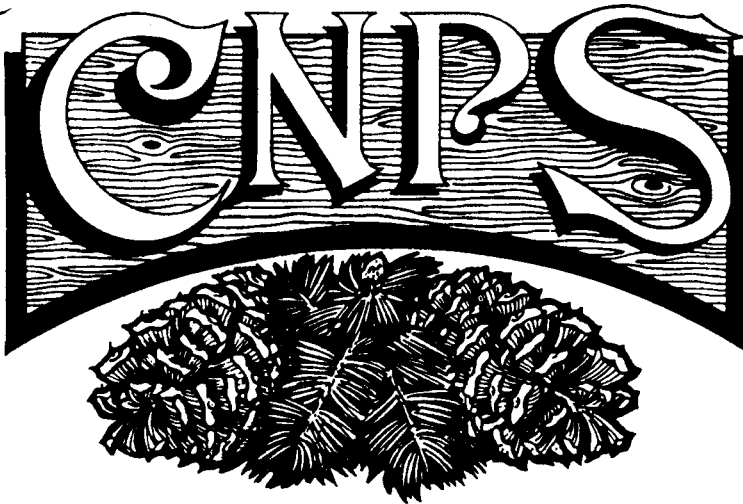


**BRISTLECONE • CHAPTER**



**NEWSLETTER**

Vol.8, No.6

November 1989

**NEXT CHAPTER MEETING**

Wednesday, ~~Sept. 27~~ <sup>Sept. 29</sup>

Potluck dinner at 6:30, Meeting begins at 7:30

Meet at the Big Pine Methodist Church Social Hall, corner of Crocker and North School streets (turn at the caution light on Hwy 395). The church hall will open at 6:00 for those who want to get set up and socialize before dinner which starts at 6:30.

For our program, we will have a slide show by our members. Please bring your favorite slides of plants or interesting places (no more than 10 slides per person).

The election of officers for 1990 will take place during the meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

**NEXT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

Monday, Nov. 20, 7:30 pm

Meet at Doris Fredendall's in Big Pine, located across from the Methodist Church on the west side of North School Street, three houses down from Crocker. This meeting usually includes chapter officers and committee chairs, but anyone interested is welcome to come and participate. Please call Doris ahead of time so she knows how many people to expect, phone 938-2787

\* \* \* \* \*

**RECYCLE FOR CNPS**

Bristlecone Chapter has an account set up at the new Manor Market recycling center on West Line St. in Bishop. When you take your stuff in, you can have your proceeds credited to the Bristlecone Chapter. It's an easy way to donate to a good cause. And it's an easy way to recycle your bottles, all household glass, cardboard, paper bags, aluminum cans and foil.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

The desert bill congressional field hearing in Bishop on Oct. 28 brought out a big crowd of people, both for and against the bill. I was pleased to see how many local people showed up in support. We were outnumbered, but the quality of our testimony was very good. Unfortunately, the Congressmen present were mostly strongly biased against the bill. Fortunately, there are many other committee members in favor of the bill who were not present in Bishop. I expect more of these members will be at the Barstow and Los Angeles hearings. If you have not already done so, please write to your Congressman (Thomas of Inyo is strongly against, Lehman in Mono is sort of for it) and to Bruce Vento, Chairman of the House Public Lands Subcommittee. Send letters to: House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

This is my last President's Message and I would like to thank all the chapter officers and chairpersons for their dedicated work this past year on behalf of our native plants. Thank you also to all the interested members who helped out and participated in our chapter activities. All of your efforts made my job easier and more rewarding. Thank you.

..... Mark Bagley



## CONSERVATION CORNER

Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink! (It all goes to Los Angeles.) A bit exaggerated, but I'm sure many of us feel that way, particularly near the end (middle?) of a prolonged drought. (The national weather service issued a 90-day forecast on November 1 in which it was predicted that no rain would fall in the southwest quarter of the United States!)

So, we'd better have a water agreement that we can live with that at least allows Los Angeles (City) and Inyo (County) to maintain what we have rather than to leave it to an unknown fate in future court battles or possible adverse legislation favoring a hostile and uncontrolled city.

