

# News Release



Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office  
Portland, Oregon, 97266  
Phone: 503-231-6179  
<http://www.fws.gov/oregonfwo/>

---

November 25, 2019

Contact:  
Elizabeth Materna (503) 231-6912 or [elizabeth\\_materna@fws.gov](mailto:elizabeth_materna@fws.gov)

## Partnerships Help Northwest Plant Rebound, Proposed for Removal from Endangered Species Act

*Bradshaw's lomatium is no longer at risk of extinction*

PORTLAND, Oregon – A vibrant yellow flower found in the wet prairies of northwest Oregon and southwest Washington is proposed for removal from the federal list of threatened and endangered species, thanks to partnerships that are ensuring its future. According to the best available science collected by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bradshaw's lomatium, an unassuming plant in the parsley family, has shown strong resilience.

When initially listed as endangered in 1988, there were only 11 populations of Bradshaw's lomatium and fewer than 30,000 plants. Now, thanks to the hard work of private and public partners dedicated to prairie restoration and the discovery of new populations, the species is flourishing with more than 24 populations and greater than 11 million plants.

“Strong partnerships have championed the work leading to this proposed de-listing,” said Paul Henson, the Service's Oregon State Director. “In addition to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' skillful management of their lands for this plant and other prairie species, a number of private landowners are helping prairies with the assistance of the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Wetland Reserve Program and the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. These efforts played a big role in protecting almost all sites and individuals from further habitat loss and fragmentation.”

Historically, a combination of natural fires and intentional burns by native people helped Bradshaw's lomatium populations by keeping woody species from encroaching on the lomatium's open habitat. With people shifting away from these practices, along with increasing active fire suppression, undeveloped prairies have been lost. This loss, along with changes in land use (urban development and agriculture), and additional threats from invasive grasses, are the reasons the plant was first listed.

A recent status assessment concluded that known threats have been reduced, and the species is showing increased resiliency in multiple populations throughout its range. Population increases are due to species

expansion and reintroductions, improved habitat and invasive species management, and enhanced survey efforts. Ongoing management by committed partners, like U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will maintain the recovery of Bradshaw's lomatium.

Bradshaw's lomatium is endemic to Oregon's Willamette Valley and neighboring lands in southwestern Washington. The greatest density of populations occur in the southern portion of the Willamette Valley near Eugene, Oregon. Most often found in wet prairie habitats, this plant depends on pollinators for reproduction, welcoming more than 30 species of bees, flies, wasps and beetles as visitors. Other species have also benefitted from wet prairie conservation efforts including plants such as Willamette daisy and birds like the western meadowlark.

"Over the years, the Corps has done a lot of work to conserve the plant and its habitat on the sites we manage: from funding initial inventory in the 1980s, designating the Research Natural Area at Fern Ridge, managing a robust prescribed fire program, monitoring annually, assisting with the Service's funded inventory, and contributing to the recovery plan," said Erik Petersen, Willamette Valley Project Operations Project Manager.

This announcement opens a 60-day comment period for the public to review and comment on the proposal to delist Bradshaw's lomatium and provide additional information. We are also accepting comments on the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. All relevant information received by January 27, 2020, will be considered.

For information on how to provide public comments or request a public hearing go to <http://www.fws.gov/oregonfwo/> where you can also find additional information on Bradshaw's lomatium and a link to the Federal Register notice.

*The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov). Connect with our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/usfws](http://www.facebook.com/usfws), follow our tweets at [www.twitter.com/usfwshq](http://www.twitter.com/usfwshq), our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq>*

-FWS-