



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
*San Diego Chapter Newsletter*

**CHAPTER MEETING**

**Casa del Prado Room 101  
Balboa Park  
March 19, 2019**

**Schedule**

- 6:30 pm – Natives for Novices
- 7:00 pm – Refreshments, browsing, & socializing.
- 7:30 pm - Announcements
- 7:45 pm – Main Presentation.

Chapter meetings are free and open to the public.

**Natives for Novices:  
Eureka! The rare plants of Orange  
County: Their Distribution,  
Abundance, and Conservation  
Strategies  
by Hailey Laskey**

Hailey's Master's capstone project addresses the spatial characteristics of the rare plants in Orange County to develop future monitoring and management for each species. This work is a continuation of a previous rare plant project through CEB and NCC to compile species occurrences within Orange County. Working with undergraduate UCI interns to compile the data from external and internal sources for 90 species ranked as rare by the CNPS, Hailey will share how data were analyzed to characterize the range, distribution, and recorded abundance of species while identifying gaps or patterns in the data. With this information, Hailey hopes to benefit NCC land managers by providing them an opportunity to address rare species management while choosing a restoration site or allocating resources for monitoring.

**Earthday - April 22**

**Main Presentation:  
From Seed to Seed: Native Plant  
Material Development for Ecological  
Restoration in Southern California  
by Matthew Garrambone**

Matthew will share his experience managing a program that develops site appropriate native plant materials for ecological restoration across multiple habitat types in Southern California. Topics such as: plant palette design, wild seed collection, farming native plants for seed, seed processing and storage, seed testing, and seed test interpretation will all be covered, with a focus on successful strategies and lessons learned over ten years of production.



Matthew Garrambone is a Program Manager - Ecologist for the Irvine Ranch Conservancy (IRC). He oversees a variety of projects, including the development of native plant material for ecological restoration. In this capacity he oversees the collection of genetically local seed from the wild, the production of native plant materials using IRC's native seed farm and plant nurseries, management of a physical and digital seed inventory, and development of custom seed mixes for IRC staff and partners. Matthew has 15 years of experience working with native plants, in both applied and academic settings. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from Northern Arizona University in Environmental Communications, with a minor in Biology, and his M.S. in

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology from University of California Irvine, where his thesis work focused on "Germination Patterns of Coastal Sage Scrub Plant Species."



## BOARD MEETINGS

**Wednesday, March 6, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.** 4010 Morena Blvd, Suite 100, San Diego (Thomas Guide 1248 C4). CNPS-SD Executive Board meetings are always the first Wednesday of the month, except when the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday falls on a holiday. Members are welcome to attend as observers. To add an issue to the agenda, please email [president@cnpsd.org](mailto:president@cnpsd.org).

### Report of February 2019 Board Meeting

With a portion of the profits from our major fund raiser, the Fall Plant Sale, CNPS-SD was able to provide scholarships for 7 people to attend the SDSU Field Botany Identification Class, at a total cost of \$4,845. These scholarships were approved at the meeting. The scholarship recipients range from people with botany degrees who want to expand their knowledge of the California flora to those working as biologists and/or botanists, to students just beginning to learn about plants. In addition, the Board authorized 2 mini-grants: a \$500 mini-grant to the Friends of Famosa Slough to buy native plants to improve habitat and a \$500 mini-grant for purchasing native butterfly host & nectaring plants for the Mt. Carmel High School Native Plant Garden.

The Board received a final report from the workshop coordinators, **Judie Lincer**, **Joseph Sochor**, and **Torrey Neel**, for the Winter Workshop entitled “Putting the Pieces Back in Place: How Restoring Habitat with Native Plants Helps Wildlife,” that was held January 26, 2019 at the Museum of Photographic Arts in Balboa Park. CNPS-SD sold 212 tickets for a total of \$7,235. After the interesting presentations, the Gottlieb Native Garden generously donated their very nice book to every person who attended the workshop. People received a great take home dose of inspiration with these donated books and were appreciative. CNPS-SD always does a survey



after a workshop. According to the surveys, the venue was deemed comfortable, well-suited, and ‘just the right size’; speakers were praised; some participants wanted more in-depth presentations and some found the lunch break too long, though some enjoyed the extra time to wander around Balboa Park. One of the fun experiences of the workshop was having your photo



taken surrounded by native plants, an opportunity set up by **Torrey Neel**.

The Board also received a report regarding the upcoming CNPS-SD Native Plant Garden Tour that will be held on Saturday & Sunday, April 13-14 (<https://www.cnpsd.org/events/gardentour2019>). **Judie Lincer** is the tour coordinator and has selected 15 private gardens and one public garden to be on the tour, and the tour will have 2-4 FYI (Front Yard Inspiration) gardens. She is in regular communication with the Chapter Garden Committee regarding status and updates. The Walter Andersen Nursery (additionally staffed by **Su Kraus** of Moosa Creek Nursery) will be open for plant sales and **Heidi Acosta** has volunteered to help coordinate nursery sales.

**The Chapter needs a Membership Chairperson and a Volunteer Coordinator. If you are interested, please contact the Chapter President, Justin Daniel, at [president@cnpsd.org](mailto:president@cnpsd.org).**

## FIELD TRIPS

### **BORDER BIO BLITZ! Border Field to Otay Mesa Vernal Pools** **Saturday, March 2; 8:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**DIFFICULTY:** EASY to MODERATE ~ 2+ miles.

