



Darlingtonia

Summer 2022
June-August

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

Field Trip Report: South Fork Trinity Trail March 27, 2022 by Carol Ralph

Bloody red patches of Warrior's Plume (Indian Warrior, *Pedicularis densiflora*) along the road through Willow Creek and up South Fork Rd. (immediately east of the bridge over the S. Fork Trinity River on Highway 299) welcomed our group of 25 to early spring. The patch of California Fawn Lilies (*Erythronium californicum*) under deciduous oaks on a slope below a house on the left shortly before the pavement ends was a show-stopper, in full bloom. We did stop to ooh and ah and of course, click photos. Some day I want to thank the landowners for tending this beautiful sight so well. Nearby a Redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*) was blazing pink. Cheerful yellow buttercups (maybe native Western Buttercup (*Ranunculus occidentalis*)) were sprinkled through our day.



California Fawn Lily. By Gail Kenny

The forested edge of the parking area and the trail entrance featured the showiest Yerba de Selva (*Whipplea modesta*) I have ever seen. The normally un-notable groundcover was covered with small white balls of flowers. In the dark stand of conifers that followed Two-eyed Violet (*Viola ocellata*) and Milk Maids (*Cardamine californica*) confirmed the earliness of the season.

Then Hounds Tongue (*Cynoglossum grande*) welcomed us to the oak woodland. The ecological value and diversity of oak woodlands could be measured by how long it took us to walk through this habitat looking at flowers. It took some of us almost 3 hours to get to Coon Creek (the first creek), a trail section we covered in 35 minutes on the return.

Pussy-ears. By Gail Kenny



We saw the crowd-pleasers--Red Larkspur (*Delphinium nudicaule*), Scarlet Fritillary (*Fritillaria recurva*), and Pussy-ears (*Calochortus tolmiei*); the elegant Chaparral Clematis (Pipestem, *Clematis lasiantha*) draped over shrubs; the dainty Foothill Poppy (*Eschscholzia caespitosa*), similar to California Poppy (*E. californica*) but lacking the collar under the flower or fruit; the tiny and intriguing Small-flowered Tonella (*Tonella tenella*--what a fun name!), and new to all of us, the handsome blue flowers of Parish's Nightshade (*Solanum parishii*). Where we ate lunch on the

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Find out what's happening:

- Visit our website: northcoastcnps.org
- Visit our Facebook page: facebook.com/NorthCoastCNPS
- Sign-Up for Activity Notifications by emailing: theralphs@humboldt1.com and request to be added
- Visit Instagram page: instagram.com/

Evening Programs and Field Trips

EVENING PROGRAMS

Evening Programs are free, public presentations on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May, at the Six Rivers Masonic Lodge, 251 Bayside Rd., Arcata. Refreshments at 7:00 p.m.; program at 7:30 p.m. Join from home by registering on Zoom through our website northcoastcnps.org.

September 14, Wednesday, 7:30 pm.
"Encouraging Indigenous Wildlife--Insects to Birds--in the Garden. Pete Haggard will present the story of how he and his wife Judy, over a period of 45 years, turned their dryland pasture in Fieldbrook into a food garden and native plant & wildlife garden.

FIELD TRIPS SUMMER 2022

Please watch for updates on our Web site (www.northcoastcnps.org) or sign up for e-mail notification there.

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. Contact the leader so you can be informed of any changes.

June 18, Saturday. Christmas Prairie Field Trip. We will explore this diverse lake at 2300 ft. on the forested ridge west of Redwood Creek, courtesy of Green Diamond Resource Company. This diverse site includes upland grassland, vernaly inundated meadows, and boggy lake margins. The Small Camas and Harlequin Lotus should be blooming among diverse wet meadow plants and several rare species. We will explore on foot short distances at three places. We will carpool in high clearance, AWD or 4WD vehicles. Dress for the weather; bring lunch and water for a full day. Contact Carol for details: 707-822-2015, theralphs@humboldt1.com.

June 25, Saturday. Kneeland Forest and Meadow Day Hike. Shy flowers under the Douglas-fir and Tanoak and cheerful flowers in the prairie, as well as our special focus, the grasses, await us as we walk 1 -2 miles along paths on the ridgetop property of Mark and Melinda Bailey at almost 2800 ft. Dress for the weather; bring lunch and water for a full day. Attendance limited. Contact Carol to sign up: 707-822-2015, theralphs@humboldt1.com.

July & August. To be decided. Watch the website or sign up for email notification.

Know Your Invasive Species: tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)

WHO? Tansy ragwort is a biennial that can also be an annual or a perennial depending on conditions. It is herbaceous and can grow to 4 feet tall, with ruffled leaves and flat-topped, daisy-like yellow flowers that bloom in summer to early fall. All parts of the plant are poisonous to livestock.

WHERE? Tansy ragwort is native to Eurasia and North Africa and is invasive from Humboldt County north to the Canada border, along the Pacific Northwest coast.

WHY? Tansy ragwort was possibly introduced to the US as a medicinal plant. It reproduces prolifically by seed, and can colonize disturbed areas, notably pastureland-posing risk to livestock.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP? Keep an eye out for infestations and notify proper land management agencies or private entities for removal. Plants can be removed by hand. If seeds are present, they will need to be bagged and thrown away separately.



Please report locations of Tansy Ragwort within California State Parks to Michelle Forsys at michelle.forsys@parks.ca.gov or 707-677-3109.



Why Are They Cutting Redwoods in our Parks?

Credit: Redwoods Rising Illustrations by Gary Bloomfield, Bloomfield Studio.

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More information: <https://www.savetheredwoods.org/redwoods-magazine/5-drawings-show-epic-forest-restoration/>

Preface by Carol Ralph. Italicized comments by Carol Ralph and Gary Bloomfield.

