1603 Capitol Ave., #325
Cheyenne, WY 82001
18 May, 1981

WYOMING NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWS LETTER, Vol 1 #1

As of this date, the following 23 people are paid members of WNPS:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ann Aldrich | Patrick Boles | Tim Clark & D. Casey |
| Francis Current | Erwin Evert | Ronald Hartman |
| June Haines | Robert Lichvar | Dave Martin |
| Larry Morse | Burrel Nelson | Maribeth Patrick |
| Theresa Rooney | Phyllis Roseberry | Maryln J. Samuel |
| Richard Scott | Don Shute | Mark Stromberg |
| Jenifer Whipple | Philip White | Linda Williamson |
| Ray Umber | Andrew Youngblood | |

This will be the last newsletter sent to those who have not paid membership dues.

In the recent election, all proposed by-laws changes were approved. The following people were elected as officers and board members:

da prez:
Robert Wayne Lichvar
1216 W. 31 st St.
Cheyenne, WY 82001

Vice-Prez
Ronald Hartman
Botany Dept., Univ. of Wyoming
Laramie, WY 82001

Secretary-Treasurer
Don Shute
1815 Seymour Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001

2-year Board Member
Dick Scott
Central Wyoming College
Riverton, WY 82501

1-year Board Member
Mark Stromberg
1517 E. 16th St.
Cheyenne, WY 82001

Our articles of incorporation are being rewritten by Phil White.

Be reminded that the WNPS first annual meeting will be held on the 27th and 28th of June at Castle Gardens, Fremont County. The meeting will begin at 3pm on Saturday the 27th. If you plan on attending this rendezvous, don't forget to bring along water, food, and camping gear. The privies and picnic tables are provided. One of the main points of discussion will be the goals and direction of our society. Please come with suggestionsas to what type of involvements the society should pursue. After we reach a concensus, we will put together a one-page promotional description of the society for potential members.

PLANT NEWZ

On the 18th of March, 1981, five botanists from Wyoming and one from Colorado sent two petitions to the Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Endangered Species (FWS-OES) in Washington, D.C. Both Sphaeromeria simplex and Agrostis rossiae were candidate species listed in the recent Federal Register of December 15, 1980, as category 1. This category is the FWS-OES highest ranking for species to be considered for listing. A response from FWS-OES on May 1, 1981, replied that they intended to proceed with proposing these species for listing (?). The rulemaking packages needed to list these species were prepared for these species one year ago. Hopefully, something will happen in the near future.

The Natural Resources Defense Council recently sent us a memo on proposed changes in the Lacey Act, which protects wildlife. The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works recently passed an amendment changing the criminal penalty provisions to insure that minor or inadvertant violators are not penalized

too severely. These portions apply to plants as well. This amendment has won the support of all major conservation organizations, state fish and game agencies and the National Rifle Assoc., and deserves our support as well. The next hurdle is the Senate Judiciary committee, which must consider the Lacey Act Amendments before 11 June. Opponents feel that the penalties are still too strong.

Quoting from the NRDC memo: "It would probably be best to support the bill in general and not to emphasize the new plant provisions in order to avoid creating controversy over them. It is crucial that this (Judiciary) Committee report the bill out promptly with no changes. Please write to members of the Committee, listed below, in support of the bill. Once again, it is probably best not to draw attention to the plant provisions, with one very important exception. DeConcini, who is co-sponsoring the bill because it will assist Arizona's cactus cops, should be warned that an amendment proposed by Symms (Idaho) yesterday would have the effect of eliminating Arizona's (and neighboring states') cactus permit programs from Lacey Act protection. These programs are not endangered species acts, so they are currently included only because cacti are on the CITES appendices. Symms proposed that Lacey not cover species portected by other Federal law, including CITES. Senator Thurmond may offer a similar amendment in the Judiciary Committee. Simpson and Baucus have already supported the bill in the Environment and Public Works Committee; you may wish to urge them to remain steadfast."

Western states' senators in the Judiciary Committee: Paul Laxalt, Nev; Orrin Hatch, Utah; Alan Simpson, Wyo; Dennis DeConcini, Ariz; and Max Baucus, Mont. They can all be addressed at the Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

Don Shute
Bob Lichvar



Wyoming Native Plant Society
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