

## Camas Contributions and Connections: Exploring the Legacy and Potential of Human-Camas Relationships

*Camassia* sp. is a genus of blue to white flowering, bulbous perennial plants commonly found from the Pacific coast to the eastern margins of the Rocky Mountains. These edible bulbs were a readily available plant food source for the people who have lived in these regions since time immemorial, with people frequently traveling hundreds of kilometers to harvest, trading the bulbs far outside its habitat, and storing specially prepared camas for meals throughout the year. Even William Clark recognized the importance of this plant, noting the significance of "Quawmash roots as a great present." In this session we aim to take a closer look at this genus, exploring the ways people interacted with camas in the past and how we can facilitate those interactions in the future. We welcome papers from practitioners, activists, and scholars across backgrounds, bringing together a deep perspective on this plant and its contributions to life throughout the greater Northwest.

Any form of presentation, paper, or talk is welcome, with a tentative 15-minute window for delivery. We welcome participants from all backgrounds and disciplines.

If you are interested in joining, please reach out to Molly Carney at [molly.carney@wsu.edu](mailto:molly.carney@wsu.edu).

For more information about the Northwest Anthropology Conference, please visit <https://www.nwaconference.com/>.