

Common Plants and Flowers of Cliff Camp

Steve Kliewer, June 2019

Wildflowers

Mountain Pride Penstemon

Family	Figwort
Name	Penstemon newberryi
Flower	Crimson, $\frac{3}{4}$ ", tubular, irregular (2 lobes on top and 3 on bottom)
Leaves	Oval, $\frac{1}{2}$ ", opposite
Stems	1 ft or less, erect
Found	Rocky areas



Pussy Paws

Family	Purslane
Name	Calytridium umbellatum
Flower	Rosy, dense papery terminal heads
Leaves	Spoon-shaped, basal rosette
Stems	3 to 15", mostly prostrate
Found	Sandy or gravelly soil



Indian Paintbrush

Family	Figwort
Name	Castilleja pinetorum
Flower	Orange or yellow, spikes and bracts
Leaves	Oblong, hairy, $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1"
Stems	6-12", erect, branching
Found	



Queen Anne's Lace

Family	Parsley
Name	<i>Eulophus bolanderi</i>
Flower	White, very small in lacy umbels
Leaves	Triangular, 2 to 6" long
Stems	1 to 2 ft, erect, nearly naked
Found	meadows



White Mariposa Lily

Family	Lily
Name	<i>Calochortus venustus</i>
Flower	White, 6 petals, showy, 1-2"
Leaves	Narrow, 1 or 2 at base
Stems	4-10", erect, nude, from a bulb.
Found	Dry forested areas



Collinsia

Family	Plantain
Name	<i>Collinsia torreyi</i>
Flower	White on top lobe, blue on bottom, 1/2"
Leaves	Lance-shaped, opposite, 1-3"
Stems	2-12", erect, simple or branching
Found	Damp sandy soil



Golden Brodiaea

Family	Lily
Name	<i>Brodiaea ixoides</i>
Flower	Salmon-yellow with dark vein, 6 petals, 1/2 - 3/4"
Leaves	Few, grass-like
Stems	1/2 - 1 ft, erect, grows from bulb
Found	Sandy soil



Sierra Star Tulip

Family	Lily
Name	Calochortus nudus
Flower	White, 3 petals, ½"
Leaves	1 basal parallel-veined grass-like, 3-10"
Stems	2-6"
Found	Moist meadows



Miners Lettuce

Family	Purslane
Name	Monticello perfoliate
Flower	White to pink, in receme, ¼"
Leaves	Disc, encircling stem just below flower cluster, ½ - 2"
Stems	4-10", erect, bare Leaves and stems eaten by Indians and miners
Found	Shady moist areas



Harvest Brodiaea

Family	Lily
Name	Brodiaea coronaria
Flower	Blue or violet, 6 petals, open umbel, 1-2"
Leaves	Few, grass-like
Stems	7-20", erect
Found	meadows



Meadow Golden Rod

Family	Sunflower
Name	Solidago elongata
Flower	Yellow, small in dense panicle
Leaves	Oblong to lance-shaped, 2 to 4"
Stems	1 to 3 ft, erect, leafy
Found	meadows



Yellow Monkey Flower

Family	Figwort
Name	Mimulus guttatus
Flower	Yellow, irregular, ½ - 1"
Leaves	Palmate, deeply lobed, 1-2"
Stems	1-10", simple to branched
Found	Moist soil



Mustang Clover

Family	Phlox
Name	Linathus montanus
Flower	White, pink, or red, 5 petals, Radiating from bristly round bract
Leaves	Lance-like, opposite, hairy, ¼ - 1 ¼"
Stems	4-22", erect
Found	Dry, gravelly places



Farewell-to-Spring

Family	Evening Primrose
Name	Clarkia dudleyana
Flower	Red with purple splotch, 4 petals, ½ - 1" dia
Leaves	Narrow to ance-shaped, ½ - 2"
Stems	1-3 ft, erect, simple
Found	Dry open places



Small Larkspur

Family	Buttercup
Name	Delphinium decorum
Flower	Deep blue, irregular, 5 petals With backward pointing spur
Leaves	Wide, deeply parted, basal, 3-5"
Stems	1-2 ft
Found	Along streams or wet meadows



Streptanthus – Jewel Flower

Family	Mustard
Name	Streptanthus tortuosus
Flower	Cream colored, urn-shaped, $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Leaves	Oval, encircling stem, $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Stems	$\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 ft
Found	Dry rocky slopes



Corn Lily

Family	Lily
Name	Veratrum californicum
Flower	White, tall panicle,
Leaves	Oval, long, pointed, parallel-veined
Stems	3-6 ft, thick fibrous
Found	Wet meadows



Wild Strawberry

Family	Rose
Name	Fragaria californica
Flower	White, 5 petals, clustered, $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1"
Leaves	Oval, toothed, 3 leaflets, 1"
Stems	4-5", often as runners
Found	Shaded damp areas



