



## Bristlecone Chapter

*Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora*

# The California Native Plant Society

Bristlecone Chapter Newsletter

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**Volume 39, No. 5**  
**September-October 2018**

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## President's Message, September 2018

I hope everyone has been able to find ways to survive the summer's excessive smoke and heat. Over these past few months when I awoke to hazy smoke (or worse) and temperatures already in the 80's by 7 am, I had to remind myself to be thankful that those fires were not immediately near me.

This wild and hot summer has had some benefits for some plants. There were much fewer squash bugs in my yard for the first time. The native plants at the station were less plagued by the insects as well. The fruit trees were loaded. I can joyfully "complain" about how much work is ahead of me as my peach, pear and apple trees are ripening – come winter I will appreciate all that preserved fruit.

In researching how to deal with the plentiful fruit, I came across an interesting article on the University of California Cooperative Extension website titled "Cities in California Inland Areas Must Make Street Tree Changes to Adapt to Future Climate" by Igor Lacan, a UC environmental horticultural advisor in the Bay Area. In his research, Lacan found that many common street trees are unlikely to persist in the warmer climate that is predicted by 2099. The article has a chart of cities and what their climates will be like in the future (of course Bishop is not on the list). Riverside, Stockton and Susanville are going to be like Barstow, and Barstow will be like El Centro, which will be like Furnace Creek. Our extreme heat days (over 103.9 °F) are going to increase on average from 4 to 24 days a year and the snow water equivalent is going to drop from 4.0" to 0.1". For me, these numbers just reinforce what I already believe – our local climate is going to get hotter and drier.

In order to prepare for this scenario it makes sense to plant trees that can get by on less water; reduce our water use now so we can hold onto more of our groundwater for later. As our ill-adapted landscape trees, such as cypress and silver birch, die, we should

replace them with natives that can tolerate a lot less water and warmer temperatures.

--Katie Quinlan

## Conservation

In March 2018, Los Angeles Water and Power (LADWP) announced that ten leases to ranchers, encompassing 6,400 acres of land in Long Valley and Little Round Valley, would be reissued without assurances of water for stock use or irrigation. This summer, LADWP provided approximately 4,500 acre-feet of water for those leases. This was an abrupt change in policy in from the past 70 years which has been to provide water based on annual run-off, with up to 32,000 acre-feet possible.

The Mono County Board of Supervisors (BOS) voted unanimously at their Tuesday, August 7 meeting in favor of all the following seven options:

- 1A. Approve proposed letter to LADWP Commission President Mel Levine correcting inaccurate information contained in various communications regarding this issue; provide any desired direction to staff.*
- 1B. Approve proposed letter to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti thanking him for his attempts to encourage a negotiated solution with LADWP but informing him that the negotiations between the County and LADWP have ended without Mono County's concerns having been addressed; provide any desired direction to staff.*
- 2A. Continue outreach to elected officials, agencies and others to further a political/collaborative solution;*
- 2B. Continue participation with interested parties including environmental organizations, recreational groups, wildlife agencies, state and federal representatives, ranchers and others to coordinate efforts in response to LADWP's actions;*
- 2C. Pursue state and/or federal legislation restraining LADWP's actions in Mono County to protect the natural environment and related Eastern Sierra values;*
- 2D. Pursue the development of a long-term water management plan for Long Valley and Little Round*

*Valley based on sound science to protect environmental and other Eastern Sierra values; and/or 2E. File litigation against LADWP to restrain LADWP's actions this year and prevent further harm.*

**(For a full report of the meeting, read the Sierra Wave article at <https://tinyurl.com/ybryqsew>)**

Since LADWP's announcement of new lease terms, Mono County BOS members have contacted Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, LADWP Water Commission president Mel Levine, and several state and federal agencies and elected officials. State and federal responses have been supportive of Mono County BOS concerns. LADWP's response in public comments in letters and press releases is that drought and climate change make past water management policies by LADWP no longer workable for rate payers in Los Angeles. There is no more "surplus" or "free" water for commercial agricultural interests.

Mono and Inyo County citizens spoke out at length in opposition to LADWP's sudden withdrawal of water from the ten leases, as did some people from outside the Eastern Sierra. In the view of those commenting, the past 70 years of LADWP policy have created wet meadows that are de facto replacement of meadows lost with the creation of Lake Crowley. The meadows provide grazing for livestock and habitat for species such as the Bi-State Sage Grouse. LADWP is not seeking long-term solutions, nor acting in good faith toward its neighbors in the Eastern Sierra. Instead, LADWP's history is to challenge all limits on the water it owns, by policy or legal strategy, until forced to accept sustainable policies for both the Owens Valley and Los Angeles. Mitigation after unacceptable impacts instead of adaptation with stakeholder collaboration ends up being expensive and often unsuccessful. Speakers also worried about what is just one more effort in LADWP's plan to export more water from the broader Owens Valley.

