





Wild Plants of Waterbird Regional Preserve







Common Name Version

A Photographic Guide

Sorted by Form, Color and Family with Habitat Descriptions and Identification Notes

Photographs and text by Wilde Legard District Botanist, East Bay Regional Park District

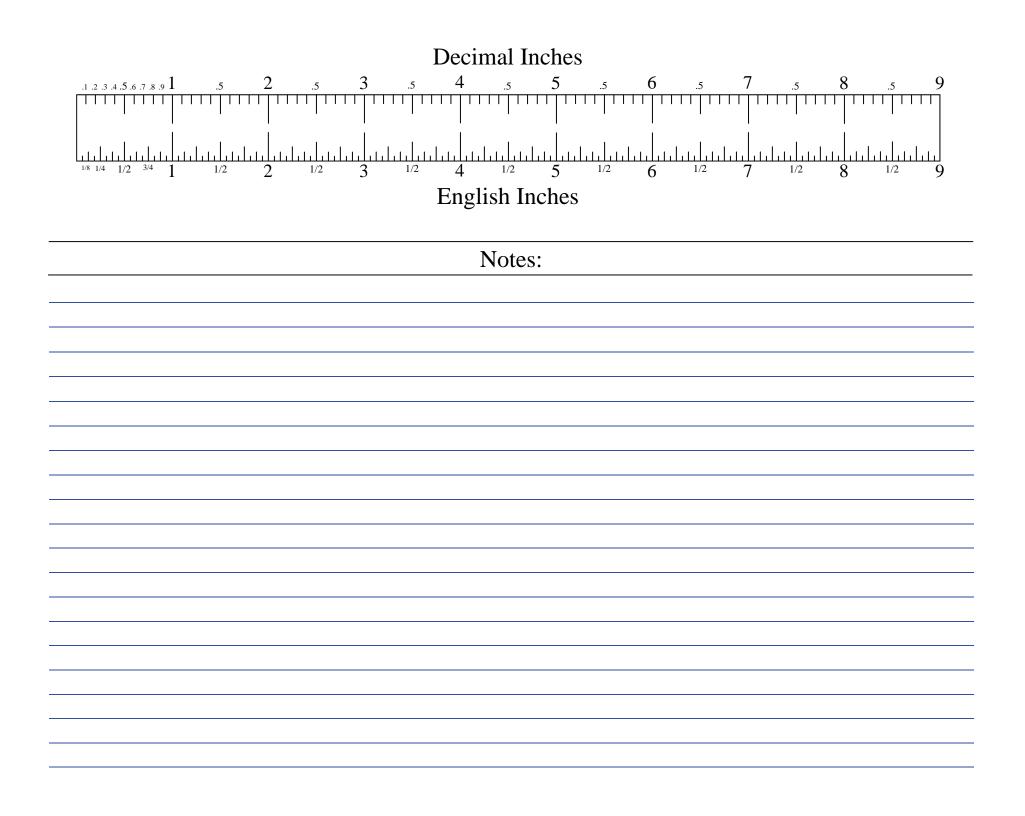


New Revised and Expanded Edition - Includes the latest scientific names, habitat descriptions and identification notes









A Photographic Guide to the Wild Plants of Waterbird Regional Preserve

More than 2,000 species of native and naturalized plants grow wild in the San Francisco Bay Area. Most are very difficult to identify without the help of good illustrations. This is designed to be a simple, color photo guide to help you identify some of these plants. This guide is published electronically in Adobe Acrobat® format so that it can easily be updated as additional photographs become available. You have permission to freely download, distribute and print this guide for individual use. Photographs are © 2014 Wilde Legard, all rights reserved.

In this guide, the included plants are sorted first by form (Ferns & Fern-like, Grasses & Grass-like, Herbaceous, Woody), then by most common flower color, and finally by similar looking flowers (grouped by genus within each family). Each photograph has the following information, separated by '-':

COMMON NAME	According to The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition (JM2) and other references (not standardized).
(Scientific Name)	According to JM2 and eFlora (ucjeps.berkeley.edu/IJM.html).
Origin & Longevity	Native, Naturalized, or Waif (not reproducing without human care). Annual, Biennial, Perennial, or a combination.
Family Name	Common family name according to JM2,
(Bloom date range)	Period during the year when the plant blooms, according to JM2 and other sources. '-' if plant does not bloom (ie. Ferns).
Habitat	Habitat description according to JM2 and other sources.
ID Characteristics	Plant description with identification characteristics and other notes, based on multiple sources including: Annotated Checklist of the East Bay Flora, Second
	Edition (2013), JM2, Plants of the San Francisco Bay Region (Revised Edition), and Weeds of California and Other Western States.
Additional notes	Occasionally, an additional note may appear (ie. NOXIOUS weed, INVASIVE weed, Fed & Calif. ENDANGERED, etc.).

