



See all the photo contest winners beginning on page 8.



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Dates to remember

June 20-22, 2014:
INPS and Eriogonum Society Annual Meeting, Twin Falls

June 26-29, 2014:
2014 Idaho Botanical Foray to northern Nevada



IDAHO NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Volume 36 (1)

Articles contributed to Sage Notes reflect the views of the authors and are not an official position of the Idaho Native Plant Society.

Rare Plant Conference late, but still great

The 2013 Rare Plant Conference was delayed a few months thanks to the partial government shutdown last fall, but the wait was worth it.

Over the course of two days in late February, attendees discussed recommendations made by the Northern and Southern Idaho Rare Plant Working Groups and also heard presentations highlighting research and conservation projects.

"We heard a lot of good presentations," said Beth Corbin, conference coordinator. (We hope to bring summaries of some of those presentations to future issues of *Sage Notes*).

She also encouraged INPS members to join a rare plant working group or join in the INPS Rare Plant Working Group Forum. "Not everyone can travel (to the biennial Rare Plant Conference) but everyone can participate in the process."

Alexa DiNicola, from the College of Idaho, presented a step-by-step guide for submitting or posting information to the INPS Rare Plant Forum. Each proposed rare plant has its own thread, or conversation, within the forum.

"The more these forums are used, the more useful they are," DiNicola said.

Derek Antonelli agreed and added that navigating the forum is really easy to figure out. He suggested searching for the species you are interested in first to make sure a thread hasn't already been started. If one has, you can join in that discussion.

The Forum is a secure site so you will have to register and be verified by the administrator before you can join in the online discussions. To start that process, go to:

<http://inpsrareplants.forumatic.com/index.php>.

Corbin also surveyed participants to see what they would like to see in the 2015/2016 Rare Plant Conference. If you would like to help plan the next conference, talk to Corbin.

The 2014 conference was sponsored by the following organizations:



IDAHO NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

PO Box 9451
Boise, ID 83707

Email:

public3@idahonativeplants.org

Website:

www.idahonativeplants.org

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Cindy Snyder

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2013 Photo Contest Committee

Pahove Chapter

Rare Plant Conference Chair

Beth Corbin (Pahove)

Greetings from the President

Dear Idaho Native Plant Society Members,

2014 is a year of special opportunities for the members of INPS.

On Feb 26 & 27 we had the Rare Plant Conference in Boise. Thanks to all who participated and to the Pahove Chapter for all the hard work to make it a success. This conference was a special challenge for them as they had to plan it twice. The second time become necessary because of the federal government shut down in October.

On June 20-22, INPS will hold its annual meeting in Twin Falls. We are especially fortunate to be able to combine with the Eriogonum Society for this meeting. The combined meeting will provide a unique learning opportunity for INPS members. The meeting will include two classes – one on *Eriogonum* (wild buckwheat) identification given by Dr. James Reveal of Cornell University and a second on buckwheat seed collecting, cleaning and cultivation given by Dr. Stephen Love, of the University of Idaho - Aberdeen R & E Center. Dr. Love has collected seed and raised many types of buckweats at the Aberdeen R & E Center as well as at his own garden. Dr. Reveal has prepared a field guide to *Eriogonum* and related genera in Idaho, which all meeting attendees will receive.

There will also be two days of field trips into rich buckwheat areas in the Magic Valley. That will provide us the opportunity to put our newly acquired identification skills and field guide to good use. The post meeting tour to the Craters of the Moon National Monument will give us the opportunity to see, among other native plants, an endemic buckwheat found only in the Monument. Elsewhere in this issue of *Sage Notes* you will find an in-depth description of the annual meeting activities and the registration form. Don't miss this special opportunity!

INPS is still in need of members willing to participate in various positions on committees and in leadership positions. It is always amazing how much we learn by sharing our talents through active participation in the organization. If you would like to serve in any way in the INPS organization, please let me know by emailing me at lorton1@msn.com or by calling me at 208-734-7959.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Twin Falls.

LaMar N. Orton

INPS President



Grassy Ridge: Tim Hatten, Al Poplawsky, Kevin & Elisabeth Brackney, Jill Maxwell, Jim Huggins, lead botanist Pam Brunfeld & perfect sheltie. Photo: White Pine Chapter.



White Pine Chapter at Phillips Farm in October. Jo Bohna, guide Lee Anne Eareckson, Rod Sprague, Sid Eder, Terry Gray, Susan Rounds, Mary Conitz, LoriBeth or Lisa, Elisabeth Brackney.

INPS State News

Registration Information for

INPS/Eriogonum Society Annual Meeting

by LaMar Orton

2014 Meeting Arrangements Chair

Welcome to South-Central Idaho!

The 2014 Eriogonum Society meeting will be centered in Twin Falls, Idaho, giving us the opportunity to explore the botanical and geological wonders of the middle Snake River Plain, including the Bennett Hills and Gooding City of Rocks, the South Hills (southern Sawtooth National Forest) and the Craters of the Moon. This will be a joint meeting of the Idaho Native Plant Society and the Eriogonum Society, giving us the opportunity to make new friends and take advantage of the cumulative knowledge of accomplished professional and amateur botanists, including Dr. James Reveal, noted expert on the genus *Eriogonum*.

Meeting Dates

The meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 20 through Sunday, June 22, with an optional post-meeting tour of Craters of the Moon National Monument and Fish Creek Canyon on Monday, June 23.