The Bristlecone Chapter of California Native Plant Society (CNPS) and members can take action on this issue, which is linked to debate about water throughout the Eastern Sierra.

\* Contact Mayor Eric Garcetti and all members of the LADWP Board of Commissioners (please see the following contact info.) about your concerns.

Mayor Eric Garcetti:  
200 N. Spring St, Los Angeles CA 90012  
[mayer.garcetti@lacity.org](mailto:mayer.garcetti@lacity.org)

Mel Levine, President  
Jill Banks Barad, Commissioner  
Christina Noonan, Commissioner  
Aura Vasquez, Commissioner  
LADWP  
Room 1555-H 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
111 Hope St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

\* Join the coalition of ranchers, Benton Paiute Tribe, environmental groups, Mono County representatives and others to participate in a full assessment of impacts of the abrupt withdrawal of water from the ten livestock leases, which have fostered wet meadows in Long Valley and Little Round Valley.

\* Work with the state CNPS to gain advocates outside the Eastern Sierra for sustainable water practices in Mono and Inyo Counties.

--Edie Trimmer

## Field Trip Report

### June 30. Brown and Green Lakes with Sue Weis.

A group of about 15 hikers, including locals and visitors from southern California, hiked from the South Lake parking area along the somewhat challenging pipeline trail to Brown and Green Lakes. The trip was a joint outing of the Range of Light Group of the Sierra Club and the Bristlecone Chapter; we enjoyed meeting new people and melding the two styles of hiking. The weather was great and the trail had very few hikers apart from our group.



Sue Weis in the lead (front right). Photo by Joanne Hihn.



In the parking lot, Jerry Zatorski pointed out several species of willow to start us on the way. Along the pipeline at several places we found patches of *Arnica* and after consulting the various books available, finally decided it was *A. nevadensis*, Sierra arnica, after consulting the various books available. Jerry, Kathleen Nelson, and Walt Hoffman were the dedicated plant identifiers of the group. They identified the beautiful dark blue-flowered lupine as *Lupinus pratensis* var. *pratensis* and three species of *Ivesia*, *I. shockleyi*, *I. lycopodioides*, and *I. muirii* (the mousetail one).



Sierra primrose photo by Joanne Hihn.

After lunch at the edge of Green Lake, we started back down the trail and were pleased to find that the rocky slopes above the trail near the lake sheltered some lovely Sierra primroses (*Primula suffrutescens*). A few hikers from the group opted for the trail to Parchers and we were treated to a lovely waterfall and some lower elevation riparian flowers, like tiger lilies and some orchids.

--Sue Weis

## 2018 Annual Fall Plant Sale Results

Saturday, August 25th was a perfect weather day for our annual plant sale. For the second year we let the members come in at 8 a.m. and the general public start at 9 a.m.; once again, this made for a much calmer environment. With the enticement of early-entrance, we gained two new members and four renewals. Julie Fontaine was in attendance, selling her magical compost tea to help get all those new plants off to a good start.



Customers at the plant sale with Julie Fontaine (far right) consulting on the use of compost tea.

Photo by Katie Quinlan.

This year's sales were less than last year's but more in line with the previous years. We had 78 customers this year as compared to 102 last year. We sold 860 plants compared to 1,367 last year. The participation in the Eastern Sierra Land Trust's pollinator garden grant has fallen off as well. There were only 12 people signed up for the grant and 5 of those folks didn't show.

Of the 2,090 plants I grew, there are 1,471 left. So if you missed the plant sale and would like to buy some, then contact me at: [plant\\_sale@bristleconecnps.org](mailto:plant_sale@bristleconecnps.org) and we can arrange a time to meet. To see what is still available, check out our updated post-sale plant list at:

[http://bristleconecnps.org/native\\_plants/sale/](http://bristleconecnps.org/native_plants/sale/)

The plant sale could not have happened without a lot of great help. Here are the volunteers who rapidly responded when I put out an email for help with planting and potting up the plants: Steve D., Nick, Pete, Harinam, Rosemary, Margaret, Jim, Elaine, Kay, Marty, Laura, Charlie, Steve M., Tim, Patti and Bryce.

