



The Cypress Cone

California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter



Seabird Science and Stewardship at Año Nuevo Island Ryan Carle

What: Chapter General Meeting
Where: UCSC Arboretum Horticulture Building
When: Monday July 8, 2013
Keying Club 5:00 pm
Mystery Plant ID 7:00 pm
Presentation 7:30 pm



Ryan Carle

Año Nuevo Island, located just north of Santa Cruz, has been called the Galapagos of California for its incredible abundance of wildlife. Though it is most famous for its elephant seals, the island is also an important breeding colony for seven species of seabirds, including Rhinoceros Auklets, Cassin's Auklets, and Western Gulls. In this talk, seabird ecologist Ryan Carle of Oikonos Ecosystem Knowledge will discuss the

natural history and ecology of the island's seabirds, drawing on the results of two decades of research on the island, and he will also cover new results from the ongoing Oikonos habitat restoration project. Restoring the island's native plant community prevents erosion damage to the nesting burrows of Rhinoceros and Cassin's Auklets. Beautiful pictures and videos are promised.

WANTED! DEAD OR DEAD!! *Dittrichia graveolens* — Stinkwort

DITTRICHIA GRAVEOLENS, a.k.a. stinkwort, is a new invasive non-native plant to watch out for, first recorded in the early 1980s in Santa Clara County. It is a late-summer to fall annual that germinates over a prolonged period from May to September, putting it out of sync with the seasonal development—and control methods—of other non-native warm season annuals in the Asteraceae family. At maturity, the plant is the shape of a perfect Christmas tree. The tiny dandelion-like flowers are yellow and have ray and disc petals. The seeds are also dandelion-like and cobwebby. The seeds are wind-borne and sticky. They adhere to vehicles and heavy equipment, promoting dispersal along roadways and onto well-intentioned reclamation sites. It is unpalatable to wildlife and livestock.

The flowers and foliage of stinkwort are like those of native tarweeds. See Deanna's article for tips on telling them apart.

In small infestations the best method of control is hand pulling (using gloves to avoid skin irritation) before plants start

flowering. If plants of *Dittrichia* are pulled when in flower they will continue to ripen seed even after they're uprooted, so they should be bagged and disposed of, not left on the ground. Uncontrolled, *Dittrichia* can convert large swaths of land to worthless monocultures. To view the California Invasive Plant Council page on *Dittrichia*, do a web browser search using "dittrichia cal-ipc".



Seedlings in June. Last year's dry stalks still show the Christmas-tree shape

Native Tarweeds

Deanna Giuliano

Tarweeds are warm season annuals in the Asteraceae family. *Madia elegans* (common madia), *Madia sativa* (coast tarweed), *Madia gracilis* (slender tarweed), and *Anisocarpus madioides* (woodland madia) are a few of our more common local tarweeds. They occur in disturbed areas, grasslands and woodland habitats.

Madias range in size from about six inches up to six feet tall. Their foliage is heavily glandular (sticky!) with a sweet fragrance. The flowers are yellow, with disc and ray flowers. *Madia elegans* flowers (see photo above) are showy and can have brown in the disc and base of the ray petals. Flowers range in size from small to large and showy. Wildlife relish the seeds, which are dark and up to half a millimeter in size. Native people ground up the seeds for pinole, a kind of flour.



Madia sativa



Anisocarpus madioides
Pete Veilleux, East Bay Wilds



Dittrichia graveolens - bud and flower on left, young plant on right
Photo on left: Toni Corelli



Madias can resemble the non-native, invasive weed *Dittrichia graveolens* (stinkwort). Both have similar yellow flowers and glandular, sticky foliage and stems. The main difference between them is that the *Madia* receptacle (where flowers are attached) bears scale-like bracts that subtend (occur below) the disk flowers, while the *Dittrichia* receptacle bears minute hairs among flowers. In addition the fragrance of *Madia* is light and sweet, whereas *Dittrichia* has a strong odor of camphor.

Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Backpack Trip

Daniel Slakey

Pine Ridge Trail / Sykes Hot Springs Backpacking
Tuesday – Thursday, July 9th – 11th, 2013

The 10-mile trek on the Pine Ridge Trail from Big Sur Station to Sykes Hot Springs is the most popular trail in the Ventana Wilderness. Due to its popularity, however, the trail has been heavily impacted by users. We'll document the rare plant and noxious weed occurrences along the trail to help the USFS to improve management of this busy trail and surrounding land.

We'll hike 10 miles from Big Sur to Sykes Hot Springs in the first day of the trip, then soak in the hot springs at night. On Day Two we'll do an easier day hike and botanize on nearby trails without packs. On Day 3, we'll hike back along the Pine Ridge Trail. For details and to RSVP email dslakey@cnps.org.

Join the Board!

Jenn Yost

Membership: The CNPS board is looking for a new membership chair and book seller. The membership chair is primarily responsible for maintaining our membership list and sending a few emails every month. It is an easy job but you need to be organized and able to use Excel.

Book Seller Did you miss your calling as a librarian? Well here is your chance to browse book catalogues and maintain a great collection of botanical books for sale by the chapter. The book seller comes to the general meetings early to set up and sell books.

For more information about either of these positions, please email Jenn at jmyost@ucsc.edu.

