



# MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

**MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
10 am to 4 pm, Saturday, March 17, 2018  
Westech, Helena, MT

Separate docs are in (). MSC=motion, second, carry. Addenda A-E follow minutes.

Attending: Gretchen Rupp, Caroline Kurtz, Jeff Copeland, Karen Porter, Annie Garde, Clare Beelman, Shannon Kimball, Peter Lesica, Patrick Plantenberg, Bob Person, Cathie Jean, Rachel Potter, recording.

**1. Welcome, Agenda Review - Gretchen Rupp**

**2. Vice President's Report - Rachel for Ryan**

- Reports from Jennifer Lyman incorporated below.

**3. Secretary's Report - Rachel Potter**

- Minutes of fall Board meeting- Approval with three changes: 1) Shannon attended, 2) minor change to Policy Update on Cancelling nonmembers, and 3) details on reminders by Peter. MSC. (MNPS BOD Minutes fin 20171104)
- Rachel queried Board via email re: preference of detailed vs. concise minutes. No consensus, so minutes will reflect what was recorded and secretary's whims, subject to addition or correction after Board review.
- Board member contacts were updated. (MNPS Board Contacts 20180325)
- A few minor By-law revisions have been noted, but will wait until substantive changes to ask membership to vote.
- The Board of Directors Duties (Board of Directors' Duties 20141114) in the MNPS Policy and Procedures Manual (a collection of docs) reads the secretary "Shall provide a copy of records of the Society's activities annually to the University of Montana, Mansfield Library." They have old By-Laws and are receiving hardcopy Kelseyas. Archivist Donna McRae says they essentially want everything, minutes, letters, etc. preferably in batches with digital archives on a CD. This is not a priority but Rachel will try to peck away some. In addition, the archives would like all State and Chapter records we no longer want to retain. If your chapter has paperwork you don't know what to do with, bring to the November meeting and we'll get a batch to the archives. That includes

meeting and field trip sign ups. It will be property of the archives and we presume you will need to pay to make future copies.

- A naming convention is needed for Budgets, Treasurer Reports, Membership Reports, Minutes, etc. to help file organization. No action taken.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report - Shannon Kimball**

- 2017 financial report. Find revised budget at (2017 Newsletter Budget.pdf). Total income for 2017 was \$1.38 more than total expenses.

2018 Budget. Changes to the proposed 2018 Budget include: Chapter payout is now included in operating expenses; other figures were adjusted, including raising proposed membership income from \$7,000 to \$10,500 (\$11,360 last year), \$500/year added for color newsletter, and \$5,000 expense was added as a Special Project for the Rare Plant Conservation Strategy. MSC. Revised is (2018 Newsletter Budget). It budgets for a loss of \$8,540 in proposed expenditures over proposed income

- For explanation of figures, see (2017 Budget File) and (2018 MNPS Budget) Excel versions that you can hover over fields to get Shannon's annotations. However, these do not include recent revisions.
- As of 3/17/18 the MNPS has \$46,726.39 in assets. Maria suggested we explore investing some of this. The discussion included desire for green, socially responsible and low risk investments. Other suggestions were if an asset amount (\$50,000?) would trigger investment, should income generated go to specific needs? Subsidize annual meeting? Or? An ad hoc committee was formed with Gretchen, Maria and Caroline to look into this.

#### **5. Newsletter Editor Report - Caroline Kurtz**

- Eileen has the Spring Kelsey ready. No native gardening article was included, but it was full. Peter will provide Caroline with a copy of Sheila's Morrison's book. Sheila needs to be contacted by phone for permission. Gretchen will contact Denise Montgomery about potentially writing an article about a native plant for landscaping for each issue of the Kelsey. Everyone- please be on the lookout for good native gardening articles to be reprinted and forward links to Caroline.
- Newsletter color. Caroline and The Printery provided a number of different sample newsletters. The Board prefers color pictures on coated white stock. \$500 was added to the 2018 budget. It would be ideal to use higher recycled content, if possible without compromising photo quality. Caroline will ask The Printery to investigate paper options and double check projected \$500/year additional cost.
- Refreshed field trip lists should be sent by Chapters and At-Large Directors to Caroline for the April 10 Field Trip Brochure and June 10 Summer Kelsey deadlines. Caroline will send out example format.
- Please keep sending high res photos to Caroline. Field trips, plants, other activities. Be sure to include credits.

