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It has been a long winter. Last week, the second week in March, here in Aberdeen, Idaho, we hit a low temperature of -5°F . That is just not right. The fields should now be greening up. Some days should provide pleasant temperatures for a walk around the neighborhood. Pleasantness has been hard to find. Given the late winter, more than ever, I am ready for spring. Even a spring with muddy roads, brown monochrome fields, dormant shrubs, and lack of green leaves.

But all is not gray. Plants in our native plant research greenhouse are starting to pop. Seeds are completing their required stratification and putting up little green cotyledons. A new season, adorned with wildflowers, is just around the corner. My spirit is beginning to lift.

I love my profession. Great personal reward can be found in contributing to the creation of landscapes (urban and wild) that restore habitats, upon which, so many of our critter neighbors are so highly dependent. I hope that the legacy of my life will be a just slightly better world. I hope you, too, feel that way about the work you do.

Our capabilities for enhancing habitats around us is vastly improved as we share our ideas, theories, research results, and personal experiences with like-minded people. This is the precise reason the Native Plants Journal was created. It is unique among professional journals in that it provides publication opportunities that are not limited to the academic researcher. Anyone working in the field, doing any type of native plant work, can find opportunity to publicize their work—and thus enhance the capabilities of all those involved in our field. The journal is a great tool for moving forward the work of restoration. I thank each of you, as readers and authors, for making Native Plants Journal the effective tool it has become.



Dr Stephen L Love
Editor-in-Chief

On the cover: Wildflower community, including *Eriogonum ovalifolium* Nutt. var. *depressum* Blank. (cushion buckwheat [*Polygonaceae*]), at the crest of Sawtell Peak in southeastern Idaho. Photo by Stephen L Love