

# California Wild Rose

*Rosa californica*



- Rosehips are very high in Vitamin C and other vitamins
- Flowers provide nectar for insects
- Rosehips are excellent winter food source
- Spreads through seed and with underground runners



# California Coffeeberry

*Frangula californica*



- Not related to actual coffee plant but fruit looks similar
- Can be used to treat Poison Oak rashes and as a laxative
- Fruit is highly favored by wildlife, especially birds
- Evergreen (does not shed leaves in winter)

# Ocean Spray

*Holodiscus discolor*



- Flowers are important for pollinators
- Native people used the very strong wood for arrows
- One of the first plants to appear after fires and other disturbance

# Juncus

*Juncus spp.*



- Grows in very wet areas
- Native people used Juncus to make baskets
- Is very round and smooth to the touch
- Also called “rushes”
- Often used as nesting material for marsh birds

# California Grape

*Vitis californica*



- Native grape is often used as rootstock for wine grapes because it is more hardy
- Likes wet areas but can withstand drought
- Berries are important food source for birds
- Can grow to be 10'-30'

# Box Elder

*Acer negundo*



- Box Elder is in the Maple tree family
- Characteristics include fast growth and drought and cold-tolerance
- Fruit (picture above right) is called a samara
- Provides cover for deer and livestock
- Seeds are a food source for squirrels and some species of birds like Evening Grosbeaks

# Oregon Ash

*Fraxinus latifolia*

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- Deer and elk browse the seedlings and stump sprouts
- Inhabits riparian areas and tolerates seasonal floodings
- Will produce seeds at about 30 years of age; the seeds are winged and dispersed by blowing wind
- Male and female flowers grow on separate trees

# Coast Live Oak

*Quercus agrifolia*



- Flowers (pictured above) are called catkins
- Acorns are a food source for birds like the Acorn Woodpecker, the Yellow-billed Magpie, and the Western Scrub Jay
- Birds such as the Western Bluebird, Oak Titmouse, and the Ash-Throated Flycatcher use the cavities in live oaks for nesting

# California Black Walnut

*Juglans californica* var. *hindsii*



- Many rodents eat the nuts, including the California Ground Squirrel and the Western Gray Squirrel
- Provides cover for deer, nesting birds, and rodents
- Owls roost and nest in the upper parts of the tree and ground squirrels dig at the base of the tree
- The roots help control soil erosion

# Coyote Brush

*Baccharis pilularis*



- Dominant shrub species in coastal scrub communities
- Like other plants of the *Baccharis* genus, Coyote Brush is dioecious which means that there are separate female plants and male plants
- Coyote Brush is a shade-intolerant species and is well adapted to exposure from high winds
- Mature shrubs provide cover for small mammals such as rabbits and other rodents

# Mugwort

*Artemisia douglasiana*



- Blooms May through October
- Provides nesting material for native bees
- Provides cover and seeds for birds
- Spread very quickly through special roots called rhizomes

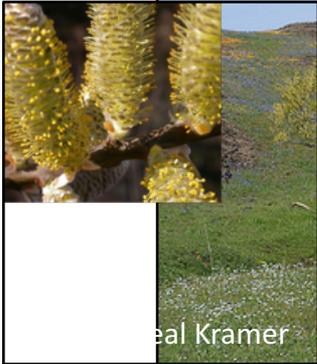


# Arroyo Willow

*Salix lasiolepis*



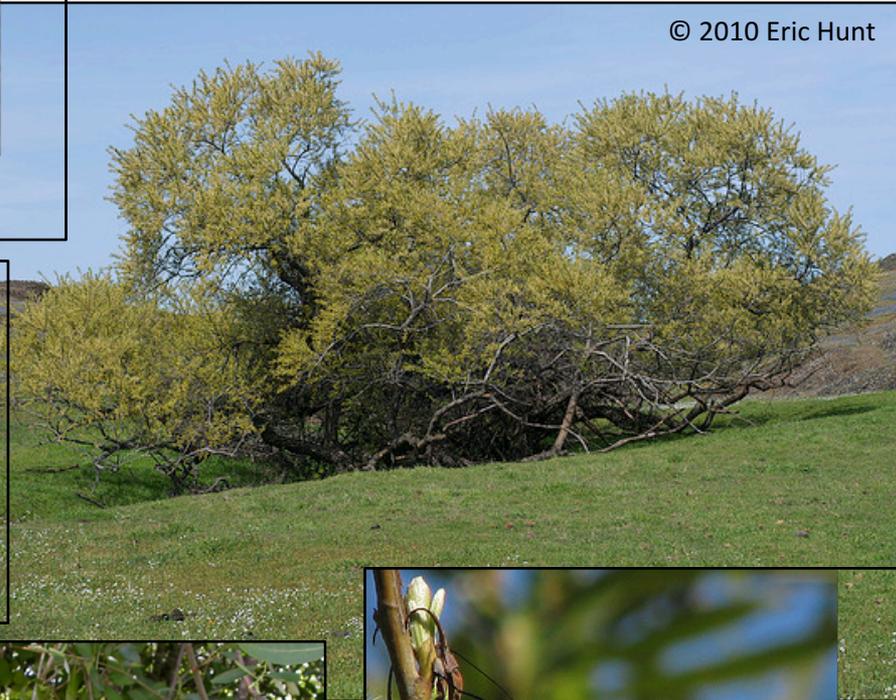
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- Grows along streams and ponds where it can get plenty of water
- Provides important nesting habitat for many different bird species
- Has separate male and female plants
- Loses its leaves in winter
- Can grow up to 30 feet in height
- The bark is the original source of the pain killing compound in Aspirin!
- Grows easily from cuttings
- Bark on the larger trunks and branches is smooth and whitish in color