Revision: 3/2/2014

Grass-like - Green/Brown

NARROW-LEAVED CATTAIL (Typha angustifolia) Native Perennial - Cattail Family - (May-Aug) - Nutrient-rich freshwater to brackish marshes, wet disturbed places - Plant 4.9-9.8' tall. Leaves gen < 0.4" wide. Flower cluster gap > 0.4".



BROAD-LEAVED CATTAIL (Typha latifolia) Native Perennial - Cattail Family - (Jun–Jul) -Unpolluted to nutrient-rich freshwater (brackish) marshes - Plant 4.9-9.8' tall. Widest leaves 0.4-1.1" wide. Flower cluster with no gap between flower types.



SLENDER WILD OAT (Avena barbata) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Mar–Jun) -Disturbed sites - Plants gen 24-32". Spikelets 0.8-1.2" long. Awns 0.8-1.8" long. Lemma tip bristles >= 0.1" long. Seeds EDIBLE whole or ground for flour. INVASIVE weed.



WILD OAT (Avena fatua) Naturalized Annual -Grass Family - (Apr-Jun) - Disturbed sites -Plants 1-5' tall. Spikelets 0.7-1.3" long. Low awn 1-1.6" long. Lemma tip bristles < 0.04" long. Seeds EDIBLE whole or ground for flour. INVASIVE weed.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Grass-like - Green/Brown



RIPGUT GRASS (Bromus diandrus) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr–Jul) - Open, gen disturbed areas - Plant 6-40" tall. Spikelet 1-2.8" long. Lemma body 0.8-1.2" long, awn > 1.2" long. Barbed seeds can stick in flesh of animals. INVASIVE weed.



SOFT CHESS (Bromus hordeaceus) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr-Jul) - Fields, disturbed areas - Plant 4-26" tall. Leaf hairy. Flower cluster 1-5" long, dense, some stalks > spikelet. Spikelet 0.5-0.9". Lemma 0.26-0.4", awn 0.16-0.4". INVASIVE weed.



SWAMP PRICKLE GRASS (Crypsis schoenoides) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Jun-Oct) - Wet places - Plant mat-like. Stem 2-30" long. Leaf blade 1-4" long. Flower cluster 0.1-3" long, 0.2-0.6" wide. Spikelet ~0.1" long.



SALT GRASS (Distichlis spicata) Native Perennial - Grass Family - (Apr–Sep) - Salt marshes, coastal dunes, moist, alkaline areas -Stem 4-20" long. Leaves 0.8-4" long, flat, stiff. Flower cluster 0.8-3" long, narrow. Spikelets straw-colored to purple, 2-20/group, 0.24-0.8" long.



BARNYARD GRASS (Echinochloa crus-galli) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Jun–Oct) -Gen wet, disturbed sites, fields, roadsides - Stem 12-39" long, Leaf blades to 25" long, 0.2-1.2" wide. Spikelet 0.1-0.16" long, floret ~0.14" long, 1 per node. Awns 0-2" long on same plant.



BEARDLESS WILD RYE (Elymus triticoides) Native Perennial - Grass Family - (Jun–Jul) - Dry to moist, often saline, meadows - Plant 18-50" tall, from rhizomes. Flower cluster 2-8" long. Spikelets generally 2/node. Lemmas 3-7, 0.2-0.5" long, awn to 0.12" long.



BROME FESCUE (Festuca bromoides) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (May–Jun) -Uncommon. Dry, disturbed places, coastal-sage scrub, chaparral - Stem < 20". Inflor 0.6-6" tall, dense, lower branches erect. Spikelet 0.2-0.4" long, awn 0.1-0.3" long.



HAIRY FESCUE (Festuca microstachys) Native Annual - Grass Family - (Apr-Jun) - Disturbed, open, gen sandy soils - Stem 6-29". Spikelet 0.2-0.4" long, awn 0.1-0.5" long. Glumes & lemma smooth or hairy.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Grass-like - Green/Brown



RYE GRASS (Festuca perennis) Naturalized Perennial - Grass Family - (May–Sep) - Dry to moist disturbed sites, abandoned fields - Stem 20-40" tall. Spikelet 0.2-0.9" long, > glume, awned or awnless. Sterile shoots at base. INVASIVE weed.



MEDITERRANEAN BARLEY (Hordeum marinum subsp. gussoneanum) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr-Jun) - Dry to moist, disturbed sites - Stem 4-20". Leaf blades to 32" long, auricles < 0.08". Central lemma awn 0.25-0.7" long. INVASIVE weed.



HARE BARLEY (Hordeum murinum subsp. leporinum) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family -(Feb-May) - Moist, gen disturbed sites. Common - Stem 12-43" tall. Central spikelet stalk ~0.06" long. Central floret << lateral florets. INVASIVE weed.



COMMON REED (Phragmites australis) Native Perennial - Grass Family - (Jul-Nov) - Pond & lake margins, sloughs, marshes - Stem 6.6-13', gen < 0.4" diam. Leaf blades gen 8-18" long, base gradually narrowed. Flower cluster 6-20". Spikelet 0.4-0.6", lemmas smooth.



