

# Carpenteria

CNPS SEQUOIA CHAPTER

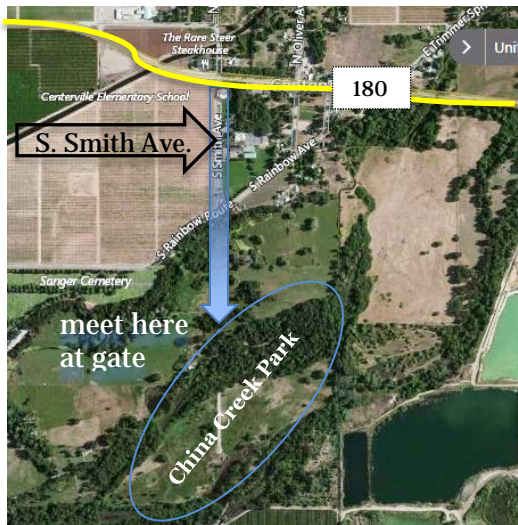


January 2017  
www.cnps-sequoia.org

## CHINA CREEK REPORT

--Warren Shaw

### November/December 2016 work party



We arrived at the Park ready to attack some of the overgrown sections of the trail with weed-whackers, but discovered that Hank had recently mowed all but the Oak Woodland Loop, which he couldn't get to because the berm at the north pond was too overgrown with willows and berry vines for him to cross with his tractor. So, while some of us dealt with newly sprouted bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) rosettes, others worked to clear the berm.

At break, we took some time to reflect on the year's achievements, one of which was having reached the ambitious goal of reducing yellow star-thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) to the point that we can keep it under control almost entirely with hand work. We also took pleasure in noting that we're close to eliminating tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) from the park, and have made serious progress on bull thistle. In addition, we reached a long-term goal of adding new signs

to the trail stations, and we will start the new year with a newly re-formed steering committee to guide future efforts toward the Chapter's goals in the China Creek Project.

After break, we finished clearing the berm and set out to spray some of the bull thistle located by the early crew. We were surprised to find most mature plants appeared dead. While this doesn't seem to be bad news, it is puzzling.

At 12:00, we abandoned the Park for our annual Thank You Lunch, where the Chapter expressed its gratitude for all the hard work performed by our volunteers during 2016.

We have a number of serious challenges to tackle in 2017. Among them are the ongoing battle with bull thistle, finishing off the tree-of-heaven, finding some way to deal with fig (*Ficus carica*), identifying a host of new weeds, and figuring out how grazing is going to work.



-*Ficus carica*-

©2005 Luigi Rignanese

We took some time off in December to enjoy seasonal festivities with families and friends, but we expect to be back January 21, 2017 ready to start fresh. Please join us.

China Creek Park is located on the west side of Centerville, 16 miles east of Fresno on Highway 180. To get there, drive east on Kings Canyon/ Highway 180, 16.5 miles to Centerville. Turn right (south) on Smith Road and drive 0.2 miles to Rainbow Drive. Continue straight, 0.5 miles down the small road to the Park gate at the end of the road.



## Upcoming Events and Classes in 2017

### •January 25—Calflora Training 9:00am to 5:00pm

Location: Audubon Starr Ranch Sanctuary, Santa Ana Mountains

- Target Audience: Calflora Professional Users, professional and student botanists, ecologists, land and resource managers, and conservationists with and initial understanding of the subject matter and basic plant identification and/or GIS skills.
- Participants should be physically able to hike over uneven terrain and remain in the field for 1-2 hours.
- Learn Calflora applications in the field and at work.
- Learn how Calflora data are used for rare plant and mapping projects.
- Learn how to collect rare and non-rare plant data using Calflora tools.
- Learn how to document data using customized forms and offline map caches.
- Learn how vegetation types and attributes can be mapped.

Cost: \$45 for Calflora Professional Subscribers/  
\$60 for other users.

Details: Contact Cynthia Powell at  
cpowell@calflora.org/

### •January 28—Natural Dyes from Native Californian Plants 9:00am-4:00pm

Location: California State University,  
Chico



- Create a seasonal and local color palette from an array of native California plant-based dyes.
- Learn to design fresh plant based color palettes and textiles with saturated hues.
- Experiment with botanical pattern resists and simple surface design techniques.

