

Biodiversity Initiatives Group

We do BIG things: Horticulture, Stewardship, Community Science, Advocacy



CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT
SOCIETY

Biodiversity Initiatives Group: People in Nature



Maya Argaman

Horticulture Outreach Coordinator



Caroline Martorano

Restoration Senior Coordinator

Seed and Planting Guidelines

Land
Management
and
Stewardship

Horticulture and
Native Plant
Gardening



Community Engagement and Advocacy

Community
Science



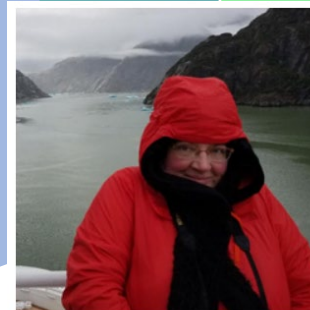
Ann-Marie Benz

Horticulture Outreach Manager



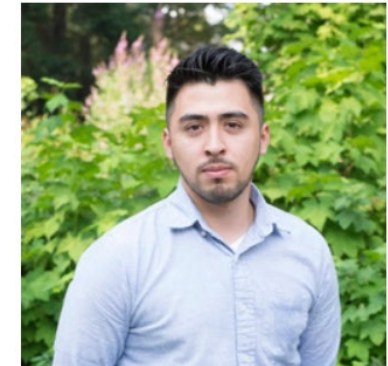
Jessica Woodard

Calscape Product Manager



Andrea Williams

Director of Biodiversity Initiatives



Jose Esparza

Community Science Coordinator



Bloom! California

Initial grant-funded work promoting a set of native plants through nursery and campaign materials will transition to positioning Calscape as the hub for native plant gardening

Promoting Policy

Advocating for State and Local policy and incentives for planting native species, as well as working to address supply limitations and providing model ordinance language



GETTING MORE NATIVE PLANTS IN THE GROUND

Demonstration Projects

Leveraging work with water agencies and local governments to showcase native plants as a climate and biodiversity solution; beginning grant-funded Bay Area ecoregional garden planner integrated with Calscape; reinvigorating ReOak

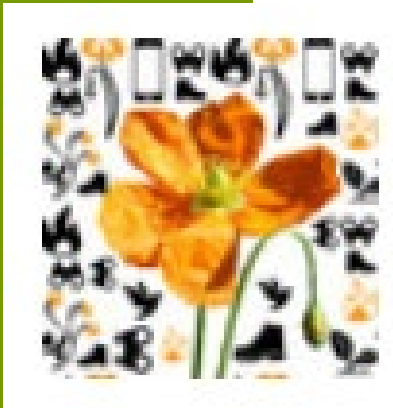
Calscape Update

Beginning a Calscape update and overhaul to address security and usability, as well as adding marketplace and professional directory (nursery, landscaper, designer) capabilities

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All Plants
7989



Fire Followers

Initial grant-funded work to involve communities in documenting fire recovery continues and expands in 2022

Protecting Local Genetics

Baseline work from our “Genetic Considerations in Native Plantings” continues through a BLM-funded California Seed Strategy to align agencies around “right seed, right place, right time”



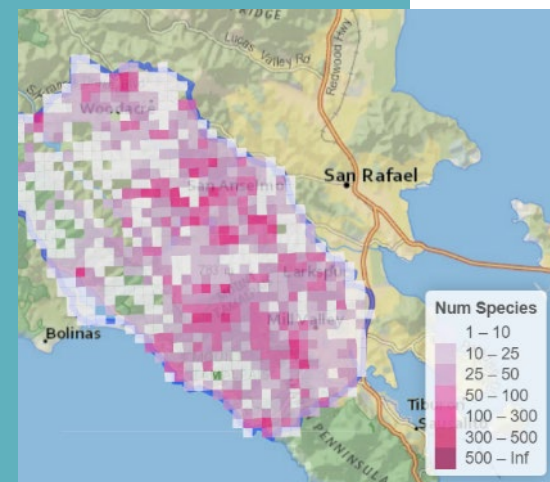
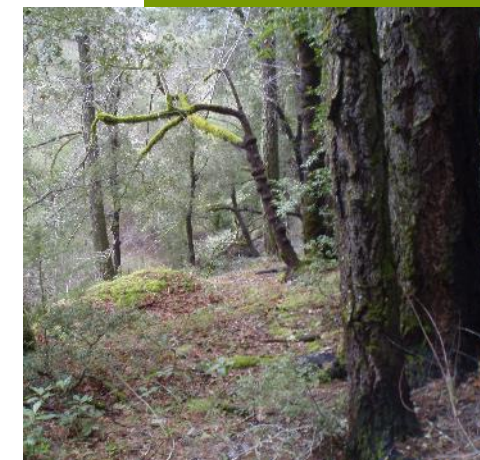
PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING AND BEST PRACTICES

Science-Based Management

Working with Conservation and Public Affairs to promote science and monitoring in CNRA (and CDFA) during these times of budget surplus; demonstration project on land health dashboard and community-science-based biodiversity metrics with One Tam

