

# *Darlingtonia*

Newsletter of the North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society  
Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora

## **2006 Wildlife & Native Plant Garden Tour: A Blooming Success**

By Jennifer Tompkins

Garden Tours are like gardens themselves, months in the making, requiring careful selection, cultivating and eventually, reward. For the Wildlife and Native Plant Garden Tour we strive to present a wide variety of wildlife friendly gardens, while showing how native plants are welcome in nearly every setting. We also hope to raise funds for both the Redwood Region Audubon Society and the North Coast Chapter, California Native Plant Society.

On both counts, we succeeded with over 200 attending, and raising over \$1000 for each group.

The tour featured gardens that were in full sun and shade requiring minimal water, as well as gardens in sun and shade that took full benefit of our abundant rainfall. In addition, different types of plants were featured, reflecting a variety of California's landscapes, from dune to forest.

Attendees of the garden tour expressed appreciation to garden owners who shared not only their gardens, but their plant lists, expertise and encouragement. Most folks were happy to see landscapes that reflected gardens that were of the same size as their own. They could literally see how to easily incorporate changes in their own garden without feeling overwhelmed or discouraged.

All of this was made possible because of the kindness and generosity of many people. A huge wildlife friendly and native flower bouquet of thanks to:

The Garden Owners: Dave and Kathleen Juliano, John and Vickie Patton, David Ogden and Louise Bacon Ogden, Tom and Sue Leskiw, Paul and Margaret Abels, Sylvia White, Suzanne Isaacs, Richard and Chris Beresford, Chris and Becky Rall, and Scott and Sara Davison.

Rick Storre of Freshwater Farms, who donated his nursery to serve as our refreshment stop.

Deborah Parsons for shopping for and delivering the bounty of cookies and punch our crowd devoured.

Ticket Takers and Garden Guides: Janelle Egger, Debby Harrison, Wanda Naylor, Gael Hodgkins, Gisela Rhode, Georgia Rodgers, Harvey Rodgers, Donna Wildearth, Mark Fritzke, Tim McKay, Ron Johnson, Vicky Turner, Leon Zlatkoff, Melanie Johnson, Nancy Ihara, Dave Hardy, Barbara Ogan, Judie Hinman, Carol Larsen, Andrea Culbertson, Zephyr Markowitz, Laura Julian, Grace Marton, George Burchett, Gwen Thoele, Gwynneth Carothers, Joy Williams, Paul Carothers and Nora Freeburg.

Traffic Directors: Shana Stearn and Chet Ogan

Pete and Judy Haggard, authors of *Insects of the Pacific Northwest*, who after spending a day signing books at Freshwater Farms, made a generous donation to this year's garden tour.

Sue Leskiw, former garden tour coordinator, for being available for expert garden tour planning consultation.

Stores who graciously sold tickets for us: Freshwater Farms, The Garden Gate, Mad River Gardens, Miller Farms, Northcoast Environmental Center, Pierson's Garden Shop & Nursery, Strictly For The Birds, and Sun, Rain, Time.

Our Garden Tour Committee: Carol Ralph, Pete Haggard, Kathy Dilley, Judie Hinman, Louise Bacon-Ogden, and Frances Madrone.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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# CHAPTER FIELD TRIPS

## **OCTOBER 21, Saturday. DOLASON PRAIRIE DAYHIKE.**

The diverse habitats along the Dolason Prairie Trail in Redwood National Park are sure to offer a touch of fall color somewhere, and possibly early mushrooms and wildlife surprises. From the trailhead on Bald Hills Rd. to the Tall Trees trailhead, about 6 miles, mostly downhill, we will pass through prairie, oak woodland, mixed woodland, redwood forest, and riparian forest. Western burning bush and dogwood are good bets for color. Dress for the weather and hiking; bring lunch and water. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata) or elsewhere if you arrange it. Return by dark. Please tell Carol (822-2015) you are coming, so we can plan the shuttling between the two trailheads.

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**NOVEMBER 12, Sunday. GRIZZLY CREEK STATE PARK DAYHIKE.** We usually drive right by this tiny park along the Van Duzen River. Let's find out what's in its "exceptional grove of coast redwood" and along all 4.5 miles of its trails (and maybe off trail?). Dress for the weather; bring lunch and water. Wading the shallow river is necessary to reach one trail. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata), 9:30 a.m. at the Mervyn's end of the Bayshore Mall parking lot, or about 10:00 a.m. at the park. Return by dark. Info: Carol, 822-2015.

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## **Plant Walks**

No plant walks are planned at this time. To receive notification of future plant walks, please sign up for the Announcements e-mail list (on Forums page of the chapter website [northcoastcnps.org](http://northcoastcnps.org)).



The California lady's slipper orchid (*Cypripedium californicum*)

Photo by Jennifer Wheeler

# ODDS AND ENDS

## To Honor Tim McKay

Tim McKay, a long-time CNPS member, died suddenly on July 30 while birdwatching at Stone Lagoon. He was a mere 59 years old. Many local newspapers and radio shows have enumerated his life's work on behalf of wilderness, rivers, and forests, but here we would like to commemorate Tim's devotion to the goals of CNPS and preservation of native plants specifically.

Tim was a strong proponent of gardening with native plants. He was an active member of the North Coast Chapter's Native Plant Consultation service. He composed an exhaustive list of books focused on gardening with native plants, available on the chapter's Gardening with Natives webpage, or by emailing [jkalt@asis.com](mailto:jkalt@asis.com). He contributed plants for the plant sales and suggested that the Northcoast Environmental Center be the site of our September plant sales.

Tim also rose to the occasion whenever plant-related conservation issues arose. He assisted the North Coast Chapter and the Friends of Del Norte in arguing for stronger protections for the Crescent City Marsh from a proposed casino and golf course. A recent success was the NEC's formation of the Friends for Clam Beach, which supported the seasonal ban on recreational vehicles to protect beachgoers, dune plants, and nesting western snowy plovers.

