

Umpqua Native Plant Partnership

General Partnership Meeting NOTES

10.04.22 · 1:00 – 3:00 pm

ACTION ITEMS

- **All:** Review [website mockup](#) and email feedback/suggestions to Morgan
- **Morgan** to flag *Prunella* seed when it is cleaned and inventoried. **TUI botany team** will revisit site next summer to verify which *Prunella* subspecies is there
- **Ken** to reach out to Ian to provide info on private property location with *Sisyrinchium hitchcockii*

MEETING NOTES

Attendees:

Morgan Fay, UNPP Coordinator, The Understory Initiative

Tuula Rebhahn, RNPP Co-Coordinator, The Understory Initiative

Kathryn Prive, RNPP Co-Coordinator, The Understory Initiative

MA Hansen, Native Plant Society Umpqua Chapter

Rod Trotter, President, Native Plant Society Umpqua Chapter

Donna Rawson, Native Plant Society Umpqua Chapter

Allison Manwaring, USFWS Roseburg

Alicia Christiansen OSU Extension Douglas County, works with woodland owners

Crystal Shepherd, Umpqua National Forest Botanist, USFS

Ian Grinter, Botanist, Roseburg District BLM

Justy Grinter, Botanist, Weeds Lead Roseburg BLM

Ken Carloni, Yew Creek Land Alliance

Stanley Petrowski, Rural Umpqua Community Partnership

Sam Friedman, USFWS

Clint Emerson, USFS

Ann Kercher, ODOT

Logan Bennett, Small Farms Program lead at OSU Extension Douglas County

Ian Silvernail, NRCS Plant Materials Center Corvallis

1. Introductions & Partner Updates/Round Robin

Some cool places to see native plants this year:

Archie Creek fire scar

Beatty Creek RNA (Jeffery Pine serpentine area)

Dachsel Falls/Hemlock Meadow

Waylon Island (N of Pacific City)

Stan Petrowski ranch - 80 ac in UNF

Trail to Twin Lakes near Tokatee

Ian Silvernail

- First UNPP meeting, he is based in Corvallis but wants to support this partnership
- Coastal dune project in the works

Ian/BLM - Just received budget, put in request for TUI agreement to fund UNPP

2. Umpqua Native Plant Partnership Updates

Spending reports

- Spending reports from USFS Cooperative Agreement (\$43,000) and USFWS (\$19,246) are now available.
- So far about \$14K of the USFS budget and \$119.00 of the USFWS budget have been spent.
- The first couple of years of the NPP will be most labor intensive, and this is reflected in the spending so far.
- Thanks to USFS and USFWS for coming through quickly with funding so we can hit the ground running.

2022 Seed Collection Report

- 7 events, 34 volunteers, total 138 volunteer hours

- Many hours/miles of recon this year to find good seed collection sites
- [Seed collection summary table](#) (noted error - USFWS listed as partner for 8/26 event)

***Prunella vulgaris* is listed as one of the species collected. Discussion -**

Justy: Be careful with *Prunella vulgaris* from North Bank, could be the weedy subspecies (ssp. *vulgaris*). There are two varieties: *Prunella vulgaris ssp vulgaris* (non-native) and *ssp lanceolata* (native)

Ian: Probably will end up with *Prunella vulgaris vulgaris* in the field (if growing out seed) even if you collect only *lanceolata* seed, but it can be weeded out.

ACTION ITEM: Morgan to flag *Prunella* seed when it is cleaned and inventoried, and withhold this seed from distribution until subspecies is verified as *lanceolata* (destroy if not). TUI botany team will revisit site next summer to verify which *Prunella* subspecies is there

Other seed collections

Ken has been collecting seeds that he finds for the Partnership. Has *Sisyrinchium hitchcockii* which is a species of concern. Is easy to grow.

Kathryn: ODA regulates species of concern

Justy: To collect the seed on federal lands a permit is needed

Ian: *Sisyrinchium hitchcockii* is a BLM Sensitive plant, wants to add Ken's site to herbarium record

ACTION ITEM: Ken to reach out to Ian to provide info on private property location with *Sisyrinchium hitchcockii*

Ian: Would like UNPP to not include BLM Sensitive species in seed mixes

Justy: Normally would say that workhorse species, not rare/sensitive ones, are generally easier to grow out and put into seed mixes, so *Sisyrinchium hitchcockii* might not be a great fit. But if it is growing easily for Ken it might be something to consider, if it can be legally done.

