



# GOLD FIELD NOTES

EL DORADO CHAPTER ☼ CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ☼ MARCH-APRIL 2024

## MARCH 26 PROGRAM A NATIVE GARDEN ON THE SLOUGH

Patricia Carpenter, CNPS Garden Ambassador, will share successes and challenges when developing her 1-acre Central Valley garden with about 400 species/cultivars. It is the four seasons that she especially enjoys – and how they change throughout the year!

This program is on Tuesday, March 26 at 7 pm via Zoom. Please use this link to register: <https://tinyurl.com/EDC-CNPS-03-26-24-meet>

You can visit Patricia's garden on March 17 (10 am to 3 pm) for a self-guided ramble. See details in the article below.

Image to the right: Spring is here with water in the slough and many California native pipevine flowers blooming (Photo: P. Carpenter)



## CNPS GARDEN AMBASSADOR SEASONAL GARDEN VISIT Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am - 3:00 pm RAIN or SHINE

You are invited to enjoy Patricia Carpenter's native garden on a typical early spring day. The garden, a secluded 1-acre wild escape on the slough, is located west of Davis. Started in 2005, it now features about 400 species and cultivars of California native plants. Visit [Patricia's Garden Ambassador profile](#) to learn more about this garden, access a map, view a plant list, and take a virtual tour!

### Highlights:

- Spring bloom begins, including wildflowers.
- 15 species/cultivars of *Ceanothus* and 10 of *Ribes* -- many will be blooming.
- Observe seasonal maintenance, pruning, planting, pest control and mulching.

RSVP Required at <https://www.cnps.org/event/cnps-garden-ambassador-seasonal-garden-visits-rsvp-only-2>

Stop by any time between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm RAIN or SHINE for the self-guided garden ramble. Maps available for use onsite.

Optional short orientation and Q&A gathering with Patricia at 11 am and 1 pm. We will meet near the check-in table.

Although masks are optional, please respect distancing and mask wearing of other visitors. Sturdy shoes advised. No dogs, please. Composting toilet available. You are welcome to bring a lunch or snack. The non-native garden will be open to view as well.

### CALENDAR

#### March 17 (Sunday)

Garden visit and ramble. Join Patricia Carpenter's Seasonal Early Spring Ramble. This is a self guided tour of our March speaker's garden along a slough west of Davis. Details for this event in article to the right.

#### March 26 (Tuesday)

Plant Walk  
Quarry Trail, Auburn State Recreation Area. Details inside.

#### March 26 (Tuesday)

Chapter program.  
A Native Garden on the Slough presented by Patricia Carpenter, CNPS Garden Ambassador, Details in article to the right and ZOOM link will be posted on website.

#### April 5 (Friday)

Plant walk.  
Old Flume/Red Shack Trail, BLM. Details inside.

#### April 6 to 10 and 20

Twice yearly plant sale.  
Online sale April 6-10 and pick-up on Saturday, April 20. See page 2 for details.

#### April 16 (Tuesday)

Plant walk.  
Magnolia Ranch, BLM. Details inside

#### April 13 to May 29

Plant walks.  
Tour the three units of the Pine Hill Preserve. Details inside.

*Evening programs (with occasional exceptions) are held on the fourth Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. The program begins at 7 PM and may be in-person or hosted via Zoom. Check the chapter website for details on Zoom link and location (<https://www.eldoradocnps.org/>).*

## SPRING PLANT SALE!

The Spring Plant Sale will start at 9 am on April 6th, running until 5 pm on Wednesday, April 10th or until we have reached our limit for the truck, whichever comes first. Customers will need to pick up their plants on Saturday, April 20th between 11 am to 2 pm at Building C of the El Dorado County Government Center at 2150 Fairlane Court in Placerville. Please do not order plants if you cannot pick them up on this date at the times specified. We do not have the volunteer capacity to deliver plants.



