

Darlingtonia

FALL 2020
September-
November

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

Fall Native Plant Sale

Saturday, September 26 &

Sunday, September 27

Freshwater Farms Reserve

North Coast Regional Land Trust

5851 Myrtle Ave., Eureka

**In Person Shopping
by Appointment Only**

Physical Distancing Will Be Observed
Masks Required

**To schedule an appointment
and see a list of available
plants, visit our website at:**

<http://northcoastcnps.org>

Please bring your own box.

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Find out what's happening:

- Visit our website:
NorthCoastCNPS.org
- Visit our Facebook page:
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added
- Visit Instagram page:
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EVENING PROGRAMS

Please watch for updates on our web site
(www.NorthCoastCNPS.org)

or sign up (Northcoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoo.com)

This fall, all evening programs are via Zoom. The link is available each month: www.northcoastcnps.org. Also, you can be notified by email through our Yahoo! Group by writing to theralphs@humboldt1.com and ask for an invitation to Yahoo.

September 9, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. *Zoom webinar. Mt. Rainier Wildflower Adventure.* Join Donna Wildearth on a journey to see the sub-alpine wildflowers on Mt. Rainier which John Muir referred to as "...the most luxurious and the most extravagantly beautiful of all the alpine gardens I ever beheld in all my mountain-top ramblings." With photos from her and Kathy Dilley and informative comment, Donna will recount their trip last year to see this wildflower spectacle. To register for this talk with Zoom, go to our website.

October 14, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. *Zoom webinar. Beauty and the Beast: California Wildflowers and Climate Change.* Professional conservation photographers Rob Badger and Nita Winter present the story of making their recent book featuring stunning photos of wildflowers in California's deserts, southern mountains, and the Bay Area.

November 11, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. *Zoom webinar.* Joseph Saler presents an update on the Big Lagoon Bog project. See the article on p. 4.

December 9, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Save the date. There will be something fun.

Unfortunately, we weren't able to celebrate our chapter's 50th anniversary in April as planned due to Covid-19, but look for a 51st celebration next April.

FIELD TRIPS Fall 2020

by Carol Ralph, Field Trip Chair

Please watch for updates on our Web site (www.northcoastcnps.org) or sign up for e-mail announcements (theralphs@humboldt1.com with the subject "CNPS notification").

Outings are open to everyone, not just members. All levels of expertise, from beginners to experienced botanizers, are welcome.

Address questions about physical requirements to the leader.

Please really read the above template statements that appear on this page every newsletter. They deserve extra emphasis and thought this year.

Watching for updates is what we all do a lot of these days. Here is no exception. At the state level CNPS, out of an "abundance of caution," still does not permit field trips. [The insurance does not cover viral events.] I really miss the scheduled trips and the friendship and discovery on them. When we get permission for field trips, I will pick up the schedule immediately, post it on the website, and send it to our Yahoo! activities group. On my calendar I have set aside these dates for trips if allowed:

Saturday, September 12

Sunday, October 4

Saturday, November 7

When we say our outings are open to everyone, we mean that **everyone** is **welcome**. Our focus on plants unites us. Everyone on our field trips is there to learn what they don't know, share what they do know, and enjoy the outdoors. We learn from each other, not just the "leader." No one knows it all. We talk in common names, as well as scientific names.

My fantasy for field trip-less time was to improve the "Places to See Plants" page of our chapter's website. Other hats I wear have taken priority, so that page is still just a very basic list for the person wanting to "go somewhere and see plants." If you would like to help improve it, please tell me.

Meanwhile, make your own field trips, avoiding crowded places. See the "Places to See Plants" page under the Activities tab of the website. My nearby favorites are the Elk River Spit, Patrick's Point State Park, Prairie Creek State Park, and the Horse Mountain to Grouse Mountain area. In September I like to visit a wetland, where plants are still green and blooming. Gentians can be blooming in wet meadows, even on Elk Head. In October fall color can be good, thanks to Bigleaf Maple and occasional Mountain Dogwood, along the Titlow Hill Rd-Friday Ridge Rd-299 driving loop through Six Rivers National Forest. See the *Hiking Humboldt* books by Ken Burton and Rees Hughes and redwood parks books by Jerry and Gisela Rohde for more ideas. Share your photos on www.facebook.com/groups/NorthCoastCNPS/.

