

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY *San Diego Chapter Newsletter*

CHAPTER MEETING

**Casa del Prado Room 101
Balboa Park
June 18, 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: Volunteer Restoration Projects on Black Mountain Open Space- Progress Report by Beth Mather

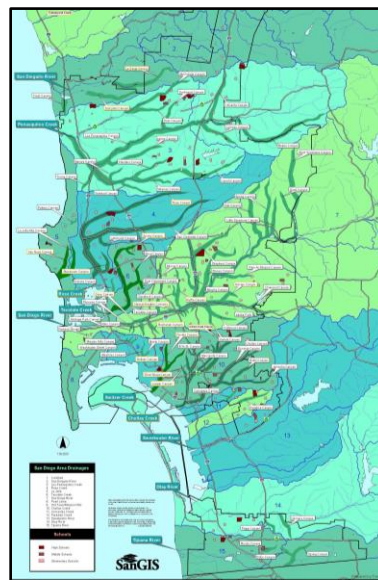
. Upon retiring from a career in science and biotechnology, I turned my attention to habitat restoration. I worked for 9 months with Arne Johanson as a part of the CNPS Invasive Plant Committee. I then obtained a QAC, joined the Black Mountain Committee Advisory Committee, and in 2012 started working in the Black Mountain Open Space with Mike Kelly and the Black Mountain Open Space rangers.



Main Presentation: San Diego Canyonlands by Susan Krzyswicky

The presentation will review the formation of San Diego's canyons and the history of San Diego

Canyonlands (SDCL) as an organization. It is SDCL's goal to create Friends Groups for each canyon, engaging neighbors and local stakeholders in advocating and stewarding their local open space. There are many ways



to get involved with SDCL or your local Friends Group and this will be discussed during the presentation.

Susan Krzywicki is a native plant landscape designer in San Diego. She has been an active member of this chapter and was the first Horticulture Program Director for



the California Native Plant Society, as well as chair of the San Diego Surfrider Foundation Ocean Friendly Gardens Committee. She is now on the Bayfront Design and Cultural Committee for the Chula Vista Convention Center and parklands project. Susan joined the board of San Diego

Canyonlands three years ago and curated the La Jolla Historical Society's 2018 show on canyons and their impact on our ecology, politics and society.



BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, June 5, 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 1st Wednesday falls on a holiday. Members are welcome to attend as observers. To add an issue to the agenda, please email president@cnpssd.org.

The Chapter needs a Membership Chairperson and a Volunteer Coordinator. If you are interested, please contact the Chapter President, Justin Daniel, at president@cnpssd.org.

FIELD TRIPS

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve from Park Village Rd Sunday, June 9; 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

DIFFICULTY: Easy to Moderate (4 to 5 miles)

PLANT KNOWLEDGE: Novice+, Professionals always welcome!

ACCESS: Open to all, no charge

[SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS EVENT - Temps over 90°F (32°C) or Storm Warnings]

For a first, CNPS-SD will head down into Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve for a trail that will aim for the Peñasquitos Creek falls, which run all year. Depending on our group and the weather, we'll make a choice to head up to a site with dozens of bright yellow Weed's mariposa lily OR to take a shadier route among the oak trees of the canyon on a return loop along the Creek.



From the street parking trailhead on Park Village Rd, the trail heads down through coastal sage scrub into the grasslands that line the Southern oak riparian woodlands along the Creek. Various patches of southern maritime scrub appear along the

canyon slopes and freshwater marsh in spots in the Creek. While June is ordinarily a little late for peak bloom, recent rains have brought some longevity to our native plants. Summer bloomers will be in full swing.

Rare species in the canyon are many, though they are not often along the trail. Nuttall's scrub oak (*Quercus dumosa*), summer holly (*Comarostaphylis diversifolia*), and white

coastal ceanothus (*Ceanothus verrucosus*) run within the northern facing chaparral; coastal barrel cactus (*Ferocactus viridescens*), Del Mar manzanita (*Arctostaphylos glandulosa* ssp. *crassifolia*), and California adolphia (*Adolphia californica*) are on the southern facing hillsides. In the riparian zone, we'll encounter San Diego sagewort (*Artemisia palmeri*), San Diego marsh elder (*Iva hayesiana*), and coastal wire grass (*Juncus acutus* ssp. *leopoldii*) in the riparian zone.

Come prepared with weather suitable gear (including shoes that can get wet), lunch, snacks, and water as always. We'll stop near the falls for a break before heading back to the cars. iNaturalist app (join the SD Plant Atlas Group) is highly recommended as are any guides, lenses, and cameras. Always prepare for the weather beforehand. Rattlesnakes, low water crossings, and poison oak are certain along this trail so we'll go over a safety briefing at the trailhead.