**Native Plant Sale**  
Plants - Books - Garden Art

Sponsored by the El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

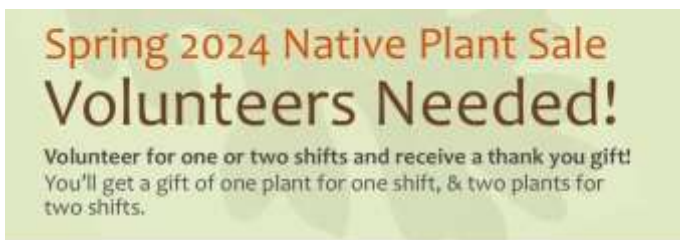


**2024 Spring Plant Sale**  
Order Online: From 9:00 am **April 6** thru 5:00 pm **April 10**  
Location: [shop.eldoradocnps.org](http://shop.eldoradocnps.org)

**Plant Pickup**  
Date: **April 20, 2024**  
Time: **Pickup time assigned at checkout**  
Location: **2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA**  
(parking lot of county building C)

Stay in touch  
[www.eldoradocnps.org](http://www.eldoradocnps.org)  
@eldocnps  
ElDoradoCNPS  
Homegrown Habitat:  
Native Plant Gardening  
in El Dorado County

CNPS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



**Spring 2024 Native Plant Sale**  
**Volunteers Needed!**

Volunteer for one or two shifts and receive a thank you gift!  
You'll get a gift of one plant for one shift, & two plants for two shifts.



Date: **Saturday, April 20, 2024**

Shift #1: **6:30 am to 10:30 am**  
Duties include:  
- Unloading plants from a truck  
- Setting up shade/popups  
- Grouping plant orders into boxes

Shift #2: **10:30 am to 2:30 pm**  
Duties include:  
- Loading orders into customer's vehicles  
- Breaking down popups  
- General cleanup

To sign up, send an email to: [web.eldoradocnps@gmail.com](mailto:web.eldoradocnps@gmail.com)  
Include your first & last name, phone number, preferred shift.



## FIRE- AND WATER-RESILIENT GARDENING WITH CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS

Record wildfires and record drought are normal in our part of the state. We have been fortunate to be relieved of drought for the **past 2 years, but don't let that fool you. Drought will be back.** While the causes are multi-faceted, climate change is making things worse. Climate change is causing things to get more extreme. This is our new reality that is still difficult to wrap our heads around. The problem with climate change is that the extremes get more extreme. What is a gardener to do??

No matter where you live in El Dorado County, we are faced with the constraints of defensible space standards and water restrictions. For most gardeners, the design of a garden usually starts with a vision, then working to realize that vision within all kinds of constraints. If we want our gardens to thrive, not just barely survive, we must prioritize function, then get creative with making it look good.

Although snowpack is deep and lakes and reservoirs are full this year, we are constantly faced with serious droughts that affect **everybody. So, we'll start with water-resiliency.** The most effective way is to plant water-efficient plants. This includes a wide variety of natives, which are a multifunctional choice. In any case, native plants use less water on your landscaping. They not only use less water but are generally more fire-resistant and support a wider variety of pollinators and beneficial insects that help control plant pests.

Another strategy is to capture rainwater on your property through everything from cisterns and to bioswales, the goal being to waste less rain to the storm drains. The storm drains generally drain into creeks. Prior to settlement, most of our creeks were **ephemeral, only running after storms. Now they're perennial,** often carrying urban waste, eroding deep channels into canyon bottoms, and allowing weeds to outcompete natives. Capturing more rain on our properties, helps decrease canyon erosion and weeds in the canyons, and increases the amount of water available for your garden.

On another note, wildlife and native plants are integrally connected. They have evolved together. Planting natives like deep-rooted oaks, wild cherries, toyons, and coffeeberry provide both **shelter and food for birds and other animals. If you've got a perennially wet spot,** you can even plant a willow or other water-loving species.

Finally, the threat of wildfire is a major consideration. Of concern are the non-wind-driven wildfires (which is about 99% of all fires), and the wind-driven kind, which is the 1% that causes about 90% of the home losses. Thousands of ordinary wildfires occur every year, and relatively few houses statewide are lost from them. In windy conditions, the primary threat to homes is from flying embers that can blow in from miles away.

**CalFire Defensible Space standards and the County's Vegetation Management Ordinance** spell out standards for an area of a minimum 100' perimeter around your home and other structures to

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## FIRE- AND WATER-RESILIENT GARDENING *(continued from p. 2)*

increase the chance of your home surviving a wildfire. The Department of Forestry and CalFire recommend no vegetation within a five-foot area immediately adjacent to a house, including decks and out-buildings.

