

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.*

Pt. Wilson restoration

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Editor's note

About the time this *Douglasia* reaches you, the snows will be beginning to recede from the high elevations. As of early April, my favorite cross-state pass, the North Cascades Highway, was expected to open in mid-May, providing another route to the high country and spring wild flowers.

This issue has details and registration information about three WNPS annual events that offer opportunities to explore our state's diverse botanic and geologic features: Botany Washington 2007, the WNPS Study Weekend, and the WNPS backpack trip. Registration deadlines are coming up, so be sure to sign up soon.

Botany Washington, June 22–24, is based at Whitman College in Walla Walla and will feature two days of field trips in the Blue Mountains. This year's annual WNPS Study Weekend will be July 20–22 in the Mount Baker Area. If you haven't attended a study weekend, I encourage you to do so. The field trips are a great way to learn about our native flora in extraordinarily beautiful settings that you might not think to explore on your own. And this year's annual WNPS backpack trip ventures to the Deep Lake area in the Wenatchee National Forest on July 27–30.

For those interested in exploring plant communities on their own, the article on Point Wilson describes an Olympic Peninsula coastal community with an array of natives. A plant list for this area is on the WNPS web site.

My thanks to all of the contributors to this issue of *Douglasia* and to Karen Gatrell and Kim Galimanis, managing and layout editors, respectively, for their continuing outstanding work.

Kathy Murray
Editorial Board Chair

WNPS State Board of Directors: Meetings 2007

October 20, 2007

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

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Editorial Board, Chair

Kathy Murray
kandmmurray@verizon.net

Managing Editor

Karen Gatrell
gatrellk@msn.com

Layout Editor

Kimberly Galimanis

Editor Emeritus

Dr. Arthur R. Kruckeberg

Assistant & Contributing Editors

Joe Arnett
Elizabeth Binney
David Giblin
Catherine Hovanic
Linda Storm
Anna Thurston
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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.

** Deceased

President's message

by Dean Longrie



Conservation Districts

Two of Washington's best-kept secrets for natural resource conservation and enhancement are the Washington Native Plant Society and Washington's Conservation Districts. I see

a lot of shared values among both organizations, and I have the pleasure of working with both—as president of the Washington Native Plant Society and as vice-president of the Washington Association of Conservation Districts. For nearly ten years I have worked with the Clark County Conservation District and served on their Board of Supervisors for most of that time. This year I'm pleased to announce that the Washington State Conservation Commission, the central state organization, is a partner in Native Plant Appreciation Week.

In light of my long-time involvement with Washington's Conservation Districts, I'd like to share with WNPS members something about the value of Conservation Districts and their history. Those of you who are rural landowners are quite likely familiar with your local district and have worked with them. Those in urban areas may not be as likely to know about them.

Like the Washington Native Plant Society, Conservation Districts specialize in “putting conservation on the ground.” The Districts encourage the use of native plants in habitat restoration and land stabilization. While many districts are involved in watershed-scale planning, their primary activity is helping landowners restore or enhance the resources on their property. District specialists provide technical assistance to landowners through development of site-specific conservation plans tailored to meet the needs of the individual landowner. The conservation plan inventories the resources, describes resource concerns, and suggests Best Management Practices (BMPs) to restore or enhance those resources. The district can also help find funding if that is needed to implement BMPs.

Conservation Districts were established in the 1930-40s, and cover virtually every acre of private land in Washington. The need for Conservation Districts was born during the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl, when the federal government envisioned a model of local folks directing the work of USDA conservation

agencies. Washington's enabling legislation was adopted in the 1930s. Conservation Districts are usually organized around county boundaries, although several counties have more than one district. Washington now has 47 districts.

Although Conservation Districts are a special-purpose subdivision of state government, each district is independent. The decision-making body for districts is the Board of Supervisors, which includes three elected supervisors and two appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission. Supervisors are not paid; they serve on a voluntary basis.

Conservation Districts are funded through a variety of grants from agencies such as the Washington Conservation Commission, the Department of Ecology, and Department of Fish and Wildlife. In addition, 13 districts have a special assessment on landowners to address the local issues and priorities in their communities.

Conservation Districts do not have regulatory authority. They cannot impose fines or enforce laws or regulations. Instead they provide landowners with technical assistance and resources, resulting in a special relationship with landowners. By providing voluntary and incentive-based programs, the districts create a level of trust with landowners. Landowners are willing to discuss their natural resource concerns without fear of being regulated. Districts may assist landowners with compliance of various regulations, but the districts do not enforce the regulations.

Conservation Districts are involved in many different natural resource issues throughout the state, including forestry programs, shellfish concerns, soil erosion, water quality and quantity, low impact development, and programs to help with wildlife, fish, and native plant habitat. Whatever the issue, the districts' programs are a reflection of the local communities, the local resources and the priorities established by the Board. Both the WNPS and Washington's Conservation Districts make great partners for the benefit of our natural resources. I encourage you to learn more about districts by visiting the Conservation Commission's web site at www.scc.wa.gov/.



Conservation update

by John H. Browne, Jr., WNPS Conservation Committee Chair

“Olympia, we have a problem.” Speeding along in the “Washington” compartment of Spaceship Earth, I’m finding myself butting my head against a wall of rules that would appear, ultimately, to be the undoing of something that I hold most dear—the native bunchgrass prairie—by something in which I have put my faith, hopes, and trust—the constitution of the state of Washington. As one of several reviewers of proposed land swaps and outright sales of state lands by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), it has finally dawned on me that what is taking place is this inexorable process by which DNR carries out its mandate to its various clients—primarily the State Office of Public Instruction—to make money for them by extracting some revenue from its (OUR!) holdings.

Where there are state-held forest lands, it’s a fairly straight-forward process: stands of timber are sold at auction, revenues from the logging are put into funds to be used by the clients, the lands are replanted, and life goes on. As new initiatives are introduced into forestry practices, and sustainable harvesting becomes an economic interest (rather than an ecological and/or aesthetic debate), and more attention is paid to reforestation with site-appropriate species, we may have economics and social awareness on the side of species diversity, which should bode well for native plant communities.

With the treeless properties, however, it’s a different story, or several stories, which range from “maybe OK” to “this isn’t so bad” to “this is a travesty, that should never be allowed to happen!” Unfortunately, it’s that latter response that seems likely to be invoked, when the activities which prompt it also provide the state with the maximum return possible. As DNR swaps parcels with another state agency, the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), to consolidate their respective holdings and make land management simpler for them both, there is some opportunity to encourage DNR to see that lands with particularly valuable habitats and plant species be settled with DFW, which isn’t required to generate revenue from its holdings. DNR also plans to swap lands with timber companies, irrigation districts, and other entities, where they may share parcels in the “checkerboard” areas, where every other section (a square mile) is under one land manager, and adjoining sections belong to or are managed by a different party. In a third scenario, DNR simply sells off properties that are considered valuable for development purposes, and can be

expected to bring in pretty good money.

The most troubling deals, to me, are ones which involve the sale or trade of intact shrub-steppe for farming or other development that will see the land cleared, plowed, graded—in other words, eliminated from the “habitat” land base, completely. Given that a great deal of the state holdings are already “islands” (that is, two sections out of each 36-section township [#’s 16 and 36]), the built-in fragmentation really exacerbates the “management” problems for the folks at DNR. It’s much easier for them to simply lease their sections to adjacent property holders in order to realize some income, rather than manage a “sagebrush museum” in every township across the landscape... plus, there’d be no money in it, except, perhaps, as grazing land.

DNR does buy land to resell or lease, sometimes... and, as long-term managers, they probably have a better sense than most about those values. There’s another option coming along these days that may make possible leaving the steppe unplowed: wind farms can be installed with a fairly minimum road and footprint. It will be fascinating to discover, if the public is allowed near enough to find out, just what the effects of these installations on the land will be. It would be preferable to me, by far, to see this kind of development when compared to the installation of hayfield or vineyard, which require the elimination of the indigenous plant communities.

As someone who grew up within sight of hopvines and orchards (and the scent of mint), my education focused on the value that agriculture provided, wherever these “wastelands” of sage could be converted. I worked in hayfields and orchards, but I played in the sagebrush wilds and along the river bottoms... and as I have grown older, I appreciate what is taken, what is traded. The miracle of lush growth that follows the sprinklers, and the canals full of water are taken away from the precious rivers, and all who learned to live there and use them. By virtue of cultural training, farm fields and orchards appear wholesome, and comforting; but they aren’t free. What they cost is the natural landscape, unaided and untrammelled, for the most part, by the will of humans. Without a thoughtful balance to our endeavors, what will we achieve? Am I poorer for having seen the blue waves of camas blooming across the atrophied lakebed, and the acres of hot pink Alliums in the spring, than the person who plays a round of golf through that same swale, and sees houses, not greening blue-bunch and sage in the distance? You tell me...

There’s no doubt, the demographers tell us, that “houses” are in our future on the west side of the Cascades... and there’s a lot of serious thought, and action, attempting to

deal with this vision of “progress” that seems to be in store for us, spreading out from the I-5 corridor to the mountains and the sea. The hope is that urban areas will increase density, and that efforts like the Growth Management Act will encourage housing development where existing infrastructure can be ramped up to accommodate it. Where this can be accomplished there will be a continuation of active agriculture and commercial forestry on the private (and DNR-managed) lands, and our national forests and parks will take up much of the rest.

Already, though, subdivisions and rural infill are being developed—on the remains of our existing prairies, mostly—and the timber companies see better opportunities for profits by selling off lands that can become subdivisions in the forested foothills on the edges of the historically rural Puget Trough lowlands. Seeing this, a consortium of environmental groups, developers, business interests, and regional planners hope to float a scheme through the state legislature that will enable a “market-based” solution to control this encroachment on forestlands and farms, by setting up a system that will enable the transfer of “Development Rights” from the rural places to more appropriate places somewhere else.

While this solution to the growing problem of irreversible land conversion may keep some farms and forests intact, and make added roads and infrastructure in those environs unnecessary, the people who show up, whoever they are, will desire water, houses and roads. Somewhere. Presently, people commute to their Greater Seattle area jobs from six counties around King County: Mason, Thurston, Pierce, Kitsap, Snohomish, and even Kittitas... and possibly farther out. The rail corridor, which could be expected to guide development along its historic routes, really has no interest in passenger service, and is primarily responsible for the loss of farms in the Green/White/Puyallup River corridor and their conversion to warehouses to expand the economic engine of the region, the Ports of Tacoma and Seattle. The area destined for expanded housing would appear to be the historic Garry oak prairie remains, through which the region’s busiest highway runs apace.

A couple of wildcards in these calculations—global warming and rising fossil fuel costs—will affect our futures in ways not yet determined. Both schooling and doing business online will also have an effect on future lifestyles, which may help alleviate some of the demands on regional infrastructure. Maybe the permanent state of war will lead to the burgeoning of permanent Victory Gardens, and the demise of the lawn, as we presently know it. One may only hope...



WNPS partners with major ecological conference this fall



Society for Ecological Restoration
Northwest Chapter

For the first time, WNPS will be a partner at the Pacific Northwest Ecological Restoration Conference coming this fall. The conference, organized and managed jointly by the Society for Ecological Restoration Northwest (SERNW) and the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Society for Wetland Scientists, provides an opportunity for wetland scientists and restoration ecologists to exchange information and knowledge to conserve, enhance, and restore ecosystems of the Columbia Basin and the Pacific Northwest. This year WNPS will sponsor a shrub-steppe session and support the event through financial assistance and publicity.



Mark your calendars!