Tim's sudden and untimely death is a great personal loss to many, and is also a great loss to the North Coast conservation movement, the history of which he was integral part of. One of Tim's notable traits was his willingness to listen, give advice, and help find information whenever a conservation question was posed to him. He was never too busy to chat, never had to rush off. His demeanor was an affirmation of the mantra, "slow and steady wins the race," a concept that has fallen by the wayside in this day and age of high speed internet, multi-tasking, and 60-hour work weeks. Don't forget to stop and smell the sand verbena, call your mother, or do whatever it is you might wish you had done but just got too busy and thought you could do it next week.

## Tidbits From The 2006 CNPS Conservation Conference

Keith Wagner on County General Plans: County General Plans "must have an Open Space Plan," for "the promotion of the general welfare..."

Carol Witham on vegetation mapping: "Modeling is only as good as its worst data layer." If you have a vague, large-scale vegetation map in your model, you will make wrong predictions and waste your time and money.

Sarah Christie, Legislative Director of the Calif. Coastal Commission, on the Coastal Act: "Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHAs) can not be disturbed except for activities dependent on that habitat," even if they have already been degraded. The Coastal Commission can be easier to move than local governments.

Peter Douglas, long-time Executive Director of the Coastal Commission: "The greatest threat to our environment...is Proposition 90." It destroys our ability to protect habitat and neighborhoods. The equivalent Measure 37 in Oregon has been "devastating."

Keith Wagner on CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act): "CEQA is primarily an information disclosure statute." "CEQA does not stop projects." "CEQA does not exist in a vacuum." It exists among myriad statutes and political decisions.

Vern Goehring, legislative analyst and lobbyist: "Term limits lead to short term thinking."

Gordon Leppig, "Rare plants and vegetation are surrogates for quality of life."

# CHAPTER PROGRAMS AND MORE

## MONTHLY MEETINGS & PRESENTATIONS

The North Coast Chapter of CNPS holds free Public Programs on the second Wednesday of each month (September through May) at the Six Rivers Masonic Lodge, 251 Bayside Rd., Arcata. Refreshments at 7:00 and program at 7:30 p.m. You don't have to be a CNPS member to attend!

**October 11**

### ***California Habitat Gardens for Wildlife and People***

**Lori Hubbart**, landscaper, horticulturist, past CNPS state president, current president of the Dorothy King Young Chapter (Mendocino to Fort Bragg)

A garden can be more than a pretty place or backdrop for human activities. Native plants suited to the North Coast and the right structural elements can make all the difference. Gardens can be a haven for birds, butterflies, reptiles and small mammals, while providing emotional sustenance for people.

This meeting is a chance to vote for chapter officers.

**November 8**

### ***Monocot Treasures of Northwestern California: trilliums, irises, fairy bells and more***

**Dr. Michael Mesler**, pollination biologist at Humboldt State University

**December 13**

### ***Members' night***

A potpourri of images of plants and habitats presented by any members who want to share some of their year's adventures and treasures. Photographer, professor, and explorer Ron Johnson will coordinate the contributions. Before December 1 tell him what you would like to show (prints, slides, electronic images) and how much time you would like (not necessarily get) 677-0147; beth@reninet.com

**January 10**

### ***Latest on Sudden Oak Death Chris Lee***

**February 14**

### ***Natural history of northern California***

**Dr. John O. Sawyer**, renowned HSU botanist, will talk about his new book.

## SEE YOU THERE!



### **Chapter Business Meeting**

The North Coast Chapter of CNPS holds business meetings to discuss a variety of topics related to running the organization. The next scheduled meeting is on October 17 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Northcoast Environmental Center, 575 H St, Arcata, CA 95521. You must be a North Coast CNPS member to attend.

# FIELD TRIP REPORTS

## Lily Heaven

by Carol Ralph

Lilies bring out passionate people and their passions. Our field trip to "Lily Heaven" on July 16, 2006, brought lily fans from Marin county, Clear Lake, and Weed to join our tour of Bluff Creek Rd. (aka FS13N01) in the Orleans Ranger District of Six Rivers National Forest. Our leader, Dave (Kim) Imper, has been tracking lilies on this route since 1985, when he first discovered the exciting diversity and abundance of lilies there. Northwest California is a lily-rich zone, even by global standards, where ranges of most California species of *Lilium* overlap. Bluff Creek Rd. area provides a diversity of soils, elevations, and vegetation types, as well as a climate acceptable to both coastal (*columbianum*, *kelloggii*) and inland (*bolanderi*, *pardalinum*, *rubescens*, *washingtonianum*) species. Add to this variety of species and their subspecies the propensity to hybridize, and you have a dazzling and confusing display of *Lilium* in mid-July. Hence the name Lily Heaven.

(Before I go any further, I will emphasize that lilies in the wild must stay there! No collecting! Don't even think about it. Do not let this information fall into the wrong hands.)

Dave said that in "the good old days" of 1985 the lilies were much more abundant than now along this route. That was following a lot of logging activity. Roadsides and hillsides were clear, and lilies thrived in the sun. Now the brush and trees are closing in, and the lilies are retreating into waiting mode, in the ground as bulbs and seeds. We stopped many places where Dave said, "There USED to be lilies here." He told of a property owner on the Oregon coast who removed a dense stand of shore pine and was greeted in following years by 200 western lilies (*L. occidentale*), an endangered species. Do you suppose all these forest fires could bring us some lily surprises?

