UW Herbarium

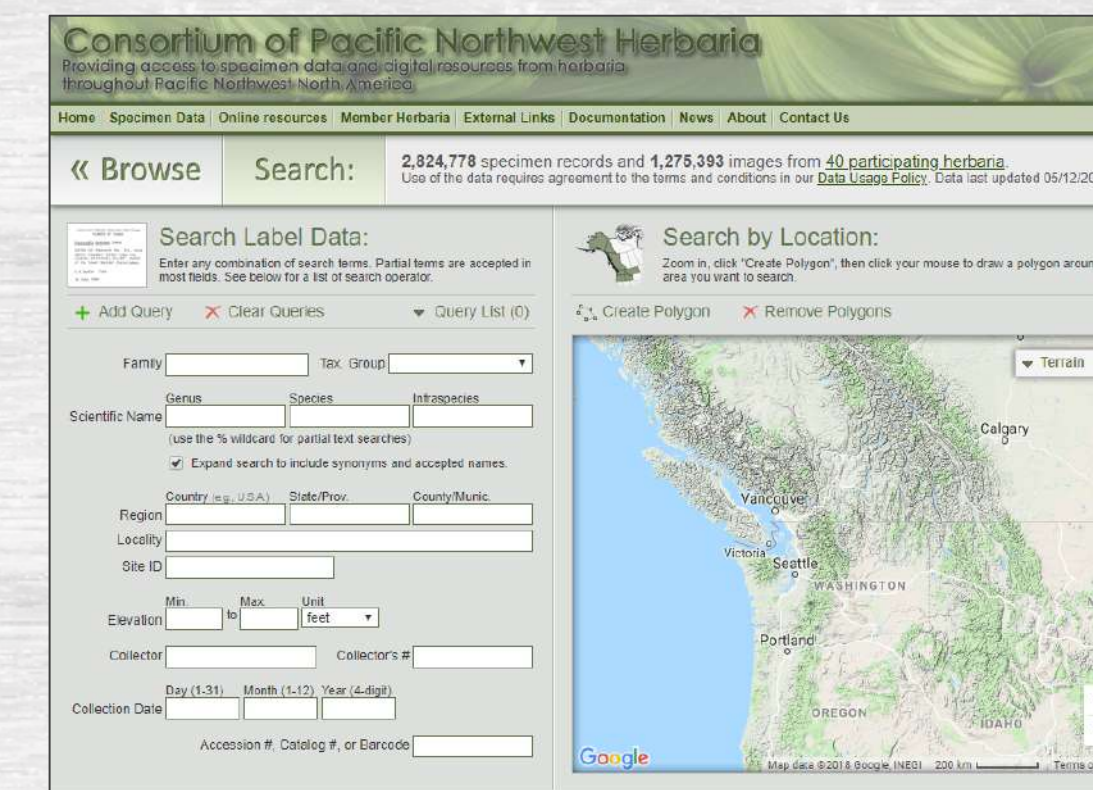# Image Processing & Data Curation

Research Process

About the UW Herbarium:

- The Herbarium supports over 660,000 analog plant, fungi, lichen, and algae specimen records with a focus on the PNW Region
- Leads Consortium of Pacific Northwest Herbaria, providing access to specimen data and digital resources
- Holds 2,824,778 specimen records & 1,274,398 images (and counting)
- Initiated Vascular Plant & Fungal Image Galleries housing 66,692 images
- Operates with a small, devoted staff concerned with institutional sustainability

Project Statement:

We endeavor to provide a manageable framework to add long-term stability to an institution that embodies the mission of higher education; the discovery and dissemination of knowledge