RABBITFOOT GRASS (Polypogon monspeliensis) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr-Aug) - Moist places, along streams - Stem 8-39". Leaf 0.4-8" long, 0.16-0.24" wide. Flower cluster 0.4-6.7" long, plume-like. Glume awn > 0.14". Lemma awn gen < 0.1". INVASIVE.



PURPLE NEEDLE GRASS (Stipa pulchra) Native Perennial - Grass Family - (Mar–Jun) - Oak woodland, chaparral, grassland - Stem 14-39" long. Leaf blade 4-8" long, Glumes 0.5-0.8" long, ~equal. Awn 1.6-4" long, last segment straight.



BALTIC RUSH (Juncus balticus subsp. ater) Native Perennial - Rush Family - (Jul–Nov) -Moist to \pm dry sites - Stem 14-43" tall, round, not twisted. No leaf blade. Flowers generally 0.1-0.2" long.



SEACOAST BULRUSH (Bolboschoenus robustus) Native Perennial - Sedge Family -(Summer) - Brackish to saline coastal marshes -Plant 20-60" tall. Stem sharply triangular. Flower cluster dense, stemless, just above bracts. Spikelets 5-25, 0.4-1.2" long.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Grass-like - Green/Brown



COMMON SPIKERUSH (Eleocharis macrostachya) Native Perennial - Sedge Family -(Spring-summer) - Common. Fresh to brackish wetland - Stem 8-39" tall, 0.06-0.1" wide. Spikelet 0.2-1.6" long, 0.08-0.2" wide, style 2-branched.



COMMON TULE (Schoenoplectus acutus var. occidentalis) Native Perennial - Sedge Family -(Summer) - Common. Marshes, shores, fens, shallow lakes, often emergent - Stem 3.3-13' tall, fat, round x-section, blue-green.



OLNEY'S THREE-SQUARE BULRUSH (Schoenoplectus americanus) Native Perennial -Sedge Family - (Summer) - Mineral-rich or brackish marshes, shores, fens, springs - Stem 1.2-8.2' tall, sharply 3-angled, not leafy. Flower cluster head-like.



SOUTHERN BULRUSH (Schoenoplectus californicus) Native Perennial - Sedge Family - (Spring-summer) - Common. Brackish to fresh marshes, shores - Stem 3.3-13' tall, slender, bright green, bluntly 3-angled. Flower cluster somewhat open.



ITHURIEL'S SPEAR (Triteleia laxa) Native Perennial - Brodiaea Family - (Apr–Jun) -Common. Open forest, conifer or foothill woodland, grassland on clay soil - Flower stem 4-28". Leaves 8-16", 0.16-1" wide. Flowers blue, blue-purple or white, 0.7-1.9" long.



MEDITERRANEAN LINSEED (Bellardia trixago) Naturalized Annual - Broom-rape Family -(Apr-Jun) - Disturbed grassland. - Plant sticky-hairy. Stem 6-32" tall. Leaves lance-shaped, toothed. Flowers 0.8-1" long, 2-lipped: upper lip pink, lower lip white. INVASIVE.



DWARF OWL'S CLOVER (Triphysaria pusilla) Native Annual - Broom-rape Family - (Apr–Jun) -Grassland - Plant 2-8" tall, yellow-brown or purple, hairy. Leaves 0.2-1.2" long, 3-9-lobed. Flowers purple (yellow), 0.16-0.28" long, in leaf axils.



PURPLE SANICLE (Sanicula bipinnatifida) Native Perennial - Carrot Family - (Mar–May) -Open grassland, gen on serpentine, or pine/oak woodland - Plant 5-24" tall. Leaves 1.6-7.5" long, 1-2x divided on a winged central axis. Flowers dark purple. Fruits prickly.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - Blue/Pink/Purple



PANICLED / WEEDY WILLOWHERB (Epilobium brachycarpum) Native Annual - Evening Primrose Family - (Jun-Sep) - Common. Dry open or disturbed woodland, grassland, roadsides - Plant 8-79" tall, diffuse. Petals 2-15 mm long, white to rose-purple.



WESTERN SEA-PURSLANE (Sesuvium verrucosum) Native Perennial - Fig-marigold Family - (Apr-Nov) - Uncommon. Moist or seasonally dry flats, margins of generally saline wetlands - Flowers solitary, bright pink to reddish or orange, about 0.4" wide.



ALKALI HEATH (Frankenia salina) Native Perennial - Frankenia Family - (Apr–Sep) - Salt marshes, alkali flats - Matted subshrub, to 1' tall. Leaf blade 0.16-0.6" long, <= 0.24" wide. Petals white to pink or blue-purple, 0.24-0.55" long; gen 6 stamens.