Contrary to common practices, there should be absolutely no vegetation planted within 5' of any structure. CalFire is currently urging the removal of all vegetation in this zone to help keep homes from burning. It is anticipated that this will be adopted into law this coming year. From 5- 30 feet out, avoid woody plants and keep plants spaced so that it's hard for them to catch another plant or building on fire. Overall, aim to have approximately 50% vegetation coverage which means the plants are patchily spaced so that half the area is open area,

half is vegetated. Remove any dead or dying plants. Keep the canopies of trees at least ten feet from structures and prune understory shrubs under trees to 1/3 of the distance from the lowest branches. In this area, it is recommended that lightly irrigating every 3 to 4 weeks helps to keep plants hydrated sufficiently to help them resist fire. From 30-100' out, keep pruning trees up and separate the canopies trees in this area from those closer to the home by at least 20' to prevent a fire from moving through the canopy to your home. If you have wildlands on your property, instead of clearing brush every year, weed and prune to thin so as to not create a moonscape. Prune trees up and shrubs down and apart, and weed out the annual grasses and non-native forbs that make extremely good tinder. Clearing down to the dirt creates erosion and weed problems. Too many big plants are a fire hazard. Fortunately, many of our natives do just fine with being reduced in size every couple of years. I cut back the

toyon and coffeeberry to 2'-3' high in the oakwood that occupies the majority of my property about every 5 years so that it does not become ladder fuel.

Seek to find plants that are as fire resilient as possible, and this is where natives shine. Most are water-efficient, deep rooted, fire-resistant when hydrated, and support native animals. That's why native plants are so useful. Our online Spring Native Plant Sale ([shop.eldoradocnps.org](http://shop.eldoradocnps.org)) will feature over 100 species of native plants that are native to or suitable for those living on the west slope of El Dorado County. The sale will be held online the second week of April, with a pickup date of Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> (see details online). For help on deciding what plants may be suitable for your location, please join us at our Facebook page - Homegrown Habitat: Native Plant Gardening in El Dorado County.

*Kit Veerkamp  
Horticulture Chair*

## CHAPTER VOLUNTEERS HELP RARE PLANTS AND WILDFIRE RESTORATION

A group of excited volunteers from the El Dorado Chapter along with volunteers from the Sacramento and Red Bud Chapters will be working with Kristen Nelson (CNPS Rare Plant Program Mgr.) and botanists from the Eldorado Forest US to collect rare plant seeds within the Mosquito and Caldor Fire scars on the Eldorado National Forest. These seeds will be used in two critical conservation actions: (1) direct re-seeding within the fire scars to support and expedite species regeneration; (2) long-term storage at a conservation seed bank to safeguard against both species extinction and loss of local genetics / genetic diversity.

Volunteers will be targeting collection of three rare taxa within each of the two fire scars

### Mosquito Fire

*Poa sierrae* (POSI)  
*Lewisia serrata* (LESE)  
*Phacelia stebbinsii* (PHST)

### Caldor Fire

*Calochortus clavatus* var. *avius* (CACLA)  
*Navarretia prolifera* spp. *lutea* (NAPRL)  
*Lewisia kelloggii* var. *hutchisonii* (LEKEH)

This project will take place over the next two years (2024 and 2025) and will include a range of different tasks:

- Re-locating species populations (determine if still present, like a rare plant treasure hunt)
- Phenology checks (locate, take notes and photos so that we can collect seeds at the right time)
- Peak-bloom population mapping and detailed data collection
- Support seed collection
- Seed cleaning/processing to be done later in a lab setting

Training is required to participate, which helps us ensure consistency in data collec-



*Calochortus clavatus* var. *avius* (Pleasant Valley mariposa lily) (Photo: Steve Perry)

tion, proper handling of rare plant data and seed, and coordination across many people. Training for 2024 occurred in late February and early March, but if you are interested in participating, reach out to us through our El Dorado Chapter CNPS email at [web.eldoradocnps@gmail.com](mailto:web.eldoradocnps@gmail.com).

We will be in touch with additional support needs for later season tasks and new training opportunities for the 2025 season.

*Lester Lubetkin  
Conservation Co-Chair*



*Lewisia serrata* (Sawtooth lewisia)  
(Photo: Steve Tyron)

# RE-OAK GRIZZLY GOOD WORKS CONTINUE FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR

It was a splendid fall for Black Oak acorns (*Quercus kelloggii*) following the Caldor Fire in 2021. I had read California Native America wisdom that smoke from a low intensity fire is healthful for oak trees. Though hardly a mild wildfire for many folks who lived in places like Grizzly Flat, the Caldor Fire had sent thick sky-covering smoke, though no flames, to Pleasant Valley. It seems the Black Oaks there had responded en masse. Annie wanted to do something with all of this abundance around her home.

