Joint Meeting of Santa Cruz CNPS and the Arboretum at UCSC

CNPS and Plant Conservation in California:
Protecting California's Native Flora in the 21st Century
Greg Suba

March 11, 2013
UCSC Arboretum Horticulture Building
Plant Keying Starting at 5:00 pm
Special Potluck for this joint CNPS/Arboretum meeting 6:30 pm
Mystery Plant ID 7:00 pm
Slideshow 7:30 pm

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Arana Gulch Conservation Update
Protecting California’s Native Flora in the 21st Century

The native flora of California is unlike any other in the world. From the richly colored expanse of spring wildflowers in the desert to groves of Monterey cypress on the coast, California’s wild gardens are immensely diverse and awe-inspiring in their beauty. They define the landscape and offer Californians a sense of place, pride, and stability.

Since 1965, members of the California Native Plant Society have worked to protect California’s native plant heritage and preserve it for future generations. Our work continues at a most critical time. Urban and agricultural growth, the spread of non-native weeds, expanding knowledge regarding sustainable timber and grazing practices, and frequently inadequate land use planning all elevate the essential need to prevent the decline in California’s native plant diversity.

To reverse this trend, the CNPS Conservation Program promotes sound plant science as the backbone of effective natural areas protection. We work closely with decision-makers, scientists, and local planners to advocate for well-informed and environmentally friendly policies, regulations, and land management practices.

Greg Suba, CNPS Conservation Program Director in Sacramento, CA will describe the work of the CNPS Conservation Program. His presentation will give special emphasis to the challenges associated with advocating effective plant conservation while addressing the planning and development of desert wind and solar projects, and ongoing work to develop ecological standards for California’s forests.

Greg Suba has been the CNPS Conservation Program Director in Sacramento since 2009. Prior to joining CNPS, Greg worked as a watershed coordinator, science educator, and biological consultant in northern California, and spent several years monitoring streams and surveying forests throughout the state. He has a B.S. in Biology and a M.S. in Marine Science, and began his professional career as a research scientist in marine botany.

Native Plant Week Special Symposium! Gardening with California Flora

April 17 at the Arboretum at UCSC

Come Celebrate California Native Plant Week with us and learn about the pleasures and benefits of growing natives in your gardens. A down to earth and practical series of talks to give you ideas and encourage you to grow natives.

This two hour mini-symposium will include at least:

“Gardening with Local Natives” by Santa Cruz Chapter President, Deanna Giuliano. She will cover four general habitats: Coastal, Chaparral, Woodland, and Grassland, and local species within each habitat that are good for gardening, ranging with trees, shrubs, perennials, grasses etc.

“Part of Conservation is Growing” by Chapter Vice President Brett Hall. He will discuss a selection of choice natives for central coast gardens.

Check cruzcnps.org for other speakers and updates.

This event is co-sponsored with the UCSC Arboretum in Celebration of the third Annual Native Plant Week:

In 2010 the California State Assembly and Senate approved Resolution ACR 173 establishing California Native Plant Week, which proclaims the third week of April, each year, as California Native Plant Week and encourages community groups, schools, and citizens to undertake appropriate activities to promote the conservation, restoration, and appreciation of California’s native plants.

The resolution (ACR 173) was introduced by Assemblywoman Noreen Evans (D – Napa) and sponsored by the California Native Plant Society, while it garnered the support of horticulturalists, conservation organizations, and nurseries throughout California.

ACR 173 recognizes the vital historical, artistic, and economic contributions California’s native plants have made to our State, and points out that California native plant gardening and landscaping have tremendous positive impacts to our watersheds, to habitat recovery, and to curbing catastrophic wildfires. In particular, the resolution recognizes that home landscaping and gardening with native plants can cut residential water use from 60 to 90% over conventional gardening.

You can get more information about Native Plant Week at cnps.org.
**Spring into Planting – Plant Sale Ahead!**

Refresh your garden with some new plants! -- Come to the spring plant sale on April 20th, in the Arboretum’s Eucalyptus Grove, across from Western Drive.

As usual, you can shop at two great sales in the same time and place and support two great organizations -- your local chapter of CNPS, and the UCSC Arboretum.

For members of CNPS or the Arboretum, the sale is open from 10am to 4pm. For members of the general public, the sale opens at 12 noon.

We who know, know that fall is the best time for planting in California - but we also know that if you care for your new plantings, any time is a good time in California! And spring is such a wonderful season to be in the garden, among all the lovely tender new growth, and returning warmth.