Environmental efforts starting in the 1970's transferred thousands of acres of Redwood forest out of timber production and into our Redwood National and State Parks, to be preserved "forever." By listening to the lessons of Native Americans, modern land managers knew that a healthy forest needs some management, some human intervention. In this case, these timberlands especially needed management to help them heal from clear cutting.

This time series, commissioned by Save the Redwoods League and created by local artist Gary Bloomfield, shows the assisted progression from clearcut to mature forest.

More about the implementation of Redwoods Rising can be learned in the January 12, 2022, evening program to our chapter by Leonel Arguello, available on YouTube and through our website. Treated forest can be seen 1) along Davison Rd. as it comes to the environmental camp, as well as around that camp, and 2) along part of the West Ridge Trail in Prairie Creek State Park.

Beginning in the 1940s, 50 years of industrial logging took place across 80,000 acres, or about two-thirds of the forests that would later become part of Redwood National and State Park.



Thought to be the most efficient way to produce wood, clearcut logging took all the trees and destroyed the understory in the process. Soil was exposed to erosion. The roads necessary for logging were created without regard to water quality. Here a "Humboldt crossing," made of logs and dirt allowed some water to pass. These crossings ultimately washed out, filling the creeks with debris and sediment. Notice the foreground stump and follow it through time.

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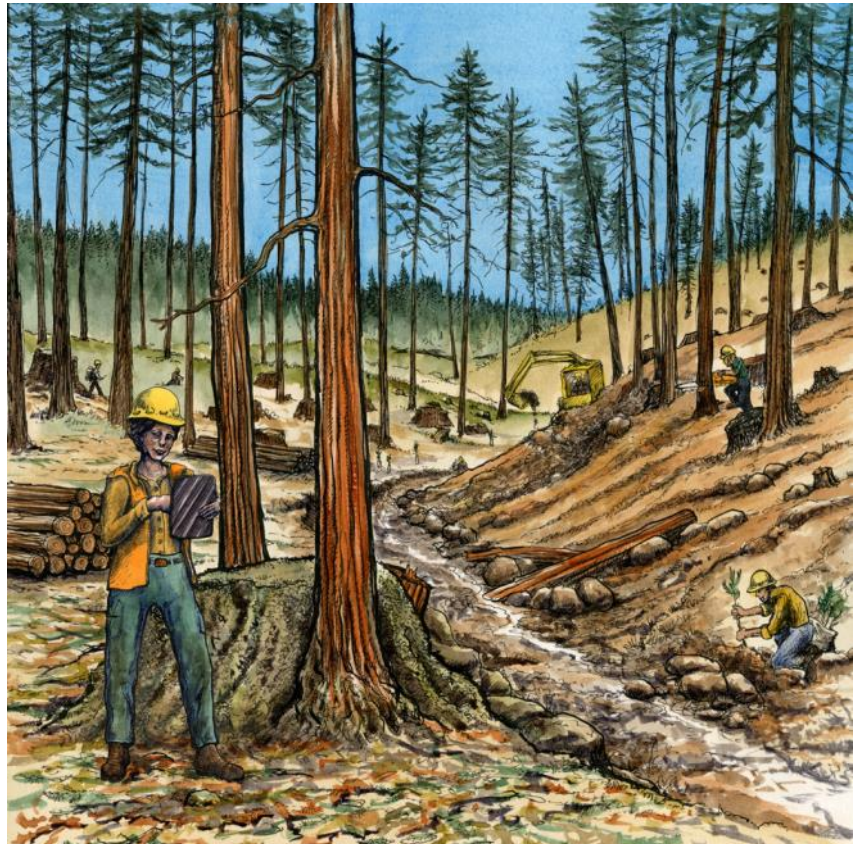


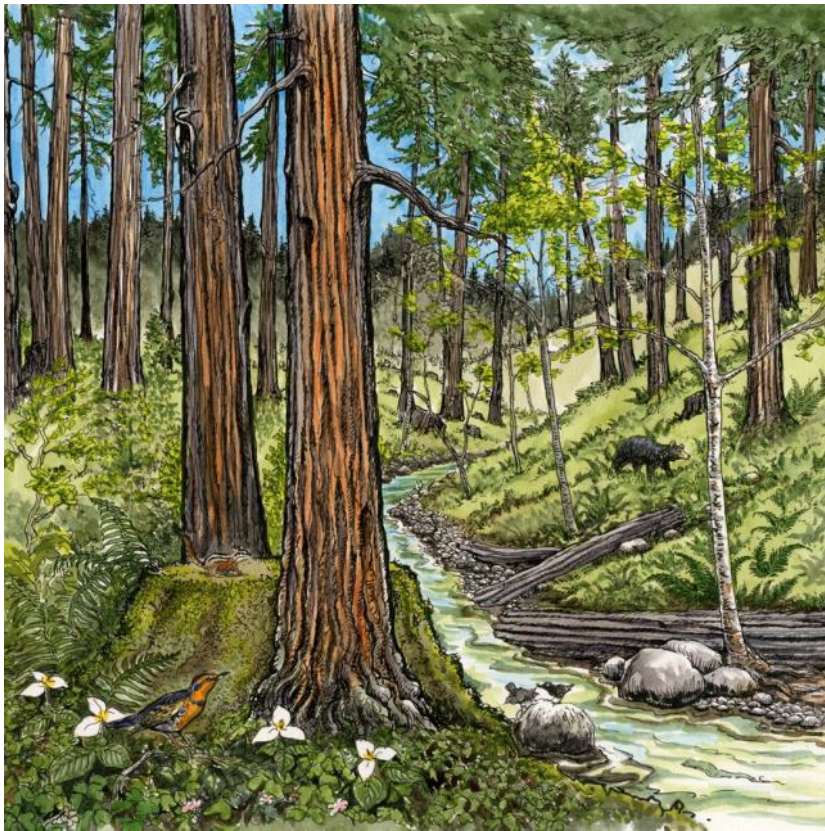
Thirty years after logging, these areas' young forests are dense, dark, and unhealthy. They contain hundreds of miles of eroding and failing logging roads and stream crossings.