North Coast CNPS Native Plant Demonstration Garden

By Christine Kelly

In this surreal time, things don't have to be easy to be simple. CNPS embraces the wisdom of a growing number of scientists and authors who have affirmed the power of small native gardens to help foster biodiversity and augment the larger environment's ability to support animal, insect, and human life. The many simple and powerful reasons to plant natives are what motivate the dedicated volunteers that keep our North Coast Chapter nursery running, as well as the inspiration for a new demonstration garden at our nursery site at Freshwater Farms Reserve in Eureka. In keeping with its mission to promote and provide native plants, our chapter aims to showcase design possibilities for native gardens and some of the many options for incorporating a variety of native plants. The garden also functions as a living seed bank for the future, similar in purpose to the many spaces that local non-profit Lost Foods has worked to create in the area, but much smaller in scope.

To prepare the space, with many volunteers and a visiting crew from the organization Helping Humboldt, we weeded, sheet mulched with cardboard and a couple thick layers of rice straw and wood chips donated by our landlords, the North Coast Regional Land Trust, and built raised areas to fill with soil we had saved and purchased. Once we had built up our planting areas and done the work to help keep weeds at bay, we started planting. There are many sources of information available on variations of this relatively inexpensive technique. It can be scaled for anything from our small garden space, to larger lawn conversion projects.

All the while, with sage guidance from the collective knowledge of CNPS nursery volunteers involved in the project, I had been helping to design a garden layout based loosely on principles from a book about the "Plant Community Approach" to garden design by Glenn Keator and Alrie Middlebrook.

While we definitely factored in the importance of considering height, spread, bloom time, etc. in our design, Keator and Middlebrook emphasize appropriate companion planting based on community type, which usually correlates to similar or synergistic plant needs like water, sun, and soil type, and promotes beneficial plant community interaction by grouping plants that have co-evolved over long periods of time. The CNPS demonstration garden features five basic community types in miniature: Mixed Evergreen, Redwood Forest, Chaparral, Grassland, and Bog or Riparian. We also included a small area for succulents and coastal plants, and another for shade plants. With the space available, complete fidelity to plant community types was not strictly adhered to – there are also overlaps in our approximated "eco-regions," as well as plants that occur in multiple communities.

When in doubt about how to choose and group plants, Calscape.org (CS) and Calflora.org (CF) are great resources. CS provides most details you would want to learn or verify, with advanced search options that allow you to search by guidelines like water requirements, bloom season, region, or even plant attributes like deer resistance. CS plant profiles often provide a list of common companion plants and CF usually lists the plant communities associated with a particular species (categorized more specifically than those laid out for home gardens by Keator and Middlebrook).

Whether creating a new garden space, adding natives to your existing landscape, or planting in containers, there are many approaches. We hope our garden helps demonstrate some of the possibilities and above all, that the choice to plant natives doesn't mean you need to sacrifice having a colorful and attractive garden.

We plan to invite visitors to a garden viewing within the next year, to see how the garden has taken off after less than two years since planting. We are currently working to create informational signs and plant labels so that visitors can easily take ideas home to their own gardens.

For more resources on the importance of planting natives and additional gardening guides, things are always being added to the CNPS website: <https://northcoastcnps.org>. If you're interested in volunteering at the nursery or in the garden, or you have questions for our Native Plant Consultants about how to start your own project, contact us at northcoastcnps@gmail.com.



Left, laying down layers of rice straw in preparation. Photo by Christine Kelly

Right, All the beautiful plants we put in are starting to fill in. Photo by Barbara Reisman

Check out the newsletter online to see these and all photos in color.



An Update on Big Lagoon Bog

by Greg O'Connell

2020 marks the third year of restoration monitoring at the Big Lagoon Bog. Back in 2014 our chapter rare plant co-chair, David Imper, wrote a restoration proposal entailing vegetation management for woody shrubs and small trees that have been encroaching into this unique wetland. It turns out the "bog" is actually a fen, but people have been calling it a bog for nearly 100 years. (Technically, a bog has no inlet or outlet, while water runs through a fen.) The fen supports unique wetland plant communities that host uncommon and rare plants such as sphagnum moss, sundews, rare sedges, and perhaps most notable, the bog clubmoss. The uniqueness of this place is due to its herbaceous plant communities, which have been getting choked out by woody species for nearly half a century. The woody vegetation removal that occurred in 2018 will not be a one-time fix to conserve the herbaceous plants here, but will buy us a couple decades to continue studying the fen and consider long term management strategies.