#### **6. Membership Report - Cathie Jean and Sasha Victor**

- Cathie provided a membership report. The revised one is added as *Addendum A on Page 7*. It includes:
  - Several steps were taken to improve membership renewal timeliness. The outcome, 76% of our membership households renewed before expiring in 2018, up from 62% in 2017.
  - 500 copies of the membership brochure were printed in 2018 for \$353.10. Another \$160.00 is requested for membership chair expenses (labels, postage, and ink).
  - So far in 2018 we have 573 members. In April 2017 we had 566 members. Between January and March 12 we added 33 new members.
- Cathie is updating the Membership Policy and Procedure document with precise instructions.
- Maria suggested there be a line for additional donations above dues on membership cards, printable renewal forms and the web site. The printable donation form on the web has a donation column. Cathie and Bob will revise cards and PayPal. This will help Shannon with accounting when folks pay more.

#### **7. Webmaster/Webmaven Report - Bob Person**

- Cedar Mountain is converting the platform to Word Press. This is a good time to redo the site to be more visually appealing and engaging, which the Board supports and is willing to spend money to do. After contacting Cedar Mtn. Bob sent a follow up email to the Board that is posted as *Addendum B on page 8*. Key points include:
  - Do we proceed with Cedar Mountain converting our site at the proposed cost of \$500 and continued hosting at the current rate?
  - Do we hire them or someone else for \$3000 or more to redesign the site to some other look? (Maria has a great potential contractor). The final design must accommodate volunteers (Bob) to update.
  - Would it be beneficial to set up an ad hoc committee on the order of the logo committee to brainstorm design options with or without an outside contractor?
  - Bob suggested we discuss at Summer Board meeting.
- Redesign will require great graphic content and lots of it. We'll need to solicit donations and a platform to collect it.

#### **8. 2018 Annual Meeting Update - Clark Fork Chapter - Anne Garde**

- A final registration form will be sent to Caroline ASAP.
- Wayne Phillips will be presenting Friday night.
- Chapter does not need an advance and they bought insurance.
- June 29-July 1, Cane Ridge near Lincoln.
- Board meeting is 7 pm June 29.

#### **9. Committee Reports - Peter Lesica and Maria Mantas**

##### **Conservation Committee**

- There will be a slow transition to Maria Mantas as chair.
- Peter and Valley of Flowers submitted comments on Custer Gallatin NF Scoping. Also commented on last round of Flathead Plan.
- The 13<sup>th</sup> Montana Plant Conservation Conference was held in February.

- **Montana Rare Plant Conservation Strategy - Maria**
  - At the Plant Conservation Conference, Andrea Pipp presented the case for developing a Montana Rare Plant Conservation Strategy. There was widespread support. A committee with Maria Mantas, Wendy Velman, Andrea Pipp, and Steve Shelley drafted the proposal added as *Addendum C on Page 9*, asking for \$5,000 in seed money for Andrea's salary to complete Phase One.
  - Concerns of the Board included: this can be a slippery slope; agencies start relying on soft money; ideally, Andrea's salary would be fully, not 40%, funded; this is the work that should fall under her responsibilities at Montana Natural Heritage; many NGOs do not provide grants for salary; UM takes a healthy % for administration of the Natural Heritage Program.
  - However, the Board feels this is integral to our mission and voted to approve. MSC. Shannon will consult committee about how and when to transfer the money.
- **Data Collection at Historic Species of Concern Sites - Gretchen**
  - Andrea Pipp sent a proposal to the Board (Proposal-Draft2\_SO-Revisits\_MNPS\_Mar072018) for Data Collection at Historic Species of Concern Sites.
  - While the concept had support, the Chapters do not feel they can turn out an adequate cadre of Citizen Scientists with needed skills. However, we encourage Chapters to initiate field trips to some SOC sites with and trust Andrea can help them, including prioritize.
  - Peter motioned to approve. Gretchen seconded, but the motion failed
- Gretchen will report back to Andrea.

