



The Acorn

*Serving the South Sound Chapter of the
Washington Native Plant Society*

Fall 2007

How Was Your Summer? by Kevin Head

Hello Native Plant Enthusiasts... This summer I have been blessed to travel throughout our state, journeying from our coast to the Idaho state line, from the border of Canada to the Columbia River Gorge - over 2500 miles in our Prius, and we hiked over 250 miles. My wife, Julia Brayshaw, and I visited seven wilderness areas, two National Parks, three roadless areas, two federal scenic and recreation areas, and one Natural Area Preserve. We did 43 separate hikes with eleven of those hikes under backpacks.

We specifically went searching for wildflower meadows, and with this year's Washington venture we succeeded. We found incredible meadows, many of which were white-flowering, trillions of bugs and thousands of forested acres infested with bark beetles and spruce-bud worms. I'll address each of these topics while I keep my story focus on the beauty that we witnessed.

Our early summer trips happened in late June and early July, and took us throughout the south and east Cascades through the Kettle Range and Washington's "Rocky Mountains" - the Selkirk's. In particular, I wanted to see five of our six *Calochortus*



Figure 1

blooming in early summer. We ended up seeing four with excellent showings of *C. longebarbatus* (Long bearded Mariposa), (Fig. 1) in a wet meadow in the Klickitat Wildlife Area on

June 24th. They were a beautiful violet color about a foot tall interspersed with *Triteleia hyacinthina* (White Hyacinth). This *Calochortus* is not mentioned in either Turner's or Larrison's Books.

Julia's excellent book of monograms, *Medicine of Place* highlights *C. macrocarpus* (Sagebrush



Figure 2

Mariposa), (Fig. 2.) We typically see it in one area off Highway 20 west of Omak. The locality is a small shrub-steppe habitat next to an agricultural field. We stopped here and found many bloom-

ing on June 28th. One mile further towards Omak (across from the pullout describing the cattle wars in the area) is a DNR property. It had acres of the Sagebrush Mariposa. There were too many to count. The color variation of the flowers was incredible, ranging from white to violet to rose. They filled the airy spaces between the sagebrush with a majestic presence. *Lupinus sericeus* (Silky Lupine) and *Orthocarpus luteus* (Yellow Owl's Clover) were also present and afforded some beautiful photos. We continued to see many Sagebrush Mariposas throughout the shrub-steppe areas as we traveled. The displays were the most abundant in my twenty years of hiking in eastern Washington's arid lands.

We also saw *C. lyallii* (Lyall's Mariposa) throughout the Eastern slopes of the North Cascades and a few *C. subalpinus* (Mountain Mariposa) in the Trapper Peak Wilderness north of the Columbia Gorge. Much to our disappointment, our search for *C. apiculatus* (Baker's Mariposa) came up blank. We looked throughout Pend Oreille County in N.E. Washington in all the right habitat but didn't see any. All the rangers acted as if I was crazy looking for a flower. They had no idea of where it was or what it even was.

Colorado, California, Utah, Montana, and Wyoming all experienced drought followed by fire, so choosing hikes in Washington's mountains was easy for us this year. The whole west was in drought except for our NW corner of the world where

moisture was normal to above normal. Snow-melt was going well in our state, however, storms that occurred in November and January closed numerous Washington trailheads and made many of the trails we had hoped to hike unreachable. Blow-downs and blown out bridges also narrowed our travel choices to a few spots. And, on many of our trips the bugs (mosquitoes, black flies, no-see-ums and deer flies) made wild-flower viewing almost impossible. On three trips, we gave up and barricaded ourselves in the tent, just at that magic moment of the evening. It reminded me of times in my youth in the woods of Maine and Wisconsin. I personally think the unusual July rains, combined with hot temperatures, created unusual conditions with which the bugs thrived. Because the Northwest is not known for bugs like this, I wonder if this is a climate change pattern to expect.

Likewise, this year's meadows were unusually dominated with white-flowering plants, including bistort, cow parsnip, valerian, beargrass and pasque flowers, (*image on cover of newsletter.*) Although we saw lots of leaves, we rarely saw lupines blooming - only on Sahale Arm in the North Cascades National Park on August 4th and in the Kettle range in early July. Not too many Paintbrushes, or Arnicas either. Many meadows in the Salmo-Priest Wilderness (7/2), Hurricane Hill in the Olympics (7/10), Cloudy Pass (7/26) and Spider Meadow (7/28) in the Glacier Peak Wilderness and at Marmot Pass (8/2) and Horseshoe Basin (8/3) in the North Cascades National Park appeared fully white. We didn't go to Mt. Rainer or the Goat Rocks for their meadows this year so if you found different meadows in those areas I'd like to hear about it.

