

CNPS Conservation Symposium - Saturday September 8, 2018

Lee Vining Presbyterian Church - Lee Vining, CA

[8/13 3:41p]

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) has been working for over 50 years to conserve California's native plants and places. Each September, we hold an all-day symposium on current conservation issues. This year's event will take place in Lee Vining, CA on the east side of the Sierra Nevada mountains, on Saturday, September 8th. Speakers will highlight key conservation issues including CNPS southern California conservation, CNPS's work to establish a statewide Important Plant Area (IPA) map for California, and on-going conservation work by several groups on the East Side.

Conservation Symposium Agenda

8:30-9:00 Registration, Greetings, and Welcome
Light breakfast provided

Symposium Part 1: CNPS Conservation Program

9:00-9:30 Call to order & Introductions - Marty Foltyn, Greg Suba

9:30-10:00 CNPS Southern California Conservation, Nick Jensen
Providing a central voice for and leading coordination of southern California CNPS conservation, CNPS Southern California Conservation Analyst Nick Jensen will report on on-going and upcoming work in the southland.

10:00-10:30 *A new gap analysis of the California flora incorporating phylogenetic information: evolutionary diversification, divergence, and survival as conservation targets. Brent Mishler, Director University and Jepson Herbaria, UC-Berkeley Using phylogenetic diversity (PD) as a metric for biodiversity adds an important evolutionary dimension to traditional counts of species, yet PD itself has three distinct facets — lineage diversification, character divergence, and survival time — that can be quantified using distinct branch length metrics on an evolutionary tree. Each facet is related to different processes of macroevolution and is tied to distinct goals for conserving biodiversity and protecting its future resilience and evolutionary potential. We compared the landscapes identified as top conservation priorities by each of these three metrics in a conservation gap analysis for California native vascular plants. Our analysis incorporated a novel continuous metric of current land protection status, fine-scale data on landscape intactness, and an optimization algorithm used to identify complementary priority sites containing concentrations of taxa that are evolutionarily unique, vulnerable due to small range size, and/or poorly protected across their ranges.*

10:30-11:00 Break

11:00-11:30 CNPS Important Plant Areas (IPA) Program, Sam Young
Valuing what we know, conserving what we value. Identifying and mapping important plant areas is a global plant conservation strategy to achieve this vision. CNPS IPA Program Manager Sam Young will share how CNPS is developing IPAs for California.

11:30-12:00 CNPS Conservation in 2019: Legislative opportunities and challenges ahead, Alfredo Arredondo and Greg Suba
2019 will bring a new Governor and administration to California. CNPS Legislative Consultant Alfredo Arredondo will review our recently adjourned legislative session and forecast what opportunities and challenges lay ahead for 2019.

12:00-1:00 Lunch

Symposium Part 2: Conservation on the East Side

For years, individuals and organizations have advocated passionately to preserve the beauty and wild nature of California's East Side. We highlight organizations working on conservation of the East Side.

1:00-1:30 Bartshé Miller, Mono Lake Committee

1:30-2:00 April Sall, Director, Bodie Hills Conservation Partnership

2:00-2:30 Jason Canger, Mono County Counsel's Office
- an update on Mono County's Keep Long Valley Green campaign

2:30-3:00 BREAK

3:00-3:30 Jora Fogg, Friends of the Inyo

3:30-4:00 Kay Ogden, Eastern Sierra Land Trust

4:00-4:30 CNPS review of Inyo NF Plan Revision: Plant Species of Conservation Concern, Greg Suba

4:30-5:00 Closing remarks & Adjourn, Greg Suba

Evening Program

5:30-6:30 - Social hour at the church

6:30 to 7:30 - Catered dinner at the church

8:00-9:00 - Located at the Mono Basin Visitor Center Auditorium

Program with Cathy Rose: *"A Botanical Ramble through California to Rock Creek."*