**Nominating Committee - Betty Kuropat, Gretchen**

All incumbents agreed to run for another term. Ryan Quire for her first full elected term as VP. Rachel Potter as Secretary and Jennifer Lyman as Eastern Director-at-large. Rachel sent a ballot to Caroline for the Kelseya and to Bob for the Web.

**Awards Committee - Anne G, Peter, and Dave Hanna**

Will present an award at the Annual Membership Meeting.

**Small Grants Committee – Annie**

- See *Addendum C on page 13*.
- We received 8 small grant proposals by the 1/31/18 deadline.
- There was an email Board vote so the grants could be announced in the Spring Kelseya.
- One grant for \$1500 was awarded for: *Does cultivation of MT wildflower species on native seed farms cause unintended evolution?* By Dr. Julie Etterson et al.
- The Valley of Flowers Chapter may help fund a grant request for an endangered species mural in Bozeman.

**10. Other business**

- UM Herbarium donation request - Shannon

The UM herbarium (MONTU) has 130,000 plant collections and the specimens are getting crushed and damaged. Friends of the Herbarium started a cabinet drive in early 2017 that raised \$16,000. They are short \$570. The Board voted to give \$600 to FOH to help with shipping and installation.

MSC. Shannon will move the money. Fungi specimens have been sent to the Denver Botanical Garden where they will be curated, well cared for and available to more specialists.

- Sharing of MNPS member list – *Peter*  
We need to be more diligent about sharing of member lists. There may be some grey areas, but we will always be conservative. If a third party is involved (e.g. Heritage program) the email to members should be sent by the MNPS. Always be sure to BCC.
- Messaging- We need to standardize Chapter email names. E.g. Montana Native Plant Society, Flathead Chapter. Gmail has a few different ways to name an account. Check all.
- 2019 Annual meeting in the Cypress Hills - *Patrick Plantenburg*
  - Patrick is working with the Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan. The Alberta NPS will be invited. Patrick will take a trip June 15-18 to look at locations, meet NPSS. Details to work out include insurance, financials, timing, etc.
  - Attendees will need to plan ahead for passports and health insurance. i.e. “Medicare A and B does not cover you in Canada.”
- Reprinting of the Pioneer Botanist Book - *Peter and Rachel*
  - Only about 25 paper and 20 hardbacks are left.
  - Reprinting 400 will cost abt. \$5400, plus shipping. 200 only \$500 less.
  - Discussion was very positive about reprinting and soon. However, Rachel does not have time until the fall.
  - We’ve gotten very nice reviews. See them at the [Pioneer Botanist Book Page](#) on the MNPS website.
  - It was nominated for the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Literature Award by the Council on Horticultural and Botanical Libraries, though required comping 6 hardbacks, albeit that will go to libraries. Announced in late June.
  - It’s very hard to know how saturated the small market is, though we did not do all planned publicity. Mountain Press (or similar) cannot distribute for us due to small mark up.
  - Rachel can do only limited distribution this time.
  - No action taken.

## 11. Chapter and areas-at-large reports

- Eastern at-Large -*Jennifer Lyman*  
Three field trips planned.
- Valley of Flowers- *Jeff Copeland and Gretchen*  
Success with co-presentations and joint field trips. E.g. Sweetgrass and Gardening. Will be visiting areas to be logged. Field trip with Gallatin Land Trust was well attended.
- Calypso –*Karen Porter*
  - Host evening and mid-week events in addition to weekends.
  - Always have a colorful “get ready for spring” slide show.
  - Annual gardening with natives workshop that is well attended.
  - Created and are maintaining a native median strip in Dillon.

