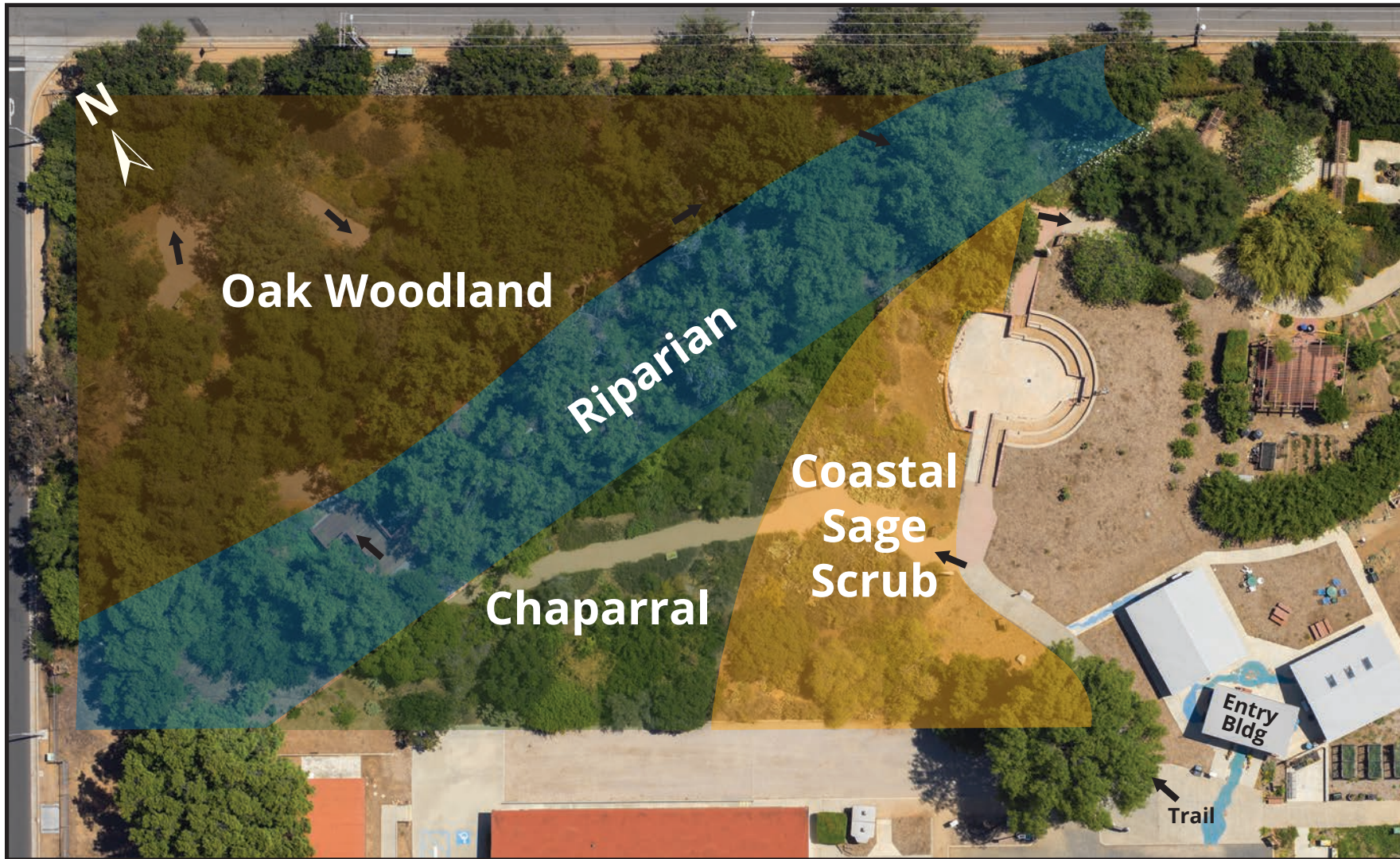


The Native Habitat Area demonstrates four important plant communities of inland Southern California: coastal sage scrub, chaparral, riparian, and oak woodland. These lists include the local native plants and animal species that are likely to be found in each of the four plant communities. The plants provide food, shelter, nesting sites and materials for native animals. Our local plants and animals are adapted to the pattern of warm, dry summers and cool, wet winters known as a Mediterranean climate.

Use these lists to learn about local native plants and animals.



Native Habitat Area

Plants and Animals of Inland Southern California



Coastal Sage Scrub Plants

Coastal sage scrub (CSS) is a plant community of low-growing, aromatic shrubs found in warm, mild climates inland and along the Southern California coast below 3,000 ft. elevation. It's characterized by drought deciduous plants that lose their leaves during hot, dry periods. Many CSS shrubs and perennial herbs become dormant from summer through fall to survive dry conditions, and grow during Southern California's mild, wet winters. Typically, CSS shrubs are partly woody, aromatic, and 1-6 feet tall.



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Eriogonum fasciculatum, California buckwheat
Indigenous Cahuilla use *hulaqal* for medicines and treating wounds.



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The Coastal Sage Scrub plant community

A monarch butterfly gathers nectar from its host plant *Asclepias fascicularis*, narrowleaf milkweed.



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Use these lists to learn about local native plants and animals.

