

A dirt path leads through a field of tall grasses and shrubs. A yellow sign with rounded corners is overlaid in the center of the image, containing the text "SENSITIVE SPECIES OF FAIRVIEW PARK" in bold, dark green, sans-serif capital letters. The path is flanked by wooden planks and leads towards a dense thicket of green vegetation under a clear blue sky.

**SENSITIVE SPECIES
OF FAIRVIEW PARK**

CALIFORNIA GNATCATCHER



California Gnatcatchers have a very small range from southern California to southern Baja California, Mexico. They live in Coastal Sage Scrub (CSS) habitats and nest in Sagebrush, Buckwheat, or other shrub species. They also feed on the insects that inhabit these shrubs. About 85-90% of California's CSS has been lost from historic levels, making it one of the most endangered habitat types in the U.S. This is mostly due to the popularity of coastal development for human use; most developed coastal areas in southern California were historically CSS sites. With very little places left to live, nest, and forage, the California Gnatcatcher has also become endangered. Both CSS and California Gnatcatchers inhabit Fairview Park, making it a very important site for restoration and conservation. The California Gnatcatcher's call sounds like a kitten meowing; listen for it at Fairview Park!

FAIRY SHRIMP



Fairy shrimp are considered some of the most primitive living crustaceans; fossil remains that have been dated to 400 million years ago look very similar to modern day fairy shrimp. Most species of fairy shrimp are endemic to vernal pools, which are an increasingly threatened ecosystem. The park has two species that are both federally and state endangered, the San Diego Fairy Shrimp and Riverside Fairy Shrimp. The shrimp hatch when the vernal pools fill with water after sustained rain and only live about two months, during which they are an important food source for migrating birds. They produce thick-shelled cysts (eggs) that become embedded into the mud at the bottom of the pool as it dries. These cysts lay dormant, but viable, for 10+ years! Approximately 95% of California's vernal pools have been lost, making the vernal pools at Fairview Park rare and important habitat to protect.

LEAST BELL'S VIREO



The Least Bell's Vireo went to the brink of extinction in the 1980's. It is now both federally and state endangered. Its population decline is due mainly to habitat loss to urban development and agriculture. About 90% of California's riparian habitat, where the Least Bell's Vireo nests, has been destroyed and the remaining sites have been disturbed. The Fairview Park Riparian and Wetlands Mitigation Project that was finalized in 2012 restored a parcel of land to include many native plant communities, including riparian habitat. Since the completion of this project, the Least Bell's Vireo has been detected in multiple locations throughout the park and nests were found, marking the success of this project!

BURROWING OWL



The Burrowing Owl is a California Species of Special Concern that winters in Fairview Park. It is a ground dwelling species that typically resides in abandoned burrows of other burrowing animals. Unlike most owls, they are often active during the day, but prefer to hunt from dusk until dawn. Burrowing Owls will commonly place mammal dung around the entrance of their burrow to help control the microclimate of the burrow and to attract insects for them to eat. When they sense danger, they will hide in their burrow and mimic a rattlesnake by producing rattling and hissing sounds, effectively driving away predators.

YELLOW BREASTED CHAT



The Yellow Breasted Chat is a California Species of Special Concern. It can be seen at Fairview Park during the summer while it nests in the dense vegetation. These birds have a unique song that has been described as a mix of clucks, whistles, chuckles, rattles, and more. This song can be heard during the breeding season and males can also be seen doing display flights to attract a female or to defend their territory. Outside of the breeding season these birds are quiet and secretive. In addition to spiders and insects, the Yellow Breasted Chat eats fruits and berries, including elderberries, blackberries, and wild grapes.

