



Water-wise Responses to Water Restrictions

Last month's newsletter told of two events sponsored by our chapter in response to the multi-year drought and decreased availability of water for our landscape: one was given for the first time; the other is a well-established annual event.

On October 1, eight members of our chapter watched, waiting to see the community response to invitations to our first-ever seminar, **Beauty Without (much) Water**. The weather had been quite warm but by 5:00 the temperature had begun to recede; our venue (Clovis Botanical Garden) welcomed early arrivals, who could walk around; our set up was under a large canopy and we had water available. Would anyone actually come? Sure enough, by 5:15 we could see people walking in from the parking lot in twos and threes, many bringing the requested chairs. (The Garden had 45 and we did not know if that would be just right, not enough, or way too many!) As it turned out, we did need more chairs—our final count was about 75. The need for information about using appropriate natives in home landscaping is evident and growing. By the end of the evening we were encouraged by many very positive remarks and energized for the next phase: our annual native plant sale.

Annual Water-wise Plant Sale

Saturday, October 18 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Clovis Botanical Garden – 945 N. Clovis Ave., Clovis

Just north of Alluvial at Dry Creek Park

Co-sponsored with Clovis Botanical Garden



California Fuchsia

This is THE event of the year for our chapter and for many who have decided to include more natives suited to our area and climate in their landscaping. Please give your chapter a couple of hours, if you can't spare the day! Here is where we need you—

- **near the plants if you are knowledgeable about natives in the garden**
- **at the holding area-for ongoing shoppers**
- **with customers to help schlep plants to their cars**
- **1PM clean up at the end of the sale**
- **unloading plants on Friday (approx. 4 pm)**
- **sales assistant - tally number of plants on sales sheets before customer pays cashier**

If you receive a request for help, please say “yes”—Better yet, contact any officer (pg. 4) or the sale chairman, Thelma Valdez 559/323-8962 yucca37tv@yahoo.com

CONSERVATION REPORT

--Jeanne Larson, Conservation Chair

The most worrisome local conservation issues in the immediate future start with State Proposition 1, which would provide funds to dam more rivers, and Temperance Flat would be on the books again. This ill-proposed project would be empty at least four out of five years and destroy more of what little riparian habitat is left in the State. CNPS is taking no stand on Prop. 1.

Fresno County General Plan update is unclear, but it does not appear that a moratorium on suburban expansion, even into the foothills, will be on hold until infill has been greatly increased.

A quick review of the U.S. Forest Plan, now in review, seems to be mostly about logging issues.

The State CNPS Conservation Committee has been focused on the damage the BLM has allowed in the Mojave Desert for solar energy. One ultra solar installation is incinerating birds as they fly over it. The CNPS Committee points out that Europe is tending to solar on rooftops. Wouldn't that make more sense in our sunny State?



CHINA CREEK REPORT

--Warren Shaw, Education Chair

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Fresh young faces brightened the day a little as a few students from Fresno State, who are considering China Creek to fulfill the public service requirement for a class, joined us. We showed them around the Park and explained our mission. In the process, we spotted a previously unsuspected infestation of Water Hyacinth in the creek, which we noted for removal in October. The “kids” seemed interested, but we’ve actually heard from



only one since. We would, of course, love to add their youthful strength and energy to our efforts.

We want to avoid this

Meanwhile a crew of stalwart “regulars” attacked Yellow Star and Bull Thistle in the southeast section, laboriously stuffing it in rolling cans, hauling it out to the pavement and piling it to be covered and solarized; necessary because it all now has maturing blossoms and will soon be producing seed.

In October (Saturday, Oct. 11, from 8-12) in addition to the Hyacinth, we intend to attack resprouting Ailanthus (Tree of Heaven) and wild fig, with basal bark spraying, a new (to us) chemical approach. We’ll also likely continue grubbing out evil, exotic thistles. It should be a beautiful fall day in the Park; please join us if you can. To get to the Park, take 180/Kings Canyon east across Academy to Smith or Oliver. Turn south about 1/4 mi. past the school to Rainbow and Smith. Continue south on Smith about 1/4 mi. to the Park gate.

Membership
Thelma Valdez

If you require corrections or additions to your membership information, contact Thelma Valdez at yucca37tv@yahoo.com.

The Sequoia chapter serves Fresno, Madera, and Kings counties.



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Next Newsletter: Nov. 2014

Send newsletter corrections or suggestions to Helen Shaw helshaw@gmail.com. The deadline for the October newsletter is Friday, Nov. 7



Sequoia Chapter, CNPS
Thanks Derrel's



JOIN THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY RENEW

Membership includes the quarterly CNPS journal, *Fremontia*; the quarterly *Bulletin* which gives statewide news and announcements of activities and conservation issues; and our chapter newsletter, *Carpenteria*.

I wish to affiliate with the Sequoia Chapter.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
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- Student, Limited Income.....\$25
- Individual\$45
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- Patron\$300
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Make your check payable to "CNPS" and mail with this form to:

- New Member
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California Native Plant Society
2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

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 increase understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and to preserve them in their natural habitat through scientific activities, education, science, and conservation.

CARPENTERIA

October 2014



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

c/o Jeanne Larson ♦ 3457 Redlands ♦ Fresno, CA 93726

MADELEINE'S MUSINGS

Madeline Mitchell

The plant sale is just 2 weeks away and I have lots of decisions to make to finish my native plant garden. I've just inventoried what I have and looked over Intermountain's plant list for possible choices for planting where the old lawn was. I now have freshly turned soil, a partially completed broken adobe paver path and a vision of a meadow. At this point I think I will plant a California Bay (*Umbellularia californica*) on the west side of the yard to provide more shade. I know it will take a few years to get established but with shade there I can enjoy smaller things like blue-eyed grass.

I have 6 mature Salvias (sages) already so don't need anymore. They are all different of course and I love the smells when I prune them. I will plant another Rhamnus, the one I planted 20 years ago died, so will get another species. I also want a milkweed, (*Asclepias eriocarpa*) since I recently toured a Botanical Garden in Maine that was a sanctuary for the Monarch butterfly and took a couple of photos. Of course I'm sure it was a different milkweed but I was inspired to get a plant that will grow here. This milkweed is very hairy; the common name is Woolley Milkweed.

See you on the 18th!!



October 2014
Sequoia Chapter CNPS



Alkali Sacaton
Sporobolus airoides



Mexican Manzanita and Bushtit
Arctostaphylos pungens



Blue Curls
Trichostema lanceolatum



Deergrass and Blue Curls
Muhlenbergia rigens and *Trichostema lanceolatum*