The Region

Twin Falls is located in the center of the Snake River Plain and is the largest city in the Magic Valley of south-central Idaho (elevation, 3,750 feet; population 47,000). The city is located on the rim of the spectacular Snake River Canyon, a gash in the earth more than 500 feet deep. Historically, ancestral Native Americans used this area extensively and the Wilson Butte Cave near Twin Falls contained some of the oldest artifacts recovered in North America. The earliest documented visit by European explorers was in 1811, when a boat expedition led by Wilson Hunt was destroyed in the Snake River rapids just north of the city. Although located on the main route of the Oregon Trail, the first permanent settlement, a stage stop, was not established until 1864. Further settlement and economic growth resulted from the construction of a canal system constructed for the purpose of developing an agricultural industry, still the backbone of the regional economy.

Travel to Twin Falls

Twin Falls is located along US Interstate 84 and can be approached from either the east or west. It is possible, but less convenient to reach the city by airline. Commuter airlines serve the Magic Valley Municipal Airport in Twin Falls. It is also feasible to fly into Boise, rent a vehicle, and drive the 120 miles east to the meeting site.

Lodging

Arrangements have been made to serve a range of lodging preferences.

Motels:

Please make your own reservations. Below is a list of motels located near the College of Southern Idaho, the base site for the meeting. Represented are a range of quality and price. Feel free to visit the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce website to view additional lodging options (<http://members.twinfallschamber.com/list/category/hotels-motels-205>).

Shilo Inn, 1586 Blue Lakes Blvd N, Twin Falls, ID 83301; ph. 208-733-7545.

Super 8, 1280 Blue Lakes Blvd N, Twin Falls, ID 83301; ph. 208-734-5801.

LaQuinta Inn, 539 Pole Line Rd, Twin Falls, ID 83301; ph. 208-736-9600.

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Sage Notes, the newsletter of the Idaho Native Plant Society is published in February, May, September and December.

Current and recent past issues are posted in full color online at

www.idahonativeplants.org/news/Newsletters.aspx along with a searchable index of 2006-2010 issues. We are scanning and uploading older issues as time allows.

Submissions: Members and non-members may submit material for publication. Relevant articles, essays, poetry, news, announcements, photographs and artwork are welcome. Authors, artists and photographers retain copyright to their work and are credited in *Sage Notes*. Send all submissions electronically to the editor at the link below.

Submission guidelines are posted on the INPS website: www.idahonativeplants.org/news/Newsletters.aspx. Please provide a phone number and/or email address with your submission. Submission deadlines are January 8, April 1, August 1 and November 1.

Advertising:

Advertisements help reach environmentally-minded, native-plant-loving customers and help support INPS. Prices: 1/8 page = \$5, 1/4 page = \$8, 1/2 page = \$15. Submit ads electronically to the editor (JPG, TIFF, PSD or PDF files).

Send payment to:

Sage Notes Ads

PO Box 9451

Boise, ID 83707

Sage Notes Editor:

Cindy Snyder, sage-editor@idahonativeplants.org

REGISTRATION FORM

2014 ERIOGONUM SOCIETY/INPS ANNUAL MEETING

Name _____

Accompanying person name(s) (if applicable) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Email _____

Phone _____ Emergency Contact Name (Phone) _____

Special Food or Health Needs _____

Registration Fees	# People	\$ Total
Registration Fee—\$95 (Includes all meeting events, Friday & Saturday evening meals) _____	_____	_____
	Total Fees	_____

I am a member of: Eriogonum Society INPS Both Societies

Field Trip Preferences (Please check one for each day)	Saturday	Sunday
Bennett Hills/Gooding City of Rocks	_____	_____
South Hills	_____	_____

Check here if you plan to participate in the Monday field trip to Craters of the Moon

Note: You must be a member of the Eriogonum Society or the Idaho Native Plant Society to attend the joint annual meeting. If you are not a member of one of these societies and wish to attend, please fill out and submit this meeting registration form then go online to your society of choice and complete a membership application. Society web sites: ES: <http://www.eriogonum.org/> ; INPS: www.idahonativeplants.org.

2014 ERIOGONUM SOCIETY/INPS ANNUAL MEETING

Total \$ Remitted _____

Please make checks payable to: **Eriogonum Society**

Mail payment and registration to:

Sue Braastad
1610 Blue Camas Court
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

Registration and payment can also be completed online. Go online to the Eriogonum Society website (<http://www.eriogonum.org/>), click on the annual meetings tab and follow registration instructions.

INPS/ES Annual Meeting Information

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Best Western, 1377 Blue Lakes Blvd N, Twin Falls, ID 83301; ph. 208-736-8000.

Motel 6, 1472 Blue Lakes Blvd N, Twin Falls, ID; ph. 208-734-3993.

Red Lion, 1357 Blue Lakes Blvd N, Twin Falls, ID; ph. 208-734-5000.

Campgrounds (for those with a preference for roughing it):

A block of 25 camp sites is being held at Anderson Camp, approximately 10 miles east of Twin Falls. Please call and confirm reservations for your own campsite. Be sure to mention that you are with the INPS/Eriogonum Society to get the group rate. The campsites will be held until 6 Jun 2014, at which time they will be released to the public.

Contact information: 1188 E 990 S (off I-84), Eden, ID 83325; ph. 208-825-9800.

See the Anderson Camp website (<http://andersoncamp.com/>) for maps and directions.

Campsite rates: \$25 (RV site), \$18 (tent site).

This is a private campground with many amenities, including food, internet, laundry, swimming pool, mini-golf and a water slide.

