

# Darlingtonia

Summer 2009  
July-Sept

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

## RARE FIRE-FOLLOWER

by Sydney Carothers and Jen Kalt  
Photos Courtesy of Jen Kalt

*Iliamna latibracteata* (California globe mallow, California wild hollyhock) is a lovely, shrubby member of the Malvaceae, the hollyhock family. A fire-follower, it has a patchy distribution within white fir and Douglas-fir forests in northwestern California to southwestern Oregon. Most known occurrences have been discovered within a few years of forest fires,

after which they persist for a number of years until re-sprouting shrubs and trees crowd in and shade them out. Thought to have long-lived seeds, the California globe-mallow may be capable of surviving in the soil seed bank for decades. The Humboldt-Trinity County fires of 2008 quite likely stimulated seed germination in areas where the plant has not been recorded, so keep



your eyes peeled for this rare and showy plant this summer! If you find this plant, please send specific location information to [sydneyc@humboldt1.com](mailto:sydneyc@humboldt1.com) and [jkalt@asis.com](mailto:jkalt@asis.com). Sydney is studying the globemallow's pollination biology, and Jen is tracking all populations.

**Rarity:** The California Native Plant Society and the California Natural Diversity Database considered it on List 4 (plants of limited distribution) until its status was changed to List 1B.2 (rare, threatened or endangered throughout California and elsewhere) in 2003 following a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service status review conducted by Jen Kalt.

**Distribution:** In California, it is known from Humboldt and Trinity Counties. Though the type locality is along Prairie Creek near Davison Ranch, most extant populations are at much higher elevations (3000-5000 feet above sea level).

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**Fall Plant Sale  
Save the Date:  
Saturday, September 19**

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## Where to find what's happening:

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

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## FIELD TRIPS AND PLANT WALKS

Please watch for later additions on our Web site ([www.northcoastcnps.org](http://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.

**July 11, Saturday. Waterdog Lake: Plant, Butterfly, and Bird Day Hike.** A joint CNPS-Audubon event. Famous for its butterfly diversity, tiny Waterdog Lake is our destination on a two-mile trail through diverse mountain habitats: white fir and Sadler oak; regeneration from the 1999 Megram Fire; creekside mountain alder thicket; gravelly bald; wet, rocky hillside; red fir; and a small, sedgy meadow (with gentians) around the land-locked pond. The trail gains about 1,000 ft elevation, starting at 5,300 ft., but is not steep. Bring lunch, snack, at least 2 quarts water, and many layers of clothing. Meet at 7:30 a.m. sharp at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata) or arrange another place. Two hour drive to the trailhead northeast of Hoopa. Return 6 p.m. or earlier. Call Carol 822-2015.

**July 26-28, Sunday, Monday. Bear Basin Butte Day Hikes and Overnight.** Great roadside botanizing, a great day hike trail, and a spectacular overnight spot at 5,300 ft. in Smith River National Recreation Area in the Bear Basin Butte Botanical Area. Sunday morning we'll botanize along the road up to the cabin, either French Hill Rd. or Jawbone Rd. In the afternoon we'll make short forays from there on foot. Monday we'll probably drive 3 miles to the Doe Flat Trailhead and walk the mile or so in to Buck Lake, where the Alaska cedar is. This is one of those conifer-rich and serpentine special areas. We have reserved the lookout and cabin for Sunday and Monday nights for camping, campfire, and all that goes with that. The cabin is about 3 hours from Arcata, 45 min. from Gasquet, even closer from Patrick Creek Lodge. Non-campers could join us for day activities. Tell Carol 822-2015 immediately if you are interested and learn the details.

**September 12, Saturday. Groves Prairie Day Trip.** At 4,000 ft. there could still be blooms in this mountain meadow in the Trinity Mountains northeast of Willow Creek in Six Rivers National Forest. We can certainly test our skill at identifying seed pods. We can see if the dry part of the meadow has responded to "rehabilitation," and if the fence is keeping the cattle out. Along the stream should be huge kneeling angelica and water hemlock; in the meadow should be two or three species of yampah and that patch of grape fern. The old growth Douglas-fir grove should have rattlesnake orchids and remains of coralroot and a different woodsorrel. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata). Bring lunch, water, and lots of layers of clothing, including rain gear. We will be at a Forest Service campground with a vault toilet. It's about 2 hours from Arcata. Call Carol Ralph 822-2015 to say you are coming.

**October 4, Sunday. 12-5 more or less. Chapter Picnic at Patrick's Point.** Bishop Pine Picnic Area is central to good walks in this beautiful and rich state park. Members, prospective members, their friends and relations are invited to share good food and good company. We have proven this is an enjoyable event even in damp weather. Fire ready for BBQ at 1; eat 1-2:30. Then walk to Wedding Rock to see 4 species of plantains, to Ceremonial Rock to see the grape fern, or to a beach. Bring your own item to BBQ, your own beverage and eating gear, and a dish to share. Information or suggestions: 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.

## CHAPTER PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS

### EVENING PROGRAMS

The North Coast Chapter of CNPS ([www.northcoastcnps.org](http://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 [taudreybirdbath@suddenlink.net](mailto:taudreybirdbath@suddenlink.net) or 786-9701, with speaker or botanical subject suggestions.