- Have been encouraging broader participation with broader programs- ethnobotany, Pollinator Week, etc.
  - Are considering developing brochure for Lemhi Pass. A kiosk was suggested but may have vandalism/maintenance issues.
  - Catherine Cain sent a note with three different exciting projects she would like the MNPS to consider taking on. No discussion. Please explore at *Addendum E on Page 14*.
- Kelsey –*Bob Person*
    - Great botanical illustration programs. First one with history of botanical art was the largest Kelsey crowd ever. Second provided basic ideas of how to start botanical drawing.
    - We celebrate national wildflower week with events all week including field trips for school groups on Mount Helena.
- Clark Fork – *Anne Garde*
    - Are mixing up monthly meetings. We did one with Audubon, one at the MT Natural History Center and one down the Bitterroot.
    - Working hard on Annual Meeting.
    - Native Garden on UM campus has a new subalpine section and a new pretty path winding through parts of the garden.
    - Annual native plant sale continues to be a success.
    - Are hosting a tour of National Wildlife Federation Habitat gardens.
    - Looking into funding a scholarship for a young person to attend a plant related program. Swan Valley Connections programs were suggested.
    - Chapter has a banner that we can hang from a table or elsewhere.
    - We maintain a kiosk on the MT Sentinel M trail changes with the season. Are considering a brochure also.
- Flathead Chapter –*Rachel Potter*
    - We are hosting a Native Plant Trivia night at a local brewery.
    - Have had a Chapter display board that was useful at multiple events. It needs to be lighter than currently and we don't have volunteers to accomplish this. Jenny Tollefson was recommended. Other chapters have banners but not display boards.
    - Lots of field trips, thanks to Rosella, including 4 different ones to Conservation Easements. Center for Native Plants is leading one highlighting their work on wetland restoration as well as native landscaping.
    - Will be running the plant ID station for 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Family Forestry Expo again this year in conjunction with the USFS.
- Western at-large – *Peter Lesica*
    - At the minimum, there will be an Exploding Car Battery Hike, as always.

## 12. Wrap-up

- Confirm June board meeting date. June 29<sup>th</sup>. 7pm.

Addenda follow...

## Addendum A

### Membership Report Spring 2018: Updated March 21, 2018.

**Membership update** - Several steps were taken to improve membership renewal timeliness. The outcome, 76% of our membership households renewed before expiring in 2018. For comparison, 62% renewed before expiring in 2017.

**Membership budget** - 500 copies of the membership brochure were printed in 2018 for \$353.10. Another \$160.00 is requested for membership chair expenses (labels, postage, ink).

**Membership statistics** - So far in 2018 we have 573 members. In April 2017 we had 566 members. Between January and March 12 we added 33 new members.

**Note\*** Following the Spring BOD meeting, this report was updated in the following ways: an unlabeled table on page one was removed since this data is now available in Table B; Table A has changed to show the number of households (membership records) instead of the total count of members; Table B was deleted and replaced with a new table showing annual membership by chapter over time; and Table D is now Table C.

Number of MNPS members who expire between 2019 and 2024 and who already expired in 2018. Most of our members expire in 2019.

<b>Chapters</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Expired in 2018</b>
Calypso	37	0	0	0	0	37	10
Clark Fork	121	3	2	1	1	128	53
Flathead	57	7	1	1	0	66	18
Kelsey	71	3	0	0	0	74	10
Maka Flora	12	0	0	0	0	12	11
Eastern-at-large	35	1	0	0	0	36	9
Western-at-large	17	1	0	0	0	18	4
Valley of Flowers	61	4	1	0	0	66	19
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>134</b>

### Proposed Membership Reporting- Spring Report includes Tables A and B.

Table A. Number of MNPS membership HOUSEHOLDS in 2017 by chapter and membership type (Source: Membership database Dec 8, 2017).