Notice the high density of tree trunks, the barren forest floor, the failed stream crossing, the small, muddy creek, the four shoots sprouted from the Redwood stump, Competition among these trees for light, nutrients, and water is fierce. Many have already died, fallen behind in the race for light. This forest is very flammable. Plant and animal diversity is very low. Without intervention this self-thinning process might eventually, after millenia, produce a forest of diverse ages and diverse species.

Today, Redwoods Rising is working to undo this damage by thinning the parks' young dense forests, restoring streams, and removing old logging roads.

The foresters and machinery return to the forest, this time to select trees to retain and cut down the rest, to let in light and reduce competition. Notice only two sprouts remain on the foreground stump. The pile of logs shows that disposing of the cut trees is a problem when no road is nearby to haul them out. Bulldozers and excavators, sometimes with the same operators who made the roads, return to regrade the slope, erasing the logging road, using the fill reclaimed from the stream crossing. Machinery and humans strategically place rocks and trunks in streams to create curves and pools. Planting streamside species speeds up the development of a diverse forest.





Ten years after restoration, the remaining trees are thriving and storing more carbon. The understory is filling out. Salmon and other wildlife are returning.

Finally the forest floor can be green again. Familiar forest plants are back. The sponge effect of the many-layered forest keeps the stream flowing, clear enough and productive enough for Dippers to live in it. Larger wildlife, like the bear, can find what they need here.

One hundred years after restoration, the forest is showing all the signs of a healthy second-growth forest. Large trees are anchoring a fire-resilient old-growth forest in the making and storing carbon at an incredible rate.

The stream now has a fully developed riparian edge and supports spawning salmon, bringing additional nutrients into the forest. The two trunks on the foreground stump have started growing together, and burls have formed.



The In-person, In-flower Wildflower Show

by Carol Ralph

With the 40th annual Spring Wildflower Show our volunteers brought the public back into the wonderful, in-person world of wildflowers, again generously hosted by Jefferson Community Center in Eureka.

By any measure it was a great show. The tables were festooned with flowers; visitors were engaged with flowers and upstairs displays; happy conversations were frequent; numerous people told me (Did they tell anyone else?) they really enjoyed the show. Our attendance (567 visitors) was similar to pre-covid shows. I don't know how many species we had, but we had some species never brought to the show before. The show is an educational activity, not required to make a profit, but we appreciate the generous donations and the purchases that people made. We especially value the personal contact with the visitors.

Our new Wildflower Trail succeeded in directing people through the upstairs room on the way to the downstairs room, so that they saw the entire show. The various volunteer native plant garden projects and volunteer invasive plant removal projects all got sign-ups on their lists. They recruited more people to help native plants, in town and in natural areas.

Happy visitors, usually children, created wildflower art at an art table. Many added their art to the Little Free Wildflower Art Gallery in the room. (Twenty-two of these galleries were placed around towns for all of April and May up to Mothers Day.) Some visitors appreciated tours of the native plant landscape at Jefferson Community Center.

Twelve people brought in plants or photos to be identified. Most were indeed wild plants--not purposely planted. All but one were weeds from in their gardens. It is important to recognize these non-native species as well as the native. Out in the wild they are not labeled!

Here is the talented crew that helped spread the wonder and importance of wild plants by putting on our show (in random order):

Ann Burroughs
Elaine Allison
Ezra Huebner
Ashley Shannon
Bianca Hayashi
Barbara Russell
Carol Moné
CJ Ralph
Carol Ralph
Clint Pogue
Courtney Otto
David Callow

Ned Forsyth
Elaine Weinreb
Andrea Taylor
Sonja Schultze-Huff
Sarah Norvell
June James
Julie Weeder
Karen Isa
Kelsey McDonald
Kathryn Johnson
Kale McNeil
Larry Levine

Vanessa Mamewecke
Laura Julian
Laurel Goldsmith
Maria Morrow
Nancy Brockington
Robin Halloran
Roman Futoma
Karen Burgesser and the
Eureka Sequoia Garden Club
Gretchen Ziegler and the
Sequoia Park Zoo
Katrina Henderson and
California State Parks
Jessie Bunkley and Seawood
Cape Preserve
Gabe Cashman & the
Green Diamond crew

Katy Allen
Tom Allen
Tony LaBanca
Dayna Mauer
Mark Mauer
Wanda Naylor
Susan Penn
Annie Reid
Ben Lardiere
Patty Sennott
Sydney Larson
Kit Mann
Rebecca Zettler
Steph Morian
Charlie
Jessica Heiden
Trey Polesky



Family portrait:
Lily Family



Morning Light by Nancy Brockington. Jars awaiting flowers during show set-up.

The invasive species display attracts much attention at the Wildflower Show. These are wild, non-native species that grow aggressively enough to affect ecosystems in Humboldt County



Spring Plant Sale Thank You's

I would like to thank everyone who helped with our recent spring plant sale, which was, yet again, the best plant sale we have had! Normally on Sundays the sales tend to be slower, but not this time. We were busy both days, right up to the end. After the sale, the nursery looked so empty, but only for a brief time. Once we moved back in all the plants that were too small to sell and the 30 flats of starts at my house, we once again looked like a productive nursery.