Working With Nature

Beginning a guide in the fashion of the Fire Recovery Guide that outlines methods and timing of work to promote biodiversity, fire, and climate resilience in different vegetation and regions





UNDERSTAND – PROTECT – MANAGE

Sargent cypress along San Geronimo Ridge

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A FOCUS ON MULTIPLE BENEFITS AND WORKING LANDS

Executive Order N-82-20

October 7, 2020 Governor Newsom signed an executive order to combat the **climate and biodiversity** crises

1. Directs California Natural Resources Agency to work with Department of Food and Agriculture, Cal. EPA and other agencies to establish the California Biodiversity Collaborative with stakeholders, analyze efforts and engage others
2. Conserve at least 30% of California's land and coastal waters by 2030, with a strategy by February 1, 2022
3. California Natural Resources Agency directed to prioritize multi-benefits projects, streamline approvals for projects, collaborate with researchers and tribal partners, and participate in regional, national, and international efforts
4. Department of Food and Agriculture directed to coordinate on reinvigorating pollinator populations, control invasive species, and enhance soil health
5. State agencies shall identify and implement actions to accelerate natural removal of carbon and build climate resilience
- 6.-8. Develop a Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and incorporate this into agency Scoping Plan processes

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/10.07.2020-EO-N-82-20-.pdf>



Effects of racism on distribution of public lands
and siting of infrastructure are still present.
Biodiversity is correlated with human health.
Biodiversity protection and restoration must
include environmental justice.



Establish the California Biodiversity Collaborative

California Natural Resources Agency work with Department of Food and Agriculture, Cal. EPA and others to establish the CA Biodiversity Collaborative



Write Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy

CNRA and others shall develop a Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy that serves as a framework to advance the State's carbon neutrality goal and builds climate resilience. (By Oct 2021)



AREA 1: HELP GOVERNMENT COORDINATE ON CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY GOALS

Prioritize Actions Around Climate and Align Landscape-scale Planning with Climate Goals

Align large-scale planning with climate goals; manage working lands for co-benefits



Update Scoping Plan to Include NWL CSS

California Air Resources Board shall consider the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and science-based data to update the target for the natural and working lands sector for the State's carbon neutrality goal.





AREA 2: IMPROVE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF CALIFORNIA'S BIODIVERSITY

ESTABLISH A BASELINE

Collect existing data on biodiversity and management

Analyze and project impact of climate change and other stressors



Monitoring at Pine Mountain

Oak tree inosculation

COMMUNICATE ABOUT EFFORTS

Expand the communication and use of information, indicators and tools to monitor, track and protect California's biodiversity and natural resources

Engage stakeholders across California's diverse communities



AREA 4: MANAGE LANDS AND WATERS TO ACHIEVE BIODIVERSITY GOALS

ASSESS AND SECURE THE SUCCESS OF CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Evaluate success of current easements in protecting biodiversity
Consider new easement opportunities and alignments



Cattle ranch, Nicasio Ridge

MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING THE LONG-TERM BENEFITS OF WORKING LANDSCAPES

Keep working lands working—prevent land conversion
Maximize biodiversity benefits
Identify support needed for working landscapes



Oak woodland in Marin County

AREA 5: RESTORE AND PROTECT LANDS AND WATERS TO ACHIEVE BIODIVERSITY GOALS



Accelerate the Pace of Restoration

- Develop effective guidelines for restoration
- Evaluate standard practices
- Recommend actions

Evaluate and Capitalize on Opportunities to Utilize Fallow Agricultural Lands for Pollinator Habitat

- Analyze fallow lands for potential use as pollinator habitat



Work with Tribes to Use Traditional Ecological Knowledge to Support Management and Restoration Activities

- Establish a collaborative to support integration of tribal partners in restoration and management activities

Evaluate and Improve Mitigation Actions to Better Achieve Conservation Outcomes

- Develop spatial database of lands protected or restored via mitigation

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Accelerate and Streamline Prevention, Detection and Management of Invasive Species and Pests

- Expand programs to prevent, detect and manage invasive species and pests
- Develop California-specific assessments
- Evaluate & improve weed management

Evaluate State Protected Areas with Priorities

- Compare conservation priorities against protected lands

UNDERSTAND—PROTECT—MANAGE

- ✓ What are the iconic species or habitats?
- ✓ What are vegetation types indicating climate, pest or pathogen, or disturbance-related stressors?
- ✓ Rare species and vegetation: Which of these can tell you about land health?
- ✓ How is your management being monitored for effectiveness?
- ✓ How is the surrounding community involved in understanding, monitoring, and influencing biodiversity?
- ✓ Involve local people in monitoring
- ✓ Use available data and recovery thresholds from mandated monitoring of listed species
- ✓ Integrate information and serve in multiple formats and depths (data to dashboard)
- ✓ Use adaptive management monitoring, compliance monitoring, and target species mapping to fully inform decision-making
- ✓ Communicate out effort AND effect: acres treated, amount spent, change in target population

CONSERVATION - EDUCATION - GARDENING
PLANT SCIENCE – VEGETATION SCIENCE



protecting
CALIFORNIA'S NATIVE FLORA
SINCE 1965

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