Sierra Shooting Stars

Family	Primrose
Name	Dodecatheon jeffreyi
Flower	Pink-crimson tinged with yellow, umbels of 5-15 flowers, 1" long, nodding, petals bent backward with black stamen protruding
Leaves	Lance-shaped, basal, 2-15"
Stems	1 to 2 ft, erect
Found	Wet places



Red Columbine

Family	Buttercup
Name	<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>
Flower	Scarlet, center yellow, regular, 5 petals, formed into backward pointing tubes, Seeds in autumn are flat in 5-lobed capsule.
Leaves	Compound, leaflets, deeply lobed
Stems	1-3 ft, branching
Found	Moist shaded sites



Sierra Tiger Lily

Family	Lily
Name	<i>Lilium parvum</i>
Flower	Orange-yellow spotted purple, 1 – 1 ¼", Seeds in autumn are black oblong in 3-lobed capsule.
Leaves	Long, narrow, 3 – 5"
Stems	1 – 7 ft, from a bulb
Found	Boggy places and near streams.



Indian Pond Lily

Family	Water Lily
Name	<i>Nymphaea polysepala</i>
Flower	Yellow, 3-5" dia
Leaves	Heart-shaped, floating, 7-14"
Stems	In water
Found	Ponds and slow streams



Death Camas

Family	Lily
Name	<i>Zygadenus venenosus</i>
Flower	Greenish-yellow, 3/8", in racemes 3-10" long
Leaves	Linear, basal, ½" wide
Stems	6-24" erect Bulb is poisonous
Found	In moist places



Brewer Lupine

Family	Pea
Name	Lupinus breweri
Flower	Blue, in 2" terminal racemes, Fruit is a pea pod
Leaves	Compound, 5-17 narrow leaflets
Stems	2-9"
Found	Dry stony slopes



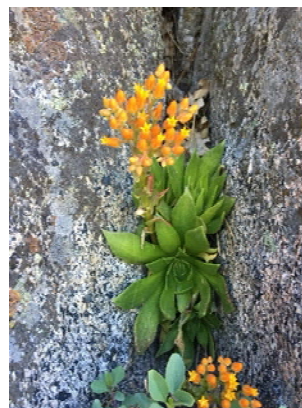
Sierra Stonecrop – Sierra Sedum

Family	Crassulaceae
Name	Sedum Obtusatum
Flower	Yellow, clustered, ¼"
Leaves	Succulent, mat-like, basal rosette
Stems	3-6", erect
Found	Rocky slopes in coarse sand



Canyon Live-Forever

Family	Crassulaceae
Name	Dudleyi cymosa
Flower	Yellow-red, thimble-shaped
Leaves	Gray-green basal rosette, succulent
Stems	Red-orange
Found	Rock crevices



Snow Plant

Family	Heath
Name	Sarcoides sanguinea
Flower	½ - ¾", crowded around stem in raceme
Leaves	Reddish Scales
Stems	9-18", erect, stout, fleshy
Found	Forest humus. It is a saprophyte and lives on decaying matter



Soap Root

Family	Lily
Name	Chlorogalum pomeridianum
Flower	Few
Leaves	Many, long, parallel veins, 1 to 2 ft
Bulb	2" dia, coarse brown fibers, lathers in water, edible, used as brush
Found	Dry open stony ground



Bracken Fern

Family	Fern
Name	Pteridium aquilinum
Flower	None, spores released from underside
Leaves	Triangular fronds, dark to light green
Stems	1-3 ft
Found	Shaded moist forest







Chaparral Dodder

Family	Morning Glory
Name	Cuscuta californica
Flower	Tiny white
Leaves	scales
Vine	Parasitic, yellow-orange straw
Found	Grassland and chaparral



Shrubs

California Hazelnut		
Family	Birch	
Name	Corylus cornuta californica	
Flower	Pink, small, solitary Nut is ½" long in hairy tube Male catkins are wormlike and hanging	
Leaves	Rounded or pointed, toothed, 1-3"	
Stems	5-12 ft, many spreading loose stems, bark is smooth.	
Found	Cool canyons along streams	
Sierra Gooseberry		
Family	Saxifrage	
Name	Ribes roezlii	
Flower	Small Fruit is round, green to red, and spiny . Makes great jellies	
Leaves	Deeply lobed, alternate	
Stems	1-2ft, branched, spiny	
Found	Dry pine forests	
Sierra Current		
Family	Saxifrage	
Name	Ribes nevadense	
Flower	Red to white, small Fruit is small smooth purple berry. Tasty when ripe	
Leaves	Deeply lobed, alternate	
Stems	2-6 ft, branched smooth	
Found	Shaded damp areas	
Thimbleberry		
Family	Rose	
Name	Rubus parviflorus	
Flower	White, 5 petals, 1-2" Berry is red, wide, hemispheric. Delightful like raspberry.	
Leaves	Rounded, 3-5 lobed, toothed 2-7"	
Stems	3-6 ft, erect, smooth	
Found	Along shaded streams	