✓	SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	LIFE FORM
	<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i>	Narrowleaf milkweed	perennial herb
	<i>Artemisia californica</i>	California sagebrush	shrub
	<i>Bebbia juncea</i> var. <i>aspera</i>	scabrid sweetbush	shrub
	<i>Corethrogyne filaginifolia</i> var. <i>virgata</i> a.k.a. <i>Lessingia filaginifolia</i> var. <i>filaginifolia</i>	virgate sandaster	perennial herb
	<i>Dudleya lanceolata</i>	lance-leaved liveforever	perennial herb
	<i>Encelia californica</i>	California encelia	shrub
	<i>Encelia farinosa</i>	brittlebush	shrub
	<i>Epilobium canum</i> subsp. <i>canum</i> a.k.a. <i>Zauschneria cana</i>	narrow-leaved fuchsia	perennial herb
	<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> var. <i>foliolosum</i>	leafy California buckwheat	shrub
	<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> var. <i>polifolium</i>	grey California buckwheat	shrub
	<i>Isocoma menziesii</i>	coastal goldenbush	shrub
	<i>Juniperus californica</i>	California juniper	tree
	<i>Lotus scoparius</i> subsp. <i>brevialatus</i> a.k.a. <i>Acmispon glaber</i> var. <i>b.</i>	California broom a.k.a. deerweed	subshrub
	<i>Lupinus bicolor</i>	miniature lupine	annual herb
	<i>Lupinus sparsiflorus</i>	Coulter's lupine	annual herb
	<i>Lupinus succulentus</i>	arroyo lupine	annual herb
	<i>Malocothamnus fasciculatus</i>	bush mallow	shrub
	<i>Malosma laurina</i>	laurel sumac	shrub

Coastal Sage Scrub Plants

Look for dropped and curled leaves, a moisture retaining mechanism that some drought-tolerant plants use during dry periods.



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Coastal sage scrub plant community

Salvia apiana, or white sage, has become a victim of exploitation. Please do not poach white sage from wild lands. It is a plant of cultural significance for Southern California Native Americans. Indigenous Cahuilla use *qas'ily* for food, medicine, deodorant, and ceremonially.

White sage makes a great plant for waterwise home gardens. The Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District sells sustainably grown white sage at the LandUse Learning Center.



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✓	SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	LIFE FORM
	<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i> var. <i>longiflorus</i> a.k.a. <i>Diplacus longiflorus</i>	yellow bush monkeyflower	shrub
	<i>Mirabilis californica</i> a.k.a. <i>M. laevis</i> var. <i>crassifolia</i>	California wishbone bush	perennial herb
	<i>Opuntia littoralis</i>	coastal prickly pear	succulent shrub
	<i>Cylindropuntia</i> var. <i>parryi</i> a.k.a. <i>Opuntia parryi</i>	cane cholla, valley cholla	succulent shrub
	<i>Cylindropuntia prolifera</i> a.k.a. <i>Opuntia prolifera</i>	coastal cholla	succulent shrub
	<i>Phacelia distans</i>	common phacelia	annual herb
	<i>Phacelia minor</i>	California bluebell	annual herb
	<i>Phacelia ramosissima</i> var. <i>latifolia</i>	branching phacelia	perennial herb
	<i>Poa secunda</i> subsp. <i>secunda</i> a.k.a. <i>Poa scabrella</i>	perennial bluegrass	perennial bunchgrass
	<i>Salvia apiana</i>	white sage	shrub
	<i>Salvia columbariae</i>	chia	annual herb
	<i>Salvia mellifera</i>	black sage	shrub
	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> var. <i>caerulea</i>	blue elderberry	small tree; tall shrub
	<i>Solanum xanti</i>	chaparral nightshade	shrubby perennial
	<i>Trichostema lanatum</i>	woolly blue curls	shrub
	<i>Trichostema parishii</i>	mountain blue curls	shrub
	<i>Yucca whipplei</i> a.k.a. <i>Hesperoyucca whipplei</i>	chaparral yucca a.k.a. Spanish bayonet, our Lord's candle	perennial rosette



Encelia farinosa, brittlebush
Indigenous Cahuilla use *pa'akal* for gum, incense and medicines.

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Coastal Sage Scrub Animals

The coastal sage scrub (CSS) plant community is a vital, threatened ecosystem in Southern California that supports nearly 100 rare, threatened, or endangered species, including the iconic California gnatcatcher and coastal cactus wren. This habitat provides food, shelter, and breeding grounds for various reptiles, rodents, and birds adapted to dry, low-growing vegetation.

Look for animals along the trails.



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California gnatcatcher



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California quail



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PHOTO BY JENNIFER IVER

Great horned lizard



© 2012 PHOTO BY AILEE MONTALVO

Do Not Disturb: Red diamond rattlesnake

✓	COMMON NAME	SPECIES NAME	LIFE FORM
	Anna's hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>	bird
	Behr's metalmark butterfly	<i>Apodemia mormo virgulti</i>	insect
	Bewick's wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	bird
	Black-chinned sparrow	<i>Spizella atrogularis</i>	bird
	Bobcat	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	mammal
	Burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	bird
	Cactus wren	<i>Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus</i>	bird
	California legless lizard	<i>Anniella pulchra</i>	reptile
	California gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila californica</i>	bird
	California mantis	<i>Stagmomantis californica</i>	insect
	California quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>	bird
	California towhee	<i>Melospiza crissalis</i>	bird
	Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>	mammal
	Darkling ground beetle	<i>Eleodes armata</i>	insect
	Granite spiny lizard	<i>Sceloporus orcutti</i>	reptile
	Great horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma blainvillii</i>	reptile
	Harvest mouse	<i>Reithrodontomys megalotis</i>	mammal
	Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	bird
	Long-horned grasshopper	<i>Neoconocephalus triops</i>	insect
	Mason bee	<i>Osmia californica</i>	insect
	Orange-throated whiptail	<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra beldingi</i>	reptile
	Quino checkerspot butterfly	<i>Euphydryas editha quino</i>	insect
	Red Diamond rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus ruber ruber</i>	reptile
	Red harvester ant	<i>Pogonomyrmex californica</i>	insect
	Red racer snake	<i>Masticophis flagellum piceus</i>	reptile
	Red tailed hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	bird
	Rock wren	<i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i>	bird
	Rufous-crowned sparrow	<i>Aimophila ruficeps</i>	bird

