

Darlingtonia

FALL 2017
OCT-DEC

Newsletter of the North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society
Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora

A New *Rubus* Among Us by Carol Ralph

Have you ever seen a Himalaya Blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) and thought, "Hmmm. That doesn't look quite right." You might have been seeing *Rubus praecox*, a species not even in The Jepson Manual or Calflora!

In the newsletter of the California Invasive Plant Council (CallPC), Marcel Rejmánek calls attention to this confusion in an article entitled "*Rubus praecox*: a newly recognized invasive European blackberry in California." (*Dispatch* summer/fall 2017:12-13), Botanists working on a biological control for the non-native blackberries have been looking carefully at the blackberries here. They found that some of the specimens being called *armeniacus* were actually the similar *praecox*, a European species. Rejmánek looked at California specimens in the herbaria at UC Berkeley and UC Davis and found several *R. praecox*, misidentified as *R. armeniacus* or *R. discolor* (a misapplied synonym of *armeniacus*). These *R. praecox* were all in Butte or Humboldt Counties! That's us! We'd better get out there looking more carefully at those big, non-native blackberries!

The author provides field marks. Here are some:

- *R. armeniacus*. Prickles on first year stems are stout, rarely curved, red at the base, contrasting with green surface of the stem (Look on the shaded side of young stems.), 3-7 per 5 cm. Prickles on the inflorescence rachis (stem) are mostly straight. Petals are pale pink, 13-20 mm long x 10-15 mm wide. Stamens are long, up to twice as long as styles.
- *R. praecox*. Prickles on first year stems are stout, usually slightly declining or slightly curved, colored green or dark violet like the stem (Look on the shaded side of young stems.), 3-6 per 5 cm. Prickles on inflorescence rachis are strong, mostly curved. Petals are white or pale pink, 10-14 mm long x 7-11 mm wide. Stamens are usually only slightly longer than styles.
- Besides *R. armeniacus* the blackberry I see abundantly in Humboldt County is the native California Blackberry (*R. ursinus*), with its round stem, gentle prickles, and early blooms. Two other non-natives I have seen, both with robust, 5-angled stems

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

Feature Article: A New Rubus Among Us	1
Field Trips and Plant Walks	2
Chapter Programs	3
Members' Corner	3
Field Trip Reports:	4
• Mattole River and Lost Coast Trail	
• Ruth Lake, Clover Gulch, and Boundary Trail	
• Point St. George	
Chapter Contacts	10
Volunteer Corner	11
Ballot for Chapter Officer Elections	11
Calendar of Events	12

Find out what's happening:

- Visit our website:
www.northcoastcnps.org
- Visit our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/NorthCoastCNPS>
- Sign-Up for Activity
Notifications by emailing:
NorthCoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

FIELD TRIPS, LONG AND SHORT

Please watch for updates on our Web site (www.northcoastcnps.org) or sign up for e-mail announcements (Northcoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Outings are open to everyone, not just members. All levels of expertise, from beginners to experienced botanizers, are welcome. Address questions about physical requirements to the leader. Weather and fires can require destination changes. It is wise to contact the leader if you are coming, in case plans change.

October 8, Sunday. Sunday. Inland, Fall Day Trip. Driving east along Highway 299 we will see fall color of Big-leaf Maple, Poison Oak, and Oregon White Oak. We will stop at all the vista points, summits, campgrounds, and rest areas, taking in the season as presented by the fading winter-deciduous species, the freshly washed evergreen species, and the sprouting annual or summer-deciduous species. We might get as far as Burnt Ranch Campground. We will make short walks from the cars; be prepared for the weather. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata) to carpool. Return late afternoon, or possibly in the evening after dinner in Willow Creek. Tell Carol if you know good places to stop, or if you are coming: 822-2015, theralphs@humboldt1.com.

November 4, Saturday. Patrick's Point Day Hike. Patrick's Point State Park, north of Trinidad, is surely one of the best state parks of all. It has wonderful, varied, native plant habitats. We will traverse Sitka Spruce and riparian forests, meadows, rock outcrops, and ocean bluffs, walking about 4 miles. We will see 8 species of conifers, including Bishop Pine, possibly 10 species of ferns, including Grape Fern, a spikemoss, two common succulents, a curious manzanita, and much more. Dress for the weather, including wind; bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata) to carpool or at 10 a.m. at the Bishop Pine Picnic Area. There is an entrance fee per car. It's good to tell Carol you are coming, in case plans change: 822-2015, theralphs@humboldt1.com.

If you would like to help plan all-day field trips or 2-hour plant walks, Carol wants to talk with you! 707-822-2015.

(Continued from page 1)

like *armeniacus*, are Elmleaf Blackberry (*R. ulmifolius* var. *anoplothyrsus*), which has no prickles, and Cutleaf Blackberry (*R. laciniatus*), with jaggedy, divided leaves. *The Jepson Manual* shows *R. pennsylvanicus* as a possibility here also. Its leaves are gray-hairy underneath, and its stems do not root at the tips, which would mean it doesn't form huge thickets as fast as the other species, which do root at the tips.

