

Hillside Pollinator Border

Part Shade

A guide for creating a hillside pollinator border using only native California plants!

Areas of part shade are great to introduce drought-tolerant, native plants. Adding these flowering plants attract different pollinators which helps increase more biodiversity in that area, and will help with erosion control. If bees, butterflies, or insects start to diminish, the important pollinators will minimize the amount of food that could be grown. Also, erosion control helps with preserving the nutrient-rich topsoil and allows for agriculture to thrive. So start planting native plants to see your landscape flourish and thrive in its natural environment.



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Plan View



Baccharis pilularis
coyote bush



Polystichum munitum
western sword fern



Ribes sanguineum
red flowering currant



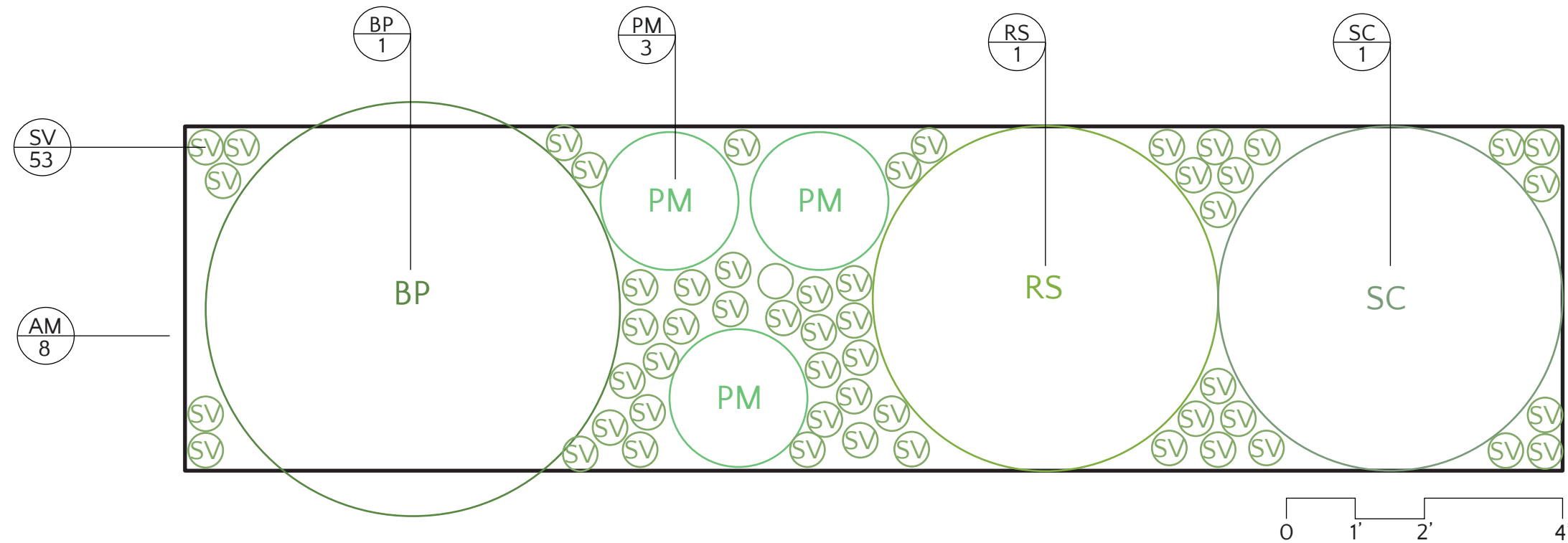
Salvia clevelandii
cleveland sage



Solidago velutina sp. *californica*
california goldenrod

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Planting Plan



- BP** 1. *Baccharis pilularis* (coyote bush) – water 1x/month after established, upright form can be pruned to be tree-like, ground cover forms can be mowed
- PM** 2. *Polystichum munitum* (western sword fern) – water 1x/month after established, dead fronds may be removed to improve appearance
- RS** 3. *Ribes sanguineum* (red flowering currant) – water 3x/month after established, drought-tolerant, prune after flowering to promote growth for future flowering
- SC** 4. *Salvia clevelandii* (cleveland sage) – never irrigate once established, drought-tolerant, deadhead to extend the bloom season, may be pruned to maintain size
- SV** 5. *Solidago velutina* sp. *californica* (california goldenrod) – water 1x/month after established, deadhead the flowers to control the spread of seeds, dig up runners to control spread

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Alternate Plants

Can't find what you're looking for? Try planting these instead!