Coastal Sage Scrub Animals

✓	COMMON NAME	SPECIES NAME	LIFE FORM
	Sage sparrow	<i>Artemisiospiza nevadensis</i>	bird
	San Bernardino blue butterfly	<i>Euphilotes enoptes bernardino</i>	insect
	San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit	<i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i>	mammal
	San Diego desert woodrat	<i>Neotoma lepida</i>	mammal
	San Diego gopher snake	<i>Pituophis melanoleucus</i>	reptile
	Pacific kangaroo rat	<i>Dipodomys simulans</i>	mammal
	Sara orangetip butterfly	<i>Anthocharis sara</i>	insect
	Sonoran blue butterfly	<i>Euphilotes sonorensis</i>	insect
	Stephens' kangaroo rat	<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i>	mammal
	Tarantula	<i>Aphonopelma</i> sp.	arachnid
	Tarantula hawk	<i>Pepsis chrysothymus</i>	insect
	Turkey vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	bird
	Velvet ant (a wasp)	<i>Mutillidae</i> family	insect
	Western mastiff bat	<i>Eumops perotis</i>	mammal
	Western spadefoot toad	<i>Spea hammondi</i>	amphibian



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Tarantula hawk wasp on buckwheat blossoms

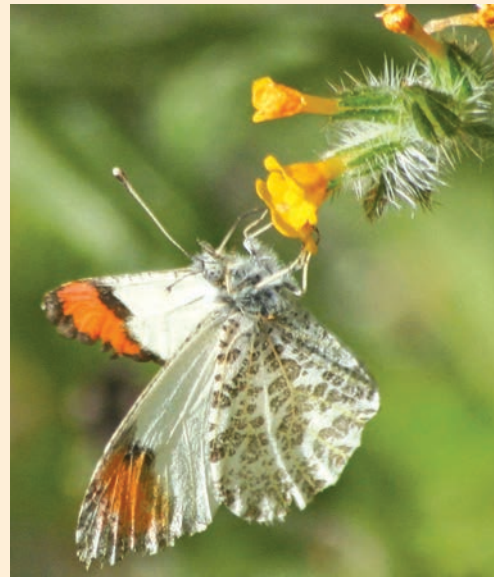


Red tailed hawk



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Stephen's kangaroo rat



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Sara orangetip butterfly



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San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit

Chaparral Habitat of Inland Southern California



Chaparral Animals

Listen! Can you hear any animal sounds?

✓	COMMON NAME	SPECIES NAME	LIFE FORM
	Audubon's cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i>	mammal
	black-chinned sparrow	<i>Spizella atrogularis</i>	bird
	Botta's pocket gopher	<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	mammal
	California dog-face butterfly/larva	<i>Zerene eurydice</i>	insect
	California white-footed mouse	<i>Peromyscus californicus</i>	mammal
	California pocket mouse	<i>Chaetodipus californicus</i>	mammal
	California thrasher	<i>Toxostoma redivivum</i>	bird
	chalcedon checkerspot butterfly	<i>Euphydryas chalcedona</i>	insect
	coastal whiptail lizard	<i>Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri</i> a.k.a. <i>Cnemidophorus tigris</i>	reptile
	Costa's hummingbird	<i>Calypte costae</i>	bird
	Gray fox	<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>	mammal
	greater roadrunner	<i>Geococcyx californianus</i>	bird
	large blotched salamander	<i>Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi</i>	amphibian
	lazuli bunting	<i>Passerina amoena</i>	bird
	pale swallowtail butterfly/larva	<i>Papilio eurymedon</i> a.k.a. <i>Pterourus eurymedon</i>	insect
	spotted towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	bird
	valley carpenter bee	<i>Xylocopa varipuncta</i>	insect
	western pipistrelle bat	<i>Pipistrellus hesperus</i>	mammal
	wrentit	<i>Chamaea fasciata</i>	bird



Valley carpenter bee



Greater roadrunner



Some species are dependent on chaparral, including the wrentit, a small bird known as the "voice of chaparral". It has a distinctive song that sounds similar to a ball bouncing, and that continues for about 4 seconds.



Gray fox

Chaparral Plants

Chaparral plant communities grow on hills and lower mountain hillsides and are predominately composed of evergreen shrubs from 1-15 feet tall. Many chaparral plant species are woody and deep rooted, with thick and waxy, or small and shiny leaves.



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Costa's hummingbird on a *Adenostoma fasciculatum* var. *fasciculatum*, chamise plant

✓	SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	LIFE FORM
	<i>Adenostoma fasciculatum</i> var. <i>fasciculatum</i>	chamise	shrub
	<i>Arctostaphylos glauca</i>	bigberry manzanita	shrub
	<i>Asclepias californica</i>	California milkweed	perennial herb
	<i>Ceanothus crassifolius</i> var. <i>crassifolius</i>	thick-leaved lilac	shrub
	<i>Ceanothus leucodermis</i>	chaparral whitethorn	shrub
	<i>Ceanothus oliganthus</i> var. <i>oliganthus</i>	hairy lilac	shrub
	<i>Ceanothus spinosus</i>	greenbark lilac	shrub
	<i>Ceanothus tomentosus</i>	woollyleaf lilac	shrub
	<i>Cercocarpus betuloides</i> var. <i>betuloides</i>	California mountain mahogany	shrub
	<i>Dendromecon rigida</i>	bush poppy	shrub
	<i>Ehrendorferia chrysantha</i> a.k.a. <i>Dicentra chrysantha</i>	golden eardrops	perennial herb
	<i>Erigeron foliosus</i>	leafy daisy	perennial herb
	<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> var. <i>foliolosum</i>	leafy California buckwheat	shrub
	<i>Eriophyllum confertiflorum</i> var. <i>confertiflorum</i>	long-stemmed golden yarrow	shrub
	<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	toyon, Christmas berry	shrub
	<i>Keckiella antirrhinoides</i> subsp. <i>antirrhinoides</i>	yellow bush beardtongue	shrub
	<i>Keckiella ternata</i>	blue-stemmed bush beardtongue	shrub



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Mature stands of chaparral form dense, closed canopies.