A friend from Grizzly, Christine, suggested giving away acorns so that they might be planted and cared for in the burned areas. Initially Christine placed a 5 gallon bucket of **Annie's acorns at the Somerset Post Office** where many Grizzly Flat folks collected their mail after they were evacuated. Everyone could take some and was encouraged to plant freely. Soon a frustration arose – one fine day all of the acorns even the bucket just disappeared.

Annie proposed a new idea: Annie and Tal began growing acorns in tall tree pots or taped together, doubled-up milk cartons. (Thank you, Lisa and Piper, for collecting and cleaning those cartons.) Bill and Tal distributed potted seedlings later in the spring and again in the fall at the post office and Gold Vine Bistro next door. We would drop off two boxes of seedlings with FREE signs each week. Piper, who manages the Gold Vine Bistro, was not only our second point of contact for distribution but agreed to keep an eye on the boxes of seedlings and to handle the social media for the distribution!

We have given away half of our plants in the spring. Tough luck for those being held until fall, summer is hard on the remaining seedling babies growing in pots. No amount of water or shade can totally replace the long water-seeking tap roots that oaks just want to grow early in their careers. Temperatures reach 110 ° F and more for several days each summer in Shingle Springs where the oak seedlings are being cared for. Several seedlings collected multiple sucking insects such as mealybugs and scale. Radical surgery pull them through, but they look sad after their infected leaves

*(continued p. 5)*



## RE-OAK (continued from p.4)

are removed. An Adopt-A-Pet approach, adding a clever little bio, was suggested to help home the sad looking ones. After being tagged, the sad ones became most popular.

And though being in pots during the summer is tough, the first few years after any potted oak is planted into the ground is no picnic either. Handouts created by Tal and Ginna were left at the post office and bistro with planting advice. Also copies of

and links to CNPS' *Fire Recovery Guide* were made available.

This year will be the third year we are growing acorn seedlings for the people of the Caldor Fire. Our first year, 2022, we grew out 195 black oaks (*Quercus kelloggii*), 3 toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*) and 10 willows (*Salix lasiolepis* – Ginna, went through all 3 Jepson keys to narrow down to the most likely species). In 2023 we also grew out Gold Cup Oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*). AND this year, Piper and Ginna have been instrumental in expanding our little program to include the 1<sup>st</sup>

graders at the California Montessori Project in Shingle Springs. They are currently growing oaks which they will plant on a field trip to Leoni Meadows later this spring. This class is a recipient of a grant from the Chapter's Clark Youth Fund.

So, the circle of care continues to grow.

Tal Blackburn

Note to Educators: Applications for Clark Youth Fund grants are now welcome for other native plant projects in the county. Propose a project at <https://eldoradocnps.org/about-us/contact-us/>



### How to achieve optimum survival, growth and health of oaks and willow plantings in the landscape? Much has been learned through scientific research and through trial and error.

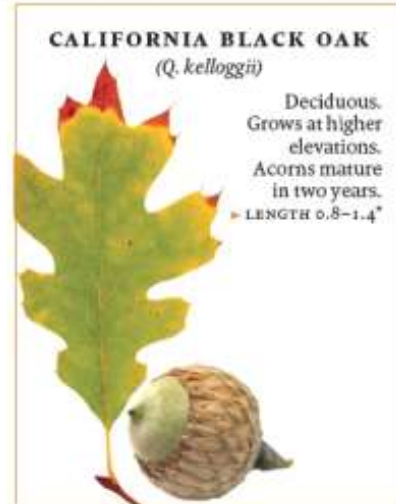
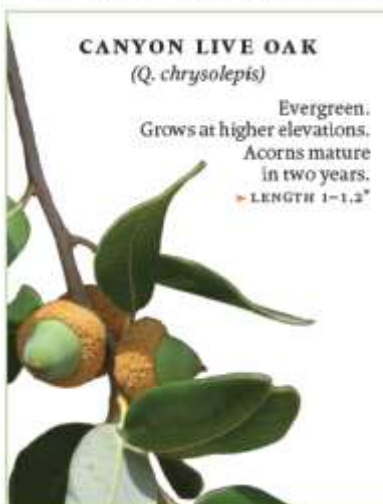
- the tough part of getting oaks and willows to grow from potted seedlings/cuttings is to encourage the "graduation" to "teenagers": seedlings/cuttings are subject to drought, trampling, girdling, browsing, and competition, especially by non-native annual weeds.
- protection from herbivores and competition, as well as providing water availability go a long way toward helping seedlings to grow into healthy saplings.

