

Insignis

Newsletter of the Alta Peak Chapter
California Native Plant Society

Check out our spring calendar of chapter activities! Mark your calendar, join us, and bring your family and friends. This chapter can only be as active as its individual members. Share your ideas! Letters to the Editor are welcomed. Inside: Landscaping with Natives: Oaks (Part II), Conservation Report, and copies of the CNPS Policies on Wetlands and Sowing of Wildflowers.

Calendar of Events

Chapter Activities - Details on pages 2-3.

- February 26 **General Membership Meeting**
Saturday, 7 pm "Before the Wilderness: Environmental Management by Native Americans"
Dr. Kat Anderson, Speaker
Three Rivers Arts Center
- March 12 Workshop: Introduction to Basic Botany
Saturday Robert Urtecho, Instructor
9 am - 12 pm Room 309, College of the Sequoias
- April 2 Field Trip: Native Backyard Landscapes
Saturday Three Rivers
9 am - 4 pm (Meet at Cort Gallery)
- April 22 Alta Peak Chapter Booth
Friday Earth Day Environmental Awareness Festivities, College of the Sequoias
- April 23 Field Trip: Cobbleknoll Trail,
Saturday Lake Kaweah
9am - 3 pm (Meet at upper gate)
- May 21 Field Trip: Tule River Country
Saturday Doyle Springs to Balch Park
9 am - 5 pm (Meet at Springville P.O.)

Statewide Meetings - All members welcome!

- March 5-6 CNPS Statewide Board Meeting
Sat. & Sun. Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens,
Claremont
- June 11-12 CNPS Statewide Board Meeting
Sat. & Sun. Point Reyes National Seashore

Chapter Board Meetings - Members welcome!

- March 10 Janet Fanning's home, 41118 Blossom
Thursday, 7 pm Drive, Three Rivers, 561-3461
- April 14 El Freida Blond's home, 40934
Thursday, 7 pm Cherokee Oaks, Three Rivers, 561-3631
- May 12 Cathy Cort's home, 44141 Skyline
Thursday, 7 pm Drive, Three Rivers, 561-4671
- August 11 Gwen Warner's home, 42261 Mynatt
Thursday, 7 pm Drive, Three Rivers, 561-0407

Message From Our Incoming President

(At the January Board of Directors meeting of the Alta Peak Chapter, Catherine Cort stepped down as president. Janet Fanning volunteered to fill the position. Due to the lack of attendance by chapter members at our last two general membership meetings, it was futile to start an election process for our chapter. However, we will be holding a general election at the general membership meeting in the fall. Watch for an announcement in our fall newsletter.)

Greetings... I hope you are as excited as I am about our spring calendar. To me, communing with nature is what it is all about. Our focus this year is on plant communities, learning about identifying plant families, and increasing our appreciation of the diversity of California's native plants. Put all the events on your calendar and join us. We are planning one general membership meeting in the spring and one in the fall. Along with our basic botany workshop and many field trips, we hope you will share our enthusiasm. The Cobbleknoll walk would be a good family outing, so bring the kids. We always have a lot of fun and meet many interesting people. See you on the trail,

-Janet Fanning

Letter from CNPS President

As you know, CNPS strongly supports the California Parks and Wildlife 1994 initiative (CALPAW 94). I want to thank you for your generosity and work helping to preserve our diverse resources.

Now we need your help in another way. We (CNPS, PLC, and other co-sponsoring organizations) need endorsements of other organizations for CALPAW 94 to solidify California voters behind that initiative.

Our target is to get the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) to join the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging and the California Congress of Seniors in endorsing CALPAW 94. AARP recently endorsed a similar park measure in Los Angeles County.

If you or someone you know is a member of AARP, please send a letter to AARP today stating support for CALPAW 94 and ask what AARP is doing to support this important initiative. Ask for a written response to your home address. If you are not a member of AARP but wish to aid us in this endeavor, memberships are only \$8/year. They are a great organization and we encourage you to join; you must be at least 50 years of age.