Alternate for *Baccharis pilularis*
- *Arctostaphylos obispoensis* (bishop manzanita)

Alternate for *Polystichum munitum*
- *Adiantum jordanii* (maiden hair fern)

Alternate for *Ribes sanguineum*
- *Prunus andersonii* (desert peach)

Alternate for *Salvia clevelandii*
- *Ceanothus leucodermis* (chaparral whitehorn)

Alternate for *Solidago velutina*
- *Eriophyllum staechadifolium* (lizard tail)

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Feature Plants

Add a focal point to your garden with some of these feature plants listed below!

Trees

Prunus subcordata (klamath plum)



Klamath plum is a small tree that is winter deciduous. The flowers bloom in the spring in clusters that are white or pink. The fruit is plum-like and ripen in the summer.

Sambucus mexicana (blue elderberry)



Blue elderberry is a winter deciduous, small tree that has a fountain form. It blooms cream flowers in the spring and purple berries ripen in the fall. The berries attract birds and is a source of food for them.

Shrubs

Ribes indecorum (white flowering currant)



White flowering currant is deciduous until late winter to spring time where it blooms white flowers that give off a pleasant fragrance. It can grow between 5-10 ft tall with a columnar shape.

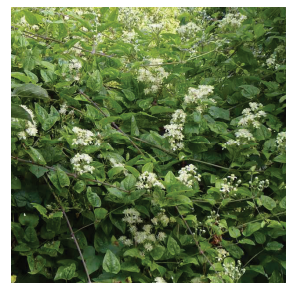
Rhus integrifolia (lemonade berry)



Lemonade berry is an evergreen shrub that grows upright and rounded. During the early spring time, it has small, white to pink, flowers that are in tight clusters. Prune this shrub into a hedge to keep desired height.

Vines

Clematis ligusticifolia (virgin's bower)



Virgin's bower is a summer deciduous vine. It flowers in the summer late season with white flowers. It can cause skin irritation if touched.

Rubus ursinus (california blackberry)



California blackberry is a winter deciduous vine-bearing shrub. They have prickly branches and white flowers that bloom in the spring and winter time. It has edible fruits that ripen in summer time and also attracts and feeds many pollinators and wildlife

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Pollinators / Bloom Calendar

BP *Baccharis pilularis* (coyote bush)    

PM *Polystichum munitum* (western sword fern)  

RS *Ribes sanguineum* (red flowering currant)     

SC *Salvia clevelandii* (cleveland sage)     

SV *Solidago velutina* sp. *californica* (california goldenrod)   

AO *Arctostaphylos obispoensis* (bishop manzanita)     

AJ *Adiantum jordanii* (maiden hair fern)  

PA *Prunus andersonii* (desert peach)    

CL *Ceanothus leucodermis* (chaparral whitethorn)    

ES *Eriophyllum staechadifolium* (lizard tail)   

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
BP												
AO												
PM*												
AJ*												
RS												
PA												
SC												
CL												
SV												
ES												

These plants do not produce flowers

References & Resources

Calscape.org and Calflora.org only provide information about native plants in California, all the other resources have a mix of native and nonnative plants that do well in California.

Websites

<https://www.calflora.org/search.html>
<https://calscape.org/>
<https://www.cnps.org/>
<https://www.gardenia.net/>

Books

A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us by Matt Ritter
California Plants: A Guide to Our Iconic Flora by Matt Ritter
Sunset Western Garden Book by Editors of Sunset Books, Editor Kathleen Brenzel