Ceanothus – Deer Brush

Family	Buckthorn
Name	Ceanothus integrerrimus
Flower	White or blue in 4" raceme
Leaves	Lance-shaped to oblong, glossy, alternating, 1-3"
Shrub	3-13 ft, branching, dense, yellow to pale green
Found	



Greenleaf Manzanita

Family	Heath
Name	Arctostaphylos patula
Flower	White to pink, urn-shaped
Leaves	Oval to round, flat, shiny, 2"
Shrub	3-6 ft, twisting and reddish-brown bark
Found	Dry sandy soil



Blue Elderberry

Family	Honeysuckle
Name	Sambucus nigra caerulea
Flower	White to cream, in flat umbel, ¼" Fruit is ¼" blue-black berry with powder blue coating
Leaves	Lance-shaped to elliptical, hairless, pointed, toothed, 1-6"
Stems	Up to 30 ft tall
Found	Moist exposed slopes



Trees

Sugar Pine

Family	Pine
Name	Pinus lambertiana
Needles	Bundles of 5, 2-4"
Cones	Long, 10-20"
Note	Tallest and largest pine trees. Sweet resin, similar to maple sugar



Ponderosa – Yellow Pine

Family	Pine
Name	Pinus ponderosa
Needles	Bundles of 2-3, 4-8" long
Cones	2-6", conical or egg-shaped Outturned prickles on each scale
Note	Bark is blackish, rough, furrowed Most common pine in Sierra



Jeffrey Pine

Family	Pine
Name	Pinus jeffreyi
Needles	Bundles of 3, 5-10" long
Cone	5-10", conical or egg-shaped Inturned prickles on each scale
Note	Compared to Yellow Pine: Bark is darker and smells of vanilla Crushed fresh needles smell of apples Most common pine near cabin.



Lodgepole Pine - Tamarack

Family	Pine
Name	Pinus contorta murrayana
Needles	Bundles of 2, 1-2" long
Cone	¾ - 2", egg-shaped
Note	Bark is light-brown, thin, and scaly



Sierra Juniper

Family	Cypress
Name	<i>Juniperus occidentalis</i>
Needles	Scalelike, rounded
Cones	Purple, ¼", berrylike
Note	Bark is reddish-brown, furrowed, shreddy



California Black Oak

Family	Beech
Name	<i>Quercus Kelloggii</i>
Acorns	1", enclosed in scaly cup
Leaves	Palmate, deeply lobed, toothed, 3-8"
Bark	Dark-brown, thick
Found	Sandy gravelly and rocky soils Often as spreading shrubs



Douglas Fir

Family	Pine
Name	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
Needles	Yellow-green, flat, spreading in two rows, ¾ - 1"
Cone	2-3", narrow egg-shaped
Bark	Reddish brown, thick, furrowed
Notes	Most common in lumber



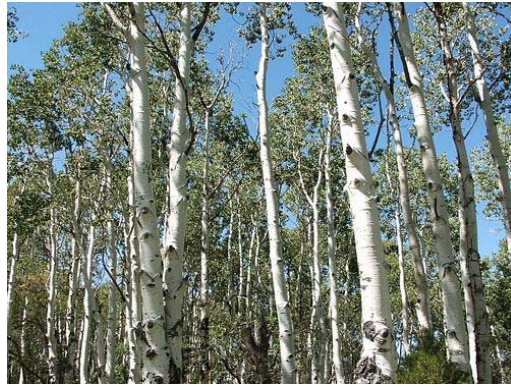
White Fir

Family	Pine
Name	<i>Abies concolor</i>
Needles	Blue-green, flat, spreading 2 rows at right angles, 1-2"
Cone	3-5", cylindrical, upright
Bark	
Notes	Moist rocky soils



Quaking Aspen

Family	Willow
Name	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>
Leaves	Nearly round
Bark	Whitish, smooth, thin, often marked or scarred
Notes	Leaves have a narrowed petiole allowing leaf to "quake" in wind. Often found as twisted shrubs.



Lemmon's Willow

Family	Willow
Name	<i>Salix lemmonii</i>
Leaves	Lance-shaped, 2-4"
Bark	Green to brown, thin
Notes	Shrub thicket, 3-12 ft In moist and wet areas



Incense Cedar

Family	Cypress
Name	<i>Libocedrus decurrens</i>
Needles	Scale-like, opposite in 4 rows, shiny green, ½"
Cone	¾ - 1", oblong
Bark	Reddish brown, thick deeply furrowed or shreddy
Notes	Aromatic & soft wood



Giant Sequoia

Family	Cypress
Name	<i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i>
Needles	triangular
Cone	Oblong, 2"
Bark	Reddish-brown shreddy
Notes	Largest trees in world