The dry, mixed evergreen forests of lower Bluff Creek Rd. is where we saw *L. rubescens*, upward-facing white to pink trumpets. As we came into serpentine soils and more sparse forest and shrub, we found *L. bolanderi*, smaller, deep red bells on short plants ringed with whorls of gray-green, wavy leaves. At one spot these two species were joined by *L. washingtonianum*, which occurred in a few places after that. It is majestically tall, and its upright, horizontal, or nodding flowers are huge, floppy, white-turning-purple-pink trumpets. A long, brushy section in the mid-reaches of the road is where the pendant, pink, curled blossoms of *L. kelloggii* appeared. In various wet places we found the quintessential "tiger lily," yellow to orange, tightly curled back, pendant flowers of *L. pardalinum*. *L. p. ssp. pardalinum* is reddish

orange with red anthers; *L. p. ssp. wigginsii* is yellow-orange with yellow anthers. Dave pronounced none of the ones we were looking at pure; all were hybrids or back crosses or back-back crosses, or ... Dave said *L. columbianum*, another pendant, curled, orange-flowered lily, distinguished from *pardalinum* by growing in dry, not wet, ground and by whorled, wide, rather than scattered, narrow leaves, used to grow along this road too.

And there were hybrids. Some of us would like to ignore the hybrids, consider them mistakes. Unfortunately, the untidy mixing of all these genes is the real way things work out there, and we just better learn to recognize it and be excited by it. Once we had seen "pure" *bolanderi* and *rubescens*, we could recognize characters of each in some individuals. Now, we can wonder, what happens when a lily like *bolanderi*, with its horizontal, tubular, red flowers, designed to attract hummingbird pollinators, crosses with *rubescens*, with erect to horizontal, pale and fragrant flowers designed to attract moths? Who pollinates the hybrid? Or a dry ground species like *bolanderi* crosses with a wet ground species like *pardalinum*? Where can it grow? This is evolution in action.

Nowhere was the density of blooming lilies as spectacular as where *L. columbianum* lines the roadside of Highway 101 south of Crescent City, but the frequency of these various species certainly was exciting enough for us. We took all day to drive about 40 miles, over which we returned in 1 hr. 35 min. at the end of the day.

Besides the marvelous lilies, on this field trip we saw wonderful places filled with wonderful plants. We camped at Fish Lake in a dense stand of madrone and tan oak. A trail nearby went through an old growth Douglas fir stand and up to Blue Lake, a deep, quiet pond among majestic Doug fir, Port Orford cedar, and sugar pine. Onion Lake was a shallow, 1-acre, brown lake at the bottom of a wet slope lushly green with butterweed, onion (*Allium validum*), *L. pardalinum*, and other wet mountain meadow wonders. The end of the G-O Rd. (also called Eyesee Rd. at the Orleans end), famous for NOT connecting Gasquet to Orleans, is an uninspiring place among white fir, but just before it is a spectacular expanse of serpentine rock and its special plants. Also near the road's end, right near the road, is Flint Meadow, a level, green mountain meadow, and down a side road, Elk Valley Camp, by a quiet, clear stream under big Port Orford Cedar looking up a broad, cobbly valley. Both offer great botanizing, worthy of field trips themselves. Our week-end tally of conifer species was 14, and we saw 4 species of mycotrophs (saprophytes). Not bad! Indicative of the rich mountains we are so lucky to have nearby.

# FIELD TRIP REPORTS CONT.

## Grasshopper Peak

by Carol Ralph

The highest point in Humboldt Redwoods State Park, Grasshopper Peak, at 3,379 ft., was burned in the Canoe Creek Fire in fall 2003. Dave Stockton, long-time naturalist in the park and Executive Director of Humboldt Redwoods Interpretive Association, has marveled at the change that fire made in the vegetation. On May 20 he got his wish: carloads of CNPSers, to witness the new state of the vegetation. Seventeen chapter members were the lucky participants in a one-day trip through locked gates in vehicles organized by Dave and Park Ranger Emily to bypass the 7-mile hike up the mountain.

The peak, a steep-sided, somewhat rocky outcrop now capped with a gravelly parking area and a firewatch tower, offers a view of the wonderful, jumbled, forested Coast Ranges in all directions. (If you have flown over this part of the range, you can appreciate the park. Its forest is twice as tall any other forest as far as you can see.) A hot crown fire burned right over the peak, but now, two winters later, we were not looking at a devastated world. Sure, we could see blackened, bare shrubs and snags, but these were dominant only in some patches. In fact, the dominant feature of the landscape was its patchiness -- patches of Douglas fir, patches of drying meadow; patches of manzanita; patches of shrubby oaks; patches of blackened forest; patches of burned out understory; patches of fresh green herbaceous growth; patches of rock.

We focused on plants at the summit for about an hour, finding 41 herbaceous and 15 woody species. A good selection of non-native, pasture type weeds is the legacy of ranching and farming days. The natives we found blooming included some familiar favorites: pussy ears (*Calochortus tolmeii*), miniature lupine (*Lupinus bicolor*), Indian warrior (*Pedicularis densiflorus*), a poppy (*Eschscholzia*). Dave was anxious for us to see a species he never saw before the fire. In areas burned clear this handsome, bright green, soft shrub was abundant, decorated with inch-wide purple flowers. It was clearly a nightshade. We decided to call it *Solanum parishii* (for the angled stems, small lobes on petals, though stem was short hairy) despite the warning in Jepson, "may hybridize with *xanti*, needs study" and "variation complex; may hybridize

with *S. parishii*..." We had better luck with a two-foot tall, smooth, waxy, stout, branching herb with vetch-like leaves and clusters of many yellow-green and dull-red flowers. It easily keyed to a small subgroup of this large genus *Lotus*, having leaf-like stipules and many leaflets. It was deer vetch (*Lotus crassifolius*), which you can see along many mountain roads. I was pleased to learn the name of a forest floor plant I have seen other places, forming patches of 6-inch-tall stems with several pairs of opposite, green, pointy leaves and a 1/4-inch, white flower on top: big-leaved sandwort (*Moehringia macrophyllum*).

