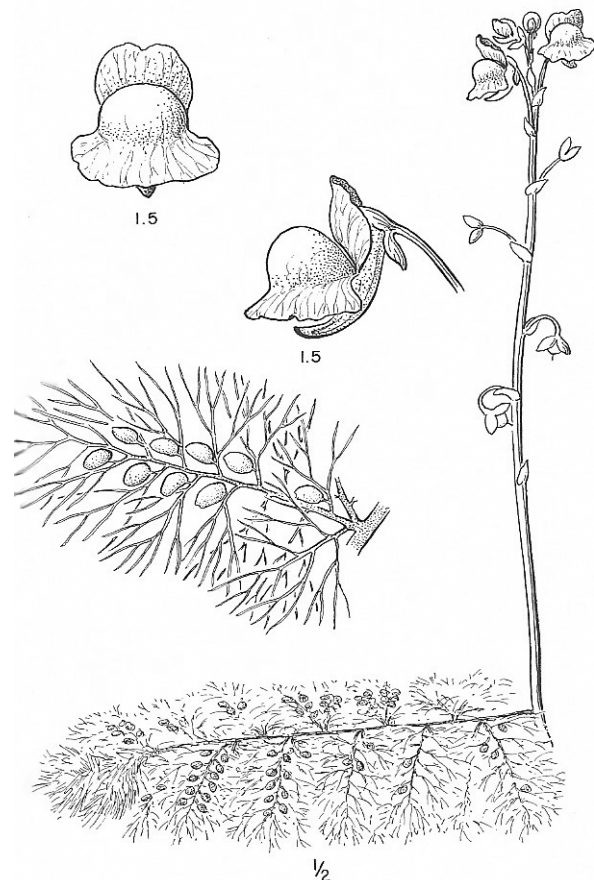
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Utricularia vulgaris

Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish

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A Note About This Issue

Once again, Native Plant Society members have combined to produce a varied and interesting issue of *Douglasia*. We have Study Weekend reports, including descriptions of the landscape and the flora that will make you long for the open spaces of the shrub-steppe. We owe a big thank you to the participants who volunteered to write the reports and send them in so that we could print them in this issue.

On a more business-like note you will also find an enclosed election ballot. There are three candidates for Board positions, as well as a proposed change in the by-laws to allow for electronic voting. We hope you will take the time to read the ballot and then vote.

In addition you will also find our usual features, descriptions of a great botanical destination, a book review, and an update from Rare Care on protection of rare species in Washington.

Without the participation of WNPS members, *Douglasia* would not be possible. If you are involved in a project that would be of interest to others, have a specific interest that you would like to share or know of a wonderful botanical destination we hope you will consider contributing to a future issue.

Finally, you likely have noticed this issue's cover, which is much lighter in color than in the past. The change was necessitated by new postal regulations. The stock contains 30 percent recycled post-consumer fiber.

Cynthia Spurgeon
Managing Editor

Front Cover: The illustration of *Utricularia vulgaris* by Jeanne R. Janish was reprinted from *Flora of the Pacific Northwest* by C. Leo Hitchcock and Arthur Cronquist. See page 15 for an article by David Giblin on searching for wet wildflowers.

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Conservation and Its Discontents

by John Browne, Jr.
Conservation Committee Co-chair



As an adult and a working person spending a few weeks each year in the forests of the West, my awareness of the meanings of “conservation” developed slowly. The woods that I worked in at first were our National Forests, and that was where I learned to plant trees. This was at a time, 40 years ago, when clear-cuts were extensive and routine; where fires were often started to clear the debris of limbs, tops, snags, and inadvertent tree kills; of less-valuable, so-called defective timber as well as the under-story species, pretty much anything that might burn. Then, when late fall/winter came, bare-root Douglas-fir was planted—no matter what had been growing there before and without much thought to slope, aspect, soils, etc., except perhaps that areas with standing water were generally “planted around”.

The logic of this management system was that “the clear-cut replicated a stand-replacement fire” which was also the best precedent for producing stands of even-aged Doug-fir, which was the most valuable timber tree in the forest. The public was served by the employment provided by this cycle of logging the public forests, which also provided some timber revenue to the local governing bodies and everyone should be happy. These practices suited the industry that funded Schools of Forestry, who in turn provided management and research to the timber industry. At its most efficient high point (as our ‘national tree farm’ system) the broadleaved plant community was sprayed with herbicides, in order to ‘release’ the conifers, usually in spring. Complaints from the scattered rural populace were muted (for economic reasons) and ineffective, generally because the practices had the backing and approval of government officials, scientists, and industry.

The great burst of logging activity on public lands coincided with the depletion of prime timber from the private holdings of timber corporations. Federal timber was the “cream of the crop” that remained unlogged. Environmental concerns about habitat and the side-effects of chemical spraying brought a near-halt to logging on federal lands and the beginning of rather virulent “culture wars” around the subject of logging practices. There continues to be controversy, but the science involved

these days is informed of broader management goals than simply maximizing timber harvests which, of course, doesn’t please everyone.

While federal management policies have slowly moved toward an acceptance of ecosystem management, the private forestry managers have focused on maximum timber returns and have moved beyond the old ideas of “quality” (since most of the timber that made “quality” possible, i.e., the old-growth, has been harvested). The “scale shack”, where log loads stopped to be measured, to determine board foot content of the logs, has often been replaced by “scales”, that simply weigh the wood or by calculations of cubic measurements, since much of the wood may end up as pulp, “strand-board” and other products that differ from traditional sawmill products. (As I was walking a stand of 30-year-old trees, with almost nothing on the ground between them, I thought of that beer commercial where the two antagonists appear to be arguing but are simply addressing different qualities of the same product; and I imagined a similar advertisement here: “More Fiber!” shouts one and the other comes back with “Less Habitat!”)

For perhaps the last 12 years I’ve found myself traveling a regular route between Willapa Bay, the Long Beach Peninsula and the south-central Puget Sound area, where I live. These travels have provided an opportunity to observe, first-hand, what constitutes the state of the art management of private timber holdings in this corridor. This means that I have a few ad hoc study areas where I do plant surveys, noting numbers and percentage of coverage of the most prevalent indigenous and invasive plant species, as well as the condition and situation of stands and replants. This was reflexive, a response to finding some accessible favorite stopping areas, usually wetter places, with spruce and devils club etc. present, logged at some juncture, and then replanted. While no longer the exclusive species planted, Doug-fir is still the predominant favorite of our logging industry field managers, despite the fact that one of the targets of spraying, red alder, has a higher value at present than Doug-fir, for equivalent size and age logs.

I continued to harbor a certain feeling, in the private clear-cuts, that there was still some burning going on, mainly because the ground appeared relatively devoid of new growth for a year or two after the logging and planting had taken place. On one of my outings onto a freshly-logged site I found posted some small warning tags (intended perhaps to warn hunters and firewood cutters) that areas had been sprayed. When I looked up the

products being used, I discovered that one was a fungicide and the other a pre-emergent spray that suppressed herbaceous growth in general, perhaps my “chemical” fire. A conversation later that year with an independent forestry contractor revealed that a great deal of his work on private forest lands of the East Cascades was “spot-spraying” of these and similar chemicals around newly planted seedlings.

In the windstorm of December 2007, the private forests along the coast in Grays Harbor and Pacific Counties took an especially bad beating, with results still visible today, despite a great deal of salvage logging, where that was practical. One result was that, on a hill next to Highway 101, a site that had been logged and sprayed adjoined a tract with timber of the same maturity as that logged. The land managers did the practical thing—they salvaged what could be safely removed and then planted both units at the same time. This leaves one side having been sprayed after harvest, and the other simply replanted, without spraying, which gives me an opportunity to compare the recovery of the two areas with respect to my own parameters, which will include a modified timber cruise in a few years, if I live long enough. My main interest is species diversity, however.

To avoid accusations that I was trespassing, I decided to buy shares of the company that owns this particular site (and a great deal of the rest of the 2 aforementioned counties). I did so early in 2008 which will provide great material for a comic story with which to regale the grandchildren, some day. Earlier this year I attended my first-ever stockholder’s meeting, to hear the annual report, and the comments, if any, of other stockholders. The corporate HQ was set up to provide pleasant and hospitable environs for us all. We voted on some issues brought by various stockholder factions (2 of which were passed, over the objections of the Board); and then we were allowed to offer opinions and ask questions. There were several hundred people present—perhaps over a thousand—but there didn’t seem to be much willingness to question anything. One slightly off-putting caveat of the procedure was that one moved to a microphone in the central aisle, stated one’s name and number of shares owned or controlled, and then asked a question. The second person to get up and ask stated his name and then offered “and I have more than one share”. Then he asked about gas leases on the company’s lands. That seemed OK with the emcee.

When it appeared that only 3 questioners were going to speak, I did get to a mike, and asked that, since I, as a stockholder, felt obliged to be responsible for the chemicals that the company was applying in my name to

our plantations, I requested an actual total, by pounds, of the various chemicals, and their names, that the company had dispersed. What I got back by way of an answer (from the person among the heads of departments that were there to field our questions) was that “everything that was applied was done with conformance to the laws and regulations of the State of Washington”, an answer that I felt was insufficient. I intend to ask that question again at the next meeting, and state the opinion that a company that has made the bulk of its fortune by harvesting a native species should consider the implications, and appearances, of landscaping its headquarters exclusively with English ivy. Perhaps a way to discuss the apparent replacement of fireweed—an edible species for many creatures—by foxglove, a poisonous one, will also present itself. It’s troubling to me (as someone with a fondness for fireweed honey) to see the displacement of the usual post-disturbance species found in our forests by the more-adaptable and aggressive non-native species that one finds dominating the roadsides on ‘our’ private forest-like plantations. That’s not the diversity that I wish to see burgeoning on my investment.