NORTHERN HARRIER



The Northern Harrier is a California Species of Special Concern. It is unique in its hunting behavior because it uses its sharp hearing to detect prey in addition to sight, while other hawks use only sight to hunt. It has short, stiff feathers on its face that form a disc, similar to an owl, that help direct sound towards its ears. The males do a courtship display by flying upwards then diving repeatedly, tracing a roller-coaster pattern in the sky for sometimes more than half a mile. Northern Harriers are commonly seen in wetlands and eat small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds. They can be seen foraging year-round at Fairview Park.

YELLOW WARBLER



Yellow Warblers are a California Species of Special Concern. They eat mostly insects that they pick off of foliage and up to two-thirds of their diet may consist of different types of caterpillars. The nests of the Yellow Warbler are very often victims of the parasitic Brown-headed Cowbird, which will lay its eggs in the Warbler's nest so that they will raise the chicks as their own. If the Warbler recognizes one of the Cowbird's eggs, they will often add a new layer of nesting material without saving any of their own eggs, instead laying a new clutch. If the cowbird returns to lay eggs again, the Warbler covers them again. This process can result in a nest with many tiers if the Warbler does not decide to abandon the nest and start a new one. Yellow Warblers inhabit and nest in Fairview Park in the summer.

CROTCH'S BUMBLEBEE



Crotch's Bumblebee is a candidate for being listed as an endangered species. It can be seen on the Fairview Park mesa, flying from flower to flower. Its population has significantly declined and is now absent from a large portion of its historic range. It used to be common in California's Central Valley but due to agricultural development and urbanization, there has been a decline in quality habitat for the species. One plant species that it enjoys eating and pollinating is milkweed, which is a critical plant for the monarch butterfly, another candidate for being listed as endangered. This is an example of how important each species is for biodiversity. Losing just one species can have a significant negative impact on many other species.

VERMILLION FLYCATCHER



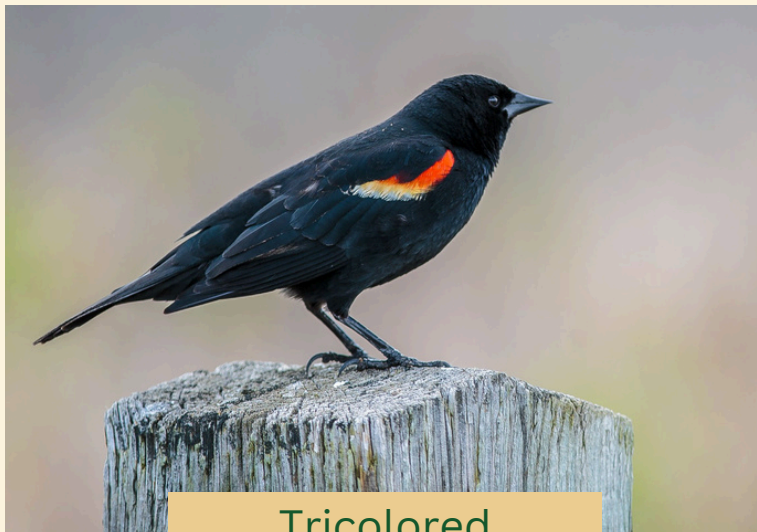
Vermillion Flycatchers are a species of special concern. The males have a deep, striking red color while the females are more subdued in color. They eat primarily flying insects such as butterflies, bees, and grasshoppers. They will sit on a perch and wait for an insect to fly by to capture it. It carries its prey back to its perch and hits them against the perch to kill and soften them before consuming. At Fairview Park they are mostly seen on the mesa and on the east side during the fall and winter, perching and waiting for their next prey.

OTHER SENSITIVE BIRD SPECIES

These species are rare sightings as they do not inhabit the park, but can occasionally be seen flying over or foraging in the park.