Thanks to everyone who worked so hard preparing everything for the sale. There are so many different components in getting ready for the sale and working the sale itself. I would like to thank those who took the plant inventory and turned it into our website plant list; updated our website with the information needed to come to our sale; set up Sign-Up Genius; ordered plant labels; printed plant labels; made new informational plant signs; got publicity out; put the plant sale posters into various locations and handbills at local nurseries; helped clean-up and weed-



Adding labels. Photo by Kellie Johnson

-eat the space; put labels in the plants; found volunteers to help; reorganized the nursery space; put out all of the plants we received from participating nurseries; got all signage and informational plant signs out; did traffic control and helped attendees park; greeted people, ensuring that they were on our list of those who had made appointments as well as informing folks who wanted to come in how to sign up; assisted with plant selection and answered questions; processed plant purchases; collected boxes; helped get plants to vehicles; sold CNPS merchandise; restocked and re-arranged the tables to keep them full of plants and cleaned up; put things away after the sale and put all of the not-for-sale-yet plants back onto tables in the nursery. 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 our wonderful volunteers, many of whom worked multiple days in multiple tasks: Jessi vanFloto, Celeste Thaine, Laura Guldin, Sue Halpin, Tim Gilbride-Read, Stephen Underwood, Richard Beresford, Brian Dorman, Barbara Reisman, Ann Burroughs, Sharon King, Chris Brant, Randi Swedenburg, Nancy Brockington, Karen Isa, Anita Gilbride-Read, Rebecca Zettler, Kit Mann, Sue Marquette, Ron and Joyce Melin, David Callow, Kate Rowe, Ashley Dickinson, Gary Fredricksen, Callie Almand, Alice Ford-Sala, Mark Mauer, Dayna Mauer, June James, Leonard and Susan Thorsell, Jessica Heiden, Kevin Richards, Katrina Henderson, Kellie Johnson, Meeka and Samara O'Connor, and Sam O'Connell. Thank you again for all your tremendous help! I would also like to thank volunteers who take on specific tasks:

I can't thank Barbara Reisman enough for all she does for the nursery and plant sale. In addition to working 2 weekly workdays and covering for me when I am gone, she orders

plant labels, sets up Sign-Up Genius for plant sale attendance, and signs up folks who have difficulty with the program. Thank you, Barbara, for all you do!

Chris Brant weed-whacked and cleaned up the area where we put our pop-up canopies. Thank you, Chris! Mark Mauer did an area-specific touch up just before the plant sale to help things look their best.

Kellie Johnson is our computer whiz. She took our plant list and made it look much better, re-organized and updated current scientific and common names, and made it easier to use. I saw lots of folks at the sale with lists they were specifically looking for, something that makes an advisor's job much easier. Kellie also updates our website with information about the plant sale and the nursery. Thank you, Kellie, for all your help!

Sam O'Connell continues to help with plant signs. She checks existing signs against the plant sale list, making new ones or re-doing ones that need it. Thanks so much Sam, I appreciate that you take this on every plant sale!

Anita Gilbride-Read, in addition to overseeing cashiering as our chapter's treasurer, also coordinated and found all the volunteers to assist with pre-sale activities as well as the actual plant sale. Thank you so much Anita!

Thanks to Brian Dorman for picking up plants at Samara Restoration. He filled his truck bed, double-stacked, which he carefully drove to the nursery. In addition to Brian, Richard Beresford, Ron and Joyce Melin, Tim and Anita Gilbride-Read, Callie Almand and I all went to help with plant pickup. We got over 650 plants. Thanks so much Brian and everyone else for helping with this!

A very special thank you to Ann Burroughs who continues to print our waterproof stickers for us. She also prints labels for some of the nurseries. Thanks Ann, for continuing to help us out with all our plant labels!

A special thanks to Karen Isa, who started collecting boxes weeks before our sale. In addition Karen also keeps track of, organizes and sells all the CNPS merchandise at our sales. Thanks, Karen, for all of your hard work!

I sincerely hope that I have thanked and acknowledged everyone who was involved in our spring plant sale. If not, I apologize for the oversight.



A happy shopper!
Photo by Sharon King

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Thank you's – Nursery

The CNPS nursery is, as always, a very busy place with the growing and tending all the plants that we had available for our recent spring plant sale. There is never any shortage of work to do! I find it very satisfying to see all of our plants grow from little seedlings into 1-gallon-sized plants ready to go into folks' gardens.

Thanks to: Barbara Reisman, Carol Ralph, Karen Isa, Sharon King, Brian Dorman, Joan Tippetts, Laura Guldin, Anita Gilbride-Read, Jessi vanFloto, , Nancy Brockington, Ava Biscoe, Rebecca Zettler, David Callow, Christy Wagner, Kate Rowe, Kit Mann, Ron Melin, Julie Neander, Marina Gagarina, Gordon Leppig, Celeste Thaine, Kevin Richards, Kellie Johnson, Marcia Thorndike, Stephen Underwood, Callie Almand, Jessica Heiden, Joann Kerns, Breanna Silbory, Trey Polesky, Alice Ford-Sala, Ann Burroughs, June Janes, Ryan Archambault, Dayna Mauer, Mark Mauer, Janet Stock, Angie Petroske, Justin Harden, Camryn H., Emily Shaw and Sylvia Vanroyen for all of your help these past few months. All our volunteers work hard growing plants so we can fund the chapter's many activities and scholarships, as well as help to raise awareness of the importance of planting native plants in our gardens and landscapes.

I would especially like to thank Barbara Reisman for taking the lead when I am gone. She regularly goes above and beyond, often going to the nursery on days when we aren't there to work on special projects, clean-up, and get things organized. Thanks so much Barbara for all your help!

We also have a dedicated team of volunteers lead by Barbara Reisman who waters our shade house plants that are not on a timed sprinkler system. They also check to make sure that the sprinklers are watering as they should be and the demonstration garden and help us monitor the health of our plants. Thanks to Christy Wagner, Jessica Heiden, Troy Polesky and Sharon King for regularly watering our plants, no small task.

A very special thanks to the California Conservation Corp, Fortuna, for their help in moving the last of the 20 yards of gravel. They worked a second Saturday putting gravel in the nursery and filling in the new pad for our plant stand. Thanks to Tiffany Perez, Luke McCan, Nicolas Loera, Beau Barrett, J. Kendrick, Jaime Velazquez, Luis Figueroa, Bee Zorion, Jesse Garza, Max Mendes de Lion, Elliotte Courts, Ricky, Amelia Tracy, Elana Dorey, Fabiola Perex, Charlotte DiMaggio, Julie Piccioni for all your hard work. You guys are just awesome!