Other campgrounds are listed on the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce website, at: (<http://members.twinfallschamber.com/list/category/campgrounds-rv-parks-138>).

Registration

Registration will take place on Friday, June 20 from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm at room 117 in the Shield building on CSI Campus (see map) and will continue throughout the reception at Orton Botanical Garden (aka. Plantasia Cactus Gardens) that evening. Registration fees for the meeting total \$95 and include all classes, field trips, and the Friday and Saturday evening meals.

Meals

Meals associated with the Friday (June 20) evening reception and the Saturday (June 21) evening banquet, are included in the registration fee. All

other meals are on your own. Pack your own lunch and carry it with you on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday field trips. Most field trips involve travel into very isolated areas and it is essential that you carry enough food and water for an all-day excursion.

Instructional Classes

On Friday, June 20, afternoon, beginning at 1 pm, meeting participants will be provided with instructional classes related to identification and culture of *Eriogonum* (wild buckwheats). Classes will be held in rooms 117 & 118 in the Shields Building on the College of Southern Idaho campus, 315 Falls Ave (see map). The classes will last two hours and be taught concurrently, allowing participants to attend both. Classes offered include:

Keying and identifying *Eriogonum* species – James Reveal: Training on buckwheat identification. All participants will be given a key of *Eriogonum* species of Idaho, authored and printed specifically for this meeting. Bring your hand lens, a pencil, and a note pad.

The art of growing buckwheats – Stephen Love: Instruction on harvesting and cleaning buckwheat seed, germinating seedlings, and successfully establishing *Eriogonum* species in the garden.

Welcome Reception/On-going Registration

On Friday, June 20, evening, beginning at 5:30 pm with dinner at 6:30 pm, an opening reception will be hosted by LaMar Orton at his private 5-acre cactus and native plant garden, known as Orton Botanical Garden, aka. Plantasia Cactus Gardens. The garden is located at 867 Filer Avenue W in Twin Falls. Food and beverages will be provided. There will be plenty of time to tour the gardens. Alcoholic beverages will not be served at the reception, but participants are welcome to bring the beverage of their choice.

Banquet/Keynote Speech

Saturday (June 21) evening is reserved for the annual banquet and business meeting, to be held at the Canyon Crest Conference Center. (See your registration packet for a map and driving directions.) A social half-hour will start at 5:30 pm with the meal served at 6 pm. Following the meal, we will conduct short business meetings for both organizations and then be treated to a presentation by a local plant expert.

Sunday Social

Beginning at 6 pm, a no-meal, informal social will be held at Dierkes Lake near Shoshone Falls on Sunday evening, June 22. Bring your own picnic and spend time visiting with friends and colleagues. (See your registration packet for a map and driving directions.)

Field Trips

Two field trips are part of the regular meeting agenda on Saturday (June 21) and Sunday (June 22). You can also choose to attend the post-meeting, all-day post-meeting tour of Craters of the Moon and Fish Creek Canyon on Monday. Parking for the field trips will be on the CSI campus near the Herrett Center (see map on page 7).

Bennett Hills/Gooding City of Rocks

Tour Leader: Carol Blackburn, consulting botanist and horticulturist for the Sawtooth Botanical Garden.

Timetable: 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Vehicle Requirements: High clearance recommended.

Roundtrip Drive: approximately 110 miles.

This field trip involves a 40-mile drive on paved roads to the Bennett Hills north-northwest of Twin Falls, then a 15-mile drive on a maintained gravel road to the Gooding City of Rocks. Following an extended stop to explore the botanical and geological features of this fascinating area, the tour will travel westward for additional stops in

Continued on pg. 6

INPS/ES Annual Meeting Information

Continued from pg. 5

the Bennett Hills before returning to Twin Falls. Exploration of the Gooding City of Rocks requires non-strenuous walking and hiking.

The Bennett Hills are a chain of low hills that divide the Snake River Plain from the Camas Prairie and the adjacent Sawtooth Mountains. Positioned at the intersection of two very different habitats, the Bennett Hills are home to a unique array of plants. Among other species, we will have opportunity to see *Eriogonum thymoides* and the unusual form of *Eriogonum heracleoides* var. *leucophaeum*.

South Hills

Tour Leader: Dennis Pettygrove, amateur botanist with a lifetime of experience in the South Hills.

Timetable: 8 am to 4:30 pm.

Vehicle Requirements: High clearance recommended.

Roundtrip Drive: approximately 75 miles.

This field trip will travel about 30 miles into the hills south of Twin Falls on Rock Creek Road, turn west on Cherry Springs Road which joins Indian Springs Road, then back east on Magic Mountain Road which will return us to Rock Creek Road and back north to Twin Falls.

Periodic stops will be made at prime *Eriogonum* sites, at a place where we can see remarkable populations of *Pediocactus simpsonii*, and at locales for seeing other plants of interest. A stop is scheduled at Ross Falls, a grotto habitat with many water-loving plants that has been carved out by a small water fall. As a bonus, we will stop at a hummingbird feeding station.

Monday (Jun 23) Post-Meeting Tour — Craters of the Moon/Fish Creek Canyon

Tour Leaders: Monument Botanists and LaMar Orton, President of the Idaho Native Plant Society.

Timetable: 7 am to 6 pm.

Vehicle Requirements: High clearance recommended (Fish Creek)

Roundtrip Drive: approximately 240 miles.

This is a moderately long field trip that will take a full day. However, it will be more than worthwhile if you have never had opportunity to see the unique geography and ecology of the recent lava flows of the Craters of the Moon.