Sincerely,
David L. Magney,
President, State CNPS

General Membership Meeting

Saturday, February 26, 7 pm Three Rivers Arts Center

**Before the Wilderness -
Environmental Management by the Native Californians
Speaker: Dr. Kat Anderson**

Noted ethnobotanist, Dr. Kat Anderson, will share her extensive knowledge of the environmental management practices of the California Indians. Using slides for illustration, she will tell how these native peoples tended the wild with loving care and attention for a millennium. They used a variety of horticultural techniques including burning, pruning, sowing, tillage, and selective harvesting. Kat will also tell about specific plant uses that played an integral part of the native people's daily life and spiritual world. The traditional ecology and knowledge of this vanishing culture has practical application for the contemporary management of wildlands.

Kat Anderson recently received her PhD from the Department of Forestry at UC Berkeley. She has spent many years gathering and recording valuable information from Native American elders in the Sierra Nevada region, also consulting with Yosemite National Park. Recently, *Fremontia* published her article about Native American burning practices in the October '93 issue.

Three Rivers Arts Center is located on North Fork Drive, first building on the left across the bridge from Highway 198.



- Pierpont Morgan Library

Field Trip: Native Backyard Landscapes

Saturday, April 2, 9 am - 4 pm

We will visit several backyards in Three Rivers, and see native plant landscaping in practice. Our goal is identify wildflowers in local backyards while assisting the property owners we visit (all CNPS members) in discovering the native plants growing on their land and how to landscape compatibly in this backyard/wildland interface. Each site we have chosen has different degrees of development; one site on the banks of the South Fork has a brand new house. This time of April should correspond with the peak of the foothill wildflower season, as we share practical aspects of gardening with native plants. Our VP, Mike Neuman, will be on hand to help identify the plants we see.

We'll meet at Cort Gallery at 9 am and carpool to the various backyards.

Field Trip: Cobbleknoll Trail

Saturday, April 23, 9 am - 3 pm Leader: Mike Neuman

The Cobbleknoll trail extends from the gate below the Best Western motel to the Slick Rock picnic area at the upper end of Lake Kaweah. The trail winds through blue oak woodland, rocky floodplain and riparian forest vegetation, and the timing of the hike should coincide with the best annual wildflower displays of each area.

Alta Peak Chapter has been involved in the preparation of an interpretive brochure for the Cobbleknoll Trail by the Army Corps of Engineers, which manages the area. We are also considering adopting the trail.

Meet at the upper gate at 9 am, and bring a picnic lunch and your kids! Sorry, no pets.

Field Trip: Tule River Country

Saturday, May 21, 9 am - 5 pm Leader: Joan Stewart

We'll meet at Springville Post Office at 9 am, where we will pick up plant list and map. We'll then carpool to the Doyle Springs trailhead. We will hike from Doyle Springs toward Balch Park at an elevation of 4000' - 6000.' Along the well-used trail, we will hike gently, stopping often for interesting botanizing with Joan. She says we'll see a variety of plants, some on rocky outcroppings. Call Janet Fanning at 561-3461 to register for this field trip.

Joan Stewart is the VP of Administration for CNPS and divides her time between her two residences in Springville and San Diego.

Workshop - Introduction to Basic Botany & Plant Identification

**Saturday, March 12,
9 am - 12 pm**

**College Of The Sequoias
Lab. Room 309**

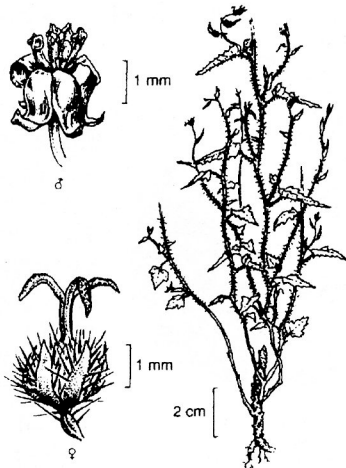
Instructor: Robert Urtecho

This laboratory exploration is geared for amateur and aspiring botanists. Guided by COS instructor Robert Urtecho, we will learn basic anatomical features of certain plant families. Robert will cover basic identification techniques. Participants are encouraged to bring some plant specimens from their own yards for viewing under the microscope. We will also have a tour of the COS native plant garden. Class size will be limited, so call Janet Fanning at 561-3461 for registration.

Robert Urtecho has taught plant biology, ecology, and human anatomy at COS for the last year. He is a PhD candidate in the plant biology department at UC Davis. He hopes to finish his dissertation in the next two years. In his field of tropical botany, he has been writing a revision of the genus *Tragia*. *Tragia* is found throughout the world, with many species in Mexico, but only a single species in California, *Tragia ramosa*.