New plantings need support to get their roots established - and some protection from critters if you have them in your garden. Deer will taste (i.e. totally consume!) any tender young plant, even if it’s one of the aromatic, fuzzy, or prickly ones they don’t usually relish. Don’t overwater your plants, of course, but don’t let them get stressed out in hot dry spells, either. Check your native plant references for each plant's specific needs.

The plant sale features native plants for every garden niche. You’ll find lots of Ribes and Iris, and a wide variety of annuals, perennials, and shrubs large and small – including some that are hard to find in native plant nurseries.

We’ll also be selling a variety of plants that grow from bulbs. Gophers and other critters will munch most bulbs or corms - but if you plant them in a wire basket or in a container, bulbs will often live happily in a garden and return -- with interest -- each spring. In the sale we hope to have some of the following:

- *Allium unifolium* - meadow onion
- *Brodiaea elegans ssp. elegans* - elegant brodiaea
- *Chlorogalum pomeridianum* - soap plant
- *Dichelostemma capitatum* (ex. *D. pulchellum*) – blue dicks
- *Dichelostemma congestum* - Ookow
- *Triteleia hyacinthina* - white triteleia
- *Triteleia ixiodes* - pretty face
- *Triteleia laxa* - Ithuriel's spear

We will have a nice assortment of annuals to add color and attract pollinators, including Clarkias, Collinisias, Gilias, and Linanthus. A more complete plant list will be available on the web site (cruzcnps.org) a few weeks before the sale.

Come early for the best choice!

**Plant Sale Volunteers Needed!**

Can you help out at the plant sale on April 20? Helping hands are needed for loading the truck night before the sale (in Watsonville). On the day of the sale, help is needed for unloading and setup, teardown, and for helping customers to purchase plants during the day. Two hour shifts are available on plant sale day between 8 am and 4 pm. I have to say my favorite task is unloading and setup - I learn a lot of plant names each year! Except of course for helping with customers - it’s so great to talk about plants and see what people are taking home!

For details, contact Karen Hildebrand at 831.426.1172 or karenhildebrand@cruzio.com

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**Santa Cruz CNPS Keying Club Session: Monday March 11 5:00 –7:00 PM**

We're happy to announce another session of the Keying Club! Join us at 5pm at the UCSC Arboretum Horticulture Building (before the joint general meeting), to practice keying native plants. No experience is necessary! Bring any plants you'd like to identify, or just practice keying on the plants we'll provide. This is a great way to learn the flora and an exciting opportunity to start learning the 2nd edition of The Jepson Manual.

For the first hour or so we’ll focus on our local Ceanothus, and then on other plants you’ve brought or that we’ll provide. From 7:00-7:30pm we'll have an open session for anyone to bring in mystery plants - we'll identify them to the best of our ability.

No experience needed. If you have a hand lens, microscope, Flora of the Santa Cruz Mountains, or a Jepson Manual, bring them along. Bring a friend too! RSVP is not required but would help us plan accordingly.

Contact: Deanna Giuliano 831 335-4902 or drosegiuliano@yahoo.com

Herbarium Work Party Wednesdays
UCSC Natural History Museum.

Please join Jenn Yost on Wednesday nights from 7-9 pm at the UCSC NHM starting on March 6th. We will be processing new collections, mounting, annotating, and accessioning plant collections from around Santa Cruz County. No experience is necessary. You will receive full instructions. By helping out, you will be preserving collections for future scientific research and learning about our flora and new names in the process. Questions and RSVP to Jenn at jmyost@ucsc.edu
**Arana Gulch Conservation Update**

Coastal Commission staff are currently reviewing a Habitat Management Plan for the Arana Gulch Greenbelt prepared by Alison E. Stanton, a consultant for the City of Santa Cruz. Stanton was recommended to the City by Dr. Bruce Pavlik.

Two members of the Santa Cruz Chapter of CNPS will serve on the Adaptive Management Working Group, a body which was mandated by the California Coastal Commission at its December 2011 meeting when it approved the bicycle project through the Arana Gulch Greenbelt. Grey Hayes will serve as the CNPS consultant to the body, and Tim Hyland will serve as a representative of California State Parks. Other members of the group include representatives from the City of Santa Cruz, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Coastal Commission Ecologist, and a member of the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

It appears that the first meeting of the Adaptive Management Working Group will be in April, although at press time a date had not yet been set.

CNPS is looking forward to the implementation of restoration activities for the Federally-listed Santa Cruz Sunflower (*Holocarpha macradenia*) in this city greenbelt. We do, however, have many unanswered questions regarding the role and procedural guidelines for the Adaptive Management Working Group.