CARPPOOL: Carpool will be available for anyone who might find it convenient, especially anyone using public transit. Arrive between 8:15 and 8:30AM at the Fashion Valley Transit Center Parking Lot (West side parking area of the Fashion Valley Mall near Fashion Valley Rd). Look for a black Toyota Tundra. Spaces may fill up, so please be prepared to drive. Carpool participants should expect to return around 2 PM. Parking is free for 24 hrs and has roving security at Fashion Valley Transit Center, however risks are the same as parking anywhere on the street. Message the group for possible alternatives.

PARKING AT TRAILHEAD: Street parking. Trailhead is marked by a stone pillar entryway in the wood fence.

Rancho Cuyamaca State Park Annual Trip Sunday, June 16; 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

DIFFICULTY: Moderate 4.2 miles.

PLANT KNOWLEDGE: Novice to Professional.

ACCESS: Open to all, no charge.

PARKING: \$5 parking fee if using State Park lots

[SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS EVENT - Temps over 95°F (35°C) or Storm Warnings]

Every year CNPS-SD heads up Milk Ranch Rd between Cuyamaca and Middle Peaks from the swampy grasslands at the lake up through Ceanothus chaparral and into the mixed oak/yellow pine forest of the mountain. This year, we'll check the fire recovery growth and methods of restoration used by the State Park again, documenting a bit as we head from the viewpoint saddle to Azalea Springs. Down we'll head to the western azaleas and shady streamline trail to end up at the State Park facilities. This trip is always a little different with flowers and wildlife along the trail. Fairy lantern mariposa (*Calochortus albus*), Humboldt lily (*Lilium humboldtii* ssp. *ocellatum*), velvety false lupine (*Thermopsis californica* var. *semota*) and broad leaved lotus (*Hosackia crassifolia*) are all found along the Fire Road to Cuyamaca Peak near Azalea Springs. The trip is a gentle climb with breaks in the shade of

black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*), incense cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*), and Jeffery pine (*Pinus jefferyi*). This year's early summer flowers should be amazing with plenty of new growth among the chaparral and woodlands.



Come prepared with a flexible schedule as length of the trip may extend a bit past time if we deviate from the trail. Bring any gear, lunch, snacks, and water suited to your plans for the day. There's an excellent place on the trail to have lunch, so please bring

yourself some food / snacks. iNaturalist app (join the SD Plant Atlas Group) is highly recommended as are any guides, lenses, and cameras. Always prepare for the weather beforehand. Rattlesnakes, ticks, and slippery conditions are very likely.

CARPOOL: Same as for the Nobel Canyon trip.

DIRECTIONS: Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, CA-79 & Milk Ranch Rd · Julian, CA. Take I-8 East from San Diego past Alpine to the 79 exit to Julian. Head north to the turn (turn to stay on 79) and park at Milk Ranch Rd / Los Vaqueros Trail. We'll shuttle to/from the State Park at Paso Picacho Camp. Alt route: S from Julian.

Once we're all at the "Los Vaqueros Trailhead", we'll select a few cars to go park at the State Park to shuttle us all back to the original Trailhead. Once we return, we're a go.

Otay Mountain Truck Trail – Summer Rares at the Border

Saturday, June 22; 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

DIFFICULTY: EASY < 1-mile walking [HARD driving]

PLANT KNOWLEDGE: Novice +, Professionals always welcome!

ACCESS: Open to all, no charge

[SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS EVENT - Temps over 95F (35C) or Storm Warnings]

ATTENDEE LIMIT: Enforced on this trip - please do not sign up if you aren't going. Those who do not reply to the "head's up" email on June 20 will be dropped to accommodate another member on the wait list.

Otay Mountain is visible from all across the County on a clear day, standing tall on the boundary of the US and MX on the Southern border. Last year, the truck trail trip revealed a variety of communities, with each going up the mountain representing more rare diversity than the last. I chose this time of year for the high elevation (~3,000' amsl) bloom that will hopefully be amazing in June.

At our first stop, we'll find a number of inland sage scrub and low Toyon / Laurel sumac chaparral species. At the

second stop, the mountain chaparral becomes dominated by Southern Mtn misery (*Chamaebatia australis*) with Otay mountain Ceanothus (*Ceanothus otayensis*) and natural stands of Tecate cypress (*Hesperocyparis forbesii*). At the final stop at Doghouse Junction, the area has the Otay Mountain manzanita (*Arctostaphylos otayensis*), Cleveland's monkeyflower (*Diplacus clevelandii*), Gander's pitcher sage (*Lepichinia ganderi*), and felt leaf monardella (*Monardella hypoleuca* ssp. *lanata*) among other rare species.