LONG-BEAKED FILAREE (Erodium botrys) Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family -(Mar-Jul) - Dry, open or disturbed sites - Stem 4-35" tall, coarse-hairy. Leaves lobed. Petals pink, 0.3-0.5" long. Sepals w/reddish tip. Fruit beak 2-4.7" long.



REDSTEM FILAREE (Erodium cicutarium) Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family -(Feb-Sep) - Open, disturbed sites, grassland, scrub - Stem 4-20". Leaves compound, leaflets dissected. Sepal tip bristly. Petal pink to purple. Fruit beak 0.8-2". INVASIVE.



GREENSTEM FILAREE (Erodium moschatum) Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family -(Feb-Sep) - Open, disturbed sites - Stem 4-24", short-hairy. Leaves compound, leaflets toothed. Sepal tip glabrous. Petals 0.4-0.6" long, pink. Fruit beak 0.8-1.6" long.



CUT-LEAVED GERANIUM (Geranium dissectum) Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family - (Mar-Jul) - Open, disturbed sites - Stem 3-28" tall, rough-hairy. Leaf blades deeply divided. Petals violet-red, 0.1-0.25" long w/notched tips. Flower stalk sticky. INVASIVE.



WESTERN BLUE-EYED-GRASS (Sisyrinchium bellum) Native Perennial - Iris Family - (Mar-May) - Common. Open, gen moist, grassy areas, woodland - Stem < 25" tall. Leaves iris-like. Petals 6, blue-purple with dark veins, 0.4-0.7" long.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - Blue/Pink/Purple



RADISH (Raphanus sativus) Naturalized Annual -Mustard Family - (May–Jul) - Disturbed areas, fields - Stem 16-51" long, Petals 0.6-1" long, white to purple. Fruit a fat cylinder w/constrictions between seeds. INVASIVE weed.



DELTA TULE PEA (Lathyrus jepsonii var. jepsonii) Native Perennial - Pea Family -(Apr–Aug) - Coastal, estuarine marshes - Plant < 8' tall, smooth. Stem climbing, winged. Flowers 0.6-0.8" long, pink to pink-purple. CNPS: FAIRLY ENDANGERED.



PACIFIC PEA (Lathyrus vestitus var. vestitus) Native Perennial - Pea Family - (Feb–Jul) - North: Conifer forest. South: chaparral & oak woodland -Stem wings to 0.02" wide. Leaves gen elliptic. Flowers 0.5-0.7" long, pale lavender to purple.



MINIATURE LUPINE (Lupinus bicolor) Native Annual - Pea Family - (Mar-Jun) - Abundant. Open or disturbed areas - Plant 4-16", hairy. Flower 0.16-0.4" long, banner longer than wide, upper keel ciliate near tip, pedicel < 0.12". Fruit 0.12-0.24" wide.



SUMMER LUPINE (Lupinus formosus var. formosus) Native Perennial - Pea Family -(Apr-Sep) - Dry clay soils, grassland, open areas under pines, gen in valleys - Plant 8-32", low growing. Leaves hairy. Flowers purple, hairless, summer/fall blooming.



CHICK LUPINE (Lupinus microcarpus var. microcarpus) Native Annual - Pea Family -(Mar–Jun) - Abundant. Open or disturbed areas, occ seeded on roadbanks - Plant 4-32", hairy. Leaves smooth above. Flowers gen pink to purple. Flower bracts shaggy.



ROSE CLOVER (Trifolium hirtum) Naturalized Annual - Pea Family - (Apr–May) - Disturbed areas, roadsides - Head with 1-2 bract-like leaves immed below. Flowers pink, 0.4-0.6" long, densely-bristly in fruit. INVASIVE weed.



SPARSELY HAIRY VETCH (Vicia villosa subsp. varia) Naturalized Annual-Biennial - Pea Family - (Mar-Jun) - Grassland, roadside, disturbed areas - Stems w/few hairs. Flowers 10-20, blue-purple to white, 0.4-0.55" long. Lower bract lobes 0.04-0.1" long.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - Blue/Pink/Purple



ITALIAN THISTLE (Carduus pycnocephalus subsp. pycnocephalus) Naturalized Annual -Sunflower Family - (Mar–Jul) - Roadsides, pastures, disturbed areas - Stems 8-79", narrow spiny-wings. Lower leaves 4-10 lobed, heads 2-5, flower bracts woolly. NOXIOUS.



PURPLE STAR-THISTLE (Centaurea calcitrapa) Naturalized Annual-Biennial - Sunflower Family -(Apr-Nov) - Pastures, disturbed places - Plant 8-40"+. Basal leaves 1-2x divided into narrow lobes. Flowers purple with spiny bracts. NOXIOUS weed.



BULL THISTLE (Cirsium vulgare) Naturalized Biennial - Sunflower Family - (May–Oct) -Common. Disturbed areas - Plant 12-79" tall. Top of leaves bristly; leaf base forming decurrent wings on stem. Flowers purple, gen 1-2" wide. NOXIOUS weed.