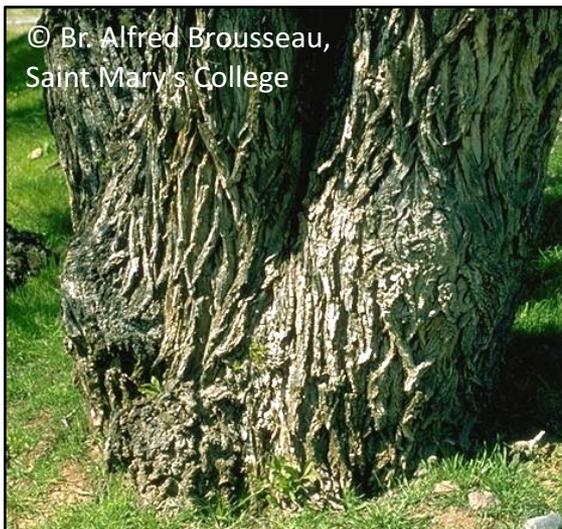


# Red Willow

*Salix laevigata*



- The twigs are orange to red in color and are used by birds for making nests
- Is more tree-like than the Arroyo Willow: it grows upright and has, thick, furrowed bark
- Is a host plant for Western Tiger Swallowtail caterpillars (butterfly pictured above)
- Young shoots can be used to make baskets
- Grows along streams and ponds where it can get plenty of water
- Grows up to 45 feet tall
- Loses its leaves in winter



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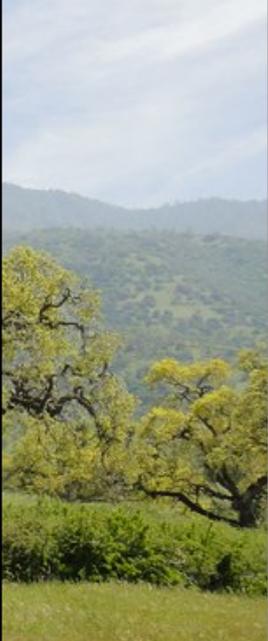


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# Valley Oak

*Quercus lobata*

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Valley Oak bark

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Native wasp galls

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- This species can live up to 600 years!
- Trunks can grow to 6 or 7 feet in diameter
- Mature trees can reach heights of 100 feet with a wide reaching canopy and drooping branches
- Deciduous (loses leaves in the winter)
- Acorns are 1-2 inches long
- Smaller branches provide habitat for the larvae of small, native wasps and leaves provide food for native moth species
- The Western Scrub Jay, Yellow-billed Magpie, Acorn Woodpecker, and the California ground squirrel are known to eat the acorns

# Blue Elderberry

*Sambucus nigra*



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- This plant can grow up to 30 feet tall and 20 feet wide!
- The ripe berries can be made into a tasty syrup.
- It is found all over the western United States, northern Mexico, and British Columbia in varying habitats.
- Native Americans use the leaves, blossoms, bark, and roots for making medicinal remedies and teas.



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# Snowberry

*Symphoricarpos albus*

- Provides important food and cover for birds and small mammals (i.e., Western Bluebirds and flycatchers)
- Important winter food source for quail, pheasant, and grouse
- Leaves contain a higher percent of protein in the fall and winter than grasses
- Leaf size and shape can vary greatly
- The berries can make humans vomit and feel dizzy- so don't eat them!



# Santa Barbara Sedge

*Carex barbarae*



- Found in California and Oregon
- Grows in wet or seasonally wet areas
- The seeds are a good food source for rodents
- Sedge leaves look similar to grass leaves but the stems are triangular rather than round: a good rhyme to remember this is “sedges have edges!”
- Native Americans use the Santa Barbara Sedge for making baskets and for sewing fibers



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# California Sycamore

*Platanus racemosa*



- Tolerates extreme heat and wind; drought tolerant when fully established
- It is a food plant for Western Tiger Swallowtail and attracts other songbirds
- Chips of bark from trunk can be boiled for coffee

# California Blackberry

*Rubus ursinus*



- The flowers attract butterflies
- Berries are edible and delicious
- Birds like the California Quail and American Robin eat the berries
- Good for erosion control
- Himalayan Blackberry is a more aggressive form





# Toyon

*Heteromeles arbutifolia*



- Toyon is an evergreen
- It is also known by the name Christmas berry and California Holly
- Prominent component of the coastal sage scrub plant community, and is part of drought-adapted chaparral and mixed oak woodland habitats
- Cedar Waxings and American Robins like to eat the berries



# Sandbar Willow

*Salix exigua*



- The leaf color of Sandbar Willow is a light, sage-green compared to other willows
- Can tolerate drought and floods
- Sandbar willow is a pioneer species, which means it's one of the first plants to grow when no other vegetation is present
- Deer and even livestock like to browse on its leaves and stems
- Small songbirds build their nests on the willows branches



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# Fremont Cottonwood

*Populus fremontii*

- These trees grow to be 50-75 feet tall
- These tall, leafy trees provide shade for livestock and keep the water in creeks cool
- Fremont Cottonwood is deciduous; its leaves turn a bright yellow before falling
- Birds like the Red-tailed Hawk and other songbirds build their nests on the branches

- Fremont Cottonwoods can live to be more than 130 years old!

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