While colors were muted in our meadows, I was excited to see scree fields and trail sides ablaze with penstemons, paintbrushes, arnica and many different saxifrages. We loved experiencing both penstemons,

P. procerus and *P. serrulatus* and watching the bees do their work.

Alternately, the most insidious process we witnessed was the browning of our Eastern Cascades under the wrath of bark beetles, spruce bud worm and the pine rust. With whole forests turning brown or bare, fire will surely follow and our high country will have a very different look and feel. All through our mountains dying trees (*Fig 3.*) seem to tell us something is out of balance, or at least in the midst of radical change. I personally feel quite sad about it since I perceive this moment to be an important barometer of our collective human condition; one that I hope will be honored and accepted.

All of it reminded me how important it is to witness our quickly changing world. Nothing will replace the feeling of being in flower meadows, enjoying the breeze, glacier cloaked peaks and the music of a mountain stream. My hope is that all of us will have mountain memories and sweet flower-filled thoughts as we respond in a good way to the rapid changes around us.



Regional Activities

WNPS Partners with Major Ecological Conference, September 25-28

For the first time, WNPS will be a conference partner at a major PNW Ecological Restoration Conference this fall. The Conference, organized and managed by the Society for Ecological Restoration Northwest and the Society for Wetland Scientists (Pacific Northwest Chapter) is a joint conference this year and is attended by scientists and restoration ecologists from throughout the Pacific Northwest. The Conference is a program of oral presentations and posters that create an opportunity for wetland scientists and restorationists to exchange information and knowledge to conserve, enhance, and restore ecosystems of the Columbia Basin and the Pacific Northwest.

This year WNPS is sponsoring a shrub-steppe session and is supporting 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: http://www.ser.org/sernw/conference_07.asp

Regional Activities

Grazing Lands Forum September 26

The Washington Native Plant Society invites you to learn more about public lands grazing in Washington.

The history of permitting grazing on state lands and the science behind this practice will be explored, as will recent changes in state policy as they affect the present position. Panelists will discuss the potential impacts and benefits of grazing, and how wildlife and the native flora may be affected. The importance to livestock ranchers of gaining access to these lands will also receive attention.



The Grazing Lands Forum is being held in conjunction with the Society for Ecological Restoration NW and the Society for Wetland Scientists (PNW) Annual Conference. Conference Participants and the Public are Welcome

The event takes place September 26, 2007, 7:30 - 9:30 pm at the Yakima Convention Center. There is no charge to attend the Forum.

For more information contact:

Mike Marsh, Conservation CoChair
Washington Native Plant Society
206-281-8976
email: swamp@blarg.net

Participating Panelists Represent:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Natural Resources
Range and Plant Ecology
Washington Cattlemen's Association
Yakima Valley Audubon Society

TNC Prairie Discussion & Potluck! October 3

Summer is almost over and it's just about time for the next meeting among the South Puget Sound Prairie Working Group as regularly hosted by The Nature Conservancy. Plant propagation is our next theme of interest. There will be several speakers, followed by potluck lunch and a site visit to Shotwell's Landing.

WHEN: October 3 from 9:30 am - 3 pm
WHERE: Possie Hall, 5949 Maytown Road, Littlerock
SITE VISIT: in afternoon to Shotwell's Landing
BRING: your favorite dish. TNC will provide beverages.

To read an interesting article about TNC restorations activities happening at the 42 acre Shotwell's Landing, visit: <http://www.theolympian.com/127/story/82094.html>.

For more information about the potluck, contact: Gabby Byrne at
The Nature Conservancy: 360-357-6280; gbyrne@TNC.ORG

US EPA Targeted Watershed Initiative Grants October 17 Pacific Northwest Success Stories Via Satellite and Videostream October 17, 2007 9:00 - 11:30 AM (PST)

The sixth Watershed Issues Series gives a glimpse into the approaches of three partnerships that are making a difference in the water quality in their streams. Dedicated landowners, fishermen, timber owners, and ranchers have met at tables in Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington to find common interests and are working toward sustainable industries and habitat futures.