<b>Chapters</b>	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Business</b>	<b>Lifetime</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
Calypso	21	8	0	1	30
Clark Fork	97	33	1	19	150
Flathead	40	19	1	10	70
Kelsey	31	22	0	10	63
Maka Flora	9	6	0	2	17
Eastern-at-large	19	11	2	8	40
Western-at-large	13	3	1	6	23
Valley of Flowers	42	16	4	12	74

<b>Grand Total</b>	272	118	9	68	467
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Table B. Annual membership for the Montana Native Plant Society over time showing the number of members for each chapter and exchange members. Membership is counted in December, except current 2018 membership which is based on March 12, 2018 values. (Source: Membership database).

	<b>CAL</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>MF</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>SW</b>	<b>VOF</b>	<b>Reg Total</b>	<b>EXG</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
2018*	38	152	79	91	15	46	24	83	573	45	
2017	38	195	91	92	24	54	27	98	619	43	662
2016	65	204	79	90	20	59	29	102	648	43	691
2015	47	193	88	94	24	57	37	98	638	44	682
2014	50	163	73	85	21	57	37	89	575	44	619
2013	44	189	78	84	27	54	34	89	599	44	643

\* The current year membership count is revised upward as the year progresses until December when it becomes final.

**Proposed Membership Reporting- Fall Report includes Tables B and C.**

Table C. Annual membership income showing chapter and state distribution of funds for the past 5 years (Source: Annual Treasurer Reports and Membership Income Processing Reports).

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>CHAPTER SHARE</b>	<b>STATE SHARE</b>
2018*			
2017	\$11,360	\$3,528	\$7,832
2016	\$10,321	\$3,354	\$6,967
2015	\$9,658	\$3,400	\$6,258
2014	\$9,705	\$2,902	\$6,803
2013	\$9,807	\$3,269	\$6,538
<b>5-yr Avg</b>	<b>\$10,170</b>	<b>\$3,291</b>	<b>\$6,880</b>

\* The current year's membership income and chapter share is provided, in draft, for budgeting purposes at the fall board meeting.

**Addendum B**

Letter from Bob Person:  
MNPS BOD Colleagues:

At the recent board meeting, I pledged to follow-up on issues related to the upcoming conversion of our website by the end of April. I have been able to accomplish that. I think it best to start with quotes addressing the relevant questions written by Beth Jaffe of Cedar Mountain Software (our hosting company in Missoula):

"2. We are trying to get all of our sites moved to WordPress by the end of December. We can do your site in 6 weeks from the word go. We would transfer everything as is including all the images and files.

If you later want to change the system nomenclature and fix the associated links you can do that, but it wouldn't work in our favor to make changes now.

"3. We love the Native Plant Society and want to keep you as a client. This is a platform change we are talking about and not a site re-design. There aren't any choices in this straight forward change and we'll do this for \$500 without an increase in your monthly rate. It isn't really covering our costs - but it is what we're offering. If you all would like a site re-design - our prices on that start at \$3000. The beauty of WordPress is that more people are able to work with it and once you have a nice basic site - the world opens up for people with WordPress skills and it becomes very easy to find volunteers willing to work on the site."

As of this week, the MNPS logo has been updated to the flower version and the little tiny logo (favicon) that shows up beside the name of the website (URL) also has been updated. The favicon will probably show up sometime when your cache is cleared of the older one. That hasn't happened for me yet, but it will change over time. The logos in the header for both regular and mobile devices seem to work well.

At the meeting, we talked about redesign, which Beth mentions above. I think her comments give us the opportunity to think about how to go about this and what sort of result we want to achieve. I am comfortable that her suggestion that WordPress is quite amenable to volunteer work (by me, for example) is no doubt right. I have looked at the Swan Valley Connections site as suggested by Maria, several other native plant society websites, and some of the thousands of available templates and I think I understand what the graphic component is that we are talking about. I also believe we will be able to pick an option that we can work with in house to achieve what we want. And, we have some months to think and discuss the options for a good decision. Maybe members can come to the Annual Meeting board gathering with some good suggestions on how to proceed.

