

Organizational Meeting – Umpqua Native Plant Partnership

Notes from meeting, prepared by CalLee Davenport/Allison Manwaring, USFWS

Date/Place: Tuesday, April 20th, 9:00AM, BLM/USFWS Office, Roseburg

Attendees:

CalLee Davenport - US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) biologist, Portland, OR.

callee_davenport@fws.gov

- CalLee is the State Coordinator of the Service's private lands program – Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) Program and has been involved in helping to organize the Rogue Native Plant Partnership (in conjunction w other cooperating agencies/entities and The Understory Initiative).

Allison Manwaring – USFWS biologist, Roseburg, OR. allison_manwaring@fws.gov

- Allison works with private landowners in the Umpqua undertaking restoration projects through the PFW program and also on conservation/restoration projects for listed, “surrogate”, or other species of concern in SW Oregon.

Sam Friedman – USFWS botanist, Roseburg, OR. sam_friedman@fws.gov

- Sam serves as FWS botanist for SW Oregon and works to recover a variety of federally listed plants (e.g., Rough popcornflower, Gentner's fritillary, etc.) and is also a member of NPSO Umpqua Valley.

Donna Rawson - Native Plant Society of Oregon (NPSO) Umpqua Valley (UV) chapter Secretary, Roseburg, OR. donnar460@gmail.com

- Donna holds position as secretary of the NPSO-UV and helps to organize NPSO meetings in conjunction w MA and Rod. She actively gardens and has helped put together NPSO tours and native plant seed gathering activities. Oregon Small Woodlands Assn., Douglas County – Donna and her husband are members

M.A. Hansen - NPSO Umpqua Valley chapter Vice President, Roseburg, OR. MAH444@aol.com

- MA holds position of vice president of the NPSO-UV and maintains a number of native plant gardens at her residence. With Donna, helped put on native plant seed harvest trips and tours.

Rod Trotter - NPSO Umpqua Valley chapter President, Roseburg, OR. RodLtrtoter@icloud.com

- Rod is president of NPSO-UV and avid gardener

Marjory Hamann - Elkton Community Education Center (ECEC) Executive Director, Elkton, OR.

marjory@elktonbutterflies.com

Tracy Pope - City of Roseburg, Horticulturist for Parks and Recreation Department

trace_pope@yahoo.com

Ian Grinter - US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) botanist, Roseburg, OR. igrinter@blm.gov

- Ian works w Sam and others helping to recover listed plants on BLM lands, and in using native plants for the restoration of disturbed areas and riparian restoration projects.

Ken Carloni – Retired Professor of Botany, Umpqua Community College, Roseburg, OR.

ken.carloni@gmail.com

Sent their regards but were unable to make it:

Bryan Benz – Umpqua Community College Natural Resources Department, Roseburg, OR.
brynbenz@gmail.com

Eric Stauder - Phoenix School, Youth Corps Coordinator, Roseburg, OR.
youthcorps@roseburgphoenix.com

Kathryn & Sean Prive/Vanessa Robertson-Rojas/Tuula Rebhahn – The Understory Initiative (TUI), Medford. kathryn@understoryinitiative.org, sean@understoryinitiative.org, vanessa@understoryinitiative.org, tuula@understoryinitiative.org

- Kathryn, Sean, Vanessa, and Tuula are all ecologists with the Non-Governmental Organization “The Understory Initiative.” TUI, working in conjunction w a number of governmental and non-governmental agencies, landowners, and native nurseries, established the Rogue Native Plant Partnership (RNPP) in the Rogue Valley and Kathryn serves as its coordinator. Additionally, TUI also plays a key role in coordinating a parallel partnership in the Rogue called the Southwest Oregon Pollinator Collaborative (SWOPC). Vanessa also assists with coordinating SWOPC, but also works with a number of private landowners in the Rogue Valley under a Private Lands initiative within each of the two larger efforts of RNPP and SWOPC.