Then there are the sales day helpers, those wonderful folks who give up their Saturday morning to make sure the sale goes smoothly: Pete, Ryan, Margaret, Kay, Stephen, Sue, Steve D., Fran, Edie, Tim and Jerry. Many thanks to all of you who make the plant sale such a wonderful success!

--Katie Quinlan

## Eastern Sierra Land Trust Certifies 100th Pollinator Garden *Bringing Nature to Your Doorstep*

Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) will certify its 100th pollinator garden on August 30th to address

water conservation, the importance of native plants and the rapid disappearance of pollinators. With one-third of our food supply and at least eighty percent of the world's flowering plants depending on pollinators, Inyo and Mono County gardeners are helping by creating beautiful sanctuaries for birds, butterflies and bees.

In 2013, ESLT created the Eastside Pollinator Garden Project to encourage residents of Inyo and Mono counties to create and certify their own pollinator-friendly spaces with funding from Metabolic Studio and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. ESLT AmeriCorps members at that time, Sara Kokkelenberg and Alison Amberg, turned to Columbia Land Trust in Portland, OR for advice based on their existing Backyard Habitat Certification Program, and created an advisory committee with our local Bristlecone Chapter of California Native Plant Society, Eastern Sierra Audubon Society, Master Gardeners, Chalfant Big Trees Nursery and interested ESLT supporters to review ESLT's Eastside Pollinator Garden Project before it launched.



ESLT is leading by example with their pollinator garden in front of the offices.



Swallowtail butterflies helps pollinate the ESLT garden.

Gardeners begin with reviewing and agreeing to ESLT pollinator garden criteria and are eligible to receive a \$125 voucher for native plant purchases from the Bristlecone Chapter of the California Native Plant Society's plant sale. Once the plants are in the

ground, local gardeners receive a Pollinator Garden certification plaque.

Current ESLT AmeriCorps member, Ryan Delaney speaks to the passion of this backyard project. "I feel lucky be involved in a project that the local community is so invested in. It has been a true joy to meet, dream and create with local gardeners across the Eastern Sierra."

ESLT welcomes anyone ready to join the movement to support local pollinators. They are still scheduling consultation visits this summer to help certify gardens as pollinator-friendly habitats. For more information about the Eastside Pollinator Garden Project or to set up your own free garden consultation, contact Kay Ogden by calling (760) 873-4554, email [garden@eslt.org](mailto:garden@eslt.org), or check the website: [eslt.org/pollinator-gardens](http://eslt.org/pollinator-gardens)

--Jaime Della

## Welcome New Members!

We'd like to give a warm welcome to our newest members who have joined our local CNPS chapter: Dori Canfield, Terri Gerger, Tom Hardy, John Helm, MC Hubbard, John Martindale, Phil McDowell, Marston Mottweiler, Eden Roberts, Tom Sigler, and Geri Wilson.



Photo of showy milkweed and bee courtesy of Kim Cash.





## **CNPS Conservation Symposium - Saturday September 8, 2018** **Lee Vining Presbyterian Church - Lee Vining, CA**

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The California Native Plant Society 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, 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.

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### **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

**6:30–7:30** - Catered dinner at the church

**8:00–9:00** - Located at the Mono Basin Visitor Center Auditorium  
Program with Cathy Rose and Stephen Ingram: "A Botanical Ramble through California to Rock Creek."

Any CNPS member is welcome to attend any part or all of the events. Please visit the webpage below for a complete schedule of the CNPS Quarterly Gathering, (Conservation Symposium, Chapter Council meeting, etc.) and the link to register (deadline Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>) for all activities and place orders for available meals:

<https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncilsep2018/>

## Up-Coming Events

(For updated information, visit  
[bristleconecnps.org/events](http://bristleconecnps.org/events))

**CNPS Chapter Council Meeting and Conservation Symposium**  
**September 7-8. Multiple locations in Lee Vining.**  
 The Bristlecone Chapter is hosting the CNPS Quarterly Meeting and Symposium. Visit the website below for a schedule of events, the symposium program, and information on lodging and meals.

**Please register by Tues., Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> at:**  
<https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncilsep2018/>

## Up-Coming Events in the Local Area

**Desert springs in Death Valley and the Panamint Range: A discussion of the chemistry and biology of Mojave springs and how they contribute to a healthy desert ecosystem**

**September 15, 11:00 am-3:00 pm,  
 Tecopa Community Center,  
 400 Tecopa Hot Springs Rd., Tecopa, CA 92389**

This free event features a program of presentations and interactive discussions on desert springs and their impact on the ecosystems they support as well as a discussion on new research on the remote springs of the Panamint Range and Death Valley. Lunch and light refreshment provided!

