



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Maintaining and Improving Habitat for Hummingbirds in Oregon and Washington



— A Land Manager's Guide —



Forest
Service

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Introduction



Hummingbirds play an important role in the food web, pollinating a variety of flowering plants, some of which are specifically adapted to pollination by hummingbirds. Hummingbird numbers are declining, like those of other pollinators, due to habitat loss, changes in the distribution and abundance of nectar plants (which are affected by climate change), the spread of invasive plants, and pesticide use. This guide is intended to help you provide and improve

habitat for hummingbirds, as well as other pollinators, in Oregon and Washington. While hummingbirds, like all birds, have the basic habitat needs of food, water, shelter, and space, this guide is focused on providing food—the plants that provide nectar for hummingbirds. Because climate, geology, and vegetation vary widely in different areas, specific recommendations are presented for each ecoregion in Washington and Oregon. (See the *Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington* section below.)

This guide also provides brief descriptions of the species that visit the Pacific Northwest, as well as some basic information about hummingbird habitat needs.

Whether you're involved in managing public or private lands, large acreages or small areas, you can make them attractive to our native hummingbirds. Even long, narrow pieces of habitat, like utility corridors, field edges, and roadsides, can provide important connections among larger habitat areas.

Hummingbird Basics

In general, the hummingbird species of Oregon and Washington are migratory, generally wintering in the Southwestern United States and Mexico. Anna's Hummingbirds regularly winter in western Oregon and Washington, where winters are temperate and several plant species bloom during the colder months. For hummingbird species to thrive, they need to find suitable habitat all along their migration routes, as well as in their breeding, nesting, and wintering areas. Even small habitat patches along their migratory path can be critical to the birds by providing places for rest and food to fuel their journey.



Rufous Hummingbird nest
Courtesy of Martin Hutten



Open area under utility corridor
Courtesy of Erik Ackerson

Food

Hummingbirds feed by day on nectar from flowers, including annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, and vines. Native nectar plants are listed in the table near the end of this guide. They feed while hovering or, if possible, while perched. They also eat insects, such as mosquitoes and gnats, and will consume tree sap when it is available. They obtain tree sap from sap wells drilled in trees by sapsuckers and other hole-drilling birds.



Western columbine—*Aquilegia formosa*
Courtesy of Gary A. Monroe
USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

Water



Columbia River Gorge
Courtesy of Erik Ackerson

Hummingbirds get adequate water from the nectar and insects they consume. However, they are attracted to running water, such as a fountain, sprinkler, birdbath with a mister, or waterfall. In addition, insect populations are typically higher near ponds, streams, and wetland areas, so those areas are important food sources for hummingbirds.



Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge
Portland, OR
Courtesy of Erik Ackerson

Hummingbird Species in Oregon and Washington

Following are brief descriptions of the hummingbird species most commonly found in Oregon and Washington, as well as a list of other species that are uncommon or rare visitors.



Courtesy of Jim Cruce

Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*)



RANGE—Black-chinned Hummingbirds occur in all three Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in Oregon and Washington, which are BCR's 5, 9, and 10. (See the *Bird Conservation Regions* section below.) They are typically found east of the Cascade Mountains. They occur in areas from below sea level to elevations above 7,800 feet and inhabit a wide variety of habitats, including canyons and gulches, riparian corridors, open woodlands, oak and scrub areas, and urban settings.



Black-chinned—male
Courtesy of Scott Carpenter

breeding, they may move to more elevated mountain habitats to feed on nectar-producing flowers. Many will move or stay in urban areas, where flowering plants and feeders are attractive. Typically arriving in April, they migrate south in August.

APPEARANCE—Unlike other North American hummingbirds, the wingtips of the Black-chinned Hummingbird look relatively broad and curved when the bird is at rest. While hovering, they pump their tail almost constantly. The adult male (above) is dull green to emerald green above, pale gray to whitish below, becoming dull green on the sides. It has a velvety black gorget with an iridescent purple band below; the purple band can look black in poor light. White on the breast extends around the sides of the neck, contrasting strongly with the all-dark head. The central two tail feathers are green; the others are black, often with a purplish sheen.

The adult female (right) is dull green to golden green above and pale gray below. The sides are gray-green and often have a tawny or cinnamon-colored patch on the lower flank. The throat of the female can be unmarked or have dusky streaking or spotting in the center of the gorget. The tail is greenish or blackish, with the three outer pairs of tail feathers broadly tipped with white. Immature birds look similar to adult females; refer to a field guide for more information.