US EPA's Targeted Watershed Initiative Grant, is the focus of the workshop. The Grant, first awarded in 2001, was highly competitive and demanding. Awardees had to have had working partnerships before application, projects that could show real progress within the first year of funding were crucial and multi-jurisdictional partnerships required. Each of the Northwest groups included local non-profits, Tribal governments, Conservation Districts or NRCS, the Forest Service, and watershed councils at the planning table.

To join in this salute to watershed-based habitat renewal and protection, please call your local extension office to reserve a seat for the workshop. The workshop will be available by Videostream and satellite downlink to increase the accessibility for all north westerners. For further information, please contact Jan Seago at seago.jan@epa.gov or 206-553-0038, or visit the website: <http://www.pnwwaterweb.com/>.

Chair Report

Building a Vision Around Nature

The slanting afternoon light highlights an aerie of insects as I write this article. From this scene, I can sense that the summer season is nearing its end. I am especially enjoying the way this light enhances the gold tones of prairie and ornamental grasses in my garden, while it imbues ethereal colors to the plants that are situated between me and the sunlight. In between spells of relaxation, such as this visual foray, work-related reading and computer numbness, I have been thinking about ways to keep the energy flowing for the WNPS.

Whether your involvement with the South Sound Chapter or with the WNPS is a result of this newsletter, our field trips and presentations, or through a volunteer's contributions to the process of our mission: to promote the appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through study, education and advocacy, we owe many thanks to the people who make our organization, and the WNPS organization attractive to you, the member. Although volunteer involvement to coordinate our chapter activities is declining, our membership is holding steady, if not increasing slightly. As always... **we need your help!**

One event that members will want to sign up for (if not as volunteers, as attendees) will be the WNPS 2008 Study Weekend. Rod Gilbert, our resident prairie plant expert is holding true to his earlier offer to coordinate this significant effort. We'll also see involvement from people who have been active in the re-creation of the Suksdorfia chapter on the southwestern corner of our state, including Sidne Kneeland and Dean Longrie. Already, we have tentative plans to hold this entertaining three-day event in Olympia, with a focus on our low-land prairies for many of our field trips. If you'd like to participate, be sure to contact Rod Gilbert at 360-918-1973, or by e-mail at: rodgilbert1@comcast.net.

In the absence of a presentation coordinator, I'm hoping you will also like the selection of speakers that I have pulled together for this fall's meetings. These are more like social gatherings; or chocolate, if you will, with different flavors of origin and qualities that are hard to explain unless you taste them for yourself (thanks to Helen Hepp for confirming the continuation of my involvement as Chair with plenty of this wonderful ambrosia!). And, if you missed our summer newsletter, it was because that job, too, went un-fulfilled.

***Acer circinatum*,
Vine Maple**



Adding a layer of sound to my visual meditation are 10-12 bushtits flitting through my garden foliage – bush, to tree, to bush – making their second circle through my garden today, as they do every day. I love hearing their peeping as they snatch morsels from the crooks of leaves and branches, and imagine their twittering as repeated excitement regarding the supply of yummy bugs in my garden...

This scene is punctuated by the gliding entry of four Stellar jays (all of them recently fledged from a nest in the back yard), and then by the piercing call of a red shafted flicker. I don't mind that the jays are beating me to the hazel nuts on the shrub-cluster they planted for me near the corner. Over the years, I've pruned this grouping into a multi-stemmed tree that hides the street scene behind it. It is lazy moments like this when I am grateful my many pursuits mandate an exemption hard-core landscape management. The result has been a peaceful garden that attracts magnificent creatures! I can also rest assured they won't be poisoned or exposed to disease while they thrive in this place. The plants are either native to their situations, or are naturalized and indifferent to my stinginess about water and chemicals. So first-hand, I again witness the benefits and magic of the task to which I have committed myself.

Perhaps you will join me so that you too can reap the benefits of the process while encouraging others to catch a glimpse of our vision. Call me if I have convinced you.

Anna Thurston, Chair Anna Thurston, Chair,
253-566-3342 a.thurston@worldnet.att.net

Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us or we find it not.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Volunteer Opportunities

WNPS Study Weekend — Volunteers Needed Now!