A special thanks to Richard Beresford and Tim Gilbride-Read for leveling and framing in our new plant stand pad. They both are always willing to help with special projects when we ask them to. Thanks Richard and Tim!

Pip Printing in Downey Calif. printed up new dates for our plant sale banners (which they also printed for us) as well as printed the large original art area designation signs for our demonstration garden. They gave us the 100% mom discount, thanks Matt and Nicole!

Rebecca Zettler, pot washer extraordinaire, came up with a unique solution to help us with bleaching pots at the nursery. We place them in a large trash can to sterilize. She also made a round netting cage to fit inside the trash can which is easily lifted out to reach all the pots. Thanks, Rebecca, for coming up with a creative solution.

Kellie Johnson has taken on the role of being our volunteer coordinator. She welcomes our new volunteers and is also doing more nursery postings to Facebook. Once the plant stand is back up, she will be updating the list of plants on the stand for both the website and Facebook.

As many of you saw at our plant sale, the demonstration garden continues to grow and fill in and is looking amazing. I saw many attendees in our garden looking at plants. Getting the plant signs in with the scientific and common names of our plants has made a big difference.

Thanks to everyone who helps with our chapter's nursery! We could not do this without all of you.

Volunteers needed

If you are looking for a way to make a meaningful contribution to help spread the importance of native plants, we can always use more help at our chapter's volunteer-run nursery located at Freshwater Farms Reserve, 5851 Myrtle Ave, right by 3 Corners.

Our nursery operations support the activities that our chapter engages in, from paying our NEC membership, EcoNews page and EcoNews mailings to supporting other non-profit organizations to providing scholarships for college students as well as supporting all of the costs of our nursery. Contact us at northcoastcnps@gmail.org and Kellie will get back to you.

Native Plant Week

We decided to have an open garden for Native Plant Week on Saturday April 16th from 1-4. Barbara Reisman and I were on hand to greet folks who showed up to see the demonstration garden at the nursery. We didn't do much publicity for the event as parking is limited and we were not sure what to expect, but we were both pleasantly surprised by the steady flow of folks coming to see the garden. We answered lots of plant questions. Many visitors wrote down names of plants that they wanted and asked questions about specific plants. It was a fun afternoon and a great way to show off our garden.

Plant Stand

The Farmstand at Freshwater Farms Reserve will be having a grand opening on the summer solstice, June 21st. As I write this, the hours and days that the Farmstand will be open are not yet in place. Please check our website (<https://northcoastcnps.org>) for the days and hours that it will be open. We will post it there and on Facebook when we know more.

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Small-flowered Tonella. It is indeed small! By Gail Kenny

trailside just before Coon Creek, I sat beside the early, yellow, composite flowers of Spring Gold (*Crocidium multicaule*), an annual. I stared at an unfamiliar shrub and decided it must be Holly-leaf Red-berry (*Rhamnus ilicifolius*).

The slope below the trail looked grass-covered, but close inspection, including feeling the dark green, long, smooth, slightly fleshy leaves revealed much of it was a carpet of green leaves of native bulbs. These could be young Firecracker Flower, Blue Dicks, ookows, triteleias or brodiaeas. Most of these grass-like leaves were from bulbs too small to bloom this year, but they signal an extraordinary abundance of underground plant parts. These California bulbs were part of the floral abundance Europeans discovered in California, part of the natural world native Americans were tending and harvesting from time immemorial.

Even some of the slow-pokes on our expedition wanted to make it to Lewisia Lookout, so we pressed on, crossing Coon Creek at its last pool. Despite the dry streambed below that point, Mist Maiden (*Romanzoffia californica*) was happily blooming on a rock. We passed through a Tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*) stand, bypassed the one fallen-tree obstacle, traversed a Canyon Oak woodland and then chaparral. The palette of plants changed as the exposure (north, south, west) and rockiness changed. Slope steepness was a constant, with the South Fork Trinity River out of sight way below. Cream Cups (*Platystemon californicus*) delighted us. White-flowered Baby Blue-eyes (*Nemophila menziesii* var. *atomaria*) puzzled us, as it occasionally was blue! The rock outcrops always harbored new species--Broad-leaved Stonecrop (*Sedum spathulifolium*) and Mertens' Saxifrage (*Saxifraga mertensiana*) if shady, lupine, and phacelia if sunny. Draws that in previous years seeped water supporting monkeyflowers etc., this year were totally dry. Where the trail rounded a bend after this, emerging to a rocky outcrop with views up- and down-river (This is the second place with river vistas.), we knew to look for Siskiyou Lewisia (aka Cliff Maids, *Lewisia cotyledon*). The Mountain Mahogany

(*Cercocarpus betuloides*), Buckbrush (?), (*Ceanothus cuneatus*), and paintbrush (*Castilleja* sp.) were blooming, but the Siskiyou Lewisia (Cliff Maids, *Lewisia cotyledon*) was merely promising a good show, as its flower buds were almost all closed. Only a few of the pure, pink flowers were open. We noted the leaves, because the Jepson key for Lewisia says that if the leaf margin (edge) is flat and smooth, the plant is variety *cotyledon*, not rare. If the leaf margin is dentate (toothed), the plant is variety *heckneri*, listed as rare (1B.2). If the leaf margin is wavy, the plant is variety *howellii*, rare enough to need review (3.2). We thought the leaves had tiny teeth and were a little bit wavy. So which variety is it? Given that these differences define varieties, not subspecies or species, there must be gradations and variations within them. We'll just enjoy these charismatic plants and let taxonomists work out the details!

