



BENEFICIAL BIRD NATIVE PLANT CHART

CALIFORNIA







INTRODUCTION

Help to take care of birds in California by providing native plants they prefer and they will better help control pests in the farm and garden. Begin using this chart by deciding on the size and type of native plants you want to install, and if you'd like them to be evergreen, deciduous or both. Next consider selecting a variety of plants that provide floral resources and other plant food for birds to consume throughout the year.

Continue selecting plants, making sure that some support a high number of caterpillars that birds eat—these plants will be the keystone species of the area. Also make selections based on the most bird use recorded for general habitat, food and nesting habitat. Lastly, select plants that support climate benefits, including those that exist in 3+ regions in California, which makes them more resilient to climate change; those that offer year-round cover for birds that will increasingly be stressed by climate change; and those that are better at storing carbon. By providing native plants, more suitable habitat will be available for birds now and into the future.



Produced by Wild Farm Alliance (WFA). WFA is a national organization with a mission to promote healthy, viable agriculture that helps to protect and restore wild nature. Our work is bringing nature back to our farms and ranches. WildFarmAlliance.org



A Chestnut-backed Chickadee uses a live oak tree, which provides habitat and food resources over multiple seasons. Photo: Doug Greenberg



Red-shouldered Hawks often hunt from deciduous trees.

Photo: Diane Rose



Lupine hosts very many caterpillars, as this Song Sparrow knows.

Photo: Claudine Lamothe



Elderberry provides nesting habitat for many birds, including Red-winged Blackbirds that laid their eggs here. Photo: Breslin Farms

CHART

Common Name	Genus	Species	Plant Characteristics	Bird Species Use of Plant Genera	Climate Benefits
LARGE SHRUBS	AND TREES				
Maple, Big Leaf	Acer	Acer macrophyllum	半女女女	1 7	©
Elder, Box	Acer	Acer negundo	***	1 7	©
Buckeye, Calif.	Aesculus	Aesculus californica	半水水水 ~~	12 8	©
Alder, White	Alnus	Alnus rhombifolia	※☆☆~~	1 3	©
Madrone	Arbutus	Arbutus menziesii	秦牧牧牧	1 3	S
Manzanita, Common	Arctostaphylos	Arctostaphylos manzanita	秦牧牧牧灬	1	& @ =
Saltbush, Quailbush	Atriplex	Atriplex lentiformis	素☆☆ ~~	1	*
Cedar, Incense	Calocedrus	Calocedrus decurrens	***		O
Ceanothus, 'Ray Hartman'	Ceanothus	Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman'	秦牧牧	***	@
Ceanothus, Deerbrush	Ceanothus	Ceanothus integerrimus	秦牧牧牧	1 T	@
Ceanothus, California Lilac	Ceanothus	Ceanothus thyrsiflorus	秦牧牧	A S	& @ =
Ceanothus, Carmel	Ceanothus	Ceanothus thyrsiflorus var. griseus	秦牧牧	***	% Ø 👼
Button Willow	Cephalanthus	Cephalanthus occidentalis	半水水 ~	1 5	& @
Redbud, Western	Cercis	Cercis occidentalis	***		©
Mountain Mahogany	Cercocarpus	Cercocarpus betuloides	秦牧牧	7 T	& @ =
Desert Willow	Chilopsis	Chilopsis linearis	* * * *	7 8	O
Dogwood, Brown	Cornus	Cornus glabrata	半女女女	1	©