The conference will be held in Yakima, Washington, at the Yakima Convention Center, **September 25-28, 2007**. To find out more about conference registration, see http://www.ser.org/sernw/conference_07.asp.

Seeking presentations and posters

Right now, conference organizers are seeking oral presentations and posters to be presented at the conference. Abstracts from all disciplines and expertise representing academics, practitioners, and government are welcome. The due date for submissions is **April 30, 2007**. Although you may have received your *Douglasia* after this due date, please check for possible deadline extensions and for more information on topics and guidelines at http://www.ser.org/sernw/2007_abstracts.asp.



Point Wilson: Grassroots conservation of a coastal plant community

by Charles Espey, WNPS Olympic Peninsula Chapter

A long finger of sand points out into the swirling tide rips of Admiralty Inlet and takes the force of winter storms from north and south. Spring through fall it must bear the many visitors to Fort Worden State Park in Port Townsend. Yet, perhaps through benign neglect, Point Wilson is a beautiful and often overlooked community of coastal plants. A visitor in March will see an expanse of blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsia parviflora*) blooming in a carpet of moss and lichens. Then in May one can see the golden-yellow and purple of pestle parsnip (*Lomatium nudicaule*) and beach pea (*Lathyrus littoralis*) in bloom. May is also the time yellow sand-verbena (*Abronia latifolia*) comes along in abundance, punctuated by the blue-green foliage of northern wormwood (*Artemisia campestris*), patches of

beach knotweed (*Polygonum paronychia*) and *Lupinus littoralis*. Just above the tide line, on a broad sandy berm, the spiky big-headed sedge (*Carex macrocephala*) is plentiful along with our native dune grass, *Leymus mollis*. There too one can see beach-carrot (*Glebnia littoralis* ssp. *leiocarpa*) along with the ubiquitous silver burweed (*Ambrosia chamissonis*), entire-leaved gumweed (*Grindelia integrifolia*) and our native grass, *Festuca rubra*. Sharp eyes will notice the little purple blooms of the parasitic *Orobancha californica* and seabeach sandwort (*Honckenya peploides*).

Point Wilson is part of a small constellation of sites in the Juan de Fuca Strait and Admiralty Inlet area where coastal plants adapted to a sandy substrate can thrive. Often there is also a transition to prairie species farther back from the beach or up the coastal bluffs. Each site is unique and hosts a particular grouping of plants in several microhabitats. Point Wilson has big populations of *Lathyrus littoralis* and *Artemisia campestris*, which are absent from Thompson Spit only a few miles to the west. Thompson Spit has thrift (*Armeria maritima*) and beach strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*), which are not found at Point Wilson, although they could



An aerial view of Point Wilson shows both well preserved and degraded habitat. PHOTO: CHARLES ESPEY

well have been here once. As might be expected, most of the region's coastal sites have been severely affected by development. Ediz Hook at Port Angeles and Point Hudson in Port Townsend are especially impacted and have lost as much as 90% of their original flora. Fortunately old military bases like Fort Worden saved several sites from housing development when they became parks.

Only one coastal plant community, Graveyard Spit, enjoys full protection and is closed to the public. Point Wilson has perhaps the greatest species diversity of the publicly accessible sites, and its nonnative species represent a minority that with management can be kept under control.

One of the things that makes Point Wilson unique is the wide expanse of moss and lichens growing over sand. This area, located inside the 15-meter-wide berm above the south beach, covers several acres. Known as a cryptobiotic crust, it forms an essential seedbed for plants and holds moisture and organic material. During the heavy rains of winter, this moss and lichen carpet turns emerald green and grows vigorously. This is the time to go out with a kneepad and hand lens. Amongst the lichens, the *Cladonia* genus is especially well represented with at least six species, including its colonies of miniature pixie cups (*Cladonia pyxidata*), and tufts of antler-like *Cladonia furcata*. One soon notices the textures and subtle shades of the mosses like *Syntrichia princeps* or *Racomitrium elongatum*, and here and there the white coral-like clumps of *Stereocaulon tomentosum* stand out like bleached bones. Everywhere, hiding in the moss, is the gelatinous lichen *Leptogium corniculatum*. It is associated with the cyanobacteria, *Nostoc*, whose ability to fix nitrogen creates a nutrient in short supply here. In late February the importance of this moss and lichen layer becomes evident. Everywhere you look, countless thousands of tiny plants are germinating, notably *Collinsia parviflora* and red miner's lettuce (*Claytonia rubra*), and by March they are in full bloom. In April the moss starts to dry up and by May the crust is getting crisp and fragile. A jogger or a dog can easily break up the crust and once the sand is exposed the wind scours out the lighter organic material. On the sand berm above the tideline, however, the plants are more salt tolerant and are adapted to shifting sand thrown up by winter storms. Here *Elymus mollis* and *Carex macrocephala* thrive and a few feet farther back, *Lathyrus littoralis*, *Artemesia campestris* and the deep rooted *Abronia littoralis* grow.



Sharon Schlentner and Forest Shomer pull Scotch Broom (*Cystus scoparius*) seedlings. PHOTO: CHARLES ESPEY

Point Wilson's plant life has survived the park's 1.3 million yearly visitors far better than could be expected because people have generally followed informal trails over the strand and tended to bypass some areas. Nonetheless, increasingly larger trails are being eroded in the bare sand and unfortunately, at least one plant, beach morning-glory (*Convolvulus soldanella*), has been extirpated.

In addition, several seriously invasive species are gaining a foothold. An invasive sedum plant, wall pepper (*Sedum acre*), is spreading in the most pristine mossy area. Years ago the park planted an aggressive European beachgrass (*Ammophila arenaria*) to stabilize the dunes on the north side of the point and this is pushing out the native *Leymus mollis*.

In early 2006 a group of WNPS members in the area discussed the importance of preserving Point Wilson's plant community. It was clear from our own knowledge of coastal sites around the Puget Trough that intact habitat of what is called the *Leymus mollis*/*Abronia latifolia* type was very limited. NatureServe gives this community a G2 imperiled status. We could see that the increased usage of the park was taking its toll, not to mention the threats from invasive species. We decided to start a conservation project under the auspices of the WNPS, calling ourselves the Pt. Wilson Conservation Work Group. Park manager, Kate Burke, welcomed our initiative and made the park sign shop and a truck available.

Coexisting with bustling Fort Worden State Park was essential so we looked at ways to channel traffic. Point



Carex macrocephala along the Point Wilson shoreline. PHOTO: CHARLES ESPEY



Debaran Kelso and Ann Weinmann carefully remove sedum from a moss carpet. PHOTO: CHARLES ESPEY

Wilson is divided by a road to the lighthouse at the point with a campground and old military bunkers on the north shore. The area to the south of the road is relatively untouched and the most species-rich. We decided to begin our conservation work here. Park visitors need to access the south beach, so five trails across the strand were designated and the park provided signage to clearly mark them. We blocked the remaining informal trails running helter-skelter across the area with split-rail barriers. These were posted with educational signs that asked visitors to allow trails to regenerate. We laid jute mesh in the eroded pathways and when seed became ripe this was collected and broadcast after the fall rains. On the south side of the road to the point, *Ammophila arenaria* was limited to three clumps of about 6 meters in diameter. Our initial work to dig it out was discouraging; the rhizomes were buried two feet deep! We then tried an experimental approach, pulling the surface grass and covering the areas with mill felt donated by the local paper mill. One big work party was sufficient to remove nearly all the Scotch broom starting to come back from earlier control efforts.

The work with the invasive *Sedum acre* was also experimental for lack of information on other attempts to eradicate it in this type of habitat. With the *Sedum*, total removal of the root mass also exposed the sand, which was not ideal. Various approaches were tried in one-meter square plots and photographed. We were encouraged to see that in areas where we removed the *Sedum* in the spring of 2006 it had only made a weak comeback by the year's end. Moss can regenerate itself from fragments, so currently we are experimenting with spraying a slurry of moss blended in buttermilk over some areas where we remove *Sedum*. Areas where patches of *Sedum* grew will have to be revisited for at least several years so we mark each location with a small numbered stake.

Deciding which plants at Point Wilson will most successfully revegetate the wind-scoured areas and how to reintroduce them effectively is an ongoing and experimental process. The jury is still out on the effectiveness of our direct sowing of seed and we are looking at propagating seedlings or obtaining plugs of *Leymus mollis* and other plants. Also in discussion is how to reintroduce the extirpated *Convolvulus soldanella* and where to locate seeds of the appropriate ecotype. Point Wilson's plant community has shown the will to survive adversity. (In the 1950s the point served as a parking lot for amphibious vehicles!) So we are confident that with the support of a few concerned people, her plants will bloom for years to come.

A plant list for Point Wilson is available on the WNPS web site. To contact the Point Wilson Conservation Workgroup, contact our Olympic Peninsula Chapter co-chair Sharon Schlentner at sschlentner@waypoint.com. We would especially like to compare notes with other people involved with the restoration of coastal habitat. Our thanks to all the people and groups who have helped the Point Wilson project get rolling. Kate Burke, the Fort Worden park manager, gave us her full support and we received a green light to proceed from the Shoreline Commission. Generous grants from the WNPS and a volunteer organization at the park, the Friends of Fort Worden, gave us the funds we needed to buy materials for a modest project. The Port Townsend Marine Science Center offered facilities and the young people from the Greywolf Ranch added much appreciated muscle.



WNPS Member Donations at Work

The Washington Native Plant Society provided financial assistance for this project.

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.



WNPS Study Weekend July 20-22, 2007

Fire and Ice: Botanizing the Mt. Baker area

The Koma Kulshan Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society, based in Bellingham, invites you to join us July 20-22, 2007, for a weekend of botanical exploration in the northwest corner of the state. The North Cascades, relatively accessible from the Mt. Baker Highway, are home to a diverse flora from wetland species along the river bottoms and shallow ponds to true alpine on the rocky ridges and peaks of our rugged mountains.

Setting

In keeping with the idea that less driving and more botanizing is better, Study Weekend headquarters will be the White Salmon Day Lodge at the Mt. Baker Ski Area, which puts us close to the plants. It is located about 52 miles east of Bellingham on Hwy. 542 at 3600' elevation. The lodge has a spectacular view of Mt. Shuksan and won the 1996 Best New Day Lodge in North America award for its Cascadian architecture.

The area immediately around the lodge is beautiful and botanically interesting, so even if your body says "no" to extended field trips you'll find much to explore at a leisurely pace without traveling far.

Getting there

From Bellingham, exit I-5 at Sunset Drive/Mt. Baker Highway and drive east 52 miles to the White Salmon lodge. Watch for a WNPS sign at the turnoff on your left. Lodging

is 3 miles further up the mountain at Heather Meadows in The Mountaineers Mt. Baker Lodge and The Firs Mt. Baker Chalet. Note that the last filling station is in Maple Falls, 26 miles east of Bellingham.

Tentative schedule

Friday, July 20

- 2 pm Registration opens at White Salmon Lodge
- 3 pm Afternoon field trips meet at White Salmon Lodge
- 6 pm Social hour at White Salmon Lodge
- 7 pm Dinner and evening program at White Salmon Lodge

Saturday, July 21

- 7 am Breakfast in your lodge
- 8:30 am Field trips meet at ski area upper parking lot
- 6 pm Social hour at White Salmon Lodge
- 7 pm Dinner and evening program at White Salmon Lodge

Sunday, July 22

- 7 am Breakfast in your lodge
- 8:30 am Field trips meet at ski area upper parking lot

Social hours

Relax, visit with old friends, and make new ones on the terrace outside the White Salmon Day Lodge both Friday and Saturday evenings before dinner. There will be tasty hors d'oeuvres and beverages both nights.

