



SEQUOIA CHAPTER

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

China Creek Project Thank YOU and Year-End Summary

by Kathy Yamamoto

To begin our summary of a successful 2024 with the CNPS Sequoia Chapter, the China Creek Project would like to give thanks for many things:



We would like to thank our many volunteers consisting of "regulars," come-when-you-can folks, students from Michael Kunz's Fresno Pacific University class, volunteer groups such as the Parlier Buddhist Church, and people who saw our Volunteer Days listed on the China Creek Park Kiosk or on the Kings River Conservancy, and our websites.



Because of the efforts of these volunteers, we were able to continue our twice-monthly work days to fight against invasive plants, specifically the star, bull, and milk thistles!

We also want to thank Fresno County Parks and Public Works for providing us with 2 garbage cans throughout the year, 2 park benches, a large dumpster which we filled with thistles twice, and on one occasion a portable toilet for a public event.

On March 9th, we celebrated China Creek Park's 20th Anniversary with blessings by the Sacred Circle Drum Group from FAIHP with Delaine Bill, who held a drumming circle for us at the park. Over 120 people attended the event. Bird, mushroom, and plant guided walks were led by professors from Fresno State, and childrens' activities were provided by the talented artist Patt Rank.



In April, we hosted the Latino Outdoors group during their Semillitas Week.



Our most exciting news this October was receiving a \$100,000 grant from the Sierra Resource Conservation District which helps to develop and further ongoing programs such as ours to conserve natural resources. Our group felt that replacing a compromised culvert under the County road would allow a section of the park to be drained of standing water and allow water to flow to our North Pond, saving many oaks well over 100 years old. We are in the process of working with Fresno County for costs related to this project.

On our last work day on November 23rd under the direction of Richard Romero and Jesse Kanter from SRCD we planted native plants and modified areas for trails. Thanks to all the volunteers who came out! Our hope for the coming year is to increase understanding and appreciation of our native plants and provide access for more people to enjoy them.

Hope to see you in 2025,
Kathy Yamamoto



Additional Pictures of China Creek Park Events:

