

A New Planting Palette for Sierra Meadows

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California Forest Pest Council Annual Meeting
November 16, 2020

Point Blue

Conservation science
for a healthy planet.

- Founded in 1965 as Point Reyes Bird Observatory
- Working to reduce the impacts of environmental change and promote nature-based solutions for wildlife and people
- Increasing the pace and scale of climate-smart conservation and restoration



Sierra meadows and forest health

- Forests and meadows are both critical components of watershed health
- Meadows provide numerous ecosystem services, but many are in need of restoration
- Both meadows and forests are vulnerable to climate change



Sierra Meadow Planting Palette Tool

- Inform revegetation in Sierra meadow restoration projects
- Select plants with traits that may help them survive, recruit, and provide co-benefits under a changing climate
- Develop a cultivated list of species for your planting design



What species are included in the tool?

- 71 species, including grasses, forbs, shrubs, and trees
- Native to the NF Feather River watershed
- Broadly distributed
- Commercially available
- Found in wet and mesic meadows

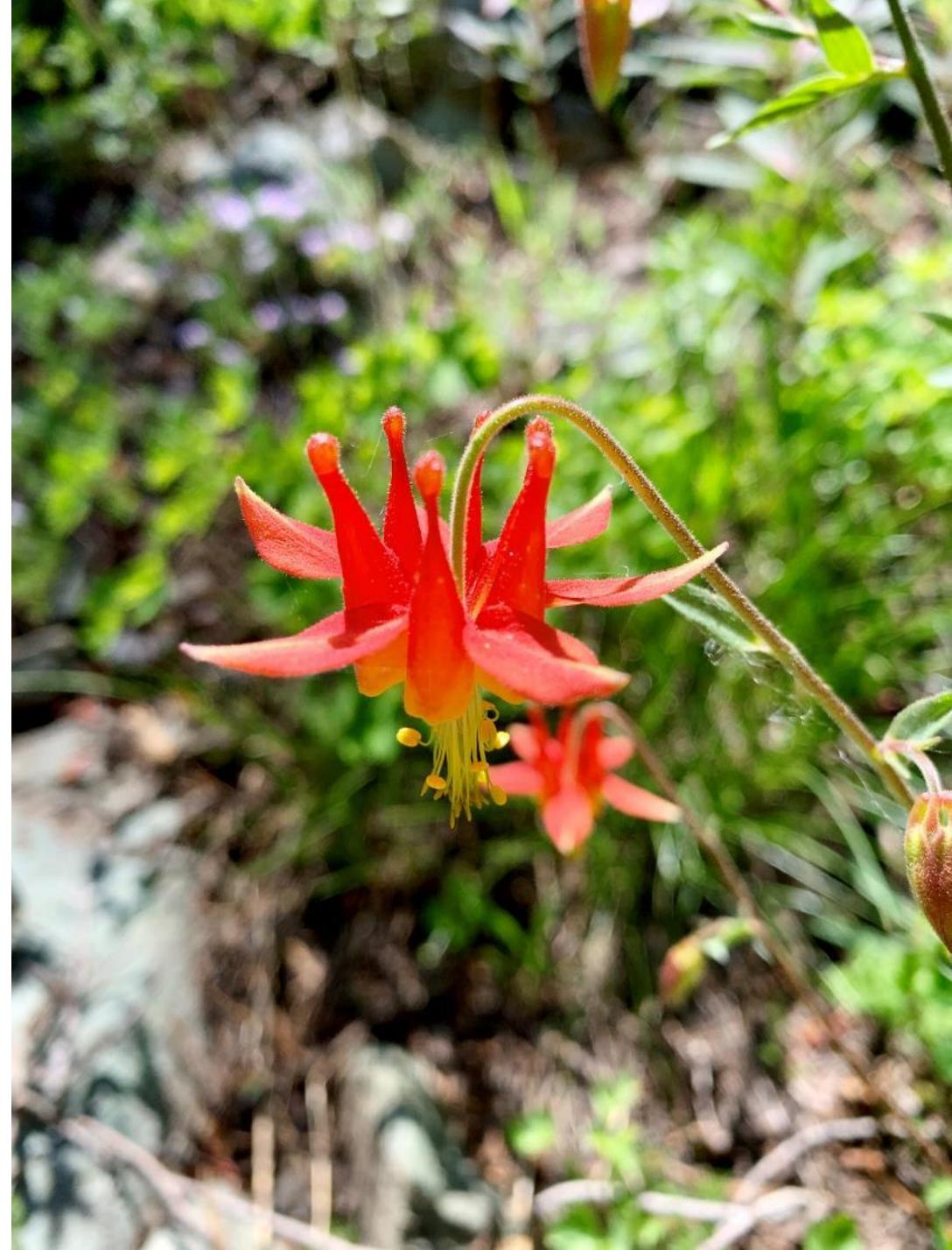


What kind of traits are included?

Trait Category	Definition	Example Traits
Species persistence	Increase survival under climate change	Flood tolerance Drought tolerance
Disturbance resilience	Help recover after disturbance event	Disturbance tolerance Rhizomatous
Wildlife support	Support food webs, pollination, and wildlife	Insectary plant Phenology
Ecosystem processes	Regulate and support ecosystem processes	Erosion control Stream shading
Cultural ecosystem services	Provide cultural services through form or function	Ethnobotanical Charismatic
Species distribution 	Inform inclusion in planting design	Bioregion Wetland indicator status

Using the tool to craft a planting list

- Develop initial species list
- Assess traits of selected species
- Identify more species as needed
- Ensure your planting design represents all traits
- Build redundancy by having each trait represented by >1 species





Tool Demo



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Thank You and Questions

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pointblue.org/science_blog/sierra-meadows-planting-palette_tool/

Many thanks to the Volgenau Foundation, Bella Vista Foundation, and Resources Legacy Fund for providing funding for this work, and thanks to the Society for Ecological Restoration for hosting.

Photo by Jenny Riecke