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CALYPSO

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NEWSLETTER OF THE DOROTHY KING YOUNG CHAPTER CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

CALENDAR

Gardening With Native Plants

Thursday, March 9

7:00 p.m., Gualala Community Center

Speaker: Peigi Duvall, Chair of the state CNPS
Horticulture Committee

How can we use our California native plants to conserve resources, support wildlife, and create gardens that delight the senses?

We are happy to welcome Peigi Duvall, Horticulture Program Director for CNPS, landscape designer and Santa Clara Valley Chapter member, who will share insights and experiences about good use of native plants in the landscape. The CNPS Horticulture Program works to bring more awareness to the public about our wonderful California flora.

Plant Sale Work Days

Thursday, March 16, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 13, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

In preparation for this year's Fall Plant Sale there will be two Plant Sale work days to be held at the home of Jon Thompson and Roberta Rams in Anchor Bay. For those interested and for more information please contact Jon at 884-4847

Annual Environmental Potluck

Monday, March 20

6:00 p.m. – Dinner, 7:30 p.m. – Program
Recreation Hall, Russian Gulch State Park

The always popular Annual Environmental Partnership Potluck is sponsored by CNPS, Audubon, Mendocino Area Parks Association (MAPA) and the Mendocino Land Trust (MLT), with this year's event hosted by MAPA.

Please bring dishes, silverware, beverage and an appetizer, main dish, salad or dessert to share. If you can't make the dinner, please join us at 7:30 p.m. for the program. We ask for a donation of \$2.00 at the door to help pay for rent and expenses.

Due to new regulations, wine will not be sold. Bring your own bottle! Soft drinks or water will be available for \$1.00, as usual.

To get to the Rec. Hall, go two miles north of the town of Mendocino, turn west at the Russian Gulch State Park entrance sign, turn left onto Point Cabrillo Drive, and follow the signs to the Rec. Hall.

Anyone who wants to help set up tables and chairs can arrive around 5 p.m. Arrive early to set up information tables & displays.

Peter Warner, State Parks Environmental Scientist and well-known weed warrior, has graciously agreed to be the speaker. Peter's talk is expected to cover exotic invasive plant species, the Dept. of Parks & Recreation's activities in the Mendocino District, and ways for local citizens to get involved.

The Environmental Stewardship Awards will be presented at 8:15 p.m. with two recipients again this year. Joan Curry will be honored posthumously. We would like to dedicate this year's gathering to Joan, as one of originators of the Environmental Potluck Dinners. We will recognize her tireless efforts, which made such difference here on the coast.

Joan was a supporter of many environmental organizations, was a past president of the local chapter of the CNPS, wrote about and raised funds for the removal of exotic invasive species on the Mendocino Headlands, worked to preserve Big River and Glass Beach, and so much more.

As one supporter commented: "Joan Curry's style was controversial, but she did make a difference both for the environment and for preserving historic Mendocino."

Peter Warner, State Parks Environmental Scientist, will also be honored this year. Peter has participated in a host of projects in the public domain, serving in Regional, State, and National parks. Peter's work covers a broad span, from research and monitoring to propagation, re-vegetation, training, and community-based restoration programs.

Recently, Peter initiated a Mendocino Coast Weed Management Area group, bringing together diverse participants to implement effective approaches. Currently, Peter adds many hours of volunteering to his professional efforts, helping to organize and work with community members on the removal of exotic invasives in parklands and other community sites.

Anderson Valley Wildflower Show

Saturday & Sunday, April 29 & 30
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., rain or shine
June Building, Mendocino County Fairgrounds,
Hwy. 128, Boonville, CA. Free Admission.

Up to 400 hundred plant and wildflower specimens will be collected for display by members of the Garden Section of the Anderson Valley Unity Club for the annual wildflower show. Botanists are invited to come Saturday to assist in identification and labeling of specimens. Plants and books will be for sale and food may be purchased in the tearoom. For information, contact: Susan Hopkins 707 895-3624.

May Programs

May 12 – We are planning a book signing and garden lecture with Bart O'Brien, co-author of the new book, *California Native Plants for the Garden*, in Fort Bragg.

