Obispoensis

Newsletter of the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society





May-June 2021



Why do we LOVE serpentine outcrops at Irish Hills? Because they are covered with California Native Wildflowers! This is also why my bumper sticker says 'Serpentine ROCKS!'

Yours should too... Nishanta Rajakaruna (Nishi) (All photos & cover by Nishi)

Cover photos: Toxicoscordian fremontii, Lomatium dasycarpum

Page 2 photos: Top Row: Lupinus succulentus, Fritillaria biflora, Stachys bullata. Center Row: Erythranthe serpenticola

Calandrinia ciliata, Streptanthus albidus. Bottom Row: Ranunculus californicus, Viola pedunculata

So why did the serpentinite hills around San Luis Obispo make Nishi so happy in this year of little rain?

We usually associate our local serpentinite hills as being relatively poor of vegetative cover, due to the lack of certain chemical elements needed by many plants to grow. The grassy or shrubby cover of hills and valleys with other geologic substrates put on a poor showing of wild flowers this year, and yet in March and April there were great shows on the serpentinite.

Those living in Cambria, Morro Bay, Los Osos and San Luis Obispo were the recipients of one really good rain, and my gauge in Los Osos recorded 10 inches. Further north, further south, and east of Santa Margarita the rainfall of that storm dropped off significantly. That was January, and in the high rain area we saw the hills turn green with a thin grass cover, but only a small number of flowers. So what happened to bring on the great displays on serpentinite a couple of months after the rain? My theory lies in the high fracture density of weathered serpentinite allows deep water penetration and scattered pockets of soil filling some of the cracks. You may have noticed that there is not a lot of alluvial fan development at the base of steep serpentinite slopes like those seen at Laguna Lake, suggesting that there is limited runoff during storms. It seems that the rock acts like a sponge and stores enough water to supply all the crevice-dwelling plants that gave us a very happy Nishi.





(Left) Masses of Viola pedunculata at Rancho El Chorro Regional Park; (Right) South Street Hills, San Luis Obispo' Photos D. Chipping

Serpentinite or serpentine - a clarification

Serpentinite is the name of the rock composed of one or more serpentine group minerals, the name originating from the similarity of the texture of the rock to that of the skin of a snake. Minerals in this group, which are rich in magnesium and water, light to dark green, greasy looking and slippery feeling, are formed by serpentinization, a hydration and metamorphic transformation of ultramafic rock from the Earth's mantle. Serpentine is the name of the group of minerals found in serpentinite, and also to the soil formed from the serpentinite.

The other Vinegar Weed

When walking the dried grasslands of the eastern county in the summer, you will often encounter the extremely strongly scented *Trichostemma lanceolatum* (Vinegar weed), the small cousin of the shrub *Trichostemma lanatum* (Woolly Blue-curls). You might miss *Trichostemma ovatum* (San Joaquin turpentine weed), found in the southern Carrizo Plain and differing from Vinegar weed in the shape of the leaves.







(Left) Trichostemma lanatum (Center) Trichostemma lanceolatum (Right) Trichostemma ovatum Photos D. Chipping

May Online Plant Sale

The Spring Online Plant Sale is Happening Again!







Starting Monday, May 10
On Our CNPS Website
A Beautiful Selection of Native Plants will be Offered For Sale



















Plant Pick-Up will be Saturday,
May 20 from 9:00 – 11:00
(Location is 900 Francis Avenue,
SLO)
(Email and Facebook reminders
will be sent as the sale begins.)





Join us for our May chapter meeting and presentation with Kristie Scarazzo, Ventura Office U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Partners for Rare Plant Conservation and Recovery in San Luis Obispo County

Kristie is a botanist at the Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office where she works to achieve conservation wins and recovery successes for the 17 federally listed plant species found in San Luis Obispo County. Kristie will introduce the Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office and provide a brief overview of the Listing and Recovery Division. She will highlight some of the newest projects and programs being implemented with local partners for La Graciosa thistle (*Cirsium scariosum* var. *loncholepis*), Nipomo lupine (*Lupinus nipomensis*), marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*), and Pismo clarkia (*Clarkia speciosa* ssp. *immaculata*). Kristie will also discuss some broader themes to approach rare plant conservation and share some conceptual ideas to inspire and motivate the important work of saving our County's rich botanical legacy.

REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS ZOOM MEETING

https://cnps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcocemurDMiEtw9UTguRpHhbK0dyEGU-TvU

Yerba buena (Clinopodium douglasii)

Yerba buena *Clinopodium douglasii* (*Satureja douglasii*) is a member of the Mint family, It is a trailing, mat-forming plant and sweet-smelling plant found in semi-shaded woodland and damp soils in chaparral. The common name first shows up in the naming of the pueblo of Yerba Buena in the first Spanish settlement in San Francisco, and persists in the name of the island in the center of the Oakland -San Francisco Bay Bridge. Jan Timbrook notes that, besides making a nice tasting herbal tea, there were associated uses in expelling parasitic worms, relieving stomach gas, and bladder issues. Kinda makes you think that being in the same room with a tea drinker may not have been so 'buena'. DHC



Please join us on June 3 for two exciting talks from our 2021 McLeod scholarship recipients!

Lichen biotas of ultramafic and sandstone outcrops along a maritime gradient – emerging patterns, preliminary results, and notable species

Michael Mulroy is conducting research at Cal Poly with Dr. Nishi Rajakaruna on saxicolous (i.e., rock-dwelling) lichen communities. Saxicolous lichens are highly diverse, ecologically important, often eye-catching, and yet understudied. Descriptive and quantitative ecological studies of these communities are particularly scant in North America. Our research sets out to better understand how lichen community composition responds to variation in substrate elemental composition, macro- and microtopography, as well as climate factors related to maritime influence. To do this, we are conducting quantitative sampling of saxicolous communities on eight ultramafic and eight sandstone outcrops along a 70 km coast-inland gradient of decreasing maritime influence. Michael will outline the state of knowledge of lichens on ultramafic substrates in North America and present some preliminary results from field sampling to date. These data include range extensions of several rare or otherwise notable lichen species, as well as over a dozen additions to the list of lichens recorded on ultramafic substrates



Lichens on rocks, North Morro Bay Photo D. Chipping

Saving the rare northern island mallow on Anacapa Island – past, present, and future

Stephanie Calloway is working on the critically endangered island mallow (Malva assurgentiflora subsp. assurgentiflora) with Dr. Jenn Yost at Cal Poly. The California Channel Islands, often described as the Galapagos of North America, harbor some of the most unique plant diversity in California. Over 240 plant species are endemic to the islands. Unfortunately, introduced herbivores drastically degraded island ecosystems and many habitats remain greatly altered. As a result, the species they support have been pushed to the brink of extinction. One such species is the northern island mallow, a rare perennial shrub endemic to Anacapa and San Miguel Islands. Introduced herbivores extirpated the plant on Anacapa Island. Fortunately, seed was collected from the last remaining plants and used to create a new population on East Anacapa Island. Currently, 1,000 planted Malva are managed by the National Park Service in a one-acre restoration site. While adult plants appear to be thriving, there is almost no reproduction of new seedlings. This alarming lack of recruitment puts Malva at risk for future declines. Stephanie will present an overview of her research aimed at identifying the factors limiting the recruitment of the Northern Island Mallow on Anacapa Island.

REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS ZOOM MEETING

https://cnps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/t,JAlceupzItGNXW4YVp-9dIiNylWXehFLbw









President's Notes and Musings - Melissa Mooney

There is a lot going on behind the scenes at CNPS, and I thought I'd share some of it with you. (As if springtime field season isn't enough!)

First, the statewide CNPS Strategic Plan is due for renewal this year, and the Chapter Council is in the process of reviewing our Mission, Goals, and Strategies to ensure they are up to date, and if not, bring them up to date. Remember, these are our Know, Save, Enhance and Restore, and Engage and Energize goals. There has been a lot of discussion of climate change and how we might incorporate that into our goals and strategies. If you are interested in reading the CNPS Strategic Plan, it can be found here: https://www.cnps.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/strategic plan-2016.pdf

Secondly, I'm hearing rumblings that State Parks is going to be initiating vegetation sampling in many State Parks this summer, and our local parks such as Montana de Oro and Hearst San Simeon (and others) are included in the list of those to be sampled. A group of CNPS folks in the Santa Cruz area, led by Brett Hall and the UC Santa Cruz folks, has been sampling vegetation in their area, and may be working with State Parks on this seasonal fieldwork. We will stay in touch with the key players, and perhaps our Vegetation team can help in the local effort.