Black-chinned—female
Courtesy of Scott Carpenter

Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*)



RANGE—The Anna's Hummingbird is the largest hummingbird common to Oregon and Washington. It is a year-round resident of the Pacific coast, from southern British Columbia to northern Baja California. Since the mid-1930s, its range has expanded greatly, likely due to its effective use of nonnative plants and feeders in urban and suburban areas. The Anna's Hummingbird is the only hummingbird regularly found in Oregon and Washington in the winter. Anna's Hummingbirds occur in BCRs 5 and 9 in Oregon and Washington. They occur primarily west of the Cascades. They are locally uncommon in spring and summer along the eastern flank of the Cascades and into central Oregon and eastern Washington.



Anna's Hummingbird—male
Courtesy of Jim Cruce

NESTING—Habitat includes urban areas and parks, from sea level to 5,700 feet. In summer, they inhabit shrubland communities such as chaparral-oak areas and brushy riparian areas, as well as urban and suburban areas. After breeding, they may move to higher elevations (up to 11,000 feet) in search of nectar plants. Migration is not well understood. They do not migrate in the traditional sense. Instead, they migrate more altitudinally. Winter habitat is almost always near people's homes with hummingbird feeders and dense cover for nighttime roosting.

APPEARANCE—Males (above) are more vocal than any other North American hummingbird. The male has a dry, scratchy, buzzy "song" that it sings throughout the year. Adult males (and some young males) have an iridescent rose/red crown and gorget with elongated feathers projecting to the sides.

Males turn their head from side to side as they sing, flashing their iridescent head as a signal to other hummingbirds. They have a green back and are grayish below. Outer tail feathers are gray, darker at the edges. The tail extends well beyond the wingtips.

Adult females (left) also have a green back and grayish underparts. Gorget markings vary from bronzy gray mottling to a central splotch of rose/red



Anna's Hummingbird—female
Courtesy of Scott Carpenter

feathers. Very rarely, rose feathers may occur on the crown. The tail extends to or beyond the wingtips. Tail feathers are broad, rounded, banded in dull gray-green, blackish, and white. Immature birds look somewhat similar to the adult females, although immature males have heavier mottling in the gorget. The Anna's Hummingbird typically holds its tail still while hovering.

Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*)



The Calliope Hummingbird is the smallest breeding bird in North America and is the smallest long-distance avian migrant in the world. Calliope Hummingbirds occur in all three BCRs in Oregon and Washington.



Calliope Hummingbird—male
Courtesy of Scott Carpenter

RANGE—They are common summer residents in mountain habitats east of the Cascades crest. They migrate through both montane and lowland habitats. Spring migration is mainly through higher elevations along the Pacific Flyway. They arrive in Oregon and Washington in early to mid-April. Fall migration is through both the Pacific and Rocky Mountain Flyways, at a wider range of elevations, from mountains to desert riparian corridors. West of the Cascades crest, the species is generally rare or uncommon.

NESTING—Preferred nesting habitat is montane conifer forests, primarily in shrub-sapling seral stage into second-growth following fires or logging. They breed mostly in mountain areas from British Columbia to California, Nevada, and Utah, and winter in Mexico. They breed mainly at middle elevations (4,000 to 7,000 feet), but sometimes as high as timberline (above 9,000 feet) and down to lower forest margins (500 feet).

APPEARANCE—The male Calliope Hummingbird (above) weighs about the same as a penny—about half as much as a male Anna's Hummingbird. The adult male is bright green above and creamy white below with a green wash on the sides and flanks. The adult male's gorget is iridescent, wine-red to magenta-red, and, unlike other North American hummingbirds, separated into distinct rays that fan across its throat. The male can elevate the rays into a starburst display against the white background of its throat. Wingtips extend to or slightly beyond the short tail. Tail feathers are dull gray, variably edged with cinnamon at the base.

The adult female (next page) is bright green to golden green above and creamy white below, with a rusty wash on the sides, flanks, and across the lower

breast. The gorget is evenly spotted with dusky to brownish bronze. The tail usually falls short of the wingtips. The adult female looks much like female Rufous or Allen's Hummingbirds, but it is smaller with a shorter bill, shorter tail, and less rust at the base of the tail. Immature birds look similar to adult females. Calliope Hummingbirds often cock their tails upward, perpendicular to the body, while hovering.



