

Carpenteria

CNPS SEQUOIA CHAPTER



May 2018

www.cnps-sequoia.org

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FIELD TRIP

Field Trip to Beautiful Eastman Lake

--Jane Pritchard

Field Trip Dates: May 14-17, 2018

Cal Fire will burn designated areas of Eastman Park on May 15-16, 2018. CNPS members have the opportunity of previewing the pre-burn area, post-burn area, and the planned burn itself. Flowers are much more prolific in areas that were burned the previous year.

Please contact me, Jane Pritchard, by email (xxiii_xx@yahoo.com) or by phone (559-765-9954) if you are attending any day or all days of the field trip, which will occur from May 14 through May 17, 2018. If you ID plants at Eastman and update the Calflora website (at any time, including the field trip), please contact Ranger Lee Lang at Alvin.L.Lang@usace.army.mil to arrange free camping with free hot showers and full hookups.

This fall CNPS will partner with the Army Corps of Engineers to plant a native garden at the observation area. Lee plans to list Eastman on the Great Places website.

Directions to Eastman Lake Recreation Area, Raymond, CA are as follows: **North/41, Left/Road 145, Right/Road 33, Right/Road 400 (River Road), Left/Road 603 (Daulton Road, crosses Road 600), Right/Road 29 to Ranger Headquarters.**



<http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Locations/Sacramento-District-Parks/Eastman-Lake>

CHINA CREEK REPORT

April China Creek Work Parties

--Warren Shaw

This report will be in two parts for the simple reason that we had two work parties in April. The decision to do two work parties in one month resulted from a meeting held in China Creek Park by volunteers. It was suggested we try doubling up in the spring months when weeds were small, easy to dig, without blooms or seed, and the weather was moderate. Then, hold NO work parties in July and August. The consensus among those attending was that this was a good idea, so it was incorporated in this year's schedule for a trial run.

Part One

On the date of the first scheduled April work party (April 7), a deluge had been predicted, but predicted rain amounts gradually dwindled to the point that we decided to go ahead, especially since there was a Kings River

Kings River Conservancy event ("Spring Fling") several of us were planning to attend after working in the park that same day. The first half of the day went well, with little rain and plenty of thistles to dig. By break time, however, the rain had begun to increase, and we took cover under the information kiosk for our coffee and muffins, and we really didn't get back to work after that.

We did, however, have time to kick around some ideas. Kat suggested we should start collecting seed to propagate plants for the Park, especially plants which were probably native to the area but had been wiped out by overgrazing, and old farming practices. This would include native milkweed and other plants, which would provide habitat for beneficial insects, and generally move the park toward its historical condition, our stated goal. NOW, who would be willing to head up this effort? As Kat pointed out, it would be great to do something in the park that didn't involve killing stuff. We really need a person who either knows or is willing to learn how to ID, gather, and grow appropriate plants to coordinate this exciting effort. Neighbor, Hank, has offered space on his property, and even water, so it could be done out of reach of vandals. Ideally, we would start collecting seed now and plant in the fall when the weather cools and rain is coming. Readers, please give it some thought!

Unhappily, we also noted that many, perhaps as many as 50%, of the valley oaks we had previously



-California milkweed- (*Asclepias californica*)

Keir Morse

CHINA CREEK REPORT (CONTINUED)

caged, including some 8-10 feet tall in the southeast part of the Park, had died: Drought? Heavy spring rain in 2017? Nobody knows. We'll continue to seek an explanation.

The Conservancy Spring Fling event on the river at the Lapp house was greeted with clearing skies, and the crowd showed great interest in our outreach table and information, with Jane in charge.