It is imperative we carpool this trip to limit the traffic on the road up to Doghouse Junction. There will be no more than 5 vehicles heading up due to the limit on parking availability at the stops. If you have an AWD or 4x4 truck or SUV, please volunteer space in yours to head up. We'll meet at Mountain Hawk Park to decide who carpools with whom. From Mountain Hawk Park, we'll drive to the Pio Pico trailhead and head up.

Drivers should be comfortable driving on moderately steep truck trails and be able to back down the mountain when necessary. The Event title is not a typo - driving this trail is for confident drivers only - there are few rails protecting many very steep dropoffs. There are a few turns where mirrors have been installed. Vehicles going up have right of way - use turnouts wisely. Having said that, I will say this trail is one of the best maintained I've ever been on.

Bring your gear for the conditions and weather, which means sun gear, solid boots, and food / water. Snakes are possible in the thick chaparral, but the most dangerous thing we'll face will be the road. For anyone using iNaturalist, add San Diego Plant Atlas group as well as Frontera Border Bioblitz (your observations are counted year-round). We may also be doing a few collections to update the botanical records if we find species not on the plant list or haven't been collected on the Mountain since before the 80's.

CARPOOL: One Carpool will be available for anyone who might find it convenient, especially anyone using public transit. Arrive between 8:00 and 8:15AM at the Fashion Valley Transit Center Parking Lot (West side parking area of the Fashion Valley Mall near Fashion Valley Rd). Look for a black Toyota Tundra. Spaces may fill up, so please be prepared to drive at least to the Park. Fashion Valley Carpool participants should expect to return around 3 PM. Parking is free for 24 hrs and has roving security at Fashion Valley Transit Center, however risks are the same as parking anywhere on the street. Message the group for possible alternatives.

PARKING: Parking at Mountain Hawk Park is free. We'll return well before the Park closes.

Noble Canyon Trail - Pictures of Lily Sunday, July 7; 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

DIFFICULTY: Moderate to hard 4 miles.

PLANT KNOWLEDGE: Novice+ to Professionals.

ACCESS: Open to all, no charge.

DRIVING: Cleveland Natl Forest ADVENTURE PASS required if driving.

[**SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS EVENT** - Temps over 95°F (35°C) or Storm Warnings].

This year has been incredible compared to the last couple of really dry years and the rains keep coming! The mountain trips will likely last into August this year and the first will be to Noble Canyon near Pine Valley. The CNPS San Diego Chapter Rare Plant Botanist **Fred Roberts** found two different species of lilies here in years past and we're following his lead to find them again. Expect quite a bit of technical botany, but once you get your fill of Latin names, the trail is wonderfully challenging and beautiful in early summer.

Our section of Noble Canyon Trail will be a 4-mile around portion of a trail that goes around a hill through Ceanothus and Redshanks Chaparral and down into Interior Oak Riparian woodlands and mid elevation scrub and meadows. The plant list is massive and we will likely be adding to it as we go. Of note will of course be Humboldt and tiger lilies (*Lilium humboldtii* ssp. *ocellatum* and *L. pardalinum*), larkspurs, violets, monkeyflowers, peas, woolly blue curls, silene, wallflowers, mariposas, and possibly the giant stream orchid (*Epipactis gigantea*).

Come prepared with a flexible schedule as trail conditions and length of the trip may extend a bit past time if there's a lot to find. Bring any gear, lunch, snacks, and water suited to your plans for the day.

We will find a place on the trail to have lunch, so please bring food/snacks. iNaturalist app is highly recommended as are any guides, lenses, and cameras. Always prepare for the weather beforehand. Rattlesnakes and slippery conditions are probable.

CARPOOL: Carpool will be available for anyone who might find it convenient, especially anyone using public transit. Arrive between 7:45 and 8:00 am at the Fashion Valley Transit Center Parking Lot (west side parking area of the Fashion Valley Mall near Fashion Valley Rd). Look for a black Toyota Tundra OR Dark Gray Rav4. Spaces may fill up, so please be prepared to drive. Carpool participants should expect to return around 3 to 3:30 pm. Parking is free for 24 hrs and has roving security at Fashion Valley Transit Center; however, risks are the same as parking anywhere on the street. Message the group for possible alternatives.

DIRECTIONS: Lower Noble Trailhead, Pine Valley, CA. If taking i-8, exit Pine Valley Rd and make a left (North) into town. At

the intersection, make another left (North) on Old Hwy 80. Cross Pine Valley Creek and turn right on Pine Creek Rd. Follow to the posted sign for Noble Creek Trailhead.