The route of the field trip will go from Twin Falls, north and east on US Highway 93 for approximately 120 miles to Craters of the Moon National Monument. We will take several hours to tour the monument and explore the unique botany of the cinder gardens and kipukas. We will have lunch at the monument.

On the return trip, we will take a detour into Fish Creek Canyon to view some unusual *Eriogonum* species (we may need James Reveal along to help us positively identify them) that inhabit the southern slopes of Idaho's central mountains.

Field Trip Preparation

Most of the field trips take us into places with limited access to food, water, or other essential equipment. If you are driving, be sure to start each field trip with a full tank of gas. Make sure you have a good spare tire. All field trip participants should plan to bring the following:

- Sack lunch
- Water (at least ½ gallon per person)
- Jacket
- Wide-brimmed hat
- Insect repellent
- Good hiking shoes
- And remember your camera!

Annual Meeting Schedule

Friday, June 20

10 am – Board Meeting, Eriogonum Society – Shield Building, CSI, room TBD

10 am – Board Meeting, Idaho Native Plant Society – Shield Building, CSI, room TBD

12 noon to 1 pm – Registration, Shield Building, CSI, room 117

1:00 to 3:00 - pm - Educational classes on *Eriogonum* identification

and culture; Shields Building, CSI, rooms 117 and 118.

3 to 5 pm – Repeat of educational classes, Shields Building, CSI, rooms 117 and 118.

5:30 pm. Welcome reception and dinner at Plantasia Cactus Gardens, 867 Filer Avenue W. Registration to continue.

Saturday, June 21

Field trips depart from a parking lot located at the NE corner of the CSI campus near the Herrett Center (see map on page 7).

7:30 am – Depart on the tour to Bennett Hills/Gooding City of Rocks

8 am – Depart on the tour to the South Hills

5:30 pm – Social gathering at Canyon Crest Conference Center (see registration packet for map)

6 pm – Banquet, annual business meetings at Canyon Crest Conference Center

Sunday, June 22

Field trips depart from a parking lot located at the NE corner of the CSI campus near the Herrett Center (see map above).

7:30 am – Depart on the tour to Bennett Hills/Gooding City of Rocks

8 am – Depart on the tour to the South Hills

7 pm – Informal, no-meal social at Dierkes Lake (see registration packet for directions)

Monday, June 23

Field trip departs from a parking lot located at the NE corner of the CSI campus near the Herrett Center (see map above).

7 am – Depart for the post-meeting tour to Craters of the Moon/Fish Creek Canyon. Scheduled return time 5 pm

Registration

To register for the meeting, fill out and return the enclosed printed registration form, include a check or money order and mail to the address on the form OR log onto the

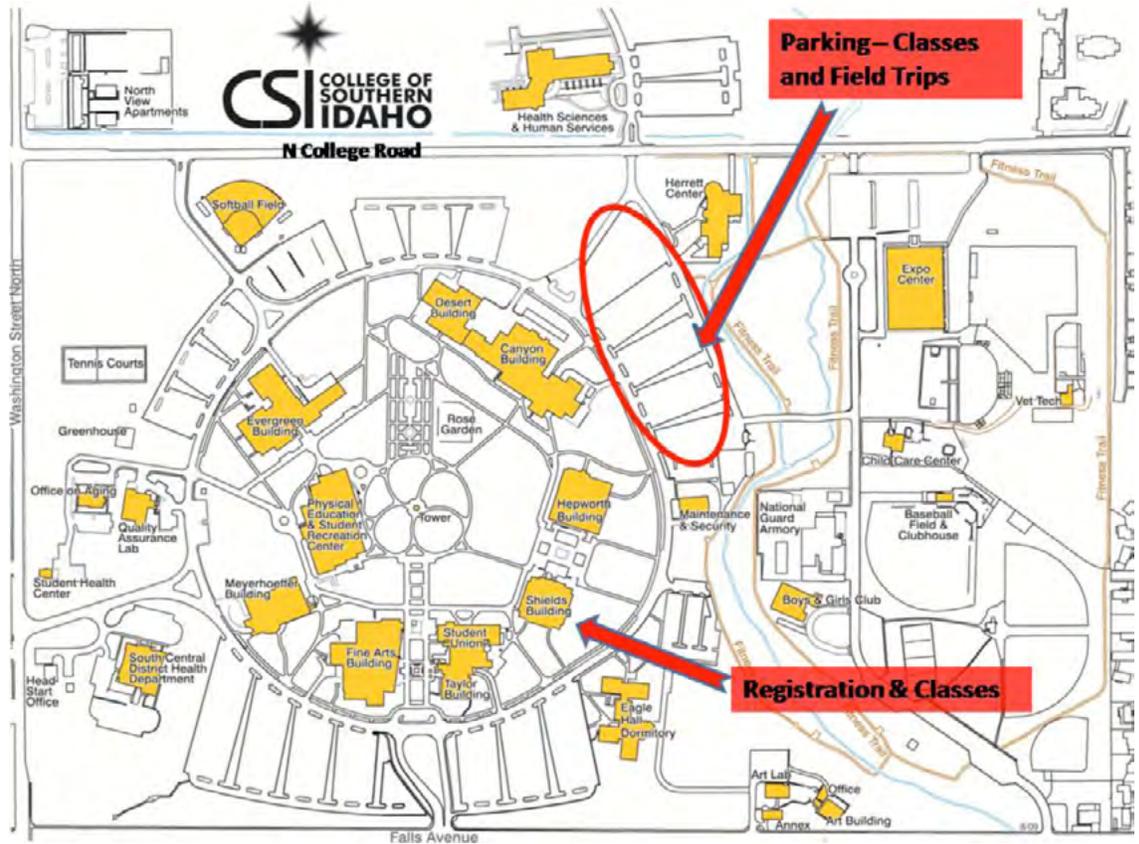
Continued on pg. 7

INPS/ES Annual Meeting Information

Continued from pg. 6

Eriogonum Society website (<http://www.eriogonum.org/>) click on the Annual Meetings tab, and follow the instructions to register and pay using a credit/debit card.