Modern Herbarium Challenges

Memory Institution with Growing Digital Presence
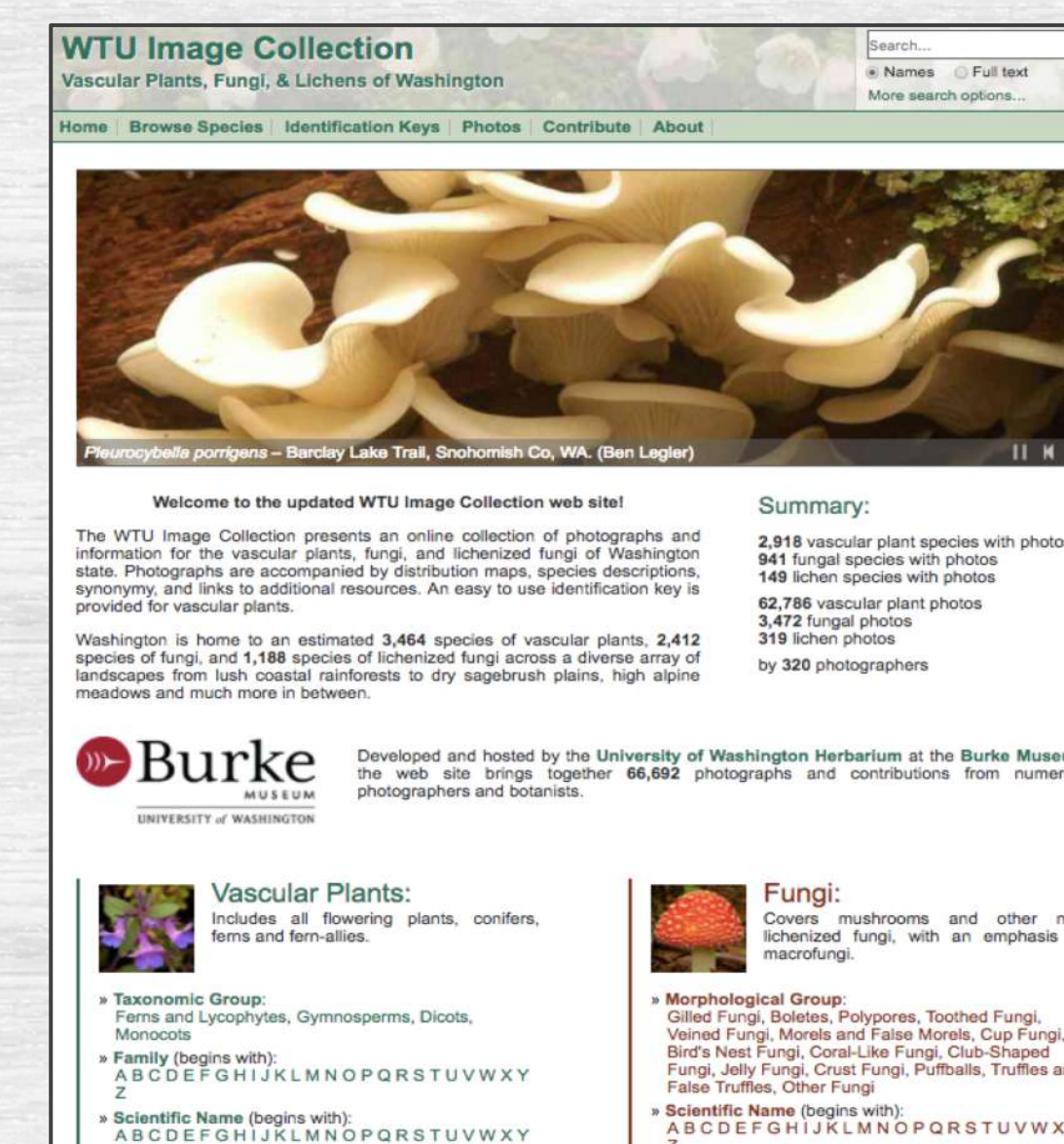
Time Constraints