~ Justin Daniel, President & Field Trip Chair

CONSERVATION

Conservation Committee

June 4. The first Tuesday evening of each month. Contact **Frank Landis** at conservation@cnpsd.org for details.

The Struggle to Save the MSCP

As is becoming normal for these columns, I'm writing it on a Friday in early May to meet a deadline. Then 4:30 comes around, County Planning sends out their email alert, and things change. Friday at 4:30 is when the County has taken to issuing their new EIRs, their announcements of meetings, and in this case, their announcements of schedule changes. Now I'm writing past deadline again, but this is important.

There were two portentous announcements this month. The first was that Otay Ranch Village 14 development project would be heard by the Board of Supervisors on May 22. This set the clock rolling for CNPS and every group that is planning on opposing it. Then on May 10 came the announcement that, no, it will now be heard on June 26. So now I get an opportunity to talk about the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and how Village 14 and other issues threaten to break it.

A primer on the MSCP: the MSCP is a plan that's been around since the 1990s, and to quote the County, it:

- "Preserves San Diego's unique, native habitats and wildlife for future generations.
- "Works across political boundaries in a unique regional conservation effort.
- "Protects watersheds and water quality.
- "Streamlines the permitting process for development projects.
- "Ensures compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act, state Endangered Species Act, and state Natural Communities Conservation Planning [NCCP] Act.

"The MSCP is important because it:

- "Conserves San Diego's natural areas and quality of life.
- "Protects San Diego's diversity of native plants and animals, including threatened and endangered species.
- "Accommodates future growth by streamlining building regulations."

(<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/mscp/>)

The basic problem the MSCP was designed to solve is that the CEQA process in the 1980s wasn't working very well, either for development or for conservation. In every development with something sensitive, part of the development had to be set aside for it, whether the habitat was good or not, whether there was a viable population or not. Then the agencies had

to decide if this was good enough, and organizations like CNPS had to decide whether to fight or not. It was all very slow and contentious, and the result was a patchwork of little island preserves that generally were too small for the long-term survival of the species they were supposed to protect. You can see the remnants of this problem in the parks from that era.

The idea behind the MSCP was to do some regional planning: Lands with a many rare species and good habitat were identified, categorized as blocks of core habitat with wildlife corridors. These were designated as "Pre-Approved Mitigation Areas" (PAMA). Other areas that were not so good, but which had some sensitive resources, were also identified. These were also part of the MSCP. The idea was to direct development into the areas that were less important for conservation, while conserving the lands that were more important. Instead of setting aside the best of some mediocre land inside a development (for example) the developer would pay to conserve land inside the PAMA, helping to build a network of core habitats linked by wildlife corridors, all protected as parkland, ecological reserve, ecological preserve, or wildlife refuge. This grand compromise was to give both the conservation and development communities some assurance over which lands were to be built and which preserved. To further streamline development, the wildlife agencies gave the County (and cities) that adopted the MSCP "take permits," which allowed them to permit developers to take sensitive resources on developments, provided those takes were mitigated inside the PAMA.

The MSCP was divided into three parts, the South County, which was created in the early 1990s, the North County, which is still in process, and the East County, where the idea has faced so much political opposition that it has not gotten far.

Before I dive into the problem with Village 14, I want to detour into Newland Sierra. The Newland land is a major core habitat area for the North County MSCP, and it has a couple of wildlife corridors linking to it. The Newland Sierra development would bisect the property, so any plant or animal moving through the wildlife corridor would have to cross numerous roads and backyards to get from wildland to wildland, before heading north through the undeveloped wildlife corridor that borders I-15. That's one big reason why CNPS is part of the litigation against Newland Sierra. The corridor it damages is one of only two big south-north wildlife corridors left in the County, and the other one goes through the privately held Rancho Guejito. Lose both of those to development, and plants and animals can't migrate north to deal with climate change.

Otay Ranch Village 14 has similar problems, but it's down in Proctor Valley near the border, so it's part of the South County MSCP. Getting back to history, when the South County MSCP was being created, the wildlife agencies objected to part of the plan. Three parcels in Proctor Valley

(PV-1, PV-2, and PV-3) were identified as critical wildlife corridor between two core habitat areas at Sweetwater Reservoir and Otay Mountain, but they were slated for development. So the developer, the agencies and the municipalities did a deal, whereby they would take some other parcels that were slated for the PAMA, and put development on there, and put the PV parcels into the PAMA in their stead. This deal was known as the "Baldwin Agreement," after the owner of the parcels at the time. The parcels that were traded for the PV parcels were then developed, and everyone assumed that, in the course of time, someone would use the PV parcels as a mitigation bank and they would become parkland. They're bordered by a CDFW ecological reserve and parts of the USFWS San Diego National Wildlife Refuge. While there was developable land outside the three parcels and parklands, they were so marginal that the thought was it would end up as parkland regardless.