There have been many partners in this restoration effort, including our North Coast CNPS chapter, Humboldt County Public Works (owner of most of the fen), Caltrans (obtained permits and contracted the California Conservation Corp for two+ weeks of removing thick brush), Joseph Saler (local botanist who created the vegetation sampling design as part of his master's thesis project at Humboldt State University), and many others. Our chapter committed to organizing and implementing the follow-up monitoring for three years after Joseph's two. This year in July these local botanists volunteered for two days in the bog, well distanced from each other, measuring the vegetation: Britney Newby, Claire Brown, Courtney Otto, Greg O'Connell, Jordan Mayor, Joseph Saler, Kale McNeill, Megan Nibbelink, and Sarah Norvell. Many thanks!

So how is the restoration monitoring going? The 2020 field work went great and was accomplished in two days thanks to the skilled botanists that volunteered. The fen looks amazing, like a subalpine meadow surrounded by large conifers (Sitka spruce in this case). Most of the rare plants seem to be doing well, perhaps already expanding their distribution within the fen. The bog clubmoss is

still very uncommon in the fen, however, and still at risk of going locally extinct. There is more research to be done and management plans to be written, but the recent restoration effort has bought us more time to figure that out. Are you interested in learning more about the Big Lagoon Bog (I mean Fen)? Joseph Saler will present an evening program on November 11 on this restoration project, including a summary of his data. We hope you will join us by Zoom. If you want to help next summer in the bog, tell Greg at gregocn-nell7@gmail.com. All photos by Jordan Mayor.



Thank you's – Nursery

By Chris Beresford, nursery manager

The CNPS nursery volunteers continue to work on tending the plants we had left after our 2 spring plant sales. We have been busy transplanting up late-germinating starts and dividing up plants, such as yarrow, (*Achillea millefolium*) that have become too crowded in their containers or that we needed additional plants of. We are also busy pulling the pesky weeds which keep germinating in our containers.. There is never a shortage of work at our nursery!

Thanks to: Barbara Reisman, Carol Ralph, Karen Isa, Barbara Wilkinson, Sue Marquette, Sharon King, Brian Dorman, Joan Tippets, Laura Guildin, Anita Gilbride-Read, Christine Kelly, Sam O'Connell, Marcia Thorndike, Marika Chop, Jessi vanFloto, Kunal Mehta, Loran Brown, Sydney Carothers, Nancy Brockington, Ann Wallace, Carol Woods, Lorna Brown, Stephen Underwood, Alexa DeJoannis, Ava Biscoe, Tiffany Perez, Rebecca Zettler, David Callow and Celeste Thaine. All of our volunteers work hard growing our plants so that we can fund the chapter's many activities and scholarships, as well as help raise awareness of the importance of planting native plants in our gardens and landscapes.

I would especially like to thank the following volunteers who give many hours of time in helping by coming in when others aren't there to work on special projects, clean pots, transplant, clean-up in general, repot and clean-up held over plants, take the lead on work days and do whatever else needs to be done! A special thank you to Karen Isa, Barbara Reisman and Sydney Carothers, you guys go above and beyond, Thanks so much!

We also have a dedicated team of volunteers lead by Barbara Reisman who water our shade house plants that are not on a timed sprinkler. They also check to make sure that the sprinklers are watering as they should be all of our other plants and our demonstration garden. Thanks to Sydney Carothers, Christy Wagner, and Sharon King for regularly watering our plants and to Karen Isa who helps out when needed.

Our demonstration garden continues to grow and is starting to look absolutely amazing. Thanks to Sydney Carothers and Barbara Reisman for regularly weeding. Currently, they are battling the horse tails (*Equisetum*), which are so happily coming up. Please see Christine Kelly's article in this newsletter on p.3.

Christine is taking a break from taking care of our native plant stand as she currently has a very busy work schedule. Thankfully, Jessi VonFloto and Bar-

bara Reisman both stepped up to help out. Jessi checks, re-stocks, pulls old plants and adds new ones to our stand at the Kneeland Glen Farm Stand. He also makes up informational plant signs as needed, and provides Barbara and I the weekly changes so we can post to our Facebook page and website. We have been including additional types of plants, such as trees and shrubs from our participating nurseries, so that can we offer a wider range and hopefully a one-stop shopping place for natives. The plant stand has played an ever-increasing role for us in selling plants in this time of Covid19 with so many people being at home or working remotely.