Northeast Chapter Receives Grant

The Northeast Chapter has some exciting news to share. This past winter the chapter, at the request of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife personnel, applied for an Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Volunteer Cooperative Grant. Members were pleased to learn in May that the chapter is being awarded the grant in the amount of \$10,780. The funds will finance a project titled “*Sustainable Landscaping for Wildlife: A Native Plant Demonstration Garden at WDFW Region 1 Office*”.

The relatively new Region 1 Office Building is located at Mirabeau Park in Spokane Valley and has mostly non-native landscaping. The project will involve removing the inappropriate landscaping elements and installing demonstration plots representing four different habitats. Each habitat will have a sign explaining its characteristics and the common species of plants and animals, and each major species of plant will also have a smaller descriptive sign. An important part of the project will be education and outreach to gardeners, local plant nurseries, landscape architects, landscaping firms, students, businesses with landscaping needs, and the general public. Educational materials and programs will include brochures, a website, videos on the community TV station, demonstrations, and seminars. Stay tuned, the chapter will submit updates to *Douglasia* as the project progresses.

STUDY WEEKEND

REPORTS

Trips on Saturday, June 6

Lake Wenatchee Mushroom Meanders

(led by Mick Mueller)

by Cal Treser and Anna Thurston, South Sound Chapter

Heading west, four vehicles of fungalphiles left Cashmere in search of something good to eat for dinner. Our first stop just east of Lake Wenatchee (on Meadow Creek Road) proved educational since the picking season had already dried up in the recent warm weather. But our appetites had been whetted with the finding of two or three black morels (*Morchella angusticeps*) plus unusual looking purple Earth stars (*Sarcosphaera coronaria*) and some dated slime molds (*Dacrymyces palmatus*).

Goose Creek campground answered our prayers with the immediate finding of multiple queen bolete (*Boletus edulis*) fairly close to the outhouse! *Amanita citrina* and a poisonous coral mushroom (*Ramaria formosa*) were also present, if not a good distraction from the mosquitoes, whose presence seemed to indicate more was waiting for us.

At our third stop (Finner Creek), we ate lunch and would have been nearly “skunked” were it not for beginner’s luck and the finding of a false morel (*Verpa bohemica*) in the midst of vine maple (*Acer circinatum*), calypso orchids (*Calypso bulbosa*), Hooker’s fairy-bell (*Prosartes hookeri*), and bird’s nest fungi (*Cyathus striatus*).

Our last stop at Deer Creek brought us to the abundance we were seeking—although again with mosquitoes seeking ransom. Here we found a number of golden morels (*Morchella esculenta*) and a treasure trove of queen boletes (which we sampled as we wrote this; butter, fry, and enjoy!). Thanks to Mick for leading the way and for the ample supply of mosquito repellant.

Tronson Ridge

(led by Don Knoke)

by Connie McCauley, Wenatchee Valley Chapter

Don Knoke led an eager group of 15 budding botanists on a 2-mile walk through cool damp forest to the nearly 5000-foot high subalpine and exposed Tronson Ridge. At this elevation we were able to see some of spring’s earliest flowers such as *Fritillaria pudica* (yellow bells) and *Erythronium grandiflorum* (glacier lily). Walking through the damp shade of grand fir and *Arceuthobium douglasii* (Douglas dwarf mistletoe)-infested Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) we found special species such as *Mitella trifida* (three-toothed mitrewort), *Clematis columbiana* (virgins-bower), and *Symphoricarpos oreophilus* (mountain snowberry). Abundant *Pedicularis bracteosa* (bracted lousewort) was just beginning to bloom, and numerous patches of *Lewisia tweedii* (Tweedy’s lewisia) brought out the cameras as we walked through the gently waving *Calamagrostis purpurascens* (purple pine-grass).

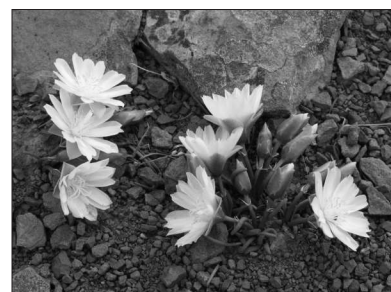
Upon reaching the high exposed ridge top we found a



Marcia Smith, Richard Tinsley, and Kristie Dunkin look at *Lewisia tweedyi* and *Lewisia columbiana*, two of three *Lewisias* seen on the Tronson Ridge fieldtrip. PHOTO: ROB SMITH



Penstemon fruticosus and *Balsamorhiza sagittata* on Tronson Ridge. PHOTO: MARCIA RIVERS SMITH



Lewisia rediviva on Tronson Ridge. PHOTO: MARCIA RIVERS SMITH

very different group of flowers including *Lewisia rediviva* (bitterroot), some that were very unique specimens with pure white blooms with bright green sepals and leaves. *Allium crenulatum* (scalloped onion), *Astragalus whitneyi* (balloon milk-vetch), and *Penstemon pruinosus* (Chelan penstemon) had not been seen on the lower trail and were unique enough to compete with the magnificent views of Mt. Stuart, the Enchantments to the north, and the Columbia Plateau to the east.

Don was able to help us identify every bloom and leaf as nearly everyone found some new species to check off in Hitchcock. For some of us it was *Physaria alpestris* (alpine twinpod) or *Stephanomeria tenuifolia* (bush wirelettuce). For others it was *Vaccinium myrtillus* (low bilberry), *Valeriana columbiana* (Wenatchee valerian), *Calochortus lyallii* (Lyll mariposa or cats-ear), or *Galium multiflorum* (shrubby bedstraw). In all, we identified over 120 species of plants on a great outing.

Wedge Mountain

(led by Ted Alway)

by Julia Bent, Central Puget Sound Chapter

Sixteen eager botanists gathered at the fairgrounds in Cashmere and divided into four high clearance vehicles for the hour-long trip to the Wedge Mountain trailhead. Car botanizing for this first hour was varied, with several shrubs and a variety of forbs in bloom along the way. After arrival at the trailhead/parking lot, we set out at a usual botanizing pace that was measured in meters/minute, although after an hour or so the pace picked up as the more common species were identified and either confirmed or added to the list provided by our esteemed leader, Ted Alway. Climbing higher we were greeted by open slopes in full bloom, with *Balsamorhiza careyana*, *Lupinus* sp., *Hackelia micrantha* and splashes of lavender *Penstemon fruticosus* enlivening the setting. Other plants of note along the way included several specimens of *Mitella trifida* and *Clematis occidentalis*. As the mixed conifer forest thinned, we entered a rocky area covered with *Lomatium cuspidatum*, a Wenatchee Mountains endemic, which was accompanied by rosettes of *Lewisia columbiana* just starting to bloom.

After lunch we scrambled up an exposed slope to the ridgeline of Wedge Mountain, where we were greeted by a stunning view down to Snow and Nada lakes and into the Enchantment Basin. Here we found *Penstemon davidsonii* along with a peculiar pine initially identified

as *Pinus albicaulis*. When one of our intrepid botanists noted that there were three, not five, needles in the fascicles, we realized we were looking at *Pinus ponderosa* in rare *krummholz* form! Complementing the botanizing, the birding was also excellent, with a variety of species, including lazuli bunting and mountain bluebird, both heard and seen. We were graced with excellent weather, a very congenial group, widespread sharing of an amazing amount of botanical knowledge, and an outstanding leader. All in all it was a wonderful day for all who participated.

Burch Mountain

(led by Peter Dunwiddie)

by Janka Hobbs, Central Puget Sound Chapter

Fifteen people in four high-clearance vehicles crept gingerly up Burch Mountain. Our first stop, at the first ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) along the road, did not look auspicious with rain and gusty winds. However, the *Lewisia rediviva* were blooming, and we discovered first a double-bloom and then a pure white plant. We all huddled around a *Penstemon eriantherus* for a few minutes and then drove on.

The weather cleared as we pulled off the road into scrub well populated with *Iliamna longisepala* (long-sepal globemallow—one even in bloom), *Delphinium xantholeucum* (Wenatchee Mountains larkspur), and clumps of *Calochortus lyallii* (Lyll's mariposa lily).

We spent the next few hours on a very pleasant walk, stopping every few feet to key out a penstemon or other blooming tidbit. We were still adding plants to our list when our peerless leaders (Peter, Paul, and Terry) suggested we ought to get back in time for dinner. We hurried back to the cars, then topped off the day with a stop at the cliffs above Rocky Reach Dam where we looked at the narrow endemic *Petrophyton cinerascens* and juniper communities. We were back in Cashmere in time for snacks.