UNPP Website

Site mockup: <https://morgan6578.wixsite.com/unpp>

What tools/resources can we add?

- Calendar of events/phenology
- Volunteer signup forms
- Links to meeting agendas/notes/presentations

ACTION ITEM: Partners to review [website mockup](#) and email feedback/suggestions to Morgan

Featured Speaker: Crystal Shepherd from Umpqua National Forest

Crystal is based at Tokatee but is still the Tiller district botanist as well

Has been working in the Forest since 2011; Botany tech and Restoration Technician (wetlands, forage meadows)

Five person botany crew in the UNF this summer. Mostly weed treatment but also some seed collection

- Focused on fire recovery, preventing invasive plant takeovers
- Collected over 140 lbs of seed
- Worked with 2 contractors to get grass species collected, over 80 lbs altogether
- Benson Farms and Stone Nursery will do the grow-outs

Grow-outs at larger nurseries are getting more expensive. Need a large quantity seed to get it started.

Crystal is interested in finding local growers who are willing to grow small quantities of diversity species. In the future she would like to find local collectors of native seed using USFS dollars to make “supply” micropurchases. UNPP can help facilitate those collections.

UNPP volunteers can attend informal “field trainings” with USFS to learn about sites, species that are needed for micropurchase

More opportunities to collect seed at higher elevations this fall.

Plant list for Diamond Lake collection day was helpful.

Tuula: Made with Calflora. [Here's a link to instructions on how to do it](#) - very easy!

Q&A with Crystal:

Ian: Can you talk about ways that you are splitting costs for grow-outs?

Crystal: Partnering with Willamette National Forest, possibly the wildlife program at the Rogue River Siskiyou NF

UNF collects the seed, WNF funds the grow-out, and they split the results

Helpful for plant migration as well.

Ian: Examining seed zones - underlying assumption is that seed zones reflect the watershed.

Reaching out more broadly on a species-specific basis has some advantages for reducing costs

Shifting seeds North from the Rogue generally makes more sense than relying on nursery stock that's coming from the Willamette.

Kathryn: The role that Native Plant Partnerships play is improving data management so that specific source information is available, tracking it through time and plant generations (in grow-out situations).

Not quite at the stage of funding grow-outs yet. Would like to see a decision-making framework that takes seed zones/climate change into account before that happens.

Ian: There will be a certain level of discomfort with some decisions because we won't have all the data to make informed decisions.

Rod: Can see the changes taking place on the ground, it's clear that things are shifting but not for every species/habitat

3. Looking ahead - Fall/Winter 2022/2023 (2:30 - 2:45)

Assessing the Vision in the Umpqua

◆ What is preventing more restoration from happening on the Umpqua? (POLL)

◆ **Rankings:**

- i. 1 - Funding/Capacity
- ii. 2 - Knowledge/Expertise
- iii. 3- Infrastructure/Materials

Discussion:

Historical lack of funding - no stockpile of seeds.

There are funds available but often short-notice

Species prioritization for seed collection would be helpful

Landowner resources - indicator species analysis, top species to plant for bees/other wildlife

Site prep resources from OSU

Kathryn: Trying to structure the approach to not just pick low-hanging fruit but address all issues systematically. **Can't do restoration without infrastructure/materials, need funding/capacity to create those materials, and people with expertise to put them out in an informed way.**

Steering committee can help brainstorm funding and capacity solutions, provide expertise on developing infrastructure and materials.

Steering committee responsibilities

Develop MOU to solidify group and state common values

Develop 5-year strategic plan

Provide guidance for UNPP priorities going forward

ACTION: Morgan will email the group to ask for volunteers to join the committee

America The Beautiful funding will be announced in November. TUI applied for an Oregon Native Seed Strategy and implementation dollars to grow out native seed. Some of this will go to the Umpqua if the proposal is funded.