

**DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE CALIFORNIA  
NATIVE FLORA**

## The California Native Plant Society



### Bristlecone Chapter

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**Volume 28 No. 3  
May/June 2007**

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#### Next Chapter Meeting

Our next chapter meeting will be May 30 at 7:00 PM at the White Mtn. Research Station on 3000 East Line Street. Our speaker will be Kathleen Nelson, Forest Botanist for the Inyo National Forest. Kathleen will present a program about the "Rare Plants of the Inyo National Forest."

#### Next Board Meeting

The Bristlecone Chapter Board meeting will meet on Wednesday May 23, at 7:00 PM at the USFS/BLM Conference Room, 351 Pacu Lane in Bishop. Everyone is welcome.

#### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Our chapter is reaching out in a new way this spring to share our interest in native plants. On Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> members will host a booth at the Home Show in Bishop. Our booth will include our kiosk which shows our chapter activities, an excellent exhibit on creosote developed by Kathy LaShure from the Creosote Ring sub-chapter, and a display of local native plants in bloom. The backdrop for our booth will be a new chapter banner designed and created by EvelynMae Nicolaus. Thanks go to our education chairman Edyth Irvine for organizing this outreach project. If you come to the Home Show, be sure to visit our booth.

On May 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>, members of California Garden Clubs, Inc. from all over California will be in Bishop for their annual meeting Operation Wildflower. Our chapter was invited to host an information booth at their meeting with brochures, books and posters. Two of our members, Kathleen Nelson and Stephen Ingram will be giving programs. Our chapter will provide field trip guides for those members who do not participate in the trip planned to the bristlecones. It's a perfect opportunity to spotlight our Mary DeDecker Native Plant Garden in full bloom.

I hope you will plan to attend the field trips on May 20<sup>th</sup> in the Alabama Hills and at Manzanar National Historic Site and the noon potluck at Betty Gilchrist's home. (See details inside under "field trips" and on our website [www.bristleconecnps.org](http://www.bristleconecnps.org).) The potluck provides an opportunity for members from our entire chapter to get together. Hope to see you there.

.....Sherryl Taylor



## 2007 Bristlecone Chapter Spring and Summer Field Trips

**May 20, Sunday, Alabama Hills and Potluck Lunch with Creosote Ring Subchapter.** Leaders: Mark Bagley & Richard Potashin. The Alabama Hills, just west of Lone Pine, feature scenic clusters of smooth, weathered bouldery hills scattered in the alluvial outwash below the Sierra Nevada. In addition to spectacular vistas of both the Sierra and the Inyo Range to the east, it has four major perennial streams and a number of springy areas which provide for some wet meadows and localized seeps that harbor three CNPS listed sensitive plants. The trip will be easy walking in separate morning and afternoon sessions. A potluck lunch will be held at Betty Gilchrist's house in the Alabama Hills, 851 Shahar Ave. Bring something to share for the potluck. In the afternoon we'll mix wildflowers with history at Manzanar National Historic Site. You're welcome to just come for the potluck and the afternoon part of the trip if you like. Meet at 9:00 am at the Lone Pine Park parking lot on the north end of town, or to carpool from the south, at 7:45 am at the Inyokern Post Office parking lot. For more information contact Sherryl Taylor at (760) 924-8742 or [staylor@npgcable.com](mailto:staylor@npgcable.com).

**June 3, Sunday. Highway clean-up.** Leader: Scott Hetzler. Meet at the intersection of Highway 395 and Pine Creek Rd., west of 395, at 9.00 AM. We will try to be done by 1:00 PM. For more information contact Scott at (760) 873-8392.

**June 9, Saturday. Inyo Mountains Odyssey.** Leader: Jerry Zatorski. This will be an exploration of the central Inyo Mts. With the short but steep hike from Mazourka Canyon to the crest, we will go from Mojave flora to Great Basin flora in just a few miles. The ultimate goal will be Seep Hole Spring just on the eastern side of the crest with its breath taking views of Saline Valley and the desert beyond. The

numerous shrub species and unusual combination of trees species on the crest will be just some of the highlights. This is a difficult 7 mile hike, bring plenty of water, lunch, sunscreen and hat. We should be down by afternoon. We will meet at the Citrus St. Park on the south side of Independence at 8:00 AM to carpool, high clearance vehicles and 4WD recommended. For more information contact Jerry Zatorski at (760) 872-3818 or [jerryzat@verizonmail.com](mailto:jerryzat@verizonmail.com).

