



The Shooting Star

SIERRA FOOTHILLS CHAPTER

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2018

DECEMBER POTLUCK MEMBER'S PLANT PICTURE SHOW

Thursday, December 6, 6:00 p.m.

Sonora Senior Center

540 Greenley Rd., Sonora

– The December monthly meeting is our annual potluck dinner and member's slide show held at the Sonora Senior Center which is next to the Sonora Library at 540 Greenley Road. We will meet at our usual time of 6 p.m. Please bring a dish to share. *It is requested that a card listing ingredients be included for those with food sensitivities.*

– For our program, you are encouraged to bring digital photos featuring native plants, such as from field trips, your travels in California, from a local garden, or just some of your favorite native plants. Bring them on a flash drive or external hard drive in either a PowerPoint presentation, a PDF or WORD document or as separate photos in JPEG format. We will provide a digital projector, screen and computer for the showing. If you have traditional analog slides, you need to let Jennie Haas know by November 30th jhaas953@gmail.com so we can also have a slide projector available.

– This is a fun, relaxing evening with good food and good photos to enjoy. Hope to see you there!

**NO GENERAL MEETING OR NEWSLETTER IN JANUARY.
SEE YOU IN FEBRUARY!**

Thoreau on Winter Reading

“Books of natural history make the most cheerful winter reading. I read in Audubon with a thrill of delight, when the snow covers the ground, of the magnolia, and the Florida keys, and their warm sea breezes; of the fence-rail, and the cotton-tree, and the migrations of the rice-bird; or of the breaking up of winter in Labrador. I seem to hear the melting of the snow on the forks of the Missouri as I read. I imbibe some portion of health from these reminiscences of luxuriant nature...

“In society you will not find health, but in nature. You must converse much with the field and woods, if you would imbibe such health into your mind and spirit as you covet for your body. Society is always diseased, and the best is the sickest. There is no scent in it so wholesome as that of the pines, nor any fragrance so penetrating and restorative as that of everlasting in high pastures. Without that our feet at least stood in the midst of nature, all our faces would be pale and livid.”

[Thoreau's Journal entry for December 31, 1841]

If you change your mailing or e-mail address, be sure to send a note to Jennie Haas. This will keep your newsletter on time!

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*Dedicated to the Preservation of
California Native Flora.*

FALL PLANT SALE UPDATE

Our fall plant sale was a success with over 600 plants finding homes in our foothill gardens. It was a perfect fall day. We sold Spice Bush, Bush Anemone, California Fuchsias, Penstemons, Salvias, Matilija Poppy, Lupine, Manzanita, Ceanothus, Buckwheat, and more!

A very special thanks to over 25 volunteers that helped. Without all of you, our plant sale would not have happened. Starting with the deliveries, thank you to Margaret, Pat Gogas and Pat Reh who helped unload the trucks and price the plants. Next, the stalwarts that provide the vehicles and help load and unload the plants. Think about it, no vehicles, no plants, NO sale. It took 7 trucks, to haul plants, tables, wagons, and signs to the sale. Thanks to Nancy, Val, Martha, Todd, Heather, Wendy, Pat, Linda, Ken, Paolo, Denise, Paolo, and Eileen. And, after the sale, thanks to Katy, Val, Nancy, Denise, for hauling plants, tables, signs and unloading all our “stuff” back to the growing area.

A special shout out to the cashiers, tag pullers, knowledgeable people, book sellers and those who helped unload plants – Sheila, Francesca, Minou, Eileen, Jennie, Karen, Diane, Patricia, Denise, Stefani, Val, Nancy, Judy and Bob. And a big THANK YOU to our hospitality leader Margaret who provided the hot drinks and treats to get us through the chilly morning and snacks all morning long.

It truly takes a village to pull off a successful plant sale. If I have forgotten anyone, please know that your help was really appreciated. THANKX again everyone.

Stephanie Garcia
Plant Sale Chairperson

Eriogonum grande var. *rubescens*, a dicot, is a **perennial herb** that is **native** to California, is endemic (limited) to California.

also called *Eriogonum grande* var. *dunklei*

CNPS Rare Plant Rank: **1B.2** (rare, threatened, or endangered in CA and elsewhere). 8th Edition



Addendum from a happy customer (your editor)

For each of the last four years I have purchased an assortment of plants at the Fall Plant Sale, and set them loose in Merced. Not all of them make it – but the natives do a heckuva lot better than my vegetables. I saw a buckwheat this year that I didn't recognize: *Eriogonum grande* ssp. *rubescens*. I bought two and planted them in my backyard. I was surprised to learn that this is a rare plant (CNPR 1B.2) restricted mainly to the Channel Islands. (Calflora map at left, one of my specimens below.) If you see a blue dot in Merced County next year, you'll know where it came from.



