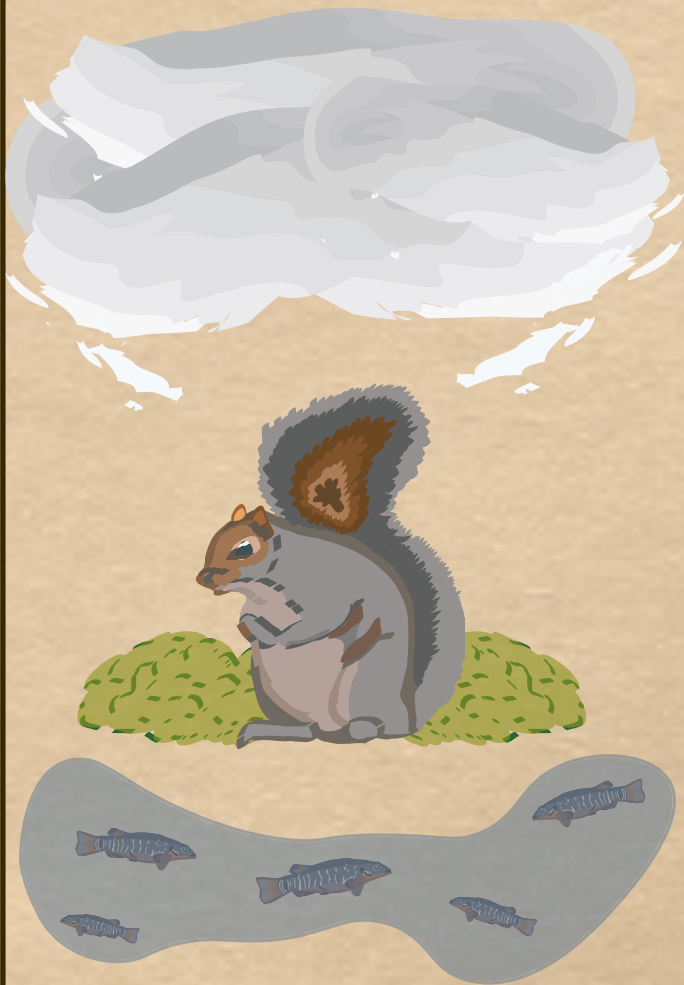


NORDIC NEWS

FALL NATURE GUIDE

2022-23



WASHINGTON STATE IS HOME TO AN ABUNDANCE OF BEAUTIFUL FLORA AND FAUNA. THIS GUIDE WILL FEATURE A FEW, SELECT SPECIES TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO APPRECIATE THE NATURE AROUND THEM.

F L O R A : tree moss



WHAT IS IT?

- CLIMACIUM DENDROIDES (CLY-MAY'-SEE-UHM DEHN-DROY'-DEHS)
- A SMALL, GREEN PLANT THAT GROWS IN DENSE CLUMPS, CREATING A CARPETLIKE TEXTURE.
- INDIVIDUAL PLANTS ARE 0.1 TO 3.9 INCHES TALL.

WHERE CAN IT BE FOUND?

- TREE MOSS IS FOUND IN WET ENVIRONMENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD, SUCH AS RAINFORESTS, WETLANDS AND HIGH MOUNTAIN ECOSYSTEMS.
- IT IS ALSO PERSISTENT ENOUGH TO SURVIVE IN CITIES WITH WET CLIMATES, ESTABLISHING ITSELF ON DRIVEWAYS, SIDEWAYS, BRICK WALLS, ETC.
- MOSS IS GROWN BY SOME GARDENERS TO CREATE LOW-MAINTENANCE MOSS LAWNS. MOSS THRIVES BEST ON PERMEABLE SURFACES THAT RETAIN WATER, LIKE BRICK AND WOOD.