Minutes of the meeting:

CalLee welcomed everyone, introduced himself, and gave an overview of what the concept/idea was behind the forming of a “native plant partnership” (aka “the reason for the meeting”). He mentioned that there is power in partnering to achieve end goals (pooling money, effort, resources, etc.) and that together we can accomplish many of our shared goals. He also spoke of why he’s been involved w partnership/working group creation (PFW = habitat-based restoration program that collaborates w private landowners; focus on pollinators and other habitat-based listed declining species; some of the other working groups, etc.)

He then had everyone do introductions and asked them to provide what their interest was in helping to form a partnership (is it your background, a hobby, your job, job needs, etc.? *(Some of these interests are summarized after each person’s name in the attendee list).*)

Additional info provided:

- Ian – BLM is interested in fast establishing “workhorse” species (e.g., California brome, blue wildrye, riverbank lupine) for restoration purposes. Also interested in pollinators and always looking for native species to do forest and riparian restoration activities. BLM may have additional funding to help efforts (Title II program).
- Ken – Retired UCC instructor, interested in helping the effort coalesce. Has a lot of knowledge from his experiences and career. Knows where many good native seed sources are in the county.
- Rod – An “amateur” botanist, herbalist, and gardener. Has a number of native plant beds he maintains at his residence and has knowledge of

Who was missing?:

Attendees mentioned the following names/affiliations of folks they thought might be good additions to the group:

Alicia Christensen – OSU Extension, Roseburg – Outreach! Alicia.Christiansen@oregonstate.edu
Rhonda Black – Umpqua SWCD, Reedsport. rhonda@umpquasoilandwater.com
Dan Luoma – OSU professor, botanist/ecologist, Corvallis

Mike Madson - Wildwood Nursery, Dixonville/Winston mlmadson@hotmail.com
Molly Morison – The Nature Conservancy. Oversees management of the TNC Popcorn Swale property mmorison@TNC.ORG
Crystal Shepherd – Tiller
Justy Grinter – Bureau of Land Management, Roseburg jgrinter@blm.gov
Glide Wildflower Show Council – has routes of where species are
Alexis Larson – Institute for Applied Ecology alexislarsen@appliedeco.org
USFS – Clint Emerson, botanist, on 4 month detail to Umpqua NF. Along w CalLee and TUI, helped establish the Rogue Native Plant Partnership and will be an awesome help in getting UNPP started. clint.emerson@usda.gov
Audrey Squires – National Forest Foundation. On a fellowship with Umpqua National Forest asquires@nationalforests.org

Known Infrastructure (greenhouses, nurseries, schools, home growouts, etc.):

- Once UNPP gets more “up and running”, will be able to rely a bit initially on RNPP (Kathryn) and the equipment/etc that they have access to.
- JH Stone Nursery and Dorena Nurseries (USFS) – Can do business w federal agencies for growouts and seed increase plots
- Phoenix School, Eric Stauder – Has his own nursery to grow native plants as well as Phoenix Sch.
- Many of the area high schools have nurseries on-site and we could get schools/kids involved in grow-outs
- Ken – UCC has a native garden that could play a role. Contact Bryan Benz to follow up on that.
- Do we have landowners willing to grow native seed production plots? Brian Nix? Mike at nursery?

What are everyone’s needs?

- What kinda plants do folks have needs for? (e.g., workhorse groundcover species, specific pollinator plants, host plants (eg milkweed), early/mid/late season blooming, endangered plants – rough popcornflower, Gentner’s fritillary, trees – oaks, etc.; others?)
- Volunteers to do seed collections, a group coordinator (after TUI gets us started), dedicated members to do the work.

Who has funding?

- USFWS – funding through PFW Program and potentially Recovery funding
- BLM – Title II grants
- NPSO-UV – M.A. mentioned that NPS potentially has some funding depending on the needs
- USFS – Possible post fire restoration funding; possible support funding for UNPP

Where are the “species/seeds” at, and when are they ready:

- Potential volunteer seed collectors could use NPSO, Glide Wildflower Show, and agency info for seed collection info/locations.
- Next steps: think about needs and identify top priority species for potential grow-out or seed collections.

Lastly, the meeting came to a close with a discussion about “educating people on maintenance”
Thanks for attending!!!