Fast forward to the mid-2010s, with the County Supervisors tilting hard right, and new faces at County Planning, and the new owner of the PV Parcels decides to try to develop them. I'm oversimplifying a bit, but that's the origin of Village 14. This time, the County is playing along, trying to provide legal justification for how they are overturning the Baldwin agreement by developing the PV parcels, while at the same time protecting the South County MSCP.

The wildlife agencies, last I heard, were having none of that, and have said that if the County approves Otay Ranch Village 14, it will be found out of compliance with the MSCP, which means it loses its take permit. Thereafter, any development inside MSCP lands has to go through the old, problematic 1980s CEQA process. This is more work for developers, more work for us and the other environmental groups because we'll have to fight on more projects, and more work for the strapped wildlife agencies, who will have to review and approve everything. And development slows waaaay down during a mounting housing crisis.

Furthermore, if the South County MSCP falls apart, why should the wildlife agencies allow the County to work on a North County MSCP, let alone an East County MSCP. Work on these is decades behind schedule, and if the County won't keep the deals it already made, why make more of them?

This is why we have to fight on Village 14, just as we did on Newland Sierra. It's not just about those developments, it's about the preservation of wildlife corridors and big enough habitat areas through the MSCP. I want to make that really, really clear, because the ramifications of these two projects being built are far bigger than the projects themselves. Conservation is only as good as the governments, agencies, and organizations enforcing it, and if we stop advocating and working on it, conservation stops happening, and we lose what our predecessors tried to save.

CNPSSD has, effectively, two budgets, one for operations and one for conservation legal expenses. This separation means that, while a corporation may sponsor work on native plant gardens, they can't use that money to influence conservation

decisions. As a result, conservation has to raise money separately, and we're running low. Right now is a really good time to contribute money to the Legal Fund (via a check to our treasurer) because Village 14 is a fight we need to win.

~ Frank Landis, Conservation Chair

LEGISLATION

I have been Legislative Chair for our Chapter for many years. It has been some time since I wrote our members. With political change in Washington D.C. and in Sacramento, legislators' priorities for conservation have changed.

Please contact me at legislation@cnpsd.org if you have a personal connection with any of our federal elected officials (House and Senate), State officials (Assembly, Senate, the Governor and his agencies), the SD County Board of Supervisors, or mayors/council members in our local cities (San Diego, Chula Vista, La Mesa, El Cajon, Escondido, Del Mar, Solana Beach, Encinitas, Carlsbad, Oceanside, San Marcos and Vista).

We need these personal connections to give us an entry to discuss important conservation issues. CNPS prides itself on being non-partisan and applying the best available science to conservation. We need to reinforce the importance of making decisions based on research as well as emotion and concern for our well-being.

On a very positive note, in Washington D.C. the House and Senate passed S47, the National Resource Management Act. It was authored by Senator Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska. It was signed into law by President Trump who had previously railed against most of the bill's provisions. For Californians, the bill expands the California Desert Protection and Recreation Act, vastly increases wilderness areas, and provides an ongoing source of money for the Water Conservation Fund—up to \$900 million per year from oil and gas royalties—all independent of annual Congressional appropriations. Nationwide, the bill protected 1.3 million acres, adding 300,000 acres of wilderness and 700,000 acres of conservation lands. The bill expands National Parks and created four new National Monuments. While the bill transferred BLM land to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, it also created six new federal Off-Highway Vehicle parks and doubled the size of Johnson Valley OHV.

The President and his Interior Department political appointees have tried and tried to eliminate process and protections from federal land-use decisions. CNPS Sacramento is not usually involved in federal legislative issues, but this year it has worked closely with the Department of the Interior (DOI) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service career scientists in an attempt to restore some of the most important protections to mineral and timber leasing. It appears forest management protocols that require rare and endangered plant surveys in the appropriate seasons and by trained botanists will be restored. On the downside, the DOI

has gutted a sage-grouse habitat protection plan for the interior western states that had previously been agreed to by DOI and the respective governors. DOI's political appointees are trying as hard as they can to amend the Endangered Species Act (ESA), or at least change agency protocols as to how it applies to species and their habitat. This will be an ongoing battle. For decades, the ESA has had widespread Congressional support, largely from urban and suburban legislators and in the Senate. With the House under Democratic control, legislative changes to ESA are now less likely, but the DOI will continue to try to gut protections.