We have had quite the pot washing crew going lately, helping us with our desire to not have to purchase additional plastic containers. Thanks to Tom Lisle for cleaning & sterilizing 150 1-gallon pots and to David Callow for cleaning & sterilizing many 4" pots for us as well. A special thanks to Rebecca Zettler, who continues to come to the nursery to pick up and then return hundreds of washed & sterilized containers. Please see Rebecca's article in this newsletter on how to clean and sterilize pots. We are always looking for more help with this ongoing project.

If you would like to help at the nursery, our regular workdays are Wednesday 10 – 1ish. We work on whatever needs to be done at the time, transplanting, repotting, root pruning and feeding, cleaning and sterilizing plastic pots, just to name some of the many things that we do. We can always use more help. We also work on additional days as needed based upon our plants' needs as well as for special projects. If you would like to help out, contact us at our nursery email: northcoastcnps@gmail.com.

June Plant Sale Thank You's

After our May plant sale, we had many plants left over, so I approached the County Covid-19 unit about having an in-person, by appointment only plant sale in mid-June. After I spoke to them on the phone, I filled out the paperwork for a retail opening and thankfully, they approved it.

We were Ok'd to have 10 people enter the nursery every hour. Christine Kelly, once again, came to my rescue, with the program Sign-up Genius which allowed folks to sign up for a specific time to shop. She set up everything and the nursery email received notification of everyone who scheduled an appointment. I ended up having to turn my cell phone off at night as I found out that folks were scheduling appointments for the plant sale at all hours! She printed out the schedule and we used that to monitor and check

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in individuals as they arrived. Thank you Christine, we literally could not have done this without you!

Sharon King is in charge of getting our publicity out for our plant sales. Like everything else we had to do with our plant sales, Sharon had to figure out how to do things differently, yet again, to get the word out. She submitted an article to the Times Standard which they printed in their gardening issue on our new style plant sale and how it would work. She also sent out press releases to all of her "usual" media contacts and got the information about the sale in the Northcoast Journal. Thank you Sharon !

A special thanks to Karen Isa, box collector extraordinaire, who started collecting boxes weeks before our sale. Thank you so much for collecting all these many boxes Karen! It makes quite a pile in the barn but we always use up almost every last one.

Christine Kelly worked with the participating nurseries coordinating which plants they will be delivering and when they will be bringing them. She also ordered needed labels from Ann Burroughs for the participating nurseries. Thanks Christine for taking the lead on this. Brian Dorman went up to Samara Restoration with his horse trailer and picked up all of their plants for us. Thanks Brian for doing that for us as it saved a lot of us from having to go up and help pick up plants from them.

Ann Burroughs has been printing all of our great plant (Including the participating nurseries) labels for many years now. However, Ann's new printer is not hot enough to adhere the ink to our plant labels. We are now using waterproof stickers which we then put on the plant labels. Thanks Ann for continuing to help us out with our plant labels!

Chris Brant weed-whacked and cleaned up the area where we put our pop-ups for cashiering and merchandise. Thank you, Chris!

I would like to thank everyone who helped with our June plant sale. Everyone worked so hard getting ready for the sale. In addition to the above, I would like to thank those who: took the plant inventory; ordered needed plant labels; got our publicity out; put up our informational posters in various locations and took our quarter sheets to the nurseries; put informational plant stickers on our plant labels; put labels in our plants; found volunteers to help out; helped to re-arrange the nursery to accommodate folks coming in to purchase plants; moved all of the remaining annuals and all of their tables out from the tree and shrub display area; checked in and put out all of the plants

we received from our participating nurseries; got all of our signage and plant signs out; did traffic control and helped attendees park; greeted people, ensuring that they were on our list of folks who had made an appointment to come to the nursery; assisted with plant selection and answered questions; processed plant purchases; assisted with getting boxes for people to use; helped in getting plants to people's cars; sold CNPS merchandise; restocked and re-arranged the tables to keep them full of plants and cleaned up and put things away after the sale. As you can see, there is a lot to do to get our plant sale together and it takes a lot of volunteers to make it happen!

