

Flora and Fauna of Point Molate

Produced by Wholly H2O, (Sean Rumsey) August 2019

Insects

Pipevine Swallowtail

Battus philenor
3-5 in. Black wings with orange spots and blue iridescent hind wings. Colors more subdued on females. Frequently inhabit thistle.



Photo by John Flannery /CC BY-SA

Common Buckeye

Junonia coenia
2-2.5 in. wing span. They are colored with brown eyespots on the wings. The Ribwort Plantain is its preferred host plant.



Photo by Bill Bumgarner/CC BY-NC-ND

Spotted Cucumber Beetle

Diabrotica undecimpunctata
Usually around 0.2 in. Are greenish-yellow with black spots. They eat and damage the leaves of many crops.



Photo by Molanic /CC BY-NC

Anise Swallowtail

Papilio zelicaon
2-3.1 in. Common in western North America. Upper and lower side of wings are black with broad yellow stripe and blue spots on rear edge of rear wing.



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Grey Hairstreak

Srtymon melinus
Grey and dark grey wings with light edges. Orange eye spots with black pupil and other spots of light orange coloring.



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Cabbage White

Pieris rapae
Usually around 1.3-1.9 in. Upper side of wings are creamy white with black tips. Accidentally introduced in Quebec, Canada and eventually spread throughout North America.



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Black-tailed Bumble Bee

Bombus melanopygus
It is native to Western North America and is found as far east as Idaho. It is one of the few bumble bees still found regularly in San Francisco.



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Common Ringlet

Coenonympha tullia
Also known as Large Heath, it flies in a variety of grassy habitats. It is however a poor flyer.



Photo by Mr. Wolf/ CC BY

Saint John's Wort Beetle

Chrysolina hyperici
It has been introduced in a variety of areas as biological control for the Saint John's Wort plant. They lay up to 2,000 eggs on their host plant in the fall.



Photo by Thomas Barbin/CC BY-NC

Seven-spotted Lady Beetle

Concinella septempunctata
0.3-0.4 in. Can live in many places where aphids are present (for food). Secrete a foul tasting fluid from leg joints to ward off predators.



Photo by Katja Schulz/CC BY

Great Golden Digger Wasp

Sphex ichneumoneus
This wasp is identified by its golden pubescence on its head and thorax, its reddish orange legs, and partially reddish orange body.



Photo by Andy Lazere/CC BY-NC

California Rose-winged Grasshopper

Dissostiera pictipennis
It is beige colored with brown spots and has brown and reddish pink accented wings.



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Spiders

Western Lynx Spider

Oxyopes scalaris
0.3-0.5 in. They are striped brown, spined legs. They are known to often jump up to an inch into the air to catch prey.



Photo by Don Loarie/CC BY

Bowl-and-Doily Spider

Frontinella pyramitela
Small spiders, around 0.16 in. They weave a complex sheet web system consisting of an inverted dome atop a horizontal sheet web through which they bite their prey.



Photo by Steve Kerr/CC BY

Ant-mimic Sac Spider

Castianeira
Found on all continents except for Australia. Can mimic specific kinds of ants, but some have simple body modification that resemble ants.



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Phid Jumping Spiders

Genus *Phidippus*
Many of the greatest jumping spiders inhabit this genus. They are distributed almost exclusively in North America except for two specific species.



Photo by Judy Gallagher/CC BY

Reptiles

Western Fence Lizard

Sceloporus occidentalis
Usually close to 8 in. They can be recognized by the black stripes down their back but most notably by their bright blue bellies.



Photo by David Hoffman/CC BY-NC-ND

Western Skink

Plestiodon skiltonianus
Around 4-8 in. total body length. In California they spend most of their time sitting in the sun in the southern coastal areas. They have a brightly colored, blue tail.



Photo by Ken-Ichi Ueda/CC BY

Crustaceans

Western Sea Roach

Ligia occidentalis
Up to 1 in. long. It is active mostly in intertidal zones. They live in rock crevices and under algae from Sonoma County to South America.