On the state level, more and more legislators are taking cues from our newly elected governor Gavin Newsom in allowing our statewide fire agency, CalFIRE, to implement its long-stalled vegetation management scheme—known as VTP (Vegetation Treatment Program). Although CNPS and dozens of its sister organizations dedicated to conservation have over more than a decade introduced more fire-science into wildfire management, the most recent statewide catastrophes have put enormous pressure on the governor and legislator to act—even if the actions endorsed by CalFIRE are likely to create greater risk for urbanized and urbanizing areas near the coast and chaparral. CalFIRE grew out of California's forestry department. Its personnel are largely unfamiliar with non-forest ecology and wildfire mitigation.

CNPS has two conservation staff dedicated to lobbying elected officials and working with the governor; Wade Crowfoot, the new Secretary of National Resources; and state agencies on wildfire management. CNPS's long time lobbyist, Vern Goering, retired in 2018. Greg Suba, CNPS top conservation employee, has been working with a new lobbyist, Alfredo Arredondo, a UC Davis graduate and former Legislative aide to the California Assembly Public Safety, Environmental Safety and Toxics sub-committee.

I have been spending a great deal more time coordinating with CNPSSD Conservation Chair Frank Landis as the issues facing me are not just legislative, but work their way through state, county and local conservation plans and their implementation. Some of the most pressing issues lead us to our Congressional Representatives and Senators, as well as our State Senate and Assembly members, Governor and his agencies.

~ Peter St. Claire, Legislation Chair

GARDENING WITH NATIVES

Native Gardening Committee Meeting

June 12. The Native Gardening Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at various locations. Contact gardening@cnpsd.org for location and time.

Old Town Native Landscape

Saturday, June 8; 9 am to 1 pm. Old Town Native Landscape Needs Your Help to Prepare for Big Fall Planting.

Meet at 9 am at the McCoy House Museum, the two-story white building nearest to the corner of Taylor and Congress Streets. We will be planting a lot of new natives in the Native Landscape in November - December 2019. Between now and then, we invite volunteers to come on the second Saturday of each month, to help us remove whatever exotic weeds we find. We are doing our best to remove them before they go to seed, so the new natives won't have to compete for space, water, and sunlight with exotic invaders.

Bring water and have sun protection. If you have gloves and a favorite weeding tool, bring them, or share ours.

Take bus, train, or trolley to the Old Town Station, and cross at the corner of Taylor and Congress. If you drive there is free parking in the F lot in Old Town, next to Calhoun Street, or in the CalTrans lot that you enter at Juan and Taylor Streets.

Questions? Contact **Kay** or **Peter** at:
oldtownlandscape@cnpsd.org

New California Native Seeds in Stock

Our seed supplies have been fortified thanks to a great group of volunteers at the Seed Sorting Party last weekend. We have 13 species back in stock once again: *Abronia maritima*, *Acmispon glaber*, *Camissoniopsis bistorta*, *Eriogonum fasciculatum* var. *fasciculatum*, *Lupinus longifolius*, *Mimulus aurantiacus* var. *puniceus*, *Muhlenbergia microsperma*, *Nemophila maculata*, *Oenothera elata*, *Penstemon spectabilis*, *Stipa pulchra*, *Trichostema lanatum* and Xerces Pollinator Mix. As always, see our amazing selection of over 100 species from the San Diego and Imperial Valley areas at:

<https://www.cnpsd.org/orderseedsandbulbs>. We do mail order for \$3.50 shipping fee per order.

~ **Cindy Hazuka**, CNPS-SD Seed and Bulb Coordinator
cnpsd.seeds@gmail.com
<https://www.cnpsd.org/seeds-and-bulbs/>

Order seeds here:

<https://www.cnpsd.org/orderseedsandbulbs>

Seeds are also for sale on the Calscape website at:
<https://bit.ly/2W3kpqn>

Book Review

Hummingbird Plants of the Southwest by Marcy Scott

Last year I received a beautiful book *Hummingbird Plants of the Southwest* by Marcy Scott from the publisher for review. The book contains 5 chapters: "Hummingbirds and Their Flowers - A Short Primer," "Hummingbirds of the Southwest, Creating a Hummingbird Habitat," "Gardening with Native Plants - Southwestern Style," and "Hummingbird Plants of the Southwestern United States and Northern Mexico." The book is informative and photographs are gorgeous for both the hummingbirds and plant species but my glancing through the plant species made me hesitant to carry the book for CNPSSD. The author is trying to describe plant species over a large territory from California to Texas and Northern Mexico to lower Utah and Colorado. My concern is that people look at the lovely photographs and will choose a species that does not occur in San Diego or Imperial County based on the pretty picture of the plant. The book displays 21 species of penstemon but doesn't include *Penstemon heterophylla* (foothill penstemon) or *Penstemon spectabilis* (showy penstemon), the common species for most of our membership and people likely to buy the book from our CNPS chapter. Salvias in the book include 9 species but the most common ones for our area are lumped together in the text with no photographs. I understand that is due to the extent of the area the author is trying to cover but it makes one work a little harder to make sure they choose local species that support hummingbirds. I don't like to encourage use of non-local species in gardening.

Back to species - I don't know about your experience with *Salvia clevelandii* (Cleveland sage) but when I had a yard in Chula Vista, the *Salvia clevelandii* in my backyard and the *Epilobium canum* (California fuchsia) in my front yard were regular draws for hummingbirds. Both bloomed for extensive times given a little supplemental water. Cleveland sage is a beautiful plant but of highly limited distribution over the range of Southwestern hummingbirds and while it is mentioned, it doesn't have its own photograph in the book. I put the California fuchsia in my front parking strip, and once it started blooming I was suddenly seeing hummingbirds regularly in the front yard when I used to only see them in the back by the Salvias. I mostly put the California fuchsia there as they are hardy, require little water, and have lovely blooms for extended time if given a little water. I don't believe I thought about hummingbirds when I planted but I was pleased to see the species is included in the book with a photograph. I enjoyed creating a water spray that the hummingbirds would dive through when I was watering the yard and they were visiting. The "Creating a Hummingbird Habitat" section of the book discusses water features that are attractive to hummingbirds for your garden.

Marcy Scott recently contacted the chapter about her book. She explained to me that she had originally not planned on including California. She lives in New Mexico along the Rio Grande and operates a nursery specializing in Southwestern native plants, plants for wildlife habitat and other resource efficient landscape plants. The migratory nature of the different hummingbird species made it critical to include the information extending to California. The author is trying to encourage gardeners to help overcome some of the loss of food sources for the birds that

occurred with extensive development, especially in the coastal part of the state, through inclusion of nectar plants in their gardens. I had picked up two copies of the book prior to her contact and they sold the same night I put them out for sale at the chapter meeting.

Other pertinent information shared by the author when I mentioned my concerns about carrying a book with such broadly based information was that out of 135 plant species mentioned in the book, 41 (or about 30%) are native to one or both counties included in the chapter, including 14 out of 15 California/Baja California endemics. *Ipomopsis tenuifolia* is only found in San Diego and Imperial counties. The several penstemons, especially *P. centranthifolius* and *P. labrosus*; the Keckiellas; the *Diplacus* species; *Salvia spathacea*; the two *Ribes*; and *Monardella macrantha* -- all are of tremendous importance to resident and migrating hummingbirds, and the plants depend substantially upon them for pollination.

She didn't start out thinking that she needed to include California plants in the book, but as she delved more deeply into the migratory patterns of our western hummingbird species and the corresponding evolution of flowering plants adapting to those movements, it became apparent what a critical role those plants play in the big picture. Hummingbirds depend heavily upon the plants and they in turn rely significantly on the birds - and with so many threats that both face these days, she wanted to share the information as widely as possible.

Chapter 2 includes six species of hummingbirds listed as regular in California (Black-chinned, Anna's, Costa's, Calliope, Rufous, and Allen's), two species being occasionally reported (Broad-billed (sporadic over large areas) and Broad-tailed (nesting in the eastern part of the state in single leaf pinyon (*Pinus monophylla*), California juniper (*Juniperus californica*), and *Salix* species), and very rare reports of Violet-crowned, Magnificent, and Blue-throated being seen. The migratory behavior of species is discussed for these species and the others not occurring in California but in the Southwest and Northern Mexico.

In the plant section, the author includes a photograph and information about the size of plants, the bloom period, water use, cold hardiness and USDA zone as well as a page of discussion about the species. I was thrilled to see her advice for planting Indian warrior (*Pedicularis densiflora*) in her description of the species. It was also interesting to see that the birds will use plants that are not red colored although the bulk of the species included are red blooming. I knew this from seeing them visit purple blooming penstemons in nature. I was never able to keep a *Penstemon spectabilis* alive in my garden but we planted one at Black Mountain Open Space Park last year and it bloomed and bloomed, and I saw it visited by hummingbirds. The book has at least eight different plant genera with species that are not red blooming so you don't have to forgo hummingbirds in your yard if you don't like red flowers.

