

Use of Local Native Plant Species



Native tidal marsh and transition or ecotone plants of South San Francisco Bay

Botanical Name	Common Name	Wildlife Value	Wetland Status ¹
HERBS			
<i>Atriplex patula</i>	fat hen	good, butterflies	FACW
<i>Baccharis glutinosa</i>	marsh baccharis	high	FACW
<i>Cressa truxillensis</i>	alkali weed	low to fair	FACW
<i>Eryngium aristulatum</i>	Jepson's button celery	good, native bees, butterflies	OBL
<i>Euthamia occidentalis</i>	western goldenrod	good, native bees	FACW
<i>Frankenia salina</i>	alkali heath	good, butterflies	FACW
<i>Grindelia stricta</i>	gumweed	good, native bees	FACW
<i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i>	salt heliotrope	good, native bees	FACU
<i>Hordeum brachyantherum</i>*	meadow barley	poor to moderate, small mammals, waterfowl	FACW
<i>Hordeum depressum</i>*	alkali barley	low to fair	FACW
<i>Jaumea carnosa</i>	marsh jaumea	low to fair	OBL
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	bog rush	good for birds to low for small mammals	FACW
<i>Lasthenia glabrata</i>	yellow rayed goldfields	good, butterflies	FACW
<i>Limonium californicum</i>	western marsh rosemary	good, beneficial insects	FACW
<i>Plantago subnuda</i>	Mexican plantain	good, butterflies	FACW
<i>Salicornia depressa</i>	Virginia glasswort	low to fair	OBL
<i>Salicornia pacifica</i>	perennial pickleweed	fair for waterbirds to high for saltmarsh harvest mouse	OBL
<i>Schoenoplectus americanus</i>	chairmaker's bulrush	fair to good	OBL
<i>Triglochin maritima</i>	arrowgrass	good, birds	OBL
SHRUBS			
<i>Atriplex lentiformis</i>	big saltbush	good, birds	FAC
<i>Isocoma menziesii</i>	Menzies' goldenbush	good, butterflies	FAC
GRASSES			
<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	tufted hairgrass	good, native bees, butterflies	FACW
<i>Distichlis spicata</i>	salt grass	fair to good	FAC

* Salt-tolerant form

Click on the wildlife value link for the plant to see a USDA Forest Service description of the plant or search here for more information from the [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)

Click on the botanical name for more information on each plant from [CalFlora](#)

More freshwater wetland plants are included on the Santa Clara Valley Water District's lists of [freshwater marsh and wet meadow](#), and [native riparian plants of Santa Clara Valley](#)

Wetlands are among the most important and productive ecosystems on Earth (Mitsch and Gosselink 2007). Creeks, rivers, ponds, lakes, reservoirs, riparian and wetland habitats are protected by the United States [Army Corps of Engineers](#) with oversight by the United States [Environmental Protection Agency](#), [California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#), [State Water Resources Control Boards](#), [San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission](#), and in the rivers and creeks by the [Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency](#). Contact the agencies about any activities in creeks, rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, including their banks and floodplains, riparian and wetland habitats.

¹ Wetland status categories for vascular plants (United States Army Corps of Engineers 2014) show the likelihood of the plant growing in wetlands. This gives an idea of how much water, type of habitat, and position on the bank or slope the plant prefers. Species listed as OBL, FACW, and FAC are considered wetland plants.

Wetland status category	Symbol	Probability of occurrence in wetlands
Obligate	OBL	Greater than 99 %
Facultative Wetland	FACW	67 - 99 %
Facultative	FAC	34 - 66 %
Facultative Upland	FACU	1 - 33 %
Upland	UPL	Less than 1 %
No Indicator	NI	Insufficient information exists to assign indicator status
Not Listed	NL	Plants generally not considered to be found in wetlands and, therefore, not listed

The three facultative categories are subdivided by (+) and (-) modifiers to show a tendency toward either wetter (+) or drier (-) conditions.

For information on growing plants that are pest and pathogen free, click here: [Phytophthora species in CA native habitats](#)

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) [Guidelines For Landscaping To Protect Native Vegetation From Genetic Degradation](#)

Like CNPS, the Santa Clara Valley Water District strives to protect, conserve, maintain, and reestablish watershed specific native plants. If natural revegetation from surrounding areas or the native soil seed bank is inadequate, actively assist revegetation by planting seeds or plants grown from seeds, cuttings or divisions collected locally. If planting is necessary, please use plant materials collected from the project site first, adjacent or nearby sites second, and the same watershed at the same approximate elevation and slope aspect as the project site.

Please talk to your local native plant and nursery experts! The local CNPS Santa Clara Chapter's website is <http://www.cnps-scv.org/>.

Click here for information on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife ([CDFW](#)) [California Native Plant Program](#)

For useful advice, read the [Water Resources Protection Collaborative Guidelines and Standards for Land Use Near Streams: A Manual of Tools, Standards, and Procedures to Protect Streams and Streamside Resource in Santa Clara County](#), and the [Water Resources Protection Manual](#).

Information on historic riparian habitats can be found in the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) historical ecology reports. Look for the Santa Clara Valley and Santa Clara County at: <http://www.sfei.org/he/HE-publications>

References

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South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project - <http://www.southbayrestoration.org/>

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