- Sept. 09**      **"A Practitioner's perspective on Native Plant Restoration from Infancy to Adulthood."**  
Restoration ecologist and native plant nurseryman **Eric Johnson** will share lessons he has learned over 10 years of working to re-create functional, native ecosystems. He has learned to nurture the early stages and guide the later stages and to incorporate equally ecological, botanical, and engineering thinking. His topics are relevant to city lots and to quarter sections. They include: waterscapes, snags & boulders, seeding versus planting, timing, slope and aspect, nitrogen fixers, realistic project sizing, and management and monitoring plants.
- Oct. 14**      **"The Rare and Beautiful Flora of Death Valley National Park"**  
**Dana York** will take the audience on a botanical exploration of the largest national park outside of Alaska. The park's botanical diversity is attributed to the numerous plant communities found at elevations ranging from 282 feet below sea level to 11,049 feet, the extraordinary geology, and the climate. There will be photographs of park endemics and other special botanical gems that are sure to please. In his 5 years as park botanist, Dana found many new populations of CNPS listed species and a previously unknown plant in the Last Chance Range. You don't need a hat or sunscreen, but be prepared for a desert journey.
- Nov. 11**      **"Floristic Affinities of Horse Mt., Grouse Mt, and Board Camp Mt. "** by **Cara Witte** a Biological Sciences Graduate Student at Humboldt State University
- Dec. 10**      **Members Show and Tell Night**
- Jan. 13**      **"CNPSers in Patagonia – the Southern Tip of South America" by Dr. John O. Sawyer** a renowned Humboldt State University botanist
- Feb. 10**      **"Poisonous Plants of Northwestern California"**  
**Dr. Jim Smith**

### INTRODUCTION TO IVY BASHING

**Patrick's Point State Park**  
**Sunday, August 9**  
**10:00a.m. - 12:00 noon**



If you have been alarmed at the quantity of English ivy in Patrick's Point State Park and Trinidad State Beach, take this opportunity to do something about it. State Parks is starting a project enabling volunteers to work removing ivy in these parks. This introductory day will introduce volunteers to the removal methods, the places to work, special park considerations, and the all-important paper work. Watch for details soon.

Consider this project for yourself, your family, your youth group, your club, etc. This is a way to help the environment and see immediate results.

For information contact Michelle Forys at 707-677-3109. If you are interested and can not attend the Aug. 9 introduction, please call her to arrange another time.



## NORTH COAST CNPS VOLUNTEER CORNER

Phone Carol 822-2015 or write [theralphs@humboldt1.com](mailto:theralphs@humboldt1.com) to volunteer, ask questions, or make suggestions.

### **Thank You!**

- Dennis Walker, Adam Canter, Julie Neander, Carol Ralph, Larry Levine, Liz McGee, Pete Haggard, and Jennifer Wheeler for **leading plant walks**
- Pete and Judy Haggard for **sharing their garden**
- Cara Witte and Felicity Wasser for our **financial statements and budget**
- Larry Levine and his Palm Pilot for **ongoing publicity**
- David Loya for **organizing the chapter's Science Fair award**
- Gail Popham, Felicity Wasser, and Carol Ralph for **organizing our new t-shirt**
- Gordon Leppig for an **inspiring and thought-provoking lecture about CNPS at Godwit Days**
- Godwit Days for "**spotlighting**" **our organization, and for their generous donation**
- Elena George, Joan Watanabe, Donna Wildearth, Felicity Wasser, Gwynneth and Paul Carothers, Frank Milelzcik, Carol Ralph, Cara Witte, and Frances Ferguson for **tending our booth at the North Coast Garden Event and/or Godwit Days**

### **Thank you, WILDFLOWER SHOW VOLUNTEERS!**

- **For collecting and identifying:** Tony LaBanca, Sydney Carothers, Laura Julian, Barbara Kelly, Ned Forsyth, Jen kalt, Chris Beresford, Richard, Liz McGee, Anne Russell, Don Davis, Jim McIntosh, Felicity Wasser, Marlene Wagner, Denise Seeger, Kim Hayler, Green Diamond crew (Cherie Sanville, Amy Livingston), Stephanie Klein
- **For coordinating the collectors:** Tony LaBanca
- **For sorting, arranging, identifying:** Madeleine LaBanca, Dana York, Melissa Kraemer, Terese Duke, Kim Hayler, Jade, Laura Cedargreen, Dennis Walker, Elizabeth Blue, Kelly, Birgit Semsrott, Dave Imper
- **For bringing potted plants:** Chris Cameron, Carol Ralph, Freshwater Farms
- **For maintaining database:** an anonymous, learned botanist
- **For room preparation:** Becky Deja, Laura Cedargreen, Felicity Wasser, Jim and Virginia Waters, Suzanne Isaacs, Carol Ralph, Larry Levine, CJ Ralph, Chespi
- **For organizing school visits:** Judie Snyder, Maggie Stoudnour
- **For teaching lessons to school groups:** Denise Seeger, Colette Beaupre, Allie Lindgren, Judie Snyder
- **For escorting school groups:** Katy Allen, Judie Snyder, Michelle Kamprath, Evon Stalker
- **For Art Night:** Rick Tolley
- **For Art Night live music:** Scatter the Mud
- **For slide shows:** Dave Imper
- **For bug table:** Pete and Judy Haggard
- **For invasive plant display:** Laura Julian, Stephanie Klein
- **For redwood forest display and book table:** Jeff Russell and North Coast Redwoods Interpretive Association
- **For dunes display:** Denise Seeger and Friends of the Dunes
- **For edible wild plant display:** Frank Milelzcik
- **For the CNPS booth:** Felicity Wasser
- **For leading walks in the dunes:** John Sawyer, Kim McFarland
- **For Native American presentation:** Dena Magdalenos and others of the Tsungwe Families
- **For wild medicinals presentation:** Christa Sinadinos
- **For native plant landscaping presentation:** Donna Wildearth
- **For cobra lily presentation:** George Meindl
- **For feeding volunteers all weekend:** Katy Allen, Melinda Groom
- **For storing and transporting jars:** Suzanne Isaacs
- **For re-lettering the signs:** Paul and Gwynneth Carothers
- **For putting up roadside and yard signs:** Carol Ralph, Rick Tolley, Janelle Egger
- **For hosting signs:** Freshwater Farms, Grondalski Insurance, Miller Farms, Blue Lake Murphy's

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## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### Hail to the Trillium Redwood Creek Trail March 22, 2009 by Carol Ralph

On an overcast and damp day nine optimists in rain suits headed up the Redwood Creek Trail from the trailhead near the beginning of Bald Hills Rd. in Redwood National Park. This wide, level trail follows the edge of the riparian vegetation of the river valley where it meets the redwood forest on the hillside. Early spring surrounded us. We could still see through the deciduous thickets and see the sky through the deciduous trees. Bright pink flowers were the jewels in the salmonberry *Rubus spectabilis* stands. Dainty pinky white constellations of milkmaids *Cardamine californica* and candyflower *Claytonia sibirica* lit the trailside ground. Yellow stream violets *Viola glabella* added cheer the sun didn't. Osoberry shrubs *Oemleria cerasiformis* were conspicuous with their new leaves and white, dangling flower clusters. The delicate hazelnut shrubs *Corylus cornuta* were festooned with dangly, slender, tan, male catkins, and we looked closely to see the red, threadlike stigmas protruding from the round, female buds farther out the twigs.