News has it that the 2007 Study Weekend held in Bellingham was a success! That means we have our work cut out for us as we take on this fun event in 2008 in [tentative] collaboration with the recently revived Suksdorfia Chapter. But, we have certain details to our benefit, including a unique area of study, good leadership from experts who are most intimately familiar with it, input from past program coordinators, as well as alignment with the Glacial Heritage group to coordinate our distinct prairie field trips and lectures so that they enhance and reinforce one another.

This annual social/educational gathering brings together members and friends for meals, outings and plenty of opportunities for exchange and learning about western Washington's incredible array of native plants. You can attend, or you can show your commitment to the preservation and understanding of our local flora by volunteering your time before and during the event (details are in the make - for more information, contact Rod Gilbert at: rodgilbert1@comcast.net or by phone at 360-918-1973.

Mark your calendars for the 1st weekend in May, 2008 (including that Friday) for the annual WNPS Study Weekend, which will examine Puget Sound Low-lands Prairies in detail!

Help Revegetate Mt. Rainier

Summer has been in full swing at Mount Rainier National Park, as is a lot of new road construction and repair. Following construction, seeds collected by the Mount Rainier revegetation and volunteer crews are distributed to repopulate areas disturbed by construction and to prevent erosion.

Once again, we'd love to have volunteer help to collect seeds. We will need help through late September, most often on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We will be working primarily on Highway 123, Highway 410, Stevens Canyon Road, the Nisqually to Paradise Road and the Paradise Meadows.

Those interested in collecting along Highways 123 and 410, and the lower (east) end of Stevens Canyon Road should contact Ali Paulson; those interested in collecting along the upper end of Stevens Canyon Road near Paradise and the Paradise Meadows should contact Josh Drown; those interested in collecting along the Nisqually to Paradise road should contact Libby Roberts (see contact info below). Most seed collection will be along roadsides that may or may not have traffic and construction vehicles passing by, and volunteers will be required to wear reflective safety vests, which will be provided.

The Greenhouse and Seed Collection Crew,

Ali Paulson: Alison_Paulson@nps.gov
Josh Drown: Josh_Drown@nps.gov
Libby Roberts: Libby_Roberts@nps.gov

***Claytonia cordifolia*,**
Broad-leaved Spring Beauty



Plant Sales

Chase Garden Fall Plant Sale

September 22-23, 10 am - 3 pm
16015 264th St E, Orting
(3.5 miles east of SR 161)

Free garden admission to customers; carpooling is recommended. Multiple vendors, container gardens, dried flowers, native collection. www.chasegarden.org
206-242-4040

Native Plant Sale

October 6, 10 am - 4 pm
Tacoma Nature Center
1919 South Tyler, Tacoma

Fall is a great time of year to do your planting and the Tacoma Nature Center is the place to be for your native plant needs in October. We'll have groundcovers, shrubs, trees, and more to help you landscape your yard with plants that are native to our area. Planting natives ensures the conservation of our precious water resources and provides habitat for local birds, mammals and insects. A list of available plants will be posted on the Tacoma Nature Center website <http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/page.php?id=20> by 10 am on October 5. Come early for the best selection of plants!

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Plant Sales

Waterwise Plant Sale

October 14th, 11 am - 4 pm
2918 Ferguson St SW Suite A
Tumwater WA 98512

WSU Thurston County Extension Native Plant Salvage Project's fall plant sale will feature hard-to-find native and waterwise plants. The event will be held under cover and take place rain or shine at our office in Tumwater. This is both an educational event and a fund raiser including mini-courses and personal plant shoppers to help you select great plants for your garden. We're also seeking volunteers for pre-sale organizing and/or help on the day of the event. If you want to help or have questions, please contact Erica at ericaguttman@gmail.com or ericag@wsu.edu, or call 360-754-3588 ext.110.

WNPS Central Chapter Fall Sale of Native Seeds, Bulbs, & Plants

October 20th, 10-4 Bldg. 30
Magnuson Park in Seattle

This year, we're making a big effort to increase the amount of bulbs and seeds available, as demand has outstripped supply in the past. Bulbs will likely include *Allium*, *Brodiaea*, *Camassia*, *Fritillaria*, *Iris*, *Lilium*, and *Sisyrinchium* plus anything else we can get our hands on! We hope to have 2-3 dozen species of seeds, and a good selection of plants from ferns to trees. A list of species available will be posted at the www.wnps.org website, several weeks before the sale. If you have native seed to spare, we'd love to make the most of it on behalf of the WNPS - and its Central Chapter! Please note that we ask that donations include provenance information if possible; but "garden provenance" is acceptable.

