



Erysimum menziesii

The Wallflower

The Newsletter of the California Native Plant Society
Monterey Bay Chapter

<http://montereybay.cnps.org>

February 2012

The Santa Cruz Sandhills

General Meeting Speaker: Jody McGraw

The Santa Cruz Sandhills represent one of California's most remarkable examples of edaphic (soil-related) endemism. Amidst the coast redwood forests that dominate the Santa Cruz Mountains, islands of droughty, nutrient-poor sand soils formed from uplifted Miocene (15 mya) marine sand deposits of the Santa Margarita formation give rise to unique plant communities found nowhere else in the world. They include maritime chaparral dominated by the local endemic Bonny Doon manzanita (*Arctostaphylos silvicola*), and Sand Parkland, which features sparse stands of ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) with a diverse and beautiful herbaceous understory featuring many rare and locally unique plants including three endemic forbs: Ben Lomond buckwheat (*Eriogonum nudum* var. *decurrens*), Ben Lomond spineflower (*Chorizanthe pungens* var. *hartwegiana*), and Santa Cruz wallflower (*Erysimum teretifolium*). The Sandhills communities also support three animals found nowhere else in the world: the Mount Hermon June beetle, the Zayante band-winged grasshopper, and the Santa Cruz kangaroo rat. The persistence of these unique species and communities has been threatened by habitat loss, incompatible recreation, and the invasion and spread of non-native species.

Jodi McGraw is an ecologist who works on conservation projects throughout Central California. Her dissertation research at UC Berkeley examined the ecology of the endangered plants and rare communities of the Santa Cruz Sandhills. She authored the Sandhills Conservation and Management Plan, which can be found on her Santa Cruz Sandhills website: <http://www.santacruzsandhills.com/scmp.html>

General Meeting • Thursday, February 9

Visiting & Book Purchasing from 7:00pm
Meeting and Program Begin at 7:30pm

Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History



THANK YOU!

Chris Hauser has agreed to take over as our chapter's webmaster and Sarah Chmielewski will keep the calendar up-to-date. Bless their hearts, I say bless their hearts. The old website will not be maintained in 2012. Happy New Year, one and all! ~ Al Washburn

CALENDAR of FIELD TRIPS & EVENTS

Saturday, February 4, 1pm to 4pm Restoration
BROOM BASH, EAST SIDE OF PT. LOBOS STATE RESERVE
Join us on these First Saturdays of the month in the beautiful Monterey pine forest of East Point Lobos. We'll use several techniques to remove French broom and help restore this area that wants to thrive with native plants. Meet in Carmel at the Rio Road Park n' Ride. All supplies provided. Bring a friend, water, and a snack. Contact Bruce Delgado at 277-7690 or bdelgado62@gmail.com for more information.

Saturday February 11, 10am to 2pm Field Trip
FERNS OF FALL CREEK WITH DEANNA GIULIANO
Come frolic in the forest of Fall Creek on a fern foray. We will try to locate most of the 15 species of ferns that grow in the park. Hike will be leisurely—about 2.5 miles. Bring water, layers, and a lunch. Meet at the State Park parking lot on Felton Empire Road in Felton. The first 10 people to show up get a key to the native ferns of Santa Cruz County! Carpooling is encouraged, but not CNPS sponsored. Contact Deanna Giuliano for any questions at drosegiuliano@yahoo.com or call 831 335-4902. Heavy rain cancels.

Sunday February 12, 1 to 4 pm Field Trip
JACKS PEAK PROPOSED ZIP-LINE HIKE WITH BOB HALE
On this hike we will visualize where the proposed Zip-line may be developed amongst the quiet Monterey Pine forest of Jacks Peak. Come see what may happen, but also come to enjoy a beautiful hike amongst the shady pines and sunny slopes of chaparral, with early flowering shrubs such as Oso Berry and currants likely and maybe other flowers if enough rain falls. The walk could be up to 3 1/2 miles and 600 feet of elevation. Meet at the northwest corner of the Whole Foods Parking lot, Del Monte Shopping Center. Carpooling into Park optional with \$5 entrance fee per vehicle. For more details and reservation call Lynn at 375-7777.

Sunday, February 19, 11am to 2pm Restoration
SOBERANES CREEK CAPE IVY BASH
Here Soberanes Creek falls into the ocean and needs our help continuing to remove various invasive weeds, primarily Cape ivy. On these Third Sundays, meet in Carmel at the Rio Rd. Park n' Ride to carpool (across from the Chevron gas station). All supplies provided. Bring a friend, water, and a snack. Contact Bruce Delgado at bdelgado62@gmail.com or 277-7690 for more information.