Also for May, we are working to schedule a talk in Gualala by plantsman, Roger Raiche, on "The Cedars" – a region of Sonoma County that is legendary for its floral treasures and unique geology. A follow-up field trip is June 17, since people who see photos of the Cedars will want to visit it.

SPRING FIELD TRIPS - 2006

by Peter Warner

Saturday, March 4: Sanhedrin Chapter Lichen & Moss Field Trip, Baechtel Creek off Muir-Mill Road. Meet at 9 a.m., Ray's parking lot in Willits. Leaders: Matt Richmond (mrichmond@rcaconsulting.net) and Kerry Heise (kheise@copper.net, 462-4533).

Saturday, March 11: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Glass Beach headlands, Fort Bragg. Early spring is the season to see *Blennosperma nanum* ssp. *robustum*, but lots of other early-rising bloomers should also be starting to awaken. Meet at north end of Glass Beach Drive. Trip leader: Peter Warner (937-2278, corylus@earthlink.net). Rain date: Sunday, March 19, same time & place.

Saturday, April 1: Sanhedrin Chapter Annual Flower Count at Low Gap Park, Ukiah. Trip leader: Mark Albert (462-7843, albert@pacific.net).

Saturday, April 8: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Salt Point State Park coastal bluffs and prairie. Lots of diverse habitats to explore! Meet at Stump Beach parking lot; bring lunch. Trip leader: Peter Warner (937-2278).

Saturday, April 8: Sanhedrin Chapter Botanical Field Trip, Maxwell Property. Co-leaders Marisela de Santa Anna (459-2681, mdsa@saber.net) and Geri Hulse-Stephens (459-3689, gerihs@pacific.net).

Saturday, April 22: Earth Day activities, including field trip on Mendocino Headlands, invasive plant removal, beach cleanup at Big River, and water and art activities. Contact Mendocino Land Trust (962-0470) or Mendocino Area Parks Association (937-5397, christina@mapa.org) for schedule of events.

Saturday, April 22 (estimated): Sanhedrin Chapter *Sidalcea hickmanii* and *Senecio jacobaea* monitoring, Lake Pillsbury. Trip leader: Tara Athan (485-1198, tara_athan@safe-mail.net).

Saturday, May 6: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. MacKerricher State Park. Rare plants galore, and a jaunt through dell and dale of the Ten Mile Dunes. Trip leader: Peter Warner (937-9176; 937-2278, corylus@earthlink.net).

Saturday, May 6: Sanhedrin Chapter Botanical Field Trip to Shimmons Ridge Road. Meet at the Safeway parking in Willits at 9:00 a.m. Leader: Kerry Heise (kheise@copper.net, 462-4533).

Sunday, May 7: 1 – 4 p.m. Navarro Point Field Trip. The Mendocino Land Trust is turning 30 this spring! CNPS is collaborating with MLT for a botanical hike and tour of this dramatic and gorgeous coastal site. Meet in the Navarro Point parking lot at 1 p.m. for an educational walk on the loop trails covering the sweeping headlands to learn about the unique botanical resources and to understand how the Land Trust is working to manage invasive species. Peter Warner will lead the walk. Dress warmly, and be prepared for the weather. For more information: Mendocino Land Trust (962-0470).

Saturday, May 13: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Ross Property addition to Montgomery Woods State Reserve. Celebrate this new State Parks property addition with Save-the-Redwoods League. Trip leader: Peter Warner (937-9176, corylus@earthlink.net).

Saturday, May 20 (estimated): Haven's Neck, Anchor Bay. Trip co-leaders: Jon Thompson and Roberta Rams (884-4847, robajon@mcn.org).

Saturday, May 20: Sanhedrin Chapter trip to Rickabaugh Glade, BLM property east of Ukiah. Splendid upland wetlands and adjacent woodlands. Leader: Vishnu (467-341, vishnuvishnu@sbc.global.net).

May 26 – May 29, Memorial Day weekend: Salt Point State Park. Rare plant surveys, invasive plant sacrificial ceremonies, good food, and great company. Camping site included with your participation. Reservations requested. Contact: Peter Warner (937-2278, corylus@earthlink.net).

