



Bulletin

CNPS Files Notice of Intent Re. Clear Creek Management Plan

CNPS efforts to improve the Bureau of Land Management's stewardship of the Clear Creek Management Area near Hollister have intensified. The area provides habitat for the federally listed San Benito evening-primrose and several other increasingly imperiled plants. The primrose lives only on fragile serpentine soil alluvial terraces in the Clear Creek Management Area. For decades, CNPS and federal botanists have been concerned by the heavy use of off-road vehicles (ORVs) in the area. ORV use is associated with soil disturbance and erosion. The number of ORV users has recently increased by more than 10 percent. While BLM has made some efforts to protect plants and habitat, these efforts have been largely ineffective.

To address the issue and in hopes of persuading BLM to better conserve the area, on March 25, CNPS filed a notice of intent to sue BLM. Seemingly in response, BLM allowed an "enduro" race of more than 200 motorcycles to run directly through a site it had previously planned to close to protect two important primrose occurrences. In areas that BLM has closed, fences are regularly cut or taken down, effectively eliminating the protection.

LITIGATION MAY BE THE ONLY REMAINING RECOURSE

Thus, on May 17 CNPS formally requested that BLM close the Clear Creek Management Area to recreational off-road vehicles until adequate measures to protect sensitive plants and their habitats have been put in place and approved by the Fish and Wildlife Service (the agency responsible for conserving federally listed species). This request was denied in June. CNPS is now unfortunately forced to contemplate litigation as the only remaining recourse to gain effective protection for the rare plants that live in the Clear Creek Management Area.



Photo: Emily Roberson

CNPS Monterey Chapter volunteer Brian LeNeve points out ORV tracks in a Clear Creek area streambed that is "closed" to ORV use. The federally listed San Benito evening-primrose grows nearby.

The BLM recently released a new draft plan and environmental impact statement to designate routes and close sensitive areas in Clear Creek. However, as the motorcycle race shows, the BLM has been unable, and sometimes unwilling, to control illegal off-road vehicle use and to protect rare and listed plants. For example, a single law-enforcement officer remains responsible for enforcing off-road vehicle restrictions over the entire 30,000 acre Clear Creek Area. BLM has also been unacceptably slow to adopt or implement conservation measures. The current draft plan is already more than a year behind schedule. The previous management plan took many years to finalize and then was never implemented. So, even if a new plan is adopted, we do not expect it to be implemented without significant increases in

continued on page 6

Peirson's Milkvetch Critical Habitat Reduced by More Than 60 Percent

Dune-dweller closer to extinction

On August 4, 2004, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) issued the Final Critical Habitat Rule for the Peirson's milkvetch and effectively moved this rare *Algodones* dune dweller closer to extinction. The ruling reduced the area of land on which the plant will be protected by more than 60 percent.

"Critical habitat" is a specific geographic area that is essential for the conservation of a threatened or endangered species. Areas declared critical habitat may require special management and protection. Critical habitat may also include an area that is not currently occupied by the species but that will be needed for its recovery.

The Draft Critical Habitat issued by FWS (Figure 1) was identified using science-based modeling from all available data and designated 52,780 acres of habitat.

Strikingly, the Final Habitat Rule announced in August reduced the amount of critical habitat to 21,863 acres. This new designation includes 16,509 acres that are already protected as wilderness—and thus

continued on page 6

A Note from the Executive Director

Tales of a poetic Chapter Council meeting

The night sky was brilliant with stars and my early morning walk revealed a landscape haloed in mist. No, this wasn't an eco-tour. This was the September Chapter Council meeting! More than sixty CNPS folks gathered at the pastoral and secluded Walker Creek Ranch in Marin County. If you weren't there, you missed rolling hills and a running stream with alders and oaks—and a lively meeting. The biologist Peter Bey inspired us by identifying opportunities to strengthen plant protection by refining and magnifying the application of our rare plant list—the CNPS Inventory.

Kudos to our hosts: Bob Soost and the Marin Chapter; Lynn Houser, Betty Young and the Milo Baker Chapter; Marcie Danner and the Napa Chapter; Randy Zebell and the Yerba Buena (SF) chapter. On Sunday morning, Wilma Follett and Doreen Smith, Marin Chapter, led a hike to Abbott's Lagoon. In addition to good food, we indulged in donations from local micro-breweries and wineries. Not too shabby.

CNPS Press Online! Now you can buy CNPS books and posters or renew your membership with CNPS online. Special thanks to our consultant John Donaghue and Paul Maas, CNPS sales manager, who worked all summer to bring the E-Bookstore to www.cnps.org. I'm proud to say that I placed one of the first book orders.

Rare Plant Program. In August the Rare Plant Program wrapped up its long-term planning effort, bringing to a close nine months of analysis and volunteer effort. The group was facilitated by old CNPS hand Jim Nelson and produced a huge mural illustrating its hopes and plans. The mural was displayed at the Chapter Council meeting in Marin.

New staff. We're pleased to welcome Jessica Olsen to CNPS. In August the East Bay Chapter hired Jessica to be its first conservation analyst. Kudos to the chapter for investing its own funds, pursuing grants, and sending a very successful appeal to its members requesting support for Jessica's work. The goal is to make the position permanent.

Development—*one grant at a time*. This summer CNPS received funding from three

new sources: the Resources Legacy Fund for vegetation work; Patagonia for work on the four Southern California Forests plan; and a pledge from Aveda—as in hair care products - to make CNPS the beneficiary of its Earth Month campaign in April 2005. Numerous program staff worked with Mike Tomlinson, development director, to secure these funds.

Take a hike. One of my great pleasures as executive director is visiting chapters. The North Coast was the site of my most recent visit. In wild, wet, and dynamic Humboldt County, CNPS is a big player thanks to many superb volunteers. I counted seven mentions of CNPS in one issue of a local paper! Special thanks to Chapter President Carol Ralph for arranging my trip and visits.

See you in December. The traditional CNPS winter Chapter Council meeting will be at the UC Berkeley Faculty Club. The Saturday evening dinner honors CNPS Fellows and will feature a stimulating speaker. It's a great time to visit and renew our bonds. For more information, see the back cover. I hope to see you there. 🌿

—Pamela C. Muick, Ph.D.
Executive Director,
pmuick@cnps.org

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

Phone 916-447-2677 🌿 Fax 916-447-2727

E-mail cnps@cnps.org 🌿 Visit www.CNPS.org

Send articles to mtomlinson@cnps.org

Pamela C. Muick, Executive Director

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Volunteer Recognition Committee Confers Honors

The Volunteer Recognition Committee honored several outstanding individuals at the September CNPS Chapter Council meeting. The committee's own honoree was Michael Nettles for his work in behalf of the Peralta Community Garden in Berkley with the group California Habitats/Indigenous Activists. Mike, a longtime CNPS member, is a master propagator who uses local seeds and plant materials from the Regional Parks Botanic Garden at Tilden and the Native Here Nursery, a project of CNPS and the East Bay Regional Parks.

Carol Witham, president of the CNPS Board, recognized Larry Levine for his dedicated service in the interest of conservation of native flora in the North Coast area.

The committee also continues to note honors at the chapter level. One is San Luis Obispo's Robert F. Hoover Award. Please inform the committee of any similar awards given by other chapters.

Now is the time to nominate for recognition others of those tireless volunteers who make CNPS one of the country's premier natural history societies. At the annual banquet, the committee would like to honor the outstanding effort of folks like agency personnel, legislators, and rare plant activists, in addition to volunteers. Please submit nominations with the concurrence of chapter presidents. 🌿

—Charles Blair, Chair,
Volunteer Recognition Committee, blairce@sbceo.org

Invasives Removal Strategies

Santa Clara Valley Chapter Volunteer Successes & Challenges

Removing invasive plants has long been an important aspect of CNPS's conservation efforts. What have we accomplished, and what have we learned during the time we have been engaged in this activity?

An example that provides some answers is the invasive removal project in Palo Alto's Foothills Park. In 1996, a group of CNPS volunteers started manually removing French Broom from the hillsides above Los Trancos Creek in the park. They were joined in 1997 by Foothills Park volunteers, and Italian thistle was added as the second target plant. A third, yellow star thistle, was added in 1999. Since June of that year, volunteers have kept records of time spent on each invasive plant in each area in which work was done.

Since June 1999, the volunteers have spent an average of a thousand hours per year, net time (time actually at the site), in invasive-plant removal. Areas worked on now total about 10 acres of yellow star thistle, several acres of Italian thistle and several acres of French broom. Most of the work is done on Sunday mornings, but at times a few volunteers do additional work

“Since 1999, the volunteers have spent an average of a thousand hours per year in invasive-plant removal.”

during the week. In recent years, the Sunday volunteer group has averaged six to seven workers. Why they do it we are not quite sure, but they do turn up despite the discomforts nature provides.

At one time, yellow star thistle was considered the major threat because there was so much of it in every sunny area of the park. Now we find that in areas we have cleared for the past

four or five years, we can clear the plant in only 1 or 2 percent of the time required the first year. The weather, the weevils that were brought in, and other unknown factors may deserve part credit for this, but the manual removal by volunteers obviously has had an important effect. We know now that yellow star thistle can be controlled.

French broom has proved to be more difficult. The problem, as is generally known, is the very persistent seed bank. When old plants are removed, a lawn of small green plants appears the following year, and this lawn must be removed. Cutting plants at ground level is a mistake, since they regrow and then are difficult to remove with a weed wrench. We have not used the cut-and-paint-with-Roundup approach because park policy is to limit chemical use.

We have tried leaving old dead broom plants in place since they seem to stop new plants from growing. We have cleared several slopes and created a barrier of dead broom plants. We hope the plants will keep the broom below from spreading up the hill and also avoid the lawn effect. This saves work. Also we are finding that the dead plants gradually fall down and decay. In time we will find out what replaces them.

Italian thistle is becoming a major worry, as it is spreading in the park despite our removal

efforts. Italian thistle seeds persist longer in the soil, disperse farther, and grow in a wider range of habitats than yellow star thistle. The first year or two of removal does not seem to accomplish much, but the third-year results have been somewhat encouraging. Persistence is required.

We have also worked on some invasives that are not well established in the park in hopes of keeping them from becoming major problems.

Examples of these are teasel and purple star thistle. These plants were obviously brought into the park by trucks and other vehicles that



Photo: Joseph M. DiTomaso, UC Davis

Volunteers have had success against yellow star thistle (Centaurea solstitialis)—flower head pictured—one of the invasive species that threaten native flora in Foothills Park.

were doing construction work. The city tells us they will try to make sure in the future that workers' trucks are clean.

At this point, we are beginning to ask what happens when we remove invasive plants. We don't want to remove yellow star thistle and find it replaced by Italian thistle or some other problem plant. Also we would like to make sure that the areas we have worked on are maintained in the future. Otherwise the invasives could easily take over again. What we learn now in areas like Foothills Park will help us devise effective strategies for addressing the problem of invasive plants in the future. 🌱

—Jean and Franklin Olmsted,
Santa Clara Valley Chapter
weed eradicators, jwo@svpal.org

NEWS BRIEFS

NOMINATE CNPS FELLOWS

CNPS names as Fellows individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the organization's success and to the appreciation and conservation of California native flora.

Any CNPS member, chapter, board, or committee can nominate any member in good standing for fellowship at any time. The CNPS Fellows Committee then reviews the nomination and makes recommendations to the CNPS Board and the Chapter Council, who approve those to be named fellows.

The nominator may discuss a proposed nomination with the committee and must submit a formal letter of nomination no more than three pages long, which must include the following:

- Name, address, and phone number of the nominee and the nominator(s).
- Nominee's offices held, areas of service, organizational roles, and years served.
- Projects, work, goals accomplished or achieved.
- Nominee's age.

Supporting documents may be attached.

Send letters of nomination to CNPS Fellows Committee; c/o Linda Chipping; 1530 Bayview Heights Drive; Los Osos, CA 93402.

A FEW GOOD ACCOUNTANTS CNPS WANTS YOU!

Are you a good accountant? If so, you may wish to volunteer to serve on the CNPS Finance Committee. We review the Society's finances, help establish financial policies, and advise CNPS state office staff. We meet a couple of times a year, usually in conjunction with a state board or Chapter Council meeting. In addition to volunteers with accounting skills, we need those who have experience in stock portfolio management, human resources management, sales and marketing, and advertising.



Chapter plant sales are the perfect place to introduce yourself, your family, and your friends to the joys and challenges of gardening with native plants. Photo: CNPS-SCV

If you would like to volunteer, if you know someone else who might be interested, or if you would like to know more about the Finance Committee, please contact Steve Hartman, CNPS treasurer, at naturebase@aol.com or call during the day at (818)881-3521.

PLANNED GIVING—FOR THE FUTURE OF CALIFORNIA FLORA

Planned gifts to CNPS are about planning for the future: yours and that of California's native plants. For instance, by including CNPS in his estate plans, Wayne Roderick, CNPS Fellow and a founding member, ensured that CNPS will have the means to look after the flora he loved.

A planned gift to CNPS is a simple and flexible means to combine philanthropy with financial planning, perhaps helping you give more to California's native plants than you thought possible while still providing financial and tax benefits.

When you make a planned gift to CNPS you join a growing number of special supporters who are committed to helping California's native plants and their habitats flourish in perpetuity.

Please contact the CNPS State Office to ask how planned giving can help you accomplish your goals. If CNPS is already in your estate plans please let us know so we honor your exceptional commitment.

LOCAL CHAPTER'S AUTUMN PLANT SALES

Under the Oaks: Native Plants for Foothill Gardens, Saturday, Dec. 4, 9 am to 2 pm, Eaton Canyon Nature Center, 1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena.

You'll find a good variety of reasonably priced California native plants and wild-

flower seeds appropriate for the Los Angeles basin. Featured will be plants for attracting birds and butterflies to your home garden. Knowledgeable chapter members will be on hand to answer your questions, and free printed materials on gardening with California native plants will be available. Cash or personal checks only for plant sales please.

11:00 am: *What's That Bug Doing in My Garden* presentation by Lili Singer in the Eaton Canyon Nature Center Auditorium. Learn about both the good and bad insects in your garden and how to encourage or discourage them. Lili currently writes for the Home section of Los Angeles Times. For years she published *The Southern California Gardener*.

San Luis Obispo Chapter Annual Native Plant Sale, Saturday, Nov. 6, 9 am to 2 pm, Heritage Oaks Bank, 297 Madonna Rd., San Luis Obispo (Take Madonna exit from 101 north or south; head west. For details, call John at (805)464-0717.

Truly the only pure California native plant sale in the central coast area. We also have a great supply of seeds, books, tee-shirts, and more, plus expert advice with a friendly smile. Heavy rain will cancel.

Channel Islands Chapter Fall Plant Sale, Saturday, Nov. 20, 9 am to 2 pm, Plaza Park, downtown Ventura. 🌿

Heroic Effort Beats USFS Deadline

CNPS and allies comment on 4 So Cal forest plans

In August, heroic efforts by CNPS volunteers and staff from eight different chapters allowed the Society to submit in record time a 32-page comment letter on plans for how four Southern California national forests could better conserve and protect rare plants and plant communities. These plans will provide overall management guidance for the next 10 to 15 years on 3.5 million of acres of public land.

The four national forests (Los Padres, Angeles, San Bernardino, and Cleveland) released their draft land-use management plans and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in June 2004 and gave the public a mere 90 days to review the document. To make matters worse, despite our intense involvement early on in the process, CNPS had a hard time obtaining a copy of the draft plans and the EIS. Finally, through perseverance and helpful local forest botanists, CNPS obtained a CD containing the EIS and some hardcopy maps.

CNPSers had provided “scoping” comments in December 2001, requesting that issues be addressed in the actual land management plans and associated EIS. We followed up that request by collaborating with other environmental groups in drafting an environmentally preferred alternative.

This summer, with the clock ticking, dozens of CNPSers answered the call and set to work—reading, digesting, and commenting on the documents (153 megabytes of maps, tables, and other information). Conservation and rare-plant volunteers weighed-in with local issues in their areas of expertise. Emily Roberson, CNPS Senior Policy Analyst, wrote pertinent sections addressing the ways in which the documents failed to comply with the National Forests Management Act and other Forest Service directives.

CNPS staff time dedicated to our ongoing conservation efforts for the four Southern California national forests was generously supported by a grant from Patagonia. Without their

help, CNPS staff would not have been able to provide their knowledge and expertise and organize the vast amount of local knowledge that the comments contain.

The Forest Service is scheduled to publish the final EIS, four Forest Plans and record of decision during the winter 2004-05.

To see all of the above reference documents, please visit the CNPS website: www.cnps.org/forestry/federal_forests/SouthernCaliforniaNationalForestsEIS.htm 🌿

—Heene Anderson,
Southern California
Regional Botanist,
ieanderson@cnps.org

Victory for Plants in Timber Harvest Areas *Plants Equal to Animals in the Eyes of the Law*

Rare plants like the Humboldt milk-vetch (*Astragalus agnicidus*) and McDonald's rock cress (*Arabis macdonaldiana*) remain protected on private timberlands, thanks to the vigilance of the CNPS Forestry Program and botanists at the California Department of Fish and Game. In a case monitored by the Forestry Program since 2001, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) recently rejected a timber harvesting plan that did not adequately address threats to rare plants.

When the original plan was denied in 2001, the landowner sued the Board of Forestry (*Weburg v. Board of Forestry*) and CNPS filed a friend-of-the-court brief to legally support the agency's position that CNPS List 1 and 2 rare species are protected by state law through the California Environmental Quality Act and forest practice rules. The Superior Court of California, Sacramento upheld denial of the plan in January 2003, confirming that imperiled plants must receive the same consideration as imperiled animals.

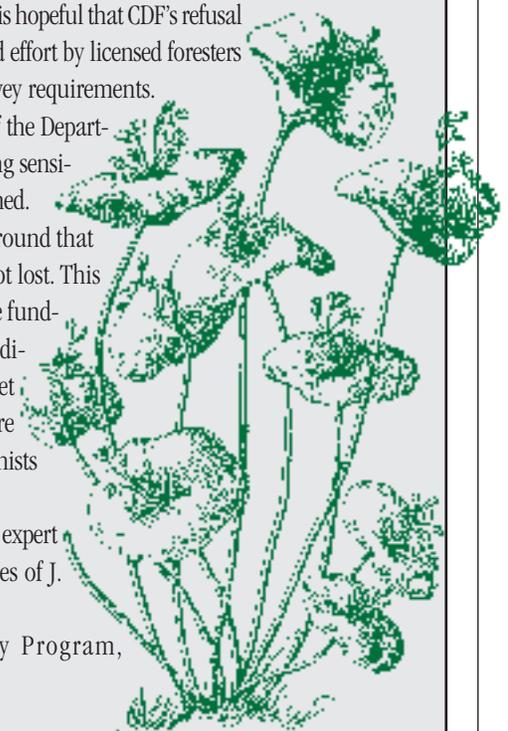
In May 2004, the landowner resubmitted the plan essentially unchanged. The CDF did not accept the plan because of the court's earlier decision. CNPS is hopeful that CDF's refusal to accept the inadequate plan will end the concerted effort by licensed foresters and timberland owners to challenge botanical survey requirements. Without pressure from CNPS and the crucial role of the Department of Fish and Game's review, state laws protecting sensitive species might have been permanently undermined.

CNPS's pressure was vital to ensuring that the ground that was gained in *Weburg v. Board of Forestry* was not lost. This situation highlights the need to maintain adequate funding for agency botanists, who are currently being redirected to non-botany-related tasks because of budget cuts. For example, in the central Sierra region, there are currently no Department of Fish and Game botanists on staff to review timber harvesting plans.

CNPS would like to express its appreciation for the expert legal assistance of Keith Wagner of the Law Offices of J. William Yeates, Fair Oaks, in this matter. 🌿

For more information, visit the Forestry Program, <http://www.cnps.org/forestry/>.

—Jen Kalt, Forestry Program Coordinator, jkalt@asis.com



Clear Creek Plan continued from page 5

funding and staffing for law enforcement and increased penalties for trespassing by off-road vehicles. We continue to work to persuade the BLM to take these steps.

For more information, including the notice of intent, go to www.cnps.org Click “Eye on the Bush Administration,” then “Off Road Vehicles at Clear Creek”.

CNPS FILES APPEAL ON SIERRA FRAMEWORK

On April 29, CNPS filed an appeal of the Sierra Nevada Framework with the U.S. Forest Service, asking that the current plan be discarded and that the Forest Service implement the original plan, approved in 2001 but never implemented.

The original framework was a science-based compromise management update for 11 national forests in California and Nevada. The Bush Administration revised the plan to emphasize more logging, more road building, more grazing, and giving agency bureaucrats seemingly unlimited discretion to assess ecosystem health and then design their own rules. The revision also abandons important new protections for sensitive plants that CNPS and the Forest Service had worked to include in the original framework. The revised proposal violates several laws and discards 10 years of work by more than 100 scientists and agency specialists and the more than \$20 million in taxpayer dollars that went into development of the original Framework. For more information, go to the “Eye on the Bush Administration” page of the CNPS website www.cnps.org/federalissues and the Sierra Nevada Forest Protection Campaign website www.sierracampaign.org/.

SUCCESS STORIES: BOTANY STAFFING AND USE OF LOCAL NATIVES

CNPS has long maintained that an adequate staff of professional botanists is a prerequisite to proper land management, as has our national network of native plant science and conservation groups, the Native Plant Conservation Cam-

paign (NPCC). Now, with NPCC support, the U.S. Forest Service has increased its staff of full-time botanists by 40—a 30 percent increase!

Another success story concerns the federal native plant materials development program, which funds efforts by the BLM and the Forest Service to collect and propagate local native plant materials for revegetation of roads and other

projects. Congress has put more than \$10 million into this program in the past few years. Here in California, these funds have brought us many new projects, including Forest Service greenhouses, scientific studies to determine which local natives are appropriate for revegetation projects, and propagation contracts with private native seed producers. 🌱

—Emily Roberson, Senior Policy Analyst, emilyr@cnps.org

Milkvetch Habitat Reduced continued from page 1

effectively protects only 5,354 acres of Peirson’s milkvetch habitat.

In its announcement of the decision FWS stated, “We do not believe that the benefits from the designation of critical habitat for lands we have decided to exclude...exceed the benefits of avoiding the potential economic and human costs which could result from including those lands in this designation of critical habitat” (FR pg. 47345).

The scientific models advocated by CNPS show that further fragmentation of habitat and lack of protection for this species from off-road vehicle “recreational” use will continue the long-term decline of the species in the only location in which it exists in the entire United States. The ruling comes after intense political lobbying by off-road vehicle groups.

To see the Final Rule, please visit carlsbad.fws.gov/Rules/PMVPCH/pmv_fcb.pdf

—Ileene Anderson, Southern California Regional Botanist, ieanderson@cnps.org

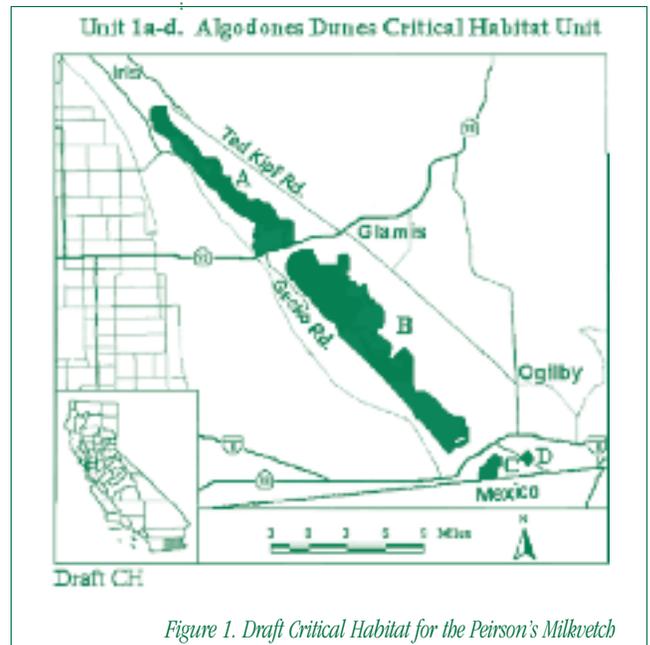


Figure 1. Draft Critical Habitat for the Peirson’s Milkvetch

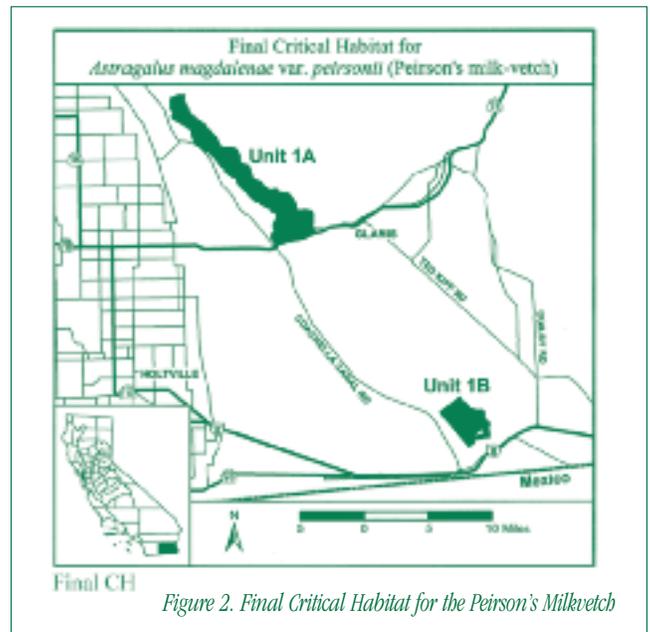


Figure 2. Final Critical Habitat for the Peirson’s Milkvetch

CNPSer Finds New Population of Rare Plants

A puzzle is solved

A significant plant discovery in the largely urbanized Palos Verdes Peninsula in Southern California has solved a botanical puzzle and proved beyond a doubt that the rare Catalina crossosoma *Crossosoma californica* is indeed native to the peninsula.

According to the herbarium description at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, two *Crossosoma californica* plants, each approximately 10 feet tall, were discovered on the Forrestal property on the Palos Verdes Peninsula in 1977. While the shrub was previously known only from Santa Catalina Island, San Clemente Island, and Guadalupe Island in Baja California, the Palos Verdes Peninsula was once a part of the same Channel Island chain and does shelter other island-restricted species such as *Dudleya virens*.

The CNPS South Coast Chapter has monitored the plants since 1986, when three mature plants were observed. In 1996 the property where the plants occur was acquired by the City of Rancho Palos Verdes as a nature preserve. However, by spring of 2004 the situation of the three plants had seriously deteriorated and lemonadeberry encroached on the sensitive species significantly. We informed the city and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC), which manages the preserve, of the plight of the plants.

By that time *Crossosoma californica* had been listed as a rare and endangered CNPS List 1B plant. In 2003 *Crossosoma californica* was also named as one of eight covered plant species for the Rancho Palos Verdes Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP). The draft NCCP states that “there are approximately three individuals of *Crossosoma californica* mapped in RPV that may represent the only mainland occurrence of this species. These individuals

occur in relatively intact coastal sage scrub. The small number of individuals found relative to the amount of apparently suitable habitat may indicate that these plants represent a relictual stand. In this case, reintroduction would probably not be warranted, particularly

cho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, suggested that it would be wise to propagate each individual plant from cuttings and reintroduce the clones to the site to boost species survival. The city, with strong support from the Peninsula Land Conservancy, gave the permission on April 21, 2004. O’Brien came to the Peninsula to take cuttings from the locally threatened plants to be propagated by Rancho.

Only two days later while doing some field work, Dan Ryan, stewardship director of the PVPLC, and I discovered another previously unknown *Crossosoma californica* plant. The plant grows in a north facing aspect about 580 feet northeast of the three original plants. The plant is 8 ft. tall and was flowering and producing fruit. It grows on a rock outcrop and has produced several suckers and small seedlings close by.

O’Brien returned on April 28, 2004 to take cuttings from the newly discovered plant. Across a canyon we saw a different colored shrub and decided to investigate. On a steep rocky slope we discovered additional mature *Crossosoma* plants. In fact, on these southeast- and northwest-facing canyon slopes with pristine native vegetation,

Crossosoma californica is codominant with *Rhus integrifolia*. Associated plants are *Salvia mellifera*, *Eriogonum cinereum*, *Artemisia californica*, *Galium angustifolium*, *Nassella lepida*, *Castilleja affinis*, and *Eriogonum fasciculatum* var. *foliolosum*.

O’Brien estimated that this population consists of about 800 of the rare plants. These *Crossosomas* form rounded shrubs about 4–6 ft. tall. Most of them were flowering and producing fruits. Many of them had dead branches, probably the result of drought years. 🌿

—Angelika Brinkmann-Busi,
South Coast Chapter,
Conservation Committee,
fabusi@pacbell.net



Photo: Angelika Brinkmann-Busi

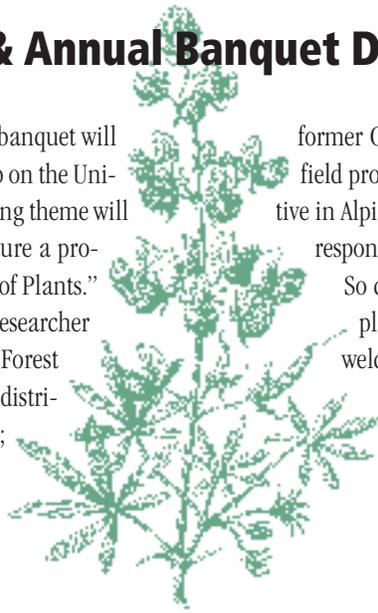
if extant plants were adequately protected.” But the draft plan also states that “shrubs (e.g., Santa Catalina Island desert-thorn, Catalina crossosoma) may be additionally (or alternatively) reintroduced through cuttings or installations of plants grown from seeds or cuttings under nursery conditions.”

The careful wording in the draft plan reflects questions regarding the plants’ occurrence. The plants occur in the disturbed surroundings of an old quarry. They are growing in a straight line, and the species is known to produce runners. These circumstances have raised the question of whether there was really only a single genetically identifiable plant here and, if so, how it got here.

Bart O’Brien, horticultural director of Ran-

Chapter Council Meeting & Annual Banquet Dec. 4

The CNPS Chapter Council meeting and annual banquet will be held Saturday, December 4 at the Faculty Club on the University of California Berkeley campus. The meeting theme will be Horticulture and Education. The banquet will feature a program entitled "Climates Past and Future, and the Lives of Plants." Presenter Connie Millar, a pine ecologist and climate researcher at the Pacific Southwest Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service, will describe how past climates affected plant distribution. Presenter Ann Dennis, a botanical consultant;



former CNPS rare plants vice president; founder of Calflora and field project leader for the Global Observational Research Initiative in Alpine Environments (GLORIA), will discuss how plants will respond to future climate change.

So come to the December happening in Berkeley, the birthplace of CNPS! All chapter members, family, and friends are welcome. For information, contact the CNPS State office at (916) 447-2677. 🌱

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