KEY

P Deciduous

Evergreen

Spring Flowers / Food

Summer Flowers / Food

Fall Flowers / Food

Winter Flowers / Food

Suitable for 3+ Regions

Provides Cover for Birds Year-round



Caterpillars

Bird Count General Habitat

Bird Count for Food

Bird Count for Nesting

Amount of Carbon Stored



PAGE 3

Common Name	Genus	Species	Plant Characteristics	Bird Species Use of Plant Genera	Climate Benefits
Dogwood, Western	Cornus	Cornus sericea	※☆☆ ~~	ANT	©
Coffeeberry	Frangula	Frangula californica	秦牧牧牧	1 5 S	
Ash, Oregon	Fraxinus	Fraxinus latifolia	* * * ~	1	©
Flannel bush	Fremontodendron	Fremontodendron californicum	秦牧牧牧		A O O
Silktassel Plant	Garrya	Garrya elliptica	秦女	8	O
Silktassel Plant, Fremont	Garrya	Garrya fremontii	秦农农	8	@
Cypress, Monterey	Hesperocyparis	Hesperocyparis macrocarpa	*	** *	@
Toyon	Heteromeles	Heteromeles arbutifolia	素水水水 ~		
Ocean Spray	Holodiscus	Holodiscus discolor	* * * * ·		©
Walnut, California Black	Juglans	Juglans californica	* * * ~	1	6
Tree Mallow	Malva	Malva assurgentiflora	秦牧牧牧牧		@
Wax Myrtle	Morella	Morella californica	素 🌣 🌣 🥋	1	A
Pine, Gray	Pinus	Pinus sabiniana	素水水水水	1 3	@
Sycamore	Platanus	Platanus racemosa	* * *	1	O
Cottonwood, Fremont	Populus	Populus fremontii	***	1 18	& @
Cottonwood, Black	Populus	Populus trichocarpa	* * * ~	ANT	@
Cherry, Hollyleaf	Prunus	Prunus ilicifolia	秦女女女女	A S	A
Cherry, Catalina	Prunus	Prunus ilicifolia subsp. Iyonii	***	10 15	A P
Oak, Coast live	Quercus	Quercus agrifolia	秦牧牧牧林	18	@

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Caterpillars

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PAGE 4

Common Name	Genus	Species	Plant Characteristics	Bird Species Use of Plant Genera	Climate Benefits
Oak, Canyon live	Quercus	Quercus chrysolepis	秦牧牧牧林	1 18	®
Oak, Blue	Quercus	Quercus douglasii	半女女女女	1 3	©
Oak, California black	Quercus	Quercus kelloggii	***	1 1 5	@
Oak, Valley	Quercus	Quercus lobata	半女女女女	1 3	©
Oak, Interior live	Quercus	Quercus wislizeni	秦牧牧四	18	A A
Redberry, Hollyleaf	Rhamnus	Rhamnus ilicifolia	秦牧牧牧	1 1 5	& @ =
Lemonade Berry	Rhus	Rhus integrifolia	秦牧牧牧牧	1 3	O
Sugar Bush	Rhus	Rhus ovata	秦牧牧牧	1 3	A P
Willow, Red	Salix	Salix laevigata	***	1 3	S
Willow, Yellow	Salix	Salix lasiandra var. lasiandra	***	1 7 8	6
Willow, Arroyo	Salix	Salix lasiolepis	学文文	W 7 8	O
Elderberry	Sambucus	Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	***	* 5	6
Redwood, Coast	Sequoia	Sequoia sempervirens	秦牧牧牧		
Giant Sequoia	Sequoiadendron	Sequoiadendron giganteum	秦牧牧牧牧	32	
MEDIUM SHRU	BS AND PERENN	IALS			
Chamise	Adenostoma	Adenostoma fasciculatum	秦牧牧牧		S
Serviceberry, Western	Amelanchier	Amelanchier alnifolia	※☆☆ ~~	***	6
Manzanita, 'McMinn'	Arctostaphylos	Arctostaphylos densiflora	秦牧牧	1 7 8	
Manzanita, Whiteleaf	Arctostaphylos	Arctostaphylos viscida	秦女女	A S	***