ARTICHOKE THISTLE (Cynara cardunculus subsp. flavescens) Naturalized Perennial -Sunflower Family - (Apr–Jul) - Disturbed places -Plant 1.6-8' tall. Artichoke head 1.6-6" diam, spine-tipped. Flowers blue or purple, 1.2-2" long. NOXIOUS weed.



SALTMARSH-FLEABANE (Pluchea odorata var. odorata) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (Jun-Nov) - Moist, often saline valley bottoms - Plant 20-48"+, sticky. Leaves 1.6-4.7" long, egg-shaped. Flowers purple, ~0.2" long, in leaf axils.



WEEDY CUDWEED (Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (Apr–Aug) - Disturbed sites, fields, streambeds - Heads 0.12-0.16" long, yellowish, female flowers < 0.08" long, pappus bristles connected.



MILK THISTLE (Silybum marianum) Naturalized Annual-Biennial - Sunflower Family - (Feb–Jun) -Roadsides, pastures, disturbed areas - Stem 1-10, stout. Leaves spiny, shiny green w/white veins and spots. Flowers red-purple. INVASIVE weed.



ANNUAL SALTMARSH ASTER (Symphyotrichum subulatum var. parviflorum) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Jul–Oct) -Marshes, disturbed places - Heads white to pink, solitary, in leaf axils and stem ends, <50 rays. Flower head bracts sharp-tipped.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - Green/Brown



CURLY DOCK (Rumex crispus) Naturalized Perennial - Buckwheat Family - (All year) -Abundant. Disturbed places - Stem 16-39" tall. Flower cluster dense, valves 0.2-0.24", winged around tubercles, smooth edged. 1 tubercle enlarged. INVASIVE.



FIDDLE DOCK (Rumex pulcher) Naturalized Perennial - Buckwheat Family - (May–Sep) -Disturbed places, meadows, moist or dry habitats - Stem 8-24" long, branches widely spreading. Leaf blades 1.6-4" long, 1.2-2" wide. Valves w/2-5 teeth.



FAT-HEN (Atriplex prostrata) Native Annual -Goosefoot Family - (Apr–Oct) - Wet places, marshes - Plant 4-48" tall, branched at base. Leaves alternate, blades 0.4-3.5" long, triangular, green, not dense-scaly underneath.



PACIFIC PICKLEWEED (Salicornia pacifica) Native Perennial - Goosefoot Family - (Jul–Nov) -Salt marshes, alkaline flats - Plant 4-28" tall, branching from base, branches opposite. Flower clusters 0.8-3.3" long, 0.1-0.2" wide.



DWARF PEPPERGRASS (Lepidium latipes) Native Annual - Mustard Family - (Mar–Jun) -Alkaline soils, vernal pool margins, salt marsh edges, pastures - Stem 0.8-6" long. Leaves 0.8-4" long. Flower cluster distinctly compacted.



MUGWORT (Artemisia douglasiana) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (May–Nov) -Common. Open to shady areas, often in drainages - Plant 20-60" tall. Leaves gen 0.4-4" long, densely hairy below, some 3-5 lobed. Flower bracts hairy.



SPINY COCKLEBUR (Xanthium spinosum) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Jul–Oct) -Disturbed, seasonally wet, often alkaline sites, in grassland, marshes, watercourses - Plant 4-24". Stem node spines 0.6-1.2" long, golden, gen 3-lobed. Bur 0.4-0.5" long.



COCKLEBUR (Xanthium strumarium) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Jul-Oct) -Disturbed, seasonally wet, often alkaline sites, in grassland, marshes, watercourses - Plant 4-32" tall. Stem spineless. Bur 0.4-1.2"+ long.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - Red/Orange



COMMON FIDDLENECK (Amsinckia intermedia) Native Annual - Borage Family - (Mar-Jun) -Abundant. Open, generally disturbed places -Plant 0.5-3' tall. Flowers orange with 5 red spots, 0.3-0.4" long, 0.2-0.4" wide, tube straight.



SHEEP SORREL (Rumex acetosella) Naturalized Perennial - Buckwheat Family - (Apr–Jul) - ± Disturbed, often acidic places - Stem < 16". Leaf gen basal, blade 0.8-2.4" long, lower arrowhead-shaped w/2 lobes. Flowers yellowish, turn reddish. INVASIVE.



SCARLET PIMPERNEL (Anagallis arvensis) Naturalized Annual - Myrsine Family - (Mar–May) - Common. Disturbed places, ocean beaches -Plants 2-16" tall. Flowers 0.2-0.3" long, salmon or occasionally blue. Leaves TOXIC, can cause dermititis.



CALIFORNIA POPPY (Eschscholzia californica) Native Perennial - Poppy Family - (Feb–Sep) -Grassy, open areas - Plant 2-24" tall. Flower w/spreading rim <= 0.2". Petals 0.8-2.4" long, early spring = large and orange, fall = smaller and yellow.