As we go to press, the meetings of this group will be closed to the public. We think this is a bad idea and could lead to mistrust and claims of secrecy by members of the public wanting to attend. In addition, we feel that there will be greater acceptance of potentially controversial restoration actions, such as fencing part of the property for grazing, if members of the public are allowed to observe the meetings.

In January 2012, CNPS wrote the City and the Coastal Commission asking for clarification of the procedural guidelines for the Adaptive Management Working Group. We have not received any answers to our questions.

Foremost among CNPS concerns are that the decisions regarding habitat restoration at Arana Gulch be science based and that restoration be adequately funded.

**Thanks to Outgoing Board Members Kris and Charles**

The chapter activities you enjoy, and the advocacy you support, depend on the lively efforts of chapter members working together, not least of whom are board members. The board relies both on continuity of long time members, and an infusion of fresh ideas as people step down and new folk step up. Two board members are retiring this month after years of excellent service to the chapter: Kris Hauser and Charles Koester.

**Kris Hauser - Secretary**

Kris Hauser is stepping down after 12 years of fine work as the chapter secretary. Kris notes that the tasks of the secretary have evolved during her tenure -- from snail mailing to emailing, for example. The board has enjoyed and valued Kris's accurate meeting minutes -- which she personalized with images of native plants -- and all the other ways she has contributed to the board, such as maintaining and archiving important chapter records, writing letters, helping to compile annual reports, and generally helping out wherever she was needed. Big thanks to Kris for her years of dedicated service!

**Charles Koester - Newsletter Editor**

The Cypress Cone is the voice of our chapter, publicizing events and opportunities, and providing articles of interest to native plant lovers. As editor, Charles Koester has coordinated with contributors, collated and edited and laid out the information and disseminated it, creating the high quality publication we have come to expect, but never take for granted, six times a year, for seven years. Charles is stepping down after this issue, with our great thanks for his work. He and all of us can look back on his tenure with great satisfaction.
Natural History Field Trip Series with Randall Morgan

March - April 2013

Come with legendary local naturalist Randall Morgan, assisted by renowned weed warrior Ken Moore, to selected hot spots in the Santa Cruz area and learn about some of nature's little known wonders. These walks will cover all aspects of natural history including botany, birds, bugs, biogeography, general ecology, conservation, habitat restoration, ethnobotany, wild foods, the native/non-native issue, natural succession, land management/restoration/enhancement (plus common mistakes and misconceptions), gardening ideas, how to “read” landscapes, and more!

Beginning with this schedule, reservations will no longer be needed. Ending times for trips are an estimate; they sometimes run longer. Please wear clothing that will not attract stickers, and make sure you are free of any weed seeds before coming.

This series of field trips is being provided at no cost to you. However, your donations will be needed to continue offering this incomparable opportunity. This series may be expanded and extended if sufficient support is obtained. You can make a cash donation or a check made out to Randall Morgan on the trip. To make a separate contribution for the field trip series by check, make the check payable to CNPS, and specify that it is for the “Morgan Field Trip Series”. Request a receipt if you want a tax deduction, and send the check to:

Suzanne Schettler, Treasurer
California Native Plant Society
P. O. Box 277
Ben Lomond, CA 95061.

The current field trip schedule can always be seen on the Chapter website www.cruzcnps.org/events2.html#item2

Contact Ken Moore <ken@wildwork.org> or Randall Morgan <otbmorgan@gmail.com> if you have any questions.

Sponsoring Organizations:
Wildlands Restoration Team
California Native Plant Society, Santa Cruz Chapter
UCSC Arboretum
Santa Cruz Bird Club
UCSC Natural History Museum
Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History
Sempervirens Fund

For more about Randall Morgan: http://scicom.ucsc.edu/publications/essays-profiles-pages/profile-rozendal.html

Saturday March 9 10AM-12
Downtown urban forest
Pleasant older neighborhoods with many choice and unusual garden trees and shrubs, some in full flower. Meet at the corner of Cedar St. and Elm St. in front of Cafe Pergolesi. Easy level stroll, about a mile.

Saturday March 23 10AM-12
East-of-Morrissey neighborhoods
Another long-established part of town, with intriguing mid-block alleyways and interesting plant highlights at every hand. Leisurely level walk, about a mile total. Meet at the corner of Park Way and Acacia Way.