Deciduous

Evergreen

Spring Flowers / Food

Summer Flowers / Food

Fall Flowers / Food

Winter Flowers / Food

Suitable for 3+ Regions

Provides Cover for Birds Year-round











Bird Count for Food

Bird Count for Nesting

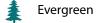
Amount of Carbon Stored



PAGE 5

Common Name	Genus	Species	Plant Characteristics	Bird Species Use of Plant Genera	Climate Benefits
Sagebrush, California	Artemisia	Artemisia californica	***		@
Saltbush, Fourwing	Atriplex	Atriplex canescens	秦牧牧	- T	O
Coyote Brush, Pigeon Point	Baccharis	Baccharis pilularis	****	7 8 T	* * * *
Coyote Brush	Baccharis	Baccharis pilularis ssp. consanguinea	秦牧牧	*** 8	
Mulefat	Baccharis	Baccharis salicifolia	秦牧牧牧牧	*** S	
Oregon Grape	Berberis	Berberis aquifolium	秦牧牧牧	1 3	A
Spicebush	Calycanthus	Calycanthus occidentalis	* * *		(
Bush Anemone	Carpenteria	Carpenteria californica	秦牧牧		O
Ceanothus, 'Concha'	Ceanothus	Ceanothus 'Concha'	秦牧牧		@
Ceanothus, 'Dark Star'	Ceanothus	Ceanothus 'Dark Star'	秦牧	* 5	@
Buckbrush	Ceanothus	Ceanothus cuneatus	秦牧牧牧牧	W 2	₩
Ceanothus, Point Reyes	Ceanothus	Ceanothus gloriosus	秦牧牧		@
Ceanothus, Yankee Point	Ceanothus	Ceanothus thyrsiflorus var. griseus	秦坎伽	1	
Hazelnut	Corylus	Corylus cornuta	半女女女女	1	©
Rabbitbrush	Ericameria	Ericameria nauseosa	半水水 ~~	1 18	@
Yerba Santa	Eriodictyon	Eriodictyon californicum	秦牧牧牧		A P P
Buckwheat, California	Eriogonum	Eriogonum fasciculatum	秦女女女	1	* * * *
Buckwheat, Giant	Eriogonum	Eriogonum giganteum	秦牧牧牧	100	O



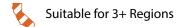




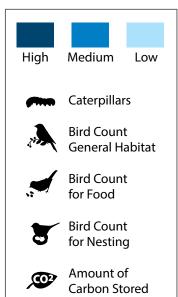














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Common Name	Genus	Species	Plant Characteristics	Bird Species Use of Plant Genera	Climate Benefits
Sunflower, Wooly	Eriophyllum	Eriophyllum staechadifolium	素水水 ~~		∞ □
Coffeeberry, Eve Case	Frangula	Frangula californica	秦牧牧牧	1 5	
Coffeeberry, Mound San Bruno	Frangula	Frangula californica	秦牧牧牧	1 3	* * * * * * * * * *
Island Snapdragon	Gambelia	Gambelia speciosa	秦水水		*
Lupine, Silver Bush	Lupinus	Lupinus albifrons	秦牧牧牧	A S	
Bladderpod	Peritoma	Peritoma arborea	秦牧牧牧牧		
Mock Orange, California	Philadelphus	Philadelphus lewisii	学☆☆☆	8	& @
Oak, Nuttall's Scrub	Quercus	Quercus dumosa	秦牧牧	1	*
Redberry	Rhamnus	Rhamnus crocea	秦女女女女	W . S	O
Sumac, Fragrant	Rhus	Rhus aromatica	* * * ~	1 5	@
Gooseberry, Fuschia-flowered	Ribes	Ribes californicum	***	1 18	& @
Currant, Chaparral	Ribes	Ribes malvaceum	* * * ~	1 5 S	©
Currant, Red- Flowering	Ribes	Ribes sanguineum	学☆☆☆	1	& @
Rose, Wild	Rosa	Rosa californica	***	1 5	©
Blackberry, California	Rubus	Rubus ursinus	***	1 3	©
Sage, White	Salvia	Salvia apiana	秦牧牧牧	1 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1	A
Sage, Cleveland	Salvia	Salvia clevelandii	秦牧牧	18	A
Bee Plant, California	Scrophularia	Scrophularia californica	秦牧牧		@