Photo by Kelley Conrad Simon/CC BY-NC

Striped Shore Crab

Pachygrapus crassipes
From 1.5-2 in. Found on the rocky and hard-mud shores of North to Central America and in the western Pacific. They can spend upwards of 70 hrs only on land.



Photo by Peter d. Tillman/CC BY-SA

Yellow Shore Crab

Hemigrapus oregonensis
Around 1.2-1.4 in. They can vary in color from light grey, green, or yellow. They primarily eat diatoms and green algae but do occasionally eat meat.



Photo by Steven Mlodinow/CC BY-NC

Acorn Barnacle

Balanus glandula
Up to 0.9 in. diameter. One of the most common barnacle species of the Pacific coast of North America. Found in the upper intertidal zone on mussels, rocks, and pier pilings.



Photo by JJ Johnson/CC BY-NC

European Green Crab

Carcinus maenas
The carapace can be up to 8 in. wide. Their an incredibly invasive species and feed on a variety of mollusks, worms, and small crustaceans.



Photo by J. Greenman/CC BY-NC

Bay Ghost Shrimp

Neotrypaea californiensis
Up to 4.5 in. Ghost shrimp live on the Pacific coast of North America. Creamy white with patches of pale color. One claw is bigger than the other.



Photo by Ken-ichi Ueda/CC BY

Molluscs

Japanese Littleneck

Ruditapes philippinarum
Shell can range from 1.5-2 in. Second most important bivalve grown in aqua culture worldwide. Shell is variable in color and pattern.



California Mussle

Mytilus californianus
Shell from 3-5 in. Blue shell except for the growing edge which has a heavy brown outermost layer.



Pacific Littleneck Clam

Leukoma staminea
The shell can get as big as 2.4 in. Generally in protected areas in sand, hard-mud, and clayey gravel substrates from mid and lower shore to depths of 30 ft.



Green Garden Snail

Cantareus apertus
The shell is between 0.85-1.1 in. in diameter and has an outer most layer that is olive-green. It is native to Europe and areas around the Mediteranean Sea.



Taylor's Seahare

Phyllaplysia taylori
Found on the Pacific coast of the US almost exclusively on eelgrass. There are 2 color variants of this species, yellow and bright green.



Pacific Oyster

Magallana gigas
Length of the shell has significant variance from 3-16 in. It is an estuarine species but is also found in intertidal and sub-tidal zones. Larvae often settle on adult's shells and can form oyster reefs.



Birds

Wild Turkey

Meleagris gallopavo
In length, males are 39-49 in. and females are 30-37 in. Native to North America, they have blackish and dark body feathers that develop a coppery sheen in adulthood particularly for males.



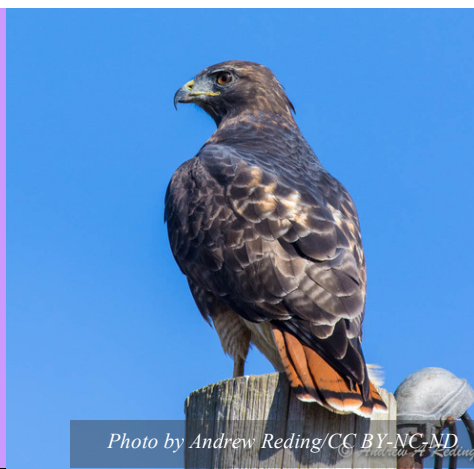
Turkey Vulture

Cathartes aura
Wingspan of 63-72 in. and body length of 24-32 in. Range from southern Canada to the southernmost tip of South America, they are scavengers and feed mostly on dead, rotting flesh.



Red-tailed Hawk

Buteo jamaicensis
Wingspan of 43-56 in. and body length of 18-26 in. Found throughout North America. Can range widely in color.