Budget Constraints

Information Opportunities

- Digital landscape assessment
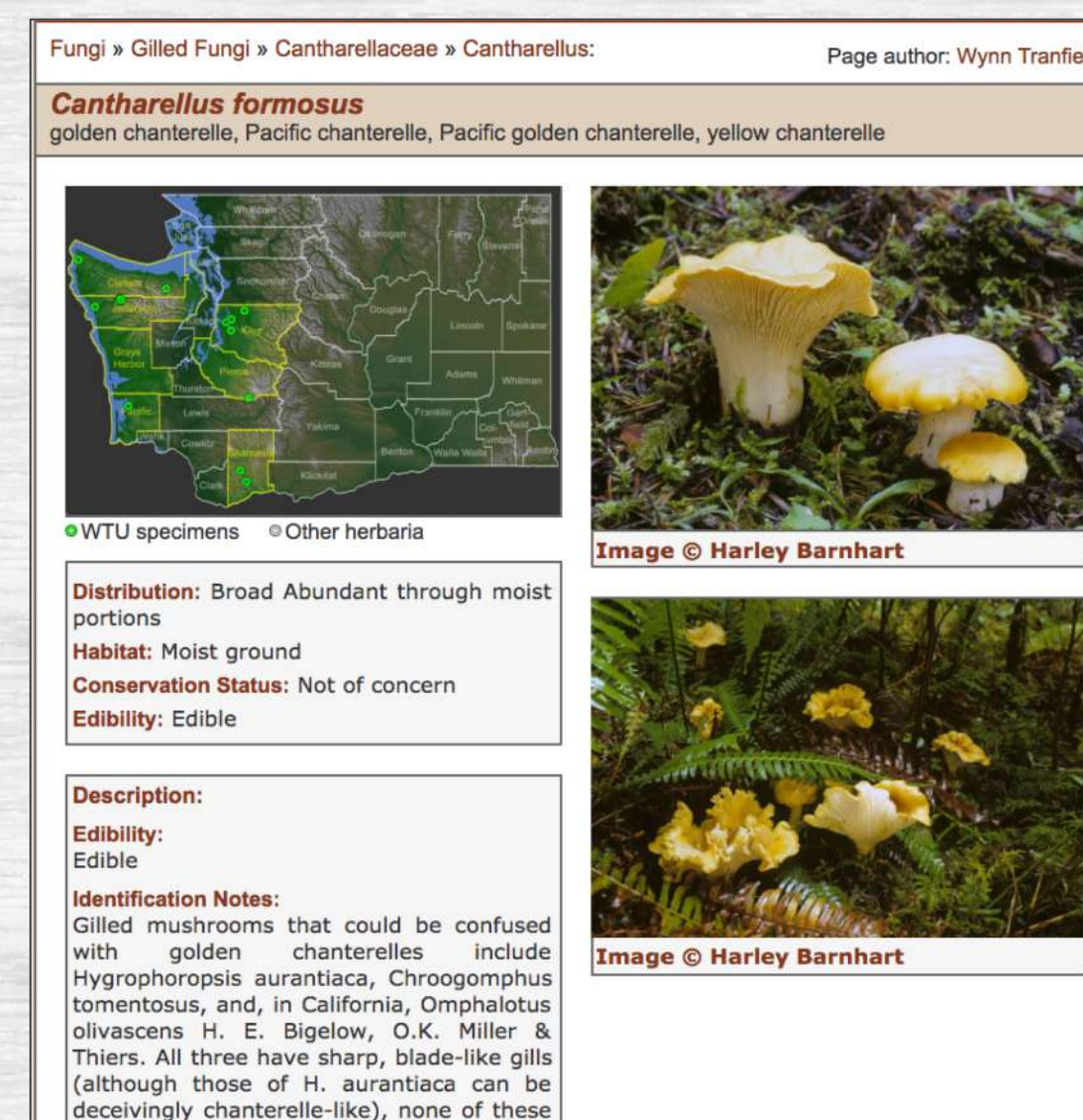- Workflow & institutional knowledge documentation

- Image processing assistance to jumpstart Fungal Image Gallery
- Data inventory

- Experimentation with low-cost options for digital preservation

Analysis

- Herbarium worksite observations
- Information Landscape Assessment
- Systematic workflow determinations

Inquiry

- Data Wrangling
- Literature Review of Herbarium Practices & Small Memory Institution Data Curation
- Stakeholder Interviews

Production

- Over 3,000 Fungal Images Processed
- Image Gallery Crowdsource Workflow Tutorials
- Tailored Data Curation Plan
- Research Papers:
  - Data Curation: Best Practices for Small Memory Institutions
  - The Interdisciplinary Herbarium: Ethnobotanical Data Potential

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