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Arctostaphylos is a genus of evergreen shrubs, primarily native to California, known for its distinctive red, peeling bark, twisting branches, and edible berries. Manzanita translates to "little apples".

Chaparral Plants

✓	SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	LIFE FORM
	<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>denudata</i>	southern honeysuckle	vine to shrub
	<i>Lupinus succulentus</i>	arroyo lupine	annual herb
	<i>Malosma laurina</i>	laurel sumac	shrub
	<i>Penstemon centranthifolius</i>	scarlet bugler	perennial herb
	<i>Penstemon spectabilis</i> subsp. <i>spectabilis</i>	royal penstemon	perennial herb
	<i>Phacelia minor</i>	California bluebell	annual herb
	<i>Prunus ilicifolia</i> subsp. <i>ilicifolia</i>	holly-leaf cherry	shrub
	<i>Quercus berberidifolia</i>	California scrub oak	shrub
	<i>Rhamnus crocea</i>	spiny redberry	shrub
	<i>Rhamnus ilicifolia</i>	holly-leaved redberry	shrub
	<i>Rhamnus californica</i> subsp. <i>californica</i> a.k.a. <i>Frangula californica</i> subsp. <i>californica</i>	California coffeeberry	shrub
	<i>Ribes malvaceum</i> var. <i>viridifolium</i>	chaparral currant	shrub
	<i>Rhus integrifolia</i>	lemonade berry	shrub
	<i>Rhus ovata</i>	sugar bush	shrub
	<i>Stipa coronata</i> a.k.a. <i>Achnatherum coronatum</i>	giant needlegrass	perennial bunchgrass
	<i>Yucca whipplei</i> a.k.a. <i>Hesperoyucca whipplei</i>	chaparral yucca	perennial rosette

Do you see any woody shrubs with thick and waxy, or small and shiny leaves?



Phacelia minor,
California bluebell



Chaparral plant community



Heteromeles arbutifolia, toyon
Indigenous Cahuilla use *ashwet* for food, medicine, tools, and dye.

Riparian Habitat of Inland Southern California



Riparian Animals

Many wild animals move between plant communities but find water at springs, creeks, and streams. A clean water source is an essential resource for wildlife survival.

During hot, dry summers native animals may visit the edges of urban and agricultural areas to find water, such as from irrigation systems and swimming pools. Some wildlife are able to adapt to urban areas, but most cannot.

✓	COMMON NAME	SPECIES NAME	LIFE FORM
	black phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	bird
	belted kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>	bird
	blue grosbeak	<i>Guiraca caerulea</i>	bird
	Bullock's oriole	<i>Icterus bullockii</i>	bird
	broad-footed mole	<i>Scapanus latimanus</i>	mammal
	California red legged frog	<i>Rana aurora draytonii</i>	amphibian
	California vole	<i>Microtus californicus</i>	mammal
	bushtit	<i>Psaltiriparus minimus</i>	bird
	common yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	bird
	Cooper's hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	bird
	deer mouse	<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>	mammal
	black & yellow argiope (spider)	<i>Argiope aurantia</i>	arachnid
	green heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	bird
	great egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	bird
	Least Bell's vireo	<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	bird
	Nevada buck moth	<i>Hemileuca nevadensis</i>	insect
	Nuttall's woodpecker	<i>Picoides nuttallii</i>	bird
	pacific tree frog	<i>Hyla regilla</i>	amphibian
	raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	mammal
	red-winged blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	bird
	rufous sided towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	bird
	southwestern turtle	<i>Actinemys marmorata pallida</i> a.k.a. <i>Clemmys marmorata pallida</i>	reptile
	toad bug	<i>Gelastocoris oculatus</i>	insect
	tree swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	bird
	two-striped garter snake	<i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>	reptile
	western red bat	<i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i>	mammal



Santa Ana sucker



Look for fish in the stream.
Do you see the threatened Santa Ana sucker on the bottom of the stream eating algae?



Arroyo chub

✓	COMMON NAME	SPECIES NAME	LIFE FORM
	western screech-owl	<i>Otus kennicottii</i>	bird
	western tiger swallowtail butterfly	<i>Papilio rutulus</i>	insect
	willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	bird
	wood duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	bird
	yellow warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	bird
	arroyo chub	<i>Gila orcutti</i>	fish
	speckled dace	<i>Rhinichthys osculus</i>	fish
	Santa Ana sucker	<i>Catostomus santaanae</i>	fish



Least Bell's vireo



Great egret

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Riparian Plants

Riparian is defined as “pertaining to the bank of a river”. Riparian plant communities are found along waterways, and the plants are generally more water-thirsty than other plants of southern California.

✓	SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	LIFE FORM
	Trees and tall shrubs		
	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	big-leaf maple	tree
	<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>	white alder	tree
	<i>Platanus racemosa</i>	western sycamore	tree
	<i>Populus fremontii</i> subsp. <i>fremontii</i>	Fremont's cottonwood	tree
	<i>Salix gooddingii</i>	Gooddings black willow	tree
	<i>Salix laevigata</i>	red willow	tree
	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i> var. <i>lasiolepis</i>	arroyo willow	tall shrub to tree
	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> var. <i>caerulea</i>	blue elderberry	tall shrub to small tree
	<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	California bay laurel	tree
	Lower growing plants		
	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	western false indigo	shrub with rhizomes
	<i>Artemisia douglasiana</i>	mugwort	perennial herb
	<i>Artemisia dracunculus</i>	tarragon	perennial herb
	<i>Baccharis salicifolia</i>	mule fat	shrub
	<i>Baccharis salicina</i>	willow baccharis	shrub
	<i>Bidens laevis</i>	smooth bur-marigold	perennial herb
	<i>Bromus carinatus</i>	California brome	annual to perennial grass
	<i>Eleocharis parishii</i>	Parish spikerush	perennial herb
	<i>Elymus glaucus</i>	blue wildrye	perennial bunchgrass
	<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i> subsp. <i>ciliatum</i>	green willow-herb	perennial herb
	<i>Juncus mexicanus</i>	Mexican rush	perennial herb
	<i>Juncus xiphioides</i>	iris-leaved rush	perennial herb
	<i>Leymus triticoides</i> a.k.a. <i>Elymus triticoides</i>	creeping wildrye	perennial grass
	<i>Melica imperfecta</i>	small flowered melic grass	perennial bunchgrass
	<i>Mimulus cardinalis</i> a.k.a. <i>Erythranthe cardinalis</i>	scarlet monkeyflower	perennial herb
	<i>Mimulus guttatus</i> a.k.a. <i>Erythranthe guttata</i>	seep monkey flower	perennial herb
	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	deergrass	perennial bunchgrass