300+ presentations
opportunities
events
board

Botanical art, photos, poetry, & music
Social & networking events
Plenary speakers
Student
Sponsorship opportunities

Join CNPS in LA!



February 1-3, 2018 Los Angeles, CA
Workshops & Field Trips Jan. 30-31 Los Angeles Airport Marriott

CONFERENCE.CNPS.ORG
for details

In case you think these fine points of blackberry taxonomy are unimportant, consider this: A rust being studied as a possible biological control grows on *R. praecox* and *R. laciniatus*, but not on *R. armeniacus*! In case you think blackberry taxonomy is all worked out, consider this: Rejmánek disagrees with the treatment of this genus in the *Flora of North America*.

CHAPTER PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS

EVENING PROGRAMS

Evening programs are free, public programs on the second **Wednesday** of each month, September through May, at the Six Rivers Masonic Lodge, 251 Bayside Rd., Arcata. Refreshments at 7:00 p.m. and program at 7:30 p.m. For information or to suggest a speaker or topic contact Michael Kauffmann at 707-407-7686 / michaelekauffmann@gmail.com.

- Oct 11** **"The Wonderful World of Geophytes."** The flower-covered landscapes of pre-European California included a colorful, diverse, and abundant group of plants whose survival depended on underground bulbs and tubers. These plants, referred to as geophytes ("earth plants"), included lilies, fritillaries, brodiaeas, and many other species, many of which were important food sources for Native Americans. An abundance of evidence now suggests this group is declining rapidly. Based on 35 years working in this area, Dave Imper, retired U.S. Fish and Wildlife ecologist, and the local "Mr. Lily," will highlight the exceptional diversity of this group locally, explain the large-scale changes that have affected their habitats, and tell what management actions could slow the loss of these treasures. The recent *Fremontia* issue (journal of the California Native Plant Society) devoted to geophytes will be available for purchase.
- Nov 8** **"Ancient but Still Evolving: the Ferns among Us."** Ferns are a fascinating group of plants, with rich, and often bizarre, ecologies and natural histories. Carl Rothfels, Assistant Professor and Curator of Ferns and Lycophytes at the University Herbarium, U. C. Berkeley, will take us on a meander through ferndom from a slightly evolutionary perspective, starting at the broadest scale (What are ferns? How did they evolve?) and ending closer to home with a tour of northern California fern diversity. Along the way, he will touch on ferns' secret double life, on the wonders of "instantaneous" speciation, the trick to being a fern in the desert, the challenges of fern taxonomy (Why do these names keep changing??), and more.
- Dec 13** **"Native Plant Show and Tell."** Members like Donna Wildearth, Anna Bernard, and Michael Kauffmann will share their favorite photos from summer botanical fun. Graduate student and chapter awardee Jean-Paul E Ponte will tell what he learned this past spring about pollination of Siskiyou Iris. If you want to share, contact Michael at michaelekauffmann@gmail.com.

MEMBERS' CORNER

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SCOTT BECKMAN
STEPHANIE KING-HOFFMAN
KELSEY McDONALD
CHELSEA OBEIDY
BOB STEWART
JOSHUA TANZER

THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS

PAUL ANDERSON
SARA ARNETT
CHET BODDY
ANN BURROUGHS
KERRY BYRNE
COLIN FISKE
CHRISTY GRAHAM
SUSAN HALPIN
SANDRA JERABEK
TOM LISLE
JOHN LONGSHORE

REBECCA MANION
GEORGE MILLER
ROBIN MIZE
MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
ERIC OLSON
MICHELE PALAZZO
JAMES REGAN
BARBARA REISMAN
KATHARINE SHAPIRO
CAROL TILGHMAN
DENNIS WALKER
JAN WALTON
VERONICA YATES
JOHN YOAKLEY
REBECCA ZETTLER

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Support these local businesses and with proof of your North Coast membership, receive discounts on your purchases.

- ◆ **Greenlot Nursery**, 10% discount on plants, 443-9484

- ◆ **Lost Foods Native Plant Nursery**: 10% discount on plants, 268-8447, LostFoods.org

- ◆ **Mad River Gardens**: 10% discount on plant purchases, 822-7049

- ◆ **Miller Farms**: 5% discount on plant materials, 839-1571

- ◆ **Pierson's Garden Shop**, 10% discount on all garden shop items (except sale or non-discountable items—please ask staff before going to register), 441-2713

- ◆ **Samara Restoration LLC**, 10% discount on plants, 834.4379 / samararestoration.com

JOIN CNPS!

To join or renew, you can either:

- ◆ Send your name and address, check (payable to CNPS) CNPS, 2707 K St., Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.
- ◆ Pay on-line cnps.org/cnps/join

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Mattole River and Lost Coast Trail

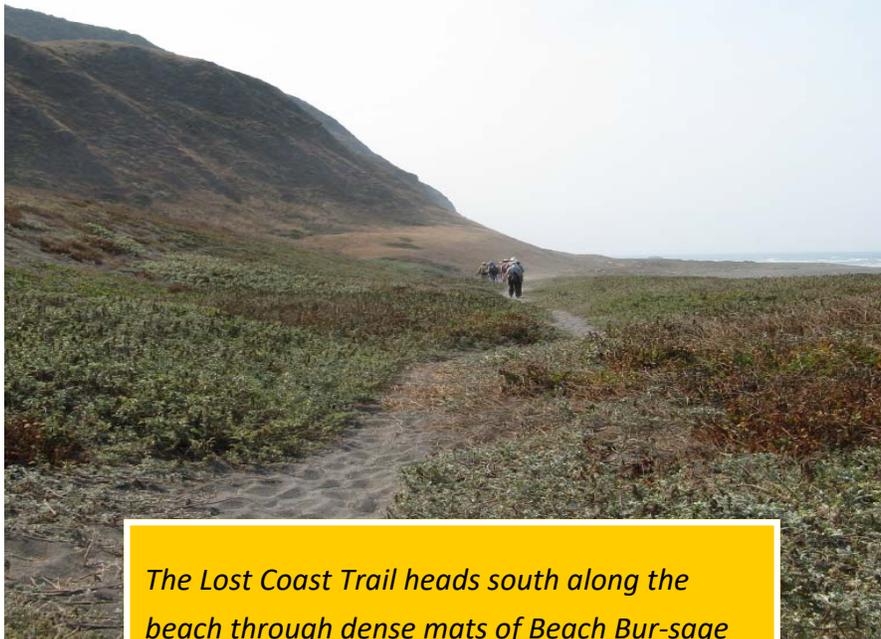
September 1-3, 2017

by Donna Wildearth

A group of 9 CNPS members and two guests arrived in the afternoon and evening of Friday, Sept. 1, at the Mattole Camp and Retreat Center, a Presbyterian church camp on the Mattole River approximately 7 miles from Petrolia. It was very hot—104°! The camp facilities were fairly basic but comfortable. Several of the group walked down the trail to the river and enjoyed wading in the water and exploring the vegetation along the water.

The streambanks were lovely, with large clumps of Indian Rhubarb (*Darmera peltata*) with big, round, green leaves dotted along the water's edge, sprinkled with a few patches of flowers in bloom: vibrant scarlet Humboldt County Fuchsia (*Epilobium septentrionale*), reddish-pink Yawning Penstemon (*Keckiella corymbosa*), and orange Cardinal Monkeyflower (*Mimulus cardinalis*). White Alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*) and Oregon Ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*) trees grew along the river.

Saturday morning we drove to the mouth of the Mattole River, trailhead for the Lost Coast Trail, and hiked south along the beach for roughly 2 miles looking at plants. Many of the plants were the same as those found on our local beaches—Yellow Sand Verbena (*Abronia latifolia*); large patches of Beach Bur-sage (*Ambrosia chamissonis*); Seaside Daisy (*Erigeron glaucus*); and Beach Strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*). Bright yellow California Poppies (*Eschscholzia californica*) provided spots of color along the beach, and Coyote Brush (*Baccharis pilularis*) was in full bloom. It was a surprise to see large clumps of Poison Oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*) growing right on the beach, already sporting red fall color. One of the group noted that there were more grasses growing on the sand dunes than she remembered from previous visits.



The Lost Coast Trail heads south along the beach through dense mats of Beach Bur-sage and Seaside Daisy, under smokey skies. Photo

We found the most interesting plants where several small streams crossed the beach. The first streambed contained a mat of yellow Seep-spring Monkeyflower (*Mimulus guttatus*). Another stream hosted striking rosettes of Bluff Lettuce (*Dudleya farinosa*) as well as Broadleaf Stonecrop (*Sedum spathulifolium*), Douglas Iris (*Iris douglasiana*), Pacific Wax Myrtle (*Morella californica*), Red-flowering Currant (*Ribes sanguineum*), Henderson's Angelica (*Angelica hendersonii*), and a dried stalk of Elegant Rein Orchid (*Piperia elegans*).

On the face of the bluff along the eastern edge of the beach were Coast Silktassel (*Garrya elliptica*) and colorful clumps of Humboldt County Fuchsia, Bush Monkeyflower (*Mimulus aurantiacus*), and California Indian-pink (*Silene californica*). We enjoyed a pleasant lunch stop on a large driftwood log and then began climbing up the bluff on a half-mile-long switchback trail. The weather was pleasant on the beach, but became hotter as we ascended the bluff.

We emerged on top of the bluff at Windy Point in mid-afternoon, with the temperature close to 100°, and then faced a very steep climb up a 4-wheel drive road to the spot where a shuttle car was parked on Proper Ridge Rd. Thankfully, several people eventually realized that a rescue mission was in order, hiked to the car, and drove back down to pick up the rest of the group. As we drove out, we passed several BLM meadow restoration sites; unfortunately we were too exhausted to get out and study them. The take-away lesson:

do not attempt this hike in very hot weather!

Back at camp, a dip in the river proved wonderfully restorative. Then we assembled for a potluck dinner topped by Carol and CJ's superb strawberry-rhubarb Dutch oven crisp.

Sunday morning we hiked another, shorter trail that started in a young forest composed of Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), Grand Fir

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

(*Abies grandis*), and Tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*). There were no redwood trees, but many familiar plants of the redwood forest such as Sword Fern, Douglas Iris, Redwood Sorrel, Modesty, Sweet Cicely, Starflower, Western Trillium, Candy Flower, Northern Inside-out Flower, Solomon's Plume, Smith's Fairybells, Salal, Evergreen Huckleberry, Hazelnut, and Oceanspray. It was a treat to see a number of Dwarf Oregon-grape (*Berberis nervosa*) plants with large clusters of blue fruit. The upper section of the trail traversed a stand of old-growth Douglas Fir with some very large specimens.

Final thoughts by Carol Ralph

We headed for home Sunday afternoon, taking with us a renewed and expanded view of a remote but important corner of Humboldt County, a corner of vast, wild landscapes as well as long human habitation. The plants we found were familiar, but the combinations and expressions different. Still part of the North Coast Region, as defined in *The Jepson Manual*, the vegetation south of Cape Mendocino "felt" different than on the Humboldt Bay side of that promontory.

**Ruth Lake, Clover Gulch, and Boundary Trail
JUNE 16-18, 2017**

by Anna Bernard and Carol Ralph

THE FACTS
◆ Ruth Reservoir (a.k.a. Ruth Lake)
◆ Named after Ruth McKnight, a settler
◆ R.W. Matthews Dam constructed in 1962
◆ Only reservoir on the Mad River
◆ Provides water to Arcata and Eureka
◆ Dam Generates Electricity
◆ Elevation: 2,654 Feet above sea level
◆ Ruth Reservoir is 10 miles long
◆ Used for recreational activities

THE VIEWS



View of Ruth Lake from the Nature Trail (Photo by Anna Bernard)



View from the Boundary Trail (Photo by Anna Bernard)

THE HIKES and BOTANIZING
◆ Boy Scout Cove Campground and shoreline
◆ Clover Gulch Trail
◆ Boundary Trail
◆ Nature Trail

THE ADVENTURES

The **Boy Scout Cove Campground** (run by Ruth Lake Community Services District), where we camped two nights, is situated on the southwest end of Ruth Lake and has access to the shoreline for botanizing. The campsites are large and have shade trees for privacy. On Friday

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

afternoon, we explored the riparian vegetation along the shoreline by the campground. The favorite plant we found was the diminutive, blue Elegant Downingia (*Downingia elegans*). The most abundant were Pennyroyal (*Mentha pulegium*) and Water Plantain (*Alisma triviale*). These plants on the sandy and muddy shore indicated the lake water had recently receded. (It had, for maintenance.)

On Saturday morning, we drove south to the **Clover Gulch Trail** (on 27N13 near Three Forks) in Six Rivers National Forest. This is a historic trail that was used for cattle drives and as a transportation route. We saw evidence of cattle, and Ned was utterly surprised to find some four-legged grazers on a grassy knoll. Near the trailhead we explored a wetland oasis and adjacent grassland and discovered many beautiful plants and wildlife, including a western pond turtle, alligator lizard, chorus frogs, butterflies, assorted songbirds, and deer. The diverse herbaceous plants included cheerful flowers of White Brodiaea (*Triteleia hyacinthina*), Fork-toothed Ookow (*Dichelostemma congestum*), clarkias (*Clarkia*), and an abundant, unfamiliar sedum (*Sedum* sp.). The round, perforated pods of Lace Pod (*Thysanocarpus curvipes*) caught our eye, and the sharply pointed and divided leaves of Cut-leaf Blackberry (*Rubus laciniatus*), a non-native, were new to many. The white, snapdragon-like flowers of California Skullcap (*Scutellaria californica*) were new to all. Our list accumulated two species of dogbane (*Apocynum*), three of yampah (*Perideridia*), three of violets (*Viola*), three of bedstraws (*Galium*), two lupines (*Lupinus*), numerous "yellow comps" of various forms, and many unfamiliar species, which can't be listed, because we don't know what to call them!

We continued along the trail for about an hour, following the stream up a wide valley. Under Douglas-fir and Ponderosa Pine on the south side of the valley, we looked across at grassland and Gray Pine on the north. After crossing the valley, the trail climbed a knoll to a beautiful, mossy, oak grotto, where we had lunch. We returned along the same trail.

Next, we drove farther south to the **Boundary Trail**. This is an historic trail that leads into the Yolla Bolly Wilderness area. It is called the Boundary Trail because it is the boundary between the Six Rivers National Forest and the Shasta Trinity National Forest. We walked only the first mile of this 2.5-mile trail at an elevation of about 5,000 feet. The beginning of the trail was in a forest of Douglas-fir, White Oak, Black Oak, Ponderosa Pine, and Incense Cedar, moving into chaparral with ceanothus and manzanita and eventually White Fir as the trail worked its way onto an exposed ridge. A Phantom Orchid (*Cephalanthera austinae*) caught our eye in the forest. Clumps of both Humboldt County Mule Ears (*Wyethia longicaulis*) and Deltoid

Balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza deltoidea*), both with large, cheerful, yellow flowers, provided opportunity to compare these two similar genera. The balsamroot, the only species expected in our area, has a long petiole on the leaf. This mule ears, and others, has the leaf blade tapering down to the attachment, leaving no petiole. It was fun to see blooming here in its mountain setting Foothill Penstemon (*Penstemon heterophylla*), which we see weekly during workdays at our chapter nursery. As time ran short, we had to hurry past many blooming herbaceous species.

On Sunday we walked the **Nature Trail** along the east side of Ruth Lake between Fir Cove and Bailey Canyon Campgrounds. The views of Ruth Lake were picturesque. The trail traversed oak woodland and Douglas-fir forest. Using the recently published *Field Guide to Manzanitas* we successfully keyed the beautiful and common Common Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos manzanita*)! The grass was dry and many herbaceous species past blooming, so we savored the color offered by pale blue Blue-headed Gilia (*Gilia capitata*), red California Indian-pink (*Silene laciniata* ssp. *californica*), and dark blue Elegant Brodiaea (*Brodiaea elegans*).

Along the way home on Highway 36 some of us stopped at Cheatham Grove of Grizzly Creek Redwoods State Park. It was a stately, but small grove of venerable Redwoods.

We enjoyed our summery sojourn in the mid-elevation interior of Humboldt County. We found it herb-rich and tree-poor, which is fine for people captivated by flowers. We recommend travelers there have a good map and pay attention to their route. Don't assume signs will tell you where to turn.

MORE PHOTOS



Indian Pink on the Nature Trail (photo by Anna Bernard)

(Continued on page 7)



Mossy rock and Ithuriel's Spear (*Triteleia laxa*) in a grotto of Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*) on the Glover Gulch Trail. Ithuriel's Spear was blooming most places we went and along the roads. It is a pale violet version of this species, with a sparkly throat, and stamens at two levels. (Photo by Anna Bernard)



Phantom Orchid at Boundary Trail (photo by Anna Bernard)

Point St. George
12 August 2017
by Carol Ralph

A beach so near a city and an airport seems a tame, mundane destination for us coastal dwellers on Humboldt Bay, when the mountains beckon with high peaks, serpentine meadows, and mountain streams. In summer, however, mountains also have fire and smoke, so our coastal trip proved to be good planning. What's more,

Point St. George is not your ordinary beach. As you step from your car at the end of Radio Rd. outside of Crescent City, and walk up the rise ahead, every step takes you farther from the city and the roadside weeds. In 100 m you are in seemingly pristine habitat with the sea spread before you, roaring against the rocks, while you inhale the ultimate freshness of wind come across hundreds of miles of Pacific Ocean. Twelve of us met here on a gentle, summer day. The non-gentle days are the ones that keep this habitat pristine, sculpting it mercilessly with salt-laden winds, keeping it a coastal prairie.

On that modest hill we realized that here in the cool summer by the cold sea, spring was not over, while fall was arriving. The carpet of low plants included spring-blooming Shore Lupine (*Lupinus littoralis*), Silvery Phacelia (*Phacelia argentea*), and even Cream Cups (*Platystemmon californica*), a spring annual. Largish, yellow flowers of the summer-fall-blooming, prostrate Gumplant (*Grindelia stricta* var. *platyphylla*) dotted all of the carpet. Silvery puffs of seeds on a "yellow comp" (yellow-flowered member of the Asteraceae, which used to be called Compositae) in the chicory tribe (dandelion-like plants) dotted the drier areas. Traversing the bluff toward the left (southish) we encountered blooms of Western Dog Violet (*Viola adunca*), Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), Seaside Daisy (*Erigeron glaucus*), Blue-eyed



Cream Cups

Grass (*Sisyrinchium bellum*), Douglas Iris (*Iris douglasiana*), Cow Clover (*Trifolium wormskjoldii*), Silverweed (*Potentilla anserina* ssp. *pacifica*), and Elegant Rein Orchid (*Piperia elegans*). Henderson's Angelica (*Angelica*

hendersonii) was common, but we found no Seacoast Angelica (*A. lucida*). On the cliffs below were wonderful mats and streamers of the succulents Bluff Lettuce (*Dudleya farinosa*) and Broadleaf Stonecrop (*Sedum spathulifolium*). Two native plantains were there also: the handsome *Plantago subnuda* and the smaller, more succulent Sea Plantain (*Plantago maritima*). A real treat was seeing two "bolanderi's." In a damp swale Bolander's Sneezeweed (*Helenium bolanderi*), a coastal version of this cheerful, meadow, yellow comp added its flowers to those of Gumplant. Elsewhere shiny, dark green leaves alerted us to the presence of Bolander's Ragwort (*Packera bolanderi*). As we rose from inspecting this rare species, we noticed we were standing on another treat, California

(Continued on page 8)



Examining Bolander's Ragwort on a carpet dotted with yellow Gumplant flowers

Broomrape (*Orobanche californica* ssp *californica*), a parasite generally on gumplants. Only the cluster of purple, penstemon-like flowers of this plant ever comes above ground. We ate lunch sitting among a good population of these. With help from a map made by botanists surveying this area for rare plants we found a patch of Crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*), a sprawling, low mat of yellow-green, heather-like leaves on the crest of the cliff.



California Broomrape

The bluff trail came to an area filled with tall, thick grasses and other rank growth, and curved toward the buildings, the road, and the parking area. We drove back toward town to a small parking area at Garth Beach, walked down to the beach, up the headland to the right, eventually circling back to the road and the cars. This walk had more weeds than the first. The beach, however, featured fresh, green foliage and fresh, purple flowers of Beach Pea (*Lathyrus japonicus*)(not to be confused with Silky Beach Pea (*Lathyrus littoralis*) common in our dunes). On the vertical, crumbly slope below us were some evening primroses, most likely Wolf's Evening Primrose (*Oenothera wolfii*), but we couldn't reach them to be sure.

It was not obvious who owns or manages this wonderful public land. The narrow strip along the cliffs might be part of Tolowa Dunes State Park, while the bulk of the peninsula, including the airport is Del Norte County land. Unfortunately, current management has allowed thick growth of grasses and Slough Sedge (*Carex obnupta*) to take over what used to be good habitat for Western Lily (*Lilium occidentale*), one of our rarest and most charismatic plants. We ran out of time to explore in this area east of

the road, west of the airport.

We found Point St. George a scenic, exciting, interesting place, with easy walks and rare plants. The rare species we found were Silvery Phacelia (rank 1B.1, rare everywhere), Bolander's Ragwort (2B.2, rare in California, more common elsewhere), Crowberry (2B.2), Wolf's Evening Primrose (1B.1), and Beach Pea (2B.1). The California Broomrape has no rank but is uncommon.

On our way south through town we stopped at the intersection with Anchor Way to look across the highway at bits you could see of Crescent City Marsh and the Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) stand behind it. A member of Friends of Del Norte told us that this stand of old spruce is targeted for logging. Crescent City Marsh is another past Western Lily habitat and home to other very rare plants. Removing some of the recently grown spruce that grew when grazing was stopped might be good management, but removing stately, old spruce seems unwise, being adjacent to this valuable conservation land.

FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE

Saturday, September 23, 2017
10 a.m.-3 p.m.



Jacoby Creek Land Trust's Kokte Ranch
2182 Old Arcata Rd., Bayside

Members only pre-sale 9-10 a.m.
(You can join on the spot)

For further information: 707-826-0259

Conservation Corner

by Carol Ralph

You can contribute to this column! Share web sites informing people.

Every environmental organization to which I belong is sending "Help! Send more money" letters. Among them is this, from the Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, September, 2017:

[There is] legislation, introduced in both the House and the Senate, which would clear the way for massive, unregulated logging on our National Forests....

Representative Bruce Westerman, an Arkansas Republican, likes to brag that he is the only professional forester in Congress. He does indeed hold a degree in forestry from Yale. But he's used that "expertise" to champion a bill that would give away huge swaths of our National Forests to the timber industry.

Westerman is the author of House Resolution 2936, which he has dubbed the "Resilient Federal Forests Act of 2017." He says the legislation, which has already sailed through the House Committee on Natural Resources, "would reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and dramatically improve the health of federal forests and rangelands." In fact, this disastrous bill would do precisely the opposite. It would allow the Forest Service to sanction massive clear-cuts with virtually no environmental review and virtually no opportunity for public objection.

It would eviscerate the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act in the process.

The bill would exempt the Forest Service from conducting NEPA reviews of logging projects up to 10,000 acres in size. It would remove the Endangered Species Act requirement that the Forest Service must consult with federal wildlife biologists to determine whether logging projects would harm rare species.

We've already seen this movie. Like many a Big Timber apologist before him, Westerman is playing on the public's fear of wildfires in an attempt to hand over huge swaths of the public estate to private interests. Big Timber, it turns out, is Westerman's top campaign contributor.

A short article in the July-Aug Calypso, the newsletter of the Dorothy King Young Chapter of CNPS, our neighbors on the Mendocino coast, reminds us of the importance of citizen oversight of the timber industry. The Dorothy King Young Chapter joined litigation claiming California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) should not have approved a

timber harvest plan (THP) submitted for an area called Dogwood.

*On January 25, 2017, Judge Chouteau made an unexpected ruling to remand the entire Dogwood THP back to CAL FIRE to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the Forest Practice Act (FPA). And on June 27, 2017, Judge Chouteau awarded \$162,000 in attorney's fees to the successful parties in the environmental litigation over CAL FIRE's approval of the Dogwood THP. The Court granted Petitioners motion for fees, holding that: **"Petitioners enforced an important public right and conferred a significant benefit to the general public by obtaining injunctive relief and proving respondent failed to comply with the requirements under CEQA and the Forest Practice Act."** This is great news, both because the attorney fees are covered and because it should send a message to CAL FIRE that requiring better THPS from applicants is in its own interests. CAL FIRE must return to Court to present its progress in late August. If the next plan also does not comply with CEQA, DKY will continue to work with other organizations to fight it. We are deeply grateful to those who have contributed to the DKY litigation fund, which will remain available for future efforts."*

Timber Harvest Plans are the "bureaucratic obstacle" in place to assure that good environmental practices are followed when trees are harvested. They describe the area to be cut, the size and density of trees to be cut, the other plants and animals living there, and other aspects of the job. Competent foresters and botanists among us are hired to write these plans for companies and citizens wanting to harvest trees, e.g. Baywood Golf and Country Club. Under current rules the plans must be made public, giving anyone a chance to comment on a plan within a given period. Not surprisingly THP's sometimes overlook problems. It is up to us to spot them. Reading THP's is an important function of CNPS and other organizations. We need people to do this. If you have expertise, or would like to learn, please contact us.

SO BE FREE 23

The Twenty-Third Annual Spring Outing Botanical Excursion Foray, Retreat, and Escape to the Environment



Saturday to Tuesday, 24-27 March 2018
(based at The Siskiyou Field Institute (<http://www.thesfi.org>))

More information and registration form (regular registration deadline is December 15 and late registration deadline is February 20) are at:

<https://bryophyte.cnps.org/images/pdf/SBF23.pdf>

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS/CONTACTS

President	Carol Ralph	707-822-2015	theralphs@humboldt1.com
Vice President	Greg O'Connell	707-599-4887	gregoconnell7@gmail.com
Secretary	Frances Ferguson	707-822-5079	fferguson@reninet.com
Treasurer	Bianca Hayashi		Turdasaurus@gmail.com
Membership	Rebecca Manion		rmanion136@gmail.com
Invasive Plants	Stephanie Klein	707-497-6038	stepho1979@yahoo.com
Native Plant Gardening	Pete Haggard	707-839-0307	phaggard@suddenlink.net
Native Plant Consultation	Samantha O'Connell	707-601-0650	maineflower@gmail.com
Plant Sales	Position Open (Co-Chair) Anna Bernard (Co-Chair)	707-826-7247	Contact President Carol Ralph eabern@aol.com
Nursery Manager	Chris Beresford	707-826-0259	thegang7@pacbell.net
Education	Barbara Reisman	707-267-707-0397	reisperson@gmail.com
Conservation Advisor	Sydney Carothers	707- 822-4316	sydneyc@humboldt1.com
Programs	Michael Kauffmann	707-407-7686	michaelekauffmann@gmail.com
Hospitality	Melinda Groom Frank Milelczik (Asst.)	707- 668-4275 707-822-5360	mgroomster@gmail.com frankm6385@yahoo.com
Field Trips and Plant Walks	Carol Ralph	707-822-2015	theralphs@humboldt1.com
Rare Plants	Kim Imper Greg O'Connell (Co-Chair)	707-444-2756 707-599-4887	dimper@suddenlink.net gregoconnell7@gmail.com
Plant Communities	Tony LaBanca	707-826-7208	tlabanca@dfg.ca.gov
Newsletter Editor	Marisa D'Arpino	707-601-0898	marisa_nativecalifornian@yahoo.com
Website & Publicity	Larry Levine	707-822-7190	levinel@northcoast.com
Poster Sales	Kathryn Johnson	707-839-4426	kjdancensing@gmail.com
T-Shirt Sales	Position Open		Contact President Carol Ralph
Workshops	Gordon Leppig	707-839-0458	gleppig@dfg.ca.gov
Wildflower Show	Position Open		Contact President Carol Ralph
Chapter Council Delegate	Larry Levine	707-822-7190	levinel@northcoast.com
NEC NCCNPS Representative	Gary Falxa	707-476-9238	gfalxa@suddenlink.net
Econews CNPS Page Editor	Evan Mahoney-Moyer		

COMMUNICATIONS

North Coast CNPS members have four ways to share information with each other:

Issue	Print Date	Submission Date	Announce Events In
Winter	January 1	December 1	Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr
Spring	April 1	March 1	Apr, May, June, Jul
Summer	July 1	June 1	Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct
Fall	October 1	September 1	Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan

E-mail newsletter articles, factoids, tidbits, etc. to the Newsletter Editor by the submission date.

Articles should generally be no more than 1,000 words and images can be any size and in these formats: JPG, JPEG, BMP, GIF, or PNG (note preferred location in the article and send image as a separate attachment).

- The **Darlingtonia Newsletter** (quarterly),
- Our **chapter's website**: www.northcoastcnps.org
- **E-mail lists/forums** To subscribe, send an e-mail to: Announcements: NorthCoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com / Gardening: NorthCoast_CNPS_Gardening-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- **Like us on Facebook** www.facebook.com/NorthCoastCNPS

ECONEWS AND YOU

We, the North Coast Chapter of CNPS, are a member organization of the Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC), a valuable voice for conservation in our area. We have a seat on their board of directors. The NEC is the only organization with which we share our mailing list. We think it is important that our members receive *EcoNews*, an informative publication about conservation issues in our area. Our chapter pays NEC to mail *EcoNews* to our members who are not also NEC members. You can reduce this cost to our chapter by joining NEC at www.yournec.org or requesting your *EcoNews* be electronic (contact Gary Falxa at gfalxa@suddenlink.net).

NATIVE PLANT CONSULTATION SERVICE



Are you wondering which plants in your yard are native? Are you unsure if that vine in the corner is an invasive exotic? Would you like to know some native species that would grow well in your yard?

The North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society offers the Native Plant Consultation Service to answer these questions and to share our experiences gardening with natives. This service is free. We hope it will inspire you to join CNPS or make a donation.

Contact our coordinator, Samantha O'Connell at 707-601-0650 or maineflower@gmail.com, who will put you in touch with a team of volunteer consultants who will arrange a visit to your property to look at what you have and help choose suitable plants for your garden.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Everything we do is with volunteer labor. Every job, small or large, is important for getting things done. We appreciate our many, talented, generous volunteers. You can be one too! Contact Carol at 707-822-2015 or theralphs@humboldt1.com

Thank you!

Larry Levine for bringing our poster shipment back from the Chapter Council meeting.

Frances Ferguson for writing our round-robin report, a summary of what we've been doing, for Larry to share at Chapter Council.

Greg O'Connell for keeping on top of the Big Lagoon Bog project, even though that meant learning that a missed deadline postpones the action until next fall.

The booth team at the North Country Fair: Barbara Reisman, Karen Isa, Frank Milelzcik, Carol Woods, Miranda Hernandez, Rita Zito, Carol Ralph, Frances Ferguson, Audrey Miller, Ann Burroughs, Greg O'Connell, Sam O'Connell and CJ Ralph for well organized, enthusiastic tabling at this fun and important event.

Nursery volunteers: See elsewhere. Volunteers helped in myriad ways, from weed-eating and water-blasting to loading and unloading, and hours of plant grooming.

Marisa St. John and Ann Burroughs for strategizing the future for our website.

Chris Beresford, Barbara Reisman, Karen Isa, Sam O'Connell, Mary Alward, and Carol Ralph for strategizing the future for our nursery.

Bianca Hayashi, Evan Mahoney-Moyer, Frank Milelzcik, and Greg O'Connell for reading the Hambro THP.

Jobs Needing People. Contact Carol (822-2015; theralphs@humboldt1.com) for details.

Wildflower Show Planners. This spring extravaganza, eagerly anticipated by many, needs new ideas about how to use our new space at the Jefferson Community Center, new help in publicizing it through many channels, new help collecting flowers for it, etc. Please tell Carol right now how you can help.

Nursery workers. Potting, washing, clipping, sweeping, counting, labeling, watering and more watering are all part of raising native plants for our sales. You can talk with friends while you do it. Contact Chris (826-0259; thegang7@Pacbell.net).

Conservation Issue Specialists. Follow some conservation issue of your choice and keep us informed in the newsletter and at Steering Committee meetings.

Publicity help. Have you noticed how many channels of publicity exist today? It's not just the newspaper and the local radio. We need more people to help disseminate our notices. Consider the news sources you use. Can you direct our publicity to them? Over a year we need to spread the word about two big events, 9 evening programs, and some plant walks.

VOTE for CHAPTER OFFICERS 2017 Ballot

The chapter elects four officers--president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary--for two-year terms every two years. The Votes may be cast by mail (by October 18 to North Coast Chapter of the Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 1067, Arcata CA 95521) or in person at the October Steering Committee meeting (Wednesday, October 4) or evening program (Wednesday, October 11)..

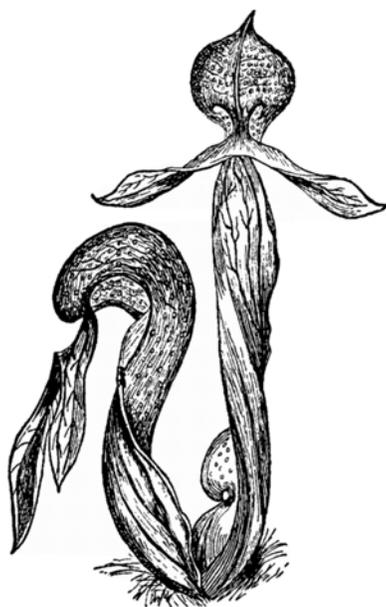
President	<input type="checkbox"/> Carol Ralph	<input type="checkbox"/> Write-in _____
Vice-President	<input type="checkbox"/> Greg O'Connell	<input type="checkbox"/> Write-in _____
Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Frances Ferguson	<input type="checkbox"/> Write-in _____
Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Bianca Hayashi	<input type="checkbox"/> Write-in _____

CNPS, North Coast Chapter
P.O. Box 1067
Arcata, CA 95518

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 33
Arcata CA 95521

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Darlingtonia



Visit us at
NorthCoastCNPS.org

CALENDAR of EVENTS (Field Trips—pg 2 / Programs-pg 3)

October

- ◆ 8 Hike
- ◆ 11 Program
- ◆ Club Officer Elections

November

- ◆ 4 Hike
- ◆ 8 Program

December

- ◆ 13 Program