In addition, there are several meetings being held to address evolving issues, as our editor mentions in the Conservation section. There is a committee addressing fire safety, fuel management, and how it affects native plants, and our Chapter is engaging on both the State (most particularly your editor, DHC) and local level, especially in the Cambria area (thanks to David Krause and Neil Havlik). I've been heavily involved with the Chapter Council policy committee, which is updating some old CNPS conservation policies, most recently the plant collection policies geared toward educational collections. (It also addresses wildflower shows.) This policy was recently sent out for review to our Board and others at Cal Poly and Cuesta College. If you wish to review the educational collections policy, contact me at mjmoon@charter.net. There are also meetings being held to address Horticultural and off-highway vehicle issues.

And lastly, we're addressing some kinda boring administrative details like google email accounts and workspaces, annual activities reporting, and a newfangled Waiversign the State has developed to address insurance issues. A few of these are not without controversy. For example, the waiver to be signed before field trips is three pages long! We will be discussing some of these items at our next Board meeting, which, by the way, is open to all members. Just let me know of your interest.

Meantime, keep on keying, and enjoy your summer!





SHELL CREEK APRIL 22, 2021

While the meadows fronting Highway 58 are brown, the more northerly areas still had plenty of color. Thistle sage, desert dandelion and goldfields show us that, drought or no drought, this is a wonderful place. We once again thank the Sinton family for protecting this gem.

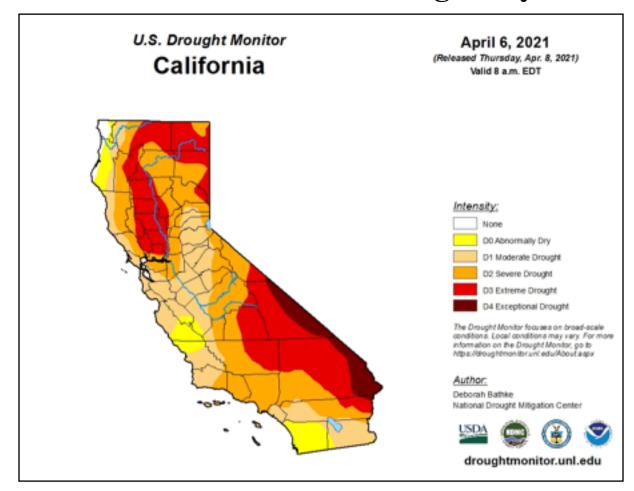


Photos D. Chipping





Too Late for This Year?: Getting ready for next year's drought





The map shows that San Luis Obispo is either 'Abnormally Dry' or in 'Moderate Drought'. Now is the time to prepare to capture as much rain as possible the next time it rains.

If 12 inches of rain is collected from a 1,000 sq.ft. roof, you get 1,000 cu.ft of water. Tree of Life Nursery reckons a native-dedicated yard in southern California will need 6 to 10 inches of supplemental water per year. So your system could produce enough water for up to 2,000 sq. ft. of yard..

There are dedicated rainwater collectors topped by filters to keep gutter crud out of the water. These can be linked in series. If you want to use regular trash cans, they work just as well. My house has four collection points, two of which are shown below. We collect milk bottles and soda bottles as a way to get water to plants. Milk bottles last about three years before undergoing brittle failure. DHC

Seed Exchange: Positive thoughts

One never knows what the future will bring but I choose to think positively and thus, in my mind, we will be having a seed exchange in person before the October meeting. I just hope those of you interested in such things are watching for seed formation. It's a bit early yet. My first seeds to collect are usually from my buttercups and they are just beginning to dry. But time does move along and I just wanted you all to be using your eagle eyes watching for ripe seed when it does come. It has been a difficult time for my seed production efforts. One of the patches of *Clarkia* in our field looks like it has just disappeared. The abysmal rain pattern might have something to do with that. But I do have some in pots. There will be seeds, perhaps not as many as in previous years. But that is the way gardening goes.



The Gleaners 1857

Jean-François Millet

Here come the standard reminders. You need permission to collect seed on areas that are not yours. We do not collect seed from rare plants. Also realize that seeds collected from a garden often are not 'pure', they have a chance to be cross pollinated by other nearby plants and thus are not appropriate for restoration. For those of you new to this activity, the seeds should be of California native plants. With all those caveats, it's still fun to collect and to plant. I am thrilled that I have germinated seeds this year from a *Fremontodendron* that I grew from seed several years ago. My babies are having babies!