At that time, decisions would include at least:

- Do we proceed with Cedar Mountain converting our site at the proposed cost of \$500 and continued hosting at the current rate?
- Do we hire them or someone else for \$3000 or more to redesign the site to some other look?
- Would it be beneficial for the Board to set up an ad hoc committee on the order of the logo committee to brainstorm design options with or without an outside contractor?

The outcome of these and accompanying discussion will lead to other decisions, of course. Our site is an important tool in accomplishing our mission, and I look forward to working with all of you to achieve an effective transition.

- Bob Person...

## Addendum C

### Developing a Montana Rare Plant Conservation Strategy

Submitted to the Montana Native Plant Society  
By Andrea Pipp, Steve Shelly, Wendy Velman, and Maria Mantas  
March 9, 2018

Montana's rare plants contribute to biodiversity, are a component of functioning ecosystems, and are an irreplaceable part of the state's and nation's natural heritage. In Montana, 351 plant taxa, roughly 12% of state's flora, are recognized as Species of Concern (SOC) by the Montana Natural Heritage Program. Plant SOC are considered at-risk of extirpation in Montana due to declining population trends, threats to populations or their habitats, restricted distribution, and/or other factors. A preliminary assessment of these plant SOC has found that 91 taxa are globally rare and have at least one identified Montana state-level threat agent (i.e., habitat loss, recreation, livestock grazing, road construction, invasive species encroachment, and/or other factors).

#### Native Plant Protection in Montana

In Montana, very few state laws or policies specifically address or protect rare plants, therefore, in most cases conservation of these species is left to the individual land owner or land management agency. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and takes the lead in recovering and conserving plants designated under the Act; however, the level of ESA protections are conditional on the plant's status and type of land ownership. Other federal agencies, such as the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), have policies for conserving rare species on lands they administer. Only in limited situations are rare plants protected on state and private lands. It is the lack of state-level recognition and protection, in combination with increasing threats to our native flora, that is prompting the need for further action.

#### Our Proposal

The low level of regulatory protection for rare plants across Montana has raised concern among native plant conservationists. To foster statewide conservation measures for rare plants we propose the completion of a Montana Rare Plant Conservation Strategy. We believe that through a partnership effort we can create a guiding document that will identify priority rare plant species and habitats most in need of conservation, and outline measures for protection, monitoring, and restoration.

The effort to develop a Montana Rare Plant Conservation Strategy (Strategy) began in 2013. At the 2018 Montana Plant Conservation Conference participants representing a variety of affiliations strongly supported pursuing its further development. From that workshop emerged an initial team representing the USFS, BLM, Montana Native Plant Society (MNPS), and MTNHP tasked with drafting a process for moving forward on a Strategy. The current vision is to model the Strategy after those completed by Colorado in 2009 (Neeley et. al. 2009) and New Mexico in 2017 (EMNRD-Forestry Division 2017) and to draw upon, as appropriate, from the *Draft Montana Plant Conservation Strategy: Plants of Special Significance and Greatest Conservation Concern* (MTNHP 2014). The goal is to develop a partnership

representing a diverse array of stakeholders who will set statewide strategic direction for the conservation of Montana's most imperiled plant species and their habitats.

The initial team envisions a three-phased project to develop a statewide Strategy:

**Phase 1** will research other statewide rare plant conservation strategies, build a collaborative partnership to support and ultimately create and utilize the Strategy, prepare an outline for the Strategy, and identify funding sources to implement Phases 2 and 3.

a. Research: The Colorado and New Mexico rare plant conservation strategies provide a framework for developing a similar process in Montana. Our goal is to learn pertinent aspects in developing a Strategy by drawing from the expertise of the key authors of these efforts. We will learn from their successes as well as their challenges.

b. Building a Partnership: We will assemble a collaborative partnership representing a variety of state, federal, non-profit, academic, and private affiliations that share a vested interest in rare plant conservation and management. The initial team will lead the effort to convene meetings with representatives from identified affiliations. Potential partners are indicated in Table 1. Our goal is to seek a long-term commitment from a diverse array of partners across Montana who will contribute to this effort throughout its duration.