After reading more of the book instead of just looking at the pretty pictures of species that don't naturally occur in San Diego and Imperial County, I decided the chapter should carry the

book for sale. My concerns remain about people bringing in species not native to this area because of their beauty, and the hybridization with related species that can occur with plants. Since we carry other gardening books that showcase species not native to the area it didn't seem right to leave this one out. Please don't bring the "beautiful but not native to here" species into your garden when you see the beautiful photographs of the different species. Ms. Scott was correct to impress upon me the migratory nature of most of the hummingbird species and their need to travel through California and feed along the way. I hadn't thought about the co-evolution occurring between the species and will need to read the book more thoroughly to see what information it contains about that topic or in the extensive bibliography section. I had to wince when I read her statement about eucalyptus and tree tobacco supporting hummingbird species in Southern California due to their prevalence and the loss of their native nectar sources to development. Perhaps if we can get enough nectar species in our gardens, the hummingbirds won't need the weedy invasives.

~ Cindy Burrascano, Chapter Book Sales

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Mission Trails Regional Park "California Tapestry" by Lesley Goren

June 22-August 3: 9 am - 5 pm daily

Lesley Goren illustrates a love note to the native plants of California for the MTRP Visitor Center

On view at the Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP) Visitor Center June 22 through August 3, 2019 is an exhibition by Los Angeles-based artist and illustrator Lesley Goren, whose lively and colorful images of plants and flowers are a self-described "love note" to the native vegetation of Southern California. The works in "California Tapestry" include cheerful drawings of scarlet monkey flowers (*Mimulus cardinalis*), shooting stars (*Primula clevelandii*), and yellow mariposa lilies (*Calochortus luteus*) that serve as beautiful reminders of the importance of nature and place.

Goren sees her subject matter as a way to bring attention to preservation and conservation. She studies and sketches important, unique aspects of native plants like the colors of chaparral through the seasons, or how plants appear as they recover from wildfires.

Lesley Goren's work has been on view at the Western National Parks Association, the educational partner of the National Park Service, the California Native Plant Society, and The Theodore Payne Foundation and Nursery among others. She recently took part in the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden's "Art of the Wildflower" exhibition and sold one of her paintings of the Santa Monica Mountains to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti.

To commemorate her show at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor Center, Lesley Goren has created two new custom greeting card designs for Mission Trails Regional Park to sell in the Visitor Center's Gift Shop. The designs highlight the leaves and flowers of Mission Trails. The opening reception for Lesley Goren's solo exhibition and first showing in San Diego County will take place at the MTRP Visitor Center on June 23 from 2-4 pm. Artwork featured in the exhibition will be available for sale, and a portion of the funds will support the park through the Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation.

The Art Program at the MTRP Visitor Center is organized by the MTRP Foundation and a portion of artwork sales benefits the park through the Foundation. For more information and a list of past and upcoming exhibitions, visit www.mtrp.org. The Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center is located at One Junipero Serra Trail, San Diego, CA 92119. The Visitor Center is open daily from 9 am -5 pm and admission is free.

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 the following event:

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



Cal-IPC Symposium October 15-18, Riverside



Registration now open!

Early bird rates end August 1!

The symposium will be at the Riverside Convention Center and rooms are available at the historic Mission Inn in

downtown Riverside, steps away from restaurants and entertainment. The program includes talks, posters, trainings, discussion groups and field trips on a range of topics addressing invasive plants and their management. Connect with colleagues from across the state, and get the latest updates on effective tools, relevant research, and strategic management approaches.

Join Cal-IPC for the member discount

Cal-IPC members get discounted registration to the Symposium, including discounts on training sessions and field trips. Members also receive a subscription to Cal-IPC's newsletter, Dispatch, featuring the latest on plants, projects, and policy.

Take pictures for the photo contest

Your pictures help us tell the story of restoration work. Get ready to submit your best images to our 2019 Photo Contest by taking pictures while you're in the field this spring/summer! The 2019 Photo Contest will open July 15.

The historic Mission Inn was built in 1876 and upgraded to a luxurious AAA Four Diamond award-winning hotel, featuring Spanish-Mission style architecture with modern luxury, from flying buttresses and garden oases to a modern fitness center, spa, and upscale dining. **Reserve by Sept. 14 to get our room rate with code CALIPC 2019.** Check our website for details, including area maps and more.

<https://www.cal-ipc.org/resources/symposium/>

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. Submissions are due by the 10th of the month preceding the newsletter; that is, June 10 for the July newsletter, etc. Please submit items to newsletter@cnpsd.org

CNPS-SD Activities Calendar June 2019

- 6/4: Conservation Committee Mtg, p.4
- 6/5: Board Meeting, p.2
- 6/8: Old Town Native Landscape Work Party, p. 8
- 6/9: Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, p.2
- 6/12: Garden Committee Mtg, p. 6
- 6/16: Rancho Cuyamaca State Park, p.2
- 6/18: Chapter Meeting, p.1
- 6/22: Otay Mountain Truck Trail, p.3
- 7/7: Noble Canyon Trail, p. 3

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.

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