May 27 – June 17 (pending funding): Sanhedrin Chapter *Tracyina rostrata* surveys. Co-leaders: Kerry Heise (462-4533, kheise@copper.net), Geri Hulse-Stephens (459-3689, gerihs@pacific.net), and Matt Richmond (mrichmond@rcaconsulting.net).

Saturday, June 3: Gualala River. A walking tour of the lower reach of this great coastal river with an exceptional and entertaining botanist. Prepare to get your feet wet! Trip leader: Peter Baye (415-310-5109, baye@earthlink.net).

Saturday, June 3 (estimated): Sanhedrin Chapter *Pleuropogon hooverianus* (semaphore grass) viewing, MRC property, Ukiah. Leader: Chuck Williams (462-8984).

Saturday, June 10 (estimated): Sanhedrin Chapter *Sidalcea hickmanii* and *Senecio jacobaea* monitoring, Lake Pillsbury. Trip leader: Tara Athan (485-1198, tara_athan@safe-mail.net).

Saturday, June 17: The Cedars, the fantastic serpentine wonderland in NW Sonoma County. Reservations required. Trip leader: Roger Raiche. Contact: Peter Warner (937 2278, corylus@earthlink.net).

Note: For details on Sanhedrin Chapter events see: <http://www.alt2is.com/cnps-sanhedrin/index.shtml>

HABITAT RESTORATION EVENTS

by Peter Warner

Saturday March 4: 9 a.m., First Annual Joan Curry Memorial Work Day on the Mendocino Headlands. Please join Joan's friends for a few hours of giving our wonderful coastal flora some room to exult! Meet at the Heeser Drive parking lot. Bring water, lunch,

and work gloves. Contact: Peter Warner (937-9176, pwarn@parks.ca.gov).

Saturday, March 18: Big River work day. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Meet at Big River beach parking lot. Contact: Matt Coleman, Mendocino Land Trust (962-0470).

Saturday, March 25: Jug Handle State Reserve work day with Mendocino Coast Audubon. Broom, gorse, and cotoneaster removal. Contact: Peter Warner (937-9176, pwarn@parks.ca.gov)

Saturday, April 15: Big River work day. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Contact: Matt Coleman, MLT (962-0470).

Saturday, April 22: Earth Day beach clean-up, invasive plant pillaging, and other events. Information: MLT (962-0470), MAPA (937-5397, christina@mapa.org) or Peter Warner (937-9176, pwarn@parks.ca.gov).

Saturday- Sunday, April 29-30: Come to the Boonville Flower Show and visit the Mendocino Coast Cooperative Weed Management Area table! Lots of invasive plants will be sacrificed for display -- better here than left to thrive in native plant habitats!

Memorial Day weekend, May 26-29: Salt Point State Park. Invasive plant removal, plant walks, camping, and fun. Reservations requested. Contact: Peter Warner (937-2278, corylus@earthlink.net)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Lori Hubbart

There is just too much happening, and spring hasn't really started yet! The conservation issues are written up below and they have been very time-consuming, indeed. However, there is good news!

In January, the DKY Chapter co-hosted an event in Gualala to raise funds for the Redwood Coast Land Conservancy with its local projects and legal expenses.

The number of people in attendance showed that RCLC is hugely supported by the community. Attendees ate tasty homemade desserts, watched Mary Sue Ittner's lovely wildflower presentation, drank donated wine and champagne, and bid on various north coast adventures.

Ultimately, some \$5,600.00 was raised, and DKY hopes to add to that with another donation to RCLC. This conservation partnership is working very well, and we look forward to working with RCLC in the future.

News from State CNPS: CNPS is pleased to welcome a new Executive Director, and here is what our state president, Brad Jenkins, has to say about her: Amanda Jorgenson joins us with a history of

work in conservation, natural resource management and organization management. Most of this work has been with non-profit organizations.

Amanda started her career with a BS in Biology from George Mason University and an MA in Latin American Studies, Tropical Conservation and Development from the University of Florida (Gainesville).