This species, found in San Diego county in the Chocolate Mountains and now also on the Santa Rosa plateau, is a nettle-like plant with crystal-like hairs that cause stinging and dermatitis to those not adapted to the effects. The Mayans used similar species as a remedy for arthritis, and in India it has been used as a contraceptive (*ed. note: Robert did not elaborate on method of application*).

Robert researched the family of the snow plant (formerly *Pyrolaceae*, now *Ericaceae*) for his master's thesis. Alta Peak Chapter is excited about having such an interesting botanist contribute to our education.



Tragia ramosa

Field Trip Tips

Field trips last most of the day. Bring a lunch and drinks, plenty of water or other thirst quenching beverages, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug repellent, and sturdy walking shoes. Don't forget to bring your favorite field guide(s), appropriate plant lists, hand lens (we have them for sale if you need one), and camera. Family, friends, and visitors are welcome. Sorry, no pets.

Coming Soon: New Community Native Landscaping Project

Alta Peak is in negotiation with a Three Rivers property owner regarding the creation of a possible native plant garden and nature trail. This project would evolve over a period of 5-6 years and provide many opportunities for hands-on experience in native plant landscaping. During this coming spring we hope to map the site and the existing vegetation, both native and non-native. This is a great time to learn and practice plant ID techniques.

Next, the garden and trail will be designed in a collaborative effort by the property owner, CNPS members and other interested groups and individuals throughout the community. Finally, we'll do the actual digging and planting.

All stages of this project offer great educational opportunities for individuals of all ages and levels of expertise. When complete, the nature trail will be open to all citizens and will serve as a living example of the diversity and practicality of growing natives.

If you are interested in working on this project, contact any of the board members. Watch the next newsletter for more specific information.

Earth Day Booth at COS

Alta Peak Chapter will participate in Earth Day Festivities at College of the Sequoias on Friday, April 22. The Festivities are sponsored by the Students for Ecological Awareness, and was well attended last year. This is a great opportunity for Alta Peak Chapter to extend its outreach beyond Three Rivers to more of Tulare County.

If you can help, please call Janet Fanning at 561-3461. Watch your local newspapers for details about this event.

Statewide Board Meetings

CNPS holds quarterly meetings with officers and interested members of all thirty-two chapters. Meetings are hosted by a different chapter each time (you may recall that Alta Peak Chapter hosted last June's meeting in Giant Forest).

The meetings include in-depth discussions of CNPS activities throughout the state, including rare plant inventory, conservation, publications, fundraising, etc. The meetings are energizing, and give needed perspective to what we often perceive as merely local issues.

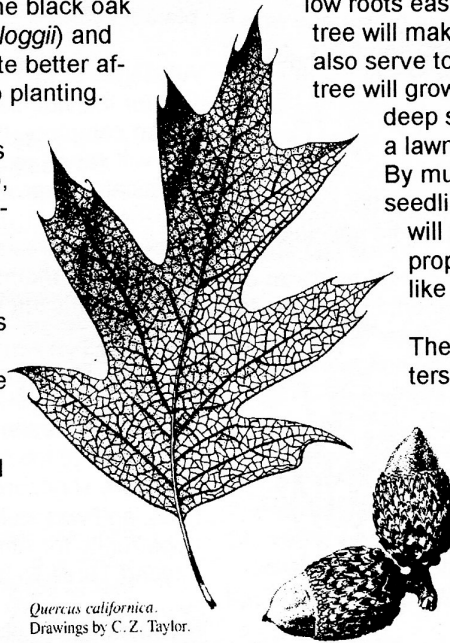
Anyone interested in grassroots conservation of native plants is guaranteed inspiration, education, and new friends!

For more information call Janet Fanning at 561-3461

Landscaping With Natives: Oaks (Part II)

So let's assume you read the discussion of oak propagation and acorn collection in the last **Insignis** newsletter and now you have a bag of acorns in your refrigerator that continues to be the topic of conversation at the breakfast table. "What are you going to do with those acorns?" Or maybe on a walk, you've noticed an oak tree dropping acorns and wondered how you could get those oak "seeds" started. Take heart, germinating acorns is relatively simple and with some attention to after-planting care you can have oak trees growing several feet per year.

