Thimbleberry
*Rubus parviflorus*

The White-crowned sparrow can be found year-round along the West Coast, but is a winter migrant in much of the United States. These birds are often found in areas of brush mix with open ground for foraging.

Male White-crowned Sparrows learn their song from males near their nests and will return to the same area to breed. This results in song dialects.

White-crowned Sparrows eat mainly seeds from weeds and grasses, but during the summer, they eat a considerable number of caterpillars, wasps, beetles, and other insects. They also eat grains, (e.g., oats, wheat, barley, and corn), and fruit (such as elderberries, thimbleberries, and blackberries).
Thimbleberry

Thimbleberry, also called Western thimbleberry, is a dense shrub that grows up to 8 feet tall with narrow, thorn-free stems. Its leaves are soft and fuzzy and have been jokingly called “nature’s toilet paper.” The shrub produces white, tissue paper-like flowers from May through early July. These flowers yield red, raspberry-like fruit that ripens in mid- to late summer.

Quail, grouse, partridge, thrushes, thrashers, towhees, cardinals, robins, crows, sparrows, and grosbeaks are just some of the birds that feed on the ripe berries.

Thimbleberry has an extensive range (USDA zones 3-9). It can tolerate a variety of soil conditions and partial shade to full sun. It also grows well on disturbed sites and is considered a vigorous grower.