Note: You must be a member of the Idaho Native Plant Society or the Eriogonum Society to attend the joint annual meeting. If you not a member of one of the societies and wish to attend, please fill out and submit the registration form, then go online to your society of choice and complete a membership application. Web site addresses: INPS: www.idahonativeplants.org/; ES: <http://www.eriogonum.org/>.



Air Magic Valley 2014 is happening the same weekend as the INPS/ES Annual Meeting. You may want to make your lodging reservations soon.



Eriogonum in the South Hills.



Bennett Hills/Gooding City of Rocks.

Scenes you'll see at the INPS/ES Annual Meeting, June 20-22, 2014 in Twin Falls.

See you there.



Perrine Bridge.



LaMar Orton at Plantasia Cactus Gardens.

2013 Photo Contest Winners

Plant-Pollinator Interaction

First Place

Cephalanthera austiniiae

Photo by James P. Riser II
Pullman, WA (White Pine)



Second Place

Chaenactis douglasii

Photo by Stephen Love
Aberdeen, ID (Sawabi)

Third Place

Penstemon and Swallowtail

Photo by Thad Davis
Kendrick, ID (White Pine)



2013 Photo Contest Winners

Multiple Species — Habitat



First Place

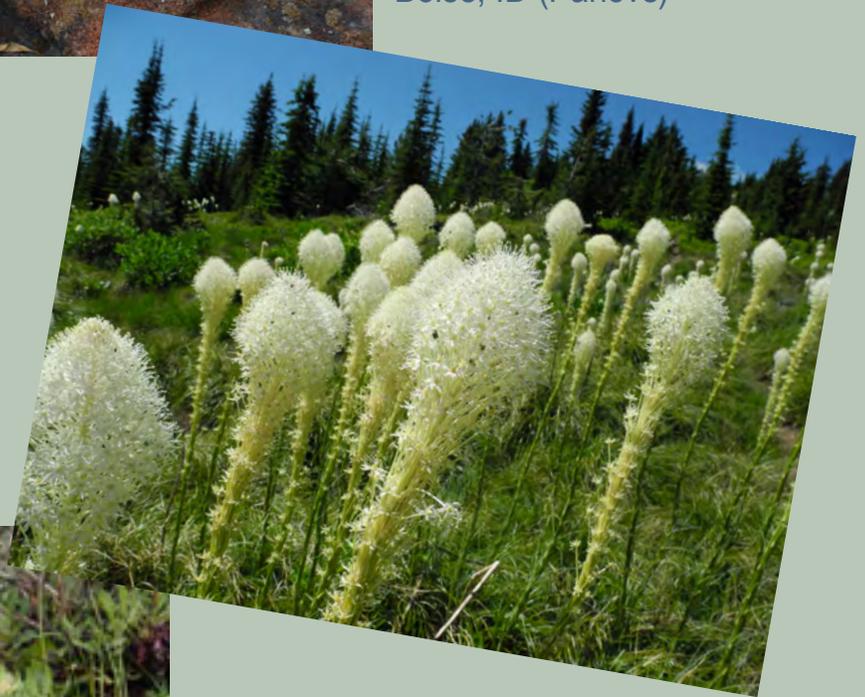
Penstemon deustus

Photo by Derek Duval
Boise, ID (Pahove)

Second Place

Xerophyllum tenax

Photo by James P. Riser II
Pullman, WA (White Pine)



Third Place

Castilleja covilleana

Photo by Stephen Love
Aberdeen, ID (Sawabi)





First Place
Lewisia rediviva
Photo by Sue Braastad
Idaho Falls, ID
(Upper Snake)

2013 Photo Contest Winners Individual Species



Second Place
Mimulus lewisii
Photo by S & S Wildflowers
Mackay, ID (Sawabi)

Third Place
Townsendia montana
Photo by Michael Hays
Grangeville, ID (White Pine)



Donate now to ERIG

by Janet Bala
ERIG Chair

ERIG (Education, Research and Inventory Grant) donations may now be made from the ERIG News page (<http://www.idahonativeplants.org/erig/Erig.aspx>) using PayPal or your credit card. PayPal will process a credit card payment or electronic check.

You may include a message to INPS with your PayPal payment in the event you wish to make a donation in memory of an individual. All donations are tax-deductible and allow INPS to award more or larger grants in support of conservation, research and education.

We would like to thank the following people and organizations for their generous donations to the ERIG fund during 2013:

Sheldon Bluestein
Ann Finley
Noel & Patricia Holmgren
Wendy McClure
Nancy & Reid Miller
Mel & Barbara Nicholls
Molly O'Reilly
LaMar Orton
Susan Rounds
Helen Stroebel
Idaho Conservation League
Tetra Tech
White Pine Chapter

What can ERIG do?

INPS, through the Education, Research and Inventory Grant (ERIG) Program awards grants of up to \$1,000 to support projects that contribute to the appreciation, conservation, or knowledge of Idaho's native flora or vegetation.

