

Darlingtonia

Winter 2008

Newsletter of the North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society
Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora

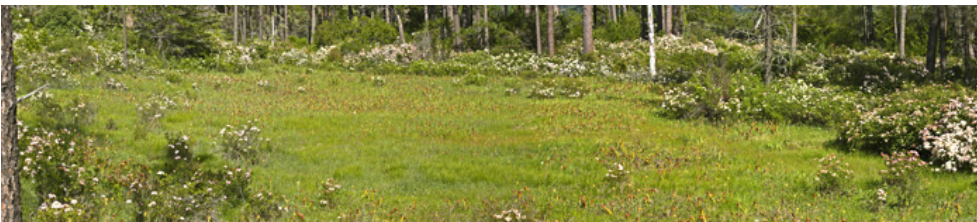
SOUTHERN OREGON WILDFLOWERS

By Donna Wildearth

Interested in exploring wildflowers in a variety of habitats just across the Oregon border? Within roughly 25 miles of the border on Hwy. 199 there are three botanical areas—Rough and Ready, Eight Dollar Mountain, and Babyfoot Lake (at the edge of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness)—as well as other mountain areas rich in plants. On a brief trip to southern Oregon in late June, I botanized at several *Darlingtonia* fens as well as one of the higher mountain lakes that was just emerging from its winter snowpack.

In terms of lodging, I discovered a real gem: Deer Creek Center, owned by the Siskiyou Field Institute (SFI), located a few miles from Selma, OR. SFI purchased this former ranch several years ago, and it now serves as their headquarters and the site for many of their field courses. Deer Creek Center also offers accommodations: \$10 per night to camp in the meadow (includes use of a new solar-powered restroom/shower building) or \$22 per night to stay in the main ranch house, where you can cook in a large, well-equipped kitchen. Deer Creek flows just below the ranch house, and on the other side of the creek is an extensive *Darlingtonia* fen to explore. Find out more about SFI programs and Deer Creek Center at www.thesfi.org.

And here's a good book to bring along: *Oregon's Best Wildflower Hikes, Southwest Region*, by Elizabeth L. Horn, Westcliffe Publishers, 2006. (Horn also wrote *Coastal Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest*)



Eight Dollar Mountain Darlingtonia wetland. Photo by Barbara Ullian

Editor's Note: You may also find more information about these botanical areas at the US Forest Service's website:

- Eight Dollar Mountain—www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/regions/pacificnorthwest/eightdollar/index.shtml
- Rough and Ready Flat—www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/regions/pacificnorthwest/roughready/index.shtml
- Babyfoot Lake—www.fs.fed.us/r6/rogue-siskiyou/recreation/trails/babyfoot-lake.shtml

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Where to find what's happening:

- ◇ Visit our website:
www.northcoastcnps.org
- ◇ Sign up for our announcements
e-mail: [NorthCoast_CNPS-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NorthCoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)
- ◇ Read the *Darlingtonia*
- ◇ Read or hear about upcoming events
in local media

FIELD TRIPS AND PLANT WALKS

Please watch for later additions on our Web site (www.northcoastcnps.org) and in the local papers, or join our e-mail notification group (linked from our Web site). We welcome all levels of botanical knowledge on our trips. We are all out there to learn and enjoy.

February 28, Saturday. Table Bluff County Park day hike. A level OHV track heading south from the parking lot at the very end of Table Bluff Road, Loleta, offers an easy way to explore the back edge of the dunes, where they meet the freshwater wetlands of the Eel River. Walking all the way to the mouth of the Eel River (4 miles) is possible, but unlikely at our botanical speed. Despite the winter date, we will see some blossoms, like footsteps of spring and various mustard family species, and some evergreen wetland species, like spikerush and sedges. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata), 9:00 a.m. at the MacDonald's end of Bayshore Mall parking lot, or about 9:30 at the end of Table Bluff Rd. Dress for the weather, especially wind; bring lunch and water. Return by late afternoon. It helps to know you are coming: Carol 822-2015.

March 22, Sunday. Redwood Creek day hike. Masses of *Trillium kurabayashii* should be waiting for us about 1.5 miles up the Redwood Creek Trail in Redwood National Park (Trailhead at the bottom of Bald Hills Rd.). The yellow variant of this deep red trillium occurs here, and the riparian and forest edge vegetation will provide ample amusement. Willows might be in good form. If we have time, we might also visit the skunk cabbage on Skunk Cabbage Trail or see what is happening on Lady Bird Johnson Trail. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata) or arrange another place. Dress for the weather; bring lunch and water. Return late afternoon. It helps to know you are coming: Carol 822-2015.