A map of the sale location will also be posted at www.wnps.org, (under Plant Sales). There's plenty of free parking (but carpool if you can). Questions should be directed to the sale chair, Kathleen Winters, at kathl@scn.org. If you might like to volunteer, either at the sale or at the nursery ahead of time, please call Jan Hunt at janmaxwa@comcast.net or 425-806-0118.



Antennaria neglecta, Field Pussytoes

Vaccinium membranaceum,
Thinleaf Huckleberry



Salvage Events

Digging Native Plants

Fall is upon us, and with it great weather for digging native plants! Join the Native Plant Salvage Alliance (serving Pierce County) as they gather plant materials that would otherwise be lost to development at a variety of salvage events. After digging on behalf of the Green Tacoma Partnership, volunteers are invited to dig for themselves. OR, consider helping to pot-up the plants that people have salvaged at the Alliance's newest holding facility in Puyallup!

FALL SALVAGE EVENTS:

- Saturday, September 22; 10 am - 2 pm
Graham - Forest margin perennials & shrubs
- Saturday, October 6; 9 am - 2 pm
Bonney Lake - Forest perennials & shrubs
- Saturday, October 22; 9 am - 2 pm
Graham - Forest perennials & shrubs
- Sunday, November 4; 9 am - 2 pm; Location TBD
- Sunday, December 2; 9 am - 2 pm; Location TBD

FALL PROPAGATION ACTIVITIES:

- Saturday, September 29; 10 am - 2 pm; Bellarmine
- Thursday, October 11; 10 am - 2 pm; PCD - Puyallup
- Thursday, October 25; 10 am - 2 pm; PCD - Puyallup
- Friday, November, 9; 10 am - 2 pm; PCD - Puyallup

If you are interested in participating in any of these events, please RSVP to Anna Thurston at anna.thurston@sstewardship.org, or by phone at 253-566-3342, with your name, mailing address and phone number(s), as well as an e-mail address where we can send to you additional details about the event. For more information visit our website at www.sstewardship.org.

It is not how much you do, but how much love you put into the doing that matters.

Mother Theresa

South Sound Regional Activities

Straight Talk on the Cross-Base Highway **by Bryan Flint, Executive Director; Tahoma Audubon**

Note: For those of you who have been following the sometimes contentious Cross Base Highway debate, you may have been taken by surprise at the turn of events. Eleventh hour negotiations culminated in a delay of the decision regarding the construction of this road well into the future. The following letter by Krystal Kyer, Education Coordinator at Tahoma Audubon, has been included here to help people understand the ramifications of the decision, as well as the overall highway proposal. We hope that WNPS members and others will pay attention to this issue since it is in our chapter's region of influence. The more educated we can become about the consequences this road would have upon our local prairie environment, the more effective we can be in responding to it publicly. --AT--

The Cross-Base Highway, that infamous proposed new road that would connect I-5 in Lakewood to 176th, has been the subject of, literally, years and years of debate, argument, and frustration for Tahoma Audubon members. Finally, on the last day of May the Cross Base Highway Coalition achieved success many of us never truly thought possible: we got the proposed road removed from the Regional Transformation Investment District (RTID) roads package.

If that was so, why did we accept a compromise on a project that crosses the Fort Lewis Important Bird Area, Audubon Springs, and Spanaway Marsh? Pierce County Executive John Ladenburg, unwilling to accept our success, threatened to resign from his position of Sound Transit board chair, and veto the entire roads and transit package if cross-base was not included. Executive Ladenburg is a skilled, tenacious, and stubborn politician. By the time it came to a final vote at the RTID Planning Committee meeting on June 8th, it was apparent that the political will was gone, and potentially our victory.

Instead, we faced the very real threat of seeing cross-base returned to the package, fully funded, and built. This was not an option we could stand for. Through our hard work over the past year's RTID open-houses and testimony, letters to the editors, the RTID board and Pierce County Council could not deny that we were a force to be reckoned with, and a real threat to the chances of this package passing in November. This fact put RTID in a compromised position, and therefore they initiated a negotiation process with environmental groups in the wee hours the night before the final vote.