After lunch gazing over the mountains and valleys, we drove a short ways down to the junction of Grasshopper Rd. and Grieg Rd., where a backfire burned only half of a steep, several-acre meadow. The burned and unburned halves looked similar--short, sparse grass dotted with cheerful, yellow buttercups and laced with the inconspicuous plectritis (*Plectritis* sp.), which added its musty, sweet odor to the air. Small patches of yellow cream cups (*Platystemon californicus*) and a patch of deep yellow goldfields (*Lasthenia*) added a touch more color. Clumps of purple-lined, creamy iris bloomed in the shade at the edge. Study suggested it was *Iris purdyi*, for its long (30 mm) tube, broad, ragged style, and narrow (8 mm) leaf. The Pacific Coast Iris web site ([www.pacificcoastiris.org](http://www.pacificcoastiris.org)) says a "starfish" look characterizes *purdyi*. We weren't convinced. Identifying these irises take practice!

The canopy of the burned Douglas fir-madrone forest here was intact, while the forest floor was very clear and clean of debris and brush. Seedlings of madrone were plentiful. Bright green patches of miners lettuce (*Claytonia perfoliata*), galiums, and a few other species removed any feeling of devastation. Adjacent, unburned acres of the forest had inches of forest litter and decaying duff on the ground and, strangely, much less herbaceous life.

Elsewhere in the forest we found one spotted coral root (*Coralorhiza maculata*) and one fading Calypso orchid (*Calypso bulbosa*). One of us found Chinese caps (*Euphorbia crenulata*) and shared her excitement of seeing the bizarre flower parts of this milky-sapped plant, thus earning her the best-plant-of-the-day chocolate bar.

Not having seen this mountaintop before the fire, we couldn't marvel at the changes the fire wrought, as Dave could. Instead we were impressed by the patchiness of the fire's work and the variety and enthusiasm of the healing process.

# FIELD TRIP REPORTS

## On The Slopes Of Titlow Hill

by Carol Ralph

Summer had definitely arrived when we did on June 24 to explore the property of Marisa D'Arpino (our hard-working content editor, Legislation person, and communications expert) and Jeff St. John on the slope of Titlow Hill about halfway down to Redwood Creek. At about 2,500 ft. elevation on this steep, west-facing slope grasses in the "prairies" were dry and the temperature was rising above the comfort zone for us denizens of the redwood forest. Marisa and Jeff have been watching the plants pass the seasons on this property and showed us photos of what had already bloomed, as well as walked us through various habitat patches.

We spent little time in the lumpy, steep prairies, which were sparsely covered with dry herbs and introduced grasses. The oak woodland, black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) higher up and Oregon white oak (*Q. garryana*) lower, provided more shade and interest. Ithuriel's spears (*Triteleia laxa*) held up their bouquets of tapered, blue-purple flowers. We thought the throats looked sparkly whitish, suggesting *T. bridgesii*, but the stamens were attached at two different levels inside the corolla, so it had to be *laxa*. Jepson warns us this is a variable species. We also saw a true brodiaea, *Brodiaea elegans*, which has fewer flowers, only three regular stamens, instead of the six in *Triteleia*, and has 3 white "tongues" (staminodes) standing up among the stamens. The other genus that used to be part of *Brodiaea* was represented also. Some bright red, cigar-shaped firecracker flowers (*Dichelostemma ida-maia*) were also blooming in the broken shade of the deciduous oaks.

Some exotics like false dandelion (*Hypochaeris*) and hedge parsley (*Torilis*) were under the oaks, but as we moved into the mixed evergreen forest, we left behind most exotics. Here in the shade of Douglas fir, madrone, and tan oak, besides the familiar forest denizens like starflower (*Trientalis latifolia*), yerba de selva (*Whipplea modesta*), and fairy bells

(*Disporum hookeri*), and the less familiar, like enchanter's nightshade (*Circaea alpina*), we were thrilled (well, I was. I think some people were getting hungry.) to find the very unfamiliar pine-foot *Pityopus californicus* and pinesap *Monotropa hypopitys*. Both of these are creamy- or pinky-white, short, fat, fleshy, asparagus-like stems erupting from the leaf litter. They are mycotrophs, a new name for what I learned as saprophytes. They have no chlorophyll with which to capture sunlight. Instead they live closely connected underground to a fungus that connects to roots of live trees. The pinefoot flowers are all crowded together among bracts. When you peer into the individual flowers, which like many species in the Ericaceae don't open very much, you see lots of hairs, thick, horseshoe-shaped anthers, and a yellow, lumpy pistil. Pinefoot is listed by Jepson Manual as "UNCOMMON" and occurs only in California and Oregon. Pinesap is merely "Uncommon" and is widespread, even to Eurasia. It is the only one of these mycotrophs whose whole inflorescence droops at the top. It is related to Indian pipe (*Monotropa uniflora*) but has many flowers in a cluster instead of one. Two uncommon mycotrophs in one morning was almost too much to bear. Coralroots (*Corallorhiza*) are more common mycotrophs, in the orchid family, tall and slender rather than short and stout. We found spotted coralroot (*C. maculata*) here too.

Other interesting habitats we saw were a rocky outcrop under the deciduous oaks, sporting little snapdragon-like skullcap (*Scutellaria antirrhinoides*), and a spring in a thicket of white alder, bedecked with cheerful yellow monkeyflowers (*Mimulus guttatus*).

We needed and appreciated the lemonade and goodies Marisa and Jeff graciously provided when we made it back up to the cars. It was fun to botanize a new place, and we are pleased that these good people care about what is growing on their property.

# LEGISLATION

## Prop 90 Threatens California's Environment and More

This initiative will appear on the November 7, 2006 ballot, it is part of a nationwide strategy to prevent public entities from acting to protect the environment, families, workers, and consumers – the very essence of our communities.