Volunteer at the UCSC Herbarium

Jenn Yost

Join Chris Lay, Jenn Yost, Randy Morgan, and Al Keuter in the UCSC Herbarium at the Natural History Museum on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 am till noon. We are processing new collections, mounting, annotating, and accessioning Santa Cruz County plant collections. No experience is necessary. By helping out, you will be preserving collections for future scientific research and learning about our flora and new names in the process. If you are interested in joining us please RSVP to Jenn at jmyost@ucsc.edu.

Field Trips and Events

Keying Club: Before the general meeting, 5-7 pm. Learn plant keying skills. No experience needed. Led by Deanna Giuliano.

Mystery Plant ID: Before each general meeting, 7-7:30 pm. Bring your “Mystery Plants” for the keying group to ID.

Native Plant Propagation: Meets at a nursery on the third Sunday of the month. Contact Mike Luther at 688-3897.

Habitat Restoration: Restoring native habitat in the parks and protected lands in Santa Cruz County. Contact Linda Brodman at 831.462.4041, or redwdrn@pacbell.net. Events:

- **July 13, 2013 from 10 am to 1 pm** at Sunset Beach State Park
- **August 3, 2013 from 9:30 am to 1 pm** *Dittrichia* Special Project (call for location and directions)



Iceplant removal at Natural Bridges SP.

L to R: David Greenberger, Jeb Bishop, Bonnie Doran, Ann Garside, Linda Brodman, and Jessie Beck

Randy Morgan Field Trips

Visit local biological hotspots with legendary local naturalist Randall Morgan, accompanied by renowned weed warrior Ken Moore. All aspects of natural history are covered—and more!

For information, contact Randall Morgan at otbmorgan@gmail.com or Ken Moore at ken@wildwork.org.

This series of field trips is provided at no cost to you. However, donations are needed to continue offering this incomparable opportunity. You can make a cash donation or a check made out to Randall Morgan on the trip.

For details on sponsoring or making a tax-deductible donation to the series, see the chapter web site, cruzcnps.org.

Ending times are an estimate; trips may run longer. Wear clothing that won't attract stickers so we don't spread weed seeds.

Saturday, July 6, Sunset Beach, 10 am. One of our county's real biological hotspots, full of rare and other special-interest

plants, also a great birding location. Last year we even saw a rare horsefly!—first record for the county. Meet at end of Shore Rd (entrance to Shorebirds Apts). From either Hwy 1 or San Andreas Rd, take Beach Rd (toward bay), then right on Shore Rd to end. (NOT the main park entrance off San Andreas Rd).

Saturday, July 20, Downtown tree treasures, 10 am. Prime time to see a remarkable array of uncommon subtropical and other trees in flower and generally looking their best. Easy loop walk with nonstop highlights the whole way. Meet in front of City Hall, on Center St. across from the library.

Saturday, August 10 Henry Cowell Park, 10 am. Lush riparian and old-growth redwood forest, rich and diverse understory vegetation. Easy level walk through shady woods and along river. Meet at 10 AM at Rite Aid parking lot on Hwy 9 (in Felton) just north of park entrance, then we will carpool to the main Henry Cowell parking area (\$10 park fee).

Monterey Chapter Events

For full details on all trips, go to <http://montereybay.cnps.org>.

For information on restoration events, contact Bruce Delgado at 277-7690 or bdelgdo62@gmail.com.

For field trip reservations, contact Call Lynn at 375-7777.

Restoration

- Saturdays, July 6 & August 3, 1 pm to 4 pm, Broom Bash, East Side of Point Lobos State Reserve.
- Sundays, July 21 & August 18, 11 am to 2 pm, Soberanes Creek Cape Ivy Bash. Meet in Carmel at the Rio Road Park and Ride to carpool.

Field Trips

- Sunday, July 7, 9:30 am, Kahn Ranch. Leopard Lily Exploration, with Rod Yeager. Meet in the main (lower) parking lot of Garland Ranch.
- Tuesday, July 9, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Chews Ridge. Wildflowers and Butterflies, with Corky Matthews and lepidopterist Chris Tenney. Meet in Garland Ranch parking lot (not along CV Road). All wheel or 4WD vehicles are recommended.
- Friday, August 9, 10:30 am to 1 pm, Point Lobos Bird Island Trail & Geology Discovery, with Jerry Loomis. Meet at Rio Road Park and Ride in Carmel.
- Sunday, August 25, 9:30 am to noon, Del Monte Forest. Berries Nibble with Bob Hale & Julie Anne Hopkins. Meet at the DMF “Haul Road” Gate on Highway 68.

We welcome newsletter contributions! Deadlines are: August 19, October 21 December 16.

CNPS is a 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. Members have diverse interests including natural history, botany, ecology, conservation, photography, drawing, hiking, and gardening. Your membership includes Fremontia, a quarterly journal with articles on all aspects of native plants; the Bulletin, a statewide report of activities and schedules; and the Cypress Cone.



California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter
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- Student/Limited Income \$25
- Individual \$45
- Family or Library \$75
- Plant Lover \$100
- Patron \$300
- Benefactor \$600
- Mariposa Lily \$1500

Your contribution is tax deductible, minus \$12 for the quarterly journal, Fremontia. Make your check payable to CNPS and send to:

Membership Chair, CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1,
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