FUN FACTS:

- CONTRARY TO THE MYTH OFTEN TOLD TO HELP PEOPLE NAVIGATE FORESTS, MOSS DOESN'T GROW ON JUST THE NORTH SIDES OF TREES.
- SURFACES CAN BE MADE HOSPITABLE TO MOSS USING ACIDIC MATERIALS SUCH AS BUTTERMILK, YOGURT AND URINE.
- STEGOSAURUSES ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE EATEN MOSS, AMONG OTHER PLANTS.

F A U N A : Douglas squirrel



WHAT IS IT?

- TAMIASCIURUS DOUGLASII (TA-MEE-A'-SKYUR-US DUH-GLA'-SEE)
- A SMALL MAMMAL THAT CAN GROW UP TO AROUND 12 INCHES IN LENGTH. THIS INCLUDES THEIR TAILS, WHICH ARE 5 INCHES LONG.

WHERE CAN IT BE FOUND?

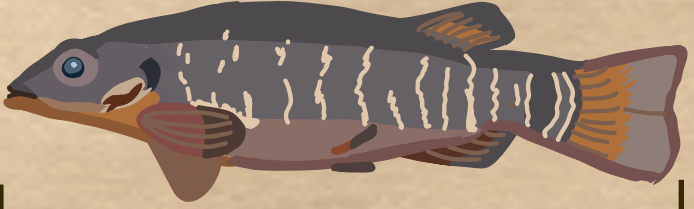
- THE SQUIRRELS CAN BE FOUND AROUND CONIFEROUS TREES, WHICH ARE EVERGREEN TREES THAT HAVE NEEDLE OR SCALE LEAVES AND PRODUCE CONES.
- THEIR TERRITORY RANGES FROM THE SOUTHWESTERN COAST OF BRITISH COLUMBIA DOWN TO THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST OF THE U.S.

FUN FACTS:

- THE COLOR OF A DOUGLAS SQUIRREL'S COAT CHANGES WITH THE SEASON. IN THE SUMMER THEY ARE GRAY, AND IN THE WINTER, THEIR COATS ARE MORE BROWN.
- THESE SQUIRRELS HOARD THEIR FOOD IN PLACES CALLED "MIDDENS."

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARE- NESS: endangered species

OLYMPIC MUDMINNOW



3"

WHAT IS IT:

- NOVUMBRA HUBBSI (NOH-VUHM'-BRUH HUHB'-SEE)
- A SMALL FRESHWATER FISH THAT GROWS TO BE ABOUT 3 INCHES IN LENGTH.

WHERE CAN IT BE FOUND?

- SOUTHERN AND WESTERN LOWLANDS OF WASHINGTON, WHERE IT IS NATIVE.
- CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN, DESCHUTES RIVER BASIN AND SOME OLYMPIC PENINSULA BASINS.

THREATS INCLUDE:

- LOSS OF HABITAT CAUSED BY THE DESTRUCTION OF WETLANDS. THIS HAS BEEN SLIGHTLY MITIGATED DUE TO GOVERNMENT WETLAND REGULATIONS.
- LIMITED RANGE DUE TO LOSS OF HABITAT AND SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS.
- LACK OF RESEARCH AND MONITORING, CONTRIBUTING TO AN ABSENCE OF INFORMATION THAT WOULD HELP WITH CONSERVATION EFFORTS.

FUN FACTS:

- THE OLYMPIC MUDMINNOW IS THE ONLY FRESHWATER FISH SPECIES THAT IS ENDEMIC TO WASHINGTON, MEANING THAT IT IS FOUND EXCLUSIVELY IN OUR AREA.
- OUT OF THE ENTIRE NOVUMBRA GENUS, THE OLYMPIC MUDMINNOW IS THE ONLY LIVING SPECIES, UNDERSCORING THE IMPORTANCE OF ITS PRESERVATION.

POLLUTION PREVENTION: ROADKILL

PREVENT POLLUTION BY AVOIDING ANIMALS WHEN DRIVING. THE GERMS AND BACTERIA FROM ROADKILL WASH DOWN INTO STORM DRAINS, POLLUTING THE LOCAL RIVERS.