The collected acorns do best with cool moist storage until planting; thus, the recommended plastic bag in the refrigerator treatment. Whereas most acorns can be sown immediately after collection, members of the black oak group, including Black Oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) and Interior Live Oak (*Q. wislizenii*), germinate better after a period of cool moist storage prior to planting. A plastic bag in the refrigerator works best, but be watchful because the acorns may start to sprout in storage. If they do, you'll need to make preparation for planting right away, by direct seeding or in containers. In either case, because the emerging sprout is usually the taproot, it should be planted "down." If the acorn is to be planted in a container, it is a good idea to give a tiny pinch to the end of the taproot to help it branch in the container and ensure better establishment of the container-grown oak. (However, this will prevent the taproot from reaching deep into the soil once the seedling is planted out, and the tree may require extra care to keep it from drying out.)



Quercus californica.
Drawings by C. Z. Taylor.

Ideally, acorns should be direct seeded in the field during late fall or early winter (after the rains have wetted the soil) in the place that you want the tree to grow. This takes advantage of the tremendous initial push made by the emerging taproot. Four-month-old oak seedlings have been observed with taproots three feet long, while the tops are only three inches above ground. This kind of rapid root development is of great importance to the survival of that little oak seedling during the dry summer months. By planting three or four acorns (and later thinning to one seedling) in the field, the hand labor of planting in a pot and transplanting later is also avoided.

But suppose you are not able to go directly to the field with your acorns. Find a tall container that you can fill with a potting soil mixture that drains well. Milk cartons, sections of PVC pipe, or tall plastic bags such as are used for citrus or avocado plants all work well. The idea is to allow the taproot to develop as much as possible while in the pot. If summer irrigation is planned, then it would be a good idea to plant the potted seedlings into the field in the spring. If

the seedlings are to be field-grown without supplemental water, the oak seedlings will have to be held over the summer in the containers and planted out during the next fall with the onset of the rains.

Whether your acorn is planted out to the field directly or after it has been grown in a container for six months or a year, there are certain steps you can take to promote its survival and growth. First, clear the weeds or vegetation in a three foot circle around the planting spot. The idea is to eliminate competition for water and nutrients. The hole for a container grown seedling could be dug with a shovel, post-hole digger, or an auger. For direct seeded acorns it is also a good idea to dig a hole to loosen the soil and allow roots easier penetration. A basin left around the tree will make watering easier; on a hillside it may also serve to catch and hold run-off. The young oak tree will grow better with regular (2 -3 times/month) deep soakings; it is not a good idea to plant in a lawn or where the ground is constantly wet. By mulching the three foot circle around the seedling, competition for water and nutrients will be minimized. A piece of woven polypropylene "weed cloth" or an organic mulch like straw works well for this purpose.

The seedling may need protection from critters during the early stages of its life.

There are several ways to provide for this protection which is more necessary in revegetation sites than it might be in your backyard where you can monitor damage from grasshoppers, gophers, or deer. Aluminum window screen can be formed into a teepee-like cage over the top of the seedling. More recently biodegradable rigid plastic tubes called Tubex are being used to protect and nurture the oak seedlings. The growth of the young tree is not only protected but channeled upward as well. (A local source for the imported Tubex treeshelters is Native Oak Nursery at 20316 Fallen Leaf Drive in Tehachapi, CA 93561. Their phone number is 805-822-4746.)

As you experience sowing and growing oaks, you will discover the ease with which these mighty trees germinate and sprout, and may well wonder at the state-wide dilemma of why these trees are not regenerating; why aren't there young trees springing up around the 100 and 200 year old trees that dot the California landscapes? This continues to be a problem that concerns both researchers and policy makers. Coming up: A further look into oak regeneration and the possible role played by the associated plants in the oak communities.

