

# CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MARIN CHAPTER



## August 2024 Newsletter

### CNPS Marin's 50th Anniversary Activities

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#### 50th Anniversary Dinner August 24

Help us celebrate this milestone!

Corte Madera Community Center  
5 pm drinks & appetizers  
6 pm dinner catered by Insalata's

Speaker: Author [Mary Ellen Hannibal](#)

Some tickets still available. [Purchase soon!](#)

A few volunteers needed. If you are interested in helping us with some of the food service for the dinner, in exchange for attending for free, please email us at [marincnps50th@gmail.com](mailto:marincnps50th@gmail.com).

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## 50 Acts of Caring Challenge

We have compiled 50 ideas of simple things that we can all do to make our landscapes healthier places. Take a look and refer back for inspiration from time to time.



Peruse all 50 ideas at

[@marincnps](https://www.instagram.com/marincnps)

[Read more...](#)

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## 50 Native Plants Challenge - Hurrah!

[Marin CNPS 50th Anniversary Marin Native Plant Challenge List](#)

We engaged over 40 participants who explored Marin County making over 2,000 observations of native plants. We will honor those who observed 50 or more plants at the 50th celebration on August 24th.



## Marin Chapter Meeting

“Managing Invasive Plants, tips and tools for everyday use”

Monday, August 12 @ 7:30 pm

Guest Speakers:

**Constance Taylor**, Conservation Specialist at Cal-IPC, and  
**Jutta Burger, PhD**, Science Program Director at Cal-IPC

Got weeds? Join speakers from the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) to hear about invasive plants and what to do about them. They will cover:

- How invasive plants are managed across the state,
- New and existing online resources you can use to help manage invasive plants or prevent their introduction, and
- How CNPS and other organizations like UC Master Gardeners play a crucial role in helping to stop the spread of invasive plants into wildlands.

[Read more...](#)

[Register for this Zoom meeting here.](#)



## Marin Chapter Field Trips

- Sign up for most field trips using [Meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) or the [Meetup app](#).
- Electronically sign the CNPS waiver (once per year). [2024 Marin CNPS WaiverSign Link](#).
- Contact the leader(s) with any questions.

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Point Reyes Silverspot butterfly on gumplant near Abbotts Lagoon Photo by Lena Zentall

## Summer Exploration of Abbotts Lagoon, Point Reyes National Seashore

Saturday, **August 17, 2024**, 10 am to 2 pm

Leaders: **Lena Zentall** and **Betsey Crawford**

The trail to Abbotts Lagoon is a year-round CNPS favorite. It first passes through extensive coastal scrub dotted by two marshes and ends in the dunes beside a receding brackish lagoon. We will find ghostly cobwebby thistle, flowering monkeyflower and coyote brush, bright green coyote brush leaf beetle, San Francisco spineflower, and a profusion of coastal hedgenettle. We may see the hummingbird-like moth, the white-lined sphinx, feeding on the hedgenettle.

We will venture briefly into the dunes to observe the succulent *Dudleya farinosa* and California goldenbush. We hope to spot the rare Point Reyes silverspot butterfly that nectars on gumplant and curly-leaved monardella.

[Read more...](#)      [Meetup Registration Link](#)



*Chorizanthe cuspidata* - San Francisco spineflower near Abbotts Lagoon, Point Reyes NS Photo by Lena Zentall

## July 2024 Field Trip Reports

### Cascade Canyon

*Ann Elliott*

[Elliott Nature Preserve](#) is a green oasis surrounded by Marin County's [Cascade Canyon Open Space Preserve](#) and Marin Water's watershed lands. On July 12, Linda Novy, CNPS member and member of the Marin County Parks Volunteer Patrol, led California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Marin Chapter members along a shady trail up to Cascade Falls enjoying late flowers and cooling green of riparian shrubs and trees. We joked about forensic botany as we studied interesting seed pods and the fading vegetation of seasonal plants. We were fortunate to see endangered yellow-legged



Cascade Canyon July 2024 Photos by Ann Elliott

## July 2024 Field Trip Reports, continued

frogs hidden among the wet rocks as we crossed a bridge over Cascade Creek. This is an enchanting canyon to visit throughout the seasons.

