

Celebrating Wildflowers: Our Unique Plant Communities KLAMATH-SISKIYOU SERPENTINES

Sparing Beauty

Sparse and toxic; diverse and rare; serpentines are a land of contrasts. Formed within the earth's mantle, serpentine rocks found their way to the surface and spawned a unique flora especially adapted to survive the severe hardships of drought, heavy metal exposure and nutrient stress. In these severe landscapes that "poison" the soil, complex islands of endemism and rarity have evolved in isolated plant communities.



As you explore these remote-looking landscapes and visually take in the uniqueness of these hardy, dwarfish plants you too will realize that within its initial sparseness and starkness is a world of wonder and great beauty. From old gnarled trees to amazing wildflowers of rare and infinite beauty, a multitude of sparse and diminutive plants have evolved fantastic means by which to live and survive within the toxic soils.

Serpentine environments contribute visual richness and distinctiveness to our National Forests. And within these landscapes so different from any other, the unique serpentines offer the explorer a sublime environment in which our spirituality and environment unite to encounter new territories, within and without.

- 1 Foxtail pine (*Pinus balfouriana*)
- 2 Jeffrey pine (*Pinus jeffreyi*)
- 3 Port-Orford cedar (*Cupressus lawsoniana*)
- 4 Common juniper (*Juniperus communis*)
- 5 Pinemat manzanita (*Arctostaphylos nevadensis*)
- 6 California coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica*)
- 7 Dwarf tanoak (*Lithocarpus densiflora* ssp. *echinoides*)
- 8 Whiteleaf manzanita (*Arctostaphylos viscida*)
- 9 Huckleberry oak (*Quercus vaccinifolia*)
- 10 Squirreltail grass (*Elymus elymoides*)
- 11 Copeland's speedwell (*Veronica copelandii*)
- 12 Serpentine milkweed (*Asclepias solanoana*)
- 13 Howell's mariposa lily (*Calochortus howellii*)
- 14 Siskiyou butterweed (*Packera hesperia*)
- 15 Bolander's lily (*Lilium bolanderi*)
- 16 Heckner's stonecrop (*Sedum laxum* ssp. *heckneri*)
- 17 Sulphur buckwheat (*Eriogonum umbellatum*)
- 18 Siskiyou milkvetch (*Astragalus whitmeyii* var. *siskiyouensis*)
- 19 Waldo rock-cress (*Arabis aculeolata*)
- 20 Siskiyou willow-herb (*Epilobium siskiyouensis*)
- 21 Roemer's fescue (*Festuca idahoensis* var. *roemeri*)
- 22 Threadleaf beardtongue (*Penstemon filiformis*)
- 23 Showy railardella (*Raillardella pringlei*)
- 24 Bigelow's sneezeweed (*Helenium bigelovii*)
- 25 Siskiyou paintbrush (*Castilleja miniata* ssp. *elata*)
- 26 California lady's slipper (*Cypripedium californicum*)
- 27 Fringed cottongrass (*Eriophorum criniger*)
- 28 Waldo gentian (*Gentiana setigera*)
- 29 California pitcher plant (*Darlingtonia californica*)
- 30 Western bog violet (*Viola lanceolata* var. *occidentalis*)
- 31 Allen's hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*)
- 32 Mardon skipper (*Polites mardon*)
- 33 Anise swallowtail (*Papilio zelicaon*)

