

## San Francisco Plant Communities Grassland/Prairie



### Native Plants in Grassland/Prairie

#### Forbs

Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*

Milkvetch *Astragalus gambelianus, tener*

Brodiaea *Brodiaea elegans, terrestris*

Red Maids *Calandrinia ciliata*

Yellow Mariposa Lily *Calochortus luteus*

Soap Plant *Chlorogalum pomeridianum*

Indian thistle *Cirsium brevistylum*

Brownie thistle *Cirsium quercetorum*

Clarkias *Clarkia pupurea, C. rubicunda,*  
Chinese Houses *Collinsia heterophylla*  
Fireweed/willowherb *Epilobium brachycarpum,*  
*ciliatum ssp. ciliatum, ciliatum ssp. watsonii*  
California Fuchsia *Epilobium canum*  
San Francisco leafy fleabane *Erigeron foliosus*

Fragrant Fritillary *Fritillaria liliacea*

Gumweed *Grindelia camporum, hirsutula*

Diablo sunflower *Helianthella castanea*

Iris *Iris douglasiana*

California Goldfields *Lasthenia californica*

Tidy Tips *Layia platyglossa*

Alkali parsnip *Lomatium caruifolium*

Woolly-fruited Lomatium *Lomatium*  
*dasycarpum*

Common lomatium *Lomatium utriculatum*

Silver bush lupine *Lupinus albifrons* var.  
*collinus*

Lupines *Lupinus bicolor, nanus, variicolor*

Goldenback Fern *Pentagramma triangularis*

Plantain *Plantago elongata, erecta*

Phacelia *Phacelia californica*

Shooting star *Primula hendersonii*

Yellow Stonecrop *Sedum spathulifolium*

Rayless Ragwort *Senecio aronicoides*

Checkerbloom *Sidalcea malviflora*

Goldenrod *Solidago californica*

Blue-eyed Grass *Sisyrinchium bellum*

Clovers *Trifolium* spp

California golden violet *Viola pedunculata*

Narrowleaf Mule Ears *Wyethia angustifolia,*  
*helenioides*

## Grasses

Bentgrasses. *Agrostis exarata*, *A pallens*  
Bromes *Bromus carinatus*, *B. laevipes*  
California Oatgrass *Danthonia californica*  
Tufted Hairgrass *Deschampsia cespitosa*.  
Fescues *Festuca idahoensis*, *F. rubra*  
June grass *Koeleria macrantha*  
California Melicgrass *Melica californica*  
Purple Needlegrass *Stipa pulchra*

## Vines

Morning Glory (*Calystegia purpurata*, *soldanella*)

## Shrubs

California Wild Rose *Rosa californica*  
California Blackberry *Rubus ursinus*

## Butterflies

Pipevine Swallowtail (locally rare)	Woodland Skipper
Anise Swallowtail	Fiery Skipper
West Coast Lady	Mission Blue (federally endangered)
Painted Lady	Eastern Tailed Blue (locally rare)
American Lady	Western Tailed-Blue (locally rare)
Gray Buckeye	Gray Hairstreak
Variable Checkerspot	Coastal Green Hairstreak (federally endangered)
Field Crescent	Orange Sulphur
Red Admiral	Common Ringlet
Common Checkered-Skipper	San Bruno Elfin (federally endangered)
Sandhill Skipper	Bay Checkerspot (federally endangered)
Umber Skipper	

## Additional Wildlife

Sunflower bee *Diadasia enavata*  
Pale-marked Long-horned Bee *Melissodes pallidisignatus* specialist bee  
Bindweed turret bee *Diadasia bituberculata* specialist bee  
California Slender Salamander *Batrachoseps attenuatus*  
Northern alligator lizard *Elgaria coerulea*  
Anna Hummingbird *Calypte anna*  
Black phoebe *Sayornis nigricans*  
Lazuli Bunting *Passerina amoena*  
Violet-green Swallow *Tachycineta thalassina*  
Western Bluebird *Sialia mexicana*  
Pacific-slope Flycatcher *Empidonax difficilis*  
American Robin *Turdus migratorius*  
American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo*  
Savannah Sparrow *Passerculus sandwichensis*  
Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*

Resources:

<https://calscape.org/>

<http://sfplantfinder.org/index.html?community=grasslandprairie>

“San Francisco Plants as Resources for Lepidoptera,” compiled by Jeffrey Caldwell

Butterflies of the Presidio, by Liam O’Brien and Mathew Zlatunich

“Butterflies of San Francisco,” brochure published by Nature in the City, illustrations and inventory by Liam O’Brien

Native plant community information

SFEI’s Hidden Nature program maps locations for San Francisco’s historical plant communities.

<https://map.hidden-nature.org/explore>

<https://www.nps.gov/prsf/learn/nature/native-plant-communities.htm>

<http://sfplantfinder.org/glossary.html#plantCommunities>

[https://www.laspilitas.com/comhabit/california\\_communities.html](https://www.laspilitas.com/comhabit/california_communities.html)

Calscape is CNPS’s plant selection tool with native plant pictures, sizes, soil types, sun/shade, water needs and butterfly caterpillar value.

<https://www.calscape.org/>

California Native Plant Society - Yerba Buena chapter

<http://cnps-yerbabuena.org/>