

Kannakko, Kris (MNR)

s.21

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: June 5, 2005 10:21 PM
To: Coulson, Daryl (MNR)
Subject: 4th Chute

Daryl:

I was at the Fourth Chute site this weekend looking for Ram's Head Ladies Slippers. No luck. The habitat was somewhat different than Braeside Alvar or Marlborough Forest. Fourth Chute seems much dryer and the species diversity was a lot lower than at Braeside alvar. I did find a lot of *Carex richardsonii* which seems to be associated with alvars. I also found my first *Carex backii* (also a calcareous species). There was a lot of *Minuartia (Arenaria) stricta* too. I did see what I believe to be *Zigadenus elegans* plants (not yet blooming) but that identity needs to be confirmed.

The shoreline turned out to be more interesting. You remember the fen like area just inside the shoreline. It seeps onto the limestone and into the river. At the edge (between the sedge/mossy fen and the bare rock), it is somewhat marly. The limestone is breaking down and, although this region was a small thin line (and well trodden), suddenly a lot of diversity appeared. I found *Carex aurea* and *Carex flava* and several other sedges that were too immature to identify. Also lots of *Maianthemum stellatum* blooming. It reminded me of the shoreline alvar at Dorcas Bay on the Bruce Peninsula. I thought this was the right habitat for *Pinguicula vulgaris* (Butterwort) but found none.

Anyway, I thought you would be interested in knowing how it went. I didn't get a very long plant list. The only orchid I found was *Platanthera hyperborea* (not yet budding).

s.21

[REDACTED]