A progression of jobs in the U.S. and Latin America led to her most recent position as Country Program Coordinator for the Wildlife Conservation Society in Ecuador. She supervised and coordinated the design and implementation of activities to promote research and conservation of biological diversity at the landscape scale. To fully understand what she helped accomplish there, talk to her about the diverse groups she brought together for successful projects.

Somewhere along the way, Amanda had time to compile a list of reports and publications to her credit as well. Amanda lives in the Sacramento area and will be in the office most weekdays during normal working hours. Please feel free to introduce yourself in person, by phone at the CNPS office (916) 447-2677 or email ajorgenson@cnps.org.

Transitions The sad news is that our State Parks Superintendent, Mike Wells, is leaving the area for a position at Anza Borrego State Park. This move was motivated by family concerns, not any dissatisfaction with the Mendocino coast. It was wonderful to have a superintendent with a doctorate in ecology, and an ethical, down-to-earth way of dealing with things. We wish Mike the best of luck down south, but what a shame to lose him!

HERE WE GO AGAIN

by Mary Rhyne

In 1988, Roxanne Bittman wrote me on behalf of the Dept. of Fish & Game asking me to update the Natural Diversity Database for our Coast Lily, *Lilium maritimum*. She wanted to know if they were becoming more rare. Time was short and she wanted results that same year. She sent maps indicating known occurrences along the Sonoma and Mendocino coast.

Were there new occurrences? Were the old occurrences now smaller or larger? Were they threatened by building or grazing animals or erosion? It was a big job so I asked all of you out there to help by calling me or sending a post card if you knew of a site where they occurred. You were wonderfully responsive. As your cards and calls came in I could plan several trips to your area to complete the survey.

Will you do it again? It is 18 years later and much could have changed. These gorgeous orange-red lilies occur in coastal prairie, North Coast coniferous forest, closed-cone coniferous forest, coastal scrub, marshes and swamps, and in roadside ditches. Blooming may start early in May and even run through most of June. The flowers are bell-shaped and nodding with recurved petals. The height of the plant can be anywhere from 10 inches to 4 feet.

Please send your observations to Mary Rhyne, 42227 Roseman Creek Rd., Gualala, CA 95445, 884-3043, donkb@mcn.org.



Coast Lily, *Lilium maritimum*, by Bob Rutemoeller

Look at the **Pacific Bulb Society's** website to view additional Mendocino Coast wildflower photos by chapter members Mary Sue Ittner and Bob Rutemoeller: www.pacificbulbsociety.org/pbswiki/index.php/MendocinoSonomaCoast

CONSERVATION

by Lori Hubbart

Pygmy Forest Development

As reported in the last issue, the Mendocino County Planning Commission voted to deny the application by a development company for boundary line adjustment and subdivision on Albion Ridge. This land includes Mendocino pygmy cypress forest. The applicants appealed this decision to the Board of Supervisors.

The appeal was heard at a Mendocino County Supervisor's meeting on January 24. After some two and a half hours of testimony and questions, the Board voted to uphold the appeal and let the project

go forward. The dissenting votes came from coastal Supervisors Smith and Colfax, with Wagenet casting the deciding vote in favor of the developers.

The meeting was structured so that members of the public each had three minutes to speak. Then, project proponents got to make additional presentations that included many misleading statements and some outright falsehoods. They knew the public would not be allowed to challenge their claims.

CNPS and local activists are now considering where to go from here. A County Planner stated that, "Outside the Coastal Zone, pygmy forest has no special protection." Our goal is to change county policy, perhaps first by getting the county to acknowledge that pygmy forest is wetland habitat.

Some thirty years ago, young people settled in our area as part of a "back-to-the-land movement". Often the only land they could afford was pygmy forest land. They found pygmy soils have poor drainage and are next to impossible to grow a garden on.

Now history is repeating itself, with pygmy forest land all that many people can afford in our inflated real estate market (as well as developers aiming to make money). However, no one should really be building anything on pygmy forest land.

Pygmy Forest Conservation and Education

A core group of activists, scientists and educators is working to increase conservation, understanding and appreciation of Mendocino's pygmy forest. They are developing a new fact sheet to help inform decision-makers.

