



A MANUAL OF
CALIFORNIA
VEGETATION

SECOND EDITION

John O. Sawyer | Todd Keeler-Wolf | Julie M. Evens

Ecological Sections of California



USDA Ecoregion Provinces
 USDA Ecoregion Sections

California Coastal Chaparral Forest and Shrub

- 261A: Central California Coast
- 261B: Southern California Coast

California Coastal Range Shrub - Forest - Meadow

- M262A: Central California Coast Ranges
- M262B: Southern California Mountains and Valleys

California Coastal Steppe - Mixed Forest - Redwood Forest

- 263A: Northern California Coast

Sierran Forest - Alpine Meadows

- M261A: Klamath Mountains
- M261B: Northern California Coast Ranges
- M261C: Northern California Interior Coast Ranges
- M261D: Southern Cascades
- M261E: Sierra Nevada
- M261F: Sierra Nevada Foothills
- M261G: Modoc Plateau

American Semi-Desert and Desert

- 322A: Mojave Desert
- 322B: Sonoran Desert
- 322C: Colorado Desert

Intermountain Semi-Desert and Desert

- 341D: Mono
- 341F: Southeastern Great Basin

Intermountain Semi-Desert

- 342B: Northwestern Basin and Range

California Dry Steppe

- 262A: Great Valley

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Julie M. Evens, California Native Plant Society



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CALIFORNIA is famous for its beautiful plant displays across the landscape, known collectively as plant communities or vegetation, such as redwood forests. This guide to California's plant communities focuses on conserving both the individual species and the surrounding habitat. The vegetation classification system introduced in the first *Manual of California Vegetation* has since become widely accepted as the state standard. This completely updated edition has been expanded to include the following:

- Over 480 descriptions
- 352 vegetation maps
- Descriptions of regional variation
- Detailed life history information
- Data on fire, flooding, and other natural processes
- Restoration and other management considerations
- Revised and expanded lists of references

This comprehensive guide will be of interest to botanists, ecologists, environmental scientists, and natural history enthusiasts and is a must-have for land-use managers and conservation planners.

"Wise conservation and restoration activities, and the creation of appropriate land management protocols, can only be accomplished when we know what we have, and in considerable, full-floristic detail. This second edition of *A Manual of California Vegetation* has made remarkable advances over the first, viewing vegetation from both a finer floristic scale and a broader, more ecosystem-oriented perspective. These two editions have achieved what Professor Jack Major once hoped for: near parity with the classification accomplishments of many other countries. Hats off to this splendid book!"

MICHAEL BARBOUR, Professor Emeritus of Plant Sciences, University of California, Davis

JOHN O. SAWYER is Professor Emeritus of Botany at Humboldt State University, where he taught ecology and plant taxonomy. **TODD KEELER-WOLF** is Senior Vegetation Ecologist at the California Department of Fish and Game, Biogeographic Data Branch, where he leads the Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program. **JULIE M. EVENS** is the Vegetation Program Director for the California Native Plant Society, where she manages projects to survey, describe, and map vegetation statewide.

Cover design by Nicole Hayward Design, Inside front cover: map by Joseph Vondracek, California Department of Fish and Game, Front cover: (top) Dana Meadows, Yosemite National Park; (lower left) *Yucca brevifolia* over *Coleogyne ramosissima*, northeast of Cima Dome; (lower right) *Abies concolor*-*Pinus lambertiana* alliance at Calaveras Big Trees State Park. Photographs by Todd Keeler-Wolf.