c. Prepare Strategy Outline: With an understanding of the process and commitment from partners, we can prepare an outline for the Strategy. This outline will provide direction for the partnership, identify steps for preparing the Strategy, and create a general budget that will include a timeline for securing funding sources. Our goal is a document that will successfully guide the process through implementation.

d. Identify Obtainable Funding Sources: Strategy development will require funding from a variety of sources, such as grants, in-kind contributions, and other means. The initial team will explore possible contributions from partnership members and research and identify plausible grants for this effort. We have identified examples of potential funding sources in Table 2. Our goal is to engage likely funders who have expressed support for this effort and encourage their invitations to apply for funding.

*Anticipated Timeline:* Within one year, once funding is secured for Phase 1.

**Phase 2** will focus on raising funds to prepare the Strategy. This phase will be a team effort involving committed members from the partnership.

*Anticipated Timeline:* 1 year to secure funding.

**Phase 3.** Using the Strategy outline and funds secured from Phases 1 and 2, the partnership will commence developing the Strategy. To assure the Strategy's success we will seek involvement and buy-in from all partners. Therefore, Strategy preparation will be a group effort requiring a moderator, brainstorming sessions, working group meetings, writing, and editorial revisions by the entire

partnership. This approach will no doubt take longer than simply tasking one organization to complete the project, but we feel the result will be more successful as it will garner broader ownership of the final Strategy and make it more widely accepted and utilized by members in the partnership.

*Anticipated Timeline:* 2-3 years upon completion of Phase 2.

Funding Request

The initial team, led by Andrea Pipp, MTNHP Botanist, and assisted by Steve Shelly (USFS Region 1 Botanist), Wendy Velman (BLM Montana/Dakotas Botany Program Lead), and Maria Mantas (MNPS member) respectfully request \$5,000 from the MNPS to complete Phase 1. Specifically Phase 1 would fund the MTNHP to lead the efforts to assemble the collaborative partnership, research the development of other state’s plans, research funding opportunities, and develop an outline for the Strategy. The initial team members will stay involved and assist MTNHP throughout Phase 1. The University of Montana will agree to waive the \$1,250 indirect fee as MNPS is a small, non-profit organization.

We believe the results of our efforts as outlined in this proposal will greatly advance the conservation of Montana’s rare flora. We wish to thank the Montana Native Plant Society for considering this proposal.

**Table 1. *Examples of potential members of a Montana Rare Plant Conservation Strategy Partnership.***

<p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. Forest Service – Region 1</li> <li>• Bureau of Land Management Montana/Dakotas</li> <li>• Montana Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation</li> <li>• Montana Dept. of Transportation</li> <li>• Native American Tribes in Montana</li> <li>• Natural Resources Conservation Service</li> <li>• Montana Natural Heritage Program</li> <li>• U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</li> </ul> <p>Academia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carroll College</li> <li>• Montana State University</li> <li>• Rocky Mountain College</li> <li>• University of Montana State Library</li> </ul>	<p>Private</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private Grazing Associations</li> <li>• Private Ranches (Milton Ranch, MPG Ranch)</li> <li>• Weyerhaeuser and other private timber companies</li> </ul> <p>Non-Profits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American Prairie Foundation</li> <li>• Boone and Crocket Club</li> <li>• Montana Native Plant Society</li> <li>• The Nature Conservancy and other land trusts</li> </ul>
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**Table 2. *Potential funding sources for developing a statewide Montana Rare Plant Conservation Strategy.***

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doris Duke Foundation</li> <li>• Federal and state agency funding</li> <li>• Federal and state in-kind opportunities</li> <li>• Montana Native Plant Society</li> <li>• National Fish and Wildlife Foundation</li> <li>• NatureServe</li> </ul>
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## REFERENCES

- Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP). 2014. *Draft Montana Plant Conservation Strategy: Plants of Special Significance and Greatest Conservation Concern*. May. MTNHP, Helena, Montana. 142 pp.
- Neely, B.S., S. Panjabi, E. Lane, P. Lewis, C. Dawson, A. Kratz, B. Kurzel, T. Hogan, J. Handwerk, S. Krishnan, J. Neale, and N. Ripley. 2009. Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Strategy. Developed by the Colorado rare Plant Conservation Initiative. The Nature Conservancy, Boulder, Colorado. 117 pp.  
[http://www.cnhp.colostate.edu/download/documents/2009/CO\\_Plant\\_Conservation\\_Strategy\\_Report-links.pdf](http://www.cnhp.colostate.edu/download/documents/2009/CO_Plant_Conservation_Strategy_Report-links.pdf)
- Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD)-Forestry Division. 2017. New Mexico Rare Plant Conservation Strategy. Prepared and developed by Daniela Roth and the New Mexico rare Plant Conservation Strategy Partnership. Santa Fe, New Mexico. 93pp.  
[http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/documents/NMRarePlantConsStrategy\\_Final\\_reduced.pdf](http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/documents/NMRarePlantConsStrategy_Final_reduced.pdf)

## Addendum D

### 2018 MNPS Spring Meeting Small Grants Report

Presented to Board of Directors on March 17, 2018.

#### 2018 Grants:

We received 8 small grant proposals by the 1/31/18 deadline.

- 1 Educational murals
- 7 research

The committee recommended funding a total of \$2100.00 for the following two proposals:

#### **Does cultivation of MT wildflower species on native seed farms cause unintended evolution?**

Dr. Julie Etterson: Prof. Dept. Biology, U of MN Duluth. Dr. Erin Espeland: Ecologist, ARS USDA, Sidney, MT. Sophia Green: Undergrad Biology, U of MN Duluth.

\$1500.00

#### **Montana's threatened and endangered (T&E) species murals in Bozeman**

April Craighead, Craighead Institute, Bozeman, MT.

\$600.00 for paint for 3 murals

Results of BOD email meeting:

The above information was emailed to the BOD to vote on the Small Grants committee recommendations. Email sent on 3/5/18 with reply due by 3/8/18 to allow for a decision and announcement article to Kelsey (deadline 3/10). A short turn-around.

4 of the BOD responded by the deadline; 4 responded after. Of the 4 who responded by deadline, 2 supported funding the recommended proposals and 2 supported funding only the research proposal, based on comments from Gretchen.

April Craighead approached VoF chapter about helping with the murals project and they might decide to help fund that outside the Small Grants process.

Decision: We will fund the research proposal.

An announcement article has been submitted to Kelsey and acceptance/rejection letters to applicants are being prepared.

Budget implications:

2018 Budget includes \$4500 for new grants. This can be reduced to \$1500 for 1 grant.

**2017 updates:**

1 outstanding report – Jeff Copeland, Peet’s Hill Weed Monitoring in Bozeman.  
Granted an extension until April 15, 2018. Funds already awarded.

All others have submitted reports and received final payments.

\$1374 to Heidi Fleury – Riverfront Stewardship Project is the only payment in 2018.

Prepared by Betty Kuropat, Small Grants committee chair, 3/14/2018

## **Addendum E**

### POSSIBLE SOCIETY PROJECTS

MNPS Board Members:

The following three web sites are provided here for our consideration – from the California Native Plant Society (CNPS), via Catherine Cain:

<http://calscape.org>

This is a pretty ambitious project, but marvelous – kind of a “one back yard at a time” concept. Take a look at it.

[http://www.cnps.org/cnps/grownative/pdf/cnps\\_hort\\_broch-eng\\_v.pdf](http://www.cnps.org/cnps/grownative/pdf/cnps_hort_broch-eng_v.pdf) GREAT

This is a great brochure for the California native plant focus – full of basic help for folks interested in planting native flora but needing help getting started. This kind of brochure would be a great project for MNPS, and maybe as good a contribution to the “cause” as we could ever do (say I).

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CNPSGardenAmbassadors->

On this page a person fills out an application to become a local reference person about native species, gardening with native plants, sharing your own garden, etc. It certainly meshes with our primary focus on education.