Salix exigua, narrow-leaved willow



Riparian plant community

Riparian Plants

✓	SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	LIFE FORM
	<i>Oenothera elata</i> subsp. <i>hirsutissima</i> a.k.a. <i>O. hookeri</i>	great marsh evening primrose	perennial herb
	<i>Penstemon spectabilis</i> subsp. <i>spectabilis</i>	royal penstemon	perennial herb
	<i>Pluchea odorata</i> a.k.a. <i>P. purpurescens</i>	marsh fleabane	perennial herb
	<i>Pluchea sericea</i>	arrowweed	clonal shrub
	<i>Romneya coulteri</i>	matilija poppy	perennial herb
	<i>Romneya trichocalyx</i> a.k.a. <i>R. coulteri</i> var. <i>trichocalyx</i>	hairy matilija poppy	perennial herb
	<i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i> a.k.a. <i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	watercress	perennial herb
	<i>Rosa californica</i>	California rose	woody vine/shrub
	<i>Salix exigua</i>	narrow-leaved willow	shrub
	<i>Scripus acutus</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i>	common bulrush	perennial herb
	<i>Scrophularia californica</i> subsp. <i>floribunda</i>	California figwort	perennial herb
	<i>Solidago californica</i> a.k.a. <i>Solidago velutina</i> subsp. <i>californica</i>	California goldenrod	perennial herb
	<i>Stachys bullata</i>	California hedge-nettle	perennial herb
	<i>Typha domingensis</i>	southern cattail	perennial herb
	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	broad-leaved cattail	perennial herb
	<i>Vitis girdiana</i>	desert wildgrape	woody vine

Our arid Southern California inland region has many important waterways that appear dry much of the year. Lower lying channel areas, sometimes referred to as washes, ravines, or arroyos often contain *intermittent* creeks that stop and start during the rainy season and *ephemeral* creeks that are short-lived and dry much of the year. These drier waterways have less soil moisture compared to *perennial* streams that flow all year long. With periodic water, they support less water-thirsty riparian plants including elderberry, mule fat, giant wild rye and Southern California black walnut.



Vitis girdiana, wildgrape

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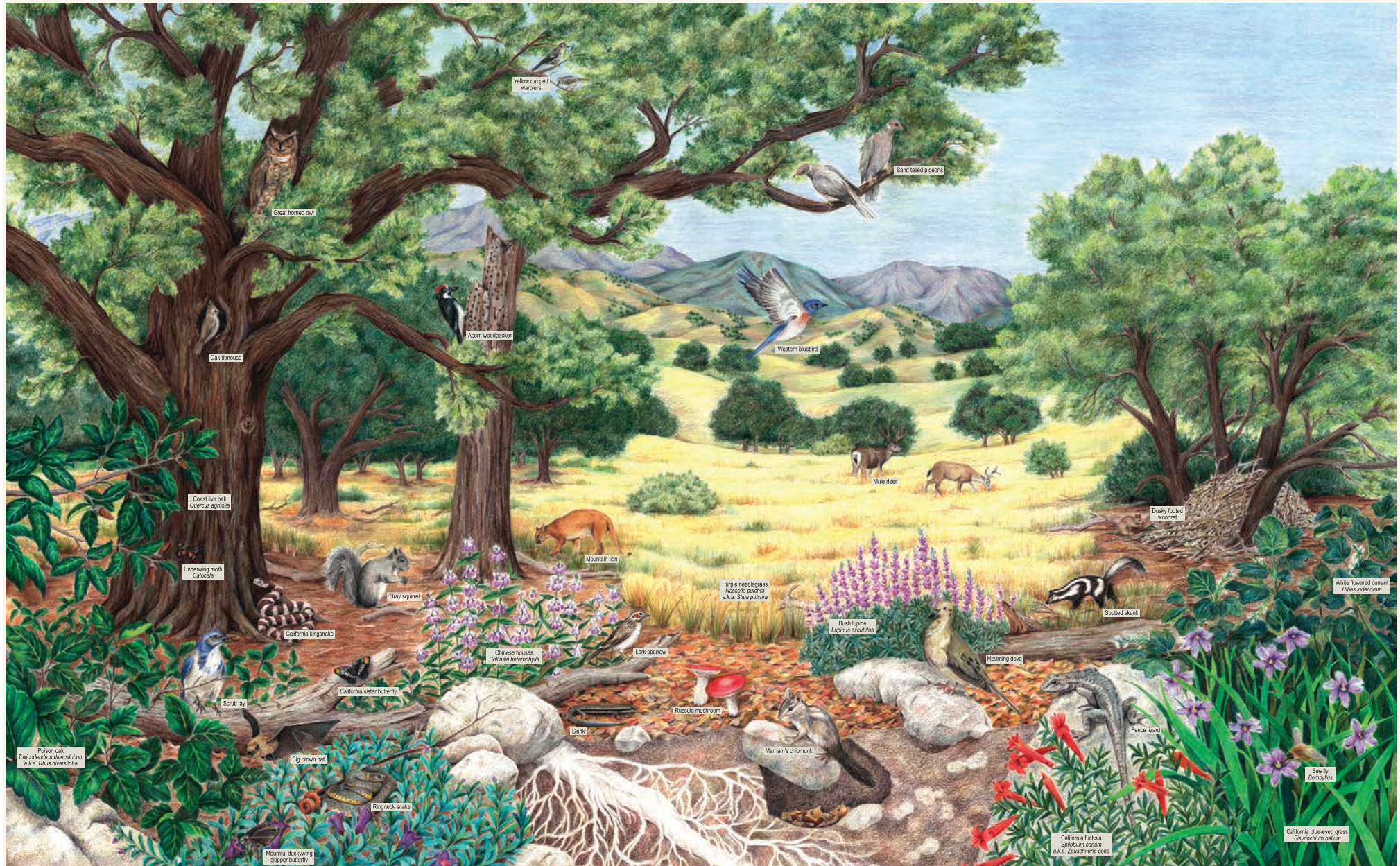
Riparian plant community