The pygmy forest will get some positive coverage through the PlaceMeant project of the Ukiah Players, <http://www.ukiahplayerstheatre.org>. The project documents stories inspired by places in Mendocino County. A proposal by two local pygmy activists for a video segment on the pygmy forest was accepted into the program. They attended a three-day intensive workshop on video production, from concept to filming to editing. We are happy about this opportunity to get our message out there.

A bumper sticker with a catchy slogan about the pygmy forest is also being discussed. What else? Maybe a poster, a T-shirt, or ultimately, a pygmy forest curriculum for local schools. And of course, we continue to work to strengthen conservation regulations.

Remember, you can help the pygmy forest get the protection it needs by gathering vegetation data. Please call Lori Hubbard at 882-1655 to volunteer for vegetation surveys.

Vineyards near Gualala?

A landowner on Roseman Creek Road on the ocean side of the Ridge is hoping to clear some acreage and put in a vineyard, presumably of pinot noir grapes. Wine cognoscenti doubt that any wine grapes would succeed in such an ocean-influenced site and there are also serious environmental concerns.

Roseman Creek Road is a steep, narrow, unpaved road running from Highway One up to the Ridge. Erosion and contamination of local water supplies are huge concerns. Of course, soil runoff and inflow of pesticides and fertilizers into nutrient-poor podzol soils pose a real threat to local native plants and animals.

We know there are interesting forms of manzanita, *Arctostaphylos glandulosa*, up there and there are also believed to be rare plants on the property. The intrepid Alan Levine, of Coast Action, is following this issue very closely. It isn't clear what would happen to the land if the vineyard failed (see above), but it is virtually impossible for any native landscape to regenerate itself on vineyardized land.

Jackson Demonstration State Forest

The new Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) was issued in December of 2005, with the Management Plan for the forest as the project it covers. It is very large – too large to be easily reviewed and understood by the public – a violation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) right there!

Further, it looks like the previous JDSF Environmental Impact Report in a fat suit. It has been padded with pages and pages of reports, factoids, background information and studies. There is often little or no connection made between the literature and the conclusions reached in the EIR.

One problem has been that the CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, which administers the forest, is woefully understaffed. CNPS has been telling CDF for years that some of the profits made from logging the forest should be re-invested in administration. It would have helped CDF hire staff to write an EIR that was consistent with CEQA.

The DEIR is required to provide several "alternatives" for its treatment of the forest, including levels of logging and silvicultural methods. The CDF administrators of JDSF have recommended an alternative that is basically high-level logging, and business as usual. In a record move, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors voted to oppose this

alternative and support the one that was originally recommended by the JDSF Citizens' Advisory Committee years ago.

The official DKY comment letter will advocate for demonstrable compliance with CEQA, protection of pygmy forest, a formal research program, sustainable logging with an ecosystem focus, a plan for funding research and conservation, and better communication with the public, since this is public land.

Garcia River Land Update

As reported here a while back, the nonprofit Conservation Fund, in partnership with the California Coastal Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, and Wildlife Conservation Board has purchased 24,000 acres along the Garcia River from Coastal Forestlands, Ltd.

The Fund will operate the property as a reserve and a working forest, subject to sustainable forestry guidelines. Timber production will generate revenue to support ongoing forest and stream restoration work and preserve jobs within the community. To further safeguard the fragile habitat and river corridors valuable to the northern spotted owl and other species within the watershed, The Nature Conservancy holds a conservation easement that protects the forest from future development.

The partners held a public information meeting at Coast Community Library on February 8. Nearly 50 people showed up, some of whom are directly involved in the project, like fishery restorationist, Craig Bell, and forester, Craig Blencowe.

Attendees had questions about several aspects of this grand experiment, including possible use of herbicides. While no one disputes that over-logging has resulted in a greater-than-historical number of hardwoods, particularly tanbark (*Lithocarpus densiflorus*), there are valid concerns about large-scale removal of hardwoods.

The hack-and-squirt method of killing hardwoods with herbicides is widely employed in forestry. How will the loss of madrones (*Arbutus menziesii*) impact bandtailed pigeons, which rely on the berries and are primary dispersers of madrone seeds? Even though large-diameter hardwood trees will be retained as heritage trees, there would be no young trees to take their places once they are gone, with all the younger trees being killed off. DKY will communicate with representatives of the partner groups about oak conservation. There are seven species there, plus natural hybrids!

