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Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors of the articles. They do not represent the opinions of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, unless so stated.

January 2018 State Board Meeting Highlights

by Steven Yeager, State Secretary

The board accepted the 2018 budget. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

The Oregon Flora Project reported that the group is hard at work completing Volume 2 of the Flora of Oregon. Over 90% of the floristic treatments are in hand and authors are assigned. The new Oregon Flora website is expected to launch in the very near future.

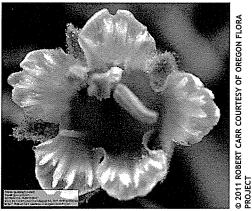
Ballots for the 2018 state officer elections need to be submitted by April 10 to be announced in the May Bulletin. The Website Committee provided an update on the new website progress. The general sense is a release date of sometime this summer although no exact date has been set. The 2020 Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Willamette Valley and Filipendula Chapters.

NPSO's EarthShare Oregon liaison requested that chapters submit any upcoming events as EarthShare can provide volunteers and publicity.

The next board meeting will be hosted by the Siskiyou Chapter on April 7. Location: Talent Town Hall in downtown Talent, 206 E. Main.

Greater Hells Canyon Council Sues to Protect Spalding's Catchfly

Spalding's catchfly (Silene spaldingii) is a federally listed threatened species that grows in bunchgrass and sagebrush-steppe habitat. In Oregon, it is found only in Wallowa County. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has created a recovery plan for this species and provided conservation recommendations, which include adjustments to current cattle grazing allotments. Cattle affect Spalding's catchfly by trampling seedlings and breaking taproots, disturbing the habitat of its ground-dwelling pollinators, and spreading invasive plants that can outcompete the catchfly. The U.S. Forest Service reauthorized cattle grazing in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area without implementing recommendations from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, prompting the Greater Hells Canyon Council (GHCC) to file a lawsuit In January 2018. Veronica Warnock, conservation director of GHCC explains, "This is about the Forest Service ignoring management recommendations on how to protect and recover a threatened species, something it is required to do in Hells Canyon." The above information was compiled from the GHCC website. For more details, visit hellscanyon.org/lira-faq and fws.gov/oregonfwo/Species/Data/ SpaldingsCatchfly.



Spalding's catchfly, Silene spaldingii