Marti Rutherford

Last Time We Showed Aerial Photographs Recording Habitat Destruction. This time...... Evidence of the Triumph of Nature





(Above) Chorro Creek wetland restoration by Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District, 1994 to 2018 (Google Earth). This project not only helped restore the natural channel of the creek and vastly increased acreage of riparian woodland, but also captured much of the sediment that would otherwise have gone to filling Morro Bay.

(Below) A similar project on Los Osos Creek south of Turri Road by the Conservation District, 1994 to 2018 (Google Earth).





(Below) Changed land use on wetlands east of San Simeon State Park allow a willow woodland to expand eastward from the park boundary 2009-2021





Plant Sanitation - Sudden Oak Death Cindy Roessler

Stay local, keep your distance, sanitize, test, quarantine, variants . . . for the past year, we've been consumed with these terms in response to the Covid-19 virus spreading illness and death in human populations around the world. And the information keeps changing. Understandably, you may not have given much thought this year to the consequences of humans moving *plant diseases* around the world. With our new perspective toward disease transmission, now may be a good time to reflect on how our actions affect our wild plant neighbors, and how information can help us make better decisions. May 15, 16 and 17, 2021 (Saturday - Monday) are the dates for participating in the annual SOD Blitz in San Luis Obispo County (SLO), a citizen science project tracking the progress of Sudden Oak Death (SOD), an exotic disease that has killed more than 50 million oak and tanoak trees in California and southern Oregon.

The training and surveys for the SOD Blitz have been reformatted to be COVID-safe so you can collect information along the county's forested roads, trails, parks, or your own property to help protect native oaks and tanoaks in our county. Currently, the southernmost confirmed location of SOD-infected trees is along the coast nearly at the Monterey-SLO county line. The SOD pathogen has been detected in water samples of a few SLO County coastal streams in the last two years, so the hunt is on to find the trees that are shedding spores into San Simeon and Santa Rita Creeks. SOD spores have been found in San Carpoforo Creek for several years, likely flowing downstream from heavily infested Big Sur forests. In addition, a new variant of the SOD pathogen has been detected in northern California. Since this new European strain (EU1) is a more aggressive pathogen and more readily infects conifers, samples collected in the SOD Blitz this year will be tested for variant types.

Imagine yourself newly-trained as a Sudden Oak Death detective inspecting bay and tanoak trees along a rural road in San Luis Obispo County. You collect suspicious-looking bay leaves and seal them into sample envelopes. You carefully enter data on every blank of the survey sheet with the help of your new SODMAP cellphone application. Over the summer, pathologists in university labs will collect DNA from the diseased portions of the leaves you collected, and your survey results will be entered into a huge database. Will your survey points be the first to detect SOD-infested trees in SLO County and help land managers develop a coordinated early response? Will your negative results this year be the baseline from which future infestations are evaluated? Register for the 2021 SLO SOD Blitz here:

https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=29620

Yellow/ black/ dead tissue symptomatic banding on California Bay leaf: Photo U.C. California



Coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*) are the native trees most susceptible to SOD in California and over a period of several years, most of these trees can die in heavily-infested cool moist forests. Large numbers of dying tanoak trees were first noticed in the mid-1990s in the San Francisco Bay Area. Eventually, research determined the culprit of this seemingly sudden and large scale die-off of native oaks was *Phytophthora ramorum*, a fungus-like plant disease. Accidentally introduced to our wild forests originally from infected nursery stock, the tiny spores of the water mold are primarily spread by the wind from infected leaves of the California bay laurel (*Umbellularia californica*). Bay trees are not killed by this pathogen so over time, they can build up large levels of inoculum which has strategies to even survive dry years. *P. ram* spores blowing off tanoak trees also contribute to the disease cycle. Blue and valley oaks (*Q. douglasii* and *Q. lobata*) are other common native oaks in our county but being in the white oak group, they are not susceptible to SOD.

As the SOD infestation spread to other California counties, scientists at the University of California Berkeley created the SOD Blitz as a citizen science effort to map the year-to-year status of this relatively new disease. Now in its 14th year and originally one of the largest citizen scientist projects ever conducted, the SOD Blitz will occur this spring in 19 regions throughout California. Data collected in the SOD Blitzes not only tracks the path of the disease but also contributes information on disease dynamics under different weather, vegetation patterns, and human activities, and have helped researchers improve models to predict disease risk and prioritize SOD management efforts. In the SOD Blitzes, trained amateur citizen scientists have been found to successfully identify and collect SOD-infested leaves at rates similar to volunteers with scientific backgrounds. Even though I have participated in SOD research for 15 years, as a Blitzer you are just as likely to be the first person to find SOD-infected trees in our county. Furthermore, even negative results (no SOD present) are valuable because over years they set the reference point for change and comparison. (continued next page)