April 11, Saturday. Burnt Ranch and Grays Falls day trip. The very early bloomers, like fawn lily, Indian warrior, and trillium, will be finishing, and some later bloomers will be opening, like iris, "spaghetti flower", dogwood, larkspur, lomatiums, pussy ears, mission bells, etc. We'll watch for Easter bunnies as we check the fawn lilies and the rare Howell's montia (A hand lens helps!) at Burnt Ranch Campground and then explore the varied habitats at Grays Falls Picnic Area, including the short trail down to the falls. Hopefully we'll have time for some short stops as we return along Highway 299. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Pacific Union School, 9:15 a.m. at the Buttercup Bakery in Willow Creek, or about 10:00 at Burnt Ranch Campground. Dress for the weather; bring lunch and water and clippers (If the Himalaya blackberry is still bad, we can spend a few minutes reducing it.) Return late afternoon. It helps to know you are coming: Carol 822-2015.

You can lead a field trip! Do you know a place you'd like to share with other plant aficionados? You don't have to know the names of all the plants. You just have to choose a day and tell us how to get there. We'll come explore with you. Contact Carol Ralph (822-2015) with your ideas.

CNPS 2009 CONSERVATION CONFERENCE: STRATEGIES AND SOLUTIONS

January 17 - 19, 2009 (Registration opens July 1, 2008)

Sacramento Convention Center & Sheraton Grand Hotel, Sacramento, California

The CNPS 2009 Conservation Conference: Strategies and Solutions will bring together over 1,000 amateur and professional botanists, conservationists, university students, public policy makers, local and regional planners, land managers and plant enthusiasts from all regions of the state and beyond to share and learn about the latest developments in conservation science and public policy.

See the conference webpage to register or for more information
<http://cnps.org/cnps/conservation/conference/2009/>

The North Coast Chapter has a tradition of sending students to conferences. We have given out 14 scholarships to Humboldt State University students (twelve undergraduates and most botany majors) so that they may attend this conference and have the potential to be inspired into natural resource careers.

CHAPTER PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS

EVENING PROGRAMS

The North Coast Chapter of CNPS (www.northcoastcnps.org) holds free Public Programs on the second Wednesday of each month (September through May) at the Six Rivers Masonic Lodge, 251 Bayside Rd., Arcata. Refreshments at 7:00 and program at 7:30 p.m. You don't have to be a CNPS member to attend! Contact Audrey Miller, Programs Chairperson at taurdreybirdbath@suddenlink.net or 786-9701, with speaker or botanical subject suggestions.

- January 14** ***A Celebration of Northwest California's Conifers.** *Local science teacher, photographer, and fellow plant nerd ***Michael Kauffmann*** will treat us to a visual journey through hidden nooks and scenic wilderness of the Klamath Mountains and the North Coast, exploring the stunning diversity of conifers---38 species!---in the diverse, temperate forests of northwest California. Range maps Michael has created will add to the evening's discussion. His newly released poster featuring these trees will be available for purchase.
- February 11** ***Celebrating and Saving Siskiyou.*** The magic of the Siskiyou Mountains is seen in its extraordinary flora. The Siskiyou National Forest is the most botanically diverse forest in the nation. It carries the rank of Area of Global Biological Significance. ***Karen Phillips***, Development Director of the Siskiyou Project, will show some botanical gems and tell about the Siskiyou Wild Rivers Area and the Project's efforts to secure permanent protection for its globally significant wild salmon, botanical diversity, wild land and wild rivers.
- March 11** ***"Tiny Treasures in a Vast Landscape"*** A wide array of unique and wonderful plants, including the world's smallest willow and North America's smallest rhododendron, find a home in Denali National Park, yet they are threatened by global warming. Field botanist, interpreter, and current Humboldt State University graduate student ***Brian Dykstra*** will share many colorful photos of these special plants and their habitats. He will describe research on these plants and how global warming affects them, and by this example he will show us what humanity loses when wild habitats are lost. Brian worked three summers for the the National Park Service in Alaska and has worked elsewhere in in the Pacific Northwest. He has worked as a nature interpreter and even a canopy lichenologist. He is excited to share his wonderful photos and bring you into the wild of Alaska.
- April 8** ***Flora of the Swiss Alps with Birgit Semsrott***
- May 13** To be announced.



The Carex Working Group is pleased to announce the publication of the "**Field Guide to the Sedges of the Pacific Northwest.**" The book is an illustrated guide to all 164 species, subspecies, and varieties of Carex that occur in Washington and Oregon. Botanists will find it useful throughout much of California particularly in northern California and in the mountains throughout the state. It contains identification keys, descriptions, color photographs, and distribution maps for each species, along with information about sedge ecology, habitat, and management.

The field guide is available by calling 1-800-426-3797 or it can be ordered by going to

<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/press/e-f/FieldGuideSedges.html> and then clicking on "Secure online ordering form."