Three less common treats greeted us right at the bridge by the parking lot. In the creek stink currant *Ribes bracteosum*, a thimbleberry look-alike, hid its erect clusters of small, greenish-white cups behind large, glossy leaves. Canyon gooseberry *Ribes menziesii* showed off fuchsia-like, red flowers with little white skirts. A tangle of sprawly trailing black currant *Ribes laxiflorum* already had its leaves, making it more visible than it would be when its neighbors all leafed out.

Only 50 yards from the trailhead, 10 feet off the trail, on a bank under alders and mossy maples we found our quarry, a patch of about 20 trillium, of colors grading from maroon to pale yellow. The yellow flowers matched the form of the maroon flowers and like them had purplish ovaries and leaves a bit mottled. This trillium, with rich, deep, maroon petals sitting right on the nest of leaves, with stamens about 1 1/4 times as long as the ovary, and with leaves mottled, is now known as *Trillium kurabayashii*, giant purple wakerobin. It occurs only in very northern California and southern Oregon. A 1997 book, *Trilliums*, by Frederick Case, Jr., and Roberta Case, has a clear, illustrated key. It even notes "pigment-free mutant individuals whose petals will then be pale green or yellow-green." In the 1993 *The Jepson*

*Manual* this trillium keys out as *T. angustipetalum*.



A triumvirate of giant purple wakerobin

Older books would call it *T. chloropetalum*, which in current understanding occurs only farther south in California. Imagine! Even a popular, conspicuous plant group like trilliums is still benefiting from new, careful observations and new data.

Excited, we continued past a magnificent field of stinging nettles *Urtica dioica*, a vast field of California blackberry *Rubus ursinus*, and through a deep, dark Sitka spruce *Picea sitchensis* grove. As we wound under a maple canopy, we entered a 30-foot clearing in the salmonberry thicket and a spectacular grove of trillium--hundreds of *Trillium kurabayashii*, from young, tongue-like leaves to grand, robust, flowering, three-leaved adults. Only one yellow flower was among the many maroon. While we marveled, studied, and photographed under umbrella protection, a hail shower passed and sprinkled the ground white. The trillium pointed their dark petals at the sky, unperturbed, on their large, floppy, glistening green, three-parted collars.

The hail brought a gale of laughter from those of us ahead, settling for lunch on a giant log in the riverbed. What an insult to our fantasized, idyllic, spring day! The river ("creek") was a ribbon of rippling, milky green water on a bed of gray cobble. Its corridor between the steep slopes covered with gray and dark green conifer spires was walled with fine-textured, gray twigs, lichen greens, white trunks, and fringes of brown-red catkins. An occasional rich, yellow-green

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candelabra of moss-covered maple reached out of the alder crowd. Riverbed clumps of shrubby Sitka willows *Salix sitchensis* were already green with silky-backed leaves. A Peregrine Falcon screamed repeatedly from its perch in a redwood across the river.



Umbrella-aided photographer Rita Zito captures a trillium memory.

Pause a moment to thank the people who have preserved this scene, and to thank those who are maintaining it. Someone also is maintaining the trillium grove, which would be overgrown in salmonberry if it were not trimmed periodically. Hopefully we are preserving these scenes for the future.

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### Two Mountains in May Bald Hills (May 17, 2009) and Mail Ridge (May 30, 2009) by Carol Ralph

By happy accident May found us twice botanizing along roads on the tops of north-south ridges in the Coast Range. Two weeks apart in time, 20 miles apart as the raven flies (so to speak. Do they really fly in straight lines?), the two ridges were vastly different, despite having similar lists of dominant trees, notably Douglas fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii* and Oregon white oak *Quercus garryana*.

The mid-May outing up Bald Hills Rd. in Redwood National Park to the lupine prairies and woodland north of the Lyon Ranch Trailhead found hills carpeted with green grass, pooled with purple lupine. Sixteen of us wandered under the warm, hazy sun in a damp place among lush pasture grasses and weeds sprinkled with natives such as the yellow-and-rose, puffy heads of bull clover *Trifolium fucatum* and the spidery blue stars of camas *Camassia quamash*. Where past bulldozer work left a less fertile palette were three species of lupine--*Lupinus rivularis*, *nanus*, and *bicolor*, large riverbank, medium sky, and small miniature--all

purple, complemented by the bright yellow of the low-growing, frilly-leaved *Lomatium utriculatum*. In the drier grass at the top of the knoll were two violet species blooming, *Viola adunca* western dog violet, with violet flowers on a small mat of dark green, rounded leaves, and *Viola praemorsa* prairie violet (also called yellow montane violet and *Viola nuttallii*), with yellow flowers, the upper 2 petals brown-backed, held among a cluster of elongate, light green leaves,

We lunched in the light shade of leafless white oaks at the wide pull-out by a rocky outcrop that is the viewpoint for countless great photos of the lupine-covered prairies and pinky-green patches of awakening oaks. We studied the confusing delphinium flower structure. We saw the robust, shiny-leaved *Delphinium trollifolium* poison larkspur (poison to cows who eat it) in damp places, and the small, more ephemeral *D. decorum* coast larkspur in drier. Farther along the road, in the oak woodland, the undergrowth was lush and exuberant.