Plant Sanitation - Sudden Oak Death (continued)

With the SOD infestation currently known to the north in 16 California and 1 Oregon counties, why is it important to survey SLO County for SOD for a ninth year? Average precipitation during warm breezy spring days is not as high in SLO County as it is farther north where the SOD infestation has concentrated to date. Suitable moist forests with mild coastal climates vegetated by bay or tanoak trees mostly occur only in the northern part of SLO county and often along streams. Nevertheless, models predict that environmental conditions in SLO County may be suitable for spores to gradually build up over time and survive in a dormant state until occasional favorable climatic events allow them to dramatically increase, spread, and infect susceptible trees. If the edge of a new infestation is caught early enough, it may be possible to implement proactive measures to control it. For example, a few infested bay trees on a ridge could be removed if they are upwind of a valuable coast live oak forest. Studies have shown that removing bay foliage within five feet of an oak trunk greatly reduces the risk of the oak tree succumbing to SOD, so a homeowner could choose to selectively remove individual bay or tanoak trees in proximity to the heritage coast live oaks on their property. By closely tracking the current leading edge of the infestation in SLO County, researchers may learn more about the overall SOD disease cycle to help in future responses worldwide.

This is also a unique opportunity for us to participate in a well-designed citizen science project. Large amounts of data across a wide landscape are needed to accurately model disease dynamics especially of a relatively novel pathogen. There are only a few weeks in the warm wet spring that SOD symptoms are most readily observed on leaves, therefore, many people are needed to cover a large area in a short period of time. Plant pathologists and their budgets are able to cover a much larger area with the help of trained citizens. The methods used in the SOD Blitz split duties by abilities with the trained citizens spreading across the state to collect samples and environmental data, while the plant pathologists are responsible for the more stringent lab testing and data analysis. In the fall, every year, the SOD researchers share the results with participants and the general public through regional meetings (online during these Covid times). These results are also provided at the SOD Blitz website on maps and contribute to scientific studies and publications.

If you have any questions about the SOD Blitz in San Luis Obispo County, contact Cindy Roessler at skaaantics@yahoo.com or Kim Corella at kim.corella@fire.ca.gov. If you want to learn more about SOD, go to www.suddenoakdeath.org and www.treefaqs.org.

Are you ready to pick up your disease-fighting pen and clipboard and contribute to this effort? Register for the 2021 SLO SOD Blitz at https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=29620 where you will find links to the required 15-minute online training and guidelines on where to sample. All of the materials necessary for the training and collecting will be provided.

In a future article, I will cover Plant Sanitation Part 2 - Nursery Plants.

Invasive Species Report: Harding grass Phalaris aquaticae

Hardinggrass is in the Poaceae (grass) family. Other common names include bulbous canarygrass and toowoomba grass. *Phalaris* is Greek for grass. It is a big, vigorous, coarse perennial bunch grass growing to 5 ft tall with dense, spike-like panicles. (a panicle is a multi-branched inflorescence) and deep fibrous roots. Hardinggrass flowers from late spring to the end of summer. Reproduction is by seeds which fall near the parent plant. The seedbank is short lived: only two years. Compare that to the 50-year seedbank for veldt grass *Ehrharta calycina*.

Hardinggrass is native to Mediterranean Europe and was introduced to the US for foraging and to extend the grazing season on rangelands, and Uhg!, it has been used for revegetation after fires! The grass can also be cut, providing good quality fodder for grazing livestock for 8 to 12 months a year. Hardinggrass, unfortunately, has escaped in many locations. It grows in riparian areas, roadsides, ditch banks and pastures and is more invasive in coastal regions. Once it is established these large clumps of grass are competitive for water and space, displacing native species. Stands of its dry foliage can present a fire hazard in summer. In drought hardinggrass may develop toxic levels of alkaloids. In Australia, it is reported that kangaroos grazing on hardinggrass may develop a condition known as 'Phalaris staggers', where coordination and mobility are affected. Controls: Mechanical methods such as mowing or grazing or burning are useful for reducing the biomass for followup spraying. Effective chemical treatments include clethodim, fluazifop, glyphosate and imazapyr.