For more program information and to RSVP, visit eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/desert-springs-in-death-valley-and-the-panamint-range-new-research-registration-49250611906>

**The 10th Annual Great Sierra River Cleanup**  
**September 15, 9:00 am-12:00 pm**

Join Eastern Sierra Land Trust on Saturday, September 15th, as they partner with organizations throughout the Sierra in the Great Sierra River Cleanup (GSRC). The GSRC is a statewide volunteer event that focuses on removing trash from Sierra Nevada waterways. Help our side of the Sierra do its part by volunteering to clean up our local rivers! Drinks and snacks will be provided. Please bring a hat, sunscreen, and water; leave pets at home. To volunteer or for information about the cleanup location, please contact Ryan at (760) 873-4554 or email [ryan@eslt.org](mailto:ryan@eslt.org).

## Up-Coming Events

(For updated information, visit  
[bristleconecnps.org/events](http://bristleconecnps.org/events))

**National Public Lands Day**  
**September 22, 8:30 am-12:30 pm**

Celebrate your public lands by joining Friends of the Inyo, the Eastern Sierra 4WD Club, and Inyo National Forest in a fun morning of stewarding our shared roads and trails. We'll repair water bars and water crossings on Sand Canyon Rd. above Swall Meadows, as well as add signage and repair an informational kiosk. All ages welcome. Bring water and sunscreen; wear long pants and closed-toed shoes. Work gloves and tools will be provided. Meet at 8:30 am on Saturday, 9/22 at the gravel pit on Sky Meadow Rd., about 0.6 miles from the Y-junction of Sky Meadow Rd. and Swall Meadows Rd.

**Botany Hike at Rock Creek Lakes Resort with Friends of the Inyo**  
**September 22, 10:00 am-1:00 pm**

Psyched about wildflowers? Wish you knew how to tell pines from firs? Wondering whether you can eat that mushroom? Join Robin, a Friends of the Inyo Trail Ambassador, at Rock Creek Lakes Resort for a three-hour ramble through the fascinating flora of Little Lakes Valley. All ages welcome. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, and appropriate footwear and layers for hiking. Meet at Rock Creek Lakes Resort at 10 am.

**Please send articles or information to us  
 by October 15, 2018 for the next issue.**

### Bristlecone Chapter Directory

President: Katie Quinlan 760-873-8023

Vice President: Michèle Slaton 760-920-8693

Secretary: **OPEN**

Treasurer: Sue Weis 760-873-3485

Chapter Council Rep: Stephen Ingram 760-937-9918

Conservation/Partnerships: **OPEN**

Programs: Michèle Slaton 760-920-8693

DeDecker Grants: Michèle Slaton 760-920-8693

Field Trips: Sue Weis 760-873-3485

Historian: Kathy Duvall 760-387-2122

Bishop Plant Sales: Katie Quinlan 760-873-8023

Mammoth Plant Sales: Sherry Taylor 760-934-2338

Publicity: **OPEN**

Newsletter: Elaine Chow [newsletter@bristleconecnps.org](mailto:newsletter@bristleconecnps.org)

Membership: Elaine Chow [membership@bristleconecnps.org](mailto:membership@bristleconecnps.org)

Website: [webmaster@bristleconecnps.org](http://webmaster@bristleconecnps.org)

Hospitality: **OPEN**

T-shirt Sales: Stephen Ingram

DeDecker Garden: Steve Dickinson

## The California Native Plant Society

Bristlecone Chapter

P.O. Box 364

Bishop, CA 93515-0364

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Note: If you still receive this newsletter via US Mail, please help the Bristlecone chapter save money, energy, and trees by sending your email address to newsletter@bristleconecnps.org so you can receive the electronic version.

## Membership

*The California Native Plant Society is an organization of laypersons 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.*

**To Join or Renew Online:** Go to [cnps.org](http://cnps.org) and click on the JOIN/renew button at the top of the page, or mail in the form below:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to be affiliated with the Bristlecone Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail To / Make Payable To:

CNPS Membership Coordinator

2707 K Street, Suite 1

Sacramento, CA 95816

**Gift Contribution:** \_\_\_\_\_ Wherever needed ☐

Specific Area: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Category

<input type="checkbox"/> Student / Limited Income	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$45
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Lover	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$300
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$600
<input type="checkbox"/> Mariposa Lily	\$1500
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Contribution	_____