One day is always too short for this trail. Some of our group made it past the next creek, Hell's Half-



Siskiyou Lewisia leaves--toothed or wavy? By the author

acre Creek, and across the cliff face beyond it. Rarely do botanizers make it all the way to the river. We passed 18 other people on the trail this day. Surely it is one of the most popular in Six Rivers National Forest. It is certainly the closest to population centers. Curiously, on the Forest's website there is no information on it. The Forest Service did noble service clearing South Fork Rd. after the snow and wind storm last winter that felled so many trees even Highway 299 was closed for days. Indeed, fallen trees were common on the slopes the trail crossed. Any that had fallen on the trail were cleared, apparently thanks to a lone hiker who enjoys using his chainsaw. One of our group on a different day on this trail had encountered him. I wish we could thank him! Before heading out to South Fork Trinity Trail, it is wise to call the ranger station in Willow Creek (530-629-2118) to ask the condition of the road and trail.

Want to see all these pictures in color? Check our website to see issues on-line!

Field Trip Report: Bee Friendly Farm

By Tristan Cole

Nestled among the rugged western foothills of the Trinity Alps lies a gorgeously flat and fertile slice of heaven known by host Brian Dykstra as The Bee Friendly Farm. The dozens of bee species that inhabit and visit the farm probably know it as “the best foraging ground in town.” Brian has worked tirelessly to cultivate a diverse variety of native wildflowers that serve both native bees and native peoples.

As a follow-up to Brian’s March 9 evening presentation to our chapter, our group of about 20 stopped into Brian’s farm on a beautiful sunny spring day to take a tour and learn more about his operation. The farm is situated on a river terrace above



Photo by Karen Isa

the Trinity River. Historically, the river oxbowed through this area, but as it migrated away and straightened out, it deposited deep, rich alluvial soils. Brian speculated that before colonization, this area was a mature oak woodland, dominated by California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) and Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*), and was heavily managed by the native peoples inhabiting the area. This is evidenced by the fire scars visible on some of the remaining oaks and other hardwoods in the area. European settlers drove the native people from this land and cleared oaks to more effectively grow hay and ranch cattle.

After an introduction to the farm and a background on the land’s history, Brian took us around to see the diverse array of flowers growing on the farm. This is when the oohs and ahhs really started coming. Stands of lacy phacelia (*Phacelia tanacetifolia*) in full flower and nearly waist-high were abuzz with both native and non-native bees. Rows of California chia (*Salvia columbariae*) had the group on their hands and knees with their hand lenses and camera lenses ogling the dainty purple flowers tucked into a crown of prickly bracts! The five spot (*Nemophila maculate*) and bird’s eye gilia (*Gilia tricolor*) were also flowering,

adding lovely splashes of white and purple. But Brian isn’t just growing flowers for native bees and plant enthusiasts. He also harvests the seed of the California chia, two species of tarweeds (*Madia spp.*), and red maids (*Calandrinia menziesii*), which he shares with local tribal members. The seeds of these species were historically part of Native American diets throughout much of California, but the knowledge of how to prepare them is waning. Brian works with local elders to teach the younger generations the different ways to consume the nutritious seeds of these plants.

Across the street from Bee Friendly Farm is a unique hydrologic feature called Patterson Pond. This year-round wetland/pond is fed by a series of artesian wells and attracts a variety of wildlife while also supporting a diversity of plant life. When we visited, the water level in the pond was still high so we weren’t able to botanize much of the lakeshore, but nonetheless we found a handful of species: snakeroot (*Sanicula crassicaulis*), musk monkeyflower (*Erythranthe moschata*), broadleaf plantain (*Plantago major*), dock (*Rumex spp.*), water plantain (*Alisma triviale*), pennyroyal (*Mentha pulegium*), spikerush (*Eleocharis sp.*), and many others. Unfortunately, none of these plants were flowering, but those of us who raised our gaze from the itty-bitty plants at our feet were enthused to find bright white highlights of Pacific flowering dogwood (*Cornus nuttallii*) on the surrounding hillsides. What joy!

WHAT’S BLOOMING AT THE ARCATA COMMUNITY CENTER NATIVE PLANT AND WILDLIFE GARDEN

By Pete Haggard

Although we are still in another drought year—as of 7 May Eureka is tied with 2021’s rainfall total of approximately 23 inches, which is 14 inches below normal—the late rains have been very helpful for emerging spring plants. *Trillium* sp. and *Lilium* sp. have never looked healthier, with thick stems and many flowering stalks. Woody plants like manzanitas and Pacific wax myrtle (*Morella californica*) have also benefited from the late wet weather, producing lots of flowers and beautiful fruit. This fall and winter birds will in turn benefit from the copious output of fruit.

Achillea millefolium

Arctostaphylos Columbiana: fruit exceptionally beautiful this year.

Calamagrostis nutkaensis: in flower and looking very nice.

Diplacus (Mimulus) aurantiacus: lots of plants and lots of bloom.

Sidalcea malviflora

Sidalcea malachroides: bushes covered with white flowers.

Trillium ovatum

Volunteer opportunity at the Trinidad Museum Native Plant Garden

The Trinidad Museum Native Plant Garden was established in 2006 to:

- * Showcase the beautiful native plants of the Trinidad area, especially those growing on the Head and in the state parks, and
- * Inspire people to garden with locally-native plants.

The Museum's Native Plant Garden Page describes how the garden came to be and hosts a list of the native plants it supports. Volunteers designed and established the garden and continue to maintain several plant communities there, including a vernal pond used by native frogs and salamanders and a meadow with many grass species and a 'bug hotel' that supports critical life stages of native insect species such as solitary bees.

Open every day, the garden is a beautiful and serene destination frequented by locals and visitors. It also provides a rich learning experience for gardeners and anyone who appreciates nature where fully grown, labeled specimens of plants native to Trinidad can be observed and enjoyed.

There are a lot of fun and gratifying tasks to keep up with at the garden, and more volunteer help is needed. No experience is necessary, as volunteers learn as they go. Please consider helping out. Existing volunteers advise new arrivals about what garden tasks are most needed at the time, demonstrate how to do them, and show newcomers how to distinguish natives from non-natives, especially when they are very small. Volunteering helps native plant enthusiasts build confidence in identifying native plants and invasive weeds at various points in their life cycles, and to learn to care for these plants in a garden setting.