Bookstore

The Central Puget Sound Chapter will have a selection of current books available. Flora & Fauna Books will have eclectic, uncommon, and out-of-print books for sale. A few authors will be around to sign their books.



Mt. Shuksan reflected in a small tarn at Artist Point. PHOTO: MARK TURNER



Mt. Baker framed by blueberry (*Vaccinium deliciosum*) and heather (*Phyllodoce empetrifoliosa*) foliage among rocks with mountain hemlock (*Tsuga mertensiana*) on the skyline at Huntoon Point. PHOTO: MARK TURNER

Friday evening program

Roaming Rocks, Volcanic Fire and Glacial Ice: The geology of Mt. Baker and the nearby area with a special focus on Heather Meadows. Learn about the Kulshan caldera, Table Mountain lava flows, tephra, glacial till, and non-volcanic basement rocks and how they relate to soil development and plant growth. Our speaker is Dave Tucker, a Bellingham geologist, who has spent many years both climbing around Mt. Baker and researching its volcanism.

Saturday evening program

Seeking Higher Ground – Plants and People in the North Cascades: Speaker Joe Arnett will tell us about plants of the North Cascades and some of the people who have studied them. He will start with an eco-regional approach to vegetation zones and plant communities in the North Cascades and the research on them, past and present. He'll describe designated natural areas, such as the R.J. Taylor Research Natural Area on Chowder Ridge, and point out noteworthy mountain species, including a few rare ones and the efforts to protect them. Arnett studied with Ron Taylor at WWU and is currently a rare plant botanist with the Washington Natural Heritage Program.

Lodging

Overnight housing will be nearby at Heather Meadows in rustic lodges operated by The Mountaineers <<http://www.mountaineers.org/lodge/baker/index.html>> and The Firs <http://www.thefirs.org/index.php?page=mt_baker_chalet_rental>. Both are dormitory-style facilities with shared bathrooms. Breakfast is included with your

lodging. Lodging cost is \$55 per person for two nights and two breakfasts in either lodge. You'll need to bring your sleeping bag or other bedding as well as other personal items and be prepared to help out with chores.

Both lodges have separate men's and women's dorms. They're more separate at The Firs. At The Mountaineers it's one big long dorm with curtain dividers. If you think your fellow plant enthusiasts may snore loudly you might want your ear plugs. Shower facilities are very limited at The Mountaineers Lodge (there's only one, and it's outside). Please mark your lodging first choice on the registration form.

Alternate lodging choices

The Mt. Baker Foothills Chamber of Commerce has developed a list of lodging along the Mt. Baker Highway. Visit their web site <<http://www.mtbakerchamber.org/lodging.htm>> for information. Since this is a tourist area, you may want to make your reservation early if you choose not to stay on the mountain in The Mountaineers or The Firs lodges.

Camping

There is no tent camping at Heather Meadows. You may stay in your self-contained RV at the ski area upper parking lot for no charge. There are two Forest Service campgrounds along Mt. Baker Highway, including Silver Fir (8 miles from Heather Meadows) and Douglas Fir (near Glacier, about 20 miles from Heather Meadows). These campgrounds have advance reservation sites and cost \$16 per night. See <www.fs.fed.us/r6/mbs/recreation/activities/campgrounds/mtbaker.shtml> for links to pages about these campgrounds.

There is also informal camping on the Hannegan Pass Road (FS 32, leaves Mt. Baker Hwy. 8 miles from Heather Meadows).

Meals

Evening meals Friday and Saturday will be catered at the White Salmon lodge. Friday's dinner menu includes chicken fajitas and bean enchiladas, both with rice, refried beans, chips, salsa, and sour cream, dessert and drinks. Saturday's dinner will be a hot pasta bar, two types of pasta with marinara or alfredo sauces, and choice of meatballs or vegetables; also includes salad, roll, veggies, dessert, and drinks.

Box lunches (including sandwich, fruit, chips, cookie, and a drink) for Saturday and Sunday field trips will be available.

A hearty breakfast Saturday and Sunday is included with the lodging package and is not available separately. If you're not staying in the lodge, plan for your own breakfast each day.

Both carnivore and vegetarian choices are available for all meals. Please mark your preference on the registration form.

Contact

If you have questions about the Study Weekend, please contact Mark Turner at 360-671-6851 or mark@turnerphotographics.com.

Field trips

We have scheduled a plethora of trips for your enjoyment and enlightenment. Register for field trips by selecting your top three choices for each day. There will be a limit of 12 people per field trip. Field trip registration is first-come, first-served. Some trips are scheduled on two days. Note that a few trips may have to be cancelled once the snow melts and road conditions are known for sure. The hikes are listed in approximate order of physical challenge from very easy to strenuous. Please choose trips that match both your interest and fitness level. Many enter the Mt. Baker Wilderness.

Bring your 10 essentials, including rain gear, a sun hat and sunscreen as mountain weather can change very quickly. Insects could be an issue, so come prepared! A hand lens can add to your enjoyment.

Driving distances are one-way from Heather Meadows.

Friday field trips will meet their leaders at the White

Salmon Day Lodge at 3 pm. Saturday and Sunday field trips meet their leaders at the ski area upper parking lot at 8:30 am. Any exceptions are noted in the descriptions.

More information about each trip, including a topo map and plant lists (when available), is posted on the WNPS web site <www.wnps.org>.

Northwest Forest Pass

A Northwest Forest Pass is required for parking at most of the trailheads in the Mt. Baker area, including Heather Meadows where all our field trips are meeting and departing. You can purchase a pass at the Glacier Public Service Station. A one-day pass is \$5.00, an annual pass is \$30.00. Your Interagency Senior Pass (if you're over 62) is accepted. More information is available at <www.fs.fed.us/r6/passespermits/index.shtml>.

Maps

All field trips are on either Green Trails #14: Mt. Shuksan or #13: Mt. Baker (see www.greentrails.com). These USGS maps cover the area of our field trips: Mt. Baker, Shuksan Arm, Mt. Larabee, Mt. Sefrit, Glacier, Bearpaw Mtn. You can download the USGS maps from <www.reo.gov/reo/data/DRG_Files/indexes/washquadindex.asp> if you want to print your own.



Mt. Baker beyond the lush subalpine wildflower meadow on Skyline Divide in the Mt. Baker Wilderness (*Lupinus latifolius*, *Arnica latifolia*, *Valeriana sitchensis*, *Polygonum bistortoides*). PHOTO: MARK TURNER

Friday field trips

F-1: Just hang out

Unwind and get familiar with the area at your own pace. Suggested trails at Heather Meadows include the paved loop around Picture Lake and the Fire & Ice trail near the Austin Pass Picnic Area. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: on your own

F-2: Afternoon art retreat

Unwind after your long travels with an afternoon sketching session at the Mount Baker ski area. Unleash your creative side while basking in the beauty of Mount Shuksan, sketching subjects of your choice around the lodge. This session is not strenuous and is intended to be a relaxing prelude to a busy weekend botanizing. All skill levels welcome and beginners encouraged to join us. Bring a sketchbook and your choice of pen, pencil or charcoal and a creative mind! Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: Vikki Jackson

F-3: Hands-on geology preview

Dave Tucker, Bellingham geologist and evening speaker. Easy one-hour field trip in the immediate vicinity: an in-the-field preview of the evening program, looking at ash layers, lava columns, glacial till and views of ancient sea-floor rocks on Mt. Herman. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: Dave Tucker

F-4: Table Mountain

A short steep climb (500' gain) that gives a good introduction to the area where many of the field trips will take place. Along with your hand lens bring your binoculars: White-tailed Ptarmigan and Gray-crowned Rosy Finches are possibilities. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: James Duemmel

F-5: Excelsior Ridge

Time and energy for something bigger? Rich Fonda and Elizabeth Binney will share their knowledge of the relationship between snow accumulation, timing of snowmelt, and plant community patterns of this high elevation ridge complex. Expect 5.5 miles RT of moderate trail, with 1500' elevation gain, mostly at the end while ascending the headwall of a small cirque. Route is via Damfino Lakes. This is an all-day trip, meeting at the Glacier Public Service Center at 9 am. Drive: 17 mi. (from Glacier). Leaders: Rich Fonda and Elizabeth Binney

Saturday field trips

Sa-1: Just hang out

The area around the lodges is full of interesting plants, so if you would like to participate, but anything more than a stroll is out of the question, there is plenty to explore near camp. The paved trail around Picture Lake, Fire & Ice trail near Austin Pass picnic area, and Artist Ridge interpretive trail are all wheelchair-accessible trails in the area. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: on your own

Sa-2: Lichens and mosses of Heather Meadows

Join this foray into the world of cryptogams and non-vasculars. We will wander leisurely through the subalpine and alpine areas in and around Heather Meadows and up around Artist Point. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: Fred Rhoades

Sa-3: Bagley Lakes Basin

Easy short hike exploring the environments around the shallow high elevation pools and on the hillsides surrounding the basin. The insectivorous *Pinguicula vulgaris* is just one of the many interesting species inhabiting the area. Drive: none. Leader: Marie Hitchman

Sa-4: Twin Lakes, introduction to Hitchcock

Flora of the Pacific Northwest (Hitchcock) is the accepted regional flora for the Northwest, but it can be intimidating to the uninitiated. This workshop will reveal some of the mysteries of identifying plants using the keys in Hitchcock. We will drive up to the Twin Lakes area, elevation 5200'. We will explore the general area around the lakes, and identify some of the plants along the way. Will need a few high clearance vehicles. Drive: ~ 15 mi. Leader: Ellen Kuhlmann

Sa-5: Botanical photography

Explore techniques for photographing wildflowers in their habitats from both an artistic and scientific viewpoint. 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*. We'll work along the easy trails at Artist Point, the base of Table Mountain, and Chain Lakes Trail, aiming to get as far as Mazama and possibly Iceberg Lakes. Bring your film or digital camera, tripod, and your favorite light modifiers. Easy hiking, under 2 mi.

each way, 400' gain coming back. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: Mark Turner

Sa-6: Wetlands, frogs and glaciers, oh my!