Camas Meadows

(led by Priya Shihani)

by Kim Ramsey, Central Puget Sound Chapter

A group of sixteen (some accomplished and some amateur) botanists set off to explore the diversity of flora in the Camas Meadows Natural Area Preserve. Priya Shihani, Department of Natural Resources ecologist for



Fred and Ann Weinmann identify plants with Priya Shahani at Camas Meadows. PHOTO: CATHERINE HOVANIC

the area, led the outing. The terrain included stretches of dry cracked earth and pools of standing water in places. Two endangered species that are protected there, the Wenatchee Mountains checker-mallow (*Sidalcea oregana* var. *calva*) and the Wenatchee larkspur (*Delphinium viridescens*), were spotted early on and pointed out throughout the day. Other sightings included the nodding orange bud of *Paeonia brownii*, the yellow flowering *Wyethia amplexicaulis* and *Balsamorhiza sagittata*; white-blossomed shrubs *Amelanchier alnifolia*, *Prunus virginiana* and both *Ceanothus sanguineus* and *C. velutinus*. Hitchcock was consulted to sort out *Potentilla recta* and *P. gracilis* as well as three peavines, *Lathyrus lanszwertii*, *L. nevadensis*, and *L. pauciflorus*. A number of *Juncus* and *Carex* species in dry and wet habitats were examined and keyed. The fading blue *Camassia quamash* spread across the open meadow in abundance.

By the end of the day numerous other species, for example *Berberis aquifolium*, *Antennaria* sp., *Calochortus lyallii*, *Heracleum lanatum*, *Mertensia oblongifolia*, *Montia* sp., *Rosa woodsii*, and *Polygonum bistortoides*, were spotted and admired in this special habitat. Unexpected discoveries included an *Arnica* sp. and *Chimaphila umbellata*. Notably observed among the fauna was a young grouse chick crouching scared in the grass with a nervous mother perched in a nearby pine, a red-breasted nuthatch, a flycatcher, a likely evening grosbeak and a garter snake that captured the group's attention after lunch.

Beezley Hills (led by David Giblin)

by Julie Sanderson, Bureau of Land Management
Botanist, Wenatchee Valley Chapter

We started the day heading down Highway 28, past some very impressive areas of basalt palisades and talus slopes. Our first destination was Baird Springs Road, which would take us into the north end of the Beezley Hills. The first botanical stop was to see the beautiful *Calochortus macrocarpus* (mariposa lily) in full bloom along the side of the road. Our leader, David Giblin, also took this opportunity to point out some of the grasses that we would be seeing throughout the day and gave us an interesting explanation of the corkscrew effect of the long awns of *Stipa comata* (needle and thread grass).

At our second stop we got out into a basalt lithosol and studied the plants that are unique to these shallow soil areas. Nearby we found three species of *Crepis*—*C. atrabarba*, *C. modocensis*, and *C. intermedia*, and David explained the interesting story of hybridization in these species. We also found *Castilleja thompsonii*, the greenish-yellow paintbrush that is found throughout the sagebrush steppe in this area. It is not the same as the flashy red and orange paintbrushes found in the mountains but it has its own subtle beauty.

The third stop was also our lunch stop at the edge of a dry vernal pond. We ate with the aroma of *Allium* and a citrusy smelling *Madia* species. Other interesting finds here included one of the small *Polygonum* species, *Plagiobothrys scouleri*, and *Psilocarphus elatior*.

Our fourth stop of the day, on the top of Monument



Exploring the sagebrush in the Beezley Hills with David Giblin. PHOTO: JULIE SANDERSON

Hill, was rewarded by the gorgeous blue *Penstemon speciosus*, one of our larger and showier *Penstemons* in the sagebrush. We definitely knew it was blooming. We had to take refuge in the cars during a brief thunderstorm that even included a moment of hail, but all in all the weather was fine, the plants were great, the company was wonderful, and the trip was a great success.

Iron Creek

(led by Dave Wilderman)

by Dave Wilderman, South Sound Chapter

After carpooling gyrations and fuel stops, we finally headed up the Iron Creek trail around 10:30 am. The lower slopes of Douglas-fir and grand fir were shady and moist, with a variety of relatively common moist forest understory species such as *Ribes viscosissimum*, *Ribes lacustre*, *Arnica cordifolia*, *Berberis nervosa*, *Carex geyeri*, *Disporum hookeri*, and *Thalictrum occidentale*. The *Arnica* was in full bloom and the *Thalictrum* was just starting to put out its fringe of stamens. We also saw *Pyrola picta* on the lower slopes, with its prominently white-veined leaves. After gaining elevation, we passed through the small grove of stately old ponderosa pines, 3 or 4 feet in diameter. Unfortunately the sun wasn't shining yet so they didn't smell of either vanilla or butterscotch.

Then the real fun began as we started crossing through larger and larger openings on the steep slopes, brightly colored with various mixtures of blooming *Balsamorhiza sagittata*, *Castilleja hispida*, *Clematis columbiana*, *Collinsia parviflora*, *Gilia aggregata*, and *Zigadenus paniculatus* among others. We spotted both the white *Hackelia arida* and swathes of the blue *Hackelia micrantha* on the slopes along with the occasional *Lewisia rediviva* (very pale in color here, almost white). At one stop we puzzled for quite a while over a small, round-leaved yellow-flowered mustard, finally getting the key out and pinning it to *Physaria alpestris*. *Cacaliopsis nardosmia* was another favorite along the dry slopes in partial shade and in the open. About half-way up, we finally ran into both of the Wenatchee Mountain endemics that we hoped to see: *Cryptantha thompsonii* and *Lomatium cuspidatum*, both in bloom. After a lunch stop on rock slabs along a small stream, where bird-watching ensued, we continued up to the main ridgeline. From here, a group of about six of us continued up the steep ridgeline to the "top," a small rocky knoll with 360-degree views of the Teanaway and Swauk drainages. In addition to the views, we found *Dicentra uniflora* blooming at the edge of retreating snow

patches, and *Polemonium elegans* in bloom on the rocks. After a brief rest here, we chugged back down to the cars and just made it back to Cashmere in time for dinner.

Upper Camas Meadows

(led by Joe Arnett)

by Wendy McClure, Olympic Peninsula Chapter

After encountering a *Lupinus* and a *Lathyrus* with specific conundrums with the keys, which did not necessarily lead to the "right" plant, Joe announced that the theme of the day would be "These are the Wenatchee Mountains and weird things happen here." It was a great trip to the Upper Camas Meadows and we saw some exceptional plants including the endemics or "near" endemics *Lomatium thompsonii*, *Eriogonum compositum* var. *lancifolium*, *Trifolium longipes*, and the leaves of *Sidalcea oregana*. Other neat plants included *Zigadenus paniculatus* with its female and male flowers, *Paeonia brownii*—the only native peony, blue stickseed, including one with a weird exceptionally flat stem, and sticky chickweed ("chicky sticky starwort"—we were getting weird), *Stellaria jamesiana*. And among the trees just above our first roadside sighting of *Camassia quamash* there happened to be an elk herd with young that someone who was looking high enough happened to see. We ended the day with the sighting and song of the Lazuli Bunting. Many heartfelt thanks to Joe Arnett for a wonderful day of botanizing.



One of many *Camassia quamash* in the Upper Camas Natural Area. PHOTO: REBA OLSEN



Botanist Joe Arnett, Sharon Schlentner, and Wendy McClure attempt to key out an oddity in the Upper Camas Natural Area. PHOTO: REBA OLSEN

Deer Park Springs (led by Ellen Kuhlmann)

by Mary Kenady, Central Puget Sound Chapter

A fine, cool day for plant hunting. Off Highway 97 and up the Tip Top Road we went, in four cars, tasting each others' dust. At various stops along the way, this is the gist of it: Our first endemic for the day, *Delphinium nuttallianum*; the deciduous *Ceanothus sanguineus*; *Heuchera cylindrica* var. *alpina*; the seed pods of *Fritillaria pudica*, bigger than the flower itself; *Calochortus lyallii*; *Lomatium nudicaule*. Second stop brought us *Ipomopsis aggregata* or scarlet gilia; *Penstemon pruinosus*; two *Phacelias*, *P. hastata* and *P. linearis*; *Eriogonum compositum* var. *lancifolium*; and two ferns, *Aspidotis* and *Woodsia*. Next we climbed down a short, steep slope for a peek at the endemic *Lathyrus nevadensis* ssp. *lanceolatus* v. *puniceus* (big name for small flower!), then went in search of the *Douglasia nivalis*, of which we found one small, shriveled flower remaining. Serpentine soils were featured here, with the bank above covered in shining, seemingly wet, rocks.

After lunch sitting in the mule's-ears (*Wyethia amplexicaulis*), we began the long descent down the green slopes of Deer Park and the list of plants seen is too long to cover. Here are a few, though: lovely drifts of *Camassia quamash*; grasses and sedges such as *Melica bulbosa* (onion grass), *Calamagrostis* sp. and *Carex hoodii*. Rising above the crowd were *Polygonum bistortoides*, *Rudbeckia occidentalis* (an endemic variety), and *Veratrum californicum*, along with *Potentilla* and silky-soft *Lupinus sericeus*. Then the main feature, the endemic and "sensitive" *Delphinium*

viridescens, the subject of plot studies that determined this plant doesn't mind a bit of elk trampling just so it doesn't go on too long. We hunted for tadpoles in the Cascade frog pond, continued downward into much wetter country where *Smilacina stellata*, *Hackelia micrantha*, *Lilium columbianum*, *Thalictrum venulosum*, and *Pedicularis bracteata* grew. Then—oh the irritation of it!—we had to climb back up that whole long slope. But it was worth it.

One last thing, some went to the tippy-top of Tip Top to see *Clematis columbianum*. In sum, we saw well over 70 species and it was due to our fine and most knowledgeable trip leader, Ellen Kuhlmann. Thank you Ellen, from us all.

