



# GOLD FIELD NOTES

EL DORADO CHAPTER ☉ CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ☉ November-December 2015

## COMING ACTIVITIES

### November 24 (Tuesday)

Chapter program.  
See article to right for details.

### December 11-13 (Friday-Sunday)

Workshop  
Evolution and Diversity of Mushrooms, Jepson Herbarium, UC Berkeley. This workshop will provide an introduction to the biology and identification of California's mushrooms. A field trip to Pt. Reyes National Seashore will be a highlight of the weekend. For details see website: <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/2015/index.html#Dec11>

### January 24 (Saturday)

Workshop..  
Dyeing with Mushrooms, 9 am to 1 pm at the Chico State Herbarium. Hosted by Friends of the Chico Herbarium. Check out their website for more details ([http://www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/workshops/Dyeing\\_with\\_Mushrooms\\_1-24-15.pdf](http://www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/workshops/Dyeing_with_Mushrooms_1-24-15.pdf))

### January 26 (Tuesday)

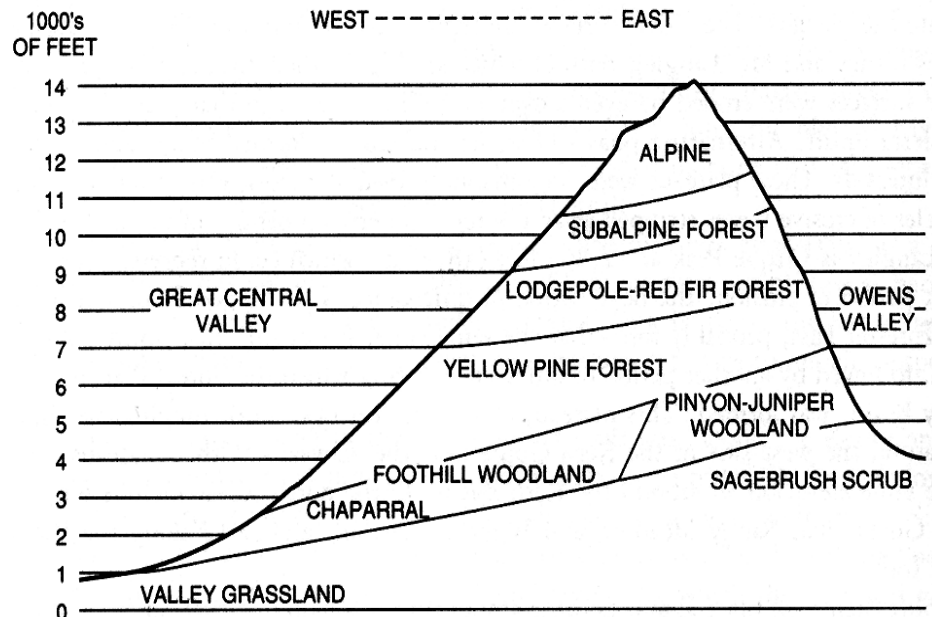
Chapter program.  
Problematic and Expanding Invasive Weed Problems in the California Foothills. See inside for details.

*Evening programs are held on the fourth Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. The program begins at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville.*

## NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> PROGRAM PLANT RICHES OF EL DORADO COUNTY

El Dorado County is one of the most botanically diverse places on the planet, home to over 2,300 native plant species. With an area encompassing just 1% of the state it contains almost 30% of the plants native to California. Why is our county so diverse? The answer lies millions of years ago when the Sierra Nevada was uplifted, a process that continues today. The uplift created climatic zones that support seven distinct plant communities each containing 100s of native plants. Local CNPS botanist Debra Ayres will present a floristic tour of El Dorado County. In our journey, we will travel from lower elevation plant communities like grasslands and oak woodlands to mountain forests and alpine rock gardens. Ayres is a long-time resident of El Dorado County, a retired plant ecologist from UC Davis, and is currently the vice president of the El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

This program will be held on November 24. The program begins at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville. The talk is free and open to the public.



The picture above describes how plant communities change with elevation in the Sierra Nevada. You can learn more about California geology and the geology of the Sierra Nevada, in particular, by reviewing lecture notes, graphs and images from a course held at UC Santa Barbara in 2009 ([http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/~joel/g148\\_f09/lecture\\_notes/lecture\\_notes.html](http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/~joel/g148_f09/lecture_notes/lecture_notes.html)).

## RESTORING A PORTION OF THE JONES FORK SILVER CREEK, ELDORADO NATIONAL FOREST

Six El Dorado Chapter CNPS members (Annie Walker, Karen Schambach, Jane Reed, Shellie Perry, Marty Oberlander, and Lester Lubetkin) volunteered October 27 with the Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation to restore a segment of the Jones Fork of Silver Creek. This area within the Crystal Basin was marred by trash, motor vehicle tracks destroying vegetation, and a steep user track with rills and gullies eroding soil and carrying it down to the stream.

We helped cover the motor vehicle tracks with on-site mulch and leaf litter, placed woody debris on the eroding areas to prevent soil from moving down the hillside into the stream, and reopened water bars that had been knocked down by vehicles. We also picked up trash around the streamside area. And to help stop this damage from happening in the future, we placed logs and slash



where vehicles have taken off of the designated road. All of us that volunteered agreed that the site was returned to a much more natural and healthy condition. The fish, frogs and forest will all be thankful.