Blackened, fallen branches and shrubs sprouting at the base of blackened, dead stems were evidence of one of the park's controlled burns in the recent years. Among the treasures were secretive, camouflaged, green and brown bells of checker lily *Fritillaria affinis*; large, clean, fresh, white blooms of *Trillium albidum* giant white wakerobin; and the long-tubed, narrow-petaled, long "eared," creamy flowers of *Iris tenuissima* longtube iris. After the woodland we sent a contingent by car to the top of Schoolhouse Peak for the spectacular view and another contingent partway down the trail to Lyon Ranch for more flowers-- beds of blue dicks *Dichelostemma capitata*, butter-and-eggs (Johnny tuck ) *Triphysaria eriantha*, sky lupines *Lupinus nanus*.

Two weeks later a group of 10 drove up Elk Creek Rd. from Myers Flat and then south on Dyerville Loop Road along Mail Ridge, between the South Fork Eel and Eel Rivers. The vistas of California Coast Ranges were again magnificent. The prairies were green, but the feeling was dry. The road was quite dusty. We explored on foot a viewpoint and rocky outcrop at mile-marker 21, before the Ft. Seward junction, which is mile-marker 22; a section in oak woodland 0.5 mile south of mile-marker 24; and a section in mixed evergreen forest about 3 miles south of Ft. Seward junction (about where mile-marker 25 should be, but we didn't see it).

We saw three species of lupines here also. The largest was silver lupine *Lupinus albifrons*, and the smaller two *L. nanus* and *L. bicolor*, but there were no great banks of them. Red larkspurs *Delphinium nudicaule* made a good show in part of the oak woodland, but purple delphiniums were hard to find

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## STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS/CONTACTS

<b>President</b>	Carol Ralph	822-2015	theralphs@humboldt1.com
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<b>Workshops</b>	Gordon Leppig	839-0458	gleppig@dfg.ca.gov
<b>Wildflower Show</b>	Position Open		Contact Carol Ralph for Details
<b>NEC NC CNPS Representative</b>	Jennifer Kalt	839-1980	jkalt@asis.com

### 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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@ournec.org](mailto:ericanec@ournec.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](mailto: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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and dried up. Fawn lilies *Erythronium* were in fruit. Common bloomers were clean pink slender clarkia *Clarkia gracilis* and red ribbons *Clarkia concinna*, exciting pink true baby stars *Linanthus bicolor*, sunny yellow woolly sunflower *Eriophyllum lanatum*, starry white deathcamas *Toxicoscordion* sp. (*Zigadenus*), creamy white western morning glory *Calystegia occidentalis*, surprisingly late blue dicks *Dichelostemma capitata*, and two species of *Lomatium*. We also found some firecracker flower *Dichelostemma ida-maia*, a penstemon *Penstemon heterophyllus*, a field of tarweed (*Madia?*), a bit of bull clover *Trifolium fucatum*, and one patch of meadowfoam *Limnanthes douglasii*. In the mixed evergreen forest we saw side-by-side four oaks: Oregon white, California black, canyon live, and interior live (*Quercus garryana*, *kelloggii*, *chrysolepis*, and *wislizenii*).

The most spectacular find of the day was actually down by the river, on Avenue of the Giants north of Myers Flat, at Hammond Grove, mile-marker 14.21. There a healthy stand of redwood lilies *Lilium rubescens* (also called chaparral lilies) was starting to hold its pinky-white trumpets above the French broom *Genista monspessulana* on the roadside. A few Diogenes lanterns *Calochortus amabilis* were nearby for close viewing of their clever, bright yellow globes.

The differences between our Bald Hills and Mail Ridge trips reflect more than the two weeks later date. On June 9, 2008, Mail Ridge had banks of sky lupine, gutters full of bull clover, and quantities of delphinium. 2009 was obviously drier, even at an earlier date. Beyond the year effects, the flower selection at Mail Ridge had a more inland feel, as did its assortment of oaks. Mail Ridge is 20 miles as the raven flies from the ocean. Lyon Ranch on Bald Hills Rd. is 12 miles from Big Lagoon. Mail Ridge is very roughly 30 river-miles inland via Eel River, and Lyon Ranch about 15 river-miles inland via Redwood Creek. The cooling, moist summer fog creeps up the rivers. Surely it moderates Bald Hills climate more than Mail Ridge. The part of Mail Ridge we explored, though near the crest, actually faces east. Bald Hills Rd. faces west. Furthermore, Mail Ridge is 2 hours south of Arcata-Eureka; Bald Hills Rd. is one hour north. Different distances from the coast, river miles to the coast, latitude, aspect (direction the slope faces), and probably geology--no wonder the vegetation differs! Aren't we lucky we can easily visit them both!

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## Burnt Ranch and Grays Falls Campgrounds April 11, 2009 by Carol Ralph

The day was cool, the sun was trying, and we were ready to see what this spring offered at the pair of favorite Forest Service campgrounds (Shasta Trinity National Forest) on Highway 299 east of Willow Creek on the steep, north-facing slope above the Trinity River. This mountainside is Douglas-fir-dominated, mixed evergreen forest with patches of oak woodland and chaparral. Poison oak is common.