Reality √. We had two options:

A) Walk away and deal with a roads package that included funding for cross-base highway and end up campaigning against the otherwise good transportation package (60% of money will be spent on mass transit, not roads!), and file a second costly lawsuit, or

B) Negotiate a deal that is in our favor: a mediation process set to begin in 2009 when Ladenburg is out of office, keep all options on the table for solving this transportation corridor problem, and have the real opportunity to prevent this environmentally destructive highway from ever being built. And we still have, in our back pocket, the right to pursue a fully-funded lawsuit after negotiations start.

Obviously, we took option B. Yes, there is funding for cross-base in the package, but no, it isn't enough to complete the project. Furthermore, none of the money earmarked for cross-base highway can be spent on it until after a successful mediation process occurs (and if we agree that building that road in that location is the best solution).

The difficult thing in explaining our rationale, is that the media and the county executive can claim victory on the face of it (because cross-base is in the package), but looking at the details reveals that the highway is far from a done deal. Tahoma Audubon has fought to protect the wetlands and

oak-woodland prairie habitat on Fort Lewis for over a decade, and you can be assured we aren't about to stop now!

Notes from the Chair: Editorials about this environmental volley can be found at the WNPS website under: <http://www.southsoundchapterwnps.org/news/news-fortlewis.htm>.

Surprise? The Army's Going Green!

Sustainability is an increasingly popular business philosophy for organizations that are interested in the long term viability of the human species. If applied holistically, the concept can work to unite the ecological, community, and mission (or economic) systems of an organization to achieve a sustainable existence at a high quality over the long term. The Fort Lewis Army facility in Pierce County has been implementing a sustainable approach to their operations since February 2002, and is one of the leaders for the Army in this service-wide undertaking.

...concluded page 8

South Sound Regional Activities

Army's Going Green concluded: Paul Steucke, Chief of the Environmental Division at Fort Lewis, recently presented the Fort Lewis Sustainability Program to members of the City Club in Tacoma. Mr. Steucke described why taking a sustainable approach to operations is important to a military installation, specifically Fort Lewis, and showed the progress the fort has made to date, while describing improvements planned for the future. For more information about Fort Lewis Sustainability activities, please contact Inger Schmidt-Gruhn, Ft. Lewis Sustainability Contract Coordinator at inger.gruhn@us.army.mil.

Good News for WNPS!

The Starflower Foundation has selected WNPS to be the recipient of their educational materials and work on native plants and restoration. This is comprised mostly of a very large database on native plants (primarily western Washington species) with over 1,000 images and information on their identification, ecology, and uses within the landscape.

The Starflower Foundation will be sunsetting at the end of this year and wants to ensure that the work they have done lives on and is a resource to all those working on native plant restoration and native plant landscaping. You can read more about the Starflower Foundation and its founder Ann Lennartz in your winter issue of *Douglasia* (2007). Ann was a long time member of WNPS.

Starflower has contracted with Ben Legler to take this image and reference database and create webpages for the Washington Native Plant Society's website. Many of you are already familiar with Ben Legler's work on the UW Herbarium's Plants of Washington image database. [Details are] still being refined [with support from] Ben [who] is working with Michelle and myself for the integration of about 200 pages for as many species. ...any unforeseen costs Starflower will cover the costs for having this content on our website.

[Starflower sees] the WNPS as a recognized resource for information on native plants and felt our website would be the best place for this valuable information to reside. So its what they call one of those "win/win" situations.

WNPS 2008 Photo Calendars!!



Photos featured for our second photo calendar were winners of the 2007 WNPS photo contest. Nearly 200 photos were viewed by a committee overseen by long term members and photographers Ellen Kuhlmann and Mark Turner. This calendar represents another year of exceptional photos.

This year's extraordinary cover photo is by Olympic Chapter member, Don Paulson. Every month you'll find an extraordinary photo of Washington native plants to remind you of all of the special places Washington has to offer the wildflower enthusiast.

Help support the WNPS by purchasing this great publication. Calendar cost is \$10.00. Shipping costs \$2.00.

You can save on shipping!