Northern Mockingbird

Mimus polyglottos
Wingspan from 12-15 in. and body length from 8.1-11 in. Only commonly found mockingbird in North America. They are omnivorous.



Anna's Hummingbird

Calypte anna
3.9-4.3 in. long. It has an iridescent bronze-green back, a pale grey chest and belly, and green flanks. They are native to the west-coast of North America.



Bufflehead

Bucephala albeola
13-16 in. They are migratory and winter on the west coasts of North America and the southern US. They are highly active but are rarely found in large flocks.



Long-billed Curlew

Numenius americanus
20-26 in. long. Disproportionally long, curved bill is 4.4-8.6 in. Females are regularly larger than males. They use their bill to probe mud for small invertebrates.



Black Oystercatcher

Haematopus bachmani
16.5-18.5 in. and around 3.5 in. red bill. Found on the shoreline of western North America. They most frequently inhabit rocky shorelines.



Mammals

Mule Deer

Odocoileus hemionus
31-42 in. height. Indigenous to western North America. Their diet depends on the season, region, year, and elevation. Males lose antlers in the winter and regrow in the spring.



Common Seal

Phoca vitulina
Can grow up 6.1 ft. Found along temperate and arctic marine coastlines of the Northern Hemisphere. One average, female seals live 10 years longer than males.



North American River Otter

Lontra Canadensis
26-42 in body length.
Endemic to North American water ways and coasts. Insulated by a thick, water-repellent coat of fur.



Photo by Dan Dzurisin/CC BY-NC-ND

California Grpund Squirrel

Otospermophilus beecheyi
Head/body around 12 in. and 5.9 in tail. Fur is a mixture of gray, light brown, and dusty hairs.



Photo by S. Rae/CC BY

Coyote

Canis latrans
39-52 in. total body length. Native to North America. They are mostly grey with dull orange coloring however can vary slightly depending on geography.



Photo by John D Reynolds/CC BY-NC

Gray Fox

Urocyon cinereoargenteus
29.9-44.3 in. total length. Distinguished from other members of evolutionary family by grizzled upper parts, white stripe down its tail, and a strong neck.



Photo by Charley/CC BY-NC

Trees

Coast Live Oak

Quercus agrifolia
33-82 ft. in maturity. Native to the California Floristic province. Leaves are dark-green, oval, and convex in shape. The fruit they create is the acorn.



Photo by Arnel/CC BY-NC

Monterey Pine

Pinus radiata
50-100 ft. in the wild. Native to the central coast of California and Mexico. Extensively cultivated for timber in temperate parts of the world. Endangered globally largely due to fungal disease.



Photo by Robin Agarwal/CC BY-NC

Arroyo Willow

Salix lasiolepis
Can grow up to 33 ft. Native to North America. The shoots are yellowish brown and densely hairy when young. Commonly found growing in riparian zones in canyons and valleys, along pond shores, and in marshes and wetlands.



Photo by A. Arenas/CC BY-NC

Monterey Cypress

Cupressus Macrocarpa
Can grow up to 133 ft. Native to the central coast of California. Often grown irregular and flat topped over time due to the strong winds typical of its native area.



Photo by Andrew Core/CC BY-NC

California Bay

Umbellularia californica
Can grow up to 100 ft.
Native to the coastal forests of California and coastal forests extending to Oregon. The fragrant leaves are smooth-edged and lance shaped.



Photo by Hugh Leonard/CC BY-NC

Eurabbie

Eucalyptus globulus
Around 148 ft. They are endemic to south-eastern Australia. The bark is usually smooth, white to cream-coloured. There is often unshed bark towards the bottom of the tree.



Photo by Sahij/CC BY-NC

California Buckeye

Aesculus californica
13-39 ft. Native to California and Southwestern Oregon. Gray bark often covered by lichen and moss. Multi-trunked with wide crowns. Live up to 300 years.



Photo by Chris Mallory/CC BY-NC

Pacific Willow

Salix lansiana
From 13-36 ft. The shoots are greenish-brown to gray-brown. Native to northern and western North America, occurring most frequently in wetland habitats.