Mark Skinner



CONSERVATION UPDATE

OCEAN DUNES OHV ISSUES

As most of you know, the California Coastal Commission voted that off-road activity must cease in the dunes on the basis of multiple violations of the Coastal Plan and violation of protection of Sensitive Resource Areas. CNPS comments went to State Parks on their Public Works Plan and Draft EIR for that plan, and they extended thr comment period twice and have yet to publish the final EIR and its responses to our comments. This is going to be an Agency vs Agency court fight before these issues are resolved, and so we are keeping an eye on things and will send you updates. On April 20th the Friends of the Oceano Dunes (an OHV group) sued the Coastal Commission and State Parks over alleged CEQA issues, although the claims appear to be groundless.

DANA RESERVE

This highly impactful project just south of Willow Road in Nipomo has passed its first hurdle, as the pro-development majority on the Board of Supervisors is allowing to project to go ahead with development of a Draft EIR. The project would is inconsistent with a number of issues under the current General Plan, but the developer is asking for a General Plan Amendment to allow major changes in density. Several of the CNPS Conservation Committee attended a webinar held under County auspices where the developer 'presented' the project. This was a dog-and-pony show where the real issues were not even mentioned as issues... water, oak removal etc. but instead focused on relieving the housing shortage, imagined grocery stores and child care facilities in their commercial areas, horse trails in a development with no stables, and other superficial things. Neil Havlik of our committee wrote a letter of complaint to County Planning in their underwriting of this propaganda show. We will be on the lookout for the EIR scoping letter.

FIRE ISSUES IN CAMBRIA

Several of our members are actively engaged in trying to ensure that fuel break development in the Cambria Monterey pine forest is done in an ecologically sensitive way. This involves working with other organizations, including Cal Fire and local government agencies. This involves participating in surveys and reviewing reports on past fuel control actions that, in some cases, appear to have lacked follow-through. We are reminding them to control seed bank recruitment after broom removal, and this is a constant battle.

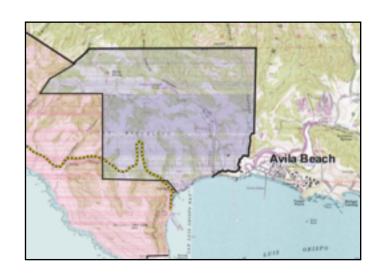
CALIFORNIA VEGETATION TREATMENT PROGRAM AND THE PROGRAMMATIC EIR (PEIR)

Members of our chapter are working with other chapters and CNPS conservation staff in Sacramento on best practices surrounding fuel break issues around houses and in the WUI (Wildlife-Urban Interface). CDF has put all this fire-prevention-and-control work on fast track following the disastrous fires of the last few years. A reading of the PEIR looks pretty good, as it seems to apply all the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act in terms of the conservation of plants and mitigation measures. The idea is that a local agency can seek the cover of the PEIR by using a simple check-off list, and in the case of rare plants, only take existing information such as plants recorded into the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) or otherwise recorded. Not only is CNDDB way behind on data entry, but much of the content is derived from CEQA related project analysis. Given that most fuel breaks will be on private land, and that no plant survey is to take place when the PEIR-linked project is being prepared for approval, we appear to give the agency proposing a PEIR-linked project to effectively do what it wants with the flora. If CNPS can independently provide information to local fire agencies based on CNPS surveys or local knowledge, then the agency would have to apply the protection standards of the PEIR.

WILD CHERRY CANYON

Our chapter is keeping an eye on the current legal dispute between the HomeFed Corporation and PG&E's Eureka Energy subsidiary concerning the terms of a land use lease. HomeFed wants to develop a large housing project, and the local conservation community wants this land and the adjoining PG&E lands to remain as open space. On the map, the HomeFed leases are the 5 violet-shaded parcels north of Avila Bay. Complicating this is the decommissioning of Diablo Canyon Power Station, the financial stability of PG&E and other issues.

The map comes from the Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel, which serves only in an advisory capacity.



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WE ALWAYS NEED PEOPLE TO HELP OUT. OUR MISSION IS VITAL AND OUR FLORA IS AT RISK CNPS SLO Chapter gratefully acknowledges French Hospital and the Copelands Health Education Pavilion for the use of their facilities for our Board meetings.

Protecting California's Native Flora since 1965

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide non-profit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's 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 and conservation. Membership is open to all. Membership includes the journal, *Fremontia*; the quarterly *Flora*, which gives statewide news and announcements of the activities and conservation issues, and the chapter newsletter, *Obispoensis*.



San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society P.O. Box 784 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406



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