Bald Eagle
State Endangered



Tricolored
Blackbird
State Threatened

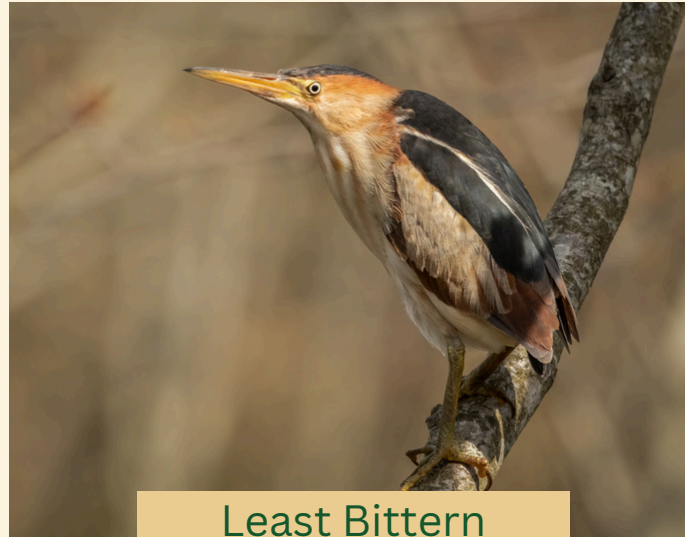


Willow Flycatcher
State Endangered

OTHER SENSITIVE BIRD SPECIES



Least Tern
SE & FE



Least Bittern
**Species of Special
Concern**

SE = State Endangered
FE = Federally Endangered

These species are rare sightings as they do not inhabit the park, but can occasionally be seen flying over or foraging in the park.



Loggerhead Shrike
**Species of Special
Concern**



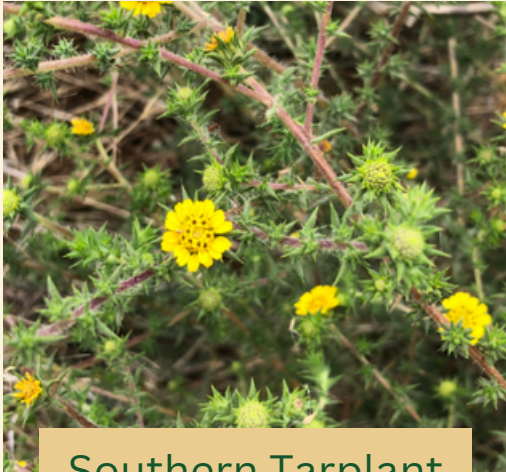
Black Skimmer
**Species of Special
Concern**

SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES

SE = State Endangered

FE = Federally Endangered

See last two pages for CNPS Ranking definitions



Southern Tarplant
CNPS Rank 1B.1



South Coast
Branching Phacelia
CNPS Rank 3.2



Southern California
Black Walnut
CNPS Rank 4.2



California Orcutt's
Grass
SE & FE



California Box Thorn
CNPS Rank 4.2



Coulter's Goldfields
CNPS Rank 1B.1



Coulter's Matilija Poppy
CNPS Rank 4.2

SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES



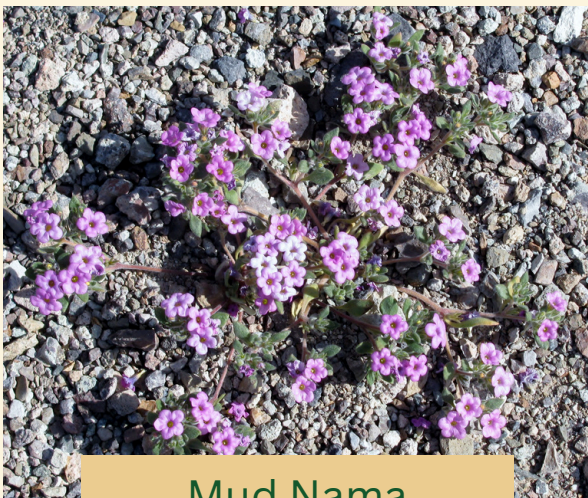
Small-Flowered
Microseris
CNPS Rank 4.2



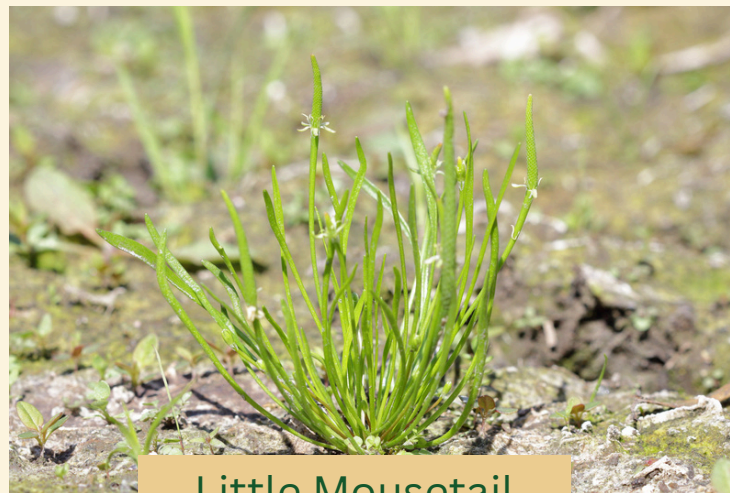
Vernal Pincushion Plant
CNPS Rank 1B.2



San Diego
Button Celery
SE & FE



Mud Nama
CNPS Rank 2B.2



Little Mousetail
CNPS Rank 3.1



Vernal Barley
CNPS Rank 3.2

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

RARE PLANT RANKS

1B

Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere

Plants with a California Rare Plant Rank of 1B are rare throughout their range with the majority of them endemic to California. Most of the plants that are ranked 1B have declined significantly over the last century. California Rare Plant Rank 1B plants constitute the majority of taxa in the CNPS Inventory, with more than 1,000 plants assigned to this category of rarity.

All of the plants constituting California Rare Plant Rank 1B meet the definitions of the California Endangered Species Act of the California Fish and Game Code, and are eligible for state listing.

2B

Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California but more common elsewhere

Except for being common beyond the boundaries of California, plants with a California Rare Plant Rank of 2B would have been ranked 1B. From the federal perspective, plants common in other states or countries are not eligible for consideration under the provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act. With California Rare Plant Rank 2B, we recognize the importance of protecting the geographic range of widespread species. In this way we protect the diversity of our own state's flora and help maintain evolutionary processes and genetic diversity within species.

All of the plants constituting California Rare Plant Rank 2B meet the definitions of the California Endangered Species Act of the California Fish and Game Code, and are eligible for state listing.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

RARE PLANT RANKS

3

Review List: Plants about which more information is needed

Plants with a California Rare Plant Rank of 3 are united by one common theme – we lack the necessary information to assign them to one of the other ranks or to reject them. Nearly all of the plants constituting California Rare Plant Rank 3 are taxonomically problematic.

Many of the plants constituting California Rare Plant Rank 3 meet the definitions of the California Endangered Species Act of the California Fish and Game Code, and are eligible for state listing.

4

Watch List: Plants of limited distribution

Plants with a California Rare Plant Rank of 4 are of limited distribution or infrequent throughout a broader area in California, and their status should be monitored regularly. Should the degree of endangerment or rarity of a California Rare Plant Rank 4 plant change, we will transfer it to a more appropriate rank.

Some of the plants constituting California Rare Plant Rank 4 meet the definitions of the California Endangered Species Act of the California Fish and Game Code, and few, if any, are eligible for state listing. Nevertheless, many of them are significant locally.

Threat Ranks

Ranks at each level also include a threat rank and are determined as follows:

- 0.1**-Seriously threatened in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)
- 0.2**-Moderately threatened in California (20-80% occurrences threatened / moderate degree and immediacy of threat)
- 0.3**-Not very threatened in California (less than 20% of occurrences threatened / low degree and immediacy of threat or no current threats known)