Chumstick Mountain—Pollinators, Butterflies and Plants (led by Don Rolfs and Rod Clausnitzer)

by Don Schaechtel and Katie Remine, Central Puget Sound Chapter

Our trip began with an excellent briefing by trip leader Don Rolfs, who made sure we knew the difference between butterflies, moths, bees, wasps, and flies. We talked about their roles as pollinators, then he equipped us with close-focus binoculars and his *Butterflies of Chumstick Mountain* field guide, and we headed up the Derby Canyon Road.

One of the first things we learned was that pollinators are sensitive to motion, so if one can move slowly and not get too close, there is a lot to see. Many of the bees are small, so using the 10x binoculars from about 8 feet away is a great way to watch them. We learned how to collect them uninjured for study using a net and collecting tube. The butterflies were carefully handled with tweezers for



Wasp pollinator in *Lewisia* on Chumstick Mountain fieldtrip. Participants studied pollinators, butterflies, and plants. PHOTO: BETTY SWIFT

closer observation and then released (or if a species was not in Dr. Rolf's collection, the person who captured it could choose to add it to the collection or release it.) Highlights included a western eyed click beetle (*Alaus menalops*), pale swallowtails (*Papilio eurymedon*), and Boisduval's blues (*Plebejus icarioides*). We also learned that butterflies are fair weather fliers, a fact that was demonstrated several times when the sun came out and then went behind the clouds. The butterflies came and went with the sun.

Up the road we stopped briefly at a "puddle party" of male blues and swallowtails replenishing their nutrients after mating. After lunch overlooking the south slopes of Chumstick Mountain, amid a garden of arrowleaf balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza sagittata*), we headed up the road to look at bee nests in stumps. The weather conspired against us, however, and soon it was raining, then hailing. We took our cue from the bees and sought shelter, returning to the fairgrounds a little earlier than planned, but much smarter about pollinators.

Trips on Sunday, June 7

Moses Coulee/Rimrock Lake

(led by Charlie Repath and Julie Sanderson)

by Lisa Therrell, Wenatchee Valley Chapter

The Nature Conservancy graciously allowed access to their 30,000 acre preserve in Moses Coulee for our field trip into the sagebrush steppe. The preserve manager, Charlie Repath, gave us a stirring welcome to this intact ecosystem—for example, did you know that 14 of the 15 bat species in Washington are found in Moses Coulee? The basalt cliffs provide ample habitat. After hearing Brent Cunderla's descriptions the previous evening of the Columbia Basin basalt flows entombing the landscape in flowing magma, followed by the scouring of the Missoula floods during the last ice age, seeing Moses Coulee brought these cataclysmic events to life.

Our group struck out under the apt leadership of Julie and Peter Sanderson. Julie, a Bureau of Land Management botanist, knows the steppe flora like the back of her hand. While April and May might offer a more colorful display, June still afforded dozens of species in bloom to hold our interest. Along the road we compared the mounded Hood's phlox (*Phlox hoodii*) to the more upright prickly phlox (*Leptodactylon pungens*), the latter of which blooms only at night and is pollinated by hawk moths. We learned that the benches with sagebrush have thicker soils than the

surrounding lithosols, and the presence of Hood's phlox indicates thinner soils. The microbiotic soil crusts are in good condition here, and we took care to avoid trampling.

We also compared big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), with the more linear and compact stiff sagebrush the aptly named *Artemisia rigida*. Julie has observed that the *Artemisia* seeds appear to disperse by delaying seed fall, then skidding across the surface of the snow crust in winter. I hadn't really thought about snow as a seed dispersal mechanism. The purplish showy penstemon (*Penstemon speciosus*), lovely orange Munro's globe-mallow (*Sphaeralcea munroana*), and bright yellow rock buckwheat (*Eriogonum sphaerocephalum*) put on a good show. Mock orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*), Wood's rose (*Rosa woodsii*), western clematis (*Clematis ligusticifolia*), and wax currant (*Ribes cereum*) grew from the rubble of basalt talus, and a shrubby stand of greasewood (*Sarcobatus* sp.) dominated the valley floor.

Following a small path across a bench we compared three species of fleabane, threadleaf, line-leaf, and shaggy (*Erigeron filifolius*, *E. linearis*, and *E. pumilus*) and worked on our native grasses; basin wildrye (*Elymus cinereus*), prairie Junegrass (*Koeleria cristata*), Sandberg bluegrass (*Poa secunda*, an annual that was already dried out), bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*, our official Washington State grass), needle-and-thread grass (*Stipa comata*), marked by its incredibly LONG awns, and Thurber's needle grass (*Stipa thurburiana*). There were so many plants to see, we could hardly progress for all the diversity.

We made ourselves press on and up to the next bench in search of a lunch spot and the shallow lithosols, passing purple sage (*Salvia dorrii*), rabbit brush (*Chrysothamnus* sp.), and spiny hopsage (*Grayia spinosa*) as we went. We were rewarded with one large purple specimen of sagebrush mariposa lily (*Calochortus macrocarpus*) and pockets of taper-tip onion (*Allium acuminatum*) growing in the thin lithosols which are marked with a scattering of small rocks lying on the soil surface.

We lunched atop a basalt knoll, and got clear on the difference between thyme buckwheat (*Eriogonum thymoides*), which we had been seeing, and Douglas's buckwheat (*Eriogonum douglasii*), which also has small leaves. It's all in the upright involucre lobes, rather than reflexed lobes. Our final botanical treat, while atop this rocky knoll, included spinescent fameflower (*Talinum spinescens*). Reminiscent of Columbia's *Lewisia* (*Lewisia columbianum*), this succulent cushion plant has wispy branched stems with bright pink flowers. The blossoms,

along with those of the intermingled bitterroot, were tightly closed due to the cloud cover. Peter showed us an old-growth sagebrush, we checked out an interesting pocket of branched phacelia (*Phacelia ramosissima*) and a bitter cherry (*Prunus emarginata*) growing in a small draw, then we reluctantly forced ourselves to turn around, with the melodious song of meadowlarks serenading our hike back to the cars.

Hay Canyon

(led by Susan Ballinger and Jeanne Poirier)

by Kathy Murray, *Salal Chapter*

Fifteen of us plus trip leader Susan Ballinger and Bureau of Land Management Botanist Pam Camp carpooled for 3 miles over a bumpy Chelan County Road populated with the largest deciduous trees in the county (bigleaf maples [*Acer macrophyllum*]) to Hay Canyon Ranch, just north of Cashmere. There we were met by Jeanne Poirier, the ranch land manager. After we squeezed into Jeanne's pickup (some in the cabin but most in the truck bed), she took us on a botanical tour that included inching up near-vertical



Field of *Wyethia amplexicaulis* (northern mule's-ears) with *Pinus ponderosa* at Hay Canyon. PHOTO: KATHY MURRAY

hills and heart-stopping descents. At several places, we all got out to botanize. We were on a tight schedule as our talented and enthusiastic leader Susan Ballinger had to be in Wenatchee by mid-afternoon to play in a flute recital.

Hay Canyon and its surrounding hills (something like 2200 acres) is an amazing privately owned shrubsteppe sanctuary that narrowly escaped being burned 2 years ago when a major fire was halted at the county road. "Ranch" is somewhat of a misnomer as the area is home to a paragliding school. The livestock are long gone and the only animals around are wild.

Jeanne is working to eliminate invasives (especially white top [*Cardaria draba*]) and to restore natives. During our too-short tour we saw masses of balsamorhiza and mule's ears (*Balsamorhiza sagittata* and *Wyethia amplexicaulis*), *Lomatium dissectum* (fernleaf desert parsley), *Chaenactis douglasii* (dusty maidens), *Erigeron filifolius* (fleabane), prickly-pear cactus (*Opuntia*), *Astragalus purshii* (locoweed), lupine (*Lupinus* sp.), larkspur (*Delphinium xantholeucum*), and scarlet gilia (*Ipomopsis aggregata*).

At our lunch stop in a patch of *Wyethia* among ponderosa pine, several people keyed out a lone Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja* species). We all considered ourselves fortunate to visit this special place, if only briefly.

Sauer Mountain Trail

(led by Peter Dunwiddie)

by Janka Hobbs, *Central Puget Sound Chapter*

Sixteen of us set off Sunday morning to explore Sauer Mountain, led by experts Peter Dunwiddie and Don Knoke. Although the trail starts out on private land, the trailhead is well marked, with enough parking for about four vehicles.

The trail starts under a bigleaf maple with a goodly elevation gain, with lots of blooming dogbane (*Apocynum* sp.) and various *Lomatiums*. Don't miss the Brown's peony (*Paeonia brownii*) on the corner of the third switchback! We climbed through a lush meadow of mixed wild and garden flowers (highlight: *Trillium petiolatum*), then up around a sandstone cliff with a nice display of *Eriogonums*. The trail then climbs into a mixed woods with an understory dominated by *Luina* (*Cacaliopsis nardosmia*).

Being a botany outing, we barely reached the first mile marker before stopping for lunch. Five of us went ahead so we could reach the top (at about 2.5 miles), only slowing a little to admire scarlet gilia (*Ipomopsis aggregata*), swaths of *Calochortus lyalii*, and fields of *Balsamorhiza sagittata*

(about a week past their prime). The rest of the party proceeded more slowly, and turned back sooner. A few were lucky enough to meet up with Mr. Sauer himself and were treated to a tour of his garden and house, complete with extensive fruit cellar.