**PLANT KNOWLEDGE:** Novice to Professional.

**ACCESS:** Open to all, no charge.

**[ALL WEATHER EVENT]**

This Border Bioblitz is sponsored by Botanical Community Development Initiatives (BCDI)

<http://nextgensd.com/border/border-bioblitz-2019/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/600536127054300/>



In joint coordination with **Ron Vanderhoff** of California Native Plant Society - Orange County Chapter and **Bianca Bonilla**, Executive Director of BCDI we'll be headed

out for a great opportunity to contribute to science in one of the most imperiled areas in our state, and perhaps even the country. If we're really lucky we'll hear from **Dr. Sula Vanderplank** and other biologists representing the San Diego Natural History Museum. We're contributing heavily to an exciting citizen science program at one our country's most impacted and controversial development sites. At the Southern US Border with Mexico, the US has erected many different barriers (to variable degrees of intended success), pushing back against a dense crash of civilization from both

sides. From the Tijuana River estuary and Border Field State Park south of Imperial Beach to San Ysidro and further east into Otay Mesa, an amazing and unique array of habitats that exist in a constant state of threat.

The Bio Blitz program aims to identify and log as many species as possible along a team transect (area & path through that area). As we come across different species of plants, we'll take their pictures and upload them to iNaturalist, a mobile app that contributes mightily to citizen driven data gathering. Whether the plant is known or not, the data we get will help to protect these sensitive and threatened habitats from destruction. After orientation, we'll head to a location near the border that will be assigned based on our team size.

This field trip will be geared towards gathering data with teams of dedicated people who are looking to both learn about the border area and the plants and wildlife that live within. The Border Bio-blitz portion will be in the morning until lunch and then afterwards, a great treat: we'll get a custom tour of a vernal pool complex engineered by one of the most experienced environmental consultants in Southern California, **Scott McMillan**.

Bring snacks and gear for any weather, including sunscreen and water. Please familiarize yourself with iNaturalist on your smart phone if you haven't used the app before. We'll upload all data to the San Diego Plant Atlas Project. If you have a good macro lens camera that can upload the pics to the internet, you can share the pics that way as well.

**VEHICLES:** All vehicles ok. We'll be meeting at the Tijuana River National Estuary Research Center for a brief orientation on methodology, survey boundaries, and team formation. We will likely then carpool to the paved Border Field State Park parking lot or other parking location.

**CARPOOL:** I will provide my truck (black Toyota Tundra) with three (maybe 4) seats from Fashion Valley Mall Transit Center parking area nearest Fashion Valley Rd (west end of the mall) from 7:00 to 7:10 am. Be prepared to drive if space fills up. Parking at the Transit Center parking lot is free for 24 hrs and is occasionally patrolled by security. That being said, the same risks apply there as to regular street parking. Donations for gas are welcome, but not required. The roundtrip is about 42 miles. Expect to return to Fashion Valley around 2 pm.

**LOCATION & DIRECTIONS:** 301 Caspian Way, Imperial Beach. We'll meet first at the Tijuana River National Estuary Center at 8:00 am. Take I-5 South and exit at Coronado Ave in Imperial Beach. Head West and turn at 3rd St or 4th St by the Imperial Beach Sports Park. The Center is on Caspian Way.

## **Whale Peak and the Pictograph Trail Falls Sunday, March 10; 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**DIFFICULTY:** EASY 2.5 miles and/or HARD 8.5 miles.

**PLANT KNOWLEDGE:** Beginner to Novice, Professionals always welcome!

**ACCESS:** Open to all, no charge.

**[SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS EVENT (Temps above 95°F or storm/flood)]**



Last year, we made a great loop about Anza-Borrego State Park's Little Blair Valley, also known as the Mohave Pocket for the wide array of Mohavean species that survive there separated from their kin to the far north. Now, we're headed back for a two-part trip to the falls on Pictograph Trail to the falls overlook (the Easy part), and then for the adventurous - a strenuous climb up Whale Peak and back (the Hard part).

Whale Peak is known for many odd desert species that grow there, some not known anywhere else. The unique species for the area are single-leaved skunkbrush (*Rhus aromatica* var. *simplicifolia*) and Borrego bedstraw (*Galium angustifolium* ssp. *borregoense*). Other rare species we hope to catch in bloom will be pygmy lotus (*Acmispon haydonii*), desert ayenia (*Ayenia compacta*), intermediate larkspur (*Delphinium parishii* ssp. *subglobosum*), spearleaf (*Matelea parvifolia*), and fairyduster (*Calliandra eriophylla*). The still interesting common species there include many cactus species, like beavertail cactus (*Opuntia basilaris*), barrel cactus (*Ferocactus cylindraceus*), cholla (*Cylindropuntia* spp.), calico cactus (*Echinocereus engelmannii*), the cute fish hook cactus (*Mammillaria dioica*), and dozens of others.

For those that were present during the December Chapter Meeting for San Diego CNPS in Balboa Park (every 3rd Tuesday evening of the month), you might have heard Curator of Botany at the NAT **Jon Rebman** mention Whale Peak for some interesting ferns. We'll do our best to find the viscid lace fern (*Myriopteris viscida*) and any other ferns that might be green in March.

In any case, this trip is geared for anyone looking to see plants they've never seen before on a quick morning trip along a great trail filled with natural history AND for those looking to add to our collection of botanical knowledge in the State Park and San Diego County. For the rare plants, we'll be taking diagnostic photos and posting to iNaturalist as well as adding any new plants not on the known Plant Atlas list that may pop up from the excellent desert rains this year.

Pack snacks and water for the short trip and a full lunch and suitable gear and clothing for the longer hike. The temperature could get hot even in March, or could be freezing cold with a stiff breeze, so keep an eye on the



forecast. Keep a cautious eye out for rattlesnakes! The most dangerous thing we'll encounter will likely be cactus, falls, and the heat. For any desert trip, come prepared with plenty of water, sunscreen, and a good hat.

**VEHICLES:** The road up into the trailhead at Pictograph Trail can be sandy, but I've seen low clearance vehicles park there, too. High clearance with good tires is best.

