GENERAL MEETING

July 11
7:30PM: Speaker Carleton Eyster
Location: Arboretum Horticulture Building

DUNE RESTORATION - A MOVING TARGET
How do you restore habitat for a bird that thrives on bare sand?
Federally Threatened Snowy Plovers live their entire life cycle on the edge, restricted to the narrow sandy ecotone between the ocean and the greater coastline we all enjoy. They hide in the open, effectively camouflaged against the windblown fore dunes, seeking refuge in the footprints we leave behind or behind an isolated sprig of Camissonia or Abronia. They also lay their eggs and raise their precocial, highly mobile young on the outer strand, feeding amongst the beach-cast wrack, driftwood and shell debris. Beach communities are at-risk globally for a number of reasons, most of which are at play right here on Monterey Bay.

Carleton Eyster, biologist with Point Blue Conservation Science for 25 years, will explore the fascinating world of Snowy Plovers and our coastal dune community. He will discuss many of the unique adaptations that allow certain plants and animals to live in this harsh environment and outline some of the threats to this dynamic habitat, highlighting the restoration challenges and opportunities in a landscape dominated by multiple human uses.

SAN FRANCISCO POPCORN FLOWER HABITAT WILL BE RESTORED
Debbie Bulger

A deal between the Santa Cruz Chapter of CNPS and a Meder Street property owner will result in the restoration of over 40 acres of Coastal Prairie. The Chapter also worked with the Center for Biological Diversity, which is also a party to the Settlement. The property, located next to the Moore Creek Reserve on Meder Street lies between two branches of Moore Creek. Before livestock grazing was stopped over 10 years ago, the property contained the densest populations remaining of San Francisco Popcorn Flower (Plagiobothrys diffusus) and federally-endangered Ohlone Tiger Beetle (Cicindela ohlone). The San Francisco Popcorn Flower is listed as endangered in California, with only six populations of that species remaining. It was last observed on the property in 2012.
Our chapter’s Conservation Committee members Debbie Bulger, Grey Hayes, Suzanne Schettler, and Richard Stover, along with Gary Patton, the local attorney representing CNPS, met over a five-month period with the property owners and their representatives to require that a Habitat Management Plan be attached to the Conditions of Approval for the development.

The property owners, solar entrepreneurs who are moving to the area from Florida, will build a residence, guesthouse, workshop, swimming pool, and pool house on 7 acres of the property. The development will be solar-powered and off the grid.

The agreement permanently conserves roughly 85 percent of the property as wildlife habitat—protecting wetlands, streams, woodlands, and coastal prairie. Importantly, the deal also creates habitat management plan funded by the landowners to help restore imperiled coastal prairie. Popcorn flower and tiger beetle populations have struggled because of threats from nonnative grasses and development in coastal bluffs throughout California. The agreement became final on May 19, 2016 when the Planning Commission of the city of Santa Cruz filed no appeals at the California Coastal Commission against the project’s earlier approval.

Previously, the property was owned by another couple who decided not to build and ultimately sold the land after both CNPS and the Center for Biological Diversity challenged their development plans beginning in 2014.

“The California Environmental Quality Act brought together everyone involved to make sure that environmental protection was a basic part of the proposed project,” said Gary Patton. As the detailed Habitat Management Plan is implemented, CNPS is looking forward to seeing the San Francisco Popcorn Flower once again on the property. It’s nice to have a happy ending after two years of negotiations.

Thank You Staff of Life
Staff of Life Natural Food Market gathers contributions for us from people who bring their own bags. Thank you, Staff of Life. We appreciate your support!

HABITAT RESTORATION TEAM
Linda Brodman
July 9, 2016 10 AM to 1 PM
Sand Hill Bluff, Wilder Ranch State Park
July 30, 2016 10 AM to 1 PM
Seabright Beach (part of Twin Lakes State Beach)

Summertime is here, and volunteer restoration work slows down a little. I will try and have a couple more projects during the summer months, and will send an email notice out to my list once I have confirmed dates. ~Linda

Contact: Program Leader, Linda Brodman
831-462-4041 redwdrn@pacbell.net
Check the website for updates: cruzcnps.org

An area of Seabright Beach showing a restoration project in progress.

San Francisco Popcorn Flower photo by Dylan Neubauer

An area of Seabright Beach showing a native plant restoration that is mature and thriving. Photos by Jackie Pascoe.
NEW PUBLICATION

California’s Botanical Landscapes
California Native Plant Society
Photographic survey of Golden State’s Vegetation
Presented by Leading Ecologists

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) today announced the release of its latest book, *California’s Botanical Landscapes: A Pictorial View of the State’s Vegetation*. Written and edited by more than a dozen of the state’s leading plant ecologists and published by CNPS Press, the book explores, through vivid photographs and naturalist descriptions, California’s plant communities and the complex web of interactions that both create and sustain them.