Part Two

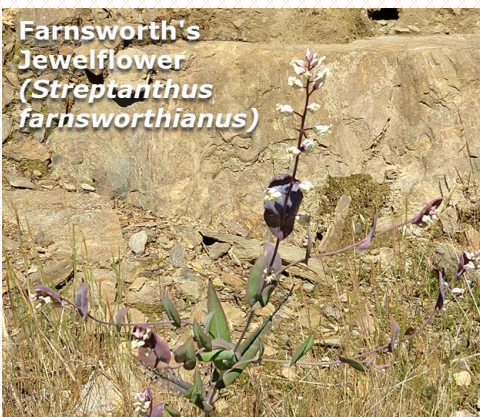
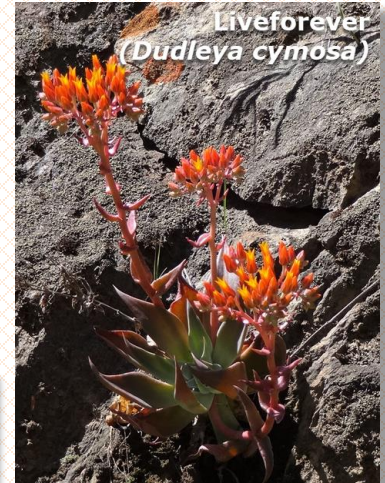
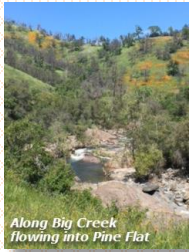
The date of our second work party of the month (April 21) was very different. It was a classically beautiful central California spring day, and a goodly crew worked with a will to, well, kill stuff...all invasive exotics, and we found plenty to kill, mostly our old enemies: yellow star thistle, milk thistle, and bull thistle (botanicals?). We concentrated on the southeast area, and, while we certainly didn't finish it, we did generally do an initial coverage of that area. One interesting note: much of the grass in the southeast area this year is soft chess brome. While not native, it is at least both excellent forage for livestock and not unpleasant to walk through (unlike rigput brome).

We already had a work party at the Park on May 5th, but on the 19th of May we'll continue our assault on the weeds, as well as do trail maintenance, cage seedlings, and whatever else needs doing. Please mark your calendars and join the good work on this lovely spring day (and think about the hot summer days ahead when we WON'T be nagging you to come work in the Park).

China Creek Park is located in Centerville, 16 miles east of Fresno off Highway 180. To get there, drive east on Highway 180, 16.5 miles to Centerville. Turn right (south) on Smith Road and drive 0.2 miles to Rainbow Drive. Continue straight through the first gate 0.5 miles down the small road to the Park gate at the end of the road. We will see you there!!!



May 2018 ☀ Sequoia Chapter CNPS



Jane Pritchard

- Chick Lupine, Common Monkeyflower, Mule Fat, Farnsworth's Jewelflower (April 20 along Big Creek where it flows into Pine Flat)

Aaron Turner:

- Oregon Ash, Fiesta Flower, Liveforever, Pink Fairy Lantern (April 20 along Big Creek where it flows into Pine Flat)

**SEQUOIA CHAPTER OFFICERS*
AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Membership

John LuValle

Thanks to new and renewing members.

If you require corrections or additions to your membership information, contact John LuValle at jluvalle@mcn.org.

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

The IRS considers dues in excess of \$12 per year and all gifts to CNPS as tax deductible. Renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card. As an option, renew automatically year after year. It is quick, easy, and convenient, and reduces renewal-mailing costs. Visit www.cnps.org and click on the JOIN button.

Next Newsletter: June 2018

Send newsletter suggestions to Laura Castro at lacastror@outlook.com. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is **Friday, May 25, 2018.**



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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: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____

- Student, Limited Income _____ \$25
- Individual _____ \$45
- Family, Group, or Library _____ \$75
- Plant Lover \$100
- Patron _____ \$300
- Benefactor \$600

Make your check payable to "CNPS" and mail with this form to:

- New Member Renewing Member

**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

May 2018

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

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

SPECIAL MEETING SUMMARY

Sunday, April 15, 2018 meeting (Meeting held after the nature walk at Clovis Botanical Garden)

A follow up to the Sequoia Chapter special meeting that was held on March 11th, 2018 occurred at the Clovis Botanical Garden immediately after the Nature Walk in the City presentation on April 15, 2108.

There seems to be a consensus that there will be some activities that will no longer be part of the chapter's focus and some that will continue. For example, it was agreed that the Chapter should scale back and not have an official board of directors. Instead of board meetings, there would be occasional general meetings, and email would be used as our primary means of communication between general meetings.

If you have any suggestions, concerns, or questions about the future of our chapter, please email them to Laura Castro at lacastror@outlook.com.