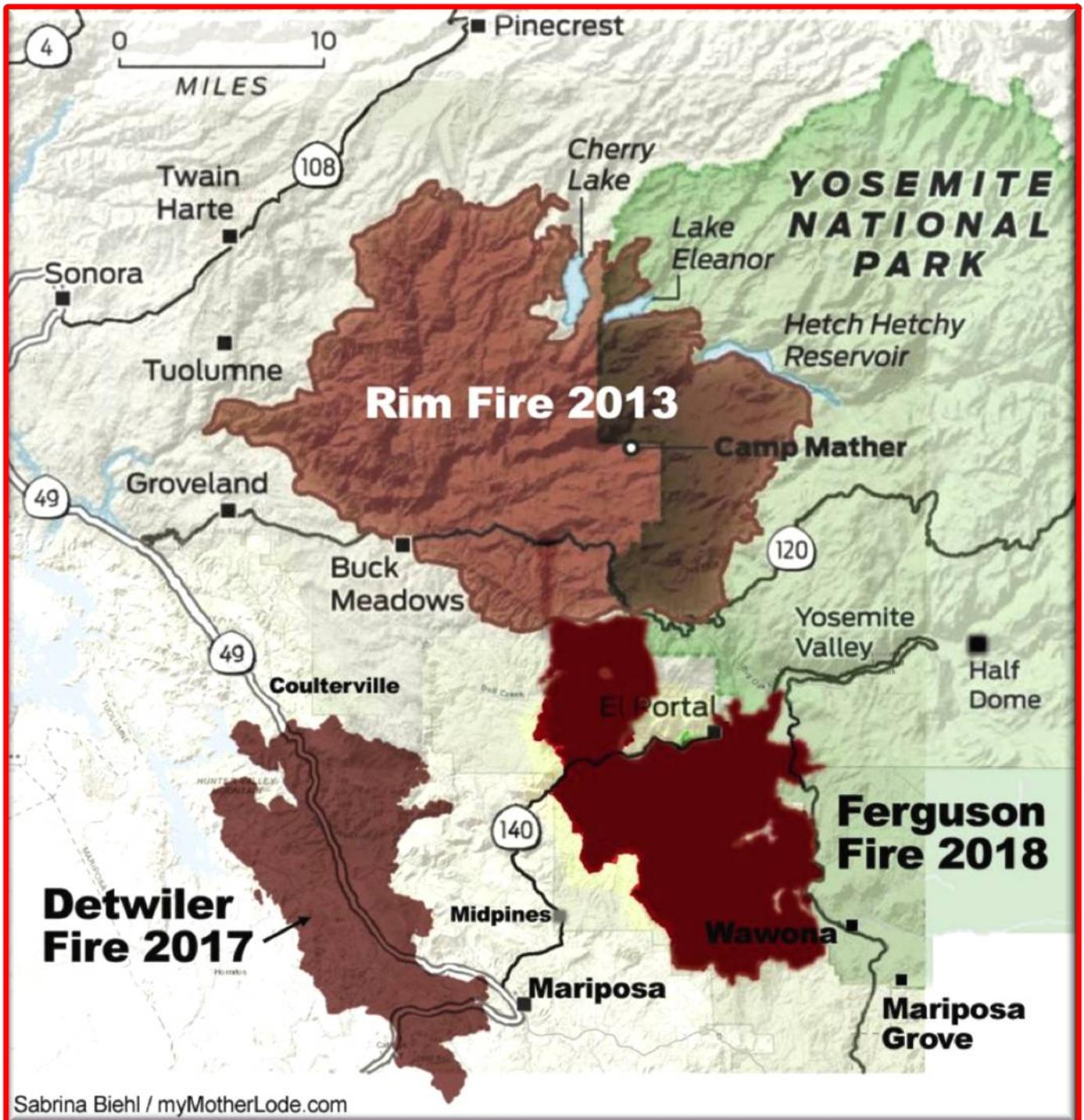
Note from the editor:

The following graphic superimposes three of the largest fires in our chapter area since 2013. Sabrina Biehl of MyMotherLode.com kindly gave permission to reproduce their map in our Newsletter. Here is the link to the original article:

<https://www.mymotherlode.com/community/fire/ferguson-fire-summary-timeline>

The combined area of these three fires is 436,000 acres. For comparison, Yosemite National Park has an area of 748,000 acres.

A Wikipedia article on “2018 California wildfires” lists 57 fires with areas greater than 1000 acres, and a combined area exceeding **1.6 million acres** – more than two Yosemites in the space of one year.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Chapter Officers and Chairpersons (All phone #'s are 209 area code unless otherwise specified.)				JOIN NOW
PRESIDENT	OPEN			<p>PLEASE INCLUDE ME AS A CNPS MEMBER!</p> <p>Student/Retired/Limited income ...\$25 Individual \$45 Family or Group \$75 Library..... \$75 Plant Lover \$100 Patron.....\$300 Benefactor \$600 Mariposa Lily..... \$1,500</p> <p>As always, donations above the membership level chosen will be greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____ e-mail _____</p> <p>(Dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible)</p> <p>I Wish to affiliate with the Sierra Foothills Chapter. Please make your check payable to "CNPS" and send it to: 2707 "K" street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816 Tel. (916) 447-2677. Join or renew on-line at www.cnps.org. Membership includes the journal <i>Fremontia</i>, CNPS Bulletin and the Sierra Foothills monthly newsletter, <i>The Shooting Star</i>.</p> <p>E-mail: sierrafoothillscnps@gmail.com</p>
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