The WNPS 2007 Wildflower Calendar will be on sale before/after South Sound Chapter Meetings. Calendars that we sell at meetings allow our chapter to keep \$5.00/unit!

WNPS Photo Calendar Order Form

Please send me the 2007 WNPS Photo Calendar:

Shipping costs:

_____ X \$10 = _____

_____ X \$ 2 = _____

Total _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

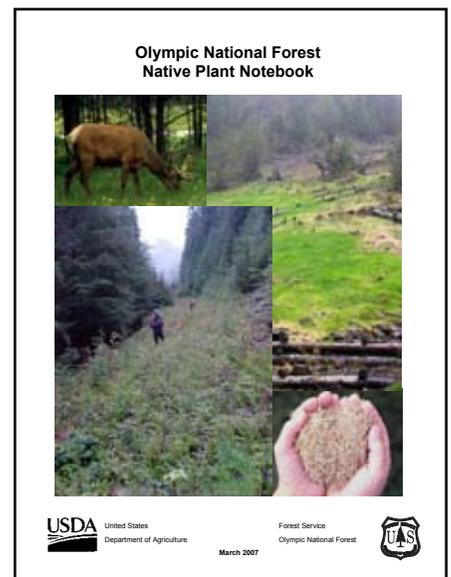
MAIL ORDER FORM TO:
Washington Native Plant Society
6310 NE 74th St., Ste. 215E
Seattle, WA 98115
(expect delivery within 2 weeks.)

Native Plant Resources

Native Plant Handbook

Looking for information on native plant collection, propagation, and use? The Olympic National Forest native Plant notebook, developed by Laura Potash (Martin) and Carol Aubry, contains information that is broadly applicable across the Pacific NW region. It includes best plant materials and plant movement guidelines, road decommissioning and roadside treatments, species recommendations for wildlife forage, invasive plant treatments, and mulch and fertilizer information. Appendices include sample forms, contracts, survey results, and recommendations from the Native Seed Network and other supporting materials.

To download your own copy of the resource visit the website:
<http://www.miparks.org/OlympicNatives.htm>



Flora of North America Closer to Completion

More than 900 botanists, working as part of the Flora of North America project, have now cataloged more than half of the genera of higher plants native or naturalized in North America north of Mexico, and hope to finish by 2011. This is the first comprehensive and scientifically authoritative publication treating the 20,000+ species of plants in U.S. and Canada together.

Thirteen volumes have been published (including an introductory volume), one is being printed, and publication of two more is expected this year, out of a total of 30. The second volume of grasses (*Poaceae*, Volume 24) came out in early 2007, completing the monocotyledonous plants. The first of three volumes on mosses, liverworts, and hornworts is in press. Especially exciting was the publication of all three volumes on the sunflower family (*Asteraceae*, Vols. 19, 20, 21) last year. The treatments include identification keys, nomenclatural information, common names, descriptions, distributions (including maps), and discussions. Every genus and 1/3 to 1/6 of the species is illustrated.

The FNA makes many lifetimes of study, and the best knowledge from regional floras, available in print and electronically. Editorial centers are located at Missouri Botanical Garden, the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Université de Montréal, and University of Kansas. Authors base their work on knowledge of plants in the field, herbarium specimens, and review of the literature. The project also has a network of regional reviewers. Authors and editors work as volunteers; grants and donations support technical editors and botanical illustrators. The books are published by Oxford University Press--US and currently are on sale at the discounted price of \$76/volume (available at www.oup.com/us/fnaseries with promo code 25316). More information on Flora of North America and treatments from published volumes are available at www.fna.org.

WA Aquatic Nuisance Species Watch List

The Aquatic Nuisance Species Committee has completed the long-awaited Aquatic Nuisance Species Watch List for Washington. This web resource, which will be of interest to many WNPS Native Plant Stewards and other members, was coordinated by Pamala Meacham from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. You can access the list at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/nuisxsum.htm>.

The list serves as a quick reference tool to assist agency and public prevention, monitoring, and management decision making. The list is also useful for managing ANS in conjunction with the ANS Committee's state Early Detection and Rapid Response, plus ANS Management Plans, and will tie to Washington State Ecology's invasive species permit now being developed. Additionally, the list will help focus monitoring efforts and promote general education and awareness of various aquatic nuisance species and their impacts. Distribution of all listed species will further be tracked in an ANS database. Control or eradication then depends upon risk, opportunity, and resource availability.