**CARPOOL:** I will provide my truck (black Toyota Tundra) with three seats from Fashion Valley Mall Transit Center parking area nearest Fashion Valley Rd (west end of the mall) from 6:45 to 7:00 am. I will be gone for the whole time, so joining my carpool commits you to the whole day. Be prepared to drive if space fills up or you only intend to do the short hike. Parking at the Transit Center parking lot is free for 24 hrs and is occasionally patrolled by security. That being said, the same risks apply there as to regular street parking. Donations for gas are welcome, but not required. The roundtrip is about 160 miles. Expect to return to Fashion Valley about 6 PM, perhaps sooner.

## Valley of the Moon - Imperial County Saturday, March 16; 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy to Mod. (Rocky Terrain) <2 miles.

**PLANT KNOWLEDGE:** Beginner to Expert. Professionals always welcome!

**ACCESS:** Free to All, No charge. 4x4 required unless carpooling.

**[EXTREME WEATHER CANCELS THIS EVENT]**



Just over the border into SW Imperial County, a small pocket of the California Floristic Province jumps over into the Jacumba Wilderness Area. This heavily rocky area is strewn with granitic boulders and sheer cliffs of stacked rocks, making it a great and relatively discrete location for rock climbing, bouldering, camping, and hiking. Valley of the Moon is also known for its sometimes sordid past (and present) with caves in the rocks called Smugglers Den. We'll be headed out to look for a variety of rare and common native plant species. With the great rains this winter, I expect we'll be in for quite a treat. If you're not excited by that, at least there's the Desert Tower nearby!

**LOCATION:** 48549 Old Hwy 80, Jacumba Hot Springs, CA. Meet at the Valley of the Moon Trailhead off Interstate 8

heading toward El Centro. Exit In-Ko-Pah Park Rd and head to the Trailhead on the East side of the freeway (look for the high-tension power lines). Park near the kiosk in the large turnout.

## Top of the Morning - Elsinore Peak - Riverside County with CNPS-Orange County Chapter Sunday, March 31; 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

**DIFFICULTY:** MODERATE ~ 2 miles; approx. 3+ hours.

**PLANT KNOWLEDGE:** Beginner to Novice, Professionals always welcome!

**ACCESS:** Open to all, no charge.

**VEHICLES REQUIRE a USFS Adventure Pass [\$30 Annual pass or \$5 day pass]**

**[SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS EVENT]**



This trip will be set in the backyard of Orange County and San Diego County atop the ridge of the Santa Ana Mtns on the far western edge of Riverside County. We're doing another joint trip with **Ron Vanderhoff** of Orange County CNPS, a great botanist who will help the group identify some of the extremely rare species we're hoping to find.

Elsinore Peak is the southernmost of the Santa Ana Mountain peaks and offers an unusual habitat of grasslands with some coastal sage scrub and chaparral. The area near the peak is further unique due to its volcanic history and unusual foundation of basalt rock. The specific stops for our visit will depend upon current conditions and the season's always unpredictable bloom. We may explore the area just below the peak for spring wildflowers (*Fritillaria biflora*, *Ranunculus*, goldfields, *Allium* spp., *Calochortus* spp., *Clarkia* spp., *Collinsia* spp., popcorn flowers, monkeyflowers, lupines, peonies, *Sanicula* spp. and more). Then, we may visit the site along S. Main Divide Road of the 2013 "Falls" fire, or another location depending upon the wishes of the group. Following the burn, this was the best wildflower show in the area, with large displays of fire-following plants, including thousands of fire poppies (*Papaver californicum*), *Chorizanthe* spp., *Delphinium* spp., *Penstemon* spp., *Caulanthus* spp., *Emmenanthe* spp., *Lupinus* spp. and others.

**MEETING LOCATION:** Meet at 8 am at the parking lot at Bravo Burgers, 31722 Rancho Viejo Rd., San Juan Capistrano (just off

Hwy 74 near Int. 5). Free and open to all. Bring trail shoes, hat, sunscreen, water and lunch if desired. Leader: Ron Vanderhoff. This trip does require a USFS Adventure Pass!

**BE PREPARED:** Bring hat, sunscreen, camera, wildflower book/notepad, water and hiking shoes/boots. No water or restrooms.

## **Algodones Dunes Camping or Day Trip - Imperial County**

**Saturday, April 6, 9:00 am to Sunday, April 7, 4:00 pm**

**DIFFICULTY:** EASY to MODERATE, < 4 miles

**PLANT KNOWLEDGE:** Beginner to any on Saturday; Professionals & CNPS/SD Botanical Society fellows on Sunday.

**ACCESS:** Open to all, no charge.

### **[ALL WEATHER EVENT]**

For everyone who missed the Algodones Dunes trip last year, here is your chance to jump on a great repeat, with the extraordinary additions of **Steve Hartman** (CNPS Board President) and **Amy Patten** (CNPS Rare Plant Botanist). Early April will hopefully have a great bloom of Algodones Dunes sunflower (*Helianthus niveus* ssp. *tephrodes*), giant Spanish needle (*Palafoxia arida* var. *gigantea*), Pierson's milkvetch (*Astragalus magdalenae* var. *piersonii*), sand food (*Pholisma sonorae*), and fairyduster (*Calliandra eriophylla*) among other rare species and extreme desert endemic species.

For Saturday, we'll meet up at the ranger station for orientation and a quick look for the odd sand food, then head over to the Osbourne Overlook to check out the dune ecosystem there. We're looking for the plants that amazingly grow and thrive in rolling sand. Following this, we'll head over to the microphyll woodlands, where abundant water below the surface creates an open woodland of desert ironwood (*Olneya tesota*), palo verde (*Parkinsonia florida*), and mesquites (*Prosopis* spp.). We'll have lunch under the shade of these trees before exploring a little more around the area for anything of interest. Afterwards, anyone who wants to stay to camp or stay in lodging nearby will wish our friends safe travels.