CNPS will ask for complete biological surveys, so the management plan can be created with accurate

baseline data about what is really out there. Due to lack of funding, the surveys are being done in a piecemeal fashion. Lichen and bird surveys might be done by volunteers, but plant surveys require voucher specimens – a time-consuming, cumbersome process (lichen vouchers can be much smaller) that is hard to do using volunteers. Also, in such a large area, it can be hard to get correct taxonomic identification and thorough coverage even with hired botanical consultants.

Attendees also expressed the wish for fuller public participation in planning for this land, which was purchased with public funds. CNPS will probably support this idea, maybe through a citizens' advisory committee.

GARDENING NOTES by Lori Hubbart

The exquisite, creamy-yellow blooms of coast wallflower (*Erysimum menziesii* ssp. *concinnum*) are out along the coast, and may be in your garden, if you bought this plant at our plant sale. Plants can be induced to bloom a second time, and also to live longer if they are cut back right after their first early spring flowering.

Wallflowers are in the cabbage and mustard family, as is the non-native wild radish that abounds on the coast. Wild radish (*Raphanus* species) has showy flowers, too, but can be very invasive. For a plant curiosity, check out the feral cabbage plants – edible cabbage gone wild – growing on the cliff faces at Mendocino Headlands State Park.

Another showy, albeit daintier, native in the cabbage family is milkmaids. It is now known as *Cardamine californica*, but used to be *Dentaria californica*, a name which reflects another of its common names, toothwort. Its small, pure white flowers are great for brightening up shady, woodland corners. It can be grown in gardens, but seldom is, perhaps because it is not a large, flashy plant.

Douglas iris (*Iris douglasiana*) and various manzanitas round out the early bloomers among the horticultural natives. This is a time to get the jump on weeds before they bolt and turn into unruly monsters. For grubbing out small weeds in the garden, it helps to have a low footstool to sit on, plus the right tools. Small chopping and prying implements and a sturdy Japanese garden knife are most useful.

After our peculiar winter weather – downpours followed by spring-like warm days, followed by dry spells and freezes – we will be ready for the March and May programs on gardening. It's always good to relax and let pictures take us to an ideal world where plants and the weather behave themselves.

CAMPING TRIP PLANNED

Diane Wickstrom, Camping Chair, is planning a chapter trip for July 20-24 to Kangaroo Lake in the southern part of Klamath National Forest. The area is near Scott Valley at around 5,000 feet and we will explore for high elevation wildflowers including those occurring in serpentine soils. Accommodations are limited to 20 people. For more information, contact Diane at 884-4556, dwickie@mac.com. See the May-June issue of the Calypso for details.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The DKY Chapter has been granted an Encroachment Permit from Caltrans for the Highway One realignment project at Schooner Gulch. We need help transplanting individuals of *Sidalcea malviflora* ssp. *purpurea* (purple-stemmed checkerbloom) into containers. Plants will need to be taken care of until they are finally transplanted to a designated area. We plan to start sometime in mid-April. If you are interested in participating by housing and taking care of up to 25 plants and/or helping transplant please call Jon Thompson at 884-4847.

Post-Fire Dispersal of Ectomycorrhizal Fungi in California Forests

by Lori Hubbard

These notes are from a lecture by mycologist, Tom Bruns, at the Dec. 2005 Chapter Council meeting. The study is particularly interesting to those of us who live along the coast, since it involves Bishop pine (*Pinus muricata*), a major forest species here.

Dr. Bruns reported on his research at Point Reyes on Limatour Ridge. The Mount Vision Fire of 1995 provided both motivation and opportunity to study post-fire mechanisms.

The research project was designed to reveal how the ectomycorrhizal fungi re-establish themselves after fire. The term, mycorrhizae, refers to symbiotic associations between the roots of many plant species and certain fungi.

These associations benefit plants in various ways, helping them access a lower water table, or taking up large amounts of inorganic nutrients from the soil – phosphorus in particular. The colonizing fungus also benefits, receiving carbons that have been produced by the plant.

