

Submitter: Daphne Stone

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3173

Please support HB3713. Oregon Flora is very important to me for lots of reasons.

I am the Manager of a small botanical survey company, and it is an important tool that I and my coworkers use almost daily to identify species we come across while surveying for rare plants. We need to have the accurate descriptions and maps that Oregon Flora provides. We are often required to submit a complete species list of the land we survey, and not only does Oregon Flora help us do this accurately, it helps managers of the forested lands we survey, so that they know what resources they are managing.

Tourists come to the PNW to enjoy our wild lands, and Oregon Flora is a fun tool to explore what they are seeing. In spite of the fact that timber harvest still brings in dollars and gives people work, tourism is an important source of income for people statewide.

I have been a botanist for 50 years, and I moved to the Pacific Northwest from the east coast because of our beautiful wild lands here. For me recreation is taking a hike and enjoying the spring wildflowers, and using Oregon Flora, I am able to figure out species I haven't seen before.

Finally, I am a gardener, and I especially enjoy planting native plants around my property. Oregon Flora helps me decide what plants are appropriate for my area, and helps me find new plants to try out.

For all of these uses, Oregon Flora is FREE and available whenever we need to look something up. Funding Oregon Flora will keep it up to date and valuable for all uses. Please do what you can to fund this valuable resource.