



Purpose: Flora Survey Report

Surveyor: Liz Paegel

Location: Valley Center, Calif. 33 16'9.13 N 117 4'31.34W

Lilac Oaks Campground is in a quiet corner of Valley Center just 20 miles from the Pacific Ocean. The typical habitat of this San Diego region is Chaparral and California Sage Scrub. The Climate of the region is Mediterranean, which means in the summer it is hot and dry and the winters are mild and wet.

The nature trail is about a mile long, wandering along hillsides covered in healthy stands of wild lilac (ceanothus) which is very showy in the early spring when the hills are covered in deep blue and white colored blooms, chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*) is still in bloom, covered in tiny white flowers. Buckwheat (*Eriogonum*) is just starting to show its tiny pink and white tips, attracting many native bees and butterflies. Coastal Sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*) and black sage (*Salvia mellifera*) add a wonderful fragrance to the air. Many parts of the trail are shaded by beautiful stands of Coast Live Oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*) and with Canyon Live Oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*) near the small stream and lake. The hillsides have large granitic rocks, and as you walk back toward the campsites, big flat slabs of granite lead down to the pond, hidden in the oaks. Dodder (*Cuscuta californica californica*), an interesting local parasitic plant covers the buckwheat and seems prolific this year. I did notice some poison oak under some oak groves. There are ranches dotting the hills surrounding the campgrounds, giving the landscape very rural quality. This valley has many native species, and is in healthy condition due to the rains this winter.

There were signs of coyote, woodrats, horned lizards, fence lizards & alligator lizards. I was pleased there were native harvester ants, trap door spiders, and ceanothus silk moths, plus many butterflies, and bees. Birds abounded with many sightings of redtail hawks, thrashers, wrentits, hummingbirds. Typical nocturnal animals would be the bobcat, skunk, raccoon, and occasional cougars looking for mule deer.

P L A N T S

Elderberry
Agave, Mojave Yucca
Agave, Our Lord's Candle
Chaparral Dodder
California Sagebrush
Chalk Dudleya
Coyote Bush
Sumac, Sugar Bush
Sumac, Western Poison Oak
Yarrow, Milfoil
Cobwebby Thistle
Wild Grape
Wild Buckwheat
California Scrub Oak
Canyon Live Oak

Pearly Lastforever
Poison Hemlock
Toyon
Tree Tobacco
Bush Honeysuckle
Blue Dicks
Bush Sunflower
Coastal Deerweed
Chamise
Black Sage
California Fuchsia
Golden Yarrow
Slope Semaphore
Morning Glory
Southern Pink



Chaparral Dodder



Coyote Bush



Yarrow, Milfoil



Wild Grape



Poison Hemlock



Toyon



Blue Dicks



Agave, Mojave Yucca



Sumac, Sugar Bush



California Scrub Oak



Pearly Lastforever



Bush Honeysuckle



Elderberry



Chalk Dudleya



Cobwebby Thistle



Canyon Live Oak



Tree Tobacco



Morning Glory



Agave, Our Lord's Candle



California Sagebrush



Sumac, Poison Oak



Bush Sunflower