Come join us on a wetland discovery tour of habitats in the North Fork of the Nooksack drainage. This will not be your basic botany trip; however, we will be looking at the interaction of plants, wildlife and other natural processes to get a better appreciation and understanding of the dynamics of these systems. Your leader is an amateur herpetologist and will share some special secrets regarding plants and amphibians. But botanists don't be dismayed—we will see a wide range of species ranging from peatland plants, marsh species and plants associated with forested wetland and upland systems. We will be visiting a variety of sites via car with short hikes. This trip is moderately strenuous. There will be little elevation gain, but we will be off trail on some uneven, wet terrain for portions of the trip. Bring footwear that can get wet and binoculars (for the birdwatchers). Drive: ~ 12 mi. Leader: Vikki Jackson

Sa-7: Table Mountain (5700') – Plants on the edge

Starting at Artist's Point, the trail zigzags 500' up in less than half a mile through picturesque cliffs, a bit like hiking through a Chinese landscape painting. Once on the tabletop we will stroll along taking in fantastic views in all directions while admiring plants that cling tenaciously to the wind-swept edges. Round-trip distance 3-5 miles; depending on the group, we may loop down off the west end of the table. Elevation gain 700'. Drive: < 5 mi. Leaders: Annie Prevost and Bob Lemon

Sa-8: Winchester Lookout

This trail winds its way up 2 miles (4 RT) in 1300' along open subalpine hillside to a restored fire lookout. Wildflower meadows, heath tundra, and subalpine tree islands plus spectacular views are the rewards for your efforts on this relatively short, but steep walk. We could use a few high clearance vehicles for this destination. The trailhead is Twin Lakes. Drive: ~ 15 mi. Leader: TBA

Sa-9: Cougar Divide

A rugged mountain trail follows the spine of Cougar Divide on the north side of Mt. Baker. It is the main access route to Chowder Ridge. Wildflower displays compete for your attention with stunning views of Mt. Shuksan, the Mazama Glacier tumbling from the summit

of Baker, and Skyline Divide. A washed out bridge on the 12.6 mile forest road to the trailhead has blocked access for the past 3 years. The trail will likely be rougher than the road, with a number of downed trees (it is not maintained, other than by boots). The up-and-down path traverses through clearcut, a beautiful meadow, and forest before opening on dramatic subalpine meadows. Round trip 5.5 miles with 1300 feet elevation gain in, 300 feet coming out. A full and somewhat strenuous day. Bring insect repellent and sturdy boots. Drive: ~ 30 mi. Leader: Walt Lockwood

Sa-10: Chain Lakes

This loop trail circumscribes Table Mountain, passing through a diverse array of plant communities. From forests and talus slopes to numerous gem-like subalpine lakes, each turn of the trail reveals something new and different. Car shuttling will allow us to complete the loop in 9 miles; elevation gain approximately 1600'. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: Susan Alaynick



Nodding Arnica (*Arnica parryi*). PHOTO: MARK TURNER

Sa-11: Fern Foray to Yellow Aster Butte

Tim McNitt will lead this exploration of ferns in the subalpine meadows and serpentine slopes of Yellow Aster Butte. We can expect to see 20-25 taxa of ferns and lycophytes, including the elusive Green Spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes-ramosum*), and serpentine endemic Shasta Fern (*Polystichum lemmonii*) and Kruckeberg's Holly Fern (*P. kruckebergii*). The Yellow Aster Butte trail traverses a portion of the Bell Pass Mélange, a complex geological region of sedimentary and volcanic rock interspersed with large blocks of metamorphic and ultramafic rock. The resulting landscape supports a rich diversity of vascular plants. We will focus on the effects of geology and microenvironments on the distribution and evolution of ferns. This is a strenuous, 7-mile round-trip hike with a total elevation gain of 2200 ft. Drive: ~10 mi. Leader: Tim McNitt

Sa-12: Lake Ann

This popular North Cascades "gem" gets rave reviews in all the hiking guides. The in-your-face view of Mt. Shuksan and the Upper and Lower Curtis glaciers from this alpine lake (4700') is awesome. Round trip is just over

8 miles with 1100' gain each way (low point in the middle). We will pass through mountain hemlock forests, a lovely riparian meadow which should be in full bloom, and exposed rocky slopes. These habitats pay host to a rich diversity of vegetation. A full day, moderately strenuous, with snowfields possible. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: TBA



White Heather (*Cassiope mertensiana*), one of the namesake plants for Heather Meadows. PHOTO: MARK TURNER

Sa-13: Ptarmigan Ridge

This is one of the most scenic hikes in the state of Washington. We start high and stay close to that elevation traversing open subalpine/alpine habitat with Mt. Baker or Mt. Shuksan or both constantly in view. Seeing Mountain Goats is highly probable. Especially sought plants: *Empetrum nigrum*, *Senecio elmeri*, *Arnica parryi*, *Happlopappus lyallii*, *Sibbaldia procumbens* and *Botrychium lanceolatum*. The trip is strenuous: about 4.5 miles one way. We will cross several snowfields. 1400' elevation gain. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: James Duemmel

Sa-14: High Pass

The destination is a long-abandoned mine that is accessed via a trail that works its way along a rocky hillside mixed with a variety of open habitat plant communities. We start in the subalpine and keep moving higher. ~5 miles round trip and 800' elevation gain. A few high-clearance vehicles will be required to reach the trailhead at Twin Lakes. Drive: ~15 mi. Leader: TBA

Sa-15: Goat Mountain

If there aren't goats here, there should be! Starts by switch-backing up through high-elevation forest with an understory of saprophytic plants adapted to life under the trees, breaking out into lush subalpine meadows, and eventually reaching rocky alpine outcrops and scree. 5 plus miles RT and up to 3000' elevation gain. Drive: ~ 10 mi. Leaders: Lyle Anderson and Allan Richardson

Sa-16: Hannegan Pass – Butt buster botany

Tone both mind and body with this 10-mile round trip trek up a valley to Hannegan Pass. If time allows, from the pass we'll travel to Hannegan Peak, with grand views of Baker, Shuksan, Ruth, and other surrounding mountain peaks, and explore nearby subalpine meadows that will be

festooned with wildflowers. Activity level: very strenuous, 2000 feet elevation gain. Drive: ~ 15 mi. Leader: Laura Potash

Sunday field trips

Su-1: Just hang out

See Saturday for description.

Su-2: *Plein Air* botany

Botanists and naturalists are witnesses to our amazing natural world and see things from a slightly different perspective than the general public. A painting or sketch can capture and interpret natural events in a way that the camera can't. Come spend a day creating with the medium of your choice in *plein air* (outdoor) with a focus on botany and landscape process!

This will be a full day expressing our enthusiasm for botany and landscape through art. We will be in a variety of settings easily accessed from the Mount Baker ski area. Both accomplished artists and beginners are encouraged to attend. This will not be a formal art class, but a chance to spend time with like minds to paint, sketch or otherwise create. The hope is that those with some artistic experience will mentor those just starting out. This trip is easy. Minimal elevation gain and accessed via roads or trails. Bring supplies to work with the medium of your choice, easel if you use one, stool and other comforts, and plenty of creativity. Drive: < 5 mi. Leader: Vikki Jackson

Su-3: Bagley Lakes Basin

See Saturday for description.

Su-4: Twin Lakes

See Saturday for description.

Su-5: Rain-forest ecosystems

Two lower-elevation sites along the Mt. Baker Highway. The first stop takes us on a short beaten path into a nice piece of old-growth forest at about 2000' elevation. The second stop is the Horseshoe Bend trail which winds along the North Fork of the Nooksack River at the edge of a deep forest, 1200' elevation. Enjoy rushing river, moss-draped trees and lush, moist, forest flora. Five miles max. RT, 200' elevation gain. On the way back down the mountain. Drive: ~ 15 mi. toward Bellingham. Leaders: Bob Lemon and Annie Prevost

Su-6: Table Mountain

See Saturday for description. Leader: Joe Arnett

Su-7: Ethnobotany and Nooksack place names

This field trip will include short hikes and a range of habitats from high meadows on the Boundary Way Trail, mountain forest at the Damfino Lakes, and river edge along the Horseshoe Bend Trail. If time allows we may stop at sites of interest near the Nooksack River in the lowlands. The trip leader is an anthropologist and native plant enthusiast who has done extensive research on places named in the original Nooksack Salish language. Drive: variable, all stops on the way toward Bellingham. Leader: Allan Richardson

Su-8: Winchester Lookout

See Saturday for description.

Su-9: Church Lake

Often overlooked and little traveled best describes the Church Lake trail. A bit steep in places, a short stroll through high-elevation forest quickly gives way to heather and stunted trees. Only a few steps further and you've arrived at a magnificent subalpine lake, the perfect accent to the high peak jutting skyward from its rim. Easy wanderings to pristine herbaceous and heath communities abound. Activity level moderately strenuous, 3 miles RT, about 750 feet elevation gain. Drive: ~ 30 mi, high clearance vehicles recommended. Leader: Ellen Kuhlmann

Su-10: Lake Ann

See Saturday for description.

Su-11: Excelsior Ridge

See Friday for description. Leader: TBA

Su-12: Church Mountain

This hike passes through five distinct habitats: an old clearcut, Douglas-fir/Western Hemlock forest, Silver Fir forest, open meadow and a rock garden at the top. The trail rises from 2390 feet at the trailhead to a former lookout site at 6050 ft. in about four miles trail distance. The reward for those who go all the way is a vibrant rock garden at the top and spectacular views of Mt. Baker to the south. This trail is a good one for finding saprophytic/parasitic species. Drive: ~ 19 mi, on the way to Bellingham. Leader: James Duemmel

Su-13: Heliotrope Ridge/Coleman Glacier

Up close and personal with Mt. Baker. This hike will get you up close to one of the many glaciers still blanketing the sides of our chapter's namesake. Learn how plants respond to the ebb and flow of these great sheets of snow and ice and why we should care. ~7 miles RT and 2000'+ of elevation gain. Some tricky stream crossings likely. Drive: ~25 mi., but on the way home. Leader: TBA

See page 14 for Study Weekend registration form.

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Study Weekend t-shirts

Vikki Jackson, a multi-talented botanist, artist, and active member of the Koma Kulshan chapter, has created a bright and colorful t-shirt design for this year's Study Weekend. Vikki rendered her original design in pastels. It features Mt. Baker, lupines, and the hand lens that many serious botanists consider essential. Check www.wnps.org under "What's New" to see the design in color.

Order your shirt(s) on the Study Weekend registration form. They're \$15 each, and will be 100% cotton shirts in a slightly creamy natural color. Your shirt will be ready to pick up at Study Weekend. If you'd like a shirt, but aren't coming to Study Weekend, send a check payable to WNPS for \$20 (includes shipping and handling) to Koma Kulshan Chapter WNPS, c/o Don Hicks, 1546 Hillsdale Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226. Be sure to note your size (S, M, L, XL) and provide a mailing address.





Creeping Sibbaldia
(*Sibbaldia procumbens*).

PHOTO: MARK TURNER

WNPS Study Weekend July 20-22, 2007: Fire and Ice: Botanizing the Mt. Baker area

Please complete one form for each person attending.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Complete Study Weekend Package: \$171.00

= \$ _____

Includes registration fee, two nights lodging, and six meals
(Friday dinner through Sunday box lunch)

À la carte:

	Per Person	
Registration Fee	\$56.00	= \$ _____
Lodging: 2 nights & 2 breakfasts on the mountain	\$55.00	= \$ _____
Meals		
Friday dinner	\$20.00	= \$ _____
Saturday box lunch	\$10.00	= \$ _____
Saturday dinner	\$20.00	= \$ _____
Sunday box lunch	\$10.00	= \$ _____

T-shirt: (indicate number of each size)

Sizes S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ Total Qty: _____ x \$15 = \$ _____

Total Fees = \$ _____

Type of Meals: Regular _____ Vegetarian _____

Lodging Choice: The Mountaineers _____ The Firs _____

Field Trip Preference:

Friday	1st choice _____	2 nd choice _____	3 rd choice _____
Saturday	1st choice _____	2 nd choice _____	3 rd choice _____
Sunday	1st choice _____	2 nd choice _____	3 rd choice _____

Registration deadline is June 15. \$20 cancellation fee. No refunds after July 2.

Please make checks payable to WNPS. Registration confirmation will be sent to your e-mail address.

Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped legal-sized envelope to receive confirmation by postal mail.

Send your registration to Koma Kulshan Chapter WNPS, c/o Don Hicks, 1546 Hillsdale Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226.

Washington Flora Project is revitalized by the UW Herbarium

by Ben Legler, UW Herbarium Database Manager

The University of Washington Herbarium (WTU) has recently assumed responsibility for the Washington Flora Project checklist. Now simply called the Washington Flora Checklist, it represents an effort to produce a comprehensive and taxonomically accurate checklist of Washington State's vascular plant flora. The checklist includes all taxa (species, subspecies, varieties, and hybrids) that are known to grow wild in Washington State, such as:

- *Native taxa, whether extant, extirpated, or extinct*
- *Exotic taxa that are naturalized, escaped from cultivation, or persisting wild*
- *Waifs (for example, ballast plants) and other rarely collected exotics*
- *Interspecific hybrids that are frequent or self-maintaining*
- *Unnamed taxa in the process of being described*

The newly revised checklist can be accessed through our web site at <http://biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium/waflora/checklist.php>. We hope our efforts will renew interest to complete the checklist and preserve the considerable investments of time and resources made to date. It should be noted that the checklist remains a work in progress that is being assembled through the collaborative efforts of expert botanists within the state. Fred Weinmann and Peter Zika deserve particular recognition for the considerable time they have invested in the checklist to date.