Calliope Hummingbird—female
Courtesy of Scott Carpenter

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*)



RANGE—Rufous Hummingbirds travel farther north than any other hummingbird, wintering in Mexico and migrating to breeding sites as distant as Alaska. Although a relatively small hummingbird, the Rufous Hummingbird has an aggressive nature and frequently chases larger hummingbirds from nectar sources. Rufous Hummingbirds are important pollinators in the cool, cloudy Pacific Northwest, where cold-blooded insect pollinators are at a disadvantage. They usually begin arriving in western Oregon in mid-February and in western



Rufous Hummingbird—male
Courtesy of Jim Cruce

Washington in March. East of the Cascades, they arrive a month or more later, depending on the weather. Fall migration begins in June and is split between the Pacific and Rocky Mountain Flyways. As with other hummingbirds, Rufous Hummingbirds typically move to higher elevations for the fall migration, following nectar flowers.

The Rufous Hummingbird is the most common and widespread hummingbird species Oregon and Washington, and it occurs in all three BCRs in those States. Rufous Hummingbirds are found in a wide variety of habitats.

NESTING—For breeding, they prefer second-growth forest communities and openings, but they will also use mature forests, parks, and residential areas—from sea level to 6,000 feet. Spring migration is mostly along the Pacific Flyway.

APPEARANCE—The back of the adult male Rufous Hummingbird (previous page) is cinnamon-colored (rufous), sometimes spangled with green and rarely more than half green. The underparts are creamy white with a rufous “vest.” The crown is bright green, and the gorget is iridescent scarlet to orange, appearing golden or yellow-green from some angles. The tail extends past the wingtips. The rufous tail feathers are black-tipped and pointed.

The adult female (right) is bright green above and white below, strongly washed with rufous on the sides, flanks, and undertail coverts. The face and sides of the gorget are also washed with rufous. The gorget is off-white, spangled with green to bronze (concentrated on the sides). The throat is marked with red-orange, from just a few spangles to a large patch. The rounded tail extends past the wingtips; it is rufous at the base and banded with black. The outer three pairs of tail feathers have white tips. Immature birds look similar to the adult female, although the immature males typically show more rufous on the rump and lower back as well as heavier markings on the throat.



Rufous Hummingbird—female
Courtesy of Jim Cruce

Allen’s Hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*)

The Allen’s Hummingbird is closely related to the Rufous Hummingbird, and the two species look very similar, making identification a challenge where the species’ ranges overlap. Allen’s Hummingbirds breed in coastal areas from California into southern Oregon and winter mostly in central Mexico and also along the Gulf Coast to Alabama.

RANGE—Allen’s Hummingbirds occur in only one BCR in Oregon: the Northern Pacific Rainforest. They are fairly common residents in spring and summer along the southern Oregon coast and are regularly seen at feeders in Curry County. However, they rarely occur elsewhere in Oregon, and there is only one recorded sighting in Washington—in 1894. In spring, Allen’s Hummingbirds migrate along the coast in coastal scrub, chaparral, riparian woodland, and eucalyptus groves. They begin arriving in Oregon in late February. Fall migration begins early and peaks in July; most birds have left by early August. Fall migration is along the coast, in previously described habitat, as well as inland at higher elevations in mixed woodland, open coniferous forest, and montane chaparral habitats.

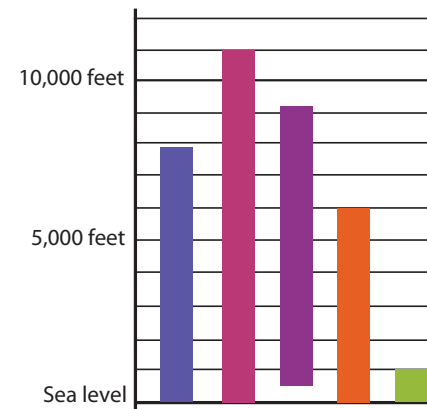
NESTING—They breed only in the narrow, moist, coastal zone affected by summer fogs, from sea level to 1,000 feet. Males typically select territories

in open areas of coastal scrub or riparian shrubs, preferring willows as well as blackberry, dogwood, and poison oak. Females select nest sites in more densely vegetated areas with at least some cover.

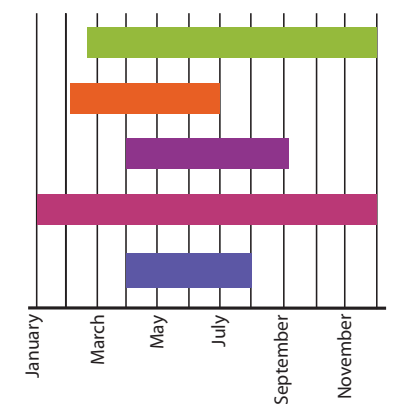
APPEARANCE—It is very difficult to distinguish Allen’s Hummingbirds from Rufous Hummingbirds. Both species even sound alike. The adult male Allen’s Hummingbird is brilliant green above with a green crown and a rufous rump and undertail coverts. Unlike nearly all adult male Rufous Hummingbirds, the back is more than half green. The tails of the two species differ slightly in appearance, but the bird must be held in the hand to make the distinction.