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-John Moore, Native Plant Landscaping Chair

CNPS Statement of Policy on Wetlands

Concerns Relating to Conservation Of Wetlands:

The California Native Plant Society is concerned that:

WHEREAS wetlands support an important component of the flora of California and consist of many diverse types such as coastal and inland salt marshes, brackish marshes, freshwater marshes, alkali marches, alkali meadows, freshwater meadows, bogs, fens, riparian woodlands and forests, riparian scrubs, lake margins, vernal pools, seasonally wet swales and ponds, seeps and springs, and desert washes;

WHEREAS wetlands of all types and sizes provide valuable biological functions, such as: providing habitat for fish and aquatic wildlife, providing foraging habitat or water for terrestrial wildlife and birds, absorbing flood waters, reducing erosion and protecting upland sites, recharging aquifers, cleansing pollutants from California's waters, providing aesthetic values, providing unique plant assemblages and associations, and habitat for many rare species of plants and wildlife;

WHEREAS wetlands of all types have been greatly reduced from historic extent and are being lost or adversely impacted at a rapid rate throughout California;

WHEREAS wetlands are not provided legal protection except incidentally from laws and regulations enacted for other purposes; and

WHEREAS artificial creation of wetlands to mitigate for impacts to natural wetlands ecosystems is unproven and largely unsuccessful in providing all of the functions and values of the natural ecosystem, and in certain instance, has potential to damage existing wetlands;

The California Native Plant Society:

HEREBY supports all efforts to preserve and conserve wetlands of all types;

HEREBY opposes projects that adversely affect wetlands of any type unless there is a demonstrated net gain, in-kind, of wetlands prior to project impacts;

HEREBY recommends avoidance of impacts to wetlands;

HEREBY discourages the use of mitigation banks as wetlands mitigation except as a last resort and no other alternatives are available;

HEREBY supports and recommends enactment of federal and state legislation to protect all wetlands;

HEREBY supports and recommends state and local government adoption of policies and ordinances to protect and conserve all types of wetlands; and

HEREBY adopts definition of wetlands as follows:

"Wetlands are lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. Wetlands must have one or more of the following three attributes; (1) at least periodically, the land supports predominantly hydrophytes, (2) the substrate is predominantly undrained hydric soil, and (3) the substrate is nonsoil and is saturated with water or covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season each year." (adopted from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States, 1979).

- Adopted August 1991, California Native Plant Society

Editor's Note: As an organization "dedicated to the preservation of the California native flora", CNPS plays an active role in conservation issues. To unify and clarify its position on diverse conservation issues throughout the state, CNPS has prepared a number of policy statements. We will be reprinting these policies in our newsletters for the benefit of Alta Peak chapter members who might not have seen them when they were first published.

Conservation Update

Yokohl Valley mining permit: Alta Peak Chapter has joined the Citizen's Coalition to Save Yokohl Valley, a group of interested citizens, residents of Badger Hill, Sierra Club, local Native Americans, and others. This coalition was formed to stop the approval of a gravel mine on the Gill Ranch at the junction of Badger Hill and Rocky Hill in Yokohl Valley. John C. Stebbins, consulting botanist, described the site in the biological report:

"The soils within the Yokohl Creek streambed consist mostly of both Tujunga sand and riverwash. The adjacent soil (west of the creek) consists mostly of San Emigdio loam. This is a very deep, well-drained soil formed on alluvial fans. Further west, the soils consist mostly of San Joaquin loam, an older well-developed soil found on alluvial terraces and characterized by a strongly cemented hardpan.... A narrow strip of Clear Lake exists at the southern end of the project site.

Essentially four plant communities... are present in the 45 acre survey area. They are non-native grassland, Great Valley valley oak riparian forest, freshwater marsh, and northern hardpan vernal pool.... Freshwater marsh habitat is located west of Yokohl Creek in the flats that appear to receive water runoff from the slopes further to the west and to the south.... This area contained several small scattered ponds... the largest of them were apparently created by small berms for cattle ponds. The vernal pool habitat is closely associated with the undulating low hills called 'mima mounds' along the western boundaries.... Approximately thirty small (less than 1 meter in diameter) to large (over 3 meters) vernal pools are present....

It is significant to note that the last three described habitat types (riparian forest, freshwater marsh, and vernal pool) all fit the definition of 'wetlands' under the current federal wetland determination guidelines. All of these habitats contain the necessary physical, biotic, and edaphic resources that support the determination.... It is also important to note that all of the above described habitats have experienced long term cattle grazing...."

The mining application was filed by owner, Clorrie Gill, sometime in 1992. It had gone through part of the county review process before many people knew about it. Apparently, the public notice sent to the Badger Hill Homeowners Association did not go to the correct address (ironically, this also occurred with the most recent public notice). I don't know the details about this early period.

