

I am emeritus professor at Oregon State University. For 35 years I taught botany courses at OSU, and for the last 21 I have taught voluntarily in the OSU Honors program. I worked in field research in Oregon at a time when the Oregon Flora Project was decades in the future, and know the frustration and uncertainty of having to use regional aids for plant identification. And I could not then imagine having the extra information the Oregon Flora Project provides, and having updated information available in the field without dragging a batch of books to each field site.

The work of the Project is not only for professional and student and weekend botanists. Forest and range management require detailed botanical knowledge, not only of the commercial species, due to legal requirements as well as ethical concerns. Crops have been developed from native plants in Oregon. Weeds, both native and introduced, may spread rapidly and unexpectedly in this time of climatic change. All these require or are made more effective and efficient by information provided by the Oregon Flora Project. Its usefulness is clear from the many contracts with

governmental organizations that have also been supporting the Project.

I support official State of Oregon funding for the Oregon Flora Project. I believe in this projects, was on the original committee that advised its founder, and have donated to its support regularly throughout its life. This project has been supported by the efforts of its supporters, both individual and private organizations, and by contracts. With a stable financial support, staff can spend more time creating its products, rather than working to raise funds. The Project brings much benefit to the state and its economy and people; this support can help those benefits continue and expand. It is appropriate that those who benefit from a program, the people of Oregon at large, contribute to its support.

Thank you for your consideration, and I and many others will really appreciate your support.