**June 24, Sunday, Coyote Ridge.** Leader: Lizzy Wenk. This hike will follow the old pipeline and then the trail past Brown Lake and Green Lake up to Coyote Ridge - about 3 miles and 2000 feet of elevation each direction. We'll botanize on the walk up and then wander around the plateau. The many different rock types mean there is a great diversity of species to enjoy. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 8:30 am at South Lake to begin hike. For more information contact Lizzy at (760) 873-6263.

**June 23, Saturday. White Mountains Meadow Exploration.** Leader: Todd Vogel. In conjunction with Friends of the Inyo. Come meander through the aspen forests, limber and bristlecone pine forests and mazes of connected meadows that make up the ecological heart of the White Mountains in Cottonwood Basin. Moderately difficult 7 mile round trip. Meet at 7:30 am at the Big Pine Triangle Campground to carpool into the Whites. For more information, contact Todd Vogel at (760) 873-6500 or [todd@friendsoftheinyo.org](mailto:todd@friendsoftheinyo.org).

**July 14, Saturday. North Fork Big Pine Creek.** Leader: John Smiley. This will be a fairly strenuous all-day hike with the goal of reaching Sam Mack Meadow, although participants can drop out at any time to enjoy the incredible scenery and rushing waters of Big Pine Creek. The botanic focus of the trip will be a discussion of the

amazing variety of willows in the drainage (12+ species), and how they can support an equally fascinating community of colorful insects. Bring your willow keys and/or descriptions if you have them! Meet at Glacier Lodge trailhead (not the backpacker trailhead) at 8 am, and we should be back down to the trailhead by 6 pm. Bring food and a jacket, and water if you don't want to drink out of the creek. Total elevation gain is about 3500' and the distance is about 15 miles, so be prepared to be tired by the end of the day! For more information contact John at (760) 873-4344 or [jsmiley@wmrs.edu](mailto:jsmiley@wmrs.edu).

**July 21, Saturday. Convict Lake to Broken Bridge.** Leaders: Cathy Rose and Sherryl Taylor. Be ready for wild drama! As we leave the backpacker's parking lot and proceed toward Convict Lake, we will be greeted with spectacular views of Laurel Mountain and Mt. Morrison and then of the lake itself. Leaving the pinyon pine, juniper and white fir behind, we will follow the trail up along Convict Creek, with Red Slate Mountain rising before us, through limber pine, red fir and abundant black cottonwoods while searching for a disjunct population of bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) and other plants of interest. We'll stop for lunch near the broken bridge at the confluence of Genevieve and Convict Creeks where we can perch on red metamorphics with the creek roaring below us. Meet in the Convict Lake backpacker's parking lot at 9:00 AM. The trip will end around 3:00 PM. Bring lunch and water for this moderately strenuous hike. For more information contact Cathy at (760) 935-4329 or Sherryl at [staylor@npgcable.com](mailto:staylor@npgcable.com).

**FIELD TRIP POLICIES:** For all field trips, be sure to bring plenty of water, lunch, good walking shoes or boots, and appropriate clothing for hot sun and/or inclement weather. Also useful would be a hand lens, binoculars, camera, floras, and plant lists. Trips will leave at the time announced, so please arrive at the meeting sites a few minutes early. Unless indicated, the average car should do fine. Car pooling is

encouraged. Everyone is welcome, but not pets. For general questions on field trips or if you would like to lead a trip, please call Jerry Zartoski at (760) 872-3818 or write [jerryzat@verizonmail.com](mailto:jerryzat@verizonmail.com).

## ADDITIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS

### *Summer Sojourn in the White Mountains – August 11-12, 2007*

The first SUMMER Sojourn is an event the Bristlecone Board is very excited about – a Sojourn in a different season, at new location, with all new field trips, and a focus on alpine plants. Like the spring Sojourns past, there will be lots of blooms, interesting conversations, spectacular vistas, an outstanding evening speaker, varied field trips and great food. We hope you will join us.