Lunch under the mossy white oaks *Quercus garryana*.  
Photo courtesy of Ann Wallace

Twenty five of us assembled at Burnt Ranch Campground, just east of the Burnt Ranch Store, for two hours of poking around the campsites. This may sound dull, but it is actually a delightful, easy place to walk. In the dappled sun under incense cedar *Calocedrus decurrens* a crowd of creamy yellow, fading to pink, bashful fawn lilies *Erythronium californicum* looked down at their "feet" and bent their petals toward the sky. One bright pink shooting star *Primula (Dodecatheon) hendersonii*, last of its crowd, spiced the show. At the edge of a different mossy glen mature checker lilies *Fritillaria affinis* stood tall, preparing their flower buds, while a flock of youngsters, glossy green tongues up to 10 inches long, quietly lay around, catching photons and making sugars. The stunning, clean white flowers of the giant white wakerobin *Trillium albidum*, sitting securely in the center of its horizontal, green leaves, petals reaching up at the sun, drew "oohs" from the crowd. The more humble and less familiar, pale violet, clustered, cup-shaped flowers of snowqueen *Synthyris reniformis* were fun to find above clumps of saxifrage-like leaves (but it's really in the Scrophulariaceae). The rare *Montia howellii*, a tiny relative of miners' lettuce, was in its famous place, a thin layer of tiny, succulent green on the hard packed gravel at a certain campsite (number 16?). Close

(Continued on page 9)



(Continued from page 8)

inspection (on your belly with a lens) found it was preparing to bloom. Also present was the tangle of Himalayan blackberry *Rubus discolor* in the traffic island. What a good project for someone, to go remove it!

At lunchtime we drove westbound a few miles to Grays Falls Campground. The CCC-era campground is closed (Plumbing was the weak link.), but the good trails are maintained, and the picnic area is available, without piped water. It is on a level bench well above the river, historically a habitation, now a bit of oak woodland turning into a Himalayan blackberry and poison oak *Toxicodendron diversilobum* thicket. We sat in the weak sun under the still-bare, mossy white oaks *Quercus garryana*, enjoying good company while eating our lunches augmented with Easter eggs.

After admiring the checker lilies under the oaks, we headed down the trail to the falls. Two-eyed violets *Viola ocellata* in the forest edge watched us pass; a few fawn lilies danced on the mossy trailcut, which was also decorated with snowqueen, milkmaid *Cardamine californica*, Indian warrior *Pedicularis densiflora*, and Hooker's fairy bells *Prosartes (Disporum) hookeri*. Thick, straight Douglas-fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii* trunks 2-3 ft DBH, deeply mossy trunks of big-leaf maple *Acer macrophyllum* and oaks, and a deep layer of tanoak *Lithocarpus densiflorus* leaf litter created an ancient feel in what is surely a geologically young site. At a seepage crossing the trail grew spikenard *Aralia californica*, fresh and huge. By the time we reached the river, the fern list was up to 8 species, including California maidenhair *Adiantum jordanii*, less familiar than the five-finger fern *Adiantum aleuticum*. Beside the river huge boulders festooned with wild grape *Vitis californica* (and Himalayan blackberry) nurtured shady-spot plants like Mertens saxifrage *Saxifraga mertensiana* and hardy sun-lovers like penstemon-like, rock-clinging keckiella *Keckiella corymbosa* (not blooming yet). The river ran deep, green, and swift, with white swirls; the falls rumbled over their short drop and filled the air with tiny droplets; big trout jumped up the falls; two balls of moss, Dipper nests, decorated the mid-river rock monuments above the falls. Straight across the gorge--so close, yet so far-- the rocky wall that is Little Ironside Mountain's steep, south-facing side showed a sprinkle of blue dicks *Dichelostemma capitata*, red spots of paintbrush *Castilleja* and red larkspur *Delphinium nudicaule*, a vibrant pink redbud *Cercis occidentalis*, and a wet, yellow slide of seep monkeyflower *Mimulus guttatus*.

We coaxed ourselves away from this intriguing, energetic spot because we wanted to explore the

chaparral and forest upriver from the picnic area. We walked the dirt track there, past an old home site, along the brushy flat where it met the wooded slopes, into a forest. Spectacular beds of Indian warrior painted the mossy, rocky rubble and forest edge deep red. Fresh, clean clumps of a white-mottled wild ginger revealed hairs on the leaf edge curving toward the leaf tip, sepals (look like the petals) with short tails, and a red and white throat, a perfect Hartweg's wild ginger *Asarum hartwegii*. Heading steadily and gently downhill, the dirt road constricted to become a footpath, and a mountain-mahogany *Cercocarpis betuloides* signaled that we were entering a new habitat. At a hairpin turn by a clump of Fremont silk tassel *Garrya fremontii*, hollyleaf redberry *Rhamnus ilicifolia*, and pipestems *Clematis lasiantha* a few steps off the trail revealed a dramatic vista up the Burnt Ranch Gorge. Steep mountain slopes plunged down to the clean, deep, blue-gray river, which wound around the corner from distant canyons in its gray, rock bed. The slopes wore a thin, broken blanket of fresh, green grass sprinkled with cream and white blossoms. Tenacious canyon live oaks *Quercus chrysolepis* and gray pines *Pinus sabiniana* clung to the rocks and crowded up to spires of Douglas-fir. Along the far side the unnaturally straight contour of our trail headed upriver, up-mountain to Denny. For us the trail ended on this side, where the suspension bridge used to be, but in the not-so-distant past people and mules with heavy loads continued this way, with thoughts on many things other than native plants. We had to think of our other worlds too, and hurriedly left this historic and diverse spot for the easy, 50-mile drive back to our coastal habitats.



Fawn lilies *Erythronium californicum*.  
Photo courtesy of Ann Wallace.

Recommended reading: *Traveling the Trinity Highway*, 2000, edited by Ben Bennion and Jerry Rohde. Mountain Home Books.