The adult female and immature Allen’s Hummingbirds appear almost identical to those of the Rufous Hummingbird. Distinguishing the two species requires having the bird in hand.

Major Hummingbirds—Altitude Ranges During Residence in Oregon/Washington



Major Hummingbirds—Residence Period in Oregon and/or Washington



Others

A few other hummingbird species are sometimes, though rarely, seen in Oregon and/or Washington. They include:

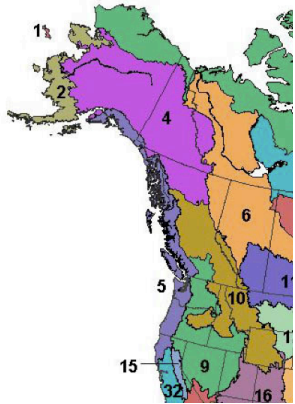
- Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*)
- Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*)
- Costa’s Hummingbird (*Calypte costae*)

(Records indicate that the Costa’s Hummingbird’s breeding range is expanding northward.) You may refer to a field guide for information about these species.



Bird Conservation Regions in Oregon and Washington

The United States North American Bird Conservation Initiative Committee is a coalition of government agencies, private organizations, and bird initiatives in the United States. The committee is working to ensure the long-term health of North America's native bird populations. Bird conservation initiatives have produced national and international conservation plans for birds as well as regional plans for numerous BCRs, which are ecologically distinct regions in North America with similar bird communities, habitats, and resource management issues. The regional plans provide more detailed information on population objectives and habitat needs for birds in specific landscapes.



The three BCRs in Oregon and Washington, the Northern Pacific Rainforest (BCR 5), the Great Basin (BCR 9), and the Northern Rockies (BCR 10), are shown on the map (above left).

Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington

Land within Oregon and Washington lies within seven ecoregions (see below—codes in parentheses), which are shown on the map: *Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington*. The ecoregion boundaries differ from those of the BCRs and their relationship is as below.

Pacific Lowland Mixed Forest (PL)—lies within BCR 5.

Cascade Mixed Forest (CMF)—lies within BCR 5 and BCR 10.

Sierran Steppe Mixed Northern (SSM)—lies within BCR 5 and BCR 9.

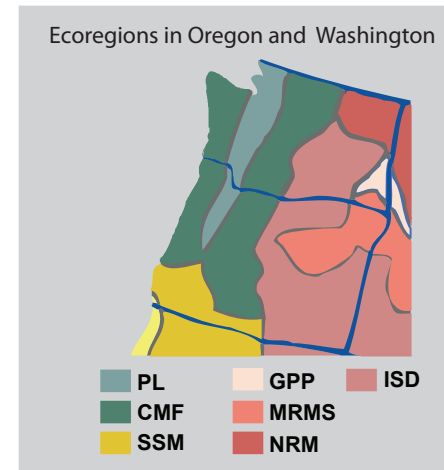
Great Plains/Palouse (GPP)—lies within BCR 9.

Middle Rocky Mountains Steppe (MRMS)—lies within BCR 10.

Northern Rocky Mountains Forest-Steppe (NRM)—lies within BCR 10.

Intermountain Semi-Desert (ISD)—lies within BCR 9 and BCR 10.

Note: Ecoregion map adapted from <http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/ecoregions/images/maps/ecoregions-united-states-sample.jpg>



The Pollinator Partnership Web site (<http://www.pollinator.org>) will show you which ecoregion you are in just by entering your postal ZIP Code (under “Planting Guides” on the Web site). If you wish to supplement the information presented in this guide, for example, to attract other pollinators or to learn about other ecoregions, the Pollinator Partnership offers planting guides for ecoregions throughout the United States. The Web site provides additional tools and connections to useful resources for pollinator and plant information.

Hummingbird Nectar Plants for Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington

The following table (*Hummingbird Nectar Plants for Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington*) lists some plants that are nectar sources for hummingbirds. These plants are native to Oregon, Washington, or both, and are adapted to conditions in the ecoregions indicated in the table. The table also provides basic information on habitat and light, soil, and water needs. Finally, the tables provide seed sources for each plant valid as of June 2009. Please check with the seed suppliers for current availability. A directory of the seed sources follows the tables. Use locally adapted genetically appropriate plants in all your restoration and pollinator enhancement work. Seed zones—areas with genetically similar plants—help determine the right plant materials to use; poorly chosen plants usually fail to thrive. See http://fs.bioe.orst.edu/web_maps/S_Zones_1Oct2013.html for provisional seed zones of the Pacific Northwest, and select plant materials from your zone. Planting nonnatives to attract hummingbirds is against policy and destructive: these plants become invasive and disrupt ecosystems. For example, yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*, also called “butter and eggs”) is attractive to hummingbirds but is a noxious weed.