The Sojourn will begin at 11:30 on Saturday, August 11 at White Mountain Research Station Crooked Creek Facility, located in the ancient bristlecone pine forest. Afternoon field trips will be followed by a social hour, dinner and a program presented by Dr. Connie Millar. After a good night sleep either in the dorms or in your own tent if you prefer, you will have breakfast, pack a lunch and be off on a field trip that will last through mid-afternoon. The cost for the Sojourn including accommodations and three meals is \$100. To obtain a registration packet which includes a registration form, email Sherryl Taylor at [staylor@npgcable.com](mailto:staylor@npgcable.com). If you do not have email, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Sherryl at P.O. Box 1638, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. As space is limited, please register soon.



## GOLDEN TROUT NATURAL HISTORY WORKSHOP

Naturalist-led hikes exploring botany, geology and birds in the Eastern Sierra's Golden Trout Wilderness above Lone Pine. At 10,000 feet elevation, this walk-in camp (three mile hike) offers tented cabins and all meals as you dayhike in the Cottonwood Lakes Basin area. Three one week sessions :

- June 24 - June 30
- July 1 - July 7
- July 8 - July 14

\$395 per week. Reserve early - we often fill up quickly. Call Paul at (805)668.8344, email [paul.roark@verizon.net](mailto:paul.roark@verizon.net) or visit the web site at <[www.1startists.com/gtc](http://www.1startists.com/gtc)>. Golden Trout Natural History Workshop is a 501c3 non-profit.

### CONSERVATION

"DWP proposes to violate Interim Management Plan."

In the past two newsletter articles I've written about the disastrous Interim Management Plan (IMP) which now supersedes the existing groundwater management protocols of the Inyo-LA Long-Term Water Agreement (LTWA) for the next three years. I lamented the fact that the IMP's goal is simply to maintain existing water table drawdowns, as opposed to recovering water tables as required under the LTWA.

DWP just released its first annual operations plan for groundwater management written under the auspices of the IMP. Do any readers think the plan is consistent with the IMP's goal of maintaining or raising water tables relative to their current (April 2007) level?! (Hint — does DWP have a good track record in complying with water management agreements with Inyo County?!)

DWP proposes to implement the IMP by – you guessed it – lowering water tables in six of seven affected wellfields! With the ink scarcely dry on the IMP, DWP now proposes to make existing drawdowns, which have persisted almost two decades, even deeper!

What will Inyo County do?

Supervisors are scheduled on May 1 to "give direction" to the Inyo County Water Department regarding how to respond to DWP's proposal I suggest it is a foregone conclusion that Inyo won't challenge DWP's proposal. There's simply no reason to think the fear which has so often controlled Inyo's relations with LA in the recent past has dissipated.

The only question in my mind is what rationalizations Inyo County leadership will come up with to justify their expected failure to challenge DWP's violation of the IMP. I predict the excuses will be made:

- 1) Inyo shouldn't argue about the annual pumping plan because it will take too much Water Department Staff time and staff won't be able to work with DWP on the new management plan (due in 2010)
- 2) The proposed drawdowns aren't nearly as large as the existing drawdowns so therefore they're acceptable
- 3) It's only 3 years until we have a new management plan – things will be OK until then.
- 4) DWP's proposed pumping is much less than that of some years in the past – we should be grateful to them for reducing their pumping rather than challenging them

I truly hope my cynicism proves to be unjustified and that, in the next issue, I can report that Inyo Supervisors insisted on pumping reductions. But if you believe

they're going to do that, I've got some swampland you might be interested in buying...

.....Daniel Pritchett, Conservation Chair

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## Please Join Project BudBurst

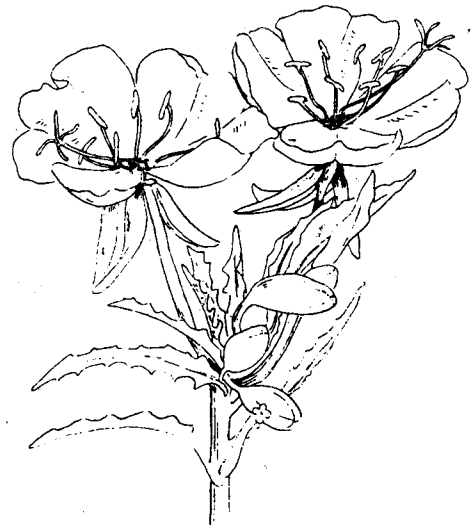
### Is spring here yet?