Volunteers gather at the garden at 400 Janis Court in Trinidad on Sundays from about 10 to 12, weather permitting. Please email ingridhaven@gmail.com to be included in the volunteer coordination email list. If you have any questions, please email garden co-chairs Ingrid Bailey (ingridhaven@gmail.com) and Mary Kline (humboldtmary@gmail.com), and helper Julie Weeder (jweeder557@gmail.com), or call Ingrid at 707-845-7785. That way, at least one of us can respond.



VOLUNTEER CORNER

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 at 707-822-2015 or theralphs@humboldt1.com

THANK YOU!

Marisa St. John for twelve years as Editor of our newsletter (a legacy of about 48 issues), four years as a serious contributor to our conservation efforts as Local Land Use Lead, more than two years as Secretary, one year as our representative to the Northcoast Environmental Center, as well as being master of our email communication system, advisor on the website, and a reliably active participant in the Steering Committee during that time. We benefited greatly from and greatly appreciate the skill, dedication, and energy that Marisa brought the chapter. Marisa was awarded the Gilded Darlingtonia Award in 2016 for her exemplary service to the chapter, CNPS, and native plants.

Chris Beresford for leading the nursery team and the plant sales to new heights.

Susan Thorsell for a well-organized year of interesting evening programs.

Karen Isa for designing and constructing a sturdy, convenient carry-case for the large, flat display items that we use at our table at events.

Donna Wildearth, Barbara Reisman, and Carol Ralph for an informative, inspiring tour of the nursery for the Master Gardener class.

WELCOME ABOARD!

Gabe Cashman as Secretary.

Donna Wildearth as Program Chair. If you can recommend a speaker, contact her!

Ashley Shannon as Social Media Lead. She always needs photos!

HELP NEEDED!

Conservation Committee. Follow a conservation issue of your interest, or attend conservation meetings for our chapter.

Representative to the NEC board. Bringing the native plant perspective to management of the Northcoast Environmental Center.

Publicity. Organize our publicity net so that deadlines don't slip past. Three main events/year.

Protect Pollinators:

News from the State

AB 2146 would prohibit most outdoor, non-agricultural uses of neonicotinoid insecticides

The California State Assembly voted 45-14 to pass AB 2146, a bill authored by Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan that would restrict most outdoor, non-agricultural uses of neonicotinoid insecticides, or “neonics.” A large and growing body of evidence identifies neonics as a leading cause of widespread pollinator declines and also links widespread neonic contamination with mass bird losses, aquatic ecosystem collapse, and risks to human health.

“Bees are the backbone of our state’s ecosystem” said the author, Assemblymember BauerKahan (D-Orinda), “California is far behind other states and countries in limiting these highly toxic chemicals. We must address the home and garden uses that seriously threaten ecological and human health.”

California beekeepers lost 41.9% of their honey bee colonies last year, the second worst annual loss on record. But European honeybees aren’t the only ones in peril; California is home to over 1,600 native bee species, many of which are also struggling. These and other insect pollinators are critical to California’s agricultural economy, helping to pollinate crops worth upwards of \$11 billion annually.

“Today’s vote brings California one step closer to being a national leader in addressing harmful neonic contamination,” said Lucas Rhoads, a staff attorney at NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council). “This bill benefits everyone—our struggling pollinators, Californians who care about clean water and healthy ecosystems, and farmers who depend on pollinators to grow their crops. Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan’s leadership made it possible and we look forward to our continued work together to ensure that this urgently needed bill passes the full legislature as soon as possible.”

Neonics are extraordinarily toxic to insects—just one square foot of grass treated with a typical neonic lawn product at approved levels can contain enough neonics to kill one million bees. Neonics can also remain in soil for years and move easily through the environment in irrigation or rainwater. As a result, they broadly contaminate California’s environment; state water testing found neonics in 92% of surface water samples in urban areas of Southern California.

“The damage inflicted by neonics is far greater than the fleeting value they purport to offer,” said Laura Deehan, Environment California state director. “A

perfectly manicured lawn or rose garden isn’t worth the destruction of our bee populations, which are vital to our environment and our food systems. Passing this bill is so meaningful because it ups the odds that California’s meadows and gardens continue to buzz with the sound of bees.”

Widespread neonic contamination also threatens more than bees. Neonic contamination has been linked with mass losses of birds, about 30% of which have disappeared in the past 50 years. They have also been linked with the collapse of fisheries and a variety of other harms to wildlife—including birth defects in deer.

“Each one of us depends on the vital relationship between our plants and pollinators, and AB 2146 is a much-needed step toward protecting the integrity of that interplay,” said Andrea Williams, director of Biodiversity Initiatives for the California Native Plant Society. “We’re grateful to Asm. Bauer-Kahan for her leadership on this important legislation and thrilled to see it moving forward.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, half the U.S. population is exposed to neonics on a regular basis—a concerning statistic given that studies suggest that neonics may increase risk of developmental or neurological damage in humans, including malformations of the developing heart and brain, memory loss, and finger tremors.

AB 2146, co-sponsored by NRDC, Environment California, and the California Native Plant Society, would prohibit most outdoor, non-agricultural uses of the five major neonics, while allowing certain treatments, like those to combat invasive species. The bill now advances to the California State Senate.

Contacts: NRDC | Kari Birdseye, kbirdseye@nrdc.org CNPS | Liv O’Keeffe, lokeeffe@cnps.org Environment California | Laura Deehan, Ideehan@environmentcalifornia.org





CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT
SOCIETY

California Native Plants

At a Glance

California has

6,500
NATIVE PLANTS

More types of native plants than any other state in the U.S.



California is one of

36 GLOBAL
BIODIVERSITY
HOTSPOTS

One-third of California's plants are found *nowhere* else on Earth!