That evening, we plan overnight dry camping in the desert, with some of the best stargazing in the whole state. In addition, there will be a new moon.

Sunday, we'll meet up at the ranger station once more to get anyone who is coming out for the CNPS rare plant survey. Right now, our intended target is the saguaro cactus (*Carnegiea gigantea*), 2B.2, as a landmark species but in addition, interesting listed species in the Hwy 78 / Ninemile Wash area like Argus blazing star (*Mentzelia puberula*), Chocolate Mtns coldenia (*Tiquilia canescens* var. *pulchella*), and sand evening primrose (*Chylismia arenaria*). We'll do iNaturalist and CalFlora observations and herbaria collections where possible. This portion of the trip is aimed at botanists

specifically. We hope to finish by 4 pm to get back home before dark.

The desert can be dangerous if you are not prepared. Bring plenty of water (at least 2 gallons per person per day), sunscreen, and light fully covering clothes. Even in early April, expect the temperature to be above 90°F (32°C). Also, if driving, make sure your vehicle can handle sand, meaning high clearance. 4x4 and all-wheel drive is preferred, but not necessary. Also, be aware that sand and fine dust is everywhere and will get into everything.

**DRY CAMPING:** No services or facilities will be available at the camping location. All the food, water, etc., you bring in will need to be packed out. Remember, dig the hole before! Lanterns &/or flashlights will be needed, along with good sleeping bags and tents as it gets very cold at night. The chance to encounter scorpions overnight is high, but this is offset by the possibility of seeing kangaroo rats bounce across the campsite!

**CARPOOL:** I will offer carpool in my truck to those who want to camp. Please PM (personal message) me ahead of time. Look for a black Toyota Tundra (three extra seats), leaving from Fashion Valley Mall Transit Center parking area nearest Fashion Valley Rd (west end of the mall) from 6:45 to 7:00 am. Of course, for anyone who will day trip on Saturday only, be prepared to drive and bring along other Meetup people. Parking at the Transit Center parking lot is free for 24 hrs and is occasionally patrolled by security. That being said, the same risks apply there as to regular street parking. Donations for gas are welcome, but not required (\$20 is suggested).

**LOCATION & DIRECTIONS:** SATURDAY & SUNDAY: Meet at 9 am at the Gecko Rd Imperial Sand Dunes Cahuilla Ranger Station. From San Diego, take I-8 East to El Centro, exit 111 N, then take SR-78 East to Dunes. ~150 miles. From Los Angeles, take I-10 E to Indio, then 86 S to 78 E to Dunes. ~221 miles.

## **Torrey Pines Extension & Crest Canyon, Del Mar**

**Saturday, April 20. 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.**

**DIFFICULTY:** EASY to MODERATE 2-3 miles (or less)

**PLANT KNOWLEDGE:** Novice +, Professionals always welcome!

**ACCESS:** Open to all, no charge

**[RAIN CANCELS THIS EVENT!]** This trip is a yearly treat, and the trail won't change much but the plants and flowers will.

**LOCATION:** Torrey Pines Reserve Extension, 13570 Mira Montana Drive, Del Mar, CA 92014.

More info in next month's newsletter.

~ Justin Daniel, President & Field Trip Chair

## **CONSERVATION**

### **Conservation Committee**

**March 5.** The first Tuesday evening of each month. Contact

## Got some fire pictures you want to share?

It's lovely to be still writing this in the rain, but a hot, dry summer could lead to a fiery fall. Hopefully, that will not happen.

Still, I am spearheading an effort to create a *San Diego Fire Recovery and Preparation Guide*. It is based, in large part, on the *CNPS Fire Recovery Guide* that was produced after the 2017 Wine Country fires. While that document is freely available in pdf now, we do need a more local version for our area.

**To that end, I'm looking for pictures that people are willing to share in our version of this book.** You will get credit, and you would only be giving permission for use of that picture in this one publication. Sorry, we can't pay for images. If you are interested, contact me at [conservation@cnpsd.org](mailto:conservation@cnpsd.org).

I am looking for pictures of the following subjects:

- Freshly burned landscapes in San Diego from any of the previous fires.
- Pictures of wildfires, including embers falling, trees burning, and the like (pictures of burning palms, eucalypts, and nonnative pines are welcome).
- Burned neighborhoods.
- Regrowth of woody plants following the fire.
- Fire followers (individual plants blooming in a burned landscape, fire-follower species, landscapes of wildflowers with burned stumps poking up).
- Pictures of burned trees, especially oaks. They can be singed, dead, and/or resprouting.
- Fire burned snags, especially if they've been repurposed by wildlife (as for a woodpecker granary).
- Burned cacti.
- Weeds invading a burned area.
- Landscapes showing the differences in plant composition of areas that burned at different times.
- Wildlife tracks in ash.
- Pictures illustrating the following vegetation types: grassland, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, oak woodland, montane conifers, woody riparian.
- Pictures of leaves and acorns for our local oak species.
- Time sequences of areas right after a fire, one year, two years, three years, or longer.
- Erosion control structures, wattles, straw, etc.
- Roots stabilizing burned hillsides.
- Fire resistant landscaping.
- Fire resistant home features.

If you have images you want to share, contact me at [conservation@cnpsd.org](mailto:conservation@cnpsd.org), and let's talk. I won't promise to use everything, as the original only used 68 images, but I would like to see what you want to show.

## What will be different about the San Diego guide

One of the differences will be a larger section on preparing for the next wildfire, something that got a scant two pages in the first document. Why expand that section? If you have read the County's official *Ready, Set, Go! Your Personal Wildland Fire Action Guide* (freely available as a pdf), you may not be asking that question, but perhaps you haven't read it. I have. To be fair and to honor their work, I agree with most of it, but not with the way it's presented. My biggest disagreement with them is over what they tell people to do when they evacuate.

