

Highlights from the 2017 Field Season

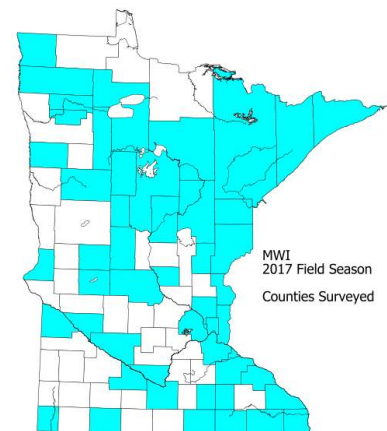


Field Activity Summary

- 12,000+ miles traveled, 16,000+ images shot
- Surveyed locations in 49 Minnesota counties and parts of Wisconsin
- Collected 42 voucher specimens for the Bell Herbarium, including the first state records of non-natives *Alopecurus arundinaceus* and *Cirsium palustre*



Funding provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources



Web Site Statistics

	2016	2017	
Unique visitors	468,586	735,876	+57%
Number of visits	862,067	1,223,932	+42%
Webpages viewed	3,547,361	5,039,268	+42%
Facebook fans	5,152	5,979	+16%

Number of species added to the web site in 2017: 136

Number of species updated: 47

Total species published as of December 31: 1,412

Web Site Updates and Upgrades

- 74 grasses, sedges, and rushes were added, including nearly all of the known MN bulrushes and spikerushes.
- A search facility for grasses is now in place.

Other Services & Public Outreach

- Held the second (annual?) MWI open house and plant sale. Watch our Facebook page for the next event in May
- Manned tables at the MN Native Plant Society Symposium and the Minnesota Wetland Professionals Association annual conference
- Gave presentations to several garden groups and native plant enthusiasts in the Twin Cities area
- Donated many images to other non-commercial projects. Requesters include: Alberta Native Plant Council (CA), California Dept of Agriculture Plant Pest Diagnostics Center, Chicago Botanic Garden, City of Duluth, City of Superior, Dane County Land and Water Resources (WI), Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, Friends of Indiana State Parks, Friends of MN SNAs, Friends of Tamarac NWR, Friends of the Mississippi, Herb Society of America, Maplewood Nature Center, Master Gardeners, MN Board of Water & Soil Resources, MN Historical Society Press, Nebraska Weed Watch, Northeast Metro 916 Schools, Ohio State University, Spiranthes Conservation Project (Ireland), Stanthorpe Rare Wildflower Consortium (Australia), Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine, The Nature Conservancy MN, Three Rivers Park District, UM Extension, University of Maribor (Slovenia), Upper Sioux Agency State Park, Valley City State University (ND), Vermilion Community College, WCCO, Wild Ones,

plus 200+ images to the University of Nebraska for their upcoming 4th edition of *Weeds of the Great Plains*

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A Note From the President

As promised a year ago, we started the literal plunge into photographing aquatic species this past summer.



Vallisneria americana (eelgrass)

We now have many aquatics photographed, including 16 of Minnesota's 24 pondweed species. We did learn that algae build-up can seriously degrade conditions so need to start earlier in the season for best photographic results.

Also, in past years we've mentioned that our field work has, on several occasions, resulted in new locations of rare species, but we also run into a lot of weeds, too. Last summer we happened upon the first documented sighting in Minnesota of the invasive *Cirsium palustre* (marsh thistle), on the Gunflint Trail.



We believe in "early detection, rapid response", so stopped by the US Forest Service station in Grand Marais to report it, and they were out there within a week working on eradication. That's how it should be!



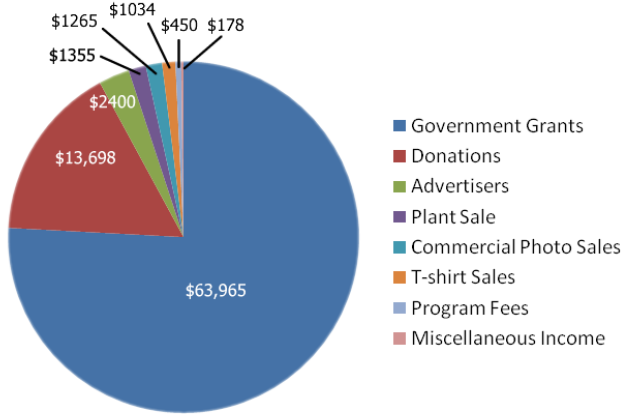
Katy Chayka

Creator of Minnesota Wildflowers,
President and Board Chair

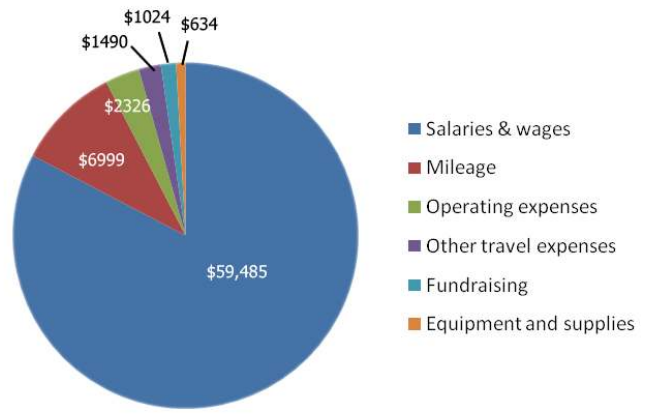
2017 Financial Summary

Total income for fiscal year 2017: \$84,344

2017 Funding Sources



2017 Expenses



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