Importance of a state checklist

Botanists in many states have produced checklists for their state's floras, and Washington is no exception. Checklists serve an important role in understanding and studying a region's flora. They provide baseline information,

statistics, and starting points to facilitate further research. The Washington Flora Checklist will serve as a primary reference for the taxonomy and nomenclature of Washington's flora, and lay the foundation for an eventual updated floristic treatment for the state. We anticipate it will be utilized by agency botanists, conservation organizations, academic researchers both within and outside the state, and others who are interested in knowing more about Washington's flora.

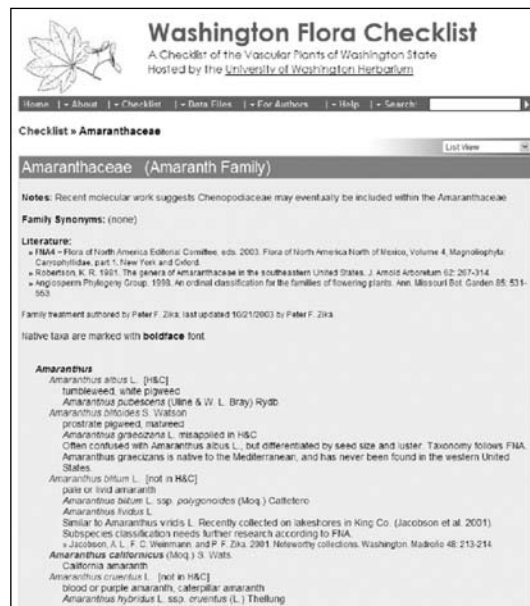
Since the publication of *Flora of the Pacific Northwest* by C. Leo Hitchcock et al. in 1973, much new research has been completed, resulting in numerous taxonomic and

nomenclatural revisions to our state's flora. Additionally, species have been discovered which were not previously known to occur in the state (a few are undescribed or newly described species), and many taxa have become naturalized in the state via accidental introduction or by escape from cultivation. In the absence of a checklist, most of this new research would remain scattered among disparate sources or known only to a few dedicated botanists. Clearly there is a need for a comprehensive checklist for our state.

Checklists also allow for accurate statistical summaries of a region's flora. Currently, no precise estimate exists for the size of Washington's vascular flora. The Washington Flora Checklist lists 3,775 species, while other estimates place the total number of species slightly lower, in the low 3,000 range. The checklist also lists any taxa that are native to Washington; non-native taxa are listed as exotic to Washington by the checklist. The checklist should help answer questions about our flora.

History of the Washington Flora Checklist

The Washington Flora Project was initiated by Fred Weinmann with funding provided by the Washington Native Plant Society. Fred organized a series of meetings in the fall of 1998 to discuss the development of a checklist for the vascular plants of Washington State and the possible publication of a new flora for the state. These meetings



Screen shot from the Washington Flora Checklist web site, showing information about the Amaranth Family (*Amaranthaceae*).

resulted in the creation of a preliminary draft checklist assembled with the help of Peter Zika, Carol Brittnacher, Katy Beck, Michael Marsh, Perry Lund, Sarah Cooke, Sharon Rodman, and Thayne Tuason. Paul Rodman volunteered his time, expertise, and web server space to create a web site for the checklist and make it available online at <http://flora.ilangainc.com/>. Many of you have undoubtedly seen and benefited from this web site.

Work on the checklist continued through 2002, after which time it became unfeasible to continue updating the checklist web site. Additional revisions under development by Fred and Peter never made it into the checklist, and newly published sources of information pertaining to our flora, including several *Flora of North America* volumes, have yet to be consulted.

It was recently recognized that continued development and vitality of the checklist would be most effectively met through institutional support. Following discussions with Fred and Peter, WTU's Collection's Manager David Giblin was able to secure funding from the Bureau of Land Management and the Washington Native Plant Society's Education Committee to support the checklist transfer to the WTU Herbarium. It should be noted that most of the resources currently available on WTU's web site were funded through outside grants obtained by David; several of these grants have been provided by the Washington Native Plant Society.

In the newly revised checklist each taxon includes comprehensive synonymy relevant to Washington, pertinent literature references, origin (for example, whether native or introduced), voucher location, and additional explanatory notes. Links are provided to the photographs and distribution maps in WTU's Plants of Washington Image Collection and to other outside resources where available. References are made to the relevant floras and literature sources in which each name is used and treated.

The checklist can be viewed online in several formats or downloaded as a single document for printing. The downloadable version of the checklist is constantly kept up-to-date with changes that are made to the underlying checklist database. Search capabilities are also provided, allowing any name to be quickly located. Finally, access to the raw data is available through tab-delimited text files that can be downloaded.

An important component of the checklist's transfer to WTU was the development of easy online access for the checklist authors, thereby turning the checklist into a dynamic working checklist that can be continually updated as new information becomes available. Expect to

see numerous updates to the checklist over the next year as we work towards turning it into the comprehensive list Fred Weinmann envisioned eight years ago.

Other developments on WTU's web site

WTU's online resources have grown considerably in the past two years. Recently we finished databasing nearly all of our Pacific Northwest vascular plant specimens, including all of our Washington specimens, and these 150,000-plus records are fully accessible online. Most of our vascular plant type specimens are available online as well, accompanied with images of the specimen sheets themselves. Our type specimens can be accessed via the Collections link on our home page.

The Plants of Washington Image Collection web site (<http://biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium/imagecollection.php>) has grown to include over 17,000 photos of 2,200 of Washington's plant species, with additional photos awaiting addition to the collection. A new identification key for trees and shrubs in winter using twig and bud characters was added this past winter, and enhancements to the general identification key are underway.

We are excited to have recently received a grant from the Daniel E. Stuntz Memorial Foundation to develop an image collection for the Washington's lichens. As of the date of this writing, this new image collection is expected to be available on our web site by late March 2007 with an initial photo collection for about 100 species of Washington's lichens.

For the past 5 years WTU has been conducting floristic surveys in North Cascades and Mount Rainier National Parks. The results from these surveys can be accessed at <http://biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium/research/nps.php> using a new map-based interface with maps of our collecting sites, photographs from the field, and links to images of the species we found. We hope these web pages will convey a greater understanding of, and interest in, the work conducted by the herbarium.

Comments on the WA Flora Checklist or WTU's web site in general can be sent to Ben Legler at blegler@u.washington.edu.





WNPS Member Donations at Work

The Washington Native Plant Society provided financial assistance for this project.

Save the Suksdorf House!

by Rhoda M. Love rglove@uoregon.edu

The century-old W. N. Suksdorf house in Bingen, Washington may be in peril.

Wilhelm Nikolaus Suksdorf (1850-1932) was a botanical giant who lived a quiet and secluded bachelor life in Bingen, Washington, a town founded by his family on the Columbia River in Klickitat County.

During Suksdorf's lifetime, the people of Bingen were mostly unaware that Suksdorf was the most prodigious



The Suksdorf house in Bingen, 1940. PHOTO: WILLIAM WEBER

early pioneer collector of plants in the Northwest. On his death, 30,000 of his meticulously prepared specimens went to Washington State University where they formed the backbone of the college's botanical collections. His total specimens numbered over 150,000. At least 70 species plus the genus *Suksdorfia* were named for him. Many believe that W. N. Suksdorf was Bingen's most important citizen. Now we hear that his historic home in Bingen might be torn down.

In 1910, Suksdorf's brother Phillip built a small, two-story, 3-room wooden house for the botanist in Bingen. Suksdorf kept his huge herbarium in the upstairs room. Below he

lived his bachelor life, even baking his own bread. Many botanists, including myself, and members of the Washington and Oregon Native Plant Societies, make frequent visits to view the old house.

After Suksdorf's death, the house came into private hands. Today, nearly 100 years old, the house has an aged foundation and

the present owner may find it necessary to remove the structure. I and others feel that, with the help of botanists, history buffs, and flower lovers throughout the Northwest and elsewhere, the house might be saved. If it must be removed, we hope the City of Bingen may acquire and move it to public property where it can be maintained as a museum and a lasting memorial to one of the greatest botanists the Northwest has known. We have contacted the Bingen City Council and the West Klickitat County Historical Museum and are pleased that they support a plan to save this important structure if and when it becomes necessary. We have received many letters in favor of moving and preserving of the Suksdorf house. Supporting articles have appeared in the *White Salmon Enterprise* and the *Vancouver Columbian*. If WNPS members wish to join our campaign, letters can be sent to the Bingen City Council, Bingen, WA 98605.



W. N. Suksdorf, age 66, studying his specimens. PHOTO: COURTESY OF WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Stylized signature or logo

Research and Inventory Grant Awards for 2007

- **Climatic controls on the growth and distribution of Garry oak**
Thomas Maertens, University of Guelph – \$1,500
- **Evolutionary Ecology of Speciation in *Mentzelia* section *Trachyphytum***
Joshua Brokaw, WSU – \$800
- **A Phytogeographic Analysis of Selected Rare *Campanula* from Western North America**
Barry Wendling, WWU – \$1,500

Come join us!

2007 WNPS Annual Backpack Trip to Deep Lake area, Wenatchee National Forest, July 27-30

by Don Knoke, WNPS Central Washington Chapter



View of Cathedral Rock from the Cathedral Rock Trail.

PHOTO: MARK KNOKE

This year's annual backpack trip will be to the Deep Lake area in the Wenatchee National Forest. The drive to the trailhead for this year's trip should be shorter for most of you than it has been the past several years. Coming from Snoqualmie Pass on I-90, turn onto Bullfrog Road at the overpass just past the weigh station between Easton and Cle Elum. At the end of Bullfrog Road, turn left on SR 503 to Roslyn, Ronald and Lake Cle Elum. The road name changes to Salmon la Sac Road, then go past Salmon la Sac, to FR 4330. The parking area and trailhead are at the end of this road, next to Tuquala Camp Ground. This is a popular spot for hikers, and a trailhead pass is required. We will meet in the parking area at 9:00 a.m. Friday morning, July 27.

We will follow Cathedral Rock Trail 1345 up the hill to the junction with Trail Creek Trail 1322, and follow this trail about a half mile to Squitch Lake, where we will camp the first night. The next morning we will search for the old trail, and follow it over the ridge and down to Spinola Creek, which drains Deep Lake. On a bench across the creek (and across the Pacific Crest Trail) lie Deer Lakes, where we will camp the next two nights, and day-hike out of that camp site in search of different flowers, possibly to Lake Vicente. Monday morning we will take the Pacific

Beyond Hitchcock and Cronquist:

Synonyms for plants on the Washington Natural Heritage Rare Plant List

by Joe Arnett, Rare Plant Botanist, Washington Natural
Heritage Program

The Flora of the Pacific Northwest, published by C. Leo Hitchcock and Arthur Cronquist in 1973, remains the most current and the best comprehensive technical field key that covers the state of Washington. Essentially all serious botanists working in Washington rely upon it, and the majority of the taxa (species, subspecies, or varieties) that are included on the Washington Natural Heritage Program rare plant list can be identified with this book. The difficulty lies with the approximately 150 names on the 2007 rare plant list that are not found in Hitchcock and Cronquist.