Deciduous

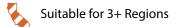


Spring Flowers / Food

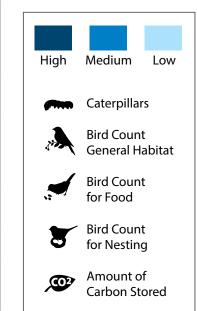














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Common Name	Genus	Species	Plant Characteristics	Bird Species Use of Plant Genera	Climate Benefits
Spirea	Spiraea	Spiraea douglasii	※ ☆ ☆ ~~	1 8 T	©
Snowberry	Symphoricarpos	Symphoricarpos albus	****·		©
Snowberry, creeping	Symphoricarpos	Symphoricarpos mollis	* * * ~~	* 5	& ,@
Huckleberry, California or Evergreen	Vaccinium	Vaccinium ovatum	秦牧牧牧	1 5 S	
SMALL SHRUBS	AND FORBS				
Yarrow	Achillea	Achillea millefolium	素☆☆ ~		A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
Manzanita, Emerald Carpet	Arctostaphylos	Arctostaphylos 'Emerald Carpet'	* * * * *	1	A
Mugwort	Artemisia	Artemisia douglasiana	学女女女	3	
Milkweed, Woolypod	Asclepias	Asclepias eriocarpa	* * ~		E
Milkweed, Narrowleaf	Asclepias	Asclepias fascicularis	半 * * ~		E
Milkweed, Showy	Asclepias	Asclepias speciosa	* * ~		
Coyote Brush, Twin Peaks II	Baccharis	Baccharis 'Twin Peaks II'	秦水水水	***	& @ =
Ceanothus, Carmel Creeper	Ceanothus	Ceanothus griseus horizontalis	秦牧牧师	***	& @ =
Clarkia, Farewell to Spring	Clarkia	Clarkia amoena	* * ~		
Clarkia, Red Spotted	Clarkia	Clarkia speciosa	* * ~		@
Monkeyflower, Sticky	Diplacus	Diplacus aurantiacus	秦牧牧牧	8	
Monkeyflower, Sierra Bush	Diplacus	Diplacus grandiflorus	素 牧 坎 牧 ~	3	

Deciduous

Evergreen

Spring Flowers / Food

Summer Flowers / Food

Fall Flowers / Food

winter Flowers / Food

Suitable for 3+ Regions

Provides Cover for Birds Year-round



Caterpillars

Bird Count General Habitat

Bird Count for Food

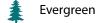
Bird Count for Nesting

Amount of Carbon Stored



Common Name	Genus	Species	Plant Characteristics	Bird Species Use of Plant Genera	Climate Benefits
Fuschia, California	Epilobium	Epilobium canum	素☆☆ ~	W . 8	
Seaside Daisy	Erigeron	Erigeron glaucus	素 ☆ ☆ ☆ ~		,00°
Buckwheat, Coast	Eriogonum	Eriogonum latifolium	秦水水~	M 5	
Buckwheat, Seacliff	Eriogonum	Eriogonum parvifolium	***	14 5	@
Buckwheat, Sulfur	Eriogonum	Eriogonum umbellatum	秦水水~	1	₩
Golden Yarrow	Eriophyllum	Eriophyllum confertiflorum	***		(
Monkeyflower, Seep	Erythranthe	Erythranthe guttata	***	310	
California Poppy	Eschscholzia	Eschscholzia californica	***	34	(1)
Strawberry, Beach	Fragaria	Fragaria chiloensis	秦女女女		A A B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B
Gumplant, Great Valley	Grindelia	Grindelia camporum	秦牧牧牧		A P B
Gumplant, Spreading	Grindelia	Grindelia stricta	秦牧牧牧		
Sunflower	Helianthus	Helianthus annuus	* * ~	1 5 T	(02)
Sunflower, California	Helianthus	Helianthus californicus	半☆☆	A 5	(CO2)
Lupine, Minature	Lupinus	Lupinus bicolor	* * ~~	14 5	%
Lupine, Manycolored	Lupinus	Lupinus variicolor	* * ~~	1 7 8	@
Coyote Mint	Monardella	Monardella villosa	* * ~ ~		A A B B
Baby Blue Eyes	Nemophila	Nemophila menziesii	* * ~		,CO ²
Primrose, Hooker's Evening	Oenothera	Oenothera elata	***		& @ =





