



# Koma Kulshan

## Chapter WNPS

### Newsletter

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#### Find Koma Kulshan Online

**Website:** [www.wnpskoma.org](http://www.wnpskoma.org)  
**Facebook:** WNPSKomaKulshan

#### Make the WNPS Social Media Connection!

WNPS has launched a social media initiative to become more active on the platforms below. If you're on social media, check out the following:

##### FACEBOOK:

[www.facebook.com/WashingtonNativePlants](http://www.facebook.com/WashingtonNativePlants). Like our page! Here we post many updates regarding what's happening in WNPS. Information regarding plants, locations around Washington, WNPS events, and society member announcements. Chapter Facebook pages can also share their posts on the WNPS facebook page, including events. NEW! We now have a Facebook Group! Here we can share those wonderful shots of specific species, questions or inquiries about native plants, wonderful gardens from around the state, fantastic restoration work and a whole lot more.

**TWITTER:** Follow us at @WNPSociety Name WNPSociety in your tweets about native plants to share them with our followers.

##### INSTAGRAM:

[Instagram.com/washingtonnativeplants](https://www.instagram.com/washingtonnativeplants), or download the app for iPhone or Android. Post photos and share to our library at #WNPS Be sure to like our photos when you see them.

## Summer (July, August, September) 2016

### President's Corner

by Abe Lloyd

The Wenatchee Chapter hosted a wonderful study weekend this year. Koma Kulshan was well represented by Marie H., Jim D., Ellen K., Mark T., Trish O. Ron Q., and a few students. This year our chapter awarded two scholarships, which allowed Mia Johnson and Christina Hakes, both of WWU to attend. In addition, Jazmen, who received a scholarship last year, was so smitten with the event that she returned this year with her friend Jordan. Many of us camped out together at the Upper Johnny Creek campground.

The weather Saturday was cold and wet, even snowing on those who ventured higher in the mountains, but Sunday was all sunshine. I was excited to find *Claytonia megarhiza* amongst dunite scree on the top of Iron Mountain. *Lewisiopsis tweedyi* was also spotted by many.

After a tasty BBQ of chicken and pork ribs Saturday evening, Jack Nesbit read from a new book on Biscuitroot. He shared the experiences of early explorers like Lewis and Clark and David Douglas as well as stories from the cultures that have been eating Biscuitroot for thousands of years.

Next year's Study Weekend will be in Spokane and I can hardly wait.

### Native Plant Habitat Garden: A partnership between NSEA and WNPS

by Wendy Scherrer (Cont'd on p 2)

Down in the Dewey Valley in northeast Bellingham, at 3057 E. Bakerview Road, is the new 6-acre permanent home for the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association (NSEA). NSEA took over ownership of the former Fourth Corner Nurseries retail site in July 2015. With an office, tool storage facility, native plant nursery, potting shed, and log storage area for habitat restoration projects, the new site supports NSEA's full-time administrative, project management and education staff, interns, AmeriCorps volunteers, and Washington Conservation Corps restoration crews.

In June 2015, a State WNPS \$1,000 Education Grant was provided to support the creation of a new NSEA Native Plant Habitat Garden for students, volunteers, families, scientists, landowners, politicians, and other community members to learn about native plants, and the vital connection between native plant communities, salmon, and restoration of our local habitats.

WNPS Koma Kulshan members worked with NSEA folks to create a list of over 65 native plants to feature in the new garden, grouping the plants into seven native plant communities, including: Riparian, Wet Meadow, Rocky bald (open dry), Wet marsh, Hemlock forest (wet), Douglas fir forest (dry), and Cedar swamp communities. Current scientific and common names were verified and signs are being created for each plant.

As the site plan for the new teaching garden was finalized, a re-circulating stream, snags, and a nurse log were also designed into the garden to demonstrate methods of landscaping for wildlife. As additional donors and volunteer advisors stepped up to support the design and implementation of the project, NSEA crews and volunteers worked hundreds of hours this winter to create the impressive hardscape for garden, including soil and rocks, handmade benches and bridges, and an entrance sculpture. Fourth Corner Nurseries donated many of the native plants and a local scout has made this his Eagle Scout culminating project.

NSEA's site is open to the public and is already a destination site for school field trips, college



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## Native Plant Habitat Garden (continued)

classes, WA Conservation Corps crew training, and volunteer work parties; and will provide a place to train teachers and supervise interns from colleges and high schools.

This partnership project is a win-win project. The new Native Plant Habitat Garden is an asset for NSEA's education programs, and also aligns with WNPS goals and objectives: promoting appreciation of native plants, providing support for teaching botanical subjects in schools (K-12), and increasing public awareness of native plants through promotion of the effective use of native plants in the landscape for our larger community.



