Bee Plant

https://calscape.org/Scrophularia-californica-(Bee-Plant)

Type: Perennial Herb
Medium biodiversity value: 12
Butterflies: 7 butterflies including Common Buckeye and Variable Checkerspot

Birds: Anna's and Allen's Hummingbirds

Description: Tiny maroon-red flowers in the late winter and spring time attract hummingbirds, butterflies, moths and bees.

Size: 2-4' tall 1-3' wide
Area to plant: Partial shade
Soil: Fast draining, garden soil. Grows in chapparal areas.
Water: Low water use
Interesting feature: Works in a container or as an edge plant. Deer resistant. Ohlone people use the plant to clean infections. Pollinated by bees yet bees cannot see the color red.

Checkerbloom

https://calscape.org/Sidalcea-malviflora-(Checker-Bloom)

Type: Perennial Herb
Medium biodiversity value: 11
Butterflies: Gray Hairstreak, Common Checkered- Skipper, West Coast Lady

Birds: California Thrasher

Description: Spring and summer pink blooms and palm shaped green leaves on this plant that grows in meadows. Checkerbloom is in the mallow family.

Size: 2-3' tall
Area to plant: Full sun to partial shade. Can grow under oaks.
Soil: Clay and mixed
Water: Moderate (damp winter and dry summer best)
Interesting feature: Coast Miwok make Pinole, a food, from the Checkerbloom's nut-like seeds. The plant name comes from the checkered pattern on the veins of the petals.

2026-2027 Golden Gate Bird Alliance and CNPS Yerba Buena
Resources: Calscape, Doug Tallamy, Kathy Kramer Bringing Back the Natives

Coastal Hedgenettle

https://calscape.org/Stachys-chamissonis-(Coastal-Hedgenettle)

@2013 James Gonsman

Type: Perennial Herb
Medium biodiversity value: 15
Butterflies: Moths

Birds: Anna's and Allen's Hummingbirds

Description: In the mint family, this fragrant, square stemmed plant has bright dark pink tubular flowers that are in clusters or whorls of six that bloom in the summer.
Size: Up to 3' tall and 1-3' wide
Area to plant: Full shade or partial shade in coastal areas shaded by trees.
Soil: Moist
Water: Moderate
Interesting feature: Easy to care for fragrant plant with fuzzy leaves. Grows along the coast from Canada to California. Pollinated by hummingbirds.

Mugwort

https://calscape.org/Artemisia-douglasiana-(Mugwort)

@2002 Lynn Watson

Type: Shrub
High Biodiversity value: 65
Butterflies: American Lady, Painted Tiger Moth, up to 28 other moths and butterflies.

Birds: Song Sparrow, Lincoln Sparrow, Spotted Towhee, Red-Winged Blackbirds, Goldfinches and Brown-headed Cowbirds consume the seeds. Lazuli Buntings have nested in Mugwort. Sparrows use the leaves to line their nests, possibly to repel parasites.

Description: Fragrant smelling shrub which spreads by rhizomes.
Size: 8' tall 4' wide
Area to plant: Good for erosion control. Sun/ partial shade. Does well in low wet places and can tolerate some saline.
Soil: Grows in a variety of soils if moisture provided 1 x month until established.
Water: Low to moderate
Interesting feature: Fast growing and deer resistant shrub related to sagebrush. Native Americans use Mugwort for earaches and to prevent insect infestations near stored acorns. The leaves have been used to counteract Poison Oak. It is an honor to receive the seeds as a gift.