

Huckleberry Botanic Regional Preserve has a year-round display of blossoming plants, many rare to the East Bay area. The native plant community found in Huckleberry Preserve is an unusual community known as "Maritime Chaparral," which originated along the southern coast of California when the climate was moister and tempered by the cool coastal fog. Similar vegetation is now found only in a few, isolated pockets throughout the state.

Project History

Perhaps most significant among these plants is the endangered Alameda manzanita. Because the populations are small and



Broom is an invasive plant encroaching on the manzanita. Photo CNPS.

isolated by development, they require careful management. A specific management plan, the *Alameda Manzanita Management Plan*, was prepared for the EBRPD in 1980. The Huckleberry Preserve Resource Enhancement Project is a series of small activities prescribed by this plan to protect and enhance the Alameda manzanita community.



Alameda manzanita plant found at Huckleberry Preserve

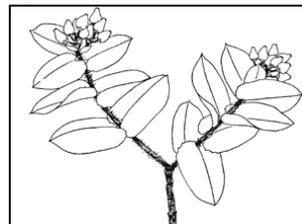
All photos courtesy of Brad Olson unless otherwise noted.



Alameda manzanita (Arcostaphylos pallida)

Project Activities

The current enhancement project was funded by two independent construction companies building single family homes in an existing subdivision adjacent to Huckleberry Preserve. Dunne Construction and Claunch Construction each contributed \$5,000 to compensate for impacts to manzanita plants in vacant lots within this



Alameda manzanita. Courtesy CA Dept. of Fish & Game

subdivision. As the remaining vacant lots fill in, additional funding may be provided, allowing the Huckleberry Resource Enhancement Project to expand its activities.

The current funding will be used to map remaining populations on EBRPD parklands; to remove competing non-native plants such as French Broom, that are encroaching upon manzanita patches; to clear and burn brush piles; and possibly to propagate new manzanita clusters. These activities will strengthen the manzanita population and help ensure its long-term survival.

Quick Facts

Action: Enhancement
Acres: 10
Funding: \$10,000
Provided by: Claunch Construction, Mark Dunn
Completed: [in progress]
Target habitats: maritime chaparral
Target species: Alameda manzanita