Consider joining a restoration effort in the future! Through a grant from the California Off Highway Motor

Vehicle Recreation Division, the Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation is identifying areas that need to be restored from Off-Highway Vehicle damage, and will be leading more restoration projects. If you are interested in helping, contact Matt ([matt@sierranevadaconservation.org](mailto:matt@sierranevadaconservation.org)) at the Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation, or our CNPS chapter at [agastache@att.net](mailto:agastache@att.net).

*Lester Lubetkin  
Chapter Volunteer*



### ANOTHER WAY TO APPRECIATE JONES FORK SILVER CREEK

Check out this YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZrreW-97s>) of kayakers as they run the Jones Fork Silver Creek in 2014. Even if these thrills don't suit your fancy, the views of the creek are stunning.

## BOARD MEMBER NEEDED- JOIN US!

The CNPS board is an active group of 12 people that runs the activities of our chapter. Our secretary, Stephanie Johnson, is sadly stepping down due to other time commitments. Her work providing minutes and fresh input was so appreciated, and now we need someone to replace her.

We'd love to find someone new to

the board to join our vibrant group. Would you like to be part of decisions being made for the chapter? Are you able to take notes and turn them into minutes for us? If so, we'd love your fresh ideas and invite you to join us.

If you are interested, please contact Alice Cantelow directly ([alicecantelow@gmail.com](mailto:alicecantelow@gmail.com)). This will be an appointed position, until January 2017. Don't be shy!

## REBATE FOR REPLACING LAWN WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Did you know? You can receive a rebate of up to \$2,000 from the State for removing a lawn (dead or alive) and replacing it with California native, low water use, or drought-tolerant plants. You can even include some veggies or fruit trees.

The \$24 million program budget is

expected to support the conversion of more than 10 million square feet of turf. That represents approximately 20 percent of the statewide goal of 50 million square feet of turf replaced. Up to \$2 per square foot of removed and replaced turf will be rebated per eligible household.

With Fall rains upon us, this could be the time to dump the lawn and create an unthirsty native garden full of life! For more details go to [www.saveourwaterrebates.com](http://www.saveourwaterrebates.com)

## RESOURCES TO HELP YOU DITCH YOUR LAWN

There's more than a rebate to help you remove that water-wasting lawn. See below for some web links that offer instructions on the actual removal of your lawn and how to plan your new garden space.

CNPS has created tools to help you transition your lawn into a water-wise

garden space ([https://www.cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/lawn\\_materials-nc2015.php](https://www.cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/lawn_materials-nc2015.php)). Useful information includes a presentation given at recent workshops on the four-step process to plan, remove, install and maintain. this topic and a series of information sheets on lawn removal, planning a garden and maintenance.

Sheet mulching—wonder what this is? Check out this YouTube video (<https://youtu.be/QQQE0Al-jgY>) for a demonstration of one way to remove your lawn. The video combined with these instructions

plan	remove	install	maintain
01	02	03	04
Learn to organize your space, draw your design, select and buy plants, install hardscaping and design irrigation	Pick the appropriate method for removing lawn, clear weeds and make space for your new habitat	Planting tips, watering strategies, mulching, program irrigation controllers and attracting beneficial wildlife	Pruning, seasonal maintenance, troubleshooting, and strategies for long-term garden success and enjoyment

## JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> PROGRAM PROBLEMATIC AND EXPANDING INVASIVE WEED PROBLEMS IN THE CALIFORNIA FOOTHILLS

Some of the more problematic invasive plants within the foothills of California will be discussed by Dr. DiTomaso, a UC cooperative extension specialist in non-crop weeds. He will emphasize the impacts of invasive plants on wildland ecosystems and native plant communities. The talk will address widespread problems such as yellow starthistle and other thistles, tree-of-heaven, perennial pepperweed, brooms, and others. In addition, new expanding weed problems, including stinkwort and oblong spurge, and their potential expansion and impacts will be discussed. Dr. DiTomaso is Director of the Weed Research and Information Center at UC Davis, past president of the Weed Science Society of America, and senior author of the definitive two-volume guide to "Weeds of California and Other Western States". To find out more about more about Dr. DiTomaso's work, see: <http://ucanr.edu/?facultyid=537>.

This program will be held on Tuesday, January 26, at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville. The program is free to both members and the public.

(<http://www.bayfriendlycoalition.org/download/LYL/lyl-sheetmulching-2012.pdf>) were designed by a group in the Bay Area called Bay-Friendly Landscaping and Gardening Coalition as a part of their "Loose Your Lawn" program.

Looking for some help selecting plants native to your area? Check out Calscape (<http://calscape.cnps.org/>) developed by CNPS. Just type your street address into the search box and generate a list of plants native to your locations.



El Dorado Chapter  
 California Native Plant Society  
 P.O. Box 1948  
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November-December 2015

For Updates Visit Us on the Web  
[www.eldoradoCNPS.org](http://www.eldoradoCNPS.org) and



eldoradoCNPS



CALIFORNIA  
 NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

**DEDICATED TO THE  
 PRESERVATION OF  
 CALIFORNIA'S NATIVE FLORA**

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide nonprofit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The mission of the Society is to conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants. Membership is open to all.

Membership includes the quarterly journal, *Fremontia*, the quarterly *Bulletin*, which gives statewide news and announcements of Society activities and conservation issues, and the chapter newsletter *Gold Field Notes*. To join, call our main office in Sacramento, (916) 447-2677, or visit [www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org) to join online.

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