The easiest of these to deal with are the names which have synonyms in the *Flora*. The synonyms provided in the table on page 19 and 20 should help you get from the *Flora* to the current name on the Washington State rare plant list; the entire list can be found on the Natural Heritage Program web page at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/>.

A larger challenge is identifying the approximately 75 species that are not in Hitchcock and Cronquist at all, or for which additional keys are needed. Watch the following issues of *Douglasia* for help in identifying these species.

SA

Crest Trail to its junction with Cathedral Rock Trail 1345, and follow that trail back to our cars.

For an idea of the plants we might find, check the Lake Vicente plant list, under Kittitas County on the WNPS web site, www.wnps.org/plant_lists. The Lake Vicente list includes species found only at higher elevations, but covers many of the same trails used on this hike. The area of the hike is on Green Trails map Stevens Pass #176. For more information and to sign up, contact Don Knoke at donknoke@yahoo.com, or P.O. Box 196, Thorp, WA 98946, or by phone at (509)964-2274.

SA

Synonyms: Washington Natural Heritage Program 2007 Rare Plant List and Hitchcock and Cronquist's 1973 *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*

Name in Hitchcock & Cronquist	Name on 2007 WNHP Rare Plant List	Status		
		WA	FWS	FS
<i>Abronia umbellata</i> ssp. <i>acutalata</i>	<i>Abronia umbellata</i> var. <i>breviflora</i>	E	SC	
<i>Agoseris aurantiaca</i> , in part	<i>Agoseris lackschewitzii</i>	R2		
<i>Allium douglasii</i> var. <i>constrictum</i>	<i>Allium constrictum</i>	S		
<i>Ammannia coccinea</i>	<i>Ammannia robusta</i>	T		
<i>Apargidium boreale</i>	<i>Microseris borealis</i>	S		S
<i>Arabis furcata</i> , in part	<i>Arabis furcata</i> var. <i>olympica</i>	R2		
<i>Arenaria franklinii</i> var. <i>thompsonii</i>	<i>Eremogone franklinii</i> var. <i>thompsoni</i>	R1		
<i>Arenaria nuttallii</i> var. <i>fragilis</i>	<i>Minuartia nuttallii</i> ssp. <i>fragilis</i>	T		
<i>Arenaria nuttallii</i> var. <i>fragilis</i>	<i>Minuartia nuttallii</i> ssp. <i>fragilis</i>	T		
<i>Arenaria pusilla</i> , in part	<i>Minuartia pusilla</i>	R1		
<i>Artemisia campestris</i> var. <i>wormskioldii</i>	<i>Artemisia borealis</i> var. <i>wormskioldii</i>	E	C	S
<i>Aster curtis</i>	<i>Sericocarpus rigidus</i>	S	SC	
<i>Aster hallii</i>	<i>Symphyotrichum hallii</i>	T		
<i>Aster jessicae</i>	<i>Symphyotrichum jessicae</i>	E	SC	
<i>Aster junciformis</i>	<i>Symphyotrichum boreale</i>	T		
<i>Aster oregonensis</i>	<i>Sericocarpus oregonensis</i>	T		
<i>Aster sibiricus</i> var. <i>meritus</i>	<i>Eurybia merita</i>	S		S
<i>Astragalus cottonii</i>	<i>Astragalus australis</i> var. <i>olympicus</i>	T	SC	S
<i>Astragalus tenellus</i>	<i>Astragalus multiflorus</i>	T		
<i>Carex atrata</i> var. <i>atrosquama</i>	<i>Carex atrosquama</i>	R1		S
<i>Carex heteroneura</i> (Not a synonym but will key here)	<i>Carex epapillosa</i>	S		
<i>Carex hystericina</i>	<i>Carex magellanica</i> ssp. <i>irrigua</i>	S		S
<i>Carex norvegica</i>	<i>Carex media</i>	S		S
<i>Carex petasata</i> , in part (not a synonym but may key here)	<i>Carex constanceana</i>	R1		
<i>Castanopsis chrysophylla</i>	<i>Chrysolepis chrysophylla</i>	S		S
<i>Chrysolepis oregona</i>	<i>Heterotheca oregona</i>	T		
<i>Claytonia lanceolata</i> var. <i>pacifica</i>	<i>Claytonia multiscapa</i> ssp. <i>pacifica</i>	T		S
<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i> var. <i>parviflorum</i>	<i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i>	T		S
<i>Draba douglasii</i>	<i>Cusickiella douglasii</i>	T		
<i>Draba lanceolata</i>	<i>Draba cana</i>	S		S
<i>Dryopteris austriaca</i> , in part	<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i>	R1		
<i>Erigeron acris</i> var. <i>elatus</i>	<i>Erigeron elatus</i>	E		S
<i>Gentiana tenella</i>	<i>Gentianella tenella</i>	S		S
<i>Gilia tenerrima</i>	<i>Lathrocasis tenerrima</i>	R1		
<i>Habenaria chorisiana</i>	<i>Platanthera chorisiana</i>	T		S
<i>Habenaria obtusata</i>	<i>Platanthera obtusata</i>	S		S
<i>Habenaria sparsiflora</i>	<i>Platanthera sparsiflora</i>	T		S
<i>Habenaria viridis</i> var. <i>bracteata</i>	<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>	T		
<i>Haplopappus hirtus</i> var. <i>sonchifolius</i>	<i>Pyrrocoma hirta</i> var. <i>sonchifolia</i>	S		
<i>Haplopappus liatrifolius</i>	<i>Pyrrocoma liatrifolius</i>	T	SC	S

<i>Hemicarpha micrantha</i>	<i>Lipocarpha aristulata</i>	T		
<i>Lesquerella douglasii</i> (not a synonym but keys here)	<i>Physaria tuplashensis</i>	T	C	
<i>Linanthus bakeri</i>	<i>Linanthus bolanderi</i>	S		S
<i>Linanthus bicolor</i> var. <i>minimus</i>	<i>Leptosiphon minimus</i>	R1		
<i>Linum digynum</i>	<i>Sclerolinon digynum</i>	T		
<i>Lomatium orogenioides</i>	<i>Tauschia tenuissima</i>	X		
<i>Lupinus lepidus</i> var. <i>cusickii</i>	<i>Lupinus cusickii</i>	R2	SC	
<i>Lupinus sabinii</i>	<i>Lupinus sabinianus</i>	E		S
<i>Lycopodium inundatum</i>	<i>Lycopodiella inundata</i>	S		S
<i>Lycopodium obscurum</i> , misapplied	<i>Lycopodium dendroideum</i>	S		S
<i>Machaerocarpus californicus</i>	<i>Damasonium californicum</i>	T		S
<i>Oenothera minor</i>	<i>Camissonia minor</i>	S		
<i>Oenothera pygmaea</i>	<i>Camissonia pygmaea</i>	S		
<i>Oenothera scapoidea</i>	<i>Camissonia scapoidea</i>	S		
<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	<i>Ophioglossum pusillum</i>	T		S
<i>Oxytropis viscida</i>	<i>Oxytropis borealis</i> var. <i>viscida</i>	S		S
<i>Pediocactus simpsonii</i> var. <i>robustior</i>	<i>Pediocactus nigrispinus</i>	R1		
<i>Poa pachypholis</i>	<i>Poa unilateralis</i>	T		
<i>Potentilla breweri</i>	<i>Potentilla drummondii</i> ssp. <i>breweri</i>	T		S
<i>Ribes irriguum</i>	<i>Ribes oxyacanthoides</i> ssp. <i>irriguum</i>	T		
<i>Rorippa calycina</i> var. <i>columbiae</i>	<i>Rorippa columbiae</i>	E	SC	S
<i>Salix monticola</i>	<i>Salix pseudomonticola</i>	R1		S
<i>Saxifraga debilis</i>	<i>Saxifraga rivularis</i>	S		
<i>Senecio porteri</i>	<i>Packera porteri</i>	R1		
<i>Sidalcea virgata</i>	<i>Sidalcea malviflora</i> ssp. <i>virgata</i>	E		
<i>Silene douglasii</i> var. <i>monantha</i>	<i>Silene douglasii</i> var. <i>douglasii</i>	R2		
<i>Spiraea densiflora</i> var. <i>splendens</i>	<i>Spiraea splendens</i>	S		
<i>Spiranthes romanzoffiana</i> var. <i>porrifolia</i>	<i>Spiranthes porrifolia</i>	S		S
<i>Trillium chloropetalum</i> (not a syn. but keys here)	<i>Trillium parviflorum</i>	S		
Washington Status of plant species is determined by the Washington Natural Heritage Program. Factors considered include abundance, occurrence patterns, vulnerability, threats, existing protection, and taxonomic distinctness. Values include: E = Endangered. In danger of becoming extinct or extirpated from Washington. T = Threatened. Likely to become Endangered in Washington. S = Sensitive. Vulnerable or declining and could become Endangered or Threatened in the state. X = Possibly extinct or extirpated from Washington. R1 = Review group 1. Of potential concern but needs more field work to assign another rank. WNHP is not requesting occurrence data. R2 = Review group 2. Of potential concern but with unresolved taxonomic questions. WNHP is not requesting occurrence data.				
Federal Status of plants under the U.S. Endangered Species Act is determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: E = Listed as Endangered. In danger of extinction. T = Listed as Threatened. Likely to become endangered. C = Candidate species. Sufficient information exists to support listing as Endangered or Threatened. SC = Species of Concern. An unofficial status, the species appears to be in jeopardy, but insufficient information to support listing.				
Forest Service Status: Based on the Region 6 Sensitive Plant List: S = Sensitive				
Bureau of Land Management Status: The BLM also assigns status to rare plants, generally based on state status. These are currently under review.				

KWÍÁHT explores camas diversity in the San Juan Islands

by Madrona Murphy, Kwíáht: Center for the Historical Ecology of the Salish Sea

The San Juan archipelago is made up of more than four hundred islands; many of them are vegetated. These islands support extensive, albeit patchy populations of both blue camas (*Camassia quamash*) and great camas (*C. leichtlinii*). And there is historical, ethnographic and physical evidence of widespread Coast Salish (Native American) cultivation of camas in the islands, including nineteenth-century observations of women tilling marked fields (Suttles 2005). This diversity of islands makes the San Juans an excellent living laboratory to investigate the long-term interactions of isolation (island biogeography) and human dispersal and selection. For KWÍÁHT (Center for the Historical Ecology of the Salish Sea), a non-profit lab concerned with “science for stewardship,” there is also an urgent need to catalog the diversity of camas and to make nursery stocks available for restoration that encompass the species’ natural and anthropogenic diversity in the Archipelago. This local diversity of camas is threatened by the widespread use of non-local camas stocks in restoration.

Supported by a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s Native Plant Conservation Initiative, KWÍÁHT is undertaking a study of the diversity of camas in the San Juans and building up stocks of camas morphotypes native to the San Juan archipelago for local restoration. Working with students from Spring Street International School on San Juan Island, we are collecting camas from throughout the San Juans for transplantation into a common garden provided by their school. Next spring students will measure morphological differences in the common garden and identify populations with unique characteristics. Students from San Juan and Lopez islands will also participate in extracting DNA and sequencing non-coding regions to compare morphological differences with genetic diversity.

By comparing geographic isolation and pre-contact distribution of Coast Salish groups in ethnographic and linguistic literature (Suttles 1951, 1990) with the phylogeography of San Juan Archipelago camas, as adduced from morphological and genetic clustering, we hope to address the need for better understanding of the role of Native American cultural diversity and diverse management practices in camas diversity. This understanding will help lay a foundation for the restoration and sustainable stewardship of relic cultural (that is, Coast Salish agricultural) landscapes on public lands in the Archipelago and potentially elsewhere in Western Washington where camas was historically grown by other Coast Salish peoples.