*Ready, Set, Go!* makes some assumptions. One, which I agree wholeheartedly with, is that most people don't want to prepare for fire. This is a topic I'll get back to later, but I'm not a rabid prepper, and my wonderful wife is even less interested. Her point is valid: why should we rebuild our home to deal with an emergency that may well not even happen while we live there? I'll return to this issue at the end.

The County's response to this apathy was to ask everyone in San Diego to create a single emergency kit to deal with all emergencies. Theoretically this kit would work equally well for family survival through the major kinds of disasters we have in San Diego: wildfires, earthquakes, flood, and droughts.

*Ready, Set, Go* proposes that, when you evacuate for a wildfire, you should take your emergency kit with you. This sounds very sane, right? Well...here's what's supposed to be in your emergency kit, verbatim:

- Three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day).
- Non-perishable food for all family members and pets (three-day supply).
- First aid kit.
- Flashlight, battery-powered radio, and extra batteries
- An extra set of car keys, credit cards and cash or traveler's checks.
- Sanitation supplies.
- Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses.
- Important family documents and contact numbers.
- Map marked with evacuation routes.
- Prescriptions or special medications.
- Family photos, valuable and other irreplaceable items that are easy to carry.
- Personal computers, hard drives, disks and chargers for electronic communication devices.

So if there's a wildfire raining embers down on you, you've finally managed to drive home from work, and you've got 10 minutes to evacuate your kids, pets, and household, the first thing they want you to do is lug 100 pounds of water to the car (that's 12 gallons for a family of four, at 8.35 pounds per gallon), followed by food, first aid kit, flashlight, radio...And no clothes. Or pets. Or cell phone.

Would you use the *Ready, Set, Go* list? I wouldn't. Earthquakes and wildfires are very different disasters, and you need to prepare for them differently. My earthquake food and water cache is not going in the car if I evacuate for a wildfire.

I've drafted an evacuation checklist that's rather different. It's based on other evacuation lists, as well as personal experience and shared stories. And a number of people are going to read it skeptically before it gets published as our suggestion for evacuation.

But should you prepare at all? The short answer is yes, but do it rationally. Even Pepperdine University, that paragon of shelter-in-place preparedness, only burns on average once every five years. That means that there's an over 1800 to 1 chance that the campus *will not* experience a fire on a given day (that's 365 days X 5 years). Due to its location and the fact that it can't possibly evacuate a couple of thousand students fast enough, it makes total sense that they prepare. But if your home is only likely to burn once every 50 years, does it make sense to rebuild it as a fireproof bunker? You're likely to be dead before embers rain on your home.

Or not. Wildfires are terrifyingly random in their timing, if not in where they burn. We can predict rather better where homes will burn than precisely when they will burn. Worse, the probability of drought and late season wildfires will likely increase with climate change, so we have no idea what the actual risks are. It pays to err on the side of safety, at least somewhat.

This is why I've prepared a personal evacuation list and persuaded my wife to do likewise. The point about evacuation preparation is that it's the minimal effort you can do. If you do all the things you're supposed to do to prepare for any emergency (make off-site copies of your critical documents, back up your electronic files, make an evacuation list, bring your house up to code, clear dangerously flammable stuff away from your house) you won't make your home fireproof, but you do give yourself a really good likelihood of surviving, with a decent chance of not losing hundreds of thousands of dollars when your home burns down and your insurance fails to cover your losses. It's about risk management, not disaster-proofing, and the modest things you have to do to prepare to evacuate feel like they're on par with the low likelihood of having your home burn down.

Of course, if you want to, you can remodel your home to be highly fire resistant, landscape your property to snuff embers, install those under-eave sprinklers, get yourself some firefighting gear and training, and prepare to go mano a mano with the next wildfire. But I bet most people won't do that, and there are 88,000-odd people living in high fire areas in San Diego. The trick is to get them to do something, so that they won't be caught unprepared. That's what I'd like us to help do with our version of the CNPS guide. Want to help?

~ Frank Landis, Conservation Chair

## GARDENING WITH NATIVES

### Native Gardening Committee Meeting

**March 13.** The Native Gardening Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at various locations. Contact [gardening@cnpsd.org](mailto:gardening@cnpsd.org) for location and time.

### Garden Tour 2019: Inviting Nature Home: Native Gardens of Central San Diego County

**Saturday & Sunday, April 13 & 14, 2019**

**10:00 am to 4:00 pm each day**

CNPS-San Diego presents its seventh annual Garden Tour, **Inviting Nature Home: Native Gardens of Central San Diego County**. Spend a day or two exploring and learning from these gardens that highlight plants that create habitat, dry streambed bioswales, adjacent natural areas, water catchment devices, slope gardens, charming water features, bridges, sculptures and more. Be inspired this Spring!

**LOCATION:** Rancho Bernardo, Scripps Ranch, Poway, Rancho Penasquitos, Clairemont.

#### GARDENS

- \* **Entry to 14 private residential gardens** staffed with interpretive docents, owners, and designers.
- \* **5 additional FYI (Front Yard Inspiration) gardens** on the route.
- \* **The Kumeyaay Ipai Interpretive Center at Pauwai:** 4 guided private tours of this native plant ethnobotany garden will be offered for an additional fee on Sunday only.
- \* **Instructional presentations and plantings** on Saturday and Sunday.

#### TICKETS

- \* Tickets are on sale now. Tour tickets are \$30 online, \$35 at door. Tickets give attendees admission on both days of the tour.
- \* All participants buying online before April 6 will have a tour booklet mailed to their address during the week preceding the Tour so that they can begin the tour at any garden location during Tour weekend.
- \* Guided tours of The Kumeyaay Ipai Interpretive Center at Pauwai are a separate \$10 admission.