The purpose of the ERIG program is to stimulate and lend support to educational, research and conservation activities that promote an appreciation for native plants and plant communities in Idaho.

Membership in INPS is encouraged, but is not a requirement for receiving an ERIG.

Project proposals must pertain to native plants of Idaho. Proposals for 2014 were due March 31.

“Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you.”

Frank Lloyd Wright

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We can help you design your landscape and choose appropriate plants!
For plant lists, photos, directions and more, see www.waterthriftyplants.com or call Diane at 345-4199

INPS CHAPTERS

CALYPSO CHAPTER

821 W. Mustang Ave.
Hayden, ID 83835
President: Derek Antonelli
Vice President: Vacant
Secretary: Karen Williams
Treasurer: Janet Benoit
Newsletter: Vacant

LOASA CHAPTER

340 E 520 N
Shoshone, ID 83352
President: Kelvin Jones
Vice President: Valdon Hancock
Secretary/Treasurer: Lois Rohay

PAHOVE CHAPTER

PO Box 9451
Boise, ID 83707
Pahove.chapter@gmail.com
President: Karie Pappani
Vice President: Elaine Walker
Secretary: Daniel Murphy
Treasurer: Caroline Morris
Venue Coordinator: Susan Ziebarth
Snacks & Refreshments:
Conservation: Karie Pappani
Members-at-Large: Cyndi Coulter,
Karen Colson and Jody Hull

SAWABI CHAPTER

5901 Country Club Drive
Pocatello, ID 83204
President: Bob McCoy
Vice President: Dick Anderson &
LaRue Gregersen
Secretary: Barbara Nicholls
Treasurer: Grant Thomas
Chapter News: Ardys Holte
Website: Catalina Steckbauer
Conservation/education: Janet Bala
Members-at-large: Janet Bala,
Pauline Havens, Ardys & Karl Holte,
Linda Johnson, Mel Nicholls and
Shirley Rodgers

INPS Chapter News

CALYPSO CHAPTER

When: Meetings are the first Wednesdays of March, April, May and October at 7 pm. We do not meet from November through February. Field trips are scheduled during the spring, summer and early fall months.

Where: Conference room of Idaho Department Fish and Game, 2885 W. Kathleen Ave., Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

Contact: Derek Antonelli, antonelli8@frontier.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

We have a joint hike with the Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society scheduled for May 17 to the Trout Creek Segment of the Pend Oreille Wildlife Management Area.

Topics for our chapter meetings and additional field trips for next year have not been determined yet. If you would like to receive updates on Calypso Chapter events, send your email address to Derek Antonelli, the chapter president, at antonelli8@frontier.com.

LOASA CHAPTER

All INPS members and the public are welcome to attend chapter events.

When: Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month

Where: Taylor Building, Room 258, College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls

Contact: Kelvin Jones, (208) 886-7051

PAHOVE CHAPTER

When: Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from September–April at 6:30 pm. *Dates and topics in Sage Notes are tentative. More current information will be sent to members via postcard & email & posted on the INPS website: <http://www.idahonativeplants.org/inps/chapter.aspx?ChapterId=4>*

Where: Meetings are usually held at the MK Nature Center Auditorium.

Contact: For more information about Pahove Chapter activities visit the website: www.idahonativeplants.org or email Karie Pappani at pahove.chapter.president@gmail.com.

Our 2014 presentations started with a journey afar to explore foreign plant kingdoms. From there we traveled around the globe to catch a glimpse of some of the most striking plants on earth. Our last presentation of this season was by Chris Colson discussing how flood irrigated wet meadows on private lands create critical habitat for migrating waterbirds and provide other important ecosystem services. We thank our members for attending presentations and we thank all of our presenters this past season.

Even though our presentations are over for this season, there are still wildflower walks planned in the Boise area for May.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 25 and 26, 2014- "Go Native" Spring Plant Sale

Go Native! with the Pahove Chapter at the 2014 Native Plant Sale. This event celebrates Earth Day, is a fundraiser for our chapter, and helps to promote and perpetuate the use of Idaho's native plants in our own landscapes. We are keeping the format the same as the past few years with a "Members Only" sale in the evening on Friday the 25th from 5-7 pm and an "Open to the Public" sale on Saturday the 26th from 10 am – 1 pm.

An availability list and more details will be posted on the INPS website by mid-April. The sale location is the MK Nature Center, 600 S. Walnut, Boise.

A big THANK YOU goes out to Susan for managing the plant sale activities and also to all of the folks who volunteered their time to help with the event. This is an important event for our chapter that puts native plants into local landscapes and yards.

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Sage Notes is a publication of the Idaho Native Plant Society Vol. 36 (1) March 2014

INPS Chapter News

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May 8 and May 15, 2014 – Wildflower Walks at Idaho Botanical Garden

Spend an evening exploring the flora of the foothills above Idaho Botanical Garden with Ann DeBolt and other local botanists. This event is free of charge but pre-registration is required. Visit www.idahobotanicalgarden.org for more information.

RECENT EVENTS:

Education and Enrichment

The Pahove Chapter established an award to provide chapter member(s) with an excellent opportunity for education and enrichment in line with our dedication to and promotion of Idaho's native plants and plant communities. Two chapter members were given an award to attend the Botany 2014 Conference and the Western Native Plant Conference. The award winners will give a presentation to our chapter or submit an article for *Sage Notes* summarizing conference events.