GREGORY MARK JENNINGS BOTANY AWARD ENDOWMENT



After the untimely passing of our dear friend and colleague Greg Jennings, his father and uncle established an endowment at Humboldt State University. The purpose of the endowment is to commemorate Greg's work and interest in botanical research and to provide a source of funds to other graduate students whose research rises to the surface in order that they may present their research at professional meetings and conferences. The presentation of research to peers is considered a critical step in illuminating one's efforts and also tests the research by opening it up to debate and scrutiny.

Please visit our Chapter's website (www.northcoastcnps.org) for more information about the endowment or to learn how to contribute to the endowment.

NORTH COAST CNPS VOLUNTEER CORNER

Phone Carol 822-2015 to volunteer, ask questions, or make suggestions.

THANK YOU!

- John Bair for serving as Invasive Plant Chair
- Dennis Walker for leading a plant walk along Jolly Giant Creek
- Felicity Wasser for focusing her financial knowledge on our budget
- Cara Witte and Robin Bencie for being the selection committee for the CNPS 2009 Conservation Conference student travel awards

CHAPTER OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

Approximately seven percent of our chapter membership voted and the results were unanimous:

- Carol Ralph: re-elected as president. The CNPS Board thanked Carol for her continued leadership of our chapter.
- Felicity Wasser: re-elected as vice-president
- Frances Ferguson: re-elected as secretary
- Cara Witte: elected as treasurer

WELCOME ABOARD!

Stephanie Klein as Invasive Plant Chair. She has recently returned to Humboldt County from the East Coast, where she received a Ph.D. at John Hopkins University, and is now the Program Manager for the Ecosystem Restoration Division of Streamline Planning Consultants. She said she hopes to create a compendium of invasive species in Humboldt County for use by resource managers and residents. She wants to work cooperatively with various environmental groups.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Phone Carol 822-2015 to volunteer, ask questions, or make suggestions.

ECONEWS REPORTER. *Econews* is an important avenue of publicity. We need someone to submit for publication our calendar items on the 15th of each month.

WILDFLOWER SHOW QUEEN BEE. (or drone?) Help bring native plants to the public. Our most important education and outreach event needs someone to be sure all the worker bees are doing their jobs. If you have enjoyed this show, consider helping with the next, as queen or worker. The many jobs are already defined, and workers are doing many of them.

WILDFLOWER SHOW REFRESHMENT PROVIDER. Our many volunteers at this event appreciate modest sustenance. The Provider gets it there.

SUMMER OF SMOKE

by Carol Ralph

A June thunderstorm that lit hundreds of fires in the northern California mountains kept hordes of fire fighters busy all summer and seriously impacted recreation in many of our favorite mountain and river places. While we can appreciate the gentle, fuel-reducing burn that resulted from such early fires, we wish they had then expired. Their flames were not a serious threat most places, but their smoke was. When the sun is red and reduced to below-shadow-making capacity, an eeriness covers the landscape and even healthy people feel unsettled and experience unhealthy changes from breathing that air. After telephone consultation with people in the mountains, we regretfully abandoned the 4th of July Mt. Eddy field trip. Brian and Eileen Keelan, from Santa Cruz, went anyway. They reported conditions were OK on the Parks Creek trail to Deadfall Lakes and the summit, but anywhere lower was smokier, and that included the campground at Scott Mountain. The previous day they had hiked in to Little Duck Lake and couldn't see across the lake.

By July 13 smoke was still dominant, so instead of going to Waterdog Lake the butterfly and flower field trip went to Grouse Mountain, off Forest Highway 1 south of Berry Summit on 299, which had been scouted and found clear enough. The group of about ten people drove down the east side on 4N32. Pete Haggard reports that the buckwheats and butterflies were the best he's ever seen, and that's saying something. Other flowers were making a good show too. Pete thinks snow was on the ground so long this year that the blooming and flying season was compressed. Watch for another try at Waterdog Lake next year.

MT. LASSEN: FROM HELL TO HEAVEN

August 2-4, 2008

by Carol Ralph

The first weekend in August is a good time to abandon the hot, dry lower elevations and search out the cooler air and earlier season of higher elevations. This year five of us did that in that remarkable national park only four hours away, Lassen Volcanic National Park, where the Cascades meet the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

The tent loop of Manzanita Campground, at 5,890 ft. elevation near the northeast corner of the park, was a pleasant headquarters for our three nights. We cooked, sat around the campfire, and slept under the stars, red fir *Abies magnifica*, and ponderosa pine *Pinus ponderosa* on the crunchy, volcanic gravel, the rocky mass of Chaos Crags looming in the east. A fuzzy, red-brown stalk of pine drops *Pterospora andromedea* and the tiny, pink flowers of *Kelloggia galioides* peeked at us from the shelter of the scattered green-leaf manzanita *Arctostaphylos patula*. Clumps of creamy-blossomed coyote mint *Monardella odoratissima*, a summer favorite of butterflies, were here and possibly the most abundant flower of the weekend. Manzanita Lake itself was a bit dismal, bordered by a crowded stand of firs over barren forest floor. In a quick outing at dusk the first evening we found the nearby, short Lily Pond Trail, a good preview of some of the trees and shrubs we would see later.