This spring, people across the nation will join this effort in collecting important climate change data on the timing of leafing and flowering of trees and flowers through Project BudBurst! This national citizen science field campaign targets native tree and flower species across the country. By recording the timing of the leafing and flowering of native species each year, scientists can learn about the prevailing climatic characteristics in a region over time. With your help, we will be compiling valuable environmental information that can be compared to historical records to illustrate the effects of climate change.

Project BudBurst is ideal for teachers and students, families interested in participating in a science project, scouts and 4-H groups, gardening clubs, botanical gardens....anyone or any group with an interest in contributing to a socially and scientifically relevant research study. You'll find all the information you need to participate in Project BudBurst at [www.budburst.org](http://www.budburst.org).

So join us this spring (April through June) and be part of the Project BudBurst community! Project Budburst is a collaborative effort of the Chicago Botanic Garden, Plant Conservation Alliance, ESRI,

National Science Foundation, National Phenology Network, UCAR Office of Education and Outreach, University of Arizona, University of Montana, University of California – Santa Barbara, University of Wisconsin – Madison, and Windows to the Universe. U.S. Bureau of Land Management provided funding for the spring 2007 event.



**Next Newsletter Deadline: June 28<sup>th</sup>**

### 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 the understanding of California's native flora and to preserve this rich resource for future generations. Varied interests are represented.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. Box or Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
I wish to be affiliated with the Bristlecone Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

#### Bristlecone Chapter Directory

#### Membership Category

<input type="checkbox"/> Student, Limited Income	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/> International	\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family, Group, or Library	\$75.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	\$75.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Lover	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$300.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$600.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Mariposa Lily	\$1,500.00

President – Sherryl Taylor (760) 924-8742
Vice President - Cheryl Chipman (760)
Secretary – Denise Waterbury – (760) 873-4344
Treasurer - Rosanne Higley (760) 387-2803
Membership – Diana Pietrasanta - (760) 873-6262
Newsletter Editor - Anne Halford - (760) 873-6714
Conservation - Daniel Pritchett - (760) 873-8943
Plant Communities - Sally Manning - (760) 873-3790
Invasive Weeds - Brian Cashore - (760) 387-2789
Legislation – Kathy Duvall- (760) 387-2122
Education - Edyth Irvine (760) 924-5778
Programs – Cheryl Chipman (760) 760-872-7636
Field Trips – Jerry Zatorski (760) 872-3818
Decker Native Plant Garden – Jerry Zatorski (760) 872-3818
Publicity – Ann Fulton – (760) 873-9261
Historian – Ann Fulton (760) 873-9261
Librarian - EvelynMae Nikolaus - (760) 878-2149
Rare Plant Committee - 2007 Chair. – Anne Halford (760) 873-6714 hm., (760) 872-5022 wk.
Book Sales - Sue Weis (760) 873-3485
Posters – Stephen Ingram (760) 387-2913
Kathy LaShure, Creosote Ring Sub-chapter Coordinator, (760) 377-4541

Please make membership checks payable to and send to:

CNPS – Membership Coordinator  
2707 K. Street, Suite 1  
Sacramento, CA 95816

**Gift Contribution:** Where most needed \_\_\_\_\_ Conservation \_\_\_\_\_

**THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY** ([www.bristleconecnps.org](http://www.bristleconecnps.org)) Bristlecone Chapter Newsletter comes out bimonthly. It is mailed free to members of the Bristlecone Chapter, CNPS. The subscription is \$5.00 per year for non-members and can be obtained by sending newsletter subscriptions to CNPS. P.O. Box 364, Bishop, CA 93515-0364. Send newsletter articles not memberships to Newsletter Editor Anne Halford at 312 Shepard Lane, Bishop, CA 93514 - or email to: [kasch@cebridge.net](mailto:kasch@cebridge.net)

**The California Native Plant Society**  
Bristlecone Chapter  
P.O. Box 364  
Bishop, CA 93515-0364  
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