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers, many of whom willingly worked multiple days in multiple tasks: Sue Marquette, Jessi vanFloto, Vivienne Vlaskovits, David Callow, Celeste Thaine, Marcia Thorndike, Laura Guildin, Sue Halpin, Marika Chop, Stephen Underwood, Bill Pinnix, Richard Beresford, Alan Wilkinson, Brian Dorman, Barbara Reisman, Ann Burroughs, Sharon King, Christine Kelly, Chris Brant, Kunal Mehta, Emma Sevier, Bill Rodstrom, Jocelyn Pedraza, Randi Swedenburg, Ava Biscoe, Carol Ralph, CJ Ralph, Tiffany Perez and Alexa DeJoannis. Thank you again for all of your help! We could not have had the sale, without all of the help from all of these volunteers. I sincerely hope that I have thanked and acknowledged everyone who was involved in our June plant sale. If not, I apologize for the oversight.

Our Plant Stand – New updated list available

The chapter continues to actively stock and maintain our plant stand with native plants that we grow for sale as well as plants that are provided by our participating nurseries. Our plant stand is at the Kneeland Glen Farm Stand, located at Freshwater Farms Reserve, 5851 Myrtle Ave., Eureka. The Farm Stand is open daily from 12 – 6.

Please check out our website to see a plant list with links to our informational plant signs or to Calscape of the plants that we currently have for sale. We update this list weekly so that you have the most current information possible. You will find it at our website www.northcoast.org under Native Plant Sales.

If you don't find what you are looking for at the stand, contact us at northcoastcnps@gmail.com and we will get back to you and if we have the plant(s) that you are looking for, make arrangements for you to pick up your plant(s) at the Farm Stand.

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Fall Plant Sale – Help Needed

Our fall plant sale will be held at the Freshwater Farms Nursery, 5851 Myrtle Ave. on Saturday September 26th and Sunday September 27th. We have been given the OK by the County to have an in-person plant sale with a maximum of 15 individuals every 45 minutes in our nursery at a time. Just as we did in the June plant sale, attendees must sign up on our website for the time that they would like to come to the nursery. To make this plant sale happen and be a success, we need your help!

Volunteers are needed Friday to help with setting up for sale and Saturday and Sunday to help out with the sale. If you can help all day or for one shift your help will be greatly appreciated. We have morning and afternoon shifts. We will need people who can direct cars as they arrive, greet people as they enter, advise people what plants to buy, tally up purchases, keep the stock organized and carry purchases to cars. If you can help out or have questions, please contact me at 707-826-0259, northcoastcnps@gmail.com or text me at 707-469-2101.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

See how you can help!

See here some of the things our volunteers have done and are doing. Everything we do is with volunteer labor. Every job, small or large, is important for getting things done. We appreciate our many talented, generous volunteers. You can be one too! Contact Carol: 707-822-2015/theralphs@humboldt1.com

Thank you!

Samantha O'Connell for more than four years of ably coordinating our Native Plant Consultation Service. Sam was a responsive, friendly, knowledgeable first contact for people seeking this service and reached out to lists of people who signed up thinking they wanted it. She talked with them to learn what they needed, where they lived, and when they could host our team. She reported to the consultants what was needed and organized a date for a team of them to visit the garden. Good job, Sam!

Greg O'Connell for organizing a volunteer crew of botanists to measure the vegetation of Big Lagoon Bog, to see if the bog plants, including several rare species, appreciate the huge brush removal done 3 years ago.

Greg O'Connell, Joseph Saler, Clare Brown, Jor-

dan Mayor, Britney Newby, Kale McNeill, Courtney Otto, Megan Nibbelink, and Sarah Norvell for using their expertise to measure the current vegetation in Big Lagoon Bog.

Rebecca Zettler for becoming our pot sanitation expert! (See her article below)

Chris Beresford for leading our native plant nursery, which has supplied thousands of native plants to hundreds of gardeners who are easing the pain of COVID19 by restoring the world in their gardens.

Welcome Aboard!

Tristan Cole as Membership Guru, keeping track of our mailing list, one of the jobs that sounds simple but actually is complex.

Melanie Johnson as Native Plant Consultation Coordinator. A proven volunteer wrangler, Melanie will be sure a team of two of our volunteer Native Plant Consultants visits the person requesting help identifying plants in their yard and choosing native plants to plant. (See the blurb on the contact page of this newsletter.)