Sunday April 7 10AM-12
Lucilles Court Meadow
This is the last best example of our “mountain meadow” flower fields. Last year we were a little too late, but at this time of year we should see the place at about the peak of color if the weather cooperates. There is no richer assemblage of rare and uncommon flowering plants to be found in such a small area in this county. Gentle slope and slow pace. Meet in Boulder Creek at the parking area in back of Johnnie’s Market, on the corner of Hwy. 9 and Hwy. 236. We will carpool to the site from there, so vehicles which can take several people will be helpful.

Saturday April 20 10AM-12
Slippery Rock, Big Basin
Another of our best hidden botanical treasure spots, and right where the founders had their historical rendezvous. A long sandstone slope decorated with pockets of soil and flowers. Like Lucille's Court, this is a promised revisit to see the place closer to its prime, and hopefully see some species we missed before. Meet in Boulder Creek at the parking area in back of Johnnie's Market, on the corner of Hwy. 9 and Hwy 236. We will carpool to the site from there, so vehicles which can take several people will be helpful.
Early Spring Field Trips

Please check the website for trips scheduled too late for this newsletter: www.cruzcnps.org/events2.html

Saturday, March 2, 9am to 3pm
Hastings Reserve Phenology Workshop
This workshop is designed to introduce participants to the science of phenology—the study of seasonal cycles in plants and animals—and how it’s used to track the effects of climate change on our diverse landscapes. Learn how you can contribute your own observations to this important study. On March 2nd, from 9 am to 3 pm, join ecologists from UC Santa Barbara for a fun and informative (and free!) field workshop at the Hastings Reserve in Carmel Valley. Contact Vincent Voegeli, the Resident Director, at 831-659-2664 for more information. Learn more at: http://www.usanpn.org/cpp.

Saturday, March 2, 1pm to 4pm
Broom Bash, East Side of Point 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 and Ride. All supplies provided. Bring a friend, water and a snack. Contact Bruce Delgado at 277-7690 or bdelgado62@gmail.com for more information.

Monday, March 4, 1pm to 4pm
Del Monte Forest Walk Hosted by Pebble Beach Company
Join Thomas Quattlebaum, Pebble Beach Company’s Environmental Stewardship Manager, and local ecologist Nikki Nedeff for a walk along the Green Trail and through the beautiful Gowen Cypress and Bishop Pines of the Morse Botanical Reserve. The walk is 2 ½ miles, 400 ft. elevation gain, with flora & fauna stops. Bring water and a snack. Arrive early; we depart at 1:00pm from the Pebble Beach Company Resource Management Offices. Call Thomas Quattlebaum at 625-8402 for a reservation and additional details on the meeting location; gate access will be provided for the day. The walk will be limited to 15 people.

Sunday, March 10, 9:00am to Noon
Birding, Nature and Wildflower Exploration at Fort Ord
If you enjoy great views of the Salinas Valley and walking through maritime chaparral with its variety of plants and birds, then this 3 to 4 mile hike is for you. Amy Brewster is a local naturalist and a regular hiker at Fort Ord. We hike at a leisurely pace, so we may stop and enjoy wildflowers and any birds in the area. Please bring water, hat, binoculars and a snack. Meet at the BLM Fort Ord Creekside Trailhead off Portola Drive from Hwy 68, just west of Salinas. Call Amy to reserve: 831-776-1363.

Sunday, March 17, 9:00am
Sensational Spring flowers at Toro Park
Welcome Spring with a hike into Toro Park with Gordon Williams. Our morning begins with a walk up the East Ridge trail. For lunch, we will climb a ridge where there should be a nice display of early spring flowers. The remainder of our field trip will be determined by wherever the wildflowers are. We hope to see at least 50 different species! Bring water and lunch. Meet at the Toro Park Entrance off of Hwy 68 off Portola Drive's exit. About 4-5 hours, 5.5 miles and 600 feet total elevation gain. Leader, Gordon Williams 372-6374.

Sunday, March 17, 11am to 2pm
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 Road Park and Ride to carpool. All supplies provided. Bring a friend, water, and a snack. Contact Bruce Delgado at 277-7690 or bdelgado62@gmail.com for details.

Thursday, March 21, 10:30am Field Trip
Garzas Creek Wildflower Walk
Join Andy Werner and Lynn Bomberger on a 3.3 mile loop with 530 ft. elevation gain. The walk includes the Terrace Trail where there should be a stunning display of wildflowers and if we're lucky, we'll find some Checker lilies as we head down to the creek. Also, the Garland Ranch parking area might have some blue scarlet pimpernels blooming. Bring water & lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 10:30am from the Rio Road Park & Ride in Carmel. Call Lynn Bomberger at 375-7777 for a reservation.