The native plant garden from above shows the model creek as well as zones with installed plant communities. Photo by Adrian Shulock

## Field Trips (Cont'd on P3)

### KOMA KULSHAN CHAPTER WNPS: FIELD TRIPS SUMMER 2016

#### July 2, Saturday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM: Heather Meadows Wildflowers

This will be a moderately easy hike in Heather Meadows. We will be looking at the variability in flowering of common subalpine meadow species by micro-habitat. We will also take a close look at any pollinators that we find on these meadow flowers. If we are very lucky, we might even find a few ripe huckleberries. Bring a lunch, rain gear (including pants), and sturdy shoes. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the southeast corner of Sunset Square parking lot out from the Safeway. Contact Jim Davis at 360-296-5159 or [jimdavispcpc@comcast.net](mailto:jimdavispcpc@comcast.net) with questions or to RSVP.

#### July 16, Saturday, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM: Agate Pond Preserve

Come see an evolving, newly created beaver wetland in the midst of summer drawdown. Native wetland grasses (*Glyceria*, *Deschampsia*, *Torreyochloa*), sedges and rushes, *sparganium*, *Rumex occidentalis*, *Sagittaria latifolia*, *Menyanthes*, etc. Our guide Tricia Otto will discuss management techniques and problems. Muskrat, mink, bobcat, and bear are currently in residence on her property located 1 mile off North Shore at Agate Bay. Meet at 10 am for wetland walk, bring lunch to have on the veranda, and walk the 100 acre forest preserve in the afternoon as desired. Call Tricia with questions 360-927-0225. Address is 3695 Agate Bay Lane - corner of Agate Bay Lane and Jensen Road. There is plenty of parking at the site. Bring rubber boots if desired.



# Summer (July, August, September) 2016

## Chapter Meetings

Meetings begin at 7pm in the Sustainable Living Center education room at the ReStore (2309 Meridian St.). The entrance is off the back alley and the SLC is upstairs. For more information, call Vikki Jackson at (360) 319-6988.

### September 21st: Boss Mosses; Reading Moss Landscapes in the Pacific Northwest

Contrary to what many believe, it is easy to recognize the most common mosses of our area without a microscope and, in most cases, without even a hand lens. Come hear about the fascinating lives of Pacific Northwest mosses and learn what they contribute to the local ecosystem. Kem Luther, a naturalist and writer, grew up in the Nebraska Sandhills and currently lives in Victoria, BC. He studied at Cornell, the University of Chicago, and the University of Toronto, and taught at Eastern Mennonite University, Sheridan College, York University, and the University of Toronto. His most recent book is *Boundary Layer* (Oregon State University Press, 2016), and he may have some available for sale at the meeting. You can find more information about Kem and his latest book at <http://stegnon.com/>.

## Field Trips (Cont'd)

### July 23, Saturday, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM: Heather Pass and Maple Pass loop

Heather Pass and Maple Pass loop is a classic high-country alpine hike that begins at Rainy Pass, loops past Lake Ann, and climbs to spectacular ridges and alpine meadows dotted with larches. Gain about 2000 feet, with a high point of 6650 feet, and round-trip distance of 7.2 miles. Meet at 7:00 am at the Fairhaven west side park & ride. Plan for a long day. Sign up with leader Mark Turner, 360-671-6851 or [mark@turnerphotographics.com](mailto:mark@turnerphotographics.com).

### July 29 - July 31, Friday, 8:00 AM thru Sunday: Hart's Pass Adventure

This will be a three day / two night camping trip to Hart's Pass on the far eastern edge of Whatcom County. We will be hiking moderately difficult high elevation sections of the Pacific Crest Trail. The views are stunning along the trail and the dry side subalpine wildflowers should be prolific in late July. We will leave Bellingham early on Friday and do a short hike near Hart's Pass on Friday afternoon. We will also do a long hike on Saturday and a shorter hike on Sunday before we begin our return drive to Bellingham. Assuming we can secure camping sites, we will be camping just to the south of Hart's Pass. There will be a charge for campground sites, although we will likely be able to share these costs. It can be quite chilly in this high elevation area even in late July. Bring a tent, sleeping pad, and warm sleeping bag (or your cozy warm camper). Also bring all the food and water you will need for three days. Hopefully, the weather will be beautiful, but just in case, bring rain gear, a warm coat, a winter hat, and gloves. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west side Park & Ride off Fairhaven Parkway. RSVP required for this trip. Contact Jim Davis at 360-296-5159 or [jimdavispcp@comcast.net](mailto:jimdavispcp@comcast.net).

### August 13, Saturday, 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM: Ridley Creek Trail

Rediscover this recently reopened trail, which begins with a safe crossing of the Middle Fork Nooksack River, then wanders through damp woods before climbing to subalpine meadows at Mazama Park. The hike is 2.9 miles and 1800' elevation gain one-way. Last September we were about 2 miles up the trail in a yellow cedar forest when we were turned back by rain. This trail was the route used in the Mount Baker Marathon in 1911 and in the recent round-trip run from Bellingham Bay to the summit of Baker. Meet at the southeast corner of Sunset Square parking lot out from the Safeway at 8:00 AM. Trip limited to 12. Contact Allan Richardson at 360-733-5477 or [boghill@earthlink.net](mailto:boghill@earthlink.net) to sign up.

### August 20, Saturday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM or later: Cascade River Burn Plant Survey

This will be a strenuous "hike" in a 12-14 year old burn along the Middle Fork of the Cascade River. There are no trails in this burn, so there will likely be a substantial amount of thrashing through dense brush from about 1,800' to 3,500' (not everyone will need to hike into the higher elevation portions of the burn). If this description has not already scared you off, then the important benefits of this plant survey may attract your participation. We will be identifying plants that have survived the fire or recolonized since the burn. There are very few accessible burns on the west side of the Pacific Crest (most suppressed by fire fighters) that allow tracking of vegetation recovery across such a broad altitudinal gradient. Results from our work will contribute toward an understanding of vegetation (and habitat) recovery following burns on the west side. Bring a lunch, lots of water, rain gear (just in case), sturdy shoes, and thorn proof gloves. If you have any gaiters, it would be a pretty good idea to bring them. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west side Park & Ride off Fairhaven Parkway. Contact Jim Davis at 360-296-5159 or [jimdavispcp@comcast.net](mailto:jimdavispcp@comcast.net) with questions or to RSVP.

### September 10, Saturday, 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM: Table Mt. North end (side table) alpine floral loop

The slightly lower "side table" is accessed from a historic, well-constructed, but neglected trail ascending the West slope. Expect alpine flora and a far west occurrence of *Pinus albicaulis* (whitebark pine) as we circumambulate the table top. Group A (Annie with acrophobes) return the same route, botanizing subalpine lake and waterfall. Group B (Bob with bolds) continues on the historic route steeply up (exposure) to the more familiar Table Mt. top where botanizing continues, descending via the east end trail. Elevation gains are 650 or 750 ft; distance about 8.4 miles depending on botanical wanderings. Alpine conditions prevail and may lead to weather dictated re-scheduling. Limit 10 therefore pre-register required. Questions and register with Bob Lemon [lemprev@alphahunt.com](mailto:lemprev@alphahunt.com) or (360) 714-8629.

### September 20, Tuesday, 8:00 AM to 5 or 6 PM: Chain Lakes Loop

This is a fall favorite with our group. Bring your berry picking containers. On the way up we will drop a car at the Heather Meadows visitor's center for the return car shuttle. Our hike starts at Artists Point. After a mile we leave the Ptarmigan Ridge trail and descend into the Chain Lakes Basin. After passing several pretty little lakes we ascend to Hermann Saddle and drop down to the Bagley Lakes. Distance 6 miles, elevation gain 600 feet. Meet at the Sunset Square Safeway parking lot to carpool. Trip limited to 12. Register required with Annie Prevost at 360-714-8629 or [lemprev@alphahunt.com](mailto:lemprev@alphahunt.com)

Koma Kulshan Board

Elected Officers

**President**  
Abe Lloyd: (360) 303-1339  
arcadianabe@yahoo.com

**Vice President**  
Jim Davis: (360) 296-5159  
jimdaviscpc@comcast.net

**Secretary**  
Katrina Poppe: (360) 303-7806  
katrinalee\_98@yahoo.com

**Newsletter Editor**  
Jim Kling: (360) 671-1156  
jkling@gmail.com

**Treasurer**  
Angela Nelson: (360) 303-5628  
wildginger2063@Hotmail.com

Committees

**Program Chairs**  
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Vikki Jackson: (360) 319-6988

**Field Trip Chair**  
Allan Richardson: (360) 733-5477

**Backyard Habitat Liaison**  
Molly Porter: (360) 714-0781

**Greenhouse Chair**  
Vacant

**Grants Committee Chair**  
Barry Wendling: (360) 393-9181

**State Board Representative**  
Mark Turner (at large)  
(360) 671-6851

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If you would like to join WNPS

Please return the membership application form to:  
Washington Native Plant Society  
6310 NE 74th St., Suite 215E  
Seattle, WA 98115

Please make checks payable to WNPS  
(outside US add \$5 to dues)

Name:_____		Mebership Category:	
Address:_____		\$20 Budget (Senior/Student)	
City, State, Postal Code:_____		\$35 Individual	
Phone:_____		\$45 Family	
Email:_____		\$65 Club/Institution	
Koma Kulshan Chapter		\$50 WNPS Friend	
Total Enclosed:_____		\$100 WNPS Special Friend	
		\$500 WNPS Best Friend	
		\$1000 WNPS Sustaining Member	

The Koma Kulshan chapter of WNPS is dedicated to the preservation and study of native plants and vegetation of Washington State and the education of the public to the values of native flora and its habitat.

WNPS -- Koma Kulshan Chapter  
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