We explored most of the main park road, which traverses the highest elevations, the most diverse vegetation, and the most recent volcanic activity, 1914-15. With our flower bias we didn't do justice to the tremendous geology around us, both volcanism and glaciation, other than to soak in the vistas of barren peaks and jumbled rocks. A few small patches of snow decorated the highest slope. We focused on the varied vegetation as we changed elevation and on the floral favorites. Lupine-covered slopes were a major feature, as were carpets of pinemat manzanita *Arctostaphylos nevadensis*, both among the pointy-topped trees. We saw good assortments of monkeyflowers *Mimulus*, buckwheats *Erigeron*, and lupines *Lupinus*.

Two books enriched our visit significantly: *A Flora of Lassen volcanic National Park, California* (1995. Vernon H. Oswald and David W. Showers. CNPS Press. Lassen Chapter. A revision of 1961 edition by Gillett, Howell, and Leschke.) and *Road Guide to Lassen National Park*, the booklet about what to see at the roadside markers.

Both of our full days of exploration we shuttled cars so that we could hike one way on trails, largely downhill. The first day we hiked four miles from the Bumpass Hell trailhead (8,200 ft.) to Kings Creek Meadows (7,400 ft.). Many other park visitors walked as far as the amazing, bowl-shaped valley named after a local guide, Mr. Bumpass. Roaring steam and the smell of sulphur filled the air. A cloud of steam hung over the throat of the valley. The barren ground was minerally white or dirty yellow scum. Mud bubbled in one spring. Pools and streams of sterile, turquoise, warm water promised life, as they cooled and left the toxic zone. Indeed, mats of dark green bog-laurel

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Kalmia microphylla were at the edge of this geologic wasteland. We left the modest crowds in the Hell and proceeded through the tranquil, open, red fir forest. The trail descended gently and eventually traversed a long slope clothed in lush mountain greenery where seeps and small streams ran down it. We lingered among the cherished faces we came to see-- bog orchids *Plantanthera leucostachys* and *sparsiflora*, corn lily *Veratrum californicum*, paintbrush *Castilleja miniata*, larkspur *Delphinium nutallii*, monkshood *Aconitum columbianum*. We saw four monkeyflowers: Lewis', musk, seep-spring, and primrose *Mimulus lewisii*, *M. moschatus*, *M. guttatus*, and *M. primuloides*. We saw six umbellifers (Apiaceae): the large, robust cow parsnip *Heracleum lanatum* and Brewer's angelica *Angelica breweri*; the medium-sized ranger's buttons (swamp white heads) *Sphenosciadium capitellatum*, western sweet-cicely *Osmorhiza occidentalis*, and Gray's wild lovage *Ligusticum grayi*; and the dainty yampah *Perideridia lemmonii* or *parishii*. Only the sweet-cicely and the lovage were not blooming. The Asteraceae situation, beyond the abundant, clean white yarrow *Achillea millefolium*, needed study. A furry marmot quickly surveyed this cheerful world from a rocky perch. At the bottom of this slope was Cold Boiling Lake, which was quite peaceful despite the name. Its surrounding meadow was fairly short grass and not as star-studded as the slope above. The banks of Kings Creek, at the end of our journey, offered plenty of enticements we could not accept this day.

The second all-downhill hike was from roadside marker no. 27 about three miles to Hat Lake, at roadside marker no. 42. The first half of this route we walked without distraction, through open stands of mountain hemlock *Tsuga mertensiana* and some magnificent western white pine *Pinus monticola*. A steady flow of butterflies, all morning, all flying south, impressed us. (Later information said it was dispersal.) Where we could have spent the whole day was at Paradise Meadows, just upstream from the stream crossing. The stream-side vegetation was again rich, here bedecked with dainty violet sprays of brooklime *Veronica americana* and rounded leaves of stream saxifrage *Saxifraga odontoloma*. Among the short sedges and grasses of the meadow we identified the white, narrow-rayed "aster" as Coulter's daisy *Erigeron coulteri* and the solitary, purple "aster" with long leaves as alpine aster *Aster alpigenus*. In the long grass at the edges of willow thickets were the treasured leopard lilies *Lilium pardalinum*, tall, regal, and glowing.



The Jepson Manual, the Lassen flora, and a hand lens
in Paradise Meadow

By the end of this second day we could distinguish four kinds of lupines and even apply names to them, with the help of the *Lassen Flora*. Lupines with silvery gray leaves and dark purple flowers, blooming still many places, were satin lupine *Lupinus obtusiloba*. Lupines with simply gray-green leaves and occasional remains of pale yellow flowers were narrow-flowered lupine *L. angustiflorus*. Lupines with gray-green leaves, low stature, and pale purple flowers were a *L. lepidus*. Lupines with large, dark green leaves, generally in damp places, and not flowering were probably meadow (large-leaved) lupine *L. polyphyllus*.