## MEMBERS' CORNER

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Ann Burroughs  
Phil & Charline Crump  
Erin Degenstein  
Geographic Resource Solutions  
Christina Hutton  
Holly Johnson  
Pheobe Martone  
Rupert & Joan McDowell  
Tom Meyer  
Francis Muela  
Bernadette Pino  
Kay Sennott  
Ernest Stegeman  
Dennis Walker  
Kateri Wentz  
Amanda Windsor

### THANK YOU TO OUR RENEWING MEMBERS

Paul Anderson  
Simona Augyte  
Ingrid Bailey  
Melinda Bailey  
Colette Beaupre  
Kimberly Bonine  
Helen Constantine-Shull  
Mattie Culver  
Don Davis  
Rebecca Deja  
Kathy Dilley  
Frances Ferguson  
David Fix and Jude Power  
Dr. Kenneth Fulgham  
Leia Giambastiani  
John P. Griffin  
Alice & Hal Grotke  
Jo Anne Gurley  
Peter & Judy Haggard  
Mervin & Maxine Hanson  
Patsy Holmes  
Lisa D. Hoover

Ron Johnson  
Prairie Johnston  
Alice G. Jones  
Erik Jules of HSU  
Jennifer Kalt  
Melissa B. Kraemer  
John Kulstad and Pat Thomas  
Melissa McDowell  
James McIntosh  
Carol McNeill  
John McRae  
Bob Melendez  
Linda Miller  
Sandra Morris  
Northcoast Environmental  
Center  
Susan O'Connor  
Joann Olson  
Courtney Otto  
Claire Perricelli  
Andrea Pickart  
Jennifer Richmond  
Ann Roberts  
Gisela Rohde  
Ed Schreiber  
Birgit Semsrott  
Ann Sierka  
James Stockley  
Michael Stuart and Bethel  
Laborde  
Catherine Walling  
Felicity Wasser  
Joan & Michael Watanabe  
Aimee Weber of SHN Consult.  
Engineers & Geology  
Roberta Welty and Jo  
Weisgerber  
Susan & Richard Whaley  
Jane Wilson  
Cara Witte  
Angie Wolski  
Beverly Zeman  
Rita Zito

## 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.**



(Continued from page 4)

Market, Blue Lake School, Pierson Co., ProSport, Mad River Gardens, Jamison Creek Nursery, Fortuna Iron, Noah Lurtz' home

- **For publicity:** Larry Levine, Jennifer Tompkins, Rick Tolley, Carol Ralph
- **For food donations:** Los Bagels, Ray's Food Place, Arcata Co-op, Wildberries Marketplace, Judie Haggard, Gwynneth Carothers
- **For lilies the students dissected:** Sun Valley Farms
- **For working shifts during the show:** Pauline Baefsky, Jane Wilson, Gwynneth Carothers, Paul Carothers, Jennie Hanson, Gisela Rhode, Rita Zito, Don Zeman, Noah Lurtz, Prairie Johnson, Sylvia White, Rebecca Zettler, Elaine Weinreb, Patrick Mulligan, Felicity Wasser, Carol Ralph, Frank Milelzcik, Jackie Hamilton, Elena George, Cara Witte, Carol Mone, Becky Deja, Virginia Waters, Jim Waters
- **For making the flier, storing, and remembering a lot of things:** Larry Levine
- **For cleaning up:** Gail Popham, Rick Bennett, Jim Waters, Virginia Waters, Amanda Blackbird, Liz Kimbrough, Jennie Hanson, Felicity Wasser, Suzanne Isaacs, Becky Deja, CJ Ralph, Chespi Elizando, Marlene Wagner, an anonymous hard worker
- **For posting fliers:** many people

**Volunteers Needed**

- **Econews Reporter.** Submit our calendar items to *Econews* on the 15th of each month. An important cog in our publicity machine. Without publicity, our planning is wasted.
- **Publicity Checker.** Read the papers, listen to the radio, check the web site to confirm that our publicity got there.
- **Wildflower Show Co-Chair.** Work with Carol to coordinate this beautiful, botanical, and social event.
- **Booth Designer.** Use your artistic, graphic design, and advertising skills to help us make our booth display more effective.
- **Leaders for plant walks or field trips.** We can't have too many! Share a special place with others. You don't have to know all the plants; you just have to get us there.
- **Plant Sales Assistants.** Count plants, move plants, take money, suggest plants, ...it all needs to be done, with a smile!

**GARDENING FOR FUN AND NON-PROFITS**

Do you love to see a garden develop and evolve? Do you want to show the public native plants in a garden setting? Here are some opportunities to do just that. You can be involved as a creative planner or as helping hands.

**Trinidad Museum Society** Around the new home of the Trinidad Historical Society, behind the gas station in Trinidad, is developing a magnificent landscape, entirely native, currently in the small-plants-in-masses-of-wood-chips stage. The devoted committee carrying out this plan can use help weeding -- from small, herbaceous, sit-on-the-ground-to-remove plants, to large difficult-to-dig-up cotoneasters--and spreading more chips. You can visit this garden during the North Coast Garden Event on April 4. Contact Jill Mefford 677-0355, jillomefford@yahoo.com.

**Northcoast Environmental Center** The NEC really wants to make their yard a place where the public can see how to bring native plants into an established, mature garden. They need a design and then the installation and eventually maintenance. Different people could contribute the different steps in this process. If you know what natives complement old, horticultural rhododendrons, or if you want to fill a modest, sunny bed with native meadow plants, the NEC needs you! The NEC, at 1465 G St. in North Town, Arcata, is a friendly place to work, and the yard has good vibes. Contact Georgianna at 822-6918 or georgianna@yournec.org.

**Stone Lagoon Visitors' Center** A recent flurry of vision and creativity at the request of the North Coast Redwoods Interpretive Association has a small group designing and installing native plants at the Stone Lagoon Visitors' Center in the immediate future. Call soon if you want to help. Kathy Dilley 825-7665 or kathy@greeneearthlandscape.net

**Arcata Plaza** North Coast Chapter maintains the bed on H St. in the southwest corner of Arcata Plaza. We meet there sporadically to control what's growing and think about changes. Passersby always thank us. Helpers can stop by whenever is convenient for them or gather to work together. An average of an hour a month would keep this bed looking good. Contact Carol Ralph at 822-2015 or theralphs@humboldt1.com.

(Continued from page 1)

**Pollinators:** Across the range of *Iliamna*, primary visitors were *Diadasia diminuta* (a solitary bee specializing on the Malvaceae) and the yellow-faced bumblebee, *Bombus vosnesenskii*; occasional visitors included honey bees (*Apis mellifera*), other bumble and solitary bees, and small-headed flies (*Eulonchus* spp.) in pollinator censuses conducted in 2008.