Already dozens of groups representing a broad range of constituencies are on record opposing Prop. 90. Proponents claim it deals with eminent domain, however, under Prop. 90 anytime a new law, regulation, or ordinance is passed, any landowner or business may file a claim to recover loss of property value. The California League of Conservation Voters notes that Prop. 90 “would severely restrict the ability of voters and local and state agencies to enact and enforce basic laws that protect our coastline, preserve open spaces and farmland, protect air and water quality, and protect environmentally sensitive areas.” Public entities would either need to compensate for lost value or exempt the owner from the desired protections.

According to the California League of Conservation Voters (CLCV), if Prop. 90 passes “it will cost taxpayers billions of dollars each year, entangle the state in costly and wasteful litigation, and have devastating impacts for our environment and local communities.” The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst cites “potentially major future costs” to deal with regulatory ‘takings’ provisions and “potentially major changes in governmental costs to acquire property for public purposes.”

Consider what has happened to Oregon in just the first two years after the voters there passed a similar law (Measure 37). Oregon has received over 2,000 claims requesting over \$5.4 billion dollars of compensation (which does not include the various governments’ administration and litigation costs), and affecting over 165,000 acres of land (refer to Oregon state’s Measure 37 web site [http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/MEASURE37/summaries\\_of\\_claims.shtml#Summaries\\_of\\_Claims\\_Filed\\_in\\_the\\_State](http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/MEASURE37/summaries_of_claims.shtml#Summaries_of_Claims_Filed_in_the_State)). Most of the claims were approved (meaning that the claimant was monetarily compensated) or waived (meaning that the claimant did not need to follow any of the environmental, zoning, etc. laws). A few examples of such claims are:

A neighbor filed a claim wanting to build a gravel mine within 200 feet of her house. Because of Measure 37, Clackamas County had no choice but to OK the claim. "Our atmosphere here now is totally peaceful - the birds, the creek rambling through our property. When they start up (the gravel mine), it'll be within 200 feet of our house. They'll be doing blasting, and they'll run a rock-crushing machine. They can operate from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. ... Source: *High Country News*, 7/24/06

A developer seeks \$10 - \$35 million from Yamhill County or the right to develop on 850 acres of forestland. Because of Measure 37, the county has the choice to waive the forestland protections and let him proceed with the city-sized development or pay him \$10 - \$35 million in compensation. Source: <http://www.noon933.org/>

Under Measure 37, a landowner was granted a land-use waiver to convert her agricultural farmland into a 54 home subdivision after seeking \$9.5 million in compensation if the county didn't grant the waiver. Sources: *The Oregonian*, July 20, 2006 and *The Forest Grove News-Times*, July 26, 2006

Imagine the environmental, monetary, and quality of life costs to California, which has many more property owners, many more acres of land, and much higher property values. A large coalition has formed to inform the public regarding Prop. 90. It could use more support. For more information go to: [www.noprop90.com](http://www.noprop90.com) or [www.ecovote.org](http://www.ecovote.org).

## Prop 84 Provides Funding for Vital Resource Conservation

Prop. 84 was placed on the ballot by a public petition. It authorizes the sale of \$5.4 billion in bonds to fund important state and local natural resource projects, including \$928 million for improvements to rivers, lakes and streams and their bank habitats; \$450 million for wildlife habitat and forest conservation; and more.

Periodically the public votes to approve bond funds to carry out these programs. Most recently Prop. 40 and 50, in 2002, authorized bond funds for natural resources, parks and water related projects. Those funds will be nearly expended by July 1, 2007. If Prop. 84 does not pass, funding for many critical projects will not be available and conservation efforts to protect native wildlife and plant resources will not be continued.

This measure is one of several bond measures on the November 7<sup>th</sup> ballot and, therefore, may have a difficult time getting the required votes for passage. In addition, since Prop. 84 is a citizens initiative, it may need help from additional community groups and individuals to demonstrate to the general public that it has a wide base of support.

For more information regarding Prop. 84, go to their website [www.cleanwater2006.com](http://www.cleanwater2006.com).

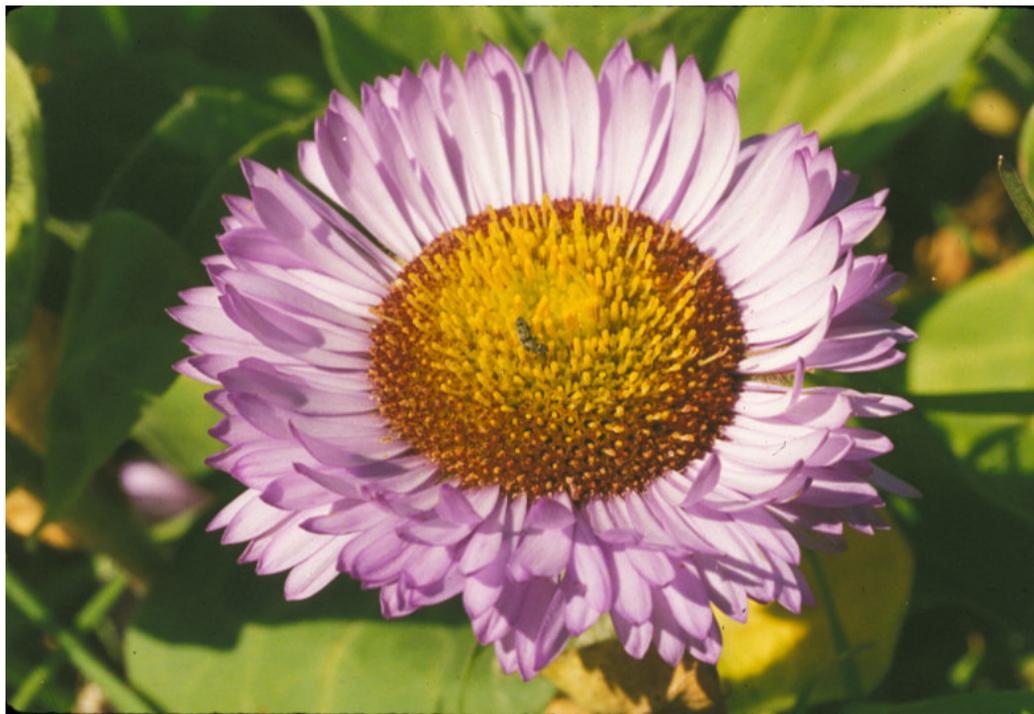
# CONSERVATION NOTES

## Proposed SPI Road in Underwood Roadless Area

Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) plans to build nearly 1 mile of permanent road to log its 160-acre inholding in the 9,930 acre Underwood Inventoried Roadless Area of Six Rivers National Forest. Although the Six Rivers' Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) forbids roadbuilding in roadless areas, the forest released its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed road in June. The proposal would amend the LRMP to allow roadbuilding in the Underwood IRA, setting a disturbing precedent that would degrade roadless areas despite tremendous public support for protecting the last of these intact natural areas.

