

## Suggested readings for the natural history of PNW prairies

CPOP Listserv Discussion



Discussion of suggested reading material on the natural and social history of Puget Sound prairies.

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### Summary

In March, 2017 Master's student Loretta Fisher, from the University of Washington, asked CPOP Listserv members for reading suggestions on the natural and social history of the Puget Sound prairie ecosystem, already familiar with *The Natural History of Puget Sound Country* by Arthur R. Kruckeberg (1995), and *Land Use, Environment, and Social Change* by Richard White (2015).

Multiple reading suggestions were provided from CPOP Listserv members. For a view of all of America's prairies, Mark Wilson suggested *Grassland: the history, biology, politics and promise of the American prairie* by Richard Manning (1997). Karl Anderson, who moved to the Puget Sound area 23 years ago, suggested the well-known "Pojar" book *Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast* by Jim Pojar and Andy MacKinnon, first published in 1994. In addition to some plant identification centered books, which include details about historic uses and social history of the plants, other suggestions included *The Prairie Keepers* by Marcy Houle, *Restoring the Pacific Northwest* by Dean Apostol and Marcia Sinclair, and *The Collector: David Douglas and the Natural History of the Northwest* by Jack Nisbet.

### The full list of reading suggestions:

#### Plant Guides

- *Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast* (Jim Pojar and Andy MacKinnon) 1994
- *Plants of Coastal British Columbia* (Jim Pojar and Andy MacKinnon) 1994
- *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest* (Lewis J. Clark) 1976
- *Vascular Plants of the South Sound Prairies* (Sarah Hamman) 2016

#### Books

- *Grassland: the history, biology, politics and promise of the American prairie* (Richard Manning) 1997

- *The natural history of Puget Sound country* (Arthur R. Kruckeberg) 1991
- *Land use, environment, and social change: the shaping of Island County* (Richard White) 1992
- *The Prairie Keepers: Secrets of the Grasslands* (Marcy Houle) 1996
- *Environment and Experience: settlement culture in nineteenth-century Oregon* (Peter Boag) 1992
- *The Collector: David Douglas and the Natural History of the Northwest* (Jack Nisbet) 2010
- *Restoring the Pacific Northwest: the art and science of ecological restoration in Cascadia* (Dean Apostol and Marcia Sinclair) 2006
- *Gardens Aflame: Garry Oak Meadows on BC's South Coast* (Malaea Acker) 2012

#### Articles/Other

- *Strategies of Indian burning in the Willamette Valley* (Robert Boyd) 1999
  - <http://osupress.oregonstate.edu/book/indians-fire-and-land-in-pacific-northwest/intro>
- *Ecology and Conservation of the South Puget Sound Prairie Landscape* (Patrick Dunn & Kern Ewing) 1997 conference proceedings
  - <http://cascadiaprairieoak.org/EcologyandConservationBook.html>
- *Restoration of a prairie ecosystem at the Yellow Island preserve and the propagation of *Castilleja hispida* by vegetative cuttings* (David Schmidt) 1998
- *San Juan Island National Historical Park: an environmental history* (Christine Avery) 2004
  - <https://www.nps.gov/sajh/learn/historyculture/upload/SAJH-environmental-history-1-2.pdf>
- *"Just How Much Did They Burn?" Impact of Native Use of Fire on Pacific Northwest Forest Zones: Southwestern Oregon as a Case Study* (Jeff LaLande, R.P.A.) 2010
- *Preserving Prairies and Savannas in a Sea of Forest: A Conservation Challenge in the Pacific Northwest* (Ed Alverson) 2005
  - [http://cascadiaprairieoak.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Plant-Talk-40\\_Alverson.pdf](http://cascadiaprairieoak.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Plant-Talk-40_Alverson.pdf)
- *Risk to Maintenance-Dependent Species from Orthodoxy in Species-Based Land-Use Regulation* (Adam Novick) 2013
  - <http://hdl.handle.net/1794/13343>

## Suggested readings for the natural history of PNW prairies

Original CPOP Listserv Messages



The CPOP Listserv Archive can be found for subscribers at [listserv.wa.gov](http://listserv.wa.gov). To subscribe to the CPOP Listserv visit our website at [cascadiaprairieoak.org](http://cascadiaprairieoak.org).

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### March 5, 2017 – Loretta Fisher (UW School of Environmental and Forest Sciences)

Dear CPOP Community,

Besides Kruckeberg's \*The Natural History of Puget Sound Country\* and Richard White's \*Land Use, Environment, and Social Change\*, what readings would you recommend that cover the natural and social history of our prairies?

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Loretta  
MS Student  
UW School of Environmental and Forest Sciences

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### March 6, 2017 – Rebecca Currin (Institute for Applied Ecology)

The Prairie Keepers (Marcy Houle). About eastern Oregon prairies, but discusses a lot of issues that are relevant to the west side as well. A quick, fun read, especially if you are in graduate school!

Rebecca Currin, Program Director  
Habitat Restoration Program  
Institute for Applied Ecology  
563 SW Jefferson Avenue  
Corvallis, OR 97333

Phone: 541-753-3099 ext. 502 (2/10/17 NOTE: IAE is experiencing phone server issues. Please use my cell phone number instead of the office phone until further notification)

Cell: 541-214-6161

Fax: 541-753-3098

Web: [www.appliedeco.org](http://www.appliedeco.org)

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### March 6, 2017 - Briana Lindh

Suggested Readings for the Natural History of PNW Prairies

Boyd's "Strategies of Indian burning in the Willamette Valley" from Indians, Fire and the Land.