Plants in collage clockwise from upper left: Pacific ninebark (*Physocarpus capitatus*), largeflower fairybells (*Prosartes smithii*), Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*), Coast Range dudleya (*Dudleya cymosa* ssp. *cymosa*), yellow hayfield tarplant (*Hemizonia congesta* ssp. *lutescens*), white hawkweed (*Hieracium albiflorum*), rosilla or sneezeweed (*Helenium puberulum*), Kellogg's yampah (*Perideridi kelloggii*), California dutchman's pipe (*Aristolochia californica*). In the middle: torrent sedge (*Carex nudata*).

See [Ann Elliott's iNaturalist posts](#) from the trip.

### Bull Point

Lena Zentall

A dozen folks headed off-trail in search of the rare flowers of Bull Point on Saturday, July 20, 2024. It was a typical day at Bull Point – cool and windy. We were rewarded with many rare flowers and interesting plants and a few ticks. We were fortunate to have many plant experts in the group to help locate and identify plants.

Highlights in marshy areas were Point Reyes checkerbloom, marsh harebells, white bog orchids, and very showy leopard and coast lilies. In the dune areas we encountered fields of large-flowered linanthus, the low-growing and pale alameda thistle, San Francisco spineflower, a few patches of Point Reyes horkelia, witch's-teeth, and curly leaved Monardella.

[Read more...](#)

### Bothin Marsh

Ann Elliott

Curious marsh observers joined Eva Buxton on July 26th for a stroll along [Bothin Marsh](#) in Mill Valley. Eva sprinkles her walks with such interesting explanations of plant physiology and adaptations. Each walk is like an informal college lecture, but set in a beautiful place. One thing we learned was that many plants adapted to a brackish marsh environment can isolate the excess salt from the marsh water in vacuoles, so other plant processes can proceed as normal. Some plants extrude salt in glands on the leaves.

Shelley Benson, biologist working on [Evolving Shorelines](#) (a One Tam cooperative project of Marin County Open Space District and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy) attended the field trip. She answered questions about that project's planning and status. She pointed out an annual pickleweed (*Salicornia bigelovii*), different from the more abundant perennial pickleweed (*Salicornia pacifica*). We had been admiring the the color variations of *S. pacifica* from green to red to purple.



*Lilium pardalinum*- leopard lily  
Bull Point, Point Reyes NS Photo by Lena Zentall



Eva Buxton pointing out interesting features in Bothin Marsh Photo by Ann Elliott

## Habitat Restoration at Point Reyes

Join Point Reyes National Seashore in improving habitat for native flora and fauna by removing invasive plants. Ranger Joe and Cristobal from Point Reyes National Seashore Association are hosting Weekday Weeders every other Thursday for the next few months.

Weekday Weeders - every other Thursday through October.  
8/8, 8/22, 9/5, 9/19, 10/3, 10/17

Meet at the Abbott's Lagoon parking lot at 10am. From there, we'll walk about 1.5 miles to the beach where we will focus on pulling European sea rocket. Please bring gloves, water, and food. Wear layers. The weather out there can swing from cold and foggy to warm and bright.

Joe and Cristobal hope to schedule a once a month Sunday ice plant pull elsewhere in the park.

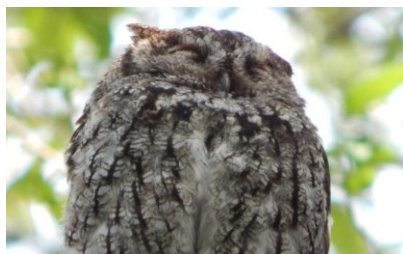
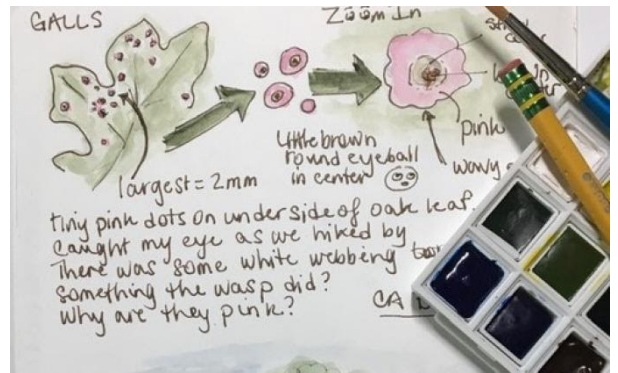
Email [Anela Kopshever](mailto:Anela.Kopshever@nps.gov) with the subject "Habitat Restoration Volunteer" to pre-register. Note what date(s) you plan to attend. However, drop-in volunteers are welcome! All volunteers are required to fill out a National Park Service Volunteer Agreement Form. Forms will be available the day of the volunteer event.



