

I strongly support HB 3173 to help fund the Oregon Flora project at Oregon State University. This program is extremely valuable to me and to resource managers of both public and private lands in the state of Oregon. I use the Oregon Flora every day in my work assessing public and private lands, and as a private educator teaching others about the wonders of Oregon's natural vegetation heritage and its changes.

As a co-author of *The Field Guide to Sedges of the Pacific Northwest*, I can attest to the type and value of information provided by the Oregon Flora. And a project that has a thorough understanding of our constantly-changing plant resources is essential for protecting Oregon's rare species, understanding new plants arriving in our flora from other areas, for farming and forestry, for providing wildlife habitat and fighting wildland fires.

Oregon needs to support the biological sciences that form the foundation for our resource base and quality of life. Our climate is changing; plants adapt, move, and some even die out. The next generation of Oregon scientists needs reliable information to adapt. Please support HB 3173.

Bruce Newhouse, born in and living in the Willamette Valley