EIP Associates in San Francisco has been retained by the City to prepare a comprehensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the City's water operations in the Owens Valley. The County has equal access to the firm to provide input and review of the document all along the way to its issuance in February. We trust that the County's input will be given equal weight to the City's, even though the City is paying for it. The public (that's us, folks) will be given 60 days to review and comment on it. You can bet that we and the other environmental organizations and the public in general will use this opportunity to the best advantage.

In order to help make it possible to detect slow degradation of the environment we would urge that the EIR address the establishment of permanent plots for each of the plant communities. These plots would be used as a reference to help determine if degradation was occurring elsewhere in the nearby well fields. These reference plots would have to be located where pumping would have no effect whatsoever on them and their conditions would depend entirely on the vagaries of the weather.

In addition, we would also urge that the mitigation aspects of the program include preparation of management for endangered plants and animals along with provisions for putting such plans into effect.

All in all, the next six months are crucial indeed for the well-being of the Owens River watershed.

..... Vince Yoder, Conservation Chairman

.....  
**NEW MEMBERS**

We extend a warm welcome to those who have joined us this month:

- Irene Beres, Bishop
  - Joyce Corey, Lone Pine
  - George J. Conley, Long Beach
  - Carolyn Honer, Santa Ana
  - Carolyn M. Owen, Seal Beach
  - Janet Westbrook, Ridgecrest
  - Irene Yamashita, Bishop
- .....

**Editor's note:** The last field trip reports will be held until the next issue. Be with us in January to enjoy the accounts of fall outings.

Alabama Hills Wet Area

In mid-September Mary DeDecker and I made a trip to a very special area of granite ridges and boulders with intersperced seeps, springs, and wetlands just north of Lubken Creek. This is such an exceptional area that we believe that issuing a plant list for it at this time is warranted. Some plants we found in bouldery areas and their nearby dry borders are also included.

ADIANTACEAE -- Fern Family

*Cheilanthes covillei* Coville lip fern

APIACEAE -- Parsley Family

*Berula erecta* Berula

APOCYNACEAE -- Dogbane Family

*Apocynum cannabinum* var. *glaberrimum* Hemp

ASCLEPIADACEAE -- Milkweed Family

*Asclepias fascicularis* Narrow-leafed milkweed

*A. speciosa* Showy milkweed

ASTERACEAE -- Sunflower Family

*Artemisia ludoviciana* var. *albula* White mugwort

*A. tridentata* Basin sagebrush

*Aster hesperius* Marsh aster

*A. intricatus* Broom aster

*Brickellia microphylla* Sweet brickellia

*B. multiflora* Inyo brickellbush

*Chrysothamnus nauseosus* Rubber rabbitbrush

*C. teretifolius* Green rabbitbrush

*Cichorium intybus* Chicory

*Cirsium mohavense* Desert thistle

*Conyza canadensis* Horseweed

*Ericameria cooperi* Cooper goldenbush

Syn. *Haplopappus cooperi*

*E. cuneata* Rock goldenbush

Syn. *Haplopappus cuneatus*

*Gutierrezia microcephala* Matchweed

*Helianthus annuus* ssp. *jaegeri* Sunflower

*Hymenoclea salsola* Cheeze-bush

*Iva axilaris* Poverty weed

*Solidago spectabilis* Basin goldenrod

*Xanthium strumarium* Cocklebur

BRASSICACEAE -- Mustard Family

*Nasturtium officinale* Water-cress

Syn. *Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum*

CAPPARACEAE -- Caper Family

*Cleomella parviflora* Small-flowered stinkweed

CHENOPODIACEAE -- Goosefoot Family

*Atriplex confertifolia* Shadscale  
*A. parryi* Parry saltbush  
*Bassia hyssopifolia* Bassia  
*Grayia spinosa* Hop-sage  
*Nitrophylla occidentalis* Alkali pink  
*Salsola paulsenii* Barbwire Russian thistle

CUSCUTACEAE -- Dodder Family

*Cuscuta indecora* var. *neuropetala* Pretty dodder  
*C. pentagona* var. *calycina* Field dodder

CYPERACEAE -- Sedge Family

*Eleocharis parishii* Parish spike-rush

EPHEDRACEAE -- Ephedra Family

*Ephedra nevadensis* Nevada ephedra

FABACEAE -- Pea Family

*Glycyrrhiza lepidota* Wild licorice  
*Lotus corniculatus* Bird's-foot trefoil  
*Mililotus alba* White sweet clover  
*Trifolium wormskioldii* Cow clover