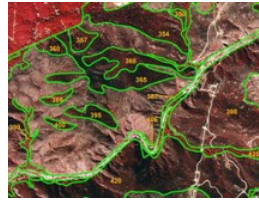
Cost: \$90 for members of the Chico State  
Herbarium/ \$100 for non-members.

Details:

[http://www.friendsofthechicostateherbarium.com/  
eventsviewcalendar/2017/1/28/natural-color-dye-  
workshop/](http://www.friendsofthechicostateherbarium.com/eventsviewcalendar/2017/1/28/natural-color-dye-workshop/)

### •March 1-3—Vegetation Mapping

Location: University of Redlands GIS Lab, Redlands,  
CA and field sites in western Riverside County



- Target Audience: professional botanists, ecologists, resource managers, and GIS and vegetation mapping specialists with an initial understanding of the subject matter and of GIS.
- Through a combination of field and computer exercises, participants will learn techniques for fine-scale vegetation mapping.
- Will practice creating a vegetation map using GIS.
- Will practice techniques of photo interpretation, delineation, and attribution.
- Will collect samples and validate a vegetation map.

Cost: \$665 CNPS Members / \$695 Non-members.  
Details: <http://www.cnps.org/workshops> or contact  
Becky Reilly, CNPS Coordinator at 916-447-2677 x  
207 or [breilly@cnps.org](mailto:breilly@cnps.org).

### •March 4-5—Introduction to Bryophytes

Location: UC Berkeley and Bay Area field sites

- The first day, participants will learn about basic bryophyte biology, some simple but necessary micro-techniques in the lab, and the basic structure and characteristics of bryophytes.
- The second day, participants will have a morning lab session. Afterwards, they will caravan to a field site and learn to identify major bryophyte groups, and discuss and observe their general ecology and evolutionary features.
- Participant should be prepared to hike up to four miles on Sunday in possibly wet weather.



Cost: \$275/ \$305

Details: <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/>

### •March 11-12—Introductory Plant Morphology for the Botanically-Curious

Location: UC Berkeley and UC Botanical Garden

- Beginners guide to understanding what to look for in order to name your favorite plants.
- Learn about the diverse ways that plants adapt and how we can use this knowledge to inform plant identification.
- Learn about leaf shapes and plant hairs.

Cost: \$145/175

Details: <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/>

**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](mailto: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](http://www.cnps.org) and click on the JOIN button.

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**Next Newsletter: February 2017**

Send newsletter corrections or suggestions to Laura Castro at [lacastror@outlook.com](mailto:lacastror@outlook.com). The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is **Friday, January 27, 2017.**



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: \_\_\_\_\_

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<input type="checkbox"/> Student, Limited Income	\$25
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Make your check payable to "CNPS" and mail with this form to:

New Member
  Renewing Member

**California Native Plant Society**  
2707 K Street, Suite I  
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

January 2017

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

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

### OBSERVATIONS

#### --*Thelma Valdez*

All the leaves have finally fallen from deciduous trees. Harvest brodiaea (*Brodiaea elegans*) leaves have begun to appear everywhere. The January maintenance work is calling. We've had enough cold weather that the California fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*) look ready to be cut back. Time to tidy up the California wild grape (*Vitis californica*). Time to pull some fast-growing weeds. January and February maintenance work has a special appeal because birds get used to the mundane movements of a gardener tidying up, and we can enjoy close encounters. No wonder it takes so long to do some simple tasks!



-*Vitis californica*-  
©2008 Keir Morse

### RARE PLANTS OF FRESNO COUNTY

#### --*Jane Pritchard*

The uncommon fringed onion (*Allium abramsii*) grows on granitic gravel at Tollhouse Rock. Foliage that is green elsewhere is usually dark purple there. Fringed onion has one leaf per rose-purple flower. Jepson lists the plant in the central and southern High Sierra Nevada at 1400-2000 meters, blooming May-July. Calflora lists it at 900-2010 meters. Fringed onion is a perennial (bulb).



-*Allium abramsii*- ©2012 Gary A. Monroe