#### Planting:

- all 3 species are adapted to elevations much lower and also well beyond 4000 ft in this part of the Sierra. When and if the climate warms, these plants should remain suitable to the Grizzly Flat area.
- oak spacing: further apart than you may think. The 200 year old black oaks you have seen can have a drip line circle of 35 feet in diameter.
- the Gold Cup Oak would do well in a shady little ravine. It has another common name of Canyon Live Oak.
- the Arroyo Willow greatly desires a wet spot and then will thank you by gladly taking over. Plant it in your "back 40".
- remove plants from pots and trim broken roots before planting. A cleanly trimmed tap root can grow a new tip and will continue to grow downward into the ground.
- **Black Oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) at Calscape.org** (excellent specific info!): [https://www.calscape.org/loc-California/Quercus%20kelloggii%20\(Black%20Oak\)?newsearch=1](https://www.calscape.org/loc-California/Quercus%20kelloggii%20(Black%20Oak)?newsearch=1)
- **Gold Cup Oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*) at Calscape.org**: [https://www.calscape.org/loc-California/Quercus%20chrysolepis%20\(Canyon%20Live%20Oak\)?newsearch=1](https://www.calscape.org/loc-California/Quercus%20chrysolepis%20(Canyon%20Live%20Oak)?newsearch=1)
- **Arroyo Willow (*Salix lasiolepis*) at Calscape.org**: [https://www.calscape.org/loc-California/Salix%20lasiolepis%20\(Arroyo%20Willow\)?newsearch=1](https://www.calscape.org/loc-California/Salix%20lasiolepis%20(Arroyo%20Willow)?newsearch=1)



Arroyo willow. Photo: Northern Chumash Tribal Council



Oak images from Bay Nature Acorn Guide

# EL DORADO CHAPTER CNPS RESPONSE TO UC DAVIS CLIMATE READY TREES

It has just come to the El Dorado Chapter's attention that the USDA Forest Service and UC Davis are conducting a study to evaluate tree species for climate readiness for urban planting, but includes very few California natives. Begun in 2015-16, at a cost of \$173,000 ([https://climatereadytrees.ucdavis.edu/sites/g/files/dgvnsk14256/files/inline-files/CRT\\_StudyPlan\\_v7\\_2016\\_09\\_27-1.pdf](https://climatereadytrees.ucdavis.edu/sites/g/files/dgvnsk14256/files/inline-files/CRT_StudyPlan_v7_2016_09_27-1.pdf)), the goal "is to identify trees that perform well under stressors associated with climate change in California's Central Valley, Inland Empire and Southern California Coast climate zones" (<https://climatereadytrees.ucdavis.edu/>). Each experimental planting contains 12 tree species, most from outside North America. With the exception of Desert Willow, there are no California native trees on the list for the Central Valley. Tecate Cypress, Island Oak, and Catalina Cherry are the only native plants included in the Inland Empire and Southern California Coast plantings. More importantly, most of the trees are an ecological blank due to their selection to be pest resistant; the study's "Biological Interaction" criteria circumvent native insect and hence bird biodiversity. This directly contravenes the State's 30x30 initiative and CNPS's own support for this initiative (<https://www.cnps.org/biodiversity-initiatives/30x30>).

Our chapter is very concerned that the benefits of using native plants to address climate readiness is being ignored. At our Nov. 16, 2023 board meeting we brainstormed actions CNPS Chapters might consider regarding this study.

- ◆ **Notify all the chapters about this study to build publicity and pressure.** Alice Cantelow our former president is on the State Board of Directors as Chapter Council Representative and has agreed to bring this up at a Chapter Council meeting in 2024.
- ◆ **Education will be a key action to counter this study.** The logos below are from organizations that are supporters of the study. Letters directed to these agencies/nurseries by CNPS chapter members to educate them on their failure to consider climate resilient native trees that would also support animal biodiversity may be effective at forestalling the emanation of favorable publicity by them. Several on our board are Master Gardeners and suggested MGs/CNPS co-members could directly contact UCANR.