New Secretary

Please welcome Daniel Murphy as our new chapter secretary. Daniel has been helping with snacks and beverages and venue set-up over the past season. Daniel is a valued member of our board and he also works in the Lewis & Clark Native Plant Garden and other areas at the Idaho Botanical Garden

SAWABI CHAPTER

Meetings: We welcome the public to our chapter's informative programs.

When: First Monday of each month, October through March, 7 pm.

Where: Pond Student Union Building, Room 308, ISU Campus, Pocatello.

Contact: 208-241-5851, email desertflwrs@gmail.com.

Our regular winter meetings began October 7.

UPPER SNAKE CHAPTER

When: Meetings are usually held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Field Trips are scheduled in the spring and summer.

Where: Idaho Fish & Game office, Idaho Falls

Contact: Sue Braastad, braastads@yahoo.com

WHITE PINE CHAPTER

Meetings: During the spring and fall, meetings are held once a month. Field trips occur most any month. Please check the chapter website for events which may be scheduled or finalized after this issue is printed: www.whitepineinps.org or email the chapter officers at whitepine.chapter@gmail.com.

Where: 1912 Center, Great Room, 412 East Third St., Moscow, Idaho (between Adams and Van Buren)

Contact: White Pine Chapter, PO Box 8481, Moscow, ID 83843 or whitepine.chapter@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, May 4: University of Idaho Systematic Botany class field trip. White Pine members are invited to take part in this annual floristic event.

Leader: Pam Brunsfeld, UI Systematic Botany Instructor, and former Manager and Curator, UI Stillingher Herbarium. More information will be available in April. <http://www.whitepineinps.org/>

Saturday, May 17, 2014: Field trip to see several species of Moscow Mountain orchids.

Trip leader: James Riser II, PhD candidate, Washington State University botany and environmental biology instructor. Orchids that may be in bloom include *Calypso bulbosa*, and species of the *Corallorhiza*, *Platanthera* and *Neottia (Listera)* genera.

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INPS CHAPTERS

UPPER SNAKE CHAPTER

President: Rose Lehman

Vice President: Sue Braastad

Secretary: Alan Crockett

Treasurer: Dave Godfrey

Members-at-large: Mark & Donna Whitman

WHITE PINE CHAPTER

whitepine.chapter@gmail.com

President: Sonja Lewis

Vice President: Judy Ferguson

Secretary: Susan Rounds

Treasurer: Helen Stroebel

Members-at-large: Pamela Pavek, Thad Davis and Steve Flint

Past President: James Riser II

Landscaping & Restoration Plants:

Juanita Lichthardt

Publicity Chair: Vacant

Web: Nancy Miller

www.whitepineinps.org

WOOD RIVER CHAPTER

PO Box 3093

Hailey, ID 83333

President: Carol Blackburn

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Vacant

Like our page to receive updates on chapter events and happenings from around the state. View our page at: <https://www.facebook.com/IdahoNativePlants>



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Saturday, May 24, 2014, 9 am - 12 pm, White Pine Chapter 3rd annual Native Plant Sale, indoors at the 1912 Center Arts Room, 412 E. 3rd St., Moscow. Co-ordinators: Thad Davis and Steve Flint, assisted by many volunteers.

Setup will be the day before, details to be announced at a later date. As before, count on a selection of many wonderful species! Additional vendors and volunteers welcome!

Late June or early July, weekend trip: Fescue grasslands in central Idaho, Mud Springs Ridge, located west of Lucile, between the Salmon and Snake Rivers. Leader: Mike Hays, USFS Botanist, Nez Perce-Clearwater Forest. This is a promised continuation of last year's trip, scheduled to catch many plants in bloom, which may include *Silene spaldingii*, Spalding's catchfly.

RECENT EVENTS:

September 6-8, 2013: Campout and naturalist hikes, North Fork of the Clearwater River. Sponsored by Friends of the Clearwater, Sierra Club, and White Pine Chapter, INPS.

Our lead botanist was Pam Brunsfeld, former manager and curator of UI Stillinger Herbarium, and Systematic Botany Instructor. We began our foray into the North Fork's "Aquarius" forests of *Thuja plicata* and *Alnus rubra*, with Pam's explanation of "vicariance biogeography": ancient events that have given areas of North Idaho our "coastal disjunct" species, such as *Oplopanax horridum* (devil's club). Pam listed some 35 disjuncts, of which 6 are recent declarations. Six other species are endemic. Saturday—more disjuncts were seen, as we headed through a magnificent mountain hemlock (*Tsuga mertensiana*) forest up Grassy Ridge trail towards a view of the Mallard-Larkins area. Hydrogeologist Kevin Brackney shared his knowledge and enthusiasm, and entomologist Tim Hatten entertained us with insect lore. We finished with a spaghetti feed by the Sierra Club, and songs by Tom Peterson on guitar.



Kevin & Elisabeth Brackney on the Aquarius Trail with unknown Sandpoint participant.

November 14, 2013: "Monitoring Spalding's Catchfly," presentation co-sponsored with the Palouse Prairie Foundation by Tiana Luke, Washington State University Research Assistant.

In the channeled scablands of eastern Washington, the Bureau of Land Management has been monitoring the Spalding's catchfly since 1995, but the monitoring procedure has had statistical limitations. In 2012, a new, more statistically valid, monitoring method was implemented, consistent with the protocol recommended by the US Fish and Wildlife Service for the species throughout its range. It was hoped that the new method would allow more consistent comparison between populations. Impacts of weather on plant characteristics were determined from the original long-term data. Precipitation is an important influence, but not the only one.