GERANIACEAE -- Geranium Family

*Erodium cicutarium* Red-stemmed filaree

JUNCACEAE -- Rush Family

*Juncus balticus* var. *mexicanus* Mexican rush

LAMIACEAE -- Mint Family

*Mentha arvensis* Spearmint  
*Stachys albens* White hedge-nettle

LEMNACEAE -- Duckweed Family

*Lemna minuta* Minute duckweed

LILIACEAE -- Lily Family

*Calochortus excavatus* Alkali mariposa  
*Smilacena stellata* Star-flower

LYTHRACEAE -- Loosestrife Family

*Lythrum californicum* Common loosestrife

MALVACEAE -- Mallow Family

*Sidalcea covillei* Owens Valley mallow  
*Sphaeralcea ambigua* Apricot mallow

OLEACEAE -- Olive Family

*Forestierra neomexicana* Desert olive  
*Fraxinus velutina* Desert ash  
Syn. var. *coriaceae*

ONAGRACEAE -- Evening Primrose Family

- Epilobium ciliatum* Valley epilobium  
*E. paniculatum* Forked epilobium  
*Oenothera hookeri* ssp. *angustifolia* Tall yellow evening primrose

ORCHIDACEAE -- Orchid Family

- Epipactis gigantea* Giant orchis

PLANTAGINACEAE -- Plantain Family

- Plantago major* Common plantain

POACEAE -- Grass Family

- Agrostis scabra* Ticklegrass  
*Distichlis spicata* Salt-grass  
*Leymus cinereus* Ashy wildrye  
 Syn. *Elymus cinereus*  
*Lolium perene* English ryegrass  
*Phragmites australis* Common reed  
 Syn. *P. communis*  
*Sporobolus airoides* Alkali sacaton  
*Stipa speciosa* Desert needlegrass

POLYGONACEAE -- Buckwheat Family

- Oxytheca perfoliata* Saucer plant  
*Polygonum persicaria* Lady's thumb

RANUNCULACEAE -- Buttercup Family

- Aquilegia shockleyi* Mojavi columbine  
*Clematis ligusticifolia* var. *brevifolia* Virgin's bower

RHAMNACEAE -- Buckthorn Family

- Rhamnus californica* ssp. *cuspidata* Coffeeberry

ROSACEAE -- Rose Family

- Prunus andersonii* Desert peach  
*Rosa woodsii* var. *gratissima* Wild rose

SALICACEAE -- Willow Family

- Salix exigua* Narrow-leaved willow  
*s. gooddingii* Valley willow  
*S. lasiolepis* Arroyo willow

SAURURACEAE -- Lizzard-tail Family

- Anemopsis californica* Yerba mansa

SCROPHULARIACEAE -- Figwort Family

- Castilleja linariaefolia* Long-leaved paintbrush  
*Mimulus cardinalis* Scarlet mimulus  
*M. guttatus* Common monkey-flower  
*Scrophularia desertorum* Desert figwort  
 Syn. *S. californica* var. *desertorum*  
*Veronica americana* American brooklime

SOLANACEAE -- Nightshade Family

*Lycium andersonii* Desert tomato  
*L. cooperi* Peach-thorn  
*Solanum nodiflorum* Small-flowered nightshade

URTICACEAE -- Nettle Family

*Urtica dioica* ssp. *gracilis* var. *holosericea* Stinging nettle  
Syn. *U. holosericea*

VIOLACEAE -- Violet Family

*Viola nephrophylla* Northern bog violet

More taxa will continue to be discovered, of course. It is proposed to lead a field trip here in the spring so that all can appreciate these wetlands in this otherwise arid setting.