See Sonoma County Master Gardeners post of climate forward trees – 11 out of 20 are native, 2 of them native oaks: [https://sonomamg.ucanr.edu/Recommended\\_Plants\\_for\\_Sonoma\\_County/Climate\\_Forward\\_Trees/](https://sonomamg.ucanr.edu/Recommended_Plants_for_Sonoma_County/Climate_Forward_Trees/)

An excellent video is available that discusses climate change and its effects on current tree recruitment and on future human-effected tree migrations with emphases on oaks in the SF Bay area and the importation of more southerly oak species and hybrids to the north state. Our chapter will be showing this video in July before our Fall plant sale (maybe some of these oaks will be available – Cornflower and Devil Mountain are mentioned in the video as growing a few of these oak hybrids) and preceding a hands-on oak workshop in September (e.g. how we will educate our members and the El Dorado County public). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxvucEkV0ZI>

- ◆ **Design a new study.** It is unlikely that direct modification of their study to include native trees can be made at this late date. It may be possible to counter this study with one that focuses on natives with funding provided by CNPS and trees provided by native plant nurseries. Perhaps one is already going.
- ◆ **Counter ongoing publicity.** There has been a great deal of publicity about this study. See for example, March 28, 2023 "How UC Davis Is Growing a Tree Canopy for Tomorrow's Climate": <https://www.ucdavis.edu/climate/news/tomorrows-trees-today> and a previous post on the importation of 12 trees each of 40 Texan species "Can Trees from Texas Help Save our Campus Canopy?" : <https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/news/texas-tree-trial-plantings>. Neither post mentions that most all trees are exotic or the impact on biodiversity of pest free exotics. Can we counter the positive publicity? An article by Dr. Jun Bando, CNPS Executive Director, on this UC Davis site and elsewhere may be timely and appropriate.

We will continue to raise this issue with other chapters and state CNPS.

*Debra Ayres  
Science Co-Chair*

Further reading on climate change and tree decline (depressing!)

- <https://mashable.com/article/california-tree-die-off-climate-change>
- <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-20678-z>
- <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-022-29289-2>



# CHAPTER FIELD TRIPS 2024: MARCH THROUGH MAY

It's field trip season once again! We're looking forward to another great year to enjoy our native plants (as well as all other aspects of our natural habitats!). Below are descriptions of field trips scheduled for March through May of 2024.

To sign up for one or more of these trips, visit our field trip webpage at <https://eldoradocnps.org/news-events/field-trips/>. Of course, there will be more trips scheduled for the summer and fall months; just check out our website later in the season. If you'd like to get out on your own, check out the map and self-guided walks descriptions on our chapter website: <https://eldoradocnps.org/places/map/>.

## Early season plant walk

**Where:** Quarry Trail, Auburn State Recreation Area

**What to see:** Quarry Trail takes off from Hwy 49 just south of the bridge that crosses the American River where the North Fork confluences with the Middle Fork. The trail is on an old railroad bed that was used to transport limestone from the quarry and takes you alongside the river. On the south side of the trail are some lovely rock walls, covered in mosses and ferns, as well as the seedlings of our spring flowering plants. We'll also see up to 7 species of oaks, as well as California Bay.

**When:** Tuesday, March 26, 10 am - ~ 2 pm

## Foothill spring wildflowers and more plant walk

**Where:** Old Flume/Red Shack Trail, BLM

**What to see:** This trail is on a northeast facing slope shaded by a diversity of trees and shrubs (including hop tree, *Ptelea crenulata*!), with an understory of grasses, ferns, and flowering herbaceous plants. A very popular spring wildflower trail.

**When:** Friday, April 5, 9 am - ~ 2 pm

## Foothill spring wildflowers and more plant walk

**Where:** Magnolia Ranch, BLM

**What to see:** Magnolia Ranch (formerly Straza Ranch, and adjacent to Cronan Ranch) is a local wonderful recreation

area off Hwy 49 north of Coloma providing habitats ranging from riparian habitats (along the South Fork of the American River and between Greenwood and Hastings Creeks), grassland, and oak woodland. There are stands of conifers, including incense cedar, Douglas-fir, Ponderosa pine, and foothill pine; an old built rock wall with mosses, ferns, and other herbaceous plants; grasslands harboring baby blue eyes and five spot; and old oak woodlands of valley, blue, California black, and interior live oaks. Spring is wonderful here – wildflower heaven!