For questions, please contact **Judie Lincer** at [tour@cnpsd.org](mailto:tour@cnpsd.org) or at 619-277-1490

**For tickets and further information, please visit: [cnpsd.org/events](http://cnpsd.org/events)**



# Old Town Native Landscape

**Saturday, March 9; 9 am to 1 pm.** Old Town Native Landscape Work Party. The Old Town Native Landscape is undergoing changes for the better. A March work party will focus on removing the last of some problem plants and weeding as needed, plus grooming and shaping up rushes, shrubs and toyon trees.

The Native Landscape is at the corner of Taylor and Congress Streets. We suggest parking in the elegant CalTrans parking lot on the west side of Taylor (free, no time limits). Enter it at the Taylor/Juan Street traffic light. After parking, walk across Taylor at the light and walk south two blocks on Taylor Street to enter at the Old Town State Park greeting sign at the corner of Taylor and Congress. Ignore the ribbon barriers and walk about 100 yards on the DG road, up the small hill and meet up with the rest of the volunteers at the McCoy House Museum.

Bring water or other hydration, sun protection, and dress for the weather. Rain will cancel.

Questions? Contact Kay or Peter at [oldtownlandscape@cnpsd.org](mailto:oldtownlandscape@cnpsd.org)

## DESERT WILDFLOWERS

At the DesertUSA website:

<https://www.desertusa.com/wildflo/wildupdates.html> you can find updates on the wildflower blooms at various desert areas, such as Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Death Valley National Park (NP), Joshua Tree NP and Mojave Desert NP, and even the deserts of other southwestern states. Anza-Borrego Desert SP also has its own website for wildflower updates that tells you exactly where the best wildflower displays are in the park:

<https://www.abdnha.org/pages/03flora/reports/current.htm> or you can call 760-767-4684 for an update.

Here are some recent desert wildflower photos by CNPS-SD members. THE TIME TO GO IS NOW!



Sand verbena (*Abronia villosa*) at the Borrego-Salton Seaway (S22). Jürgen Schrenk.



Desert wishbone bush (*Mirabilis laevis*). Lee Gordon.



Prairie sunflower (*Helianthus petiolaris* ssp. *canescens*). Jürgen Schrenk.



Desert sunflower (*Garaea canescens*) among sand verbena (*Abronia villosa*). Lee Gordon.



Dune evening primrose (*Oenothera deltoides*). Jürgen Schrenk.





Spanish needle (*Palafoxia arida*) near Coachwhip Wash on Hiway S22 and north into the wash about 1/2 mile. This is a composite flower in the Asteraceae, but with only disc flowers, no ray flowers. Lee Gordon.



Hairy desert sunflower (*Garaea canescens*), near Hwy 78. Lee Gordon.

Cleftleaf wild heliotrope (*Phacelia crenulata*). Jürgen Schrenk.



Thick-leaf ground-cherry (*Physalis crassifolia*). Lee Gordon.

## RARE PLANT TREASURE HUNTS IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

### RPTH Training at The Crosby Open Space in Santa Fe Valley

Friday, March 8th, 9 am - 1 pm

Join San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, Rincon Consultants, and CNPS to learn CNPS Rare Plant "Treasure Hunt" survey methods and help catalog the botanical treasures of the Crosby Habitat Management Area. Click here to RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sdrvc-rare-plant-treasure-hunt-at-the-crosby-open-space-in-santa-fe-valley-tickets-54989119938> . Contact SDRVC Conservation Manager Jonathan Appelbaum at [jonathan@sdrvc.org](mailto:jonathan@sdrvc.org) for more information. **Please note:** Driving directions and volunteer waivers will be sent upon registration.

## CNPS WORKSHOPS

### Rare Plant Survey Protocols

March 6-7, Imperial Beach

Taught by Heath Bartosh & Aaron Sims, with a guest lecture from Katie Gross.

\$395 CNPS Members, \$425 Non-Members.

You will learn to use the best available science to prepare for and conduct rare plant surveys and report your findings. Training includes one day learning concepts in the classroom, followed by one day in the field in southern San Diego County getting hands-on experience surveying rare plants.

<https://www.cnps.org/education/workshops/rare-plant-surveys-march-2019>

### Vegetation Mapping

March 19-21, Kentfield

Taught by Julie Evens, Todd Keeler-Wolf, & John Menke.

\$665 CNPS Members, \$695 Non-Members.

You will learn techniques for fine-scale vegetation mapping including vegetation sampling, classification, & photo interpretation through hands-on exercises in the computer lab and field in Marin County. You will get experience creating a vegetation map using GIS, collecting reconnaissance samples, practicing techniques of photo interpretation, delineation, and attribution, and validating a vegetation map through accuracy assessment.

<https://www.cnps.org/education/workshops/vegetation-mapping-march-2019>

### Measuring & Monitoring Plant Populations

April 24-26, San Luis Obispo

Taught by Charley Knight.

\$435 CNPS Members, \$455 Non-Members.

You will learn to sample & analyze plant populations through hands-on classroom and field exercises. Topics include principles of sampling & several sampling designs, field techniques for measuring vegetation, analysis of monitoring data, presentation of results, & development of good management objectives.

<https://www.cnps.org/education/workshops/measuring-monitoring-april-2019>

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Oceanside Native Plant Garden Tour

Sunday, March 31: 2 pm

Come see over 18 California Native Plant Gardens in the Historic Seaside Neighborhood of Downtown Oceanside! Plant experts and neighborhood locals will lead a 1.5-mi walking tour to see these wonderful front yard gardens. Meet at 2 pm, Sunday, March 31 at the St. Mary School parking lot at 515 Wisconsin Ave. The guided walk is FREE. Kids will be selling lemonade and cookies along the route. St. Mary School is one block east of the 101 Cafe near Coast Highway and Wisconsin St. The Oceanside Coastal Neighborhood Association and Buena Vista Audubon Society sponsor our 2019, 17th Annual Tour. For info, call 760-439-2473 or visit [www.BVAudubon.org](http://www.BVAudubon.org) or [www.OCNA101.org](http://www.OCNA101.org).