Lichen Love—A Tryst with Non-vascular Plants (led by Jeanne Ponzetti)

by Walt Lockwood, Koma Kulshan Chapter

Lichenologist Jeanne Ponzetti introduced us to the world of lichens in general and to “biotic soil crust” lichens and mosses in particular. She explained the complex structure of biotic crusts and the protective role they play in the delicate shrubsteppe habitat. Studies reveal that soil lichens provide a cover or skin which helps to cool the soil and protect healthy soil organisms, reduce water and wind erosion, improve water penetration, serve in some cases as a source of nitrogen, and to inhibit weed growth. It is thought that this cover actually contributes to the spread of bunch grass while inhibiting cheat grass.

We wound through the suburbs of northeast Wenatchee to the shrubsteppe landscape of Badger Mountain. Without Jeanne’s expert eye most of us would have settled for the beautiful wildflowers. She even sprayed the soil with water which brought things to life. And there they were: *Candelariella aggregata*, two species of *Caloplaca*, two *Peltigeras*, *Toninia sedifolia*, and *Phaeorrhiza sareptana* to name a few. Anna Thurston, with input from others, added several wildflower species to the existing check list.

Native Plant Photography Workshop (led by John Marshall and Terry Lillybridge)

by Julia Bent, Central Puget Sound Chapter

John Marshall graciously led one designated botanist (Terry Lillybridge) and five other aspiring photographers in a combination workshop and plant identification trip in the upper reaches of Tumwater Canyon. The morning’s instruction started out on an exposed talus slope bedecked with *Lewisia tweedyi* in full bloom, which made concentrating on the niceties of exposures and ISO values somewhat difficult for a few of the participants. John’s knowledge and patience with his students gradually captured their attention however. After learning what an f-stop might be, even the most novice participant became

interested in which one might be best to use under a given set of circumstances. The emphasis here was on how to take a good close-up image of one or a small number of flowers.

From the talus slope we proceeded up a Forest Service road to a small stream where John helped us figure out how best to photograph a bright white waterfall hidden in a heavily shaded area. After lunch, further instruction on composition helped us to take a few greatly improved pictures before the end of the session. John was especially patient with the three participants who arrived with only a “point and shoot” camera, and he was very instructive in helping them get as good an image as possible with more limited equipment. Some were even convinced that maybe using the “manual” setting instead of always depending on the camera’s “automatic” one might lead to better outcomes! All the participants ended the day with a great deal more knowledge as well as a suite of images to play with on their computers once they returned home.

Nature Journaling

(led by Heather Wallis Murphy)

by Ellen Kuhlmann, Koma Kulshan Chapter

The perfume of Nootka rose (*Rosa nutkana*) filled the air. Spikes of lupine flowers splashed lavender against the green of leaf and grass. Bear claw marks slashed across an aspen’s trunk. Sapsuckers drummed on charred snags while a western tanager peered out from behind a thin tree trunk. Life pulsed all around us, and Heather Murphy invited us to open our minds and hearts, and pour all this onto the pages of our nature journals.

She invited us to put aside any fears, take a blank page, start drawing and jot down what our five senses told us. We went through a number of drawing and awareness exercises, then were asked to sketch a plant and paint it with watercolors. The seminar ended with an impromptu class art show on the tailgate of Heather’s car. We talked about each piece, and in some cases suggestions were made for refinements such as adding depth to a rose petal or how to know when a drawing was finished. We left feeling we had a few more tools in our journaling “kits,” and were encouraged and a bit more confident to experiment further with observing, drawing, and writing down our nature experiences.



Observations on Native Landscape Design Gleaned Over Time

by Kathleen Winters, Central Puget Sound Chapter

Taking native plant material and designing them into a human use space can make an oddly soothing, wild, or even orderly display. The patterning of line repetition or use of a featured native plant doesn't exactly change the whole bioregion so that salmon may frisk freely in the cool waters as bears dance across their backs, but it does add a note of grace and thought to what we make of our places. As representatives of what is wild, designed spaces using native plants manage to ameliorate the constructed environment by linking to the larger surroundings and by providing small habitat comforts. Compositional native plantings work well for light screening, boundaries, urban planting strips and even the large planters that go with urban towers. Older properties often have large grounds that need filling. Individual specimens soften nearby hardscapes and add a sculptural quality of their own. Plantings of the following sorts adapt well to urban settings.

***Vaccinium ovatum* as specimen or hedge**

Opposite the porch entry of our home here in North Kitsap, is an old *Vaccinium ovatum*, evergreen huckleberry, in good form. It diligently produces abundant blue berries that are tastier than the black, and is a local variation of the species. It is a shrub of substance, lightly rounded at 6' with a fine evergreen texture that shows the best of its form. In this setting, it is a stand alone feature and holds the space exactly as it ought, firmly secure and impervious to the abuse of projects and dogs.

Young evergreen huckleberry bushes are a totally different story. Slow to form up into a good looking mass, they grow lanky and thin with odd little tufted aberrations, even the healthy ones. Barely hinting at anything resembling the order of later years, a stem may grow up, or shoot to the side or it may very well just lie down all out of sorts with the row. Not what one would call a good soldier. A little light pruning will help. Plan to accommodate the birds.

After a number of years spent designing *Vaccinium* rows into domestic gardens, it has become clear that a *Vaccinium ovatum* hedge is for the more patient sort of homeowner. Give it three to five years to look like something, and

another five for the plant to really hit its stride. If you can wait, eventually a line of evergreen huckleberry will grow into estate quality hedging with a timeless and gracious effect. In its mature form, it rarely needs much attention.

Other hedges

For hedge separation with an edge, tall Oregon grape (*Berberis aquifolium*) is the plant of choice for narrower sites. If there is enough room for their wide-spreading habit, Nootka roses (*Rosa nutkana*) are very effective at diverting the flow of traffic.

The classic mixed hedgerows are a mix of whatever will work within the space available. Birds like the thicket hedges the best. I like to see what else is going on in the neighborhood for wild groupings and then work with that. Most thickets need at least ten feet of depth to be meaningful.

Sword ferns make a good row and are long-time Seattle favorite specimen plants. They will adapt to almost any situation, as do the raccoons who like to den under the old fronds.

Confined planting combinations

Classic local looks for Washington include lines or groups of serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), red flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum*), or mock orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*) underplanted with almost any one of the wild strawberry species (*Fragaria* sp.) Another simple and pleasingly common effect is groupings of vine maple (*Acer circinatum*), Douglas' maple (*A. glabrum*) or big leaf rhododendron (*Rhododendron macrophyllum*) underplanted with a rhythm of sword ferns, all set in a matrix of kinnikinnick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*). Less common are underplantings of western bleeding heart (*Dicentra formosa*) and false lily of the valley (*Maianthemum dilatatum*) or moss and rock. Very underused, Rocky Mountain juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*) coupled with Davidson's penstemon (*Penstemon davidsonii*) is quite charming for a sunny well drained bed.

Raised urban planters and rockeries lend themselves to bulbs and rockery plants including camas (*Camassia* sp.), sedums, alliums and armeria. Stonecrop (*Sedum spathulifolium*) and sea pinks (*Armeria maritima*) are workhorses in rockeries around the region.

Grounds and keeping

Somewhat different from a restoration planting meant to be completely wild are the larger ornamental plantings of native species. There is a need to keep the caretakers in mind. Unless the ground crew is very knowledgeable and stays with the site over time, it is often best to use shrubby materials as ground covers and forgo a delicate matrix. In

this case delicate can mean almost any non-woody plant. A mixed matrix can disappear in one go around of the rake weeding style common to this area.

Instead of fighting with this, and an ever changing landscape crew who may or may not know that one man's weed is another's wildflower, larger woody material and evergreen ferns will persist long after ephemerals are gone. Tough native ground cover shrubs include common juniper (*Juniperus communis*), kinnikinnick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) and the hybrid manzanita, (*A. × media*). Mass plantings of sword ferns are also a very effective ground cover.

Paved areas

Along a driveway, fringe cup (*Tellima grandiflora*) does a fine job as it goes down the line with its weed suppressing rosettes and its seasonal display of delicate bloom. Woodland ground covers tend to be successful along the roadside as well, but do not smother other weeds quite like fringe cup. One common and unfortunate practice is to plant little 4" pots of salal (*Gaultheria shallon*) right beside a driveway. And it is innocent at first, for a few years. Over time salal grows quite tall and will encroach on the driveway with its vigorous root system and overarching stems.

The spaces in between pavers, stepping stones, and random flagstone are often the subject of much interest, and we all long for the perfect balance of green against stone. Native fill for between paving includes the finer textured mosses, and in sunny sites the tiny little native western pearlwort (*Sagina decumbens*) will occasionally simply show up. *Sagina* is a very nice fill if you can get it. No matter what grows between the cracks, weeds will also creep in. If weeding is a problem, mortar is a better choice than plant fill.

The mounded drain field

Septic drain fields require plantings that do not encroach upon the drains and are able to handle varying flows of water. For success, stick with fibrous rooted plants. Everything grows bigger and lusher in this setting and there is no need to over plant. Grasses, sedges, and small bulbs along with perennials such as lupines are useful for sunny situations. Shady sites have rushes (*Luzula* sp.) and sedges (*Carex* sp.) available as well as an array of deciduous woodland forbs. Most drain fields are based in sand or gravel and have specifications as to how much mulch or topsoil may be placed over the mound without harming the systems.