Spring Flowers / Food

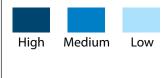


Fall Flowers / Food

Winter Flowers / Food

Suitable for 3+ Regions

Provides Cover for Birds
Year-round

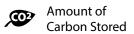














Common Name	Genus	Species	Plant Characteristics	Bird Species Use of Plant Genera	Climate Benefits
Pricklypear, Beavertail	Opuntia	Opuntia basilaris	***	1	A O O
Penstemon, Foothill	Penstemon	Penstemon heterophyllus	素水水水~	The state of	A P
Phacelia, California	Phacelia	Phacelia californica	秦牧牧	8	A @ B
Oak, Huckleberry	Quercus	Quercus vacciniifolia	秦牧牧牧牧	1 3	,O2
Sage, Black	Salvia	Salvia mellifera	秦牧牧牧	A 5	₩
Sage, Hummingbird	Salvia	Salvia spathacea	秦牧牧牧	1	A
Goldenrod, California	Solidago	Solidago californica	秦水水~	. 8	A P P
Hedge Nettle	Stachys	Stachys ajugoides	秦牧牧牧		
Hedge Nettle	Stachys	Stachys bullata	秦牧牧牧	1 5	,00°
Aster, California	Symphyotrichum	Symphyotrichum chilense	※☆☆~~		
Wooly Blue Curls	Trichostema	Trichostema lanatum	秦牧牧牧牧		
Vinegar Weed	Trichostema	Trichostema lanceolatum	* *		Q
VINES					
Dutchman's Pipe	Aristolochia	Aristolochia californica	***		(
Clematis, Chaparral	Clematis	Clematis lasiantha	秦牧牧		A
Honeysuckle	Lonicera	Lonicera hispidula	***	1 5 S	(2)
Twinberry	Lonicera	Lonicera involucrata	* * ~	100 N	CO 2
Wild Grape	Vitis	Vitis californica	***	1	**

Deciduous

Evergreen

Spring Flowers / Food

Summer Flowers / Food

Fall Flowers / Food

Winter Flowers / Food

Suitable for 3+ Regions

Provides Cover for Birds
Year-round



Caterpillars

Bird Count General Habitat

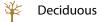
Bird Count for Food

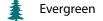
Bird Count for Nesting

Amount of Carbon Stored



Common Name	Genus	Species	Plant Characteristics	Bird Species Use of Plant Genera	Climate Benefits	
GRASSES, SED	GRASSES, SEDGES AND RUSHES					
Bentgrass	Agrostis	Agrostis exarata	素 牧 坎 ~~	The state of	A	
Nutka Reed Grass	Calamagrostis	Calamagrostis nutkaensis	素 饮 饮 ~~~	. 5	₽	
Sedge, Valley	Carex	Carex barbarae	* * ~~	1 3		
Saltgrass	Distichlis	Distichlis spicata	素 · 饮 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1 5	A P	
Rush, Spike	Eleocharis	Eleocharis acicularis	* * * * ***	1 T	A P	
Wildrye, Giant	Elymus	Elymus condensatus	素☆☆ ~~	***	O	
Wildrye, Blue	Elymus	Elymus glaucus	素 牧 坎 ~~	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	A P	
Slender wheatgrass	Elymus	Elymus trachycaulus	* * ~	***	@	
Wildrye, Creeping	Elymus	Elymus triticoides	※☆☆~	1 T	Q	
Fescue, Three- Week	Festuca	Festuca microstachys	* * ~~	The state of		
Fescue, Red	Festuca	Festuca rubra	* * *	The state of		
Meadow Barley	Hordeum	Hordeum brachyantherum	※☆☆ ~~	A of T	(
Rush, Wire	Juncus	Juncus balticus	秦牧牧	1 5 S	O O O O O O O O O O	
Rush, Common	Juncus	Juncus patens	*	3 5 T	A P	
California Oniongrass	Melica	Melica californica	半水水 ~~		Q	
Deergrass	Muhlenbergia	Muhlenbergia rigens	素 牧 坎 🦟	8	O	
Purple Needlegrass	Stipa	Stipa pulchra	素 饮 ☆ ~		A P	
Cattail	Турһа	Typha latifolia	***	A 5		