Cattail

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Oak Woodland of Inland Southern California



Oak Woodland Animals

Oak woodlands are considered one of the richest habitats providing food, shelter and nesting sites for a great variety of animals that live in the tree tops to the soil below. Oak trees provide an important food source: the acorn.



✓	COMMON NAME	SPECIES NAME	LIFE FORM
	acorn woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	bird
	band-tailed pigeon	<i>Columba fasciata</i>	bird
	bee fly	<i>Bombylius major</i>	insect
	big brown bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>	mammal
	California Kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis getula californiae</i>	reptile
	California sister butterfly	<i>Adelpha bredowii</i>	insect
	Dusky footed woodrat	<i>Neotoma fuscipes</i>	mammal
	great horned owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	bird
	lark sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	bird
	Merriam's chipmunk	<i>Eutamias merriami</i>	mammal
	mountain lion	<i>Felis concolor</i>	mammal
	mournful dusky-wing skipper butterfly	<i>Erynnis tristis</i>	insect
	mourning dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	bird
	mule deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>	mammal
	oak titmouse	<i>Baeolophus inornatus</i>	bird
	ringneck snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus</i>	reptile
	western skink	<i>Eumeces skiltonianus</i>	reptile
	spotted skunk	<i>Spilogale gracilis</i>	mammal
	underwing moth catocala	<i>Catocala aholibah</i>	insect
	western bluebird	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>	bird
	western fence lizard	<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>	reptile
	western gray squirrel	<i>Sciurus griseus</i>	mammal
	western scrub Jay	<i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	bird
	yellow-rumped warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	bird

Look for the acorn woodpecker in the oak tree. Where does it store its acorns?

Acorn woodpeckers rely on oak trees not only for acorns and nesting cavities, but also for eating a variety of insects that live on and around the tree. In turn, the woodpeckers help distribute acorns.



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Fence lizard



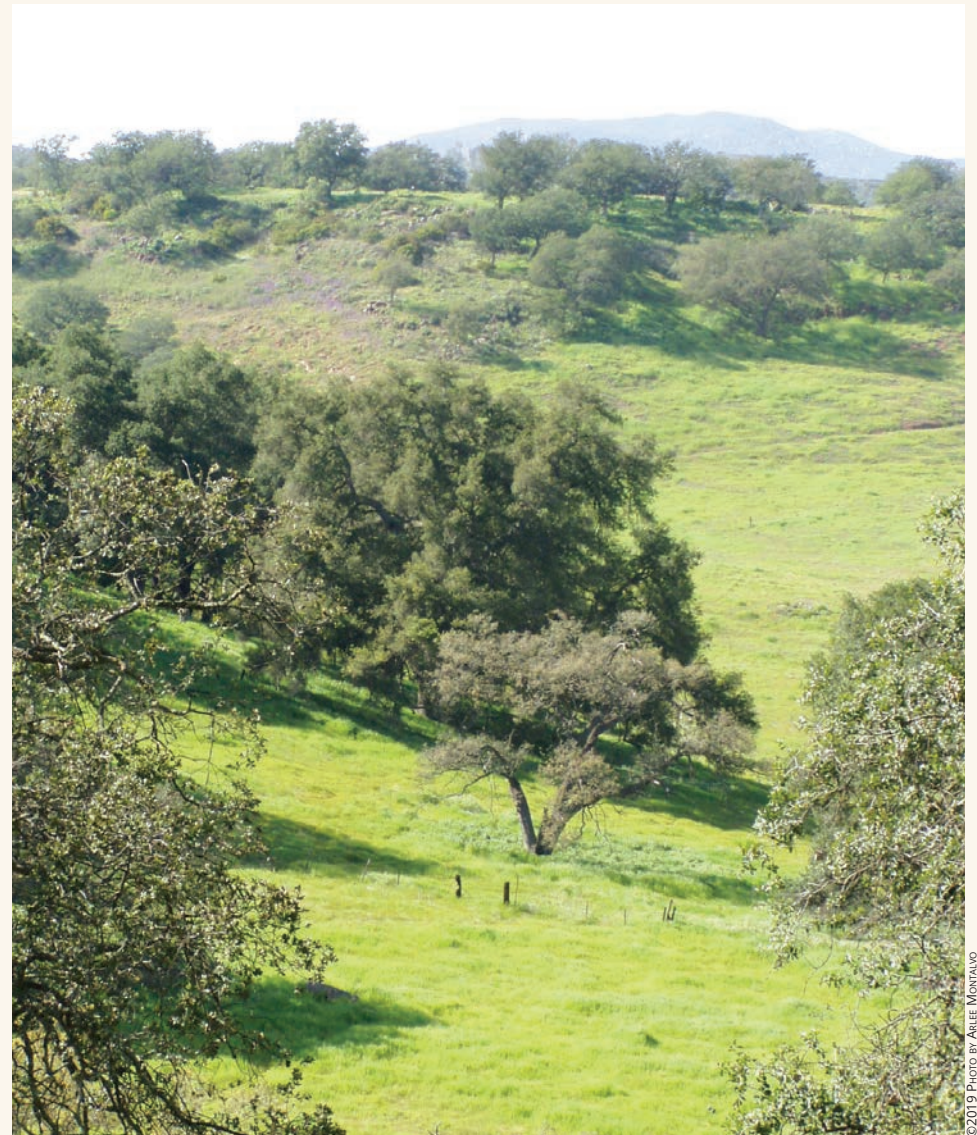
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Mule deer

Oak Woodland Plants

The oak woodland plant community is typically found on plateaus, valley floors, foothills, and fault-lines. Oak dominated landscapes have understories of grasslands or coastal sage scrub with forbs, leaf litter, and woody debris.