Plantings around a drain field area can resume with non-invasive shrubs and that will help take up excess water as

well. Leave the willows out of this picture and any other plant known for its greedy roots. Native rhododendrons (*Rhododendron macrophylla*), mock orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*), currants (*Ribes* sp.) and ocean spray (*Holodiscus discolor*) can all be planted several feet away from the drain pipes without trouble.

Under the eaves

The base of a foundation can be quite the challenge, hot and dry or shady and dry. It is appropriate to worry about pathways for insects. I prefer to keep woody vegetation away from the house. In designed spaces, set the foundation plantings away from the house, and allow access for maintenance. This includes being able to get a ladder in if needed.

At homesites, I often like to have a 2' border of some sort of pretty rock mulch to surround the foundation before branching out into the plantings. A deeper more generous depth to a border will allow for height to be built up away from the walls.

If you must plant along the foundation, redwood sorrel (*Oxalis oregana*) will persist even in very dry shade and is the last choice before simply laying down a gravel mulch. Mixed perennials, from Goat's beard (*Aruncus dioicus*), columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*), and monkshood (*Aconitum* sp.) will add interest to a smaller space. The classic Seattle foundation plant is the sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*). The south side of a building is often the very niche needed for growing dryland plants free from winter water.

Contact Kathleen Winters, reSource Design, Suquamish
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Plant Lists Available Online

Before you set out on your next hike, check out the "Native Plant Lists" link at the WNPS web site www.wnps.org. 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@yahoo.com.

Highlights of the WNPS State Board Meeting Spring 2009

by Gary Smith, Secretary, WNPS

The State Board of Directors meeting was held in Seattle on April 4-5, 2009.

Approval of October 18, 2008 State Board Minutes

Motion to approve and adopt the minutes of October 18, 2008 passed unanimously.

Executive Board Report

Dean Longrie reviewed actions taken by the Executive Committee: Approved formal agreements with Cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Issaquah, Sammamish and King County Parks to fund 2009 WNPS Stewardship Program in addition to a contract with Dangelei Fox to coordinate the program; approved letter to USFS opposing expansion of Perry Creek Resource Natural Area; approved comments on Livestock Grazing Management Draft EIS on Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Quilomene and Whisky Dick Wildlife Areas; approved letter to House Committee on HB 2134; approved letter of support for Natural Heritage and Natural Areas Program; discussed presentation by Michael Marsh, Impacts of Managing Public Lands for Livestock Production on behalf of WNPS; accepted gift of over 50,000 note cards from Mark Turner; approved Chapter funding for *Castilleja* illustrations in Flora of North America; approved reinvestment of two endowment CDs and approved support for Rural Economic Vitalization Act (Voluntary Grazing Permit Buyout Act).

Dean Longrie appointed an ad hoc committee to prepare a policy or guidelines for a peer review process that would provide oversight on members wishing to represent WNPS in public statements involving significant policy issues of concern to WNPS such as the recently adopted grazing policy.

Review of Rare Plant Protection in Washington

John Gamon, Manager, Natural Heritage Program, WA DNR and Pene Speaks, Assistant Division Manager, Natural Heritage Conservation and Recreation, WA DNR were invited to brief the board on the status of rare plant protection in Washington. The board and guests discussed the need for plant protection and recently introduced legislation. There was general agreement on the advantages of working with a coalition of interested

organizations to insure that any future proposed legislation would provide the best protection that would have broad support. The board agreed to pursue the formation of a coalition in consultation with DNR and other interested organizations.

Organizational Business

Appoint Nominating Committee for Board Member Elections

The President appointed a Nominating Committee to fill expiring terms for three Board positions and to seek nominations for the State Board officer positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary for 2010.

IRS 990 Requirements

The board discussed new requirements for a governance section in the IRS 990 form, which is the federal income report for non-profits. Policies for the following requirements were discussed and adopted by unanimous vote: Conflict of Interest; Document Retention; Whistleblower; and Inurement. A process for tracking the total number of volunteers who provide services to the board and chapters annually was discussed and approved. By unanimous vote the board also adopted a process for the review of the IRS 990 form prepared by the auditor which includes signature of the President or Treasurer and review by the Board of Directors.

Incorporate Provisions for Electronic Voting in WNPS State Bylaws

The board discussed offering the option of electronic voting for election of directors. The board voted unanimously to propose to the WNPS membership a change in the WNPS State bylaws to permit electronic voting in the future. This proposed change will be on the 2009 election ballot.

MOU with Washington Association of Conservation Districts

Following discussion and review of a draft Memorandum of Understanding with Washington Association of Conservation Districts, the board voted unanimously to proceed with the MOU which would facilitate and encourage more interaction and cooperation between WNPS, WNPS Chapters and Washington Conservation Districts.

Defining Stewardship

A draft white paper defining WNPS stewardship was distributed for review and discussion at the 2009 fall board meeting.

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A Look at Washington's Rare Plants: Gray Cryptantha (*Cryptantha leucophaea*)

Washington State Sensitive Species

Rare Care note: This regional endemic is declining. It's not the only organism with an affinity for open sand. However, Dave's final line nails the difference between gray cryptantha and the ORV use and weed invasions that threaten it. This is fifth in a series by Rare Care featuring Washington's rare plants.

by David Zamora, Rare Care Volunteer

I am continually amazed at the ability of plants to survive in adverse conditions. Beset by a hot and arid climate that is enhanced by frequent, strong winds, rooted in unstable soil, and subjected to human disturbances, gray cryptantha (*Cryptantha leucophaea*) still survives in isolated locations in Washington and Oregon. The population that I monitored for Rare Care was in Grant County adjacent to the Columbia River. I had the location to myself that spring day; the 20 mph wind (gusting to 30) kept the boats off the white-capping, four-foot waves, and rock climbers higher up the canyon were not coming down to cool off in the river. Of course, wind and unstablized dunes go hand-in-hand and are part of gray cryptantha's preferred habitat. Other species common to this area are big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) and grasses such as needle-and-thread (*Stipa comata*). I was even rewarded

that spring day by finding several emerging broomrape (*Orobancha fasciculata*).

When I finally found the first gray cryptantha, I took time to enjoy the small white petals with their pale yellow centers. The bristling sepals only make the flowers more attractive. The elongate leaves with their mostly flattened bristles appear dark green compared to the grayish sepals. The plants are only 6-16 inches tall but since they prefer open sand, they can be somewhat easy to find. There were few plants at this site. On nicer days, this area gets a lot of recreational use. Fences keep most of the ORVs on the road, but several trails



indicate the area is popular for hikers and hunters. A recent two-acre burn in the mapped area left no gray cryptantha that I could find but did leave plenty of invasive weeds. Plants like gray cryptantha must be hardy to grow in such an inhospitable environment, yet they are fragile in needing such specific conditions to thrive.

Learn more about conserving Washington's rare plants and the Rare Care Program at: <http://www.depts.washington.edu/rarecare/>. For more information on volunteering with Rare Care or to receive our semi-annual newsletter, e-mail us at rarecare@u.washington.edu or call 206-616-0780.



Highlights of the WNPS State Board Meeting continued from previous page

Standing Committee Reports

Status reports were received from the Editorial Board, Education Committee, Plant Inventory and Research Committee and the Conservation Committee.

WNPS Budget

The Treasurer and Executive Director reviewed the status of the State and Chapter budgets.

Fall Board Meeting

The Board established October 17th for the fall business meeting; the location has not been determined.

Complete minutes of the board meeting are on the WNPS website: www.wnps.org, link to administrative pages.

Special Session Strategic Plan 2003-2009

The Board held a special session on April 5 to review the WNPS Strategic Plan 2003-2010 goals, objectives and accomplishments. The board established a priority to work with the Natural Heritage Advisory Council to organize a Rare Plant Meeting with appropriate agencies and organizations to identify ways to enhance rare plant protection either through policy or legislation. By unanimous vote, the board also agreed to make County Noxious Weed Control Boards members of the Washington Native Plant Society for one year.



In Search of Wet Wildflowers

by David Giblin

University of Washington Herbarium,
Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture

With late summer upon us, most of the season has come and gone in terms of the typical places to see wildflowers—spring in the shrub-steppe, early summer in the sub-alpine, and the wonderful colors that spill over alpine ridges and slopes from late July through mid-August. For the often overlooked aquatic flora, now through September is the best time to see the diversity of plants that find their home in the saturated soils of pond edges, riparian zones, and the shallow waters of lakes and streams. It takes longer for the soil and water in these habitats to warm up, so the season gets off to a later, but no less interesting, start.

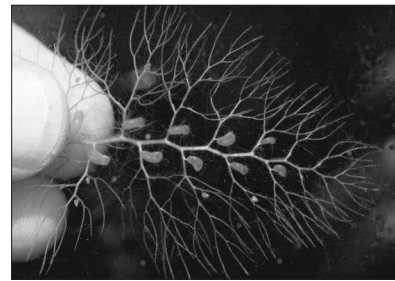
For the past several years I have been spending late summer and early fall traipsing around the aquatic zone collecting this remarkable flora. What's great about aquatic plants is that they are found in beautiful areas all over Washington because the state is literally dotted with ponds, lakes and reservoirs and sliced by large rivers and small streams alike. Perhaps my favorite aquatic habitat is the freshwater intertidal zone along the west end of the Columbia River. The Julia Butler Hanson Wildlife Refuge for the Columbia White-tailed Deer in Wahkiakum County is a great place to see small plants like awl-leaf mudwort (*Limosella aquatica*) and floating marsh-pennywort (*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*), which lay exposed in mudflats at low tide. More conspicuous shoreline plants include common arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*), Douglas's aster (*Symphyotrichum subspicatum*), and nodding beggar-ticks (*Bidens cernua*).