Two roadside stops were especially rewarding. Opposite roadside marker No. 49, the Hot Rock, in a level stand of Jeffrey pine was an amazing population of snowplant *Sarcodes sanguinea*, a dramatic mycoheterotroph (no chlorophyll). Many were bright red, covered with bright red, marble-size fruits. Some were dry. We estimated 250 of them were scattered over roughly one-half acre. In looking for a reason for their abundance in this spot, we noted an abundance of ant hills and pocket gopher work.

The other roadside botanical spot was a small meadow uphill of the road at mile-marker 3, opposite a paved pullout below Diamond Peak. In this squishy meadow a few shooting stars with narrow leaves *Dodecatheon alpinus* were still blooming. A goldenrod *Solidago canadensis* and butterweed *Senecio triangularis* spread yellow compostie cheer while wandering daisy *Erigeron peregrinus* added the allure of a purple-rayed, yellow-centered composite. On the dry slope above, a hillside of large, sunflower-type yellow composites with basal rosettes of long leaves proved to be both woolly mule-ears *Wyethia mollis* blooming (leaves elliptic), and arrow-leaved balsamroot *Balsamorhiza deltoidea* in fruit (leaves triangular).

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COMMUNICATIONS

North Coast CNPS members have three ways to share information with each other:

1. The **Darlingtonia Newsletter** (quarterly),
2. Our chapter's website (www.northcoastcnps.org - updated regularly), and
3. E-mail lists/forums (Announcements, Business, and Gardening – subscribe from the **E-mail lists and Forums** page on www.northcoastcnps.org).

The *Darlingtonia* is the quarterly newsletter of the North Coast Chapter of CNPS. Items for submittal to *Darlingtonia* should be sent to marisa_nativecalifornian@yahoo.com by each quarterly deadline: December 1, March 1, June 1, and September 1. Botanical articles, poetry, stories, photographs, illustrations, sightings, news items, action alerts, events, factoids, tidbits, etc. are welcome and appreciated.

EcoNEWS AND YOU

We, the North Coast Chapter of CNPS, are a member organization of the **Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC)**, a valuable voice for conservation in our area. This means we have a seat on the board of directors. It also means that as our member you are automatically entitled to receive the NEC's monthly publication, **EcoNews**. Due to the vagaries of membership lists, you might not be receiving this informative newsletter. If you are a member of our chapter, do not receive *EcoNews*, and want to receive it, phone 707-822-6918 or e-mail ericanec@yournec.org and leave the pertinent information.

NATIVE PLANT CONSULTATION SERVICE



Are you wondering which plants in your yard are native? Are you unsure if that vine in the corner is an invasive exotic? Would you like to know some native species that would grow well in your yard?

The North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society offers the Native Plant Consultation Service to answer these questions and to give advice on gardening with natives. If you are a member of CNPS, this service is free, if not, you can join or make a donation to our chapter.

A phone call to our coordinator, Bev Zeman at 677-9391 or donjzeman@yahoo.com, will put you in touch with a team of volunteer consultants who will arrange a visit to your property to look at what you have and help choose suitable plants for your garden.

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We had found our mountain friends, breathed deep of mountain air, tramped good miles of mountain trail...a great weekend. One encounter left me with a feeling of work to be done. At Paradise Creek we found a couple from the Santa Clara area, the woman with her field guide in hand reveling in and puzzling out the streamside flowers. We exchanged some excitement and knowledge and learned that she had never heard of CNPS, despite living in the territory of one of our most active chapters! We all must talk about CNPS with everyone we can, make its name known, and entice others to join, in order to give our organization a louder voice in speaking for native plants.

PINE RIDGE ABOVE LACK'S CREEK

November 2, 2008

by Carol Ralph

The world was fresh, cool, and wet; the skies were gray, but higher than they had been all week. Imagining the clouds lifting, eleven botanical explorers headed up Bair Rd. off of Redwood Valley Rd. off of Highway 299 just east of Lord Ellis Summit. We glimpsed a view up the valley, dark green forests dotted and streaked with golden big leaf maples *Acer macrophyllum*. We parked at the summit, on Pine Ridge, about 3,675 ft elevation, and put on all our warm clothing. It was cool! Pine Ridge is between Lacks Creek drainage, where the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has large holdings, and the Hoopa Valley. It catches more rain than the lowlands, and we experienced that.