VALLEY TASSELS (Castilleja attenuata) Native Annual - Broom-rape Family - (Mar–May) -Grassland - Plant 4-20" tall, hairy, non-sticky. Leaves 0.8-3.1" long, narrow, 0-3 lobes. Flower cluster 1-12" long, narrow, tips white or pale yellow.



VENUS' NEEDLE (Scandix pecten-veneris) Naturalized Annual - Carrot Family - (Apr–Jun) -Grassy slopes, roadsides - Plant 6-20" tall. Leaf segments finely divided, linear. Flowers white, outer petals larger. Fruit 0.2-1" long with a beak 0.8-2.8" long.



WAVYLEAF SOAP PLANT (Chlorogalum pomeridianum var. pomeridianum) Native Perennial - Century Plant Family - (May–Aug) - Common. Open grassland, chaparral, woodland - Plant 1-8' tall, flowers at night. Bulb juices lather in water.



CALIFORNIA MAN-ROOT (Marah fabacea) Native Perennial - Gourd Family - (Feb–Apr) -Streamsides, washes, shrubby open areas - Vine 6-20' long. Leaves moderately lobed. Flowers cream or white, < 0.3" wide. Fruit spiny all over.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - White



ALKAL-MALLOW (Malvella leprosa) Native Perennial - Mallow Family - (Apr–Nov) - Valleys, gen saline - Stem 4-16" long. Leaf blade 04.-1.4" long, toothed, densely short-hairy. Petals cream-white to yellow, 0.4-0.6" long.



COMMON MINER'S LETTUCE (Claytonia perfoliata subsp. perfoliata) Native Annual -Miner's Lettuce Family - (Jan–May) - Vernally moist, often shady or disturbed sites - Basal leaf length <3x width. Stem leaf gen not angled. Seeds shiny w/large appendage.



BINDWEED (Convolvulus arvensis) Naturalized Perennial - Morning-glory Family - (Mar–Oct) -Roadsides, open areas in many pl communities -Trailing. Leaf 0.8-1.2" long, w/round tip, pointed lobes. Flowers white to pink, 0.8-1" long. NOXIOUS.



PERENNIAL PEPPERGRASS (Lepidium latifolium) Naturalized Perennial - Mustard Family - (Jun-Sep) - Pastures, disturbed areas, fields, grassland, saline meadows, streambanks, sagebrush scrub, edge of marshes - Plant 14-47". Petals white. NOXIOUS.



SMALL-FLOWERED NIGHTSHADE (Solanum americanum) Native Annual-Perennial - Nightshade Family - (Apr-Nov) - Open, often disturbed places - Flower 0.12-0.24" wide w/3mm lobes, white, anthers ~0.07". Seeds ~0.05". Bracts 0.04-0.08", curled back in fruit.



BLACK NIGHTSHADE (Solanum nigrum) Naturalized Annual - Nightshade Family -(Mar-Oct) - Disturbed places - Flower 0.4" wide w/deep lobes, white. Anthers 0.08" long. Seeds 0.08". Bracts 0.08-0.12" long, not curled back in fruit.



STICKY MOUSE-EAR CHICKWEED (Cerastium glomeratum) Naturalized Annual - Pink Family - (Spring) - Dry hillsides, grassland, chaparral, disturbed areas - Flowers 0.1-02" long, white, sticky-hairy. Flower bract hairs extend beyond tip; bracts herbaceous.



SMALL-FLOWER CATCHFLY (Silene gallica) Naturalized Annual - Pink Family - (Spring-early summer) - Fields, disturbed areas - Plant 4-16". Leaves < 1.4" long. Flower cluster short-hairy, bracts sticky-hairy, petal blade 0.2-0.5" long, smooth to notched, white to pink.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - White



COMMON CHICKWEED (Stellaria media) Naturalized Annual - Pink Family - (Feb–Sep) -Oak woodland, meadows, disturbed areas - Plant 2.8-20" tall. Stem w/line of hairs on 1 side. Sepals 0.12-0.18" long. Petals white, 2-lobed, 0.7-0.9x sepals.



ENGLISH PLANTAIN (Plantago lanceolata) Naturalized Annual - Plantain Family - (Apr–Aug) - Common. Disturbed areas - Leaves basal, hairy, 2-10" long, <= 1" wide. Flowers + stem 8-31" tall, flower cluster 0.8-3" long. INVASIVE, lawn weed.



MAYWEED (Anthemis cotula) Naturalized Annual -Sunflower Family - (Apr–Aug) - Common. Disturbed areas, fields, coastal dunes, chaparral, oak woodland - Leaves finely divided into thread-like lobes. Flowers > 0.6" wide, many on top of a well-branched stem.



MARSH BACCHARIS (Baccharis glutinosa) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (Jul–Oct) -Coastal freshwater and saltwater marshes, streambanks - Plant herbaceous, sticky, 3-6' tall. Leaf blades lance-shaped, < 5" long, 0.5-1.2" wide.