The central part of Washington (Grant and Adams counties) is home to both the Moses Lake and Potholes



Fruits of wild licorice (*Glycyrrhiza lepidota*) from mid-September in Adams County. PHOTO: DAVID GIBLIN

reservoir areas, and the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge. These sites have ponds and small lakes that are filled with all sorts of interesting plants that include the remarkable bladderwort (*Utricularia vulgaris*), which sends



Foliage of bladderwort (*Utricularia vulgaris*) from late September in Snohomish County. PHOTO: BEN LEGLER

up feather-like foliage from pond bottoms. The margins of the heavily divided foliage have small sacs held at negative pressure with trap doors. Unsuspecting, tiny aquatic life accidentally trigger the traps, get sucked in, and then are digested by the plant. Pondweeds (genus *Potamogeton*) are found in nearly every pond, with foliage ranging among the various species from needle-width (*P. pusillus*), to somewhat broader and striped (*P. robbinsii*), to very broad and wavy (*P. amplifolius*). Riparian zones in these areas are home to wild licorice (*Glycyrrhiza lepidota*), with its brick-red, bristly fruits and the native freshwater cordgrass (*Spartina pectinata*). Some of the world's smallest flowering plants, duckweed (*Lemna turionifera*) and watermeal (*Wolffia spp.*) can also be found in the slack water of the streams found here.

Western Washington is filled with lakes and ponds to explore, especially in Skagit (Cranberry and Heart lakes) and Whatcom (Baker Lake) counties. Cranberry Lake is particularly interesting with its sphagnum beds in which you can find marsh cinquefoil (*Comarum palustre*), and the white tufts of cottongrass (*Eriophorum angustifolium* ssp. *angustifolium*) seem to be scattered about everywhere. The boggy marshes and small ponds along the road that winds to the north end of Baker Lake is a great place to find the pre-historic looking common mare's-tail (*Hippuris vulgaris*), with its whorls of leaves radiating from stems sticking out of the water, along with the gracefully pendent inflorescences of small fruited bulrush (*Scirpus microcarpus*).

These are just a small sample of the interesting places and plants that you'll find if you're willing to get your shoes and pants muddy and your hands wet. Having a canoe is a good way to stay a bit drier and cover more area. Either way, if you go wildflower hunting in these wet habitats you are likely to come away knowing a few plants you hadn't seen before and with a new appreciation for the diversity of native plants found there.



Ecosystem Explorers Research, Display and Grow Native and Non-Native Invasive Plants in Graham, Washington

by Carol Wright, South Sound Chapter

Approximately fifty children in kindergarten through 6th grade at five elementary schools in the Bethel School District explored native and non-native invasive plants at Morse Preserve and around the Graham community. Originally we set out to focus on the conservation efforts of the Garry oak tree (*Quercus garryana*) but soon discovered that the donated trees were not Garry oak! We did however show the children how the donated oak trees were protected in an attempt to conserve them on the prairie. We traveled to Morse Preserve five times so that through repetition, the children would have a solid grasp of the plants and why it is so important to do this kind of research. We had the children pull non-native reed canary grass out of the wet lands on each trip and explained how this would help the salmon and native plant recovery efforts in their neighborhood. We also encouraged children to bring plant specimens from home and showed how to identify them.

At school they took large sheets of recycled cardboard and attached the dried and pressed plants for their classroom presentations. The children labeled the posters native and non-native plants, and then talked about how to present their findings in the classroom and to the *Dispatch* newspaper. In addition the children created compost with scraps from their weekly snacks, planted seeds in February, gathered worms, made their own compost and topsoil in March and placed their seedlings into the Graham Garden in April. Throughout the summer they watered, weeded and harvested their plants tenderly.

Objectives were accomplished as the children raised awareness of these plants in their own classrooms and learned about the conservation efforts to preserve the oak trees, how to prepare garden beds and plant and weed around their own native plants. Other community members benefited by seeing their research presentations and watching the garden grow in Graham. In addition, the students were able to explain the benefits of having native plants and the disadvantages of invasive, non-native plants in their ecosystems and what effect these have on



Graham student presents her native plant project. PHOTO: CAROL WRIGHT

other living organisms.

In October one Washington Native Plant Society volunteer was invited to discuss the part the society plays in the conservation of native plants and their work to eradicate non-native plants in the Graham community.

How project addressed the goals of WNPS:

Goal 1 Objective 3: Our project focused on conservation of Garry oaks and the elimination of invasive species.

Goal 2 Task 5: In an effort to protect native plant communities, students taught other students about this project and a local newspaper published an article about this research.

Goal 3 Task 3: To promote appreciation of native plants, volunteers were asked to speak and lead field trips for each of the after-school Ecosystem Explorer's science clubs.

Contact Information: Carol Wright, Community Services Director, Graham Kapowsin Community Council/Learning Center; carol.v.wright@att.net; www.grahamlearning.org



WNPS Member Donations at Work

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

A Note on the Last Issue: No More Annuals in Newhalem

In response to a note about the use of flowering annuals in the Seattle City Light town of Newhalem (*Douglasia*, summer 2009, Botanical Destination, p. 14), Elise Hemenway, Seattle City Light-Skagit, Grounds Maintenance, reports that City Light now uses perennials, ferns, shrubs, and trees for landscaping to reduce maintenance and plant costs. The only annuals remaining are in 21 cedar railing boxes in front of the Skagit General Store.

ELECTION 2009

Candidate Fred Weinmann

For over 30 years I worked as a wetland ecologist, mostly in the public sector. My principal interest has been the botanical aspects of wetlands and my practical interest has been to find ways to restore the functions of wetland habitats and ecosystems. For the past 18 years I have been an itinerant botanist, often in a volunteer capacity for the Washington Native Plant Society. I joined WNPS when I heard about it in 1976. The first thing I received was a mimeographed invitation for a field trip to Hart's Pass and a notification of the results of the first election of officers. Since then I have been able to serve in a variety of administrative and technical roles for the Society at both the Chapter and State level. I have been chapter chair, field trip coordinator and chapter botanist for the Central Puget Sound Chapter and have served as State President of WNPS. I have also chaired WNPS study weekend events and organized Botany Washington. My most enjoyable experiences with the Society have derived from leading botany field trips for people with common interests. Since retiring and moving to Port Townsend I have devoted much of my WNPS effort toward the Olympic Peninsula Chapter. I also conduct volunteer botany work for the Jefferson County Land Trust, the North Olympic Salmon Coalition, Washington State Parks, Dungeness Audubon Center, Port Townsend Marine Science Center, Washington State Parks, and the Washington State Natural Heritage Program. One of my principal volunteer interests is to help preserve green spaces in blocks large enough to provide a meaningful natural history experience for people who live in the cities and suburbs. In 2006 my wife, Ann, and I were named as Fellows of the Society.

WNPS has come far since the mimeographed invitation in 1976. At least a full page would be required just to summarize the increase in scope and effectiveness of the Society's activities. It is my hope that the Society can continue to move forward as it has been doing for over 30 years, and that as a part of

that forward movement I can serve as well as others who have dedicated their time and energy to the Washington Native Plant Society.

Candidate Matthew Loeser

Matthew Loeser is a biology instructor at Yakima Valley Community College in Yakima, WA. Matthew's dissertation research at Northern Arizona University examined the consequences of alternative livestock grazing practices for plant communities. His work was primarily based in the semi-arid grasslands bordering ponderosa forests and the arid mesquite grasslands of central Arizona. Matthew continues to collaborate on research in Arizona and served on the science advisory council for the Grand Canyon Trust. He is currently in his fourth year at YVCC as an instructor of environmental science and biology. In addition, he is serving on a science panel for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife grazing projects and volunteers with the Yakima Environmental Learning Foundation. If elected to the WNPS board, Matthew would provide his background on conservation in rangelands and would seek to expand public outreach and education for WNPS.

Candidate Mark Turner

Mark Turner has served three years on the state WNPS board as president of the Koma Kulshan chapter. He brings to WNPS a long-time passion for all things floristic and a range of experiences with numerous organizations over more than 30 years of volunteer involvement. Mark has been on WNPS education, editorial, and calendar committees. He tries to draw on his familiarity with other groups to bring good ideas from outside into WNPS. Mark is a self-trained botanist, a generalist, and a long-time believer in environmental protection. He is the photographer and co-author of *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest*, published by Timber Press in 2006.

Proposed WNPS Bylaws Change

Proposed Change to Washington Native Plant Society Bylaws.

The Washington Native Plant Society proposes to provide a means for electronic voting in the future by adding an electronic ballot as a method of voting. In order to do so a change in the WNPS State bylaws is necessary.

The Washington Native Plant Society Board of Directors wish to make a change to Article V. Section 4. of the WNPS State bylaws as follows:

Current Wording:

Article V. (of WNPS State Bylaws)

Section 4. Election and Tenure of Directors

All chapter chairpersons become members of the Board of Directors immediately upon their election by the individual chapters. The terms of the directors elected by statewide membership shall be three years. Election of directors shall be

by mail ballot of the Society's membership. A slate of candidates shall be selected by a nominating committee appointed by the president. The directors shall serve without compensation. The election of directors will be held in the fall and the date of taking office shall be the fall board meeting.