References:

Suttles, Wayne. 1951. The Economic Life of the Coast Salish of Haro and Rosario Straits. PhD. dissertation. Department of Anthropology, University of Washington. Repr. 1974 Garland Publishing, New York.

———. 1990. Central Coast Salish. *Handbook of North American Indians: Northwest Coast* (W. Suttles, ed.), 453-475. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC.

———. 2005. Coast Salish Resource Management: Incipient Agriculture? In Douglas Deur and Nancy Turner (Eds.), *Keeping it Living: Traditions of Plant Use and Cultivation on the Northwest Coast of North America*. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

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Camassia leichtlinii leichtlinii. PHOTO: RUSSEL BARSH

Spend the solstice at 5,000 feet in the Blue Mountains of south- eastern Washington June 22nd – June 24th

The summer solstice is a great time for botany along the high basalt ridges and narrow valleys of the Blue Mountains of southeastern Washington. Hitchcock-toting botanists and other devotees can see the new growth under the endless blackened trunks in the burned area near Pomeroy on one day, and, on the next day, discover the intact floral treasures of the Blues closer to Walla Walla. Accommodations and meals will be at the lovely historic Whitman College Campus.

Friday, June 22

Before a delicious dinner at Whitman College near downtown Walla Walla, visit the historic College Herbarium, which includes specimens collected by C. Piper, W. Cusick and C.L. Hitchcock. After dinner, meet Forest Service experts and learn of the impacts of the 2005 School Fire and the 2006 Columbia Complex fire in the Blue Mountains.

Saturday, June 23

Spend the day hiking in the charred forests adjacent to the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness area, in the School Fire and Columbia Complex burned areas. Return to the College accommodations, and after a delightful dinner,



View from Ruckle Ridge looking toward LaGrande, with *Castilleja hispida* in the foreground. PHOTO: BRUCE BARNES

meet local gurus of the Blue Mountains who will discuss the geology, the natural history, and the cultural heritage of the area.

Sunday, June 24

Hike on flower-rich ridges and across bunch grass meadows. Four field trips will be offered before participants leave the solitude of the Umatilla National Forest. Two of the four field trips are near the 20,000-acre North Fork Umatilla Wilderness.

Saturday field trips (choose one):

1. Willow Springs, via Road 4712. Trail begins at elevation 3,000'. Trail 3139 rises steeply via Hixon Canyon through the '05 burned area for about two miles to spur road 045 and Road 4022. The shady, dense evergreen forest is gone. Blackened holes, burned through the trunks of some trees, frame bits of blue sky. On Road 4022, stumps burned into the ground have formed smashed earthen craters. Some 2006 survivors of the School Fire included *arnica*, *lomatium*, *spiraea*, *clarkia* and *phacelia*. Length: 6 miles round trip. Elevation gain: 2,000'.

2. Tucannon River Trail. Along this river valley trail, imagine the dense forest of Douglas fir, Englemann spruce, ponderosa pine, larch, and yew trees that flourished here in 2004. The fires raced through this valley, burning some places, and leaving other stands of timber intact. Option 1: At ~one mile, leave Trail 3135 and follow Sheep Creek northward about half a mile to a small waterfall. Option 2: Continue up Tucannon, pass the trail to Hunter Spring, turn right on Trail 3110 towards Bear Creek, rising steeply up to Jelly Spring. Length: About three miles from TH 93 to the Jelly Springs turnoff. Elevation gain to the turnoff to Jelly Springs is 600'.

3. Oregon Butte, in Washington, has great views of Oregon. The trail, beginning at 5,500', rises gradually through the forest, splits at about .8 mile at a meadow. Follow the right or south path which leads over the weather-beaten ridge of West Butte, an area of gnarly trees, lithosol plants and great views of Oregon's Wallowa and Elkhorn mountains. The trail turns into the forest again, to Oregon Butte spring, possibly the highest spring in the Blues. Continue .5 mile to the rocky ridge of Oregon Butte. This area is unglaciated at 6,387 feet, the highest elevation in the Blue Mountains. Length: 6 miles round trip. Elevation gain: 900'.

Sunday field trips (Choose one):

1. Ruckel Ridge. Known as one of the seven best wildflower areas in Oregon and overlooking the Grande Ronde Valley, the ridge is mostly between 4,000 and 6,000 ft. elevation. Like other long ridges in the Blue Mountains, streams have cut deep narrow valleys, visible on the west-facing side. The divide provides slightly different conditions on each side. *Trillium ovatum* could be found somewhere below on one side of the divide, while *Trillium petiolatum* lives below on the other side, so expect a high diversity of species. Walk on an unimproved road for about 3 miles. This trip can be taken by car.

2. Umatilla Rim Trail Trail 3080 via Summit Road. Hike through sun and shade, and along the way admire ancient trees, a reforested area, seeps and Shamrock Spring, dip down 300 feet to a creek, continue to drier meadows, have a blooming fine time and end at Hwy. 204 for pick-up. Length: about 7 miles. Elevation gain on this ridge walk is about 300 ft.; the trail remains close to 5,000' throughout.

3. North Fork Walla Walla River. From the trailhead at about 4500' elevation, hike gradually down the North Fork of the Walla Walla River. On the way, view huge old trees, part of a designated old-growth timber area, seeps, and a fairy-tale forest of yews. Length: 6 miles round trip. Elevation gain: 1,000'.

4. Tiger Canyon along F.S. Road 65. If you want to see blossom power, look for the penstemons in the area of Tiger Canyon Saddle on the upper third of Tiger Canyon, Road 65—many species of penstemon grow beside basalt cliffs. The seeps are filled with a myriad of plants in early spring. Tiger Canyon has it all—and yellow star thistle. The meadows above the road and the roadside are being taken over by yellow star thistle. Tiger Canyon Saddle is about 20 miles from Walla. For those who wish to leave early, it is an easy way to view Blue Mountain plants at about 4,800'.

4a

REGISTRATION FORM

Botany Washington 2007

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Email address _____

Register early. Registration limited to 40.

**Registration deadline June 1st, 2007.
No refunds after June 1st, 2007.**

Questions: Contact Catherine Hovanic, 206-527-3210,
1-888-288-8022, wnps@wnps.org

Registrants will receive details on logistics and additional directions.

Type of meals: Regular _____ Vegetarian _____ Allergy Diet _____ *describe:* _____

Field trip preference: **Saturday** 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____
Sunday 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

Registration Cost: Registration includes all meals and accommodations on campus.

Meals include: Friday and Saturday night dinners, Saturday and Sunday morning breakfasts, Saturday and Sunday box lunches.
Accommodations: 2 nights (Friday and Saturday nights), double occupancy (2 people per room)
2 nights (Friday and Saturday nights), single occupancy (private room)

TOTAL (\$140.00 x _____ number of people): _____ (based on double occupancy)
(\$160.00 x _____ number of people): _____ (based on single occupancy)

Mail registration form/check payable to:
Washington Native Plant Society, Botany WA Registration
6310 NE 74th St., Ste 215 E, Seattle, WA 98115

Spurge laurel (*Daphne laureola*)

by Alison Halpern, Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

The Washington State Noxious Weed Board is once again requesting assistance in finding escaped populations of a noxious weed. This time it is spurge laurel, *Daphne laureola*, a new Class B addition to the 2007 Noxious Weed list. This shrub, native to western Europe and northern



Africa, was once used as an ornamental; however, its popularity has since dwindled and it is uncommon in the trade today. Unfortunately, it is becoming increasingly common in forests and parks in Western Washington. This shade-tolerant shrub is capable of forming dense stands in the forest understory, thereby displacing native flora, potentially modifying soil chemistry,

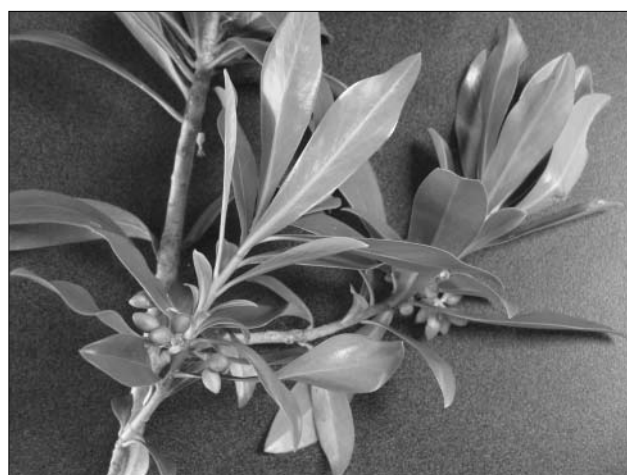
and altering natural succession. Additionally, its leaves, bark, and fruit are toxic to humans.

Also spreading in coastal British Columbia, *D. laureola* is a serious threat to Garry oak and similar ecosystems there. Here in Washington, it has been documented in almost every county adjacent to the Puget Sound. It is particularly prevalent on Orcas Island and San Juan Island in San Juan County and in urban forests in King County. We know where several of the escaped populations exist, but new sightings are becoming frequent, and it is likely that there is more *D. laureola* yet to be detected. Patchy dispersal of seed via birds into forested areas makes it difficult to locate and subsequently control this invasive shrub, and so this is another opportunity where vigilant eyes of WNPS members could help us immensely.

Daphne laureola is an evergreen shrub that reaches a height between 0.5-1.5 meters, with either an upright or decumbent habit. While young branches are green, mature bark is gray with a yellow hue. The alternate leaves are glossy, dark green, and are generally oblanceolate to

obovate-oblanceolate. The spirally arranged leaf whorls are densest near the tips of the branches. Without flowers, *D. laureola* bears some resemblance to our native *Rhododendron* species; however, the leaves are often a bit darker and smaller and are more concentrated at the branch tips. The species differ substantially in flower shape and bloom time. Spurge laurel is a springtime bloomer, flowering between March and May, whereas *Rhododendron* species generally bloom in May and June. The tubular flowers are about one centimeter long, fragrant, yellow-green, and occur in groups of 5-10 in axillary racemes. Fruits are oval-shaped, purplish-black drupes.

If you think you've come across *Daphne laureola*, please contact the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board (noxiousweeds@agr.wa.gov; 360-902-2082) or your local county Noxious Weed Control Coordinator.



PHOTOS: ALISON HALPERN

Invasive species update

by Jane Wentworth, WNPS Central Puget Sound Chapter

PNW Exotic Pest Plant Council re-emerges online

Thanks to Dana Coggon of the Kitsap County Noxious Weed Control Program, we now have a new electronic bulletin board on Google Groups with information about a Pacific Northwest Exotic Pest Plant Council (PNW EPPC). This group aims to facilitate communication and discussions about local and regional invasive species sightings, impacts and research. The bulletin board is a first step towards re-establishing a regional EPPC, and is the outcome of a discussion that occurred at the end of last year's "Invasive Plants in PNW Ecosystems" conference which was sponsored by the UW Botanic Gardens and PNW USDA Forest Service.

In addition to providing background information about the history of the PNW EPPC (1990-1997), and what such a council can do for us, the bulletin board strives to provide a location for interested parties to add and exchange information. This relatively new resource is a work in progress; ideas and input are especially welcome. The bulletin board will only be as effective as the amount of effort and participation that go into it and keep it going. You can read more about the PNW EPPC group by visiting <http://groups.google.com/group/pnwepc>.