Spring Flowers / Food

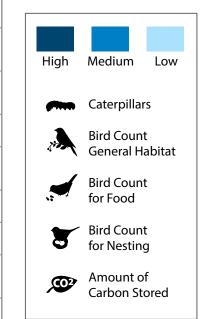


Fall Flowers / Food



Suitable for 3+ Regions







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SYMBOL DESCRIPTIONS

Symbol	Name	Description	
Plant Cha	racteristics		
*	Deciduous	Plant dormancy is deciduous for part of the year	
秦	Evergreen	Plant dormancy is evergreen year around	
*	Spring Flowers / Food	When flowers, fruits, seeds or nuts are available for birds	
*	Summer Flowers / Food	When flowers, fruits, seeds or nuts are available for birds	
*	Fall Flowers / Food	When flowers, fruits, seeds or nuts are available for birds	
*	Winter Flowers / Food	When flowers, fruits, seeds or nuts are available for birds	
(777)	Very Many Caterpillars	30+ species of moth & butterfly caterpillar species hosted by this plant	
	Many Caterpillars	10-29 species of moth & butterfly caterpillar species hosted by this plant	
	Some Caterpillars	1-9 species of moth & butterfly caterpillar species hosted by this plant	
Bird Species Use of Plant Genera			
Zi.	High Bird Count Gen. Habitat	General habitat support for 20+ bird species	
Zie.	Moderate Bird Count Gen. Habitat	General habitat support for 5-19 bird species	
31134	Low Bird Count Gen. Habitat	General habitat support for 1-4 bird species	
	High Bird Count for Food	Food support for 20+ bird species	
	Moderate Bird Count for Food	Food support for 5-19 bird species	
	Low Bird Count for Food	Food support for 1-4 bird species	
	High Bird Count for Nesting	Nesting support for 20+ bird species	
	Moderate Bird Count for Nesting	Nesting support for 5-19 bird species	
8	Low Bird Count for Nesting	Nesting support for 1-4 bird species	
Climate B	enefits		
	Suitable for 3+ Regions	A larger regional footprint makes it more resilient to climate change	
@	Stores High Amount of Carbon	Larger trees and shrubs sequester the most carbon	
102	Stores Medium Amount of Carbon	Medium trees and shrubs sequester more carbon than small plants	
(02)	Stores Low Amount of Carbon	Small shrubs, vines and grasses sequester more carbon than bare soil	
	Provides Cover for Birds Year-round	Leaf retention year-round provides more cover for climate-stressed birds	

NOTES

- 1. This chart is extracted from WFA's Beneficial Bird Habitat Assessment and Native Plant Tool which prioritizes practices and actions taken to best support birds. As part of that, the tool also synergistically analyzes and combines data from several sources to prioritize which native plants birds prefer and offer the most climate benefits.
- 2. Plant dormancy data is from Calscape.org; seasonal flowers and food data is from Calscape. org, Calflora.org and NRCS Plants Database; the caterpillar data is from butterflies and moths "likely" hosted by a plant species on Calscape.org.
- 3. The bird general habitat, food and nesting data is derived from Cornell Ornithology's Birds of the World database. We cross-referenced 160 bird species' resource uses with the plant genera of 159 California native plant species.
- 4. Plant species regional data is derived from Calscape.org; carbon storage amount data is derived from Jepson's plant size data; the year-round carbon storage data is derived from Calscape's dormancy data.