Thursday, March 28, 9:00am
Kahn Ranch Spring Wildflower Walk
Michael Mitchell, one of the authors of Wildflowers of Garland Ranch - a field guide, will take us into the Kahn Ranch (a lesser known part of Garland Ranch) which is a special place to see not only beautiful vistas but a wide variety of spring wildflowers. The outing begins with a short walk to a waterfall then with a climb into a different habitat where we will be surrounded by flowers along the way. 3.7 miles/1,100 ft. elevation gain. Bring water, a snack & hiking boots. We aim to be back in time for lunch. Meet by 9:00 in the main parking lot (lower lot) of Garland Ranch. Call Lynn for a reservation at 375-7777.
Habitat Restoration Team
We are a volunteer group working to restore native habitat in the parks and protected lands in Santa Cruz County. Our program provides an opportunity for people to learn about the natural systems that surround them while helping to restore special and wild places. No prior work experience is necessary, just show up at the park. We welcome individual volunteers from 8 to 80 years, as well as special group projects. Wear comfortable layered clothing, bring something to drink, and lots of enthusiasm! We work rain or shine, but if things get particularly unpleasant, we call it a day. Tools provided; bring gloves.

Linda Brodman 831.462.4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net
As always you can also check out www.cruzcnps.org

New Member Welcome!
We are delighted to introduce our newest members:

Greg Gill
Danielle Tannourji
Laura Martin
Marcy Reynolds

California Botanical Society Centennial Special Offer
In honor of the centennial of the California Botanical Society and because of the shared history between the two groups, the California Botanical Society is offering a 25% discounted membership fee for CNPS members. To take part, please go to www.calbotsoc.org. Click the “membership” button at the top of the home page, and then click on “pay-online.” The pull-down menu for “membership type” will have a special category for CNPS members. This offer is good for the 2013 centennial year!

Saturday, April 6th, 10AM – 1PM
Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Training Event at the Moore Creek Preserve
Come learn how to search for and document rare plant populations with the Rare Plant Treasure Hunt at the Moore Creek Preserve! The park is host to a number of rare plants, including two rare popcorn-flowers (Plagiobothrys chorismsus var. chorismianus and P. diffiusus), Point Reyes horkelia (Horkelia marinensis) and and johnny nip (Castilleja ambigua var. ambigua). Participants will learn many valuable skills and tools, such as use of online botanical resources, practice filling out field survey forms, mapping with GPS units, as well as practice identifying plants with The Jepson Manual and local floras. Meet at the Meder Street entrance to the Moore Creek Preserve at 10AM. The entrance is located at the western end of Meder Street, south of the UCSC campus, and on-street parking is available (but carpooling is encouraged). We will begin the program/hike at 10:15. Remember to bring water, a lunch, sun protection, and dress for the weather. RSVP and send questions to Danny Slakey (dslakey@cnps.org).

Saturday April 20, 11:00 am - 1:30
Repeating May 4 and May 18
Spring at the Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve
Val Haley will lead three walks that focus on the rare plants, ecology, and geology of the Reserve. See fire ecology in action and observe how the habitat and vegetation are coming back after the Martin Fire that occurred in June 2008. Sign up early, as there is a maximum 15 people per walk. To reserve your spot, call Val at 425-1587 or e-mail her at vegnet@cruzio.com. We will meet at 11:00 am at the parking lot next to old firehouse on Martin Road. Bring hiking shoes, water, and a snack. The walks usually last about 2.5 hours.

July 7-14, 2013
Golden Trout Wilderness Botanical Workshop
Spend the week exploring alpine habitats of Cottonwood Lakes Basin and the John Muir Wilderness. Daily hikes and talks led by professional botanists and naturalists, $525 includes meals. For more information, contact Susan D’Alcamo at dalcamo@mcn.org or call 925-899-0719. Registration deadline is March 15, 2013.

Habitat Restoration Team
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Linda Brodman 831.462.4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net

As always you can also check out www.cruzcnps.org
Join the California Native Plant Society!
New members receive a free backpack!

Name:_________________________________
Address:_______________________________
City:___________________ State:___ Zip:____
Phone:_______________________________________
Email:________________________________________
Chapter (County) Affiliation: ________________

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

☐ Student/Limited Income $25  ☐ Individual $45  ☐ Family or Library $75  ☐ Plant Lover $100  ☐ Patron $300  ☐ Benefactor $600  ☐ Mariposa Lily $1,500

Dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible, minus $12 for journal *Fremontia*.

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**CNPS** is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of California native flora. CNPS has 31 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.*

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**California Native Plant Society**
**Santa Cruz County Chapter**
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