Help Wanted

Conservation team members to share expertise and time, so we can tackle the wide variety of conservation issues that pop up.

Recycling Nursery Pots at Home!

By Rebecca Zettler

I've been recycling nursery pots for CNPS for two years and would like to encourage other members to join in. At the nursery or from home, it's one of the many ways you can support the California Native Plant Society. It's not difficult; here's how to get started.

You most likely have everything you need around the house. You may have to buy a pair of dish washing gloves and bleach, but other



Wash station

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than that, garden gloves, a sink or tub for washing, water, and a plastic tub, trash can or 5 gallon bucket are all you need. I tend to break up the steps over time, but you can do 100 pots in a few hours once you get the hang of it.

First, remove any leftover potting media. A whisk or paint brush works well under the rim. Remove the labels if you can. Pots that are cracked, have damaged rims (hazard), or heavy mineral stains should be thrown away, along with the potting soil debris.

Wash out the pots in the sink or a tub; I use a toilet brush. You can presoak, or not. If you use soapy water, rinse afterwards. The point is to remove as much soil as possible to avoid contaminating the sanitizing solution. Let the washed pots drain a bit so they don't dilute the sanitizing solution.



Sanitizing station

To control soil-borne disease that can kill native plants, all recycled pots must be sanitized using a bleach solution. You'll want to do this in a well ventilated space, wear gloves and eye protection, and wear clothes you don't mind getting bleach spots on. Once sanitized, the pots can't come in contact with any soil, so you also need a non porous surface to set the pots out to dry. You can set the pots out to dry in a carport, garage floor, driveway or sidewalk that's been well swept, or you can cover a table or bench with plastic and set them on that. And if you don't have the space, or this step seems too fussy, you can always bring the washed pots back to the CNPS nursery where they can be sanitized in the hoop house.

I use a tall kitchen trash container and mix up 5 gallons of sanitizing solution at a time. You want a ra-

tio of 9 parts water to 1 part household bleach (unscented and 5.25 or 6% sodium hypochlorite concentration). A half (½) gallon of bleach plus four and a half (4 ½) gallons of water makes five gallons of solution. If you use a 5 gallon bucket you might have to pour some off to get the pots in. I've also used a storage tub, but it took more solution to cover the pots lying sideways. A one gallon milk or water jug is helpful for measuring.

To sanitize the pots, immerse them completely in the solution for at least five (5) minutes. Sinking them in the solution one at a time, I can immerse two stacks of 5 or 6 pots without too much fiddling. The solution must cover all surfaces of the pots. After the soak, give them a quick rinse and set the pots out to dry. Once they're dry bring them to the nursery. There is a space in the hoop house for sanitized pots.

A few words about bleach: It actually outdates so check the label. Also bleach solution starts to lose potency in a matter of hours (especially in sun light, warm temperatures, and once the solution gets dirty), so plan on getting this part done in one day. Sanitizing solution is dilute enough to go down the drain or get dumped in an area of the yard you aren't concerned about. You might want to check if you have a septic system though. Bleach breaks down into salt and water.

I like being able to clean the pots at my own pace, which is why I bring them home, but you can do all of this, or just some of the steps, at the nursery. And if you want to read more about the process, testing solutions, etc. information is at the nursery.

1 GALLON POTS ONLY can be dropped off at the nursery on Wednesdays 10-1. To arrange a different time, please contact us: northcoastcnps@gmail.com. **ALL POTS NEED TO BE FREE OF LOOSE SOIL AND UNDAMAGED.** (The pot fairy is watching.)

All photos by Rebecca Zettler.



Pots drying

Conservation Corner

by Carol Ralph

Target Shooting in Horse Mountain Botanical Area

The Horse Mountain Botanical Area was established in Six Rivers National Forest 22 years ago "for protection of unique botanical values, for educational purposes, and for recreational use compatible with these values." (Six Rivers National Forest *Special Interest Area Management Strategy* January 1998). Target shooting was already a well-established activity in the area and has continued unabated, while Jeffrey Pine have been shot dead, target trash has been abandoned, and bullet shells and lead have accumulated. The Forest Botanist from the beginning has advocated banning target shooting in the botanical area. In 2010 the Horse Mountain Trails Alliance highlighted that the practice is incompatible with other forms of recreation. The Forest Service website [<https://www.fs.usda.gov/visit/know-before-you-go/shooting>] lists failing to dispose of garbage, including targets; use of targets without safe, bullet-proof backstop; and shooting where it's impossible to know what is beyond the target as behavior that calls for restrictions on shooting. Meanwhile, increased use of the area for hiking, botanizing, biking, rock climbing, etc., is putting more people at risk of encountering an errant bullet.

While recognizing the many demands on National Forest personnel and their hard work, our chapter is calling for them to give high priority to ending the target shooting that is clearly not compatible with the botanical values of the area and is clearly endangering human lives as well. It is time to protect the plants and allow the other forms of recreation that are compatible with the area.

Horse Mountain Botanical Area is 4.6 miles south from Highway 299 on Titlow Hill Rd. It is the most accessible botanical area in this Forest, and it is a stunning area for its vistas and geology as well as plants.

CalVTP and SRA's and Six Rivers NF Fires and Fuels

(I learned about CalVTP's in a program presented via Zoom for the Mount Lassen Chapter on August 12 by Andrea Williams, CNPS Director of Plant Science.)

California is working on reducing its fire problem. The state is developing its Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP), and the U. S. Forest Service is developing its Fires & Fuels Project. Both are working for approval of umbrella projects that will expedite the implementation of many future fire-reducing projects, such as forest thinning, prescribed burning, brush removal, and creating shaded fire breaks. The CalVTP goals are to lower the losses to fire, lower the costs of fire control, and increase ecosystem health. Its program covers State Responsibility Lands (SRA's), which generally are what is not city, federal, or large agricultural. The Forest Service project is for Six Rivers National Forest.

With the CalVTP in place, future projects that follow its procedures can be approved through it. For example, a person who buys mountain property that was logged 20 years ago and now is thick, young Douglas-fir, wants to thin it, to increase biodiversity by letting light reach the understory and to improve the watershed by letting rain and snow reach the ground. Rather than go through the entire project approval procedure on his own, this person can contact the CalVTP program to learn how to work under their permit. Each project writes a Project-Specific Analysis that specifies where and exactly what the project will do and posts it online for public scrutiny 15 days before it is implemented.

CNPS is thrilled to see this kind of work done for land health and fire safety, but we want it to be done well and backed by good science and good surveys. Look for rare plants at the time of year they are visible. Don't rely solely on existing records to tell where rare plants are; maybe no one has looked in the project area before. No bulldozing chaparral, which favors weeds that are more flammable. No harvesting a few large trees "to help pay for the thinning;" that removes the fire-calming shade. Firebreaks on ridgetops are probably not a good idea either.

With such a short official public comment period, the obvious time for us, CNPS, to have input is earlier in the process. We need to know as soon as a project starts being thought about. CNPSers with local knowledge and expertise can alert managers to rare plant populations or favorite botanizing spots and be sure they are accommodated in the plans. CNPSers could even suggest places that need treatment, like control burning the undergrowth where it is crowding out the lilies.

Andrea Williams is creating a "tool kit" for chapters to use in working with these projects. Our chapter needs someone to watch the CalVTP website for proposals and learn how to be in the loop sooner. We need someone to be in good touch with Six Rivers National Forest staff about projects in their forest. This is the nitty gritty of how to save native plants. We can't think that someone else will do it.

MEMBERS' CORNER

THANK YOU NEW MEMBERS

Jasmin McLean
Paul Cummings
Jonathan Foster
Dayna Glagolich
Caitlin French
Laura Lalemand
Cat Francisco
Katelin Kutella
Julie Navarre
Nicolas Crowell
Friday Ululani
Monica Bueno
Nathan Johle
Katie Herron
Ryan Nalbach
Tyanna Blaschak
Philip Nicklas
Kirk Terrill
Tracy Katelman
Gail Battaglia
Luis Gonzalez
Grace Milburn
Celeste Niesen
Sarah Norvell
Jan Hughes
Susan Donovan

THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS

Bianca Hayashi
Gina Glenne
Joaquin Hale
Laurie Francom
Steven Argue
J.T. Verbeck
Gail Baker
Susan Hubbard
James Baskin
Janis Irvin
Joe Tyburczy
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Arlene Broyles
Pamela Bullen
Scott Godfrey
Susan Halpin
Ronald Hildebrant
Matthew Hinton
Sharon King
Ron Melin
Edith Smith
Rebecca Stauffer
Elaine Weinreb
Veronica Yates
Rita Zito
Barbara Kelly
Bruce Kessler
Kathy Pitts
Jude Power
Theodore Utecht
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Wendy Wahlund
Alan Wolski
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Sabra Steinberg
Bruce Howard
Shane Convery
Frances Ferguson
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Carol Moore
Claire Perricelli
Kimberley Pittman-Schulz
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Barbara Schumacher
Jessica Wilson
David Baruch
Chet Boddy
Tom Lisle
Susan O'Connor
Oona Paloma
Mark Youdall
Evan Mahony-Moyer

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Support these local businesses and receive discounts on your purchases with proof of your North Coast membership.

Greenlot Nursery, 10% discount on plants, 443-9484
Lost Foods Native Plant Nursery: 10% discount on plants, 268-8447, LostFoods.org

Mad River Gardens: 10% discount on plants, 822-7049

Miller Farms: 5% discount on plants, 839-1571

Pierson's Garden Shop, 10% discount on garden shop items (except sale or non-discountable items—please ask staff before going to register), 441-2713

Samara Restoration LLC, 10% discount on plants, 834-4379 samararestoration.com.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS/CONTACTS

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Education	Position Open		
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Wildflower Show	Carol Ralph		Contact President Carol Ralph
Chapter Council Delegate	Larry Levine	707-822-7190	levinel@northcoast.com
NEC CNPS Representative	Joan Tippetts	415-283-9198	jtippetts@yahoo.co.uk
County Land Use Lead	Marisa St John	707-601-0898	upperredwoodcreek@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS

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

Issue	Submission Date	Print Date	Announce Events In
Winter	November 15	December 1	Dec, Jan, Feb
Spring	February 15	March 1	Mar, Apr, May
Summer	May 15	June 1	June, Jul, Aug
Fall	August 15	September 1	Sept, Oct, Nov

E-mail newsletter articles, factoids, tidbits, etc. to the Newsletter Editor by the submission date.

Articles should generally be no more than 1,000 words and images can be any size and in these formats: JPG, JPEG, BMP, GIF, or PNG (note preferred location in the article and send image as a separate attachment).

- The **Darlingtonia Newsletter** (quarterly),
- Our **chapter's website**: www.northcoastcnps.org
- **E-mail lists/forums** To subscribe, please contact Carol Ralph: theralphs@humboldt1
- **Like us on Facebook** www.facebook.com/NorthCoastCNPS

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. We have a seat on their board of directors. The NEC is the only organization with which we share our mailing list. We think it is important that our members receive *EcoNews*, an informative publication about conservation issues in our area. Our chapter pays NEC to mail *EcoNews* to our members who are not also NEC members. You can reduce this cost to our chapter by joining NEC at www.yournec.org or requesting your *EcoNews* be electronic, contact Joan Tippetts jtippetts@yahoo.co.uk

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 share our experiences gardening with natives. This service is free. We hope it will inspire you to join CNPS or make a donation.

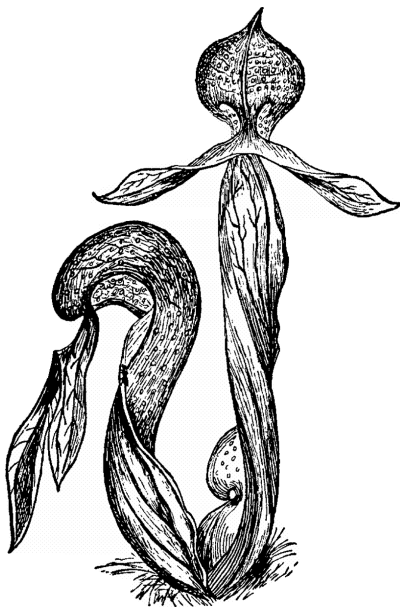
Contact our (new!) coordinator Melanie Johnson at 707-601-0650 or mjokega@reninet.com to put you in touch with volunteer consultants who will arrange a visit to look at what you have and help choose suitable plants for your garden.

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

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Darlingtonia



Visit us at
northcoastcnps.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

- ◆ 9 Evening Program via Zoom
- ◆ 26-27 Fall Native Plant Sale

October

- ◆ 14 Evening Program via Zoom

November

- ◆ 11 Evening Program via Zoom

December

- ◆ 9 Evening Program