

Taking the Pulse of Our Planet

NPS- CALIFORNIA PHENOLOGY PROJECT (CPP)

PROJECT BACKGROUND

In 2010 the Pacific West Region of the National Park Service launched a three year project entitled “Facilitate Phenology Network to Assess Climate Change Response in California Parks” with funding from the NPS Climate Change Response Program. The California Phenology Project (CPP) aims to develop integrated phenological monitoring across parks in California. This project will ultimately incorporate public education and outreach with sound scientific practices and outcomes to inform natural resource management for 18 NPS units in California. NPS collaborators include park and Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) staff associated with six pilot parks (Redwood NSPs; Lassen Volcanic NP, Golden Gate NRA, Santa Monica Mountains NRA, Sequoia and Kings Canyon NPs, and Joshua Tree NP), two Research Learning Centers, and the Californian Cooperative Ecosystems Study Unit.

A scientific framework has been developed to articulate research and management questions which guided our species selection. Project work has initially focused on plants in six pilot parks, encompassing desert, coastal and mountain areas, and builds upon the existing monitoring protocols and programs of project collaborators. On-the-ground field testing of science and outreach protocols is ongoing and will continue through 2012. The project is developing partnerships with the wider education and natural resource science communities including the University of California Natural Reserve System and sister federal and state agencies. Anticipated project outcomes include development of an easy-to-use phenology toolbox of science and outreach protocols to guide other parks in the development of citizen-science based phenology projects. The project products will be available to NPS units and others throughout the region and across the country via user friendly web interfaces and printed materials. Final products from this initial effort are expected in 2013.

THE TEAM

NPS Working Group:

- Dr. Angie Evenden, NPS Research Coordinator, California CESU (Project Lead)
- Dr. Ben Becker, Director, Pacific Coast Science and Learning Center
- Dr. Christy Brigham, Chief of Resources and Science, Santa Monica NRA
- Janet Coles, Plant Ecologist, Lassen Volcanic National Park
- Sue Fritzke, Supervisory Vegetation Program Manager, Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- Sylvia Haultain, Plant Ecologist, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
- Josh Hoines, Vegetation Branch Chief, Joshua Tree National Park
- Dr. Penny Latham, Regional I&M Coordinator
- Stassia Samuels, Plant Ecologist, Redwood National and State Parks

Project Cooperators and Affiliates:

- University of California, Santa Barbara: Dr. Susan Mazer (Professor of Ecology & Evolution); Dr. Elizabeth Matthews (Post-doctoral Associate), and Brian Haggerty, M.S. (Ph.D. Student)
- USA-National Phenology Network: Drs. Kathryn Thomas (USGS Ecologist), Jake Weltzin (USGS Executive Director), and Kathy Gerst (U of Arizona Ecologist)
- University of California, Berkeley: Margot Higgins, M.S. (Ph.D. Student)

PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

- [Facilitate phenology network to assess climate change response in California Parks \(http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/CPP%20Implementation%20Plan.pdf\)](http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/CPP%20Implementation%20Plan.pdf), (project plan, .pdf) April 2010
- [Scientific framework for California Phenology Project, \(http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/SciAdvisory%20Workshop%20Nov%202010%20Summary%20Final%20Report.pdf\)](http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/SciAdvisory%20Workshop%20Nov%202010%20Summary%20Final%20Report.pdf) (workshop report, .pdf) November 2, 2010

[/CPP%20Fact%20Sheet%20Jan2011r.pdf](#)), (project fact sheet, pdf) January 2011

- [California Phenology Project \(CPP\) briefing: Goals for National Park participation \(http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/CPP%20Project%20Brief%20With%20Notes.ppt\)](#)(powerpoint with notes, .ppt; view with notes option to see description of each slide) January 2011
- [California Phenology Project \(CPP\) briefing: Goals for National Park participation \(http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/media/2011-01-11_CPP_Briefing.wmv\)](#), (webinar recorded as a video, .wmv; NOTE if you have not already installed, or are not running, GoToMeeting software on your PC, you will need to install the GoToMeeting Codec to view this recorded webinar. The Codec is at <http://www.gotomeeting.com/codec> (<http://www.gotomeeting.com/codec>); you will need administrator rights on your computer to install the Codec.) January 2011
- [California Phenology Project Species Selection \(http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/CPP%20Species%20Selection%20Process%20for%20the%20CA%20National%20Park%20Units_v3.doc\)](#), (documentation of process, .doc) May 2011
- Species Selection Worksheets: [One \(http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/Mountain%20Species%20Worksheet%20PLEASE%20COMPLETE.xls\)](#), [Two \(http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/Mountain%20Species%20Worksheet_SUMMARY_v1.xls\)](#), [Three \(http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/Mountain%20Species%20Worksheet_SUMMARY_v4.xls\)](#), [Four \(http://www.usanpn.org/files/shared/files/Worksheet%20for%20MOUNTAIN%20species%20selection_FINAL.xls\)](#)(examples of process for Mountain Bioregion, .xls) May 2011

****CPP WEBSITE COMING SOON!****