Point Reyes NS dunes with European sea-rocket  
Photo by NPS/Lorraine Parsons

## Naturalist Series at Sonoma State University's Osborn Preserve

Learn how to share nature's secrets with others while exploring the stunning ecosystems of Sonoma Mountain with university faculty and other experts. This outdoor Naturalist Educator Series will give you new insights into environmental education concepts and the skills to share your knowledge with elementary school children. Topics include plants, animals, human history and more! Join an "Environmentally Ready" community working to eradicate Nature Deficit Disorder in the North Bay!



Become an [Osborn Naturalist](#) or attend one or more [events](#) on a space available basis.

**8/17 1:30 – 4:30 pm Reptiles** of Sonoma Mountain

**8/17 5:30 – 8:30 pm Owls** of Sonoma Mountain

**8/18 11 am – 4 pm Trail Activities & Planning Visits**

**8/24 10 am – 1 pm Fish** of Osborn Preserve

**8/25 10 am – 1 pm Plants** on Sonoma Mountain in August

**8/25 2 pm – 4 pm Human Relations** with the Osborn Preserve

## CNPS announces the release of Calscape 2.0

[Calscape.org](https://calscape.org) is a unique online tool that lets you discover which plants grow native to your specific location. Use it to plan your garden, build plant lists for your garden, see growing instructions, and find native plant nurseries and landscape professionals near you. Try out the new virtual [garden planner](#).



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## Upcoming Marin Chapter Events

- 8/12 7:30 pm Chapter Meeting: ["Managing Invasive Plants"](#) Speakers: **Constance Taylor & Jutta Burger**, Cal-IPC
  - 8/17 10 am - 2 pm Field Trip: [Abbotts Lagoon](#)
  - 8/24 5 pm [CNPS Marin 50th Anniversary Event](#) - [Purchase Tickets Now!](#)
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## Other Activities in Marin and Nearby

- 8/1 5:30 pm [CNPS Naturehood Webinar](#): **Container Gardening 101**
- 8/8 & 8/24 10 am Habitat Restoration at Abbott's Lagoon, Point Reyes (see above)
- 8/8 7:30 pm [The Flexible Floras of San Francisco Peninsula's Barrier Beach Lagoons](#) Speaker: Peter Baye
- 8/10 10 am - 2 pm [Hoffman Salt Marsh Plant Walk](#), Richmond, East Bay Chapter
- 8/11 [Kite Hill Wildflower Preserve workshops](#) on restoring California grasslands
- 8/17, 8/18, 8/24, 8/25 [Sonoma State Osborn Naturalist Ed Series](#)

Be sure to periodically check [CNPS.org/events](https://www.cnps.org/events) for interesting talks and field trips sponsored by CNPS Chapters and staff throughout the state.

Below is a list of links to listings for Field Trips offered by nearby CNPS Chapters.

- [Milo Baker](#)
- [Napa Valley Chapter](#)
- [Yerba Buena Chapter](#)
- [East Bay Chapter](#)
- [Santa Clara Valley Chapter](#)

Also check the [Events Calendar for Marin County Parks](#). They host a variety of local hikes, service projects, and presentations.

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## Celebrate Native Plants with Us!

Share photos and stories from your summer plant rambles with our readers.

Please send me information about interesting upcoming events, conservation issues, and native plant topics to include in the next edition.

Thank you. Ann Elliott, Newsletter Editor

[annonfire@gmail.com](mailto:annonfire@gmail.com)



Blooming *Cuscuta salina* - saltmarsh dodder wrapped around *Salicornia pacifica* - pickleweed in Bothin Marsh by Ann Elliott



*Actaea rubra* - red baneberry in Samuel P. Taylor State Park  
Photo by Ann Elliott



*Limonium californicum* - marsh rosemary in Bothin Marsh  
Photo by Ann Elliott

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2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5130 | Tel: (916) 447-2677  
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