January 9, 2013 talk: The biology, ecology, and control of reed canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea* L.), co-sponsored by Palouse Prairie Foundation. Presented by Dr. Linda Hardesty, Associate Professor, Forest and Range Management, Washington State University School of the Environment.

Dr. Hardesty has devoted many years of her career to studying this invasive riparian grass. Introduced... or native? Dr. Hardesty explained that introduced European strains may have so diluted the gene pool that non-native and native populations are now indistinguishable. One of her most surprising findings is that sexual reproduction may be more important in

new plant recruitment than previously thought. The plant does not produce another seed head if the immature head is removed, making this an effective practice for preventing spread by seed. Mowing, herbicides, and shade help control vegetative growth, but completely eliminating this grass is not currently possible.

January 23, 2013 talk: "Ecosystem Services with Backyard Benefits: Avian diversity, forest diversity and carbon sequestration on Moscow Mountain," presented by Dr. Andrew Hudak, USFS, Rocky Mountain Research Station.

Andy's research is global but primarily focused on Interior Northwest forests, where he uses field and remote sensing data to conduct studies in fire ecology, wildlife habitat mapping, disturbance ecology, and forest biomass assessment to estimate carbon sequestration. He explained how field plot measures on the ground can be predicted from LiDAR and other remote sensing data collected from airplanes or satellites to quantify landscape-level ecological processes. Focusing on the Moscow Mountain landscape, he showed how the opposing trends in forest growth and harvest operations between 2003 and 2009 affected carbon storage, turning Moscow Mountain into a net carbon source regarding the atmosphere. He also showed how other valued ecosystem services, in this case tree species composition and avian habitat suitability, can be predicted from LiDAR measures of canopy structure and topography.

Andy collaborates, both locally and globally, to develop applications useful to forest and rangeland managers.

Learn more at <http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs/people/profile.php?alias=ahudak>.

Authors: Judy Ferguson, Pamela Pavek and Sonja Lewis.

WOOD RIVER CHAPTER

Contact: Carol Blackburn at blackburncrl@yahoo.com for information on activities.

Rare Plant Profile

Sacajawea's bitterroot – a gem in the Gem State mountains

by Michael Mancuso

Sacajawea's bitterroot (*Lewisia sacajaweanana*) is a small, ground-hugging perennial herb in the *Montia* family (*Montiaceae*; included in *Portulacaceae* in earlier classifications). Plants consist of a rosette of glabrous succulent leaves that emerge shortly after snowmelt, soon followed by the appearance of one or a few small, but showy white flowers on a short scape lying directly atop the leaves. All aboveground signs of the plant disappear soon after flowering has been completed, with the top of the usually branched taproot hidden just below the surface. This rapid disappearance means wildflower enthusiasts have a relatively small window of time to see Sacajawea's bitterroot each year. Like many gems, this species is hidden from view most of the year.

The distribution of Sacajawea's bitterroot is restricted to a swath across the central Idaho mountains, with populations known from the Boise, Trinity, Sawtooth, Salmon River and Bighorn Crags ranges. Its entire known distribution encompasses an area roughly 120 miles long by 75 miles wide, including portions of the Payette, Boise, Sawtooth, and Salmon-Challis National Forests. Sacajawea's bitterroot habitat consists of relatively sparsely vegetated montane and subalpine openings on well-drained gravelly to coarse sandy granitic soil, or less often on scree or rock outcrops, or in shallow understory duff.

Sites tend to be located along the margins or within gaps of the surrounding subalpine forest, or



USDA file photo.

occasionally in areas supporting only a few widely scattered trees. It is most common near ridgecrests and associated upper slopes between approximately 6000 and 9300 feet elevation.

A few early collections of Sacajawea's bitterroot were made in Idaho during the 1930s and 1940s, but no subsequent collections occurred until 1990. The majority of known populations were discovered between 1996 and 2003, largely due to targeted surveys by Boise National Forest botanists.

Idaho populations were initially identified as Kellogg's bitterroot (*Lewisia kelloggii*) and considered disjunct from this species' main range in the Sierra Nevada mountains of California. Questions concerning the relationship between the widely separated population centers arose as the availability of more Idaho material after the mid-1990s indicated some potential differences compared to plants from California.

In 2005, a morphological and isozyme analysis study led to the

recognition and description of *Lewisia sacajaweanana* as a new, distinct species endemic to the central Idaho mountains. The scientific name honors and links two important historic figures. The genus name *Lewisia* honors Meriwether Lewis, while the specific epithet honors Sacajawea, the Lemhi Shoshone woman who assisted as a guide and interpreter on the famous Lewis and Clark expedition.

The genus *Lewisia* is comprised of approximately 17 species, all endemic to parts of western North America, with one species extending southward into Mexico. Several species are widespread, including the most well-known member of the group, common bitterroot (*Lewisia rediviva*), a familiar wildflower in rocky habitats across the southern half of Idaho and the state flower for Montana. However, several other *Lewisia* species have distribution ranges even more restricted than Sacajawea's bitterroot, especially in California.

In addition to Sacajawea's bitterroot, five other *Lewisia* species can be found in Idaho, including common bitterroot, threeleaf lewisia (*L. triphylla*), Columbia lewisia (*L. columbiana*), dwarf lewisia (*L. pygmaea*), and Nevada lewisia (*L. nevadensis* – formerly part of the *L. pygmaea* complex).

Each of these is another wildflower gem waiting for you to stumble upon in the Idaho mountains.



Sage Notes

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