**When:** Tuesday, April 16, 9 am - ~ 2 pm

## Pine Hill Preserve Tours

**Where:** Six field trips within 3 units of the Pine Hill Preserve, western El Dorado County

**What to see:** These tours will bring you up close and personal with not only the 8+ rare plant species that the Preserve was established to protect with habitat conservation, but you'll also see the diverse habitats of the Preserve, from grassland to (two types of!) chaparral, to oak woodlands, and many, many other plant species. The Pine Hill Preserve is found within the El Dorado County gabbroic intrusive geological complex, where there are a number of plants that are found nowhere else on earth. However, within the area of this gabbroic complex, there are 740+ species of plants, making this a biodiversity hotspot within the biodiversity hotspot that is California as a whole. Depending on which tour you join, you will see many of these plant species as well as animals – two of our tours focus on these: birds at Kanaka Valley and pollinators on Pine Hill itself. See the tours list below.

**When:** With the exception of the April 20<sup>th</sup> bird tour, the following tours will begin at 9:00 AM and conclude by 2:00 PM. The April 20<sup>th</sup> bird tour will begin at 7:00 AM and concludes at noon. CNPS: field trip leaders, PHP: Pine Hill Preserve staff.

Saturday, April 13 – Cameron Park Unit Plant Hike, CNPS/PHP

Saturday, April 20 - Kanaka Valley Bird Hike – Chris Conard/ CNPS/PHP

# MAY 28 PROGRAM RARE PLANTS OF THE PINE HILL AREA

Deb Ayres and Sue Britting will give an overview of the rare plants associated with gabbro soils in the Pine Hill area. Deb will talk about the ecology and new findings about these unique species. Sue will talk about the policies and laws that help us conserve these species, including an update on the Pine Hill Ecological Preserve.

This in-person program is on Tuesday, May 28 at 7 pm at the Cameron Park Community Center (2502 Country Club Dr, Cameron Park, CA 95682). See you there!

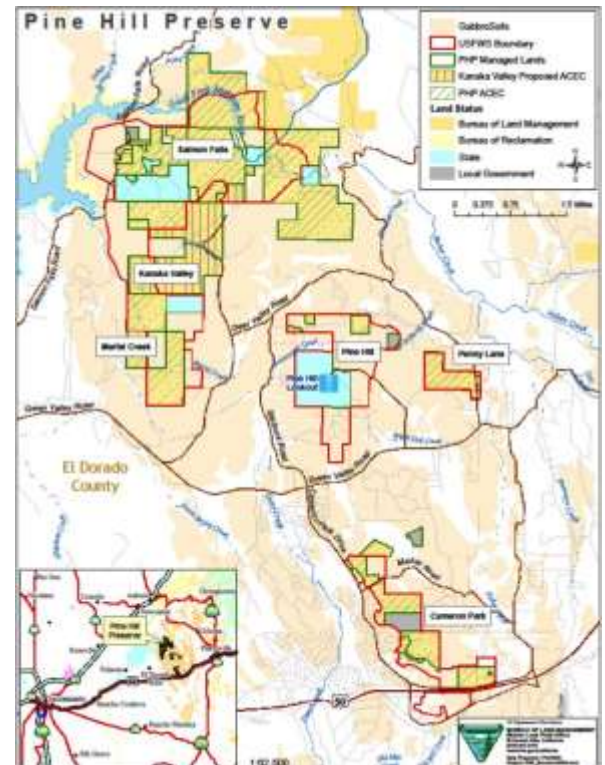
Tuesday, April 23 – Kanaka Valley Birds and Plants – CNPS/PHP

Friday, May 3 – Cameron Park Unit Plant Hike – CNPS/PHP

Friday, May 10 – Pine Hill, Plants and Pollinators – CNPS/PHP

Sunday, May 26 – Pine Hill Plants – CNPS/PHP

**Where:** Tour locations are indicated above. Field trip participants will meet at designated areas and, for the Pine Hill tours, will carpool to the site; participants will be notified of where to meet with a confirmation email sent upon sign-up for each tour.

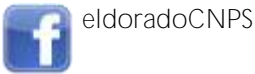




El Dorado Chapter  
 California Native Plant Society  
 P.O. Box 1948  
 Placerville, CA 95667

March-April 2024

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



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 journal *Artemisia*, quarterly magazine, *Flora*, 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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