In the case of Bishop pine and their fungal associates, the fungi obtain between 20% and 30% of the carbohydrates produced by the pine. Ectomycorrhizal fungi grow between root cortical

cells and form a sheath of hyphae around a root. The roots interact with the soil primarily through the fungus, rather than directly.

Identification of the fungi is done by genetic sequencing of ground up mycelial threads. *Laccaria* is one of the fungal genera involved, and the families Russulaceae, Thelephoraceae and Amanitaceae also play roles in the plant-fungi web. The most abundant mycelial threads found on the roots do not necessarily produce large, conspicuous fruiting bodies. A dominant fruiter was *Suillus pungens*, though its threads were not dominant on the roots.

Part of the research project involved trying to grow the subject fungal species in research greenhouses. Researchers could not get *Russula* spores to grow, and found that minute mites were eating the spores. The frass (droppings) of the mites was full of spores, as was the frass of various springtails and millipedes.

The Bishop pine seedbank is actually held more in the closed cones than on the ground. Heat from fire triggers a massive release of these seeds. The roots of the post-fire Bishop pine seedlings were found to be dominated by Ascomycetes and the genus *Rhizopogon*, which is strongly associated with pines.

You may have seen the fruiting bodies of *Rhizopogon* in the woods – small, plump, truffle-like mushrooms half buried in forest duff. They are very much relished by squirrels, mice, voles and woodrats, who function as dispersers of the spores. The droppings of these rodents, as well as those of banana slugs, were found to be full of *Rhizopogon* spores.

The research also confirmed that *Rhizopogon* is dominant on younger trees and forests, with other fungi taking over as the trees mature. Species of this genus are important in pine forest re-establishment and in pine colonization of meadows.



Bishop pine root showing three mycorrhizal morphotypes in close proximity: *Rhizopogon* sp. (white, center left), Thelephoroid type (dark brown, upper left) and *Russula amoenolens* (yellow, right). ©Bruns Lab <http://plantbio.berkeley.edu/%7Ebruns/tour/fungi2.html>

OFFICERS 2006

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Vice President:		OPEN
Secretary:	Rich Schimbor	785-9626
Treasurer:	Mary Hunter	785-1150

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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CONSERVATION	Lori Hubbart	882-1655
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MEMBERSHIP	Bob Rutemoeller	884-4426
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Sonoma Co.	Dorothy Scherer	882-2850
South Coast	Mary Rhyne	884-3043
VEGETATION		
North & South	OPEN	
WEBMASTER	Norm Jensen	
	webmaster@dkycnps.org	

All phone numbers are Area Code 707.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: The next meeting of the Executive Board is scheduled for the 4th week in April at the Point Arena Library. For details, please contact Lori Hubbart at 882-1655.

CALYPSO May - June Deadline: Send in newsletter items by Saturday, April 22, 2006 to: Julia Larke P.O. Box 1631, Fort Bragg, CA, 95437; 964-2845.

DKY CHAPTER WEBPAGE at www.dkycnps.org includes Activities & Events, What's Blooming, and related links. You can view the current issue of Calypso as well as access archived newsletters. Please send photographs and articles for posting on the webpage to webmaster, Norm Jensen.



Calypso Orchid J.Larke

CNPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION DOROTHY KING YOUNG CHAPTER

Membership in the California Native Plant Society is open to all. The task and mission of the Society is to increase awareness, understanding, and appreciation of California native plants. The challenge is to preserve their natural habitat through scientific educational, and conservation activities. Membership includes subscription to the quarterly *Fremontia*, as well as our local chapter newsletter, the *Calypso*.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Tel. _____ E-mail _____

I wish to affiliate with the DKY Chapter _____
or, other chapter _____

(Please check, or name a chapter; CNPS will make assignment if none is specified by applicant.)

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

Student/Retired/Limited Income	\$25
Individual	\$45
Family/Group/Library	\$75
Plant Lover	\$100
Patron	\$300
Benefactor	\$600
Mariposa Lily	\$1,500

Make check out to the California Native Plant Society;
mail check and application to:

Bob Rutemoeller, Membership Committee
DKY Chapter, CNPS
PO Box 577
Gualala, CA 95445