Our state flower is the

CALIFORNIA POPPY
(*Eschscholzia californica*)

This bright orange native annual heralds the arrival of spring throughout the state.

California's *smallest* native plant is

WATERMEAL
(*Wolffia*),
around 1mm long!



2,428

of our state's native plants are *rare*.

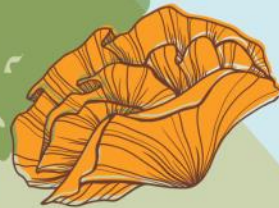
1,355

of those rare native plants *only* live in California.



Fun Fact

California has **41** native poppies!



California's **BIGGEST** native plant by volume is the

GIANT SEQUOIA TREE
(*Sequoiadendron giganteum*)

If you've ever tried to hug one, you'll know what we mean. The largest ones are over 300 feet tall and over 30 feet in diameter.

30
FT.

300
FT.

California's oldest plant is also one of the **OLDEST** in the world.



THE GREAT BASIN BRISTLECONE PINE

(*Pinus longaeva*)

is a gnarled elder that can live for thousands of years.

THANK YOU NEW MEMBERS

Annie Barbeau
Caroline Martorano
Carrie Donohue
Claudia Voigt
Craig Swift
Dana Wade
Daniel Chaidez
Doris Law Bagley
Elaine Hanson
Eloise Dresser
Emily Baxter
Jennifer Formoso
Jessica Beckstrom
Jude Hawk
Judith French
Karen Carnot
Kathleen Labelle
Kathryn Johnson
Kristy Godfrey
Laure Grinnell
Linda Dunbaugh
Lisa Cole
Lynn Siler
Maria Morrow
Marion Thayer
Marisa Silva
Nancy Kuykendall
Pam Bolton
Scott Sherman
Signe Nicklas
Taylor Johnson
Terence Edwards
Terry Allaway
Todd Heiler

THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS

Christian Hernandez	Claire Perricelli
Christine Wilson	Colette Beaupre
Debra Sally	Connie Doyle
Dominic Dipaolo	Connor Gadek
Jeff Hinchliffe	Courtney Copper
Mary Guibert	Cynthia Hammond
Michael Cochran	Dave Dobak
Mimi Clarke	David Ford
Anda Webb	Debra Harrison
Andrea LoPinto	Dinah Carl
Andrea Taylor	Ed Schreiber
Ann Burroughs	Elizabeth McGee-Houghton
Anna Replogle	Gabe Cashman
Ayala Talpai	Ginevra Ryman
Barbara Sopjes	Helen Constantine-Shull
Bojan Ingle	Ilene Richards
Brendan Thompson	Ingrid Bailey
Bret Harvey	Jack Shnell
Caitlin Davis	James McIntosh
Caitlyn Allchin	Jane Bothwell
Charles Hudson	Janet Stock
Charles Kelly	Janice Carter
Chet Boddy	Jeanne Tolmasoff
Chris Jenican-Beresford	Jeff Hogue
Christine Holm	Jennifer Cilker
Claire Brown	

Jennifer Hanson
Jennifer Leos
Jessica Wilson
John Dixon
John Longshore
John McRae
Jonathan Hill
Kale McNeill
Karen Hildebrand
Katherine Clague
Kathryn Rowe
Kathy Pitts
Katrina Henderson
Kjirsten Wayman
Larry Blakely
Leece Oliver Larue
Leonard Thorsell
Linda Hilburn
Linda Miller
Lisa Hoover
Maria Freeman
Marjorie Adams
Mark Youdall
Michael Mesler
Michele Kamprath
Michele Palazzo
Mignonne Bivin
Monica Scholey
Morgan Cook
Nancy Wood
Oona Paloma

Oscar Vargas
Pam Partee
Patricia Dougherty
Paul Abels
Paul Barth
Peter Ryan
Peter Veilleux
Petra Unger
Rebecca Manion
Robert LaChance
Robert Wunner
Rodney Rowan Chandler
Ron Johnson
Sallie Grover
Sheila Concannon
Stanley Hino
Susan Whaley
Tamar Danufsky
Thorvald Holmes
Tim Doty
Tom Lisle
Tristan Cole
Valerie Gizinski
Van Donohue
Wayne Clark
Myra Beals
Nancy Dye
Nancy Lloyd

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Support these local businesses and receive discounts on your purchases with proof of 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 plant purchases, 822-7049

*Miller Farms: 5% discount on plant materials, 839-1571

*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

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

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS/CONTACTS

President	Carol Ralph	707-822-2015	theralphs@humboldt1.com
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NEC CNPS Representative	vacant		
Conservation Issues Analyst	Joan Tippetts	415-283-9198	jtippetts@yahoo.co.uk

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**: To subscribe, go to <northcoastcnps.groups.io/g/activities>
- **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 Chelsea at nec@yournec.org

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.

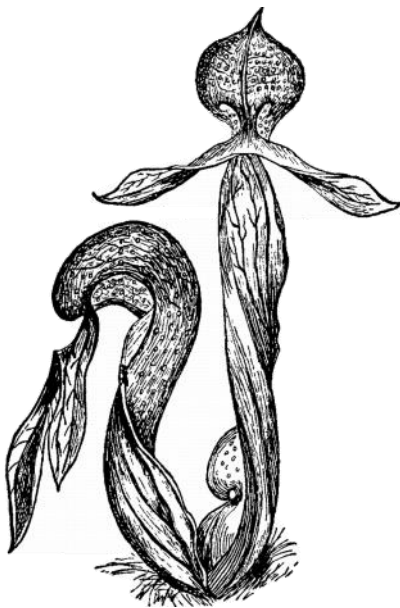
Contact our coordinator at nc.cnps.consult@gmail.com to put you in touch with volunteer consultants who will arrange a visit to look at what you have and help choose suitable plants for your garden. Please be patient!

**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

June

- 18 Field Trip
- 25 Day Hike