CNPS entered the process in the spring of 1993. At this point the application was in review by the Tulare County Planning Commission. Several concerns had been expressed to the County planning staff about the adequacy of the mining plan itself (for instance, there was an area on the engineer's drawing labeled "reserve mining area," with no detailed explanation). The County planning staff had

written a Negative Declaration (Neg. Dec.) stating that this project would have no serious impact on the environment.

In May, 1993, George Finney, head of the Planning Department and also the Environmental Assessment Officer for the county, determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) would be required because of the concerns brought up about the Neg. Dec. by those opposed to the project. The Planning Commission overruled the decision. The Citizen's Coalition filed an appeal to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to uphold the decision for an EIR. The BOS denied the appeal and directed the County staff to prepare a Mitigated Negative Declaration (Mit. Neg. Dec.).

It was interesting to testify at this BOS meeting on September 21, 1993. All citizens who were there to testify were asked to stand and were sworn in under oath. I had testified many times at BOS meetings (not always for CNPS) and had never before been required to swear in. When I asked the attorney hired by Badger Hill folks about this, he said it was done as an intimidating measure. Most important to note, is that, under oath, the engineer representing Clorrie Gill stated that the mine was only an extension of the ranching business. This effectively redefined the project, and made the mine and its effects *cumulative* to the effects of the ranch. At the end of this BOS meeting I was told by the planning staff that the applicant would have to re-submit a detailed map and description of the project to start the Mit. Neg. Dec. The ball was in their (the applicant's) court, the staff said.

The planning staff sent out a public notice dated November 24, 1993, saying that they were updating the environmental assessment/initial study of the project. In the notice, only the following impacts were being considered for mitigation:

1. Potential for destruction or disturbance of archaeological resources.
2. Potential for increased traffic hazards due to increased truck use of Yokohl Dr. and Rocky Hill Dr.
3. Potential for detrimental effects on surrounding properties due to noise from truck traffic and operations.
4. Potential for channel and bank degradation upstream of the subject site.
5. Potential to significantly change the existing visual quality of the region.
6. Potential for contamination of a water supply to accidental spills of oil or gasoline.

Also in the notice, "additional information about the project, such as a detailed site plan and project description, are available for review at the Planning and Development Department office." When we went in to see the new description of the project, we discovered that no new information had been provided by the applicant. We wrote a letter

expressing our concern that no mention was made about mitigating the potential negative effects on the biological environment, particularly the vernal pool habitat.

At the present time we are waiting to receive notice of future public review and hearings. All comments by the opposition may become evidence in court proceedings which could follow the final decision of the BOS. In order to successfully litigate, we must first "exhaust all remedies" by stating all possible concerns during the county review process within the established deadlines for public comment. We hope that legal action will not be necessary to resolve this conflict. Money has been allocated in CALPAW '94 for purchasing land or easements in Yokohl Valley (CALPAW '94 will be on the April '94 ballot, so vote yes, and encourage everyone you know to do the same!).

The outcome of this conflict ultimately depends on Clorrie Gill's vision for her land. It is very difficult to tell her what to do on her own property. It must be noted that the existence of Yokohl Valley's vast open space is partly due to the fact that two large ranches (Gill and Boswell) have not already subdivided it like other rapidly developing foothill valleys in the county. I hope that Clorrie Gill will forgive our intrusion on her property use decisions, and see beyond the conflict by choosing to share our love and concern for this special beautiful site, the most sacred land known to the local Wukchumni tribe. We hope that she will explore other ways to acquire income from her land, ways that might include establishing a conservation easement via a land trust (saving money in inheritance taxes for her heirs), selling the easement or land via CALPAW, or moving the mine to another site.

Please contact me if you have ideas on how to respond to this issue or wish to attend public hearings. What happens in Yokohl Valley may have many repercussions regarding future land use decisions and environmental concerns in Tulare County. Yokohl Valley is part of us all.