Our damp exploration took us through Douglas-fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii* forest where we saw many familiar forest floor species, such as Pacific starflower *Trientalis latifolia*, redwood violet *Viola sempervirens*, tailed ginger *Asarum caudatum*, star Solomon's seal *Smilacina stellata*, Smith's fairy bells *Prosartes (Disporum) smithii*, and understory shrubs, such as cascara *Rhamnus purshiana*, red-flowering currant *Ribes sanguineum*, a gooseberry *Ribes*, a serviceberry *Amelanchier*, vine maple *Acer circinatus*, Oregon-grape *Berberis aquifolium*, small Oregon-grape *B. nervosa*, California hazel *Corylus cornuta*, and salal *Gaultheria shallon*. We noted snow queen *Synthyris reniformis*, its rosettes of slightly lobed, fuzzy leaves looking like a saxifrage, although it is in the penstemon family. The elderberry *Sambucus* had flat-topped, empty inflorescences, so it couldn't be *racemosa*, the red one on the coast, but must be *mexicana*. A low, small-, dark-leaved shrub, a bit like a mini-huckleberry, was common here but unfamiliar to many of us--Oregon boxwood *Pachistemma myrsinites*. An evergreen shrub with opposite leaves caught our eye, and we checked that it had no hairs on the backs of the leaves--Fremont silktassel *Garrya fremontii*, not the more familiar coastal silk tassel *G. elliptica*. An evergreen shrub, or sometimes tree, with tapered, golden-backed leaves was golden chinquapin *Chrysolepis chrysophylla*. In a dry creekbed was the thimbleberry mimic, stink currant *Ribes bracteosum*. Nearby was a deciduous shrub, dropping its simple, yellow, opposite leaves, but hanging onto a few small fruits on long stems. Each fruit was split wide open into three spokes, and dangling on one spoke was a small, firm, red fruit. This was western burning bush *Euonymus occidentalis*. In a steeper drainage the scraggly, dark conifers were Pacific yew *Taxus brevifolia*.

We were most excited to find two individuals of California globe mallow *Iliamna latibracteata*. Most of their leaves had fallen, but the remaining maple-shaped leaves with stellate hairs (several clear spikes joined at the base), the clumps of old, 2-3-ft-tall stems, and the few seeds we found were convincing

Certain lichens were spectacular, both large lungworts *Lobaria* and tiny gray fingers of *Cladonia* with shiny black "seeds" on top.

By the time we finished our sandwiches at lunchtime, we were wet and cold enough to retreat to the cars, through rain and hail (or was it sleet?), and explore by vehicle a little of Pine Ridge Rd., which turns north off of Bair Rd. one mile west of the summit. After 2.2 miles of Douglas-fir forest, some of it old growth, some of it young second growth, a prairie opened up, with groves of moss-covered, leafless oaks, mostly Oregon white oak *Quercus garryana* but also California black oak *Q. kelloggii*. The meadow was ready for winter, all dry and brown, but the graceful, long culms of California fescue *Festuca californica* were beautiful over the gray-green bunchgrass clumps, and we could identify a *Triteleia* (maybe Ithuriel's spear *T. laxa*) and soapplant *Chlorogalum pomeridianum* by their dry stalks, empty seed capsules, and dry leaves. The cold, misty, gray day was beautiful in its subdued way, but here was a place we wanted to see in spring!

We are excited that BLM has acquired much of this vast, steep valley and look forward to exploring more, when more is accessible. A pamphlet and map of the Lack's Creek area are available at the BLM office (1695 Heindon Rd., Arcata; 707-825-2300).

Are you interested in Serpentine Environments?

Here are two new US Forest Service websites:

- Celebrate Wildflowers www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/communities/serpentines/index.shtml
- The Klamath-Siskiyou Mountains: A Center of Diversity, Endemism, and Rarity www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/communities/serpentines/center/index.shtml

GENERAL PLAN UPDATE: NEW ALTERNATIVES TO BE FINALIZED IN 2009

By Jennifer Kalt



The revised draft of the Humboldt County General Plan is here, and the last rounds of public input are set to begin early in 2009. For all who voted for leadership which supports land use planning that protects both the environment and a sustainable economy, this is the opportunity to back up your votes with concrete action. The new General Plan, once completed, will be the blueprint for future development across unincorporated areas of the County. Will we protect timberlands, farmlands, promote trails and transportation choices that address climate change? Or will we let unplanned development turn our rural lands into suburban sprawl?

Please contact the Healthy Humboldt Coalition at info@healthyhumboldt.org or (707) 682-5292 to get involved, or to be informed of opportunities for public comment.

On November 20, the Planning Department staff unveiled the revised Draft General Plan Update (GPU), launching a 60-day public review period of the new Draft Alternatives.

The Plan is available on the GPU website at www.planupdate.org with hard copies available for viewing at the Humboldt County Library (all branches), the Community Development Services Department front counter, and Fed-Ex Kinko's Office & Print, where copies can be ordered.

January 22, 2009 and every third Thursday of the month: Public hearings by the Planning Commission will be held to hear public comment on specific sections of the Plan; visit www.healthyhumboldt.org or www.planupdate.org for a schedule of hearings by topic.

For further information, or to be placed on the email list to receive notices of workshops, please contact Martha Spencer by email at [mspencer@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:m Spencer@co.humboldt.ca.us) or by telephone at (707) 268-3704.