The area proposed for roadbuilding and logging is just east of the Wild and Scenic South Fork Trinity River in Trinity County. The northern portion of the Roadless Area includes the botanically-rich Hell's Half Acre and South Fork Trinity trail, a popular spot with local botanists due to its floristic diversity. CNPS is concerned that a permanent road is likely to spread introduced species such as yellow star thistle and may introduce Sudden Oak Death. Impacts to water quality are also of concern, since the mouth of Underwood Creek provides a critical cold-water refuge for steelhead, coho, and spring-run chinook.

Gov. Schwarzenegger has petitioned the federal government to protect all Roadless Areas on federal lands in the state, illustrating strong public support for protecting these last remaining wildlands. CNPS has supported the Roadless Rule since was issued by the Forest Service in January 2001, and will continue to work to protect roadless areas.



An Aster growing in the King Range

*Photo by Jennifer Wheeler*

The North Coast Chapter submitted comments on the DEIS in September, and believes that helicopter logging is the only reasonable alternative that would eliminate the impacts of a permanent road. We will continue to work with EPIC, Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center, and Klamath Forest Alliance to prevent the degrada-

# OTHER EVENTS AND RESOURCES

## A World In Color

by Carol Ralph

Have you a favorite place to see native plants? to marvel at weed diversity? to marvel yearly at a certain magnificent flower? to sit and count petals or pollinators?

You have the power to open others' eyes.

On a field trip this summer I met a person from another chapter who shared the story of how he came to be an active CNPS member. It started when he casually attended a CNPS walk led by a woman who was truly excited herself about the plants she was sharing with participants. By the end of the walk my new acquaintance felt as though he had gone from seeing the world in black-and-white to seeing it in full color. The walk leader had shown him a whole new dimension of life. He raced out into this new world and learned as fast as he could, and a few years later he is proud to be spotting rare plants on his own, spelling their names correctly, and leading walks himself.

We might not all be as eloquent as that special walk leader, but we all can help get other people outside looking at plants. Share what you see with those around you -- family, friends, work associates, school classes, random park-goers. Volunteer to lead a plant walk for the chapter. Suggest a place for a plant walk. Help compile plant lists for the places we go. Write articles for *Darlingtonia* or the newspapers. Help put on our wildflower show in May. Share your native plant garden on our garden tour. Our chapter has a framework for magnifying your efforts.

Let's offer a world in color to all those around us.

## NATIVE PLANT CONSULTATION SERVICE

Are you wondering which plants in your yard are native? Are you unsure if that vine in the corner is an invasive exotic? Would you like to know some native species that would grow well in your yard? The North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society now offers the Native Plant Consultation Service to answer these questions and to give advice on gardening with natives. If you are a member of CNPS, this service is free, if not, you can join or make a donation to our chapter. A phone call or e-mail to our coordinator, Kathy Dilley (825-7665 or vandk@quik.com), will put you in touch with a team of volunteer consultants who will arrange a visit to your property to look at what you have and help choose suitable plants for your garden.

## North Coast CNPS Bi-yearly Election of Officers

Every two years we vote for our chapter's president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. You may vote in person at our October 11 evening meeting or at our October 17 business meeting, or by mailing the ballot on page xxx to by October 9, 2006. You must be a CNPS North Coast Chapter member to vote.

Mail ballot to 2006: Elections, North Coast CNPS, P.O. Box 1067, Arcata CA 95518-1067 by October 9, 2006.

<i>President</i>		<i>Vice-President</i>	
Carol Ralph		Felicity Wasser	
Write-in		Write-in	
<i>Secretary</i>		<i>Treasurer</i>	
Steve Norman		Write-in	
Write-in			

# FLOWERS ON THE WEB

## The USDA Forest Service recently launched the new Celebrating Wildflowers web site.

Celebrating Wildflowers is a series of events for people who are interested in native plants. Activities include wildflower walks, talks, festivals, slide shows, seminars, and planting events emphasizing the values and conservation of native plants. The web site (<http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/>) includes modules including Wildflower News, Just for Kids, Coloring Pages, Teacher Resources, Pollinators, Native gardening, Wildflower Ethics, Invasive Plants and Wildflower Links; listings of wildflower events, wildflower viewing areas and Plant of the Week. Of particular interest is a module entitled "Beauty of it All" a series of in-depth articles exploring the remarkable adaptations of wildflowers to diverse environments and specialized habitats. The inaugural story features the Lady Slipper Orchids.

This new web site is the gateway to an enormous amount of botanical information. The web site and the Wildflower Links are constantly being updated to keep information current and to add more botanically related pages. A number of other modules such as rare plants, native plant materials, ethnobotany, lichens, ferns and other botany subject areas are being developed and will be posted to the web site as they become finalized.

Excerpt from Botanical Electronic News (#365, Aug. '06).