Yellow Toadflax
Courtesy of Colorado State
University Extension—Adams County

Hummingbird Nectar Plants for Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington

Botanical Name	Common Name	Ecoregion ¹						
		PL	CMF	MRMS	SSM	NRM	GPP	ISD
Trees and Shrubs								
<i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	Pacific madrone				X			
<i>Arctostaphylos</i> spp.	manzanita	X	X	X	X			
<i>Ceanothus</i> spp.	ceanothus	X	X	X	X			
<i>Berberis</i> spp.	Oregon grape	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Menziesia ferruginea</i>	rusty menziesia	X	X					
<i>Ribes</i> spp.	currants and gooseberries	X	X					
<i>Ribes roezlii</i>	Sierra gooseberry				X			
<i>*Ribes sanguineum</i>	redflower currant	X	X		X			
<i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	salmonberry	X	X		X			
<i>Salvia dorrii</i>	purple sage		X	X		X		X
<i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i>	western snowberry					X		
<i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	evergreen huckleberry	X	X		X			

***Hummingbird adapted or preferred nectar sources**

Bloom Season	Sunlight	Soils/Water	General Habitat/Elevation	Seed Sources ²
> Trees and Shrubs				
Apr–May	Sun to part sun	Dry to moist, well drained	Exposed or wooded slopes and canyons below 5,000 ft	IP, JNS
Dec–May	Sun	Dry	Rocky areas and steep slopes	IP, JNS
Apr–Aug	Sun, part shade, shade	Dry, rocky, well drained	Dry, open flats and slopes, often at higher elevation (3,000 to 9,500 ft)	IP, JNS, SMN
Mar–May	Part shade to shade	Moist, well drained, acid loams	Relatively dry to moist rocky sites in open coniferous forests and forested slopes (1,300 to 6,900 ft)	IP, AWS, JNS, SMN
May–Jul	Sun, part shade, shade	Moist	Coniferous woods	JNS
Mar–Jun	Sun to shade	Moist to dry, well drained	Varies	AWS, JNS, SMN
May–Jun	Sun to part sun	Dry to moist	Dry open slopes, mostly 3,500 to 8,500 ft, yellow pine and red fir forests	
Mar–Apr	Sun, part shade, shade	Moist to drier, well drained	Open or partly shady places below 2,000 ft	AWS, JNS, SMN
Mar–Jun	Sun, part shade, shade	Moist to drier	Low, moist woods; stream banks; mountain slopes	AWS, JNS, IP, SMN
May–Jun	Sun	Dry, perfectly drained	Dry, open scabland and sagebrush areas	SMN
Jun–Aug	Part shade	Moist, well drained	Dry, rocky hillsides; sand plains; prairies; open woods	
Mar–May	Sun, part shade, shade	Poor, acid, well drained	Dry, shaded slopes; moister, woodland edges	JNS

Hummingbird Nectar Plants for Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington—continued

Botanical Name	Common Name	Ecoregion ¹						
		PL	CMF	MRMS	SSM	NRM	GPP	ISD
Vines								
<i>Clematis ligusticifolia</i>	western virgin's bower				X			
* <i>Lonicera ciliosa</i>	orange honeysuckle	X	X	X			X	
<i>Lonicera hispidula</i>	pink honeysuckle	X	X		X			
* <i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	nettleleaf giant hyssop	X	X		X			
Perennial Herbs								
<i>Aconitum columbianum</i>	monkshood		X	X	X	X		X
* <i>Agastache urticifolia</i>	nettleleaf giant hyssop		X	X	X	X		X
* <i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	western columbine	X	X		X	X		
* <i>Castilleja</i> spp.	paintbrush	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Castilleja affinis</i> ssp. <i>litoralis</i>	coast Indian paintbrush		X		X			
<i>Castilleja angustifolia</i>	northwestern Indian paintbrush		X	X	X		X	X
<i>Castilleja applegatei</i>	wavyleaf Indian paintbrush							X
<i>Castilleja arachnoidea</i>	cobwebby Indian paintbrush		X		X			
<i>Castilleja elmeri</i>	Wenatchee Indian paintbrush	X	X			X		X