Look for a large, herbaceous plant with many stems 3-5'tall and old dry stems fallen at the base. The leaves are maple-shaped (palmately lobed), though the length of lobes varies between plants. The leaf undersides and the stems are covered with many-pointed hairs on them. (Look with a lens.) If cattle have been around, the plants will be damaged.

The 1 1/2-inch flowers are pink with a central cluster of stamens like hollyhocks and sidalceas have.

Note the variation of the leaves in this picture to the right—all the same species!



## Siskiyou Crest Expedition

This August scientific and conservation leaders convened by the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center will embark on a 90 mile hiking expedition to transect the proposed Siskiyou Crest National Monument along the rugged border of Oregon and California. They will use multimedia coverage and an interactive, online map to provide the public with an ecological snapshot of what we discover.

The Siskiyou Crest is a world class landscape that is home to perhaps the greatest diversity of plant species on the North American continent. It is full of a wondrous array of species found nowhere else on earth (think Siskiyou Mountain salamander and Baker's Cypress!), yet its narrow ridges and steep canyons remain largely unknown to those besides the adventurous few who have been there themselves. This unusual mountain system runs in a rare east/west orientation, and acts as the only high-quality habitat corridor connecting the Coast Ranges of Oregon and California to the Cascade and Sierra Mountains. This "Land Bridge" is like the crossbar of a giant "H" on the western edge of the continent, offering a travel conduit for elusive mammals like wolverine and Pacific fisher.

They will be joined by specialists in the fields of climate science, botany, mammalogy and conservation biology who will offer their expertise in documenting the myriad reasons this area is proposed for permanent protection.

For more information or to ask any questions, please contact Laurel Sutherlin at [laurel@kswild.org](mailto:laurel@kswild.org) or call the KS Wild office at (541)488-5789. [www.kswild.org](http://www.kswild.org)



# FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE

**Saturday, September 19**

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center parking lot  
569 South G St., Arcata  
(5 blocks south of Samoa Blvd.)**

- ◆ What better way to know the charm of local natives than to have them right outside your door?
- ◆ Create some wildlife habitat in your yard.
- ◆ Experienced gardeners will be on hand to help you choose from a wide variety of plants, from ferns to trees
- ◆ Enjoy the North Country Fair on Arcata Plaza, and then come to the plant sale.
- ◆ Bring your empty flower pots for re-use.

## **PLANT SALES KEEP US RUNNING by Carol Ralph**

Nourishing native plants nourishes the chapter. More than half of our chapter income is from our plant sales. Every volunteer who sprouts a seed, protects the seedling from slugs and deer, remembers to water it all summer, weeds it, and brings it to a sale is helping our chapter in its mission of preserving California's native flora. **Thank you to all who grew plants for our sale.**

If you would like to become one of our "growers," contact Tami Camper 839-2650 or [tcamper@gmail.com](mailto:tcamper@gmail.com). If you have a good source of a native plant that could be propagated, contact Tami, and/or our online gardening group [NorthCoast\\_CNPS\\_Gardening@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NorthCoast_CNPS_Gardening@yahoogroups.com). You can join this group at [NorthCoast\\_CNPS\\_Gardening-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NorthCoast_CNPS_Gardening-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Getting the plants to the sale is a big part, but without the team that organizes the sales and works with customers, nothing would come of it. We are lucky to have **Sunny Loya** and **Judie Hinman** heading the business end of this process, along with a roster of very talented gardeners who put in long hours at the sales. **Thank you, all!**

If you would like to help the plant sale, as a sales person, a plant-counter, or cashier, contact Sunny at 825-1243 or [Sunny@mcbaintrush.com](mailto:Sunny@mcbaintrush.com).

CNPS encourages the public to garden with natives. The public is asking for natives. Our growers and sales team are helping provide them.

## NEW NAMES ARE PROGRESS

by Carol Ralph

Just when you have worked hard to master the scientific name for a species, someone changes it! Or you have known it by that genus your whole life, and now someone gives it a new name! How frustrating!

Yes, but this is progress. We expect the plant's name to reflect its relationship to other plants. Each person naming a species is summarizing all the field, herbarium, and laboratory information available at that time. We have a lot more now than Linnaeus did when he first put the genus-species names on plants, and botanists are busily accumulating more all the time. Naturally, the new information often clarifies relationships or reveals new ones.

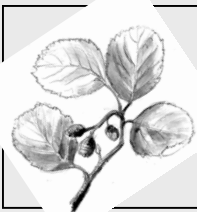
Unfortunately, we have to learn both the old and new names, because the books we currently have use the old names, and the future books will use the new names.

Below is a personal list I culled from the UC Jepson Herbarium Interchange Index to superseded Names, which you find at [ucjeps.berkeley.edu/interchange/I\\_index\\_supplant.html](http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/interchange/I_index_supplant.html). These are changes currently accepted by the botanical community. Each of these changes represents years of study, a careful argument, and an interesting story. A change in one species of a genus does not necessarily mean that all the species in that genus changed.

*Editor's Note: I added the Common Names from the USDA's Plant Name Search available at <http://plants.usda.gov/java/factSheet>. Nice photos or drawings can be found on the site too.*

