EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Dempsey Residence, 824 Karen Drive

Wednesday, February 26, 1992

PROGRAM MEETING

Butte County Library, 1st and Sherman

Monday, March 2, 1992

Dr. Henricus Jansen, CSUC Professor and natural resources specialist, will discuss the meadow restoration in upper Butte Creek, including a series of check dams to create fish habitat. Dr. Jansen coordinated the restoration work with volunteer graduate students working in conjunction with California Fish & Game Department.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Well, we are well into the new year and Spring is rapidly arriving. I look forward to this time of year when everything starts growing. Today I went up to Vina Plains and was amazed at the amount of greenery. Mostly Filaree (Erodium sp.) but also a variety of other plants such as Tidy Tips (Layia fremontii), Wild onion (Allium sp.) and Lowland Shooting Star (Dodecatheon clevelandii). There were even a few Yellow Carpets (Blechnosperma nanum) in bloom.

At our last board meeting we discussed a wide variety of issues. The comment period on the Bidwell Ranch EIR has been extended to February 19. This project is of special interest to us because many vernal pools and vernal swales, some of which contain state listed or CNPS listed rare plants, exist on the proposed site. We have been invited to participate in the Preserve Management Committee for the preservation of Butte County Meadowfoam (Limnanthes floossa var. californica). The city has planned to create a channel in Edgar Slough which might impact riparian habitats (more on that next month). On an administrative level, we decided that Chairpersons could choose to be active voting Board members or non-voting Board members, and we
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE (cont.)

created a preliminary list of who was which. Remember, you don’t have
to be a board member to attend board meetings; any member is welcome,
and it is a great way to find out what your chapter is really doing.

(f) L. douglasii rosea, (g). L. alba versicolor, (h). L. f. pumila

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

Jenny C. Marr, Oroville
Dan S. Blessing, Yreka
John Kitchel, Los Molinos
JoAnn Fites, Pollock Pines
Tanya Henrich, Chico

Douglas R. Coombs, Chico
Ms.C. R. Benjamin, Chico
Betty Hobe, Berry Creek
Wendy Ardell, Chico
Mary & Dick Leahy, Chico

THE NEW BIODIVERSITY APPROACH.

There has been a fundamental shift in policy and focus taking
place on the part of the environmental organizations toward the
conservation of rare or endangered species. The emphasis is now on
entire plant communities rather than just individual species.

Evidence of this shift can be found in recent publications of the
environmental literature. The December issue of the Sierra Club
Newsletter, Public Lands, ran the article "Biological Diversity
Litigation and Rulemaking: Beyond the Species by Species Approach."
The theme of the National Audubon Society’s Western Conference this
year will be "Biodiversity: a Framework for Effective Conservation."
This past summer three ONPS members, Ray Butler, Deborah Jensen and
Phyllis Traber, sat on a working committee which produced "Protecting
Biodiversity and Wildlife Habitat Through Growth Management:
Recommendations to the Governor’s Interagency Council on Growth
Management."

The reason for the above change can be seen right here in Chico.
The proponents of the Warfield Lane-Doemill Road and Rancho Bidwell
developments have proposed replacing the destroyed wetland habitats at
another location. There would be an attempt to duplicate the species
at the new site, but the original habitat would be lost.

The intent of the Endangered Species Act was to prevent habitat
destruction and protect viable ecosystems.

-Patrick Kelly
Conservation Chair

The Pipe Vine p. 2
FIELD TRIPS

Mar 14, Sat  Yahi Cave Hike in Dye Creek Preserve. Meet at Park & Ride at 9 a.m., or a Dye Creek Preserve at 10 a.m. for a moderate to strenuous hike of about 6 miles. Bring lunch & water. Leader: Wes Dempsey, 342-2293

Mar 21, Sat  In conjunction with Chico Nature Center, David Wyllie will lead a flower walk at Horseshoe Lake in Upper Bidwell Park. Meet at the Rifle Range. Young families welcome. For more information call 342-7248.

Mar 28, Sat  Repeat of March 21.

Mar 29, Sun  Flume walk. Bring lunch & water to walk the Miocene Flume near Kunkle Reservoir on the outskirts of Paradise. Meet at 9 a.m. at Kunkle Reservoir on lower Pentz Road 2 1/2 miles below Pearson Road. Watch for sign on left as you come downhill. Some short trestles; see all the native ferns. Leader: Rose Reiling, 891-8402.

Apr 5, Sun  Vernal Pools Hike. Meet at Park & Ride at 9 a.m. to visit Hicks Lane pools at the airport and Hog Lake pool on Hwy 36 and look for Meadowfoam and other spring blooming plants. Leader: Pat Kelly, 345-1135.

In addition to the above, watch for Vina Plains field trips sponsored by the Nature Conservancy on 3/22, 4/5, and 4/12 (all Sundays). In each case meet at Vina Plains Preserve at 10 a.m.

ARBORETUM TOURS.


Mar 11, Wed  1 p.m. Arboretum tour led by Wes Dempsey.


ADDER'S-TONGUE

FRIENDS OF McNAB CYPRESS
Meeting: Wed. February 26, 7:00 pm
Fugle Home at 6801 Alphy's Ln, Magalia

Please join us to plan a "McNab Cypress Awareness Day" and help design an interpretive sign. We need your input!
Any questions? Brenda Fugle 873-3743

The Pipe Vine p. 3
ARBORETUM EVENTS.

Please join us this spring for the 1992 series of Arboretum tours. The focus will be on comparative anatomy, and we will point out some of the characteristics found in family groups. During these discussions we will talk about place of origin of each species and describe the niche that each species will fill in its native environment.

During fall and winter of 1991 more California natives were added to our inventory. Although some may be small at this time we now have representatives of a number of different California plant communities. Part of the spring series will concentrate on the roll of California natives in the landscape and what it takes for their survival. We will be talking about the place of origin of each of these natives and how we will adapt our cultural practices to suit this group of plants.

This year we are offering three tours at 1 pm in addition to the normal 6-tour series at noon. Plan to attend every other Wednesday at noon in front of Kendall Hall on CSUC campus starting March 4. For further information call 898-6156.

- David Wyllie

The Pipe Vine p. 4