“Vegetation is the fabric of ecosystems, and California’s vegetation is one of the richest and most intricate tapestries of varied forests, shrublands, and grasslands anywhere on Earth,” states Susan Harrison, a professor of environmental science and policy at UC Davis. “By beautifully describing and explaining this colorful tapestry, *California’s Botanical Landscapes* will inspire people to keep studying, appreciating, and conserving California’s exceptional vegetation.”

Arranged by chapter into 14 California ecoregions, the book delves into the geographical, biological, and human factors which give rise to a plant community’s continued presence—or disappearance—in its habitat. Included are examples of the unique relationships between wildlife and vegetation. “Today, I have never felt more hopeful about the future of conserving California’s landscapes,” says Todd Keeler-Wolf, a senior vegetation ecologist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and one the book’s co-editors. “Much of this hopefulness is inspired by new and effective strategies shared between wildlife resources and vegetation, and many of the important ecological links between wildlife and vegetation are highlighted right here in this book.”

Available for purchase at [store.cnps.org](http://store.cnps.org) and also through our local CNS chapter. The publication joins over 40 books already published by CNPS Press on topics relating to the understanding and appreciation of native California flora.

**MEMBERSHIP**
Ann Garside

Welcome to our newest CNPS members: Patricia Davis and La Donna Rogge, and again to our members David Hally and Janelle Johnson. Their names were accidentally left out of the mailed copies of our May/June *Cypress Cone*. We apologize for the oversight and are so glad to have you!

![Erigeron glaucus, photo by Cara Wilcox](image)

**BOOK SALES POSITION**
Cindy Hudson

I am looking for someone who would like to take over my position as book sales chair. I will be able to train you during the two public meetings this summer and attend the fall plant sale with you in order to make a smooth transition. It’s a really fun job that doesn’t require a lot of commitment.

If interested, email Cindy:

[cindy@centralcoastwilds.com](mailto:cindy@centralcoastwilds.com)

**PLANT SALE NEEDS NEW LEADER**
Karen Hildebrand

After ten years in the position, I’ve let the board know that I’m retiring from the plant sale. I’d like to work closely with a new person to share my people list and strategies. Most of the tasks are done in the weeks immediately before the spring and fall sales. Volunteer recruitment and scheduling top the list. There are lots of other little “chores” to get ready, and I can share my experience and ideas.

The plant sale has two board positions, called co-chairs, because Linda Willis advises about plants and their propagation as well as being the expert advisor at the sales. Our chapter is somewhat unusual because a separate group does the plant propagation, led by Mike Luther. The plant sale co-chairs both consult with him throughout the year.

If you would like to step up, give me a call so we can talk about the job: Karen 831-426-1172.
JOIN THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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☐ Mariposa Lily $1500

Make your check payable to CNPS and send to: Membership Chair, CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816

Your membership includes Fremontia, a journal with articles on all aspects of native plants; the Bulletin, a statewide report of activities and schedules; and the Cypress Cone.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME!

Next deadline: August 15, 2016.
Contact Cara at: carawilcox@gmail.com
Like us on Facebook, and contribute to our page!
facebook.com/cruzcnpas
Opt for email... Contact Ann at: aegrdwds@calcentral.com

CNPS IS A 501(c)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF CALIFORNIA NATIVE FLORA.

CNPS HAS 34 CHAPTERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL PERSONS — PROFESSIONAL AND AMATEUR — WITH AN INTEREST IN CALIFORNIA’S NATIVE PLANTS SUCH AS: NATURAL HISTORY, BOTANY, ECOLOGY, CONSERVATION, PHOTOGRAPHY, DRAWING, HIKING, AND GARDENING. DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE AND SUPPORT SPECIAL PROJECTS SUCH AS PUBLICATION OF THE COUNTY CHECKLIST, AND CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES THAT PRESERVE IMPORTANT HABITATS AND SPECIES IN OUR AREA. YOU MAY EARMARK GIFTS FOR SPECIFIC AREAS. (YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS ALSO TAX DEDUCTIBLE, MINUS $12 FOR THE JOURNAL FREMONTIA, THREE ISSUES PER YEAR.)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CNPS AND SEND TO: CNPS, P.O. Box 1622, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.