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Pebble Beach Development DEIR: Chapter comments on the build-out proposed by Pebble Beach Co. urged modification of the housing proposed immediately above the Indian Village plant reserve for protection of Hickman's Potentilla. The homes are situated so that run-off could adversely affect the endangered plant. The chapter also emphasized strict enforcement of conditions to protect and restore Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA) which receive strong protection under the Coastal Act. In addition, the letter urged that the loss of some 7000 Monterey pines to development be further mitigated by dedication to Jacks Peak Park of property owned by PBCo. adjoining the park.

Whispering Oaks: Thanks to a successful referendum on the Board of Supervisors' approval of this project, the Board will decide at its Jan 24 meeting either to rescind its rezoning of the property or set a date for a vote of the people on this huge and destructive conversion of oak woodland at Fort Ord. CNPS urges the Board to rescind and look more closely at several alternative proposals to site development in blighted areas of Ft. Ord instead of its native oak woodlands.

Monterey Downs: Also threatening recreation and natural habitat areas at Fort Ord, this huge project proposes a 200-room hotel, 1400 housing units, a village with retail and commercial space, a 6500-seat covered arena for as many as 50 indoor equestrian events each year, a one-mile racing track, miles of equestrian trails, and more. The County Redevelopment Agency has been negotiating with the would-be developer, and once the terms of the contract are settled, the public will have only 10 days to challenge the agreement. The environmental impacts of the project will only be considered *after* the agreement is signed—a clear case of putting the "cart before the horse!" It seems that the county has learned nothing from the back-room dealings that have apparently upended the regional water project.

FORA Reauthorization and Plan Update: With pressure from developers to move the above projects and others along before the Habitat Management Plan is even finalized, the public is becoming increasingly frustrated with the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) created by the State Legislature to oversee redevelopment after closure of Fort Ord. With FORA expiring in 2014 there is growing urgency to restructure FORA if it is reauthorized and also to require updating the Fort Ord Reuse Plan, which is clearly failing to concentrate on "reuse" of the dilapidated areas instead of sacrificing valuable wildlands habitat. CNPS urges that revision of the plan and completion of the Habitat Plan should be highest priority along with refining FORA's governance to give the affected public more influence.

Fort Ord Clean-up & Wildflower Tours: The Fort Ord Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Field Office has set its semi-annual free guided bus tour of Fort Ord clean-up projects for Sat. Feb. 25. There will also be an Open House with information on groundwater cleanup, habitat management, and landfill actions. Also this spring BRAC will again offer a 1.5 hour walking tour inside the Impact Area. The date will be determined by winter rainfall for optimum wildflower viewing. For details or a copy of the current quarterly newsletter listing the release schedule of environmental documents, email: Melissa/Broadston@us.army.mil or call her at 393-1284.

Jacks Peak Zipline: The Mitigated Negative Declaration that was supposed to have been released by now on the proposed zipline at Jacks Peak Park has not appeared, while opposition has continued to grow. Opponents cite a list of potential impacts and have urged a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The chapter agrees that an EIR is required because of the long history of the park for passive use. Late Flash! The county just announced that an EIR would be prepared!

Errata: the date of the agreement between the Army and CNPS for the permanent protection of the Fort Ord Plant Reserves in the last issue should have been 1989, not 1998.

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Saturday February 25, 9:30am to Noon Field Trip
WILD SIDE OF TORO PARK WITH BOB HALE

This hike of about 3 miles and 600 feet of elevation gain will explore the tranquility of Wildcat Canyon in Toro Park. If we get rains by early February, we should see a display of early spring flowers such as shooting stars, indian warrior, foot steps of spring and ceanothus along the pleasant secluded oak canyon and chaparral ridges. Bring water, good hiking boots

and a snack. Meet outside the entrance to Toro Park off Highway 68. For information and to let us know you are coming call Lynn at 375-7777

Saturday February 25, 9:30am to 3pm Field Trip
HIKE TO CHALK MOUNTAIN 1609' AND BEGINNING PLANT ID

Come follow Deanna Giuliano's lead, and enjoy spectacular panoramic views, amazing redwoods and understory plants we can key on the steep trail up to see flowering endemic Manzanitas at the top. Strenuous elevation gain of about

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1500 feet, 4 miles round trip. Bring water, layers, sunscreen, hat and a lunch. Meet at Westside New Leaf parking lot. Limited to 15 people. Carpooling is encouraged, but not CNPS sponsored. Contact Deanna Giuliano for any questions at drosegiuliano@yahoo.com or call 831 278-2699. Heavy rain cancels

ARTICLES, ETC.

LEAD A FIELD TRIP!