<http://osupress.oregonstate.edu/book/indians-fire-and-land-in-pacific-northwest/intro>

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**March 6, 2017 – Susan Kephart**

agreed... a great read!

Susan

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**March 6, 2017 – Bart Johnson**

Although it's about your neighbors to the south, Boag's book is rich with diary entries and other writings of early settlers as they encountered the prairies of the Willamette Valley, began to settle in them, and contextualized them in their experience in the US Midwest and other places of origin.

**Environment and experience : settlement culture in nineteenth-century Oregon**

Peter Boag; Berkeley : University of California Press; 1992

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**March 6, 2017- Erin Gray**

Another fun read would be The Collector, by Jack Nisbet. It chronicles David Douglas' life and explorations in the northwest.

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**March 6, 2017 – Edward Alverson**

Loretta, you did not indicate the geographic scope of the readings you are interested in. If it is specifically regarding the South Sound prairies, the 1997 conference proceedings "Ecology and Conservation of the South Puget Sound Prairie Landscape" is a collection of 24 papers that together provide a really nice overview. It is on the CPOP web site at

<http://cascadiaprairieoak.org/EcologyandConservationBook.html>

If the geographic scope of interest is broader, my article "Preserving Prairies and Savannas in a Sea of Forest: A Conservation Challenge in the Pacific Northwest" is a starting point, though it is fairly brief. It is on the CPOP web site at

[http://cascadiaprairieoak.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Plant-Talk-40\\_Alverson.pdf](http://cascadiaprairieoak.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Plant-Talk-40_Alverson.pdf)

The journals of early explorers provide a valuable perspective, David Douglas in particular, though he did not spend much time in the South Puget Sound region. An entire industry of "Douglasiana" has developed over the years.

Peter Boag's book "Environment and Experience: Settlement Culture in Nineteenth-Century Oregon" is an historical study of the Willamette Valley that is similar in nature to Richard White's "Land Use, Environment, and Social Change", also worth reading.

Also, the CPOP technical library has many other articles and reports that may be of interest, definitely worth looking through!

Ed

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### **March 6, 2017 – Eliza Habegger**

Loretta,

Try "San Juan Island National Historical Park: An Environmental History" by Christine Avery, available from the National Park Service: <https://www.nps.gov/sajh/learn/historyculture/upload/SAJH-environmental-history-1-2.pdf>

Eliza Habegger

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### **March 6, 2017 – Karl Anderson (of New Mexica)**

When I moved to the PNW 23 years ago, I picked up lots of natural history from the indispensable book by Pojar, McKinnon, et al., "Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast".

Karl Anderson, sojourning in New Mexico

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### **March 6, 2017 – Mark Wilson**

If you'd like a wider focus on all of America, I'd recommend *Grassland, the history, biology, politics and promise of the American prairie...*

Mark

Mark Griswold Wilson | 503.234-2233

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### **March 6, 2017 – Kas Kinkead (Cascadia Design Collaborative)**

This is a great list

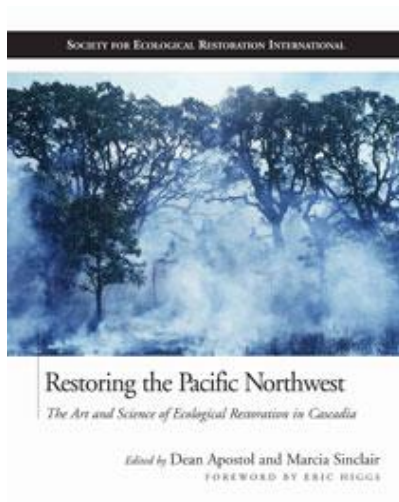
Anybody keeping track to create a bibliography?

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**March 6, 2017 - Tom Erler (University of Washington)**

Here's a good one that I recently dipped back into and forgot how much I loved it:

<https://islandpress.org/book/restoring-the-pacific-northwest>



Restoring the Pacific  
Northwest | Island  
Press

islandpress.org

The Pacific Northwest is a global ecological "hotspot" because of its relatively healthy native ecosystems, a high degree of biodiversity, and the number and scope of ...

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**March 7, 2017 - Thomas Munson (Parks, Recreation and Culture)**

Loretta;

A good new reference is a book by Malaea Acker of Victoria: [Gardens Aflame: Garry Oak Meadows on BC's South Coast. New Star Books, 2012.](#)

Thomas Munson, B.E.S, M.Sc., P.Ag.  
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**March 8, 2017 – Wayne Erickson (retiree in Vancouver Island)**

Hopefully useful, good memories for me & I have Plants of Coastal British Columbia, also by Pojar and MacKinnon, including Washington, Oregon & Alaska, 1994, by B.C. Ministry of Forests and Lone Pine Publishing, address south was #180, 16149 Redmond Way, Redmond, Washington, 98052. I worked at these too and new them all.

Also, previous was Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest, by Lewis J. Clark, from Alaska to Northern California, 1976, Evergreen Press Limited, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Ignore if you knew all this, and I just thought of it with the email from Karl,

from Wayne Erickson,  
retired nearly a decade,  
Brentwood Bay,  
southern Vancouver Island,  
British Columbia