A couple of local interest areas of the web site:

- California Region <http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/regions/pacificsouthwest/index.shtml>
- Gardening with Natives <http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/nativegardening/index.shtml>

## Thank You!

**Jen Kalt** and **Larry Levine** for extraordinary effort planning the state meeting here

**Gordon Leppig** for help and extraordinary eloquence at same

**Melinda Groom, Carol Ralph, Steve Norman, Clare Golec, Liz McGee, Dave Imper, CJ Ralph** for essential kitchen help at same

**John Sawyer, Andrea Pickart, Sunny Bennett, David Loya** for leading walks for the attendees at same

**Marisa D'Arpino** for cajoling and leading us into Yahoo! groups, editing *Darlingtonia* content, and generally raising our level of organization

**Greg Jennings** for many, beautiful issues of *Darlingtonia*

**Mary Wheatley** for getting our notices into *Econews*

**Sydney Carothers, Kathy Dille, Carol Ralph, Joe Roberts, Suzanne Isaacs** for planning, weeding, and planting our gardens on Arcata Plaza

# KEEPING UP WITH THE CHAPTER

## An Easy Way To Know What We're Doing

OR

## How to Join the Electronic Age

by Marisa D'Arpino, Carol Ralph and Pete Haggard

The North Coast CNPS now has three new ways for our community to share information (in addition to our CNPS Chapter web site and newsletter), a North Coast CNPS:

1. North Coast CNPS Announcements E-Mail List - As a reader of *Darlingtonia* you probably know that not all of the chapter's activities are planned enough in advance to be announced in this quarterly newsletter. We invite you to sign up for an announcements list that will send you an e-mail message whenever there is a program, plant walk, field trip, other activity or special announcement. The Announcements e-mail list is open to everyone; no CNPS membership is required. As of October 1, 2006, all North Coast CNPS Announcements will be made through this list.
2. North Coast CNPS Gardening with Natives Discussion Group – Are you new to the area or a long time North Coast gardener who would like to discuss local gardening issues (weather, soil, local & online nurseries), share resources (seeds, plants, information, books, websites.), share online pictures of our healthy (or sick---what the problems are) native plants, learn about habitat requirements for particular native plants, share seasonal alerts on what's blooming in the garden and in the wild? The Gardening with Natives discussion group is open to everyone; no CNPS membership required.
3. North Coast CNPS Business Information Group –If you are interested in the business meeting dates, agendas, conservation issues, spending decisions, long range plans, etc., join this group. Here we will store our Operating Procedures, business meeting minutes, and who-knows-what else. The Business Information group requires North Coast CNPS Chapter membership and approval by the North Coast CNPS president. As of October 1, 2006, all North Coast CNPS Business Information will be distributed through this list.

To sign-up for one or more of these communications, click on the "Forums" link our chapter's web site [northcoastcnps.org](http://northcoastcnps.org), then select the way you would like to sign-up for the specific group:

1. Subscribe – You receive the group's messages via e-mail and it only requires your e-mail address. Once you receive a subscription confirmation message, reply and your subscription will be complete. If you choose this method, you will not have access to all of the group's Full Privileges web features (Photos, Files, Links, Polls, Calendar.)

Join with Full Privileges – You receive the group's messages via e-mail and have access to all of the group's Full Privileges web features (Photos, Files, Links, Polls, Calendar.). This method requires that you sign up for a Yahoo! ID and fill out a short profile for each group you sign up for.

To send information that you would like to be distributed to the group members, as well as posted to our chapter's web site and included in the chapter newsletter, please e-mail the group owner or click "POST" on the Yahoo! Group page (requires Full Privileges):

- Announcements: [NorthCoast\\_CNPS-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NorthCoast_CNPS-owner@yahoogroups.com) or [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NorthCoast\\_CNPS/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NorthCoast_CNPS/).
  - Gardening: [NorthCoast\\_CNPS\\_Gardening-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NorthCoast_CNPS_Gardening-owner@yahoogroups.com) or [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NorthCoast\\_CNPS\\_Gardening/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NorthCoast_CNPS_Gardening/).
- Business: [NorthCoast\\_CNPS\\_Business-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NorthCoast_CNPS_Business-owner@yahoogroups.com) or [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NorthCoast\\_CNPS\\_Business/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NorthCoast_CNPS_Business/).

All of this information is on our chapter web site at <http://www.northcoastcnps.org/forums.htm> and will appear in each quarterly newsletter.

(Continued on next page)

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*(Continued from previous page)*

So, how did all of this come about? It is the desire of many organizations to keep their members up-to-date on activities, to offer an easy way for members to communicate amongst themselves, and to keep the distribution lists as current as possible. Our chapter (along with a few others) has selected Yahoo! Groups as a complimentary communication tool to our web site and newsletter. Activities and special announcements will continue to be posted on the chapter's website and newsletter, as well as promoted through Humboldt County's local media. All of the groups are moderated, meaning that one or more people are responsible for screening (editing where appropriate) the messages before they are distributed.

Some of us have been leery of any of these mysterious things called chatrooms, bulletin boards, listserves, etc.; afraid that they would be complicated and send some electronic evil into our computers; and uncertain why we'd want to go to one. Well, the reason to go to one is to communicate, and Yahoo! (and others) have worked out a fairly simple method of accomplishing the kind of communicating we need to do. Yahoo! calls it a group, and there are thousands (or more?) Yahoo! Groups. Yahoo! has a reputation and business to maintain, so they are motivated to make these groups work smoothly without letting spam, viruses, or spyware invade you through them. Yahoo! also has to make a little money at this, so they sell advertising, which shows up discreetly around your screen.