FENNEL (Foeniculum vulgare) Naturalized Perennial - Carrot Family - (May–Sep) -Roadsides, disturbed sites - Plants 3-6.5' tall, anise-scented. Stems waxy-blue, canelike. Flowers yellow. Leaf segments thread-like, edible when young. INVASIVE weed.



SHORTPOD MUSTARD (Hirschfeldia incana) Naturalized Biennial-Perennial - Mustard Family -(Apr–Oct) - Disturbed areas - Stem 16-60". Longest leaves 1.6-4" long, dense-hairy. Petals pale yellow, ~0.2" long. Fruit appressed. Fall-blooming. INVASIVE.



CHARLOCK (Sinapis arvensis) Naturalized Annual - Mustard Family - (Mar–Sep) - Disturbed areas - Stem 8-39", no rosette. Leaves coarse. Petals 0.35-0.47" long, yellow. Fruit 0.8-1.8", ascending, beak 0.24-0.47" long w/fat base. 3-7 valve veins. INVASIVE weed.



HEDGE MUSTARD (Sisymbrium officinale) Naturalized Annual - Mustard Family - (Apr–Sep) - Disturbed areas, fields, pastures - Stem 10-22" tall, thin, wiry. Petals 0.1-0.16" long, pale yellow. Fruit 0.4-0.55" long, awl-shaped, appressed.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - Yellow



BERMUDA BUTTERCUP (Oxalis pes-caprae) Naturalized Perennial - Oxalis Family -(Jan-May) - Disturbed areas, roadsides, grassland, dunes - Flowering stem < 12" tall. Leaflets in 3s, < 1.4" long. Petals yellow, < 1" long. Ornamental. INVASIVE weed.



CALIFORNIA LOTUS (Acmispon wrangelianus) Native Annual - Pea Family - (Mar–Jun) -Abundant. Coastal bluffs, chaparral, disturbed areas - Low growing. Flowers yellow aging red, 0.2-0.4" long, almost stemless. Bract lobes same length as flower tube.



BIRD'S-FOOT TREFOIL (Lotus corniculatus) Naturalized Perennial - Pea Family - (Jun-Sep) -Open, disturbed areas - Leaflets 5, 0.16-0.9" long. Flower cluster 3-7 flowered on0.6-4.7" stalk. Flowers bright yellow, 0.4-0.55" long, banner often reddish.



CALIFORNIA BURCLOVER (Medicago polymorpha) Naturalized Annual - Pea Family -(Mar-Jul) - Common. Chaparral, oak woodland, streambanks, roadsides, disturbed areas - Stem 4-20". Flower yellow, 0.14-0.24" long. Spiny spiral fruits. INVASIVE.



SOURCLOVER (Melilotus indicus) Naturalized Annual-Biennial - Pea Family - (Apr-Oct) - Open, disturbed areas - Stem 4-24" long. Leaflets 3, 0.4-1" long. Flowers yellow, ~0.1" long.



BLOW WIVES (Achyrachaena mollis) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Mar–Jun) -Common. Grassy sites, often clay soils - Plant 2-24" tall, soft-hairy. Flowers yellow turning red, 0.1-0.5" wide, extend < 0.1" beyond green bracts. Showy, flat scales attached to seeds.



GIANT NATIVE DANDELION (Agoseris grandiflora var. grandiflora) Native Perennial -Sunflower Family - (Apr–Jul) - Grassland, scrub, woodland - Plant 10-40". Leaf lobes point up. Flower rosy-purple, variable-sized bracts. Seed tapers to beak > 2x body length. Leaf lobes point upward.



TOCALOTE (Centaurea melitensis) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (Apr–Jul) - Disturbed fields, open woodland - Plant 4-39", gray-hairy, resinous. Leaves 0.8-6" long. Flowers yellow, 0.4-0.8" long, bracts tipped w/purple spines. NOXIOUS weed.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - Yellow

YELLOW STAR-THISTLE (Centaurea solstitialis)

YELLOW STAR-THISTLE (Centaurea solstitialis) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family -(May–Oct) - Invasive, roadsides, disturbed grassland or woodland - Plant 4-39" tall. Leaves woolly, extend down the stem. Flower bract spines 0.4-1" long. NOXIOUS weed.



CONGDON'S TARPLANT (Centromadia parryi subsp. congdonii) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Jun-Oct) - Terraces, swales, floodplains, grassland, disturbed sites - Main plant not sticky or short-hairy. Spiny. CNPS: ENDANGERED.



BRASS-BUTTONS (Cotula coronopifolia) Naturalized Perennial - Sunflower Family -(Mar–Dec) - Common. Saline and freshwater marshes, mud flats - Plant 2-16"+ tall, smooth, ± fleshy. Leaves linear to lance-shaped w/linear teeth or lobes. INVASIVE.