. . . . . Vince Yoder

POLITICS VS. REASON

In our September newsletter we named 18 species recommended for listing as threatened or endangered in the State of California. The decisions on listing were to be made by the Fish and Game Commission at their October 6 meeting. Each proposal had been well researched and fully justified. We are glad to report that 15 of those named were approved for listing. But we are thoroughly disgusted over the unprofessional attitude shown in regard to the other three, Abronia alpina, Oryctes nevadensis, and Cupressus forbesii. Those who were present at the hearing were incredulous over the ignorance and arrogance displayed by the commissioners. The remark that "Oryctes is a little plant 'way over on the other side of the mountains, so why worry about it" was hardly an appropriate comment. Perhaps we should be in Nevada where more sensitivity is shown toward endangered plants. There they recommend Oryctes for federal listing.

There is something terribly wrong when the fate of a rare species is dependent on the whims of an untrained, highly political body, completely indifferent to their responsibility to the public. As is typical of the ignorant, the commissioners discredited the input from those who did understand the plants in question. They were insulting to professional people.

The behavior of the commissioners is a serious flaw in the credibility of the California Department of Fish and Game. That agency employs many fine, well-trained people, capable of making wise decisions. Why are they not given the responsibility of determining state listings? It seems time to show our political power. Letters to Governor Deukmejian are suggested.

. . . . . Mary DeDecker  
Rare Plant Chairman

## TEMPTING COURSES

**Mildred Mathias, Emeritus Botany Professor from UCLA**, tropical botanist, and friend to many in CNPS, is leading a trip to Costa Rica in early to mid-February 1990. She will visit Dan Janzen's world-famous project in the dry tropical forest at Santa Rosa on the Pacific Coast, a coastal site near the Panamanian border, and a cloud forest at Monteverde on the continental spine. An extension can be made to see the beautiful rain forest on the Atlantic Coast. This is a great opportunity for a botanical adventure in Costa Rica with a world class instructor.

For information: Yvette Cloutier  
21225 Pacific Coast Highway, Suite A  
Malibu, CA 90265 (213) 452-2130

### **PLANT ECOLOGY AND THE VEGETATION OF THE EASTERN SIERRA**

will be offered in Bishop through Cal State Bakersfield starting January 8 and continuing for 10 weeks. The course earns 5 quarter units and will meet on Mondays. For more information contact the instructor, **Carla Scheidlinger at (619) 873-8439** or **CSUB Representative at 938-2313**

#### **Course description:**

The eastern Sierra region encompasses a variety of plant habitats, including desert scrub, riparian and alkali wetlands, and montane and alpine communities. This course will introduce the principles of plant ecology that govern the distribution of plant species in these habitats.

The role of climate, soils, water, elevation, disturbance, and species interaction will be considered. Other topics include evolution, succession, community structure, and local and global conservation issues. There will be some field and lab exercises, but this is not intended as a plant identification course.

#### **Content:**

Major content areas include the history of ecology and its development as a science, species interactions, community attributes and methods for describing them, productivity, plant-soil interactions and mineral cycles, physical determinants of plant distribution (light, temperature, and water), disturbance factors that affect vegetation, and the distribution of major vegetation types both globally and locally.

**CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY - Membership Application**

The California Native Plant Society is an organization of lay persons and professionals united by an interest in the plants of California. It is open to all. The Society, working through its local chapters, seeks to increase understanding of California's native flora and to preserve this rich resource for future generations. Varied interests are represented.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. or Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Category:**

_____ Life, Couple	\$500	I wish to be affiliated with the Bristlecone Chapter _____
_____ Life, Individual	450	
_____ Supporting	50	
_____ Household	30	Other _____
_____ Individual or Library	18	
_____ Student or Retired	12	
_____ Retired Couple	15	

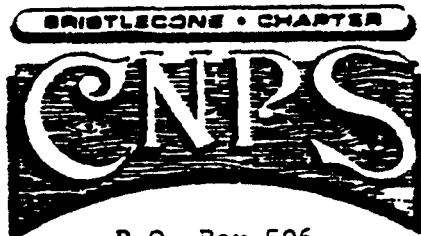
Please make check payable to:  
California Native Plant Society

Mail to: Bristlecone Chapter, CNPS  
P.O. Box 506  
Independence, CA 93526

GIFT contribution: Where most  
needed \_\_\_\_\_ Conservation \_\_\_\_\_

The BRISTLECONE NEWSLETTER comes out bimonthly. It is mailed free to members of the Bristlecone Chapter, CNPS. The subscription is \$5.00 per year for others.  
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California Native Plant Society



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