### Audubon Society

#### Family Day at the San Diego Bird Festival!

March 3, 10 am to 2 pm

Marina Village Conference Center  
1936 Quivira Way, San Diego, CA 92109

Live bird presentations, educational booths and activities, and guided bird walks for all ages at the San Diego Bird Festival, sponsored by SDGE. FREE.

#### The Dirt on Silverwood: a walk through geological history.

March 23; 9 am – noon

Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary  
13003 Wildcat Canyon Road, Lakeside

Join local Geologist Don Albrigh to learn about how the landscape was formed while walking around San Diego Audubon's beautiful wildlife preserve, Silverwood. This fascinating workshop will take you back through time. Limited number of participant spots available.

Prices: \$40 for Student & limited income; \$85 Member of SD Audubon; \$105 General Public. For more info or to register, go to <https://sandiegoaudubon.org/events/workshops/858-geology-workshop>. For questions, Email Jill Cooper at [cooper@sandiegoaudubon.org](mailto:cooper@sandiegoaudubon.org).



SD Audubon's Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary.

### Photographing Nature in the Field

April 20; 8-11:30 am

Join professional Nature Photographer Krisztina ([www.KSNaturePhotography.com](http://www.KSNaturePhotography.com)) and San Dieguito River Park Senior Ranger David Hekel as we photograph the wildlife and landscape around San Dieguito Lagoon. During this 3.5-hr workshop you will receive great tips, location guidance, help with your camera and photography and more. Open to all ages, this class is for everyone ready to take their photography to the next level. Equipment requirements: DSLR or mirrorless camera (any brand). Prices: \$40 for Student & limited income; \$85 Member of SD Audubon; \$105 General Public. For more info or to register, <https://sandiegoaudubon.org/events/workshops/859-nature-photography>. Questions? Email Jill Cooper at [cooper@sandiegoaudubon.org](mailto:cooper@sandiegoaudubon.org).



San Dieguito Lagoon

### Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Grass Identification and Field Trip Sat-Sun, April 27 - 28

Led by Travis Columbus, PhD, participants will be instructed in detail on the vegetative and reproductive features of grasses (Poaceae). Aspects of anatomy, physiology, and ecology will also be addressed. Most time will be spent in the lab learning to use the identification keys in the second edition of The Jepson Manual. Special attention will be given to difficult couplets and taxa. In addition, participants will learn how to identify common genera by using diagnostic



characteristics. There will be a field trip to Santa Rosa Plateau on Sunday afternoon. Please bring a bag lunch on both days. Snacks will be provided. \$300 (\$250 for RSABG members). Please register online at [www.rsabg.org](http://www.rsabg.org).

## Moosa Creek Nursery

Whether you are restoring wild-lands, preserving habitat or building your own mini wildlife island in a suburban area, Moosa Creek Nursery is busy growing water conscious, unusual plants for Southern California. They are also having some spring events:

**Sat. March 16: Native Knowledge** - sharing the wisdom of local tribes for traditional and contemporary uses of native plants.

**Sat. April 27: Habitat Heaven** - Native plants for butterflies, pollinators and birds.

**Sat. June 15: Firescaping** - reducing your risk of fire and enjoying native landscapes.

## SD Natural History Museum & Julian Women's Club Wildflower Show, May 3-5

Wildflowers - the Jewels of the Backcountry.

<http://www.julianwomansclub.org/event/julian-wildflower-show/>.

## American Penstemon Society

The purpose of the APS Special Projects Program is to stimulate activities that promote knowledge and appreciation of Penstemons. The Society is particularly interested in funding projects that:

- 1) Promote conservation of Penstemon species in the wild, especially rare or sensitive ones, through understanding of factors that affect their survival, or
- 2) Promote appreciation for the diversity and beauty of Penstemons in wild and domestic landscapes, through horticultural research, dissemination of information of interest to gardeners, or the construction or enhancement of educational display gardens.

Full details of this program, including instructions for proposal submission, are available at [http://penstemons.org/images/Grants/scholarship\\_2019.pdf](http://penstemons.org/images/Grants/scholarship_2019.pdf).

## SAVE THE DATE: Cal-IPC Symposium



## Mt. Helix Park Habitat Restoration

Join a team of plant enthusiasts and California native plant folks committed to restoring Mt. Helix Park's landscape to a California native habitat. The park is looking for more volunteers to help reduce the number of invasive weeds and restore native plants throughout this historic hilltop.

The park offers volunteers an awesome mountaintop experience overlooking San Diego County and the chance to learn, not just about habitat restoration, but best practices for growing and cultivating California native plants for use in their own gardens. Training on weed identification is provided by Mt. Helix Park.

To volunteer for this or any of the Park workdays and projects, contact Peggy Junker at [pjunker@mthelixpark.org](mailto:pjunker@mthelixpark.org) or (619) 741-4363, or call the Park office Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 9 a.m. until noon. To learn more about this or any of the Park's other programs, visit [www.mthelixpark.org](http://www.mthelixpark.org).

The CNPS-SD Newsletter is generally published 12 times a year. The newsletter is not peer reviewed and any opinions expressed are those of the author identified at the end of each notice or article. The newsletter editor may edit the submittal to improve accuracy, improve readability, shorten articles to fit the space, and reduce the potential for legal challenges against CNPS. If an article, as edited, is not satisfactory to the author, the author can appeal to the board. The author has the final say on whether the article, as edited, is printed in the newsletter. The next issue will be a joint April/May newsletter. Submissions are due to [newsletter@cnpsd.org](mailto:newsletter@cnpsd.org) by March 10.