*Hummingbird adapted or preferred nectar sources

Bloom Season	Sunlight	Soils/Water	General Habitat/Elevation	Seed Sources ²
> Vines				
May–Aug	Sun to part sun	Moist	Woods along streams; moist, brushy coulees	S&S, AWS, SMN
May–Jul	Sun to part shade	Moist to dry	Open woods and thicket	JNS, SMN
Apr–Jul	Part sun to part shade	Dry to moist	Dry sites in open mixed woods, sometimes lying on ground in clearings, at low to mid elevations	JNS, IP
Mar–Aug	Sun to shade	Generally moist	Moist or wet, open woods from 0 to 10,000 ft	AWS, SMN
> Perennial Herbs				
Jun–Aug	Part shade	Moist, rich	Moist woods and meadows; moderate to subalpine elevations	
Jun–Aug	Full sun to part shade	Varies, usually drier	Dry open slopes and draws, meadows; 700 to 8,500 ft	
Apr–Aug	Full sun to part shade	Moist, rich	Moist, open woods, banks and seeps; 0 to 8,000 ft	IP, OWS, HSI, JNS, OWS, SMN, SSS, ST
Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	IP, SMN, ST
Mar–Jun	Full sun to part shade	Well drained	Dry places along bluffs, chaparral near coast	
Apr–Aug	Shade	Dry	Dry open soil, often with sagebrush	SSC
Apr–Jun	Sun to part shade	Rocky, dry, well drained	Sagebrush, open conifer woods	
Jun		Dry, rocky	Open dry rocks or summits of mountains at mid and high elevations	
Jun–Aug	Sun to part shade	Moist	Mesic meadows in mountains of central Washington	

Hummingbird Nectar Plants for Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington—continued

Botanical Name	Common Name	Ecoregion ¹						
		PL	CMF	MRMS	SSM	NRM	GPP	ISD
Perennial Herbs—continued								
<i>Castilleja fraterna</i> (Federal Species of Concern)	fraternal Indian paintbrush			X				
<i>Castilleja brevilibata</i>	short-lobe Indian paintbrush				X			
<i>Castilleja hispida</i>	harsh Indian paintbrush	X	X	X		X	X	X
<i>Castilleja linariifolia</i>	Wyoming Indian paintbrush			X				X
<i>Castilleja miniata</i>	scarlet paintbrush			X				
<i>Castilleja parviflora</i>	mountain Indian paintbrush	X	X					
<i>Castilleja pruinosa</i>	frosted Indian paintbrush	X	X		X			
<i>Castilleja rhexiifolia</i>	rosy paintbrush	X		X		X		
<i>Castilleja rupicola</i>	cliff Indian paintbrush	X	X					
<i>Castilleja suksdorfii</i>	Suksdorf's Indian paintbrush	X	X					
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	fireweed	X	X			X	X	X
<i>Cirsium occidentale</i>	cobwebby thistle				X			
<i>Cleome serrulata</i>	Rocky Mountain bee plant			X		X	X	X
<i>Delphinium</i> spp.	larkspur	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Bloom Season	Sunlight	Soils/ Water	General Habitat/ Elevation	Seed Sources ²
> Perennial Herbs—continued				
Jul–Aug		Limestone or limey	Alpine meadows, slopes, and exposed talus and rock above 7,900 ft	
Apr–May	Full sun to part shade	Well drained	Mesic to dry serpentine areas in open Jeffrey pine savannas	
Apr–Aug	Full sun to part shade	Well drained	Dry openings in forests, meadows, from coast to high elevations	IP, JNS
May–Oct	Part shade	Moist, well drained, rocky	Moist to dry, open woods and brush areas from 2,500 to 12,000 ft	ST
May–Sep	Sun	Moist	Wet mountain meadows and stream banks below 11,000 ft	IP, SSS, ST
Jun–Sep	Sun	Well drained	Subalpine meadows	
Jun–Jul		Serpentine, rocky	Dry, open, rocky serpentine areas or edges of forest at mid to high elevations	
Jun–Aug	Part shade	Well drained	Subalpine meadows, bogs, alpine talus slopes	
Jun–Aug	Sun	Gravelly or stony	Rock ledges and crevices in perpendicular cliffs and on other rocky slopes; generally 3,400 to 7,000 ft in elevation but as low as 600 ft in Columbia River Gorge of Oregon	
Jun–Sep		Moist to wet	Meadows and thickets, subalpine meadows and along streams	
Jun–Sep	Full sun to part sun	Varies	Scattered to common in forest habitats, especially in upland pine and spruce stands; often abundant in cleared or burned areas	IP, SMN
Jun–Aug	Sun	Dry	Rocky serpentine, but not exclusively, below 6,000 ft	
Jul–Sep	Sun, part shade	Well drained, sandy	Prairies, open woods, wash areas, disturbed sites	RSI, SMN
Mar–Aug	Sun, part shade, shade	Varies	Varies	IP, JNS, SMN