NEW CNPS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Sue Britting, CNPS President

It is my great pleasure to announce the appointment of Tara Hansen as the new CNPS Executive Director.

Tara Hansen is originally from the Northwest and moved to Sacramento in 1988. Tara's appreciation of native flora grew from spending many hours riding her horse in the woods as a teenager, and evolved here in California through her volunteer work as a member of the nationally recognized Habitat Restoration Team at the Cosumnes River Preserve. A graduate of California State University, Sacramento with a B.A. in Government Studies, Tara became intensely interested in land use after joining the Board of a small non-profit organization that formed to address land use changes that could adversely impact the habitat of sandhill cranes in the Sacramento Valley. She has since become active in other state and local land use issues and has made suggestions for reforming legislation governing LAFCOs, the agencies that approve city and municipal boundary lines and annexations. Tara has worked with local volunteers on a number of conservation projects, and also serves as a board member of ECOS, Environmental Council of Sacramento. Prior to coming to CNPS, Tara worked as a senior analyst and project manager in the banking and financial services industry, and has developed and managed business operations and programs for both national and local financial institutions in executive management roles. Tara is delighted to bring her enthusiasm, leadership, operations and financial management expertise to help further the vital mission of the California Native Plant Society.



Tara will be working in transition with Amanda Jorgenson during January, 2009 at the end of which Amanda will be moving to Washington, D.C. to rejoin her family. CNPS owes a great deal of appreciation to Amanda for the expertise and skill she brought to CNPS during the past three years.

MEMBERS' CORNER

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Campbell-Loya, Phoenix
Grady, Cullen
Jenkins, Terry
LaBolle, Ramona
Leaberry, David
McVicar, Megan
Montgomery, Rachel
Rose-Noble, Kathi
Rothrock, Jennifer
Simmons, Adrienne
Thrift, Deanna R
Toleno, Greg
Uelman, Neil
Wilson, Jessica
Wisehart, Lori

THANK YOU TO OUR RENEWING MEMBERS

Allen, Tom
Andrews, Laura
Astacio, Dora
Bartelle, Barney
Belsher-Howe, Jim
Bencie, Robin
Bivin, Mignonne
Bowen, Becky
Buck, Nancy
Caito, April
Callahan II, Frank T.
Carothers, Gwynneth
Carothers, Sydney
Dean, Nancy
Devall, W. B.
Deyl, Susan

Dixon, John
Douglas, Joan
Eastwood, Bill
Egger, Janelle
Eicher, Annie L.
Everett, Yvonne
Falxa, Gary
Freeman, Brad
Fritzke, Mark
Gearheart, Mary
Gedik, Tamara
Golec, Clare Tipple
Groom, Melinda
Hanson, Jennie
Hee, Shauna
Heppe, Chris
Hinman, Judith
Imper, David K.
Isaacs, Suzanne L.
Kamprath, Michele
Kelleher-Roy, Marie
Kelly, Barbara
King, Joyce
Klein, Stephanie
Lawrence, Laurie
Levine, Larry
Livingston, Amy
Meninga, Jan
Mountjoy, Jan
Murray, Marshall D.
Nicklas, John P.
Palmer, Elinore M.
Paloma, Oona
Patton, John
Ralph, C. John & Carol
Reiss, Karen
Samuel, Stassia
Sanville, Cheri
Smith, Jim
Underwood, Stephen
Vinyard, Lucille
Waters, James F.
Webb, Anda

Wheeler, Jennifer
Wilson, Jessica
Wood, William
Wunner, Bob
York, Dana

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Support these local businesses and receive discounts on your purchases. Please show proof of your North Coast membership to receive the discount.

- Freshwater Farms:** 10% off plant purchases
444-8261
- Miller Farms:** 5% discount on plant materials
839-1571
- Mad River Gardens:** 10% discount on plant purchases,
822-7049
- Let it Grow Horticultural Supplies:** 10% discount on all merchandise, 822-8733
- Greenlot Nursery,** 10% discount on plants,
443-9484
- Sherwood Forest Nursery,** 10% discount on plants, 442-3339
- Bamboo & Maples,** 10% discount on plants,
445-1281
- Pierson's Garden Shop,** 10% discount on all garden shop items (except sale or non-discountable items... please ask staff before going to register), 441-2713

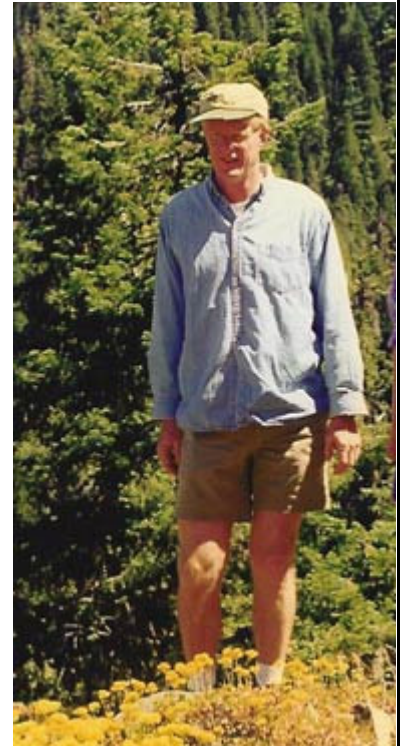
See the back page for details about how to sign up for North Coast CNPS Membership.

A CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT FILM FIRST!

Humboldt County is very fortunate to have several local people participating in the film "Nature's Refuge." Our North Coast Chapter provided financial support to help promote this effort. The following information is from the State CNPS office who is presenting this film at its 2009 Conservation Conference (www.cnps.org/cnps/conservation/conference/2009/film.php).

"Nature's Refuge," a new documentary film featuring actor Ed Begley, Jr., will be the first Public Broadcasting program casting a spotlight on California native plants. The California and national television audience will see prominent plant experts such as evolutionary biologist Art Kruckeberg and Barbara Erter of the Jepson Herbarium in action. The viewer will experience the beauty and magnificence of the state's native plants, from Incense Cedars to Doug Firs, from orchids to the insectivorous pitcher plant. "Nature's Refuge" will:

- Define "native plants"; show fungi, flowers, shrubs, and conifers;
- Portray their beauty and virtues;
- Explore the Klamath-Siskiyou, a representative portion of the California Floristic Province;
- Show a native plant explorer in action (Barbara Erter of the Jepson Herbarium);
- Take the viewer inside an herbarium;
- Highlight some of the state's most stately and beautiful conifers, such as Coastal Redwood, Incense-Cedar and Doug-Fir;
- Talk about serpentine endemics, and feature renown botanist Art Kruckeberg;
- Discuss the evolutionary history of native plants and issues of global warming;
- Show how native flowers respond to wildfires;
- Demonstrate Native Americans collecting useful native plants;
- Indicate relationships between native plants and animal species such as salmon and marten;
- Propose national park status for an area of rare serpentine endemics.



Ed Begley, Jr.

Film Description

"Nature's Refuge" takes the viewer into the little explored depths of one of the nation's most enchanting forests, a land where ancient evolutionary plants and animal lineages mix with newly adapted species. This film allows the viewer to look in on a cross section of millions of years of evolutionary change.

Located in a portion of the Pacific Northwest bordering the world famous coastal redwoods, the Klamath-Siskiyou has a moist climate reminiscent of previous geological eras. Climatic factors along with a favorable location and unusual geological features have combined to foster a record-breaking number of plant and animal species, very likely unmatched anywhere in the temperate coniferous ecosystems of the planet.

Recognized worldwide as a treasure of evolutionary potential, the Klamath-Siskiyou region has been designated an area of global botanical significance by the World Conservation Union, and a "Global 200" ecoregion by the World Wildlife Fund. The film closes by asking if the nation is prepared to declare national park status to portions of the Klamath-Siskiyou based not so much on spectacular scenery as the miracle of evolutionary diversity.

The film features experts such as Frank Callahan, an explorer devoted to the discovery of record-breaking conifers; Barbara Erter of the Jepson Herbarium; Michael Messler of the Humboldt State University Herbarium; and Arthur Kruckeberg, known worldwide for his evolutionary studies of serpentine endemics.

**CNPS, North Coast Chapter
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CALENDAR

How to know what's happening:

1. Go to our Web site, www.northcoastcnps.org and/or
2. Send an e-mail

NorthCoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to subscribe to our announcements e-mail list.

DATE	EVENT
JAN 14, WED	PROGRAM
FEB 11, WED	PROGRAM
FEB 28, SAT	FIELD TRIP
MAR 11, WED	PROGRAM
MAR 22, SUN	FIELD TRIP
APR 8, WED	PROGRAM
APR 11, SAT	FIELD TRIP

JOIN THE CNPS NORTH COAST CHAPTER!

By joining CNPS you:

- Add your voice to that of other native plant enthusiasts wishing to increase awareness, understanding, appreciation, and conservation of California's native flora.
- Receive the quarterly journal *Fremontia* (the statewide newsletter), our chapter's quarterly newsletter, *Darlingtonia*, and the Northcoast Environmental Center's (NEC) newsletter, *EcoNews*.
- Receive discounts at local businesses

Membership fees: Individual \$45; Family \$75; Student or Limited Income \$25 (Membership fee minus \$12 is tax deductible).

To join or renew, you can either:

- Send your name and address, check (payable to CNPS) or credit card information to CNPS, 2707K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.
- Pay on-line <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/join/>

Please notify the state office and/or our Membership Chairperson if your address changes.

MEMBERS—see your membership expiration date on the first line of your newsletter's address label.