If you would like to post information and interact with discussions, you will need to set up a Google account, a very easy procedure. Information on setting up an account is available at the above web site. Alternatively, you can contact Dana Coggon via e-mail at dcoggon@co.kitsap.wa.us or at 360-307-4242 to request an "invitation" to join the group, or if you have any questions. Please check it out!

New Washington Invasive Species Council is up and running

The first meeting of the new Washington State Invasive Species Council was held in November. Established by the Legislature in 2006, the Council is charged with developing and implementing a statewide invasive species strategic plan to coordinate detection, prevention, inventory, research, education, and funding. For more information about the

Council, visit www.iac.wa.gov/invasive_species/ or contact Clover Lockhard, council coordinator, at 360-902-3088.

Milfoil species identified

The Washington State Department of Ecology has determined that the nuisance milfoil growing in Blue Lake, Thurston County is *Myriophyllum heterophyllum*. This may be the first confirmed record for this species in Washington. A specimen is being sent to the UW herbarium for their records. This species is native to parts of eastern North America, a listed rare plant in a few states, and a listed noxious weed in some northeast states. It has caused a good deal of alarm to the people who live in the community around Blue Lake, and appears capable of becoming invasive here, so eradication would be an appropriate goal for this plant in this lake. For more information, contact Jennifer Parsons at jpar461@ecy.wa.gov. (*This item excerpted from Invasive Species News in a Nutshell #15 Oct-Jan 2007, by Joan Cabreza, EPA.*)

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Earth Share of Washington's 20th Anniversary

ESW is named one of 59 smartest nonprofits

by Peg Pearson, WNPS
Earth Share Representative



Two decades ago, leaders from ten organizations cooperated to create the Environmental Fund of Washington (EFW). Modeled after United Way workplace giving campaigns, the fund represents a federation of nonprofits that focus efforts, as its mission states, on “livable communities and a healthy planet.” In 1993, EFW affiliated with the national Earth Share program. EFW now helps support the work of 27 local groups and 39 national organizations. According to William Borden, Executive Director, “people invest in Earth Share of Washington (ESW) because we have proven that we are accountable, efficient and trustworthy.”

The Washington Native Plant Society was admitted as the fourteenth member in 1990. As an ESW participant, WNPS receives dedicated gifts as well as a percentage of undesignated pledges. While annual campaigns have chiefly benefited from the generosity of government employees (federal, state, local), more private corporations are including Earth Share as an option. To WNPS, the gifts, monthly pledges and employer matching donations add up to important revenues for operations.

WNPS salutes the twenty years of success Earth Share of Washington has achieved. In 2007, ESW earned additional kudos on being named one of the “59 smartest nonprofit organizations” for its inclusive web site. To learn more about ESW, I encourage you to check out its web site at www.esw.org. Along with current news and events posted in the monthly online newsletter, you may explore the other member organizations that work to keep Washington a healthy home for people, plants and creatures. February’s ESW newsletter featured an article about WNPS and the “smartest nonprofit” award.

To discuss having your workplace added to the Earth Share campaign or for any other ESW questions, please contact Peg Pearson at pearson@wnps.org or call Catherine Hovanic at WNPS at 206-527-3210.

AP

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.

Advertise in *Douglasia*

See http://www.wnps.org/douglasia/douglasia_advertising.html

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: gatrellk@msn.com

Deadlines for submission

Deadline	Issue	Members receive approximately
January 1	Winter	March 1
March 1	Spring	May 1
June 1	Summer	August 1
September 1	Fall	November 1

Welcome new members

1/19/2007 through 3/28/2007

Central Puget Sound Chapter

Jean Amick, AW and Diane Edmonds, Penny Frohwerk and Family, Mary Jean Gilman, Mike Gould, Darlene Granberg, Heather Hendricks, Jim Howard, Sandy and Dan Koffman, Cheryl Lowe, Mary Morris (Gift of Susan Meyer), Mathew Muilenburg, Thomas Murphy, Jeffrey Rash, Stan Reeve, Anah Shah, Leah Soltar, Vanessa Tuttle, Justina Voulgaris, Thane Williams

Central Washington Chapter

Lisa Renan

Columbia Basin Chapter

Jerry Benson, Len Pavelka, Freda Tepfer

Koma Kulshan Chapter

Paul Greenough, Jean Lauer, Keith Poynter, Inge Reuter

Northeast Chapter

Jacie Jensen and Family

Okanogan Chapter

Judith Moses

Olympic Chapter

Jean Haugsten, Mary Mullarky

Salal Chapter

John D. Bame, Berry and Jeff Browne (Gift of Dimity O'Neil), Eugenia Hennessey, Marla Jupp, Sandy and Dan Koffman, Katy Norton, Inge Reuter

San Juan Islands Chapter

Linda Hudson, Dana Nicole Kinsey, Inge Reuter

South Sound Chapter

Robin Baird, Christy Barton, Gary Geddes, Alice Herbert, David and Laura Pond, Melissa Rathbun-Holstein, Tina Taylor

Suksdorfia Chapter

Janice Ferguson and George Gross, Julie Lockwood



Thank you for your generosity

2007 donations through 3/29/2007

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A special thanks to all who have given through their workplace.*

Donations to the Endowment

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In Honor of the Marriage of Laura Potash and Scott Martin

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In Memory of Wilbur Saxton

Darrell and Melanie Saxton

Warren and Loraine Sund

* We wish to apologize to any who have generously given to WNPS at the workplace, but are not listed. 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, Washington State (including UW and WSU), King County, City of Seattle and other govern-

mental 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

Join the Washington Native Plant Society

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐ Change of Address

Membership Category (Membership includes one chapter affiliation)

☐ \$15 Budget	☐ \$50 WNPS Friend
☐ \$25 Individual Membership	☐ \$100 WNPS Special Friend
☐ \$35 Family Membership	☐ \$500 WNPS Best Friend
☐ \$50 Club/Institution	☐ \$1,000 WNPS Sustaining Member
☐ \$5 Each additional chapter	☐ \$5,000 WNPS Patron
	☐ Donation \$ _____

Chapter Affiliation

☐ Central Puget Sound (Seattle)	☐ Palouse (Pullman, inactive)
☐ Central Washington (Yakima/Ellensburg)	☐ Salal (Skagit Valley)
☐ Columbia Basin (TriCities)	☐ San Juan
☐ Koma Kulshan (Bellingham)	☐ South Sound (Olympia)
☐ Northeastern Washington (Spokane)	☐ Suksdorfia (Vancouver, WA)
☐ Okanogan	☐ Wenatchee Valley
☐ Olympic Peninsula	☐ At-Large

Make checks payable to:
WNPS
6310 NE 74th Street, Suite 215E
Seattle, WA 98115

Washington Native Plant Society Directory

Officers & Elected Directors

(Director's term follows name)

President

Dean Longrie 2004-2007
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

Dr. Elizabeth Binney 2005-2008
PO Box 4398
Bellingham, WA 98227-4398
(360) 671-2317
atsi2@fidalgo.net

Treasurer

Scott Moore 2005-2008
7009 23rd Ave NW
Seattle, WA 98117-5630
(206) 784-4471
skirpus@msn.com

Secretary

Linda Storm, 2006-2009
3744 SW Ida St.
Seattle, WA 98126-3242
(206) 935-0419
lstorm61@aol.com

Walt Lockwood 2006-2009
9007 Shearwater Rd.
Bellingham, WA 98230-5705
(360) 371-3161
siggielock@comcast.net

Mike Marsh 2006-2007
3434 14th Ave W
Seattle, WA 98119-1613
(206) 281-8976
swamp@blarg.net

Brian Miller 2004-2007
4210 E. Woolard Ct
Colbert, WA 99005
(509) 238-3130
bcmiller@earthlink.net

Jane Wentworth 2004-2007
8901 Woodbank Dr NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110-3486
(206) 842-7178
janew@ckwentworth.com

Standing Committees

Conservation

John Browne, Jr, *Chair*
20929 111th Ave SW
Vashon, WA 98070
206-463-9641
jb4juddcreek@webtv.net

Susan Alaynick
s_alaynick@hotmail.com
Janelle Downs
sagejld@aol.com
Mike Marsh

swamp@blarg.net
Wendy McClure
wendymac3@earthlink.net
Linda Storm
lstorm61@aol.com
George Wooten
george232@centurytel.net

Education

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

Diane Doss
Ddoss@spscc.ctc.edu

Toni Fitzgerald
tjfitz@wsu.edu

Joan Frazee
jfrazee@fs.fed.us

Russell Link
linkrel@dfw.wa.gov

Plant Inventory and Research

Pam Camp, *Chair*
1014 Westmorland
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 663-5491
Pamela_Camp@or.blm.gov

Dr. Elizabeth Binney
atsi2@fidalgo.net

Dr. Peter Dunwiddie
pdunwiddie@tnc.org

Terry Lillybridge
tlillybridge@fs.fed.us

Lou Messmer
lmessmer@reachone.com

Dr. Sarah Reichard
reichard@u.washington.edu

Editorial Board

Chair, Kathy Murray
kandmmurray@verizon.net

Joe Arnett
joseph.arnett@wadnr.gov

David Giblin
dgiblin@u.washington.edu

Dr. Art Kruckeberg
ark@u.washington.edu

Linda Storm
lstorm61@aol.com

Anna Thurston
a.thurston@worldnet.att.net

Mark Turner
mark@turnerphotographics.com

Fred Weinmann
fweinmann@cablespeed.com

Fundraising

Chair, Vacant

Elizabeth Binney
atsi2@fidalgo.net

Tom Johnson
tfjohns@u.washington.edu

Dr. Steve Link
Slink@tricity.wsu.edu

Helen Roberts
robertsh@earthlink.net

Anna Thurston
a.thurston@worldnet.att.net

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
5749 29th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98105-5521
(206) 524-5564

Chapter Chairs

Central Puget Sound

Chrys Bertolotto
13230 6th Ave NW
Seattle, WA 98177-4011
(206) 568-1802
chrysb@peoplepc.com

Central Washington

Charles Hawkins
106 E 17th Ave
Ellensburg, WA 98926-2518
(509) 962-2669
hawkinsc@cwu.edu

Columbia Basin

Robert J. Fortman
70301 2410 PR SE
Kennewick, WA 99337-7739
(509) 582-0105
robertjfortman@aol.com

Koma Kulshan

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

Northeast Washington

Lawton Fox
2027 E 18th Ave
Spokane, WA 99203-3748
(509) 534-6682
lawton@spokanefalls.edu

Okanogan

Denny O'Callaghan
PO Box 129
Winthrop, WA 98862-0129
(509) 996-3515
dmocallaghan@methownet.com

Olympic Peninsula

Wendy McClure, *Co-chair*
PO Box 395
Poulsbo, WA 98370-0395
(360) 779-3820
wendymac3@earthlink.net

Sharon Schlentner, *Co-chair*
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

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 Hovanik
Administrator
wnps@wnps.org

Linda Ellis
Office & Program Assistant
lindaellis@wnps.org

www.wnps.org



San Juan Islands

Terry Domico
c/o PUGET SOUND BioSURVEY
PO Box 2012
Friday Harbor, WA 98250-2012
(360) 378-3105
biosurvey@mail.com
naturalist@australiainmail.com

South Sound

Anna Thurston
227 Contra Costa Ave
Fircrest, WA 98466
(253) 566-3342
a.thurston@worldnet.att.net

Wenatchee Valley

Julie Sanderson
942 Highland Dr.
Wenatchee, WA 98801-3408
(509) 548-4384
sanderson@genext.net

Palouse

inactive

Suksdorfia

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The Washington Native Plant Society is an affiliate of Earth Share of Washington.

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6310 NE 74th Street, Suite 215E
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