Hummingbird Nectar Plants for Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington—continued

Botanical Name	Common Name	Ecoregion ¹						
		PL	CMF	MRMS	SSM	NRM	GPP	ISD
Perennial Herbs—continued								
<i>*Delphinium nudicaule</i>	canyon larkspur				X			
<i>Dicentra formosa</i>	western bleeding heart				X			
<i>Dichelostemma ida-maia</i>	firecracker flower	X	X		X			
<i>*Epilobium canum</i> ssp. <i>latifolium</i>	hummingbird trumpet				X			
<i>Erythronium grandiflorum</i>	yellow avalanche-lily	X	X	X	X			
<i>*Fritillaria recurva</i>	scarlet fritillary				X			
<i>*Ipomopsis aggregata</i>	scarlet gilia		X	X	X		X	
<i>*Lilium bolanderi</i>	Bolander's lily				X			
<i>Lilium columbianum</i>	Columbia lily	X	X		X			
<i>Lilium pardalinum</i>	leopard lily				X			
<i>Lilium washingtonianum</i>	Washington Lily		X		X			
<i>*Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	bush monkeyflower				X			
<i>*Mimulus cardinalis</i>	scarlet monkeyflower	X	X		X			
<i>*Pedicularis densiflora</i>	Indian warrior				X			

*Hummingbird adapted or preferred nectar sources

Bloom Season	Sunlight	Soils/ Water	General Habitat/ Elevation	Seed Sources ²
> Perennial Herbs—continued				
Mar–Aug	Part shade	Moist	Rocky, talus slopes and outcrops within coniferous forests	SSS
Mar–Jul	Part sun to shade	Dry to moist	Gravelly hillsides to loam soils, open woods, occasionally along stream banks; 2,000 to 4,000 ft, serpentine substrates	SSS, IP, JNS, SMN
May–Jul	Full to part sun	Clay to sandy	Grassy slopes in woodland openings at low or moderate elevations	ONP
Jul–Oct	Sun	Dry	Dry slopes and ridges from sea level to high in the mountains	S&S
May–Jul	Part shade	Moist	Open woods; meadow edges; various altitudes	JNS, IP, SMN
Mar–Jul	Part shade	Dry, rocky	Rocky, brush-covered slopes	SSS
Jun	Full to part sun	Average moisture	Hillsides, slopes	AWS, JNS, SMN, SSS
Jun–Aug	Sun to part shade	Well drained; dry in summer	Dry hillsides on serpentine soils in mixed conifer forests	
Jun–Sep	Sun to part sun	Well drained; dry in summer	Ferny or brushy, redwood forest slopes; prairies; thickets	JNS, IP, AWS, SMN
Jun–Aug	Sun to part sun	Moist to wet	Conifer stream banks and springy places, up to 6,000 ft	SSS, JNS
Jul–Aug	Sun to part shade	Well drained; dry in summer	Dry hillsides and chaparral in mixed conifer forests	
May–Jul	Sun to part sun	Dry to moist	Dry hills and canyon slopes, below 1,500 ft	SSC, SSS
Apr–Oct	Sun to part sun	Moist to wet	Stream banks and seeps below 8,000 ft	S&S, SSC, SMN
Apr–May	Sun to part shade	Dry, well drained	Dry chaparral, oak/pine or yellow pine forests below 7,000 ft	SSS

Hummingbird Nectar Plants for Ecoregions in Oregon and Washington—continued

Botanical Name	Common Name	Ecoregion ¹						
		PL	CMF	MRMS	SSM	NRM	GPP	ISD
Perennial Herbs—continued								
<i>*Penstemon</i> spp.	beardtongue	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Penstemon fruticosus</i>	shrubby penstemon						X	
<i>Penstemon newberryi</i>	mountain pride				X			
<i>Penstemon payettensis</i>	Payette beardtongue			X		X		
<i>Penstemon procerus</i>	small-flowered penstemon			X				
<i>Penstemon rupicola</i>	cliff beardtongue	X	X		X			X
<i>Penstemon rydbergii</i>	Rydberg's penstemon					X		
<i>Phlox speciosa</i>	showy phlox				X			
<i>Sidalcea oregana</i>	Oregon checkerbloom						X	
<i>*Silene californica</i>	Indian-pink				X			
<i>Stachys chamissonis</i> var. <i>cooleyae</i>	coastal hedgenettle	X	X					X