Model Aeronautics use permit: This permit application for a regional model aircraft recreational facility was filed in 1993. The site is located north of Goshen on Hwy 80 in the flood plain at the confluence of Cottonwood Creek and Cross Creek. This area has been designated by the Department of Fish and Game as a critical area, receiving the highest rating for acquisition in their Conceptual Area Plan. The site has twenty vernal pools and is in the middle of a long wildlife corridor following along Cottonwood Creek and Cross Creek, according to the eighty page biological report prepared by Rob Hansen for the applicants. County planning staff has told us that the applicant, Model Aeronautics, has agreed to prepare an EIR. It seems that their strategy is to prepare all proper environmental review documents and then ask the BOS at the political level to overrule these concerns. The EIR should outline alternative sites for this project and we will follow this process very carefully.

-Catherine Cort, Conservation Chair

Native Plants For Sale

We have the following plants still available for winter planting. If you are interested, please contact Janet Fanning at 561-3461.

The plants are \$4 each, and all are flowering with the exception of quailbush.

Catalina cherry	<i>Prunus lyonii</i>
Flannel bush	<i>Fremontia californicum</i>
Piñon pine	<i>Pinus edulis</i>
Blue flax	<i>Linum perenne</i>
Bush poppy	<i>Dendromecon rigida</i>
Meadow rue	<i>Thalictrum fendleri</i>
Quailbush	<i>Atriplex lentiformis</i>
Balloon flower	<i>Penstemon palmeri</i>
Gay penstemon	<i>Penstemon laetus</i>
San Antonio perfume	<i>Monardella antonina</i>
Dwarf yellow-eyed grass	<i>Sysyrinchium elmeri</i>
Western redbud	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>

CNPS Policy on Sowing of Wildflowers

CNPS is concerned that:

- If rare species grow in the locality, closely related species should be avoided in seed mixtures.
- Species which are susceptible to genetic swamping should be identified and use of any but local seed sources avoided for such species.
- Locally grown seed should be increased from local wild-collected starter sources.
- Permit processes for collection must be followed.
- Species selected should be biologically and visually appropriate; that is, they should be compatible with the surrounding wild landscape.
- Existing native vegetation should not be replaced by wildflower plantings.

- Adopted June 1989

Magic Formula to Make an Enemy Peaceful

Put your feet down with pollen.
Put your hands down with pollen.
Put your head down with pollen.
Then your feet are pollen;
Your hands are pollen;
Your body is pollen;
Your mind is pollen;
Your voice is pollen.
The trail is beautiful.
Be still.

Navajo

In *The Trail of the Wind, American Indian Poems and Ritual Orations*, John Bierhorst, editor.

Board of Directors - Alta Peak Chapter

President/Treasurer/Membership	Janet Fanning	41118 Blossom Drive, Three Rivers, CA 93271	(209) 561-3461
Vice President/Newsletter Co-Editor	Mike Neuman	46076 Sierra Drive, Three Rivers, CA 93271	(209) 561-3501
Secretary/Historian	Gwen Warner	P.O. Box 71, Three Rivers, CA 93271	(209) 561-0407
Conservation/Newsletter Co-Editor	Catherine Cort	PO Box 245, Three Rivers, CA 93271	(209) 561-4671
Programs	El Freida Blond	40934 Cherokee Oaks Drive, Three Rivers, CA 93271	(209) 561-3631
Native Plant Landscaping	John Moore	31393 Dahlem Drive, Exeter, CA 93221	(209) 592-9187

Membership Information

If you have received a complimentary copy of this newsletter and would like to join CNPS, dues are \$18 for student, retired, or limited income, \$25 individual, or \$35 for a family membership, paid to CNPS, 1722 J. St. Suite 17, Sacramento, CA 95814. Be sure to indicate that you wish to be affiliated with the Alta Peak Chapter.

If you wish to receive this newsletter without joining CNPS, send \$5 for a two year subscription to Alta Peak Chapter, CNPS, P.O. Box 245, Three Rivers, CA 93271.

Membership Update

We have approximately sixty-five people, current members, unrenewed members, and prospective members, on our mailing list. Of the sixty-five, thirty-one are up to date on their dues, twenty-two have not yet paid their current dues, and we hope the rest will join. The address label on this newsletter has a number following your name that tells the year and month your dues expire. If you have a '93 number we hope you will send in your renewal and support CNPS. We have also enclosed a membership form for you to share with a friend. Thank you.

Insignis Newsletter, CNPS
 c/o Alta Peak Chapter
 P.O. Box 245
 Three Rivers, CA 93271