GREAT VALLEY GUMPLANT (Grindelia camporum) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (May–Nov) - Sandy or saline bottomland, roadsides - Stem non-woody, 2-8' tall, whitish. Leaves gen resinous. Head to 1.2" wide, bracts bend downward.



BRISTLY OX-TONGUE (Helminthotheca echioides) Naturalized Annual-Biennial -Sunflower Family - (All year) - Common. Disturbed areas - Stem 1-6.5' tall, bristly. Leaf 2-8" long, covered with prickly bumps. Flower heads 0.8-1.6" wide. INVASIVE weed.



SMOOTH CAT'S-EAR (Hypochaeris glabra) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family -(Mar–Jun) - Common. Disturbed areas, grassland, open woodland - Plant 4-24" tall, smooth. Rays 0.2-0.3" long, barely > head bracts. Only inner fruit beaked. INVASIVE.



PRICKLY LETTUCE (Lactuca serriola) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family -(May–Oct) - Abundant. Disturbed places - Stem 1.6-10' tall, prickly-bristly. Leaves deeply-lobed, midvein and edges prickly-bristly. Flowers pale yellow, 0.16-0.2" wide.



DOUGLAS SILVERPUFFS (Microseris douglasii subsp. douglasii) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Mar–Jun) - Grassland, near vernal pools or serpentine - Plant 2-24". Leaf 1.2-10". Pappus scales <= 5, 0.04-0.24" long. Fruit widest at tip.

Revision: 3/2/2014 Herbaceous - Yellow

COMMON GROUNDSEL (Senecio vulgaris) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family -(Feb-Jul) - Common. Disturbed areas - Plant 4-24" tall, not hairy, w/1-10+ stems. Flower head bracts with black-tips. Milky sap.



PRICKLY SOW THISTLE (Sonchus asper subsp. asper) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family -(All year) - Common. Slightly moist disturbed sites, along streams - Plant 4-48". Leaf teeth prickly. Basal lobes of upper leaves rounded, curving downward.



COMMON SOW THISTLE (Sonchus oleraceus) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (All year) - Abundant. Disturbed places - Plant 4-55" tall. Leaf teeth soft to touch. Basal lobes of upper leaves sharply pointed, straight to curving upward.



NARROW-LEAVED MULE'S EARS (Wyethia angustifolia) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (Apr-Aug) - Grassland - Plant 4-35" tall, rough-hairy. Leaves narrow, veins all similar, base blades 4-20" long. Ray flowers 0.6-1.8" long.



CALIFORNIA ROSE (Rosa californica) Native Perennial - Rose Family - (Feb–Nov) - Gen ± moist areas in sun, esp streambanks - Shrub 2.6-8.2' tall w/thick curved spines, forming thickets. Petals pink, 0.6-1" long; sepals unlobed.



WESTERN POISON OAK (Toxicodendron diversilobum) Native Perennial - Sumac Family - (Apr–Jun) - Canyons, slopes, chaparral, coastal scrub, oak woodland - Shrub or vine. Leaflets 3, red in fall, mid leaflet stalked. Flowers green. Fruits white. TOXIC.



BLUE ELDERBERRY (Sambucus nigra subsp. caerulea) Native Perennial - Muskroot Family -(Mar-Sep) - Common. Streambanks, open places in forest - Shrub 7-26' tall. Flower cluster flat-topped, 1.6-13" diam, petals spreading. Fruits waxy blue-black.



BLUE GUM (Eucalyptus globulus) Naturalized Perennial - Myrtle Family - (Oct–Jan) - Common. Disturbed areas - Tree < 200' tall. Flowers single, large, gen stemless. Leaves 4-12" long, 1-1.6" wide; used medicinally by Aboriginals. INVASIVE weed.

Revision: 3/2/2014

Woody - White



OSO BERRY (Oemleria cerasiformis) Native Perennial - Rose Family - (Feb–Apr) - Chaparral, canyons, streambanks, lowland wet to dry open woodland, coast to shaded conifer forest - Shrub 3-20'. Leaf 2-5" long. Flower cluster 1.2-4". Petals white, 0.12-0.24".



ALMOND (Prunus dulcis) Naturalized Perennial -Rose Family - (Feb–Mar) - Canyons, roadsides, grassland (as waif) - Tree 16-26' tall. Leaf blades 1-4" long. Flowers 1-3/cluster. Petals pink to nearly white, 0.5-1" long. Fruit 1-1.6" long, hairy. Cultivar.



PEPPER TREE (Schinus molle) Naturalized Perennial - Sumac Family - (Jun-Aug) - Washes, slopes, abandoned fields - Tree 16-60' tall. Flowers white to yellow. Leaves compound, leaflets stemless. Fruits pink to red, 0.2-0.3" diam.



COYOTE BRUSH (Baccharis pilularis subsp. consanguinea) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (Jul-Dec) - Coastal bluffs, woodland, grassland, disturbed sites, occ on serpentine -Shrub < 15' tall, brittle, common. Leaves gen 0.6-1.6" long.

