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Limited Use Agreement for Digital Data

The Oregon Biodiversity Information Center (ORBIC) compiles locality-based data for rare, threatened and endangered species of Oregon. Identifying and obtaining this information from the wide variety of available historical and current sources and entering it into the database is an ongoing process. Thus the ORBIC database is dynamic, constantly updated with new data and revisions of the old.

ORBIC considers locality data to be sensitive and confidential. Because of the sensitivity of such information and the concern about possible misuse and misinterpretation, such data, when provided is furnished with certain **limitations and concerns**. By signing and returning this document, you agree to the following terms and conditions with regard to the use of digital data from the ORBIC.

Data Format Availability: ORBIC will supply spatial data in an ArcGIS shapefile or file geodatabase. KML is available upon request.

1. Limited Distribution: You are hereby granted a nonexclusive license to make copies of ORBIC data provided to you by us in digital or hard copy form for use or distribution only within your department, agency, business or corporation. Subcontractors may have access to these data during the course of any given project but should not be given a copy for their use on subsequent unrelated work. Beyond these limits, ORBIC data may not be further distributed or sold in any format. Should individuals approach you outside your organization for the type of data that we provide, please refer them to the ORBIC.
2. Information Currency: You must recognize that our database is dynamic. We add, delete and change records on a daily basis. Delayed or long term storage for later use is strongly discouraged as the more out-of-date the information is, the more misleading it is likely to be. Consequently, we strongly advise that you plan to update your ORBIC data sets about every six months for most applications of our information. It is your responsibility to use a current copy of ORBIC data for your analysis or other work. An expiration date field will serve as a reminder to update the information.
3. Need for Interpretation of Information: ORBIC data require a certain degree of biological expertise for proper analysis, interpretation and application. Our staff is available to you by phone or email to advise you about the technical aspects of our data. It is your responsibility to insure that the data you obtain from us are not misapplied.
4. Limitations of Point Data: The point locations contained in the ORBIC database represent species populations or communities which cover varying areas, and their boundaries may or may not be known. Points may represent the centroid of the area covered, to the extent that it is known. Some occurrences may extend several miles from their center. In addition, the ORBIC database contains data from a variety of sources, which vary in the quality of their locational information. The precision of the record is indicated within the attribute table assigned. You agree to accept the data "as-is", and ORBIC makes no representations or warranties whatsoever with respect to the quality or accuracy of the data, except as specifically set forth in this agreement.

Limited Use Agreement for Digital Data (continued)

5. Data As A Guide Only: We work very hard to keep the ORBIC database as current and up to date as possible given our capabilities and resources. However, the ORBIC database should not be considered as an exhaustive and comprehensive inventory of rare species and natural communities. Please remember that the lack of rare element information from a given area does not mean that there are no significant elements there, only that there is no information known to us from the site. To assure that there are no important elements present, you should inventory the site, at the appropriate season.
6. Cite ORBIC as source: As a professional courtesy, we ask that you acknowledge the ORBIC as a source of your information whenever you use ORBIC data in your reports, papers, publications or in maps that incorporate ORBIC graphic elements. We prefer to be cited as: Oregon Biodiversity Information Center. Month Year. Biotics Rare Species Database. Institute for Natural Resources – Portland. Portland State University, Portland, OR.
7. Contribution of Information: Your contribution of data to ORBIC is equally important to the maintenance of our database. Field observation forms for plants, animals and plant communities may be obtained from our web site, completed, and returned to this office. We will also gladly accept digital data in the form of reports, datasets, or spatial layers. We are interested not only in new occurrences, but any information you may have about changed circumstances of existing occurrences.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Prefix: _____ Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please return this signed document to our office via email or post:

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