March will begin the wildflower season (provided we get some rain!). We will all want to get out to admire and/or learn more about flora and fauna. If you would like to schedule a field trip, hike or workshop or just have questions about leading, please contact me. Field trip leaders need not be experts; it is more important to share your enthusiasm as you show participants something that is special to you. Lynn Bomberger, CNPS-MB Field Trip Chair 375-7777.

SEEKING ONE GALLON PLASTIC POTS

MEarth is in need of one gallon pots for nursery use. Contact Amanda Francis at ayantos@yahoo.com or (650)804-9612 if you can help.

RARE PLANT TREASURE HUNT

The CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt recently wrapped up a successful second year, documenting over 500 occurrences of rare plants around the state. Chapter members are encouraged to volunteer in 2012 by leading their own trips – either as a Chapter event or an independent group. The Monterey Bay Chapter’s region has over 200 rare plant taxa, and many of their populations haven’t been documented in over 20 years. A training manual is currently being developed to orient volunteers to leading their own Rare Plant Treasure Hunts, and will be posted to the Rare Plant Treasure Hunt website in February (<http://www.cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt/>). Email treasurehunt@cnps.org to be notified of upcoming trips to join or to get help with organizing your own rare plant surveys.

INITIATIVE TO LABEL GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOODS

The California Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act Ballot Initiative is about our rights as citizens to know what we are eating. Manufacturers must tell us if the re-

sources they are using have been genetically engineered so that we can make choices for healthy living. What are genetically engineered foods? Basically biochemists take the gene from one organism (plant, animal, insect, bacteria) and insert it into the DNA of another organism (corn, soybeans, alfalfa, canola, sugar beets) thereby creating a genetically new and different organism. No testing was done on the safety of these organisms by the FDA prior to their use in the foods we eat. There is growing evidence that genetically engineered foods cause harm from increased allergies and immune problems to infertility and accelerated aging. Signature gathering for the initiative begins in January. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, check the local chapter’s newsletter at <http://www.labelgmosmonterey2012.blogspot.com/> or www.labelgmos.org or call Colleen at 831-204-8633.

LOOKING FORWARD

Next month’s general meeting speaker will be Ronald Russo, author of *Plant Galls of California and Other Western States*.

CHAPTER ELECTIONS

It’s (past) that time of the year again. The nominating committee proposes the following nominees for office:

- President: **Brian LeNeve**
- Vice President: **Beth Benoit**
- Secretary: **Bob Hale**
- Treasurer: **Jim Pittman**
- Membership: **Ron Branson**

As always, nominations from the floor are welcome: however, the nominee must agree to the nomination. If you are unable to attend the February 9th meeting, please sign the attached proxy and send it to Carol LeNeve, Box 1012, Carmel 93921.

I hereby authorize _____
to vote as my proxy in the February 2012 Monterey Bay Chapter, California Native Plant Society election.

Signed _____

Date _____





Monterey Bay Chapter
California Native Plant Society
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Monterey Bay Chapter: <http://montereybay.cnps.org>
State Organization: www.cnps.org

Publication Schedule of the Next Two Wallflowers

<u>Newsletter</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Mailing Date</u>
March	Thurs, Feb 16 (revised)	Wed, Feb 22
April	Thurs, Mar 15	Wed, Mar 21

Articles received after the deadline may not be published

CNPS-MB OFFICERS & BOARD of DIRECTORS

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VICE PRESIDENT: Brian LeNeve, P.O. Box 1012 Carmel, CA 93921, 624-8497, bjleneve@att.net
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WEB MASTER: Chris Hauser, chauser@slconservancy.org, 392-6931
WEBSITE CALENDAR: Sarah Chmielewski, sarahechmielewski@gmail.com, 410-409-2544
WILDFLOWER SHOW: Brian LeNeve, bjleneve@att.net

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

BEACH GARDEN PROJECT: Joey Dorrell-Canepa, 623-9048, stephen.canepa@att.net
CHUCK HAUGEN CONSERVATION FUND: Bruce Delgado, (See Restoration)
ROWNTREE GARDEN: Gary Girard, 375 Gibson Ave., Pacific Grove 93950, 372-5870
MONTEREY PINE FOREST WATCH: Joyce Stevens, P.O Box 2116, Carmel 93921, 624-3149, jstevens@redshift.com

Dedicated to the Preservation of
California Native Flora in its Habitat



Membership Form
Join the California Native Plant Society!

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone _____
Email _____
Chapter (County) Affiliation _____

Membership categories:

___ Limited income ___ \$25	___ Plant Lover ___ \$100
___ Individual ___ \$45	___ Patron ___ \$300
___ Family ___ \$75	___ Benefactor ___ \$600
___ Mariposa Lily ___ \$1,500	

Please mail this membership form with payment to:

California Native Plant Society, Attention: Membership
2707 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816

To pay by credit card or more info call 916-447-2677

All dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible