

Rare Plant Update

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has published a supplementary notice revising the information on about half of the taxa in its 1980 assessment of native ferns, conifers, and flowering plants that are, or may be, vulnerable to extinction, as well as those thought to have gone extinct. These changes are primarily additions and deletions of taxa from active consideration, changes in category for candidate taxa, and additions and deletions in their State historical distributions. This first supplement to the comprehensive notice of review published in the December 15, 1980, *Federal Register*, takes into account field work and taxonomic research of botanists and conservationists during the past 3 years, insofar as the data can be documented in Service files (MacBryde, 1983).*

The 1980 plant notice remains current and should be consulted for candidate plants that did not need any updating. Currently the Service recognizes 83 native vascular plant taxa in Arizona as candidates for listing as endangered or threatened species.

Current candidates are placed in either of two categories. Category 1 species are those for which the Service has on file substantial information to support the appropriateness of their being listed as endangered or threatened species. Category 2 taxa are probably appropriate candidates but the Service presently does not have sufficient information to biologically support a proposal to list as wether threatened or endangered.

Copies of the 1980 notice and the 1983 supplement are available upon request from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Endangered Species, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87103.

Arizona now has six federally listed plant taxa. Five cacti were listed as endangered in 1979. The Service recently listed the San Francisco Peaks groundsel (*Senecio franciscanus*) as a threatened species. This species is restricted to a 2.6 square km area between Humphreys and Agassiz peaks in the San Francisco Peaks region north of Flagstaff. Listing will facilitate the protection of the species and its habitat from trampling by hikers.

The Service is responsible for developing recovery plans for listed plant species. Draft recovery plans have

continued inside

House Passes Arizona Wilderness Bill

After years of work, we're on the verge of preserving many of Arizona's spectacular wild Forest Service lands. Areas as varied as the commanding Four Peaks near Phoenix, the hidden beautiful canyons of Wet Beaver and West Clear Creek on the rim, the magnificent Mt. Wightson range, the pristine Bear Wallow area and splendid Red Rock-Secret Mountain may finally get the protection they so richly deserve. On April 3rd, the House of Representatives passed the Arizona Wilderness Act of 1984, which designates 29 new wilderness areas or additions to wilderness areas (totaling 772,000 acres), three Wilderness Study Areas (totaling 71,000

continued inside

The
Arizona
Native
Plant
Society

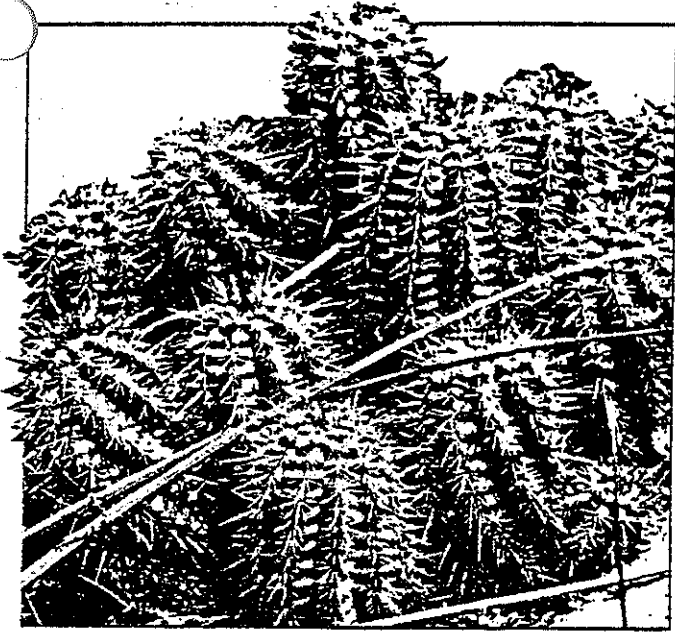
Flagstaff
Phoenix
South Central
Tucson
Yuma



The
Plant
Press

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Rare continued



(*Echinocereus triglochidiatus* var. *arizonicus*)

been written for Arizona Hedgehog Cactus (*Echinocereus triglochidiatus* var. *arizonicus*), Nichol Turk's Head Cactus (*Echinocactus horizontalis* var. *nicholii*), Navajo Peebles Cactus (*Pediocactus peeblesianus* var. *peeblesianus*) and Brady Pinchusion Cactus (*Pediocactus bradyi*). All of the species are found on lands administered by a federal agency. The Arizona Hedgehog Cactus occurs on Forest Service lands and the remaining three species occur on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. The Phoenix District Office of BLM is preparing habitat management plans for Nichol Turk's Head Cactus and Navajo Peebles Cactus. If implemented the plans will assist in the recovery of these endangered cacti.

MacBryde, B. 1983. *Assessment of vulnerable native plants updated*. Endangered Species Technical Bulletin 8(12):1, 6-8.

Wilderness Bill continued

acres) and a 39-mile section of the Verde River as Arizona's first Wild and Scenic River.

An identical bill introduced by Senator Barry Goldwater awaits action in the Senate. But victory in the Senate will not come easily. Anti-wilderness individuals hold key positions in the Senate and will attempt to weaken the bill, if they can. They will be assisted by anti-wilderness interests who are focusing their efforts on the Senate in these last few crucial weeks.

Our Senators need to hear from you while the final decisions are hammered out. The outpouring of citizen support made the difference in the House; the bill passed by the overwhelming majority of 335 to 56,

obviously with strong bipartisan support. Now we must make the same impression on the Senate.

Senate Action Imminent!! Senator Goldwater has decided to move his bill, S. 2242, VERY QUICKLY. He will forego the usual round of committee hearings and take it directly to the floor shortly after the Easter break. Industry has mounted an attack to have a number of areas dropped from the bill (see below) and add weakening amendments which would severely restrict future wilderness protection and allow increased motorized vehicle access in existing wilderness areas. Major changes could occur since neither Senator Goldwater or Senator DeConcini have committed to a final version of the bill.

The Wilderness bill as passed by the House is a skeletal bill and reflects massive compromises. The bill must not lose any areas that it now contains, nor must weakening amendments be added. **BOTH OF ARIZONA'S SENATORS NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU** — not next week or the week after, **BUT RIGHT NOW!** This is our last chance to influence the content of the bill in the Senate.

What You Can Do. WRITE IMMEDIATELY TO SENATOR GOLDWATER AND SENATOR DECONCINI AND ASK THEM TO:

- Retain all of the areas included in the House passed bill, H.R. 4707.
- Refuse to add any weakening amendments; the bill already contains carefully crafted compromises which have worked in other wilderness bills.
- Amend the bill only to add appropriate areas of outstanding wilderness quality or to make small but critical boundary changes in a few units. A list of these additions and changes, as well as the areas Senator Goldwater is being asked to delete, follow.

Also send a copy of your letter(s) to Representative Morris Udall, author and original sponsor of the bill in the house. He will have a major voice in shaping the final version of the bill if it goes to conference committee.

WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO ACT, so instead of a letter, or in addition to one, you may wish to call the Senators' offices. Phone numbers and addresses are listed below. Feel free to add your personal comments on areas that you are acquainted with and want to defend. Whatever you do, **DO IT NOW — TIMING IS CRITICAL!**

Senator Barry Goldwater
353 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
D.C. (202) 224-2235
AZ (602) 241-2597

Senator Dennis DeConcini
328 Hart Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
C.C. (202) 224-4521
AZ (602) 261-6756

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Welcome New Members

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Donar V. Cole

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Robert Gainer
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Chris McEirath
Ann & Del Murphy

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William J. Fleishman

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Bea Christianson
Helen E. Nelson
Joyce Partain
Reta Reeves
Hartynn Wilkinson

TUCSON

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Harriet Parker
Veronica Mutschall
Bill Christie
James and Madeline Ellis
Jodi Schramm
Desert Survivors, Inc.
Johana van Dyke
Margaret Jackson
Catherine Clabbey
Connie and Bob Foster
Marian Hannen
Ralph & Nan Kuehn
Joan van Denbos
Grace G. Gregg
Judy Gullot
Ruth Harless
Dorothea B. Jackson



Depot Desert Trail

The Yuma Chapter of the Arizona Native Plant Society held a desert plant sale, March 24, at the Yuma Art Center.

Planning for the sale began last year when arrangements were made with Ron Gass, Mountain States Wholesale Nursery, to grow the plants selected for their ability to thrive in Yuma's climate and soils.

The purpose of the sale was twofold: to increase public awareness of low maintenance, drought resistant plants and also to generate funds to print a trail guide for use on the Depot Desert Trail.

The Depot Desert Trail is a small wedge of land, north of the off-street parking area of the Yuma Art Center, 281 Gila Street, Yuma. Still being developed, the Trail was created in 1980 by individuals and businesses who donated time and materials to make a desert botanical garden and trail. The area is owned by the city of Yuma and was planted with desert plants confiscated by the Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture.

Maintenance for the trail is coordinated by local members of the Arizona Native Plant Society, Audubon,

Yuma Fine Arts Association, Yuma County Garden Council and City of Yuma Parks and Recreation Division.

Dr. Charles Sacamano, landscaping specialist from the University of Arizona gave a slide presentation at 10 am and again at 1 pm to standing room only crowds of Yumans eager to learn about alternatives to rocks and cactus for desert plantings.

Community response to the sale exceeded expectations and amazingly, all the plants were sold.

In addition, Society members who worked on the sale all commented they were impressed by the group spirit and had enjoyed the experience.

Pat Callahan, President, Yuma Chapter



Aravaipa Canyon Workshop

The South Central Chapter is planning a June 21-24 field trip to the Aravaipa Canyon Primitive Area. We would like to invite members of other state chapters to join us, as entrance into the canyon is limited, we need to know as soon as possible who would like to attend. All plans are not final, as activities will be based on the interest of those participating in the outing. At this time we have reservations for ten people to enter the canyon from the East end on the 21st and 24th, and for 20 people to enter from the East end on the 22nd and 23rd. We also have reservations for ten people to enter from the West end and hike to the east end starting on the 21st. The hike from the West end on the 21st and half of the group starting on the 22nd at the East end may include an overnight in the canyon if enough members are interested.

The group has permission to use the Defenders of Wildlife guest house at the East Entrance of the

Canyon. There will be sleeping accommodations for 10 to 12 in the house and about as many on the screen enclosed porch. There will be room for campers and travel trailers as well as tents on the grounds. It will be necessary for those taking part in the outing to furnish their own meals. There is a kitchen in the house and plans have been discussed but not finalized to set up an outdoor kitchen for everyone's use.

A small fee not to exceed \$7.00 will be charged to cover a donation to the Defenders of Wildlife for the use of the house and for the chapters mailing cost.

If you would like more information or plan to attend please fill out the following form and mail to:

Kathy Cook
Box 363
Stanfield, AZ 85272
or call 602-836-0051

Please mail before May 15 as we will begin making final plans at that time.

Name _____

Address (mailing) _____

Please check the following that applies to you.

- I plan to attend.
- I would prefer to stay in the house.
- I will camp out.

I would prefer the following:

- Day hike into the canyon.
- Day hike through the canyon.
- Back packing overnight through the canyon.

Please number 1-4 with 1 being your first choice of day to hike into the canyon. 21st 22nd 23rd 24th

I would like to attend but do not care to hike into the canyon.

Chapter Events

FLAGSTAFF

To be announced

Chapter meets on third Thursday of month at Flagstaff Adult Center, 7:30 p.m.

For information call Susan Husband 774-7924

PHOENIX

May 12, 13. Plant Fair at Maryvale Mall. (See related article in this issue of *Plant Press*.)

May 19, 20. Field trip to Muleshoe Ranch, a Nature Conservancy Preserve in southeastern Arizona.

May 14. For a change of pace we'll be seeing a film entitled "The Garden of Eden" produced by the Nature Conservancy.

June 16. One day field trip to see the world's biggest alligator juniper (*Juniperus deppeana*) near Kohl's ranch east of Payson.

July ?. One day field trip to northern Arizona to study aquatic plants. This trip will be led by Dr. Pinkava of ASU, Department of Botany.

August 4,5. Overnight field trip to Sycamore Canyon on the Mexican border.

Monthly meetings held second Monday of the month at Desert Botanical Garden at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise stated. For information about field trips contact Peg Gallagher 894-0994 or Marc Mittleman 265-0670.

SOUTH-CENTRAL CHAPTER

May 5. General Meeting/Elections and Calendar Planning.

May 18, 19. Field Trip to the Sierra Ancha Experimental Forest.

June 21-24. Aravaipa Workshop. (See related article in this issue of *Plant Press*.)

Monthly meetings held first Saturday of the month at Central Arizona College at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise stated. For information contact Bill Kinnison 836-8562 or 836-8243

TUCSON

May 26. Trip to Ramsey Canyon Preserve of the Arizona Nature Conservancy. Preserve Manager Frank Hirst will lead tours up the trail into the canyon preserve and point out rare plants protected by the Conservancy. We will be limited to a maximum of 14 persons. We will be taken on the walks in groups of 7 persons.

We will leave at 8:00 a.m. from Denny's restaurant parking lot at St. Mary's Road and I-10. We must arrive in a maximum of 3 vehicles so we may have to re-group in Sierra Vista before going into the Canyon.

Because of the size limitation on the group, please register for the trip in advance by calling Meg Quinn (home: 624-7331; Museum: 883-1380). It will be first-come, first-serve, with overflow on a stand-by list in case of cancellations.

The Ramsey Canyon Preserve is in the Huachuca Mountains about 12 miles southwest of Sierra Vista. Its flora consists of 343 species of vascular plants (213 genera; 64 families). Of these, 15 species have been listed as of Special Interest, including the famous Lemon Lily (*Lilium parryi*).

YUMA

To be announced

Monthly meetings are held on the second Monday, 7:30 p.m. at the Yuma Extension Service Office unless otherwise stated. For information call 783-8338.

Preparation for Arid Lands Plant Fair in Final Stages

On May 12-13, 1984 the Phoenix chapter of the Arizona Native Plant Society will sponsor its fourth annual "Arid Lands Plant Fair." This year the fair will be held at the Maryvale Mall located at 5220 West Indian School Road, Phoenix, AZ.

The fair will again be educational in focus and through it we hope to disseminate information and solicit support for the agencies, institutions, and organizations that deal with native and other arid land plants. Nurserypeople, horticulturists, landscape contractors, botanists and others concerned with the promotion of drought-tolerant plants for landscaping, and those interested in the preservation of our native flora are encouraged to participate.

The fair will be an excellent opportunity to provide much needed information on the use of drought-tolerant plants and the conservation/preservation of our state's unique flora. This year we will be able to sell plants and we encourage you to offer booklets and pamphlets which are informative, which explain their goals and purposes or which solicit membership.

We invite your participation and welcome any ideas or suggestions regarding this event. For further information contact Marc Mittleman, 265-0670, evenings.

Marc Mittleman

Plant Fair Coordinator