If you choose to set up a Yahoo! Group profile (in order to access the available web features like Calendars, Photos, and Files), here are a few tips and tricks:

1. Click "join for full privileges" on the Forums page of our chapter web site
2. Select a user name (Yahoo! ID) that is easy to remember, such as the part of your e-mail address in front of the "@" sign. If your user name is already taken, add your middle initial.
3. Select a password that is easy to remember. The password is case sensitive, so 'Cat' is not the same as 'cat.'
4. You will be asked for some additional information. Press 'Enter' only after you have completed all of the information, otherwise tab or use a mouse click. You can safely agree to the Terms of Service.
5. Pay attention to any question about "Marketing Preferences." That is where you get to tell them you don't want promotions. You may need to "unclick" a choice by clicking on it.
6. "Verify your registration" by entering "the code shown" is a very way to be sure you are a person, not a machine. What looks like a scrawled logo off a skateboard is a series of numbers and letters that only a real person can read. You type in those numbers and letters, and you have passed the test! Once you are on the specific Yahoo! Group web page, bookmark it so that you can find it easily in the future.

If you would like any assistance in subscribing to or joining any of the electronic communications, please contact either Carol Ralph 822-2015 or Marisa D'Arpino 601-0898.

## VOLUNTEERING Help Wanted

(Respond to Carol Ralph 822-2015 or other appropriate person on the roster.)

**Fun person** wanting to show the world the wonders of wildflowers. Coordinate a host of volunteers operating on an established plan toward the May wildflower show. About 1 hour/month plus the first weekend of May.

**Organized person** to handle our money and keep us informed of this all-important asset. Remember, money is power. Average 2 hours/month.

**Connected person** to send our program fliers electronically and possibly on paper to our network of flier posters, and to add to the network. 15 min./month

**Locally aware person** to get articles about our activities in local print media. Could average 1 hr/month

**Telephoner** to sign up walk leaders for monthly plant walks. 3 hours should do it, plus reminder phone call.

### Useful simple things you can do:

- Bring a snack for an evening meeting
- Suggest a program speaker
- Nominate a garden for the garden tour
- Tend our booth for a few hours at a fair
- Sign up a new member
- Lead a plant walk

# JOIN CNPS TODAY!

By joining CNPS you add your voice to that of other native plant enthusiasts wishing to increase awareness, understanding, appreciation, and conservation of California's native flora. Members receive the quarterly journal *Fremontia*, the statewide newsletter, and our chapter newsletter, *Darlingtonia*.

Membership fees: Individual \$45; Family \$75; Student or Limited Income \$25 (Membership fee minus \$12 is tax deductible). Send your name and address, check (payable to CNPS) or credit card information to CNPS, 2707K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

Please notify the state office and/or our Membership Chairperson if your address changes.

## JOIN CNPS NOW!

*North Coast Chapter*

Membership in the California Native Plant Society, a statewide nonprofit organization, is open to all. The task and mission of CNPS is to increase awareness, understanding, and appreciation of California native plants. The challenge is to preserve their natural habitat through scientific, educational, and conservation activities. Membership includes subscriptions to the informative quarterly journal *Fremontia*, the statewide newsletter *Bulletin*, and our local chapter newsletter *Darlingtonia*.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to affiliate with the North Coast Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Or, (other chapter \_\_\_\_\_)

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

Student/Retired/Limited Income.....	\$25
Individual or Library.....	\$45
Family or Group.....	\$75

*Dues to CNPS are tax deductible.*

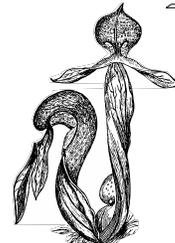
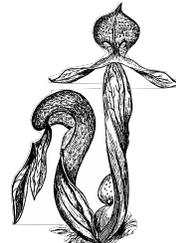
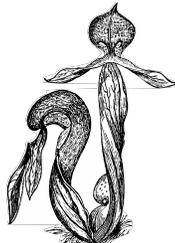
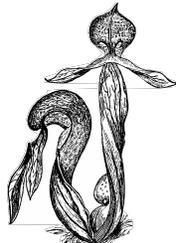
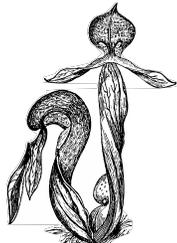
Please make check payable to "CNPS" and mail to:

2707 K Street, Suite 1

Sacramento, CA 95816 - 5113

**Or, join on-line at [www.northcoastcnps.org](http://www.northcoastcnps.org)**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



**NORTH COAST CHAPTER, 2006 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS/CONTACTS**  
**WEB SITE: [HTTP://WWW.NORTHCOASTCNPS.ORG](http://www.northcoastcnps.org)**

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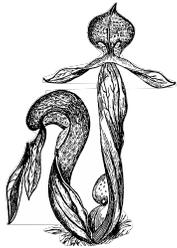
(to this newsletter...)

*Darlingtonia* is the quarterly newsletter of the North Coast Chapter of CNPS. Items for submittal to *Darlingtonia* should be sent to "marisa\_nativecalifornian@yahoo.com" by each quarterly deadline: Dec 1, March 1, June 1, and Sept 1. Botanical articles, poetry, stories, photographs, illustrations, sightings, news items, action alerts, events, factoids, tidbits, etc. are welcome and appreciated!

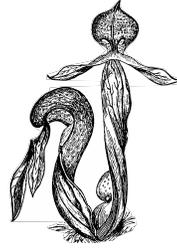
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# FALL CALENDAR



<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Page</b>
<i>Oct 11 Wed</i>	<b>Monthly Program</b> Habitat Gardens for Wildlife and People with Lori Hubbart	4	<i>Nov 12 Sun</i>	<b>Field Trip</b> Grizzly Creek State Park	2
<i>Oct 17 Tue</i>	<b>Business Meeting</b>	4	<i>Dec 13 Wed</i>	<b>Monthly Program</b> Members Night	4
<i>Oct 21 Sat</i>	<b>Field Trip</b> Dolason Prairie Hike	2	<i>Jan 10 Wed</i>	<b>Monthly Program</b> Sudden Oak Death with Chris Lee	4
<i>Nov 8 Wed</i>	<b>Monthly Program</b> Lilies, Irises, and More with Dr. Mike Mesler	4	<i>Feb 14 Wed</i>	<b>Monthly Program</b> Natural History of Northern California with Dr. John Sawyer	4