✓	SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	LIFE FORM
	Trees and tall shrubs		
	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i> var. <i>agrifolia</i>	coast live oak	tree
	<i>Quercus berberidifolia</i>	California scrub oak	shrub to small tree
	<i>Quercus engelmannii</i>	Engelmann oak	tree
	<i>Quercus wislizenii</i> var. <i>frutescens</i>	interior live oak	shrub or tree
	<i>Juglans californica</i> var. <i>californica</i>	southern California black walnut	tree
	<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	toyon, Christmas berry	shrub to small tree
	Lower growing plants		
	<i>Allium haematochiton</i>	red-skinned onion	perennial herb
	<i>Amsinckia intermedia</i>	common fiddleneck	annual herb
	<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i>	narrow-leaved milkweed	perennial herb
	<i>Bromus carinatus</i>	California brome	annual to perennial grass
	<i>Clarkia purpurea</i> subsp. <i>quadrivulnera</i>	four-spot purple clarkia	annual herb
	<i>Calchortus splendens</i>	splendid mariposa lily	perennial herb
	<i>Castilleja</i> spp.	paintbrush	perennial herb
	<i>Ceanothus leucodermis</i>	chaparral whitethorn	shrub
	<i>Collinsia heterophylla</i>	Chinese houses	annual herb
	<i>Dichelostemma capitatum</i> subsp. <i>capitatum</i>	blue dicks	perennial herb
	<i>Elymus glaucus</i>	blue wild rye	perennial bunchgrass
	<i>Ericameria palmeri</i> var. <i>pachylepis</i>	grassland goldenbush	shrub
	<i>Filago californica</i>	California filago	annual herb
	<i>Gnaphalium bicolor</i> a.k.a. <i>Pseudognaphalium biolettii</i>	bicolored cudweed	perennial herb



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Acorns are food for indigenous peoples and wildlife.
Indigenous Cahuilla name: *wi'asily*

Oak Woodland Plants

✓	SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	LIFE FORM
	<i>Gnaphalium californicum</i> a.k.a. <i>Pseudognaphalium californicum</i>	California everlasting	annual to biennial herb
	<i>Leymus condensatus</i> a.k.a. <i>Elymus condensatus</i>	giant wildrye	perennial grass
	<i>Lupinus bicolor</i>	miniature lupine	annual herb
	<i>Marah macrocarpa</i>	wild cucumber	perennial vine
	<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i> var. <i>longiflorus</i> a.k.a. <i>Diplacus longiflorus</i>	yellow bush monkeyflower	shrub
	<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i> var. <i>puniceus</i> a.k.a. <i>Diplacus puniceus</i>	red bush monkeyflower	shrub
	<i>Mirabilis californica</i> a.k.a. <i>Mirabilis laevis</i> var. <i>crassifolius</i>	California wishbone bush	perennial herb
	<i>Nassella cernua</i> a.k.a. <i>Stipa cernua</i>	nodding needlegrass	perennial bunchgrass
	<i>Nassella lepida</i> a.k.a. <i>Stipa lepida</i>	foothill needlegrass	perennial bunchgrass
	<i>Nassella pulchra</i> a.k.a. <i>Stipa pulchra</i>	purple needlegrass	perennial bunchgrass
	<i>Penstemon centranthifolius</i>	scarlet bugler	perennial herb
	<i>Penstemon spectabilis</i> subsp. <i>spectabilis</i>	showy penstemon	perennial herb
	<i>Rhus trilobata</i> a.k.a. <i>Rhus aromatica</i>	skunk bush, basket bush	shrub
	<i>Ribes indecorum</i>	white-flowered chaparral currant	shrub
	<i>Scrophularia californica</i> subsp. <i>floribunda</i>	California figwort	perennial herb
	<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	California blue-eyed grass	perennial herb
	<i>Solanum xanti</i>	purple nightshade	shrub
	<i>Stipa coronata</i> a.k.a. <i>Achnatherum coronatum</i>	giant needlegrass	perennial bunchgrass

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Bluebirds and woodpeckers are *cavity nesters*, which means they rear their eggs and chicks inside holes in trees, often dead trees. Woodpeckers have highly specialized anatomy for constructing their own cavities. But bluebirds and most other cavity nesters have to find empty nest sites.

The North American bluebird population (*Sialis* species) began to decline in the late twentieth century, mainly due to the removal of dead and dying trees in urban areas and from loss of habitat from urban and agricultural development.

Bluebirds also lose nesting sites to house sparrows and aggressive non-native European starlings.

For information about Western bluebirds and ways to help them, please see **Help Bring Back the Bluebirds:**
www.rcrcd.org/files/51fa81595/2024+bluebird+handout+web.pdf



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Purple nightshade

Sustaining Habitat Lands

Why conserve native landscapes?

Due to loss of habitat lands to urban and agricultural uses, the Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD) works to conserve remaining undeveloped areas and to reduce impacts on habitat (homes) and water quality.

Our remaining wildlands are important. Healthy native habitats provide *ecosystem services*. In other words, they:

- filter and clean water and air
- control flooding and erosion
- moderate weather extremes
- decompose waste
- generate soils and renew their fertility
- foster pollination, and more.