Proposed Change:

Article V. (of WNPS State Bylaws)

Section 4. Election and Tenure of Directors

All chapter chairpersons become members of the Board of Directors immediately upon their election by the individual chapters. The terms of the directors elected by statewide membership shall be three years. Election of directors shall be by mail or electronic ballot of the Society's membership. A slate of candidates shall be selected by a nominating committee appointed by the president. The directors shall serve without compensation. The election of directors will be held in the fall and the date of taking office shall be the fall board meeting.



WASHINGTON NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
6310 NE 74th Street, Suite 215E
Seattle, WA 98115

FOLD HERE FIRST

WNPS Election Ballot

WNPS MEMBERS

Vote for three Directors

A slate of three candidates for the WNPS Board of Directors is listed below. Please vote for three Directors.

Candidates with the most votes will each serve three-year terms on the WNPS Board beginning in the fall of 2009.

Fold in half, then in half again. Tape edges, apply postage and return the ballot by October 1, 2009, or sooner.

Thanks for voting.

FOLD HERE SECOND AND TAPE EDGES

CANDIDATES

Two voters per ballot are allowed for those with family memberships and family voting privileges.

___ Fred Weinmann
___ Fred Weinmann

Please review the biographical information on the reverse side

___ Matthew Loeser
___ Matthew Loeser

Please review the biographical information on the reverse side

___ Mark Turner
___ Mark Turner

Please review the biographical information on the reverse side

___ Write in Vote
___ Write in Vote

PROPOSED WNPS BYLAWS CHANGE

___ For ___ Against
___ For ___ Against

Please review proposed change to Article V on the reverse side

Elk Heights: A Flower Walk along Morrison Canyon Road

by Don Knoke, Central Washington Chapter

To reach the Morrison Canyon Road, turn off Interstate 90 at the Elk Heights interchange, and follow the sign that says Elk Heights Road. The county road ends after a couple hundred yards, where you take the dirt road on the right to the parking area. The road is better suited for walking; it is rough, with many large rocks and in places ditches cross it. It climbs gradually for the first mile, then climbs more steeply to the top of South Cle Elum Ridge, another two miles and about 1000 feet higher. From the ridge top, the ground drops abruptly into Taneum Canyon.

The road starts in open, shrub-steppe habitat, proceeds past an occasional ponderosa pine, then through open pine-Douglas-fir forest, finally through mostly Douglas-fir with some grand fir mixed in. Several species of desert parsley (*Lomatium*) and buckwheat (*Eriogonum*) can be found near the parking area. A short distance up the road, steppe pea (*Lathyrus pauciflorus*) and old man's beard (*Geum triflorum*) can be found to the right, and in the open field to the left, blue camas (*Camassia quamash*) covers the ground, resembling a pond reflecting the blue sky. In the moist areas to the right, large patches of northern mule ears (*Wyethia amplexicaulis*) paint the ground yellow, while in the really wet spots, dense stands of Douglas' onion (*Allium douglasii*) spread a pink carpet.



Symphoricarpos oreophilus.
PHOTO: DON KNOKE

The common low shrub along this stretch of road is mountain snowberry (*Symphoricarpos oreophilus*), the plants covered with pink, tubular flowers. Clumps of service berry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) are scattered along the roadside, as well as two species of currants (*Ribes cereum* and *R. aureum*) and black hawthorn (*Crataegus douglasii*).

At the first sharp bend in the road, leafy bluebells (*Mertensia oblongifolia*) can be seen under the copse of Douglas maple (*Acer glabrum*). In the draw just below,

the damp ground supports grassland saxifrage (*Saxifraga integrifolia*) and false mermaid (*Floerkea proserpinacoides*), which has the flower parts in sets of three, although it is a dicot. Oregon checker mallow (*Sidalcea oregana*) grows here as well, though it will be blooming much later.

From this point on, watch for Brown's peony (*Paeonia brownii*) in the drier areas near the road. Scattered plants can be found here, on the left side of the road until it crosses a little stream, then on both sides until the road crosses back across the stream and starts climbing. At the first stream crossing, the endemic Kittitas larkspur (*Delphinium multiplex*) is growing at the edge of the water below the road. Oregon sunshine (*Eriophyllum lanatum*) may be found in the open area near the stream.

Where the road runs parallel to the stream, several interesting plants may be found in the openings near the stream. In the moist ground, meadow death camas (*Zigadenus venenosus*) will be growing, along with purple-stem monkey-flower (*Mimulus floribunda*) and woolly clover (*Trifolium microcephalum*). At the edge of the moist ground, sticky cinquefoil (*Potentilla glandulosa*), Howell's brodiaea (*Brodiaea howellii*) and narrow-leaf collomia (*Collomia linearis*) can be seen. Chocolate lily (*Fritillaria lanceolata*) grows in this area as well, but the showy flowers can be difficult to spot.

Before crossing the stream again, a climb to the top of the slope on the right can be rewarding. There is a large lithosol area near the top of the slope, where numerous clumps of desert yellow daisy (*Erigeron linearis*) dominate the scene. A couple of the buckwheats (*Eriogonum compositum*, *E. douglasii*) like this area as well, and it is a good place to look for naked broomrape (*Orobanche uniflora*).

After crossing the stream, the road climbs steadily away from the stream through the forest. The bright blue to white flowers of Oregon anemone (*Anemone oregana*) may be found along the road bank, as well as raceme pussytoes (*Antennaria racemosa*) and spreading groundsmoke (*Gayophytum diffusum*). Both redstem ceanothus (*Ceanothus sanguineus*) and snowbrush (*Ceanothus velutinus*) occur along this stretch of road. At the ridge top, little sunflower (*Helianthella uniflora*) and spear-leaf agoseris (*Agoseris retrorsa*) occur.

Many other flowers grow along the road as well, but of course they will not all be blooming at once. Mid-May to early June should find a good number of plants in flower, though the little, early annuals would be gone by then. At least this hike does not require a long drive on a rough road to arrive at the starting point!



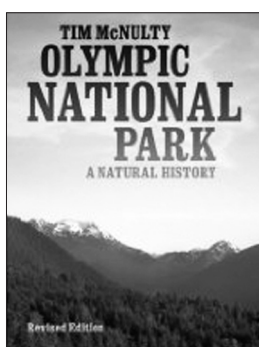
Olympic National Park: A Natural History (Revised Edition)

by Tim McNulty
University of Washington Press,
Seattle, Washington, 2009

Reviewed by Dixie Llewellyn, Olympic Peninsula Chapter

If you haven't read any of Tim McNulty's nature writing, you are in for a treat. His conversational and poetic style will draw you in and make you feel like an old friend sharing a glass of wine while absorbing fascinating facets of the natural history of the Olympic National Park.

I frequently consult McNulty's earlier 1996 edition of the *Olympic National Park, A Natural History Guide* to look



up facts about the Olympics. What were all those endemic plant species (there are 8)? What about that weird snake (rubber boa)? And what's the name of that salamander? Therefore I was delighted to find the comprehensive and extensive updates included in the revised edition. Environmentally and culturally, a remarkable amount has happened in the last 13 years.

The book is divided into parts—The Mountains, The Forest, The Coast, Humans and The Landscape—but like nature itself, the subjects are creatively intertwined. The section on visitor information not only includes fees, lodging, and hiking trail information but also describes the hotspots within the Olympic so you can experience these special places. Checklists for selected wildflowers, shrubs, trees, mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, and intertidal life are included, as well as numerous maps and color photos by Keith Lazelle and Janis Burger. These features result in an excellent reference volume and an entertaining travel guide.

In a departure from a text book style, McNulty paints personal and colorful images of the Olympics from the Pacific Ocean to the top of Mount Olympus, from early time to the present. The subject of geology is described from a peak, the coastal life from a tide pool. Extensive research in all fields of science is evident throughout this book. Included are current statistics on threatened and endangered species of flora and fauna within the park and updated protection status for natural areas. McNulty covers the controversial non-native goat populations and their potential removal, the past plans for wolf re-introduction (and success story of Yellowstone wolves), and the re-introduction of the fisher (a small, cat-like member of the weasel family) in 2008. Other updated topics include the long planning process for the removal of the Elwah dam, and the discovery of an early Klallam village and burial ground.

Anyone interested in the outdoors will want to add *The Olympic National Park, A Natural History* to their library. It sure makes me want to get on my hiking boots and head out to further explore and experience the diverse beauty of the Olympic Mountains.

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 Hovanic 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.

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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
December 1	Spring	March 1
March 1	Summer	May 1
June 1	Fall	August 1
September 1	Winter	November 1

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A special thanks to all who have given through their workplace

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We wish to apologize to any who have generously given to WNPS at the workplace, but are not listed here. We do not receive the names of all the people who have given, nor do we always receive information on the amount given. This varies with workplace giving campaigns and donor preferences. We also may not receive information on workplace pledges until six months or a year after the initial pledge. We do receive your donated pledges through Earth Share of Washington in quarterly payments. A very big thank-you for your generous support through the workplace.

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, Washing-

ton 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.



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 2009

October 17, 2009. For more information on agenda and location contact the WNPS office two weeks ahead of the meeting date.

Join the Washington Native Plant Society

Name _____

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* 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.

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