*Hummingbird adapted or preferred nectar sources

¹ Ecoregions:

CMF = Cascade Mixed Forest

GPP = Great Plains/Palouse

ISD = Intermountain Semi-Desert

MRMS = Middle Rocky Mountain Steppe

NRM = Northern Rocky Mountains

PL = Pacific Lowland

SSM = Sierran Steppe Mixed

Bloom Season	Sunlight	Soils/Water	General Habitat/Elevation	Seed Sources ²
> Perennial Herbs—continued				
Jun–Aug	Sun	Dry, well drained	Varies	IP, AWS, JNS, SMN, SSS, ST
May–Aug	Full sun to part shade	Well drained	Open, rocky, or wooded foothill and higher elevation sites	JNS, SMN, ST
Jun–Aug	Sun to part shade	Well drained, rocky	Rocky places from moderate to high elevations	SSS
Jun–Aug	Sun	Talus and rocky	Talus slopes and rocky meadows at low to moderately high elevations	
Jun–Jul	Sun	Dry to moist	Rocky slopes, subalpine, alpine, and mid to high elevations	ST, SMN
May–Aug	Sun	Rocky	Cliffs, ledges and rocky slopes, usually at higher elevations	
May–Jul	Sun	Dry, well drained	Open mountain slopes	RSI, SSS, ST
Apr–Jun	Sun to part sun	Dry to moist	Open rocky soils, shrub-steppe, grasslands, lightly wooded areas; low to mid elevations	SMN
Jun–Oct	Sun	Moist to wet	Freshwater marshes at about 500 ft elevation	
Apr–Jul	Sun to part sun	Dry to moist	Open, brushy areas or woods below 5,000 ft	SSS
Jun–Aug	Sun to part shade	Moist, wetlands	Swamps and moist low ground from sea level to moderate elevations	AWS

² Seed Sources:

AWS = Alpine WildSeed

HSI = Heritage Seedlings Inc.

IP = Inside Passage

JNS = Jonny Native Seeds

ONP = Oregon Native Plant Nursery

OWS = Oregon Wholesale Seed Co

RSI = Rainier Seeds, Inc.

S&S = S&S Seeds

SMN = Sun Mountain Natives

SSC = Stover Seed Company

SSS = Sierra Seed Supply

ST = Seeds Trust

Directory of Seed and Plant Sources

Alpine WildSeed
1308 N. Alder, #1
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(509) 933-3063

Heritage Seedlings, Inc.
4194 71st Ave. SE
Salem, OR 97317
(503) 585-9835

Inside Passage
P.O. Box 639
Port Townsend, WA 98368
(800) 361-9657
(360) 385-6114

Jonny Native Seeds
29632 Harvest Dr. SW
Albany, OR 97321
(541) 754-7938
(541) 990-0480

Oregon Native Plant Nursery
P.O. Box 886
Woodburn, OR 97071
(503) 981-2353

Oregon Wholesale Seed Co.
5648 Evans Valley Loop Rd NE
Silverton, OR 97381
(503) 874-8221

Rainier Seeds, Inc.
1404 4th Street
(509) 725-1235
Davenport, WA 99122

S&S Seeds
6155 Carpinteria Avenue
Carpinteria, CA 93013
(805) 684-0436

Sun Mountain Natives
1406 East F Street
Moscow, ID 83843
(208) 883-7611

Stover Seed Company
P.O. Box 86175
Los Angeles, CA 90086
(213) 626-9668
(800) 621-0315

Sierra Seed Supply
358 Williams Valley Rd.
Greenville, CA 95947
(530) 284-7926

Seeds Trust
5870 S. Long Ln.
Littleton, CO 80121
(720) 335-3436

In addition, the Native Seed Network (<http://www.nativeseednetwork.org>) is an online resource that provides search tools and information on all aspects of native seed. You can search the network to find additional sources for native seeds.

Additional Resources

The Western Hummingbird Partnership (WHP) is a developing network of partners collaborating to build an effective and sustainable hummingbird conservation program: <http://www.westernhummingbird.org>



Courtesy of Scott Carpenter

Native Seed Network:
<http://www.nativeseednetwork.org>

North American Bird Conservation Initiative: <http://www.nabci-us.org>

e-bird is a real-time, online checklist program and a way for the birding community to report and access information about birds:
<http://www.ebird.org>

Partners in Flight is a coalition of partners working to combine, coordinate, and increase resources of public and private entities in order to conserve bird populations: <http://www.partnersinflight.org>

Pollinator Partnership: <http://www.pollinator.org>

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