Habitats are healthy when they host native plants that animals use for food, shelter, and nesting sites.



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How can we have places for homes (human habitat), farms to grow food, and at the same time maintain natural areas with native plants and animals?

By preserving large blocks of native habitat with connections or *corridors* for wildlife movement and migration. Preservation usually requires efficient land use, excellent planning, public support, partnerships, educating local leaders, and funding.



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Red racer

Why is it important to prevent invasive species from displacing native plants in wildlands?

Plant and animal species in an ecosystem have developed together and hold complimentary roles: they are *interdependent*. Removal of even one native species from an ecosystem may disrupt natural interactions and reduce another species' ability to survive.

Sustaining Habitat Lands

How do we conserve habitat lands?

Preservation simply means to permanently dedicate important natural lands and links between them, so they will never be developed to other uses. To learn about the ways the Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District helps preserve land, see **Conserving Critical Habitat**: www.rcrcd.org/files/e51e3855c/ConservingCriticalHabitat.pdf

Restoration is work to restore degraded habitats to healthier conditions, so they function naturally and provide the *ecosystem services* that are essential for human survival. Restoration includes removing invasive species, re-establishing native plants, propagating and restocking native animals, controlling erosion and sediment, removing trash and debris, and correcting other human impacts.

Management is continued care of habitat lands to maintain their health and to preserve natural functioning. Land management involves monitoring for *indicator* species and threatened or endangered species, if present. Habitat lands are continually watched for invasion of exotic weeds, dumping of trash, off-road vehicle intrusion, urban encroachment, noise during nesting and mating season, and other human impacts. Water quality and pollution sources are monitored in waterways and water bodies.

Learn more about native habitat conservation:

Conserving Waterways: www.rcrcd.org/files/5f43d25b4/Conserving-Waterways2018web.pdf.

Protecting our Native Fish: www.rcrcd.org/files/2fd782352/ProtectingOurNativeFish.pdf.

In Southern California our human population has expanded into wildlife habitat. Most of our wildlife neighbors, including coyotes, naturally avoid or fear humans. Coyotes provide many ecosystem benefits, such as by controlling rodent and other small mammal populations.

You can reduce interactions with coyotes by removing food sources & protecting small pets. Become “coyote smart” by following the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s guidelines at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/HWC/Coyotes>.



Burrowing owls are unique in that they are the only raptor species that nests and roosts underground. They are a Species of Special Concern in California where they have been eliminated as a breeding species from nearly one-third of their former range mainly due to habitat loss from agricultural and urban development.

Other factors include:

- increased presence of predators including dogs, cats, coyotes, and ravens
- the eradication of ground squirrels, the burrowing mammals that create essential, underground homes for the owls
- secondary poisoning from the use of rodenticides (poison) that control ground squirrel populations
- collisions with vehicles and wind turbines.

Help Burrowing Owls:

- Keep dogs on leashes and cats indoors away from burrows.
- Observe owls from a respectful distance. Conduct activities away from the owls.
- Protect nesting areas during egg-laying, incubation, and rearing of the young.
- Do not spray pesticides or use rodenticides near owl nests.
- Support conservation initiatives and habitat preservation.

Resources

How Can You Help Support Native Habitats?

When urban and agricultural areas are adjacent to preserved habitat land, it's important to include buffers for fire protection, fuels management, and human activities that spill over and impact wildlands, such as noise, lights, pets, invasive landscaping plants and more.

Publications to learn ways to reduce human impacts on habitat and water quality:

- **Living on the Edge of the Urban-Wildlands Interface** at www.rcrcd.org/files/f917888b1/LivingOnTheEdge-remediated.pdf
- **Plan Your Pollinator Paradise:** www.rcrcd.org/files/9abe75d28/pollinator+garden+handout+web22.pdf
- **Steps for Success with Milkweed and Monarchs:** www.rcrcd.org/files/65eb89ba5/2020_Monarch_Milkweed_for_SoCal.pdf

Books available at RCRCd:

- *Wildflowers and Important Native Plants of the Inland Empire*
- *Backyard Birds of the Inland Empire*
- *Flora of the Santa Ana River and Environs*



RCRCd
Publications

Organizations

California Native Plant Society: www.cnps.org

Riverside-San Bernardino Chapter:

chapters.cnps.org/riversidesanbernardino/

California Invasive Plant Council: www.cal-ipc.org

California Oak Foundation: www.californiaoaks.org

Pollinator Resource Center: www.xerces.org/pollinator-resource-center

The Western Section of the Wildlife Society: <https://twc-west.org/>

Native Plant Selection Tools

Cal Flora: www.calflora.org

CALSCAPE plant guide: www.calscape.org

SoCal Yard Transformation: www.socalyardtrans.com

Tree Selection Guide for California: www.selecttree.calpoly.edu

Video Tour of the LandUse Learning Center:



Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District

4500 Glenwood Dr., Bldg. A, Riverside, CA 92501 • (951) 683-7691 • www.rcrcd.org

Native Plant Gardens

Visit native plant pollinator gardens at the LandUse Learning Center and nearby Bonaminio Park.

California Botanic Garden and Grow Native Nursery, Claremont
(909) 625-8767 • www.calbg.org

Theodore Payne Foundation for Native Plants, Sun Valley
(818) 768-1802 • www.theodorepayne.org

Native Plant Nurseries

If you live at the edge of wildlands, please use seed and plants that were produced from a locally-collected seed source, like those sold at the LandUse Learning Center.

Back to Natives Restoration, Santa Ana
(949) 481-9090 • Instagram: @backtonatives

El Nativo Growers, Azusa
(626) 969-8449 • www.elnativogrowers.com

Las Pilitas Nursery, Escondido
(805) 438-5992 • www.laspilitas.com

Moosa Creek Nursery, Valley Center
(760) 749-3216 • www.moosacreeknursery.com