More Native Plant Resources

Are House Cats an Invasive Species ?

Depending upon how one might house their beloved pets, yes, even cats are on the most wanted list of invasive species to invade the qualities that make the Pacific Northwest (and any place) so special... The U.S. government defines invasives as "an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health."

Invasive Species in the Pacific Northwest, edited by P. D. Boersma, S. H. Reichard, and A. N. and published by the Van Buren UW Press, in 2006, describes these species, how they got here, and the effects of their invasions on the region's environment. Each of 108 invasive species of fish, plants, invertebrates, mammals, and birds - including earthworms, domestic cats and pigs, blackberries, European fruit flies, Japanese eelgrass, Mediterranean mussels, rats, and terrestrial mollusks - is described in a 2-page spread that includes a full-color photograph of the species, a map showing the species' presence in the region, plus:

- Impact on communities and native species
- Control methods and management
- Life histories and species overview
- History of invasiveness

Included are suggestions to help reduce the spread of invasive species; habitat preferences of Pacific Northwest invasive species; the World Conservation Union (ICUN) list of the world's 100 most invasive alien species; and a questionnaire designed to evaluate ecological impact and invasive potential.

Invasive species have been recognized as an environmental issue since Charles Darwin's voyage on the H.M.S. Beagle. Editors including P. D. Boersma, S. E. Reichard, and A. N. Van Buren explore the intentional and accidental introductions of invasive species. Whether these species were deliberately brought to the Northwest for agricultural, horticultural, aquacultural, or hunting and fishing purposes, or accidentally introduced as stowaways and contaminants, knowledge about them is integral to the protection of our environment.

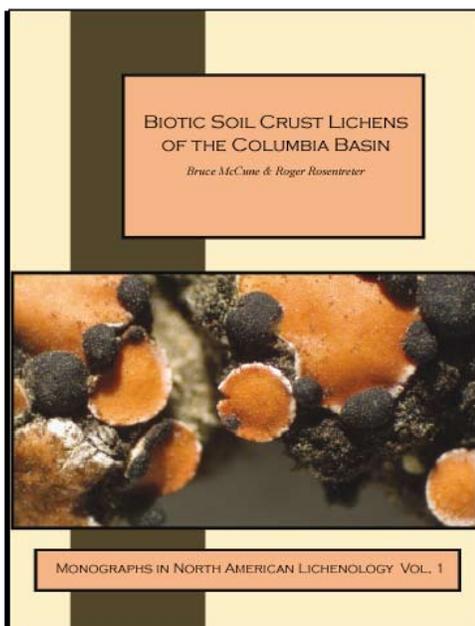
Ben Alexander, Sound Natives Nursery in Olympia, offered this review of *Invasive Species of the Pacific Northwest*: *This book is intended as sort-of a "coffee table book" in that there are descriptions of the 100 worst invasive species (all taxa) in the Pacific Northwest, with some general, specific and a bit of gee-whiz information about each species. Each description includes photos, a range map across the PNW, an overview of the impact of that species on communities and native species, history of invasiveness, and a quick management summary. The most interesting part of this book (for me) was how they decided on which species to include by using a ranking system similar to that used by NatureServe, Cal-IPC and others, which is described in detail in tables in the appendix.*

New Monograph on Lichens

NW Lichens is a non-profit organization which facilitates communication, meetings, and field trips among lichenologists throughout the Pacific Northwest of North America, including Alaska, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, northern California, Oregon, Washington, and western Alberta. Check out their latest resource favorite by McCune and Rosentreter on NW lichens, available at: <http://www.nwlichens.org/>. This paperback monograph titled *Biotic Soil Crust Lichens of the Columbia Basin* is fully illustrated in color and can be ordered at their website for \$30. Why write a book for identifying soil crust lichens? The NWL's have three reasons: (1) they are ecologically important, (2) they can be difficult to identify with existing sources, or they are omitted altogether, and (3) they should be more widely recognized for what they are. Check it out!

The possession of knowledge does not kill the sense of wonder and mystery. There is always more mystery.

Anais Nin



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The mission of the Washington Native Plant Society is to promote the appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through study, education, and advocacy.



Cloudy Pass - Glacier Peak Wilderness, 7/26/07. Photo by Kevin Head