Old Name	New Name	Common Name
<i>Arenaria congesta</i>	<i>Eremogone congesta</i>	Ballhead sandwort
<i>Aster alpigenus</i>	<i>Oreostemma alpigenum</i>	Tundra aster
<i>Aster chilensis</i>	<i>Symphyotrichum chilense</i>	Pacific aster
<i>Aster occidentalis</i>	<i>Symphyotrichum spathulatum</i>	Western mountain aster
<i>Chamomilla suaveolens</i>	<i>Matricaria matricarioides</i>	Disc mayweed
<i>Coronopus didymus</i>	<i>Lepidium didymum</i>	Lesser swinecress
<i>Cupressus lawsoniana</i>	<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	Port Orford cedar
<i>Disporum hookeri</i>	<i>Prosartes hookeri</i>	Drops-of-gold
<i>Disporum smithii</i>	<i>Prosartes smithii</i>	Largeflower fairybells
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Fireweed
<i>Lessingia filaginifolia</i>	<i>Corethrogyne filaginifolia</i>	Common sandaster
<i>Linanthus bicolor</i>	<i>Leptosiphon bicolor</i>	True babystars
<i>Lithocarpus densiflorus</i>	<i>Notholithocarpus densiflorus</i>	Tanbark Oak (not in USDA-used calflora.org)
<i>Madia madioides</i>	<i>Anisocarpus madioides</i>	No common name in either USDA or CalFlora
<i>Myrica californica</i>	<i>Morella californica</i>	California wax myrtle
<i>Osmorhiza chilensis</i>	<i>Osmorhiza berteroi</i>	Sweetcicely
<i>Sambucus racemosa</i> var. <i>microbotrys</i>	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i> var. <i>racemosa</i>	Red elderberry
<i>Senecio bolanderi</i>	<i>Packera bolanderi</i>	Bolander's ragwort
<i>Packera bolanderi</i>	<i>Delairea odorata</i>	Cape-ivy
<i>Thlaspi californicum</i>	<i>Noccaea fendleri</i> subsp. <i>californica</i>	Kneeland Prairie pennycress
<i>Tofieldia occidentalis</i> subsp. <i>occidentalis</i>	<i>Triantha occidentalis</i> subsp. <i>occidentalis</i>	Western false asphodel
<i>Zigadenus fremontii</i>	<i>Toxicoscordion fremontii</i>	Fremont's deathcamas
<i>Zigadenus micranthus</i> var. <i>fontanus</i>	<i>Toxicoscordion fontanum</i>	Fountain death camas
<i>Zigadenus micranthus</i> var. <i>micranthus</i>	<i>Toxicoscordion micranthum</i>	Smallflower deathcamas
<i>Zigadenus micranthus</i>	<i>Toxicoscordion micranthum</i>	Smallflower deathcamas
<i>Zigadenus paniculatus</i>	<i>Toxicoscordion paniculatum</i>	Foothill deathcamas
<i>Zigadenus venenosus</i> var. <i>venenosus</i>	<i>Toxicoscordion venenosum</i>	Meadow deathcamas

**HONORING ALDER**  
**Original Haiku and selected book excerpt**  
**By Donna Wildearth**



Alder leaves drift down  
To the water. Autumn comes  
In salmon country.

From ***Natural Grace: The Charm, Wonder, and Lessons of Pacific Northwest Animals and Plants***, by William Dietrich, Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2003.

"Sometimes life's most useful things are the most taken for granted, and surely the alder tree is a prime example. . . . No tree has been so long scorned or has enjoyed such recent rehabilitation. The timber industry has now switched from poisoning alder to planting. Scientists now sing its praises. Alder is our Cinderella tree.

There are thirty species of alder in the world, but the principal one in the Pacific Northwest is the red alder . . . the biggest of the American varieties, reaching heights of up to one hundred feet.

Alder's ecological role has been fully appreciated only in recent years. Not only does the tree prolifically re-seed burned, cut, or ravaged sites, it also fertilizes them. It eliminates soil diseases that prey on conifer species. Then it effectively starves itself to make way for a new crop of fir, hemlock, or cedar.

"We know alder benefits the soil," said Del Fisher, a Weyerhaeuser lands manager who has overseen the planting of several thousand acres of alder by the company in recent years.

Acre for acre, say Weyerhaeuser executives, fast-growing alder can make as much money for a timber company as fir or hemlock.

Today, a single good alder saw log can be worth in excess of a hundred dollars.

Alder roots form a three-way partnership with a moldlike bacterial organism called Actinomycete, and a mycorrhizal fungus.

The actinomycetal mold grows on the alder roots. Thereupon the alder delivers nutrients to the mold, which in turn chemically converts nitrogen from the atmosphere into a form that the alder and other plants can use as food. . . . That means the alder can colonize barren soils where other trees would starve. Later, rotting alder leaves and logs deposit this new nitrogen into the soil at a rate of up to a thousand pounds per acre.

The three organisms together are greater than the sum of their parts. The mold actually promotes the growth of the fungus, and both spur the growth of alder, which can reach the height of a three-story building in as little as five years. . . . The soil organisms accelerate alder's absorption of phosphorus from the soil, a draining so complete that a new stand of alders can't succeed its parents on the same ground. University of Washington soils scientist Dale Cole notes the significance for forest health. The alder, having worked so hard to improve the soil, politely gets out of the way by dying off and making room for conifers. The evergreen trees don't need the missing phosphorus but crave the added nitrogen. Because of alder, their growth is enhanced: studies show that stands of mixed fir and alder grow at twice the rate of a neighboring grove of fir alone.

A generation of alder also poisons laminated root rot, a soil disease that can ravage Douglas fir. The rot dies back sufficiently so that a new crop of conifers can grow on a once-infested site, keeping the disease in check.

Alder groves also play host to nearly two hundred animal species that use the thickets to reproduce in, and another two hundred species that use them to feed. If that's not enough, alder's wet, spongy nature also makes it resistant to forest fires.

English poet William Browne gave tribute in verse to the tree, which also grows in Britain, as long ago as 1613: "The alder, whose fat shadow nourish, each plant set near him (will) long flourish."

**CNPS, North Coast Chapter  
P.O. Box 1067  
Arcata, CA 95518**

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## CALENDAR

### More information on pages 2 and 3

How to know what's happening:

1. Go to our Web site, [www.northcoastcnps.org](http://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
Jul 11, Sat	Day Hike
Jul 26-28, Sun-Mon	Day Hikes and Overnight
Sep 09, Wed	Program
Sep 12, Sat.	Day Trip
Sep 19, Sat	Plant Sale
Oct 4, Sun	Chapter Picnic
Oct 14, Wed	Program
Nov 11, Wed	Program
Dec 10, Wed	Program
Jan 13, Wed	Program
Feb 10, Wed	Program

## 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.