

Due to state budget cuts, the Oregon Native Plant Conservation Program does not receive adequate funding to operate. There is still no State funding for the Oregon Native Plant Conservation Program in the current Governor's Recommended Budget (SB 5502).

As result of the loss of State Funding for the Native Plant Conservation Program:

- the Oregon List of Threatened and Endangered Species has not been updated since 1988;
- some species on the currently outdated list have healthy populations and are candidates to be removed from State Threatened and Endangered Species list;
- there new species that are candidates for listing as Threatened or Endangered and should be given that status;
- threatened and endangered species consultation for state projects is not occurring;
- there are currently 17 active state projects that are dependent on the return of state funding back to the program

The budget for the Oregon Native Plant Conservation Program is approved through the state Legislature as part of the Oregon Department of Agriculture's budget.

Requesting the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources restore state funding to support a position in the Native Plant Conservation Program.