## CNPS-SD Activities Calendar March 2019

- 3/2: Border Field to Otay Mesa VPs Fld Trip, p.2
- 3/5: Conservation Committee Mtg, p.4
- 3/6: Board Meeting, p.2
- 3/6-7: Rare Plant Survey Protocols, p.8
- 3/8: CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt, p. 8
- 3/9: Old Town Native Landscape, p. 8
- 3/10: Painted Gorge & Mtn Palm Springs Field Trip, p.2
- 3/13: Garden Committee Mtg, p. 9
- 3/16: Valley of the Moon - Imperial County Fld Trip, p.4
- 3/19: Chapter Meeting, p.1
- 3/19-21:Vegetation Mapping, p.9
- 3/31: Elsinore Peak Field Trip, p. 4

### Save the Dates in April 2019

- 4/6-7: Algodones Dunes Camping/Day Trip – Imperial County, p. 5
- 4/13-14: Garden Tour, p. 7
- 4/20: Torrey Pines Extension & Crest Canyon, Del Mar Fld Trip, p. 5



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

\_\_\_ Student or Limited Income \$25; \_\_\_ Individual \$45; \_\_\_ Family \$75  
\_\_\_ Plant Lover \$100; \_\_\_ Patron \$300; \_\_\_ Benefactor \$600; \_\_\_ Mariposa Lily \$1,500  
Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check payable to "CNPS" and send to: CNPS, 2707 K Street, Ste 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

San Diego Chapter  
C/o San Diego Natural History Museum  
P. O. Box 121390  
San Diego, CA 92112-1390

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 1522  
San Diego, California



March 2019 Newsletter

Dedicated to the preservation of the California native flora  
*CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY – SAN DIEGO*

[www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org) [info@cnpssd.org](mailto:info@cnpssd.org) [facebook.com/cnpssd](https://facebook.com/cnpssd) [instagram.com/cnpssd](https://instagram.com/cnpssd) [twitter.com/cnpssd](https://twitter.com/cnpssd)

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

PRESIDENT: Justin Daniel .....president@cnpssd.org  
VICE PRES: Bobbie Stephenson.....vicepresident@cnpssd.org  
619-269-0055  
SECRETARY: Maggie Loy.....secretary@cnpssd.org  
TREASURER: Connie di Girolamo.....treasurer@cnpssd.org  
Cindy Burrascano..... (858) 342-5246; booksales@cnpssd.org  
Bob Byrnes.....bob.byrnes@cnpssd.org  
Josué Campos.....josue.campos@cnpssd.org  
Al Field.....gardening@cnpssd.org  
Frank Landis.....conservation@cnpssd.org  
Torrey Neel.....programs@cnpssd.org  
Leon Scales.....leon.scales@cnpssd.org

### **CHAPTER COUNCIL DELEGATE**

Frank Landis.....chaptercouncil@cnpssd.org

### **RARE PLANT BOTANIST**

Fred Roberts.....rarebotanist@cnpssd.org  
(760) 712-7604

### **APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

BOOK SALES: Cindy Burrascano.....booksales@cnpssd.org  
(858) 342-5246  
CONSERVATION: Frank Landis.....conservation@cnpssd.org  
(310) 883-8569  
EDUCATION: OPEN  
FIELD TRIPS: Justin Daniel.....fieldtrips@cnpssd.org  
HOSPITALITY: Kye Ok Kim.....hospitality@cnpssd.org

INVASIVE PLANTS: Arne Johanson (858) 759-4769 &  
Bob Byrnes.....invasiveplants@cnpssd.org  
LEGISLATION: Peter St. Clair.....legislation@cnpssd.org  
LIBRARIAN: Maggie Loy.....librarian@cnpssd.org  
MEMBERSHIP: Connie di Girolamo.....membership@cnpssd.org  
NATIVES FOR NOVICES: Torrey Neel  
.....nativesfornovices@cnpssd.org  
NATIVE GARDENING: Al Field.....gardening@cnpssd.org  
GARDEN TOUR: Judie Lincer.....tour@cnpssd.org  
GARDEN WORKSHOP.....workshop@cnpssd.org  
HABITAT RESTORATION: Arne Johanson..... (858) 759-4769 &  
Bob Byrnes .....habitatrestoration@cnpssd.org  
MEDIA: Joseph Sochor.....media@cnpssd.org  
NEWSLETTER: Bobbie Stephenson.....newsletter@cnpssd.org  
(619) 269-0055  
OLD TOWN NATIVE PLANT LANDSCAPE: Peter St. Clair and  
Kay Stewart.....OldTownLandscape@cnpssd.org  
PLANT SALE-FALL: Connie di Girolamo.....plantsale@cnpssd.org  
POSTER SALES: OPEN.....postersales@cnpssd.org  
PROGRAMS: Torrey Neel.....programs@cnpssd.org  
PROPAGATION: Amy Huie, Jim Wadman, and Torrey Neel  
.....propagation@cnpssd.org  
PUBLICITY: OPEN.....publicity@cnpssd.org  
PUBLIC OUTREACH: Leon Scales &  
Justin Daniel.....publicoutreach@cnpssd.org  
RARE PLANT SURVEYS: Josué Campo.....raresurvey@cnpssd.org  
SEEDS & BULBS: Cindy Hazuka.....seedsandbulbs@cnpssd.org  
SPONSORSHIPS.....gardening@cnpssd.org  
VEGETATION: OPEN.....vegetation@cnpssd.org  
WEBSITE: [Joseph Sochor.....webmaster@cnpssd.org](mailto:Joseph.Sochor@cnpssd.org)