Photo by L. Gicker/CC BY-NC

Plants

Pacific Poison Oak

Toxicodendron diversilobum
1.6-13.1 ft. tall. Woody vine or shrub with an extremely variable growth habit and leaf appearance. Widely distributed in North America.



Photo by Jill Matsuyama/CC BY-NC-SA

Orange Bush Monkeyflower

Diplacus aurantiacus
Grow up to 4 ft. Native to southwest North America. It has deep green stocky leaves and flowers that can vary widely in color.



Photo by Lena Zentall/CC BY-NC

Toyon

Heteromeles arbutifolia
6.5-16.5 ft. Part of coastal sage shrub community. Native to extreme southwest Oregon, California, Baja California, and British Columbia.



Photo by Diego Tamayo/CC BY-NC

Bluff Lettuce

Dudleya farinosa
Native to the Coastline of parts of Northern California, where it is found on bluffs and coastal hillsides. It grows spade shape leaves up to about 6 centimeters across.



Photo by Jennifer Rycenga/CC BY-NC

Indian Teasel

Dipsacus sativus
3.2 to 5 ft. tall. Native to parts through Europe, Asia, and Africa. It provides a great deal of nectar for pollinators. It is covered in small spikes and the leaf lobes are spear shaped.



Tall Flatsedge

Cyperus eragrostis
3.9-34.5 in. tall. Native to West Coast of North America. Long thin pointed leaves radiate from the top. Flowers are found within tough, rounded greenish yellow, or beige spikelets.



Wavy-leaved Soap Plant

Chologalum pomeridianum
Leaves grown from base of plant can be from 7.8-27.5 in. long. Found in most of California. Flowers are generally white and on a long stem.



Turkish Towel

Chondracanthus exasperatus
2-3 ft. leathery blades. It is a perennial plant that's appearance can vary depending on growing conditions. Grows fastest in summer. The blades are covered in bumps.



Chicory

Cichorium intybus
Stem 10-40 in. It is native to Europe however has become widely naturalized. Flowers are generally light purple or lavender.



California Sagebrush

Artemisia californica
5-8 ft. Native to western California and northwestern Baja California. It is found from sea level to 2600 ft. The stems of the plant are slender and flexible.



Bucks-horn Plantain

Plantago coronopus
1.5-3 in tall. Has lance shaped leaves that can grow up to 10 in. long. They are toothed and deeply divided and have dense spikes of flowers which sometimes curve.



Alkali Heath

Frankenia salina
Perennial herb native to California. It is most likely to found just north of the San Francisco Bay Area. They are twiggy thickets near beaches and coastal salt marches.



Seaside Woolly Sunflower

Eriophyllum staechadifolium
1-5 ft. It's height is partially dependant on coastal wind and saline spray. Native to coastline of Oregon and California.



California Bee Plant

Scrophularia californica
Native to the western United States. It has triangular, toothed, blue-green leaves in pairs opposite each other on a spindly, squared stem.



Crimson

Bottlebrush

Melaleuca citrina

Generally between 3-10 ft. Endemic to large parts of Australia. It has hard, fibrous or papery bark and its young growth is usually covered with soft silky hairs.



Photo by Chobuck/CC BY-NC

Salt Grass

Distichlis spicata

They have solid stiff stems with narrow leaves up to 4 in. long. It is native to and spread throughout the Americas. It thrives along coastlines and saltflats.



Photo by Gena Beintall/CC BY-NC

Pickleweed

Genus *Salicornia*

They are small annual herbs native to North America, Europe, South Africa, and South Asia. The stems are succulent, glabrous, and apparently jointed.



Photo by Bas Kers/CC BY-NC-SA

Pealy

Everlasting

Anaphalis margaritacea

Up to around 3.9 ft. It is an Asian and North American species of flowering perennial plant. They have narrow alternate leaves with bottoms covered in tiny hairs.



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