



CALIFORNIA NATURALIST
DISCOVERY • ACTION • STEWARDSHIP

California Naturalist Reference Book List

(Resources compiled in 2014 by Leah Gardner, Sagehen Field Station California Naturalist and professional botanist and restoration ecologist)

Interpretive Skills, Nature Sketching, Journaling, etc.

Interpreting Our Heritage, Freeman Tilden, 2008.

The Interpreter's Guidebook: Techniques for Programs and Presentations, Kathleen Regnier, Michael Gross, and Ron Zimmerman, 1994.

Personal Interpretation: Connecting Your Audience to Heritage Resources, Lisa Brochu and Tim Merriman, 2008.

Sharing Nature with Children, Joseph Cornell, 1998.

Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder, Richard Louv, 2008.

How to Keep a Naturalist's Notebook, Susan Leigh Tomlinson, 2009.

Keeping a Nature Journal: Discover a Whole New Way of Seeing the World Around You, Clare Walker Leslie and Charles E. Roth, 2003.

The Art of Field Sketching, Clare Walker Leslie, 1995.

Illustrating Nature: Right-Brain Art in a Left-Brain World, Irene Brady, 2004.

Drawing Nature for the Absolute Beginner: A Clear & Easy Guide to Drawing Landscapes & Nature, Mark Willenbrink and Mary Willenbrink, 2013.

The Laws Guide to Drawing Birds, John Muir Laws, 2012.

General Ecology

Elements of Ecology, Thomas M. Smith and Robert Leo Smith, 2012.

Ecology: A Pocket Guide, Ernest Callenbach, 2008.

California Natural History

The California Naturalist Handbook, Greg de Nevers, Deborah Stanger Edelman, and Adina Merenlender, 2013.

National Audubon Society Field Guide to California, Peter Alden, 1998.

A Natural History of California (California Natural History Guides), Allan A. Schoenherr, 1995.

Plant Life in the World's Mediterranean Climates: California, Chile, South Africa, Australia, and the Mediterranean Basin, Peter R. Dallman, 1998.

Atlas of Biodiversity of California, Monica Parissi, 2003.

Wildlife

California Wildlife (Foghorn Outdoors), Tom Stienstra, 2000.

Mammals of California (California Natural History Guides), E. W. Jameson, and Hans J. Peeters, 2004.

Field Guide to Animal Tracks and Scat of California (California Natural History Guides) Mark Elbroch, Michael Raymond Kresky, and Jonah Wy Evans, 2012.

Field Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles of California (California Natural History Guides), Robert C. Stebbins, Samuel M. McGinnis, and Ron Hussey, 2012.

California Insects (California Natural History Guides), Jerry A. Powell and Charles L. Hogue, 1980.

The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Western North America, David Allen Sibley, 2003.

Introduction to California Birdlife (California Natural History Guides), Jules Evens, 2005.

Field Guide to Butterflies of the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento Valley Regions (California Natural History Guides), Arthur Shapiro, 2007.

Field Guide to Freshwater Fishes of California (California Natural History Guides), Samuel M. McGinnis, 2006.

Field Guide to Marine Mammals of the Pacific Coast (California Natural History Guides), Sarah G. Allen, 2011.

Plants, Botany

The Jepson Manual, Vascular Plants of California, Bruce G. Baldwin, Douglas H. Goldman, David J. Keil, Robert Patterson, Thomas J. Rosatti (Editors), 2012.

Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification Thomas J. Elpel, 2013.

Botany in a Day: Herbal Field Guide to Plant Families, Thomas J. Elpel, 2000.

Botany for Gardeners, Brian Capon, 2010.

Plant Identification Terminology: An Illustrated Glossary, James G. Harris and Melinda Woolf Harris, 2001.

How to Identify Plants, H.D. Harrington, 1957.

California Plant Families, Glenn Keator, 2009.

Introduction to California Plant Life, (California Natural History Guide), Robert Ornduff , Phyllis M. Faber and, Todd Keeler Wolf, 2003.

California's Changing Landscapes: Diversity and Conservation of California Vegetation, Michael G. Barbour, Bruce M. Pavlik, and Susan Lindstrom, 2001.

Introduction to California Mountain Wildflowers, (California Natural History Guide), Philip A. Munz, 2003.

Introduction to California Spring Wildflowers of the Foothills, Valleys, and Coast (California Natural History Guides), Philip A. Munz, 2004.

Introduction to Shore Wildflowers of California, Oregon, and Washington (California Natural History Guides), by Philip A. Munz and Bruce M. Pavlik (authors), Dianne Lake and Phyllis M. Faber (editors), 2003.

Introduction to California Chaparral (California Natural History Guides), Ronald D. Quinn, and Sterling C. Keeley, 2006.

Trees and Forests

California Forests and Woodlands: A Natural History (California Natural History Guides), Verna R. Johnston, 1996.

Trees and Shrubs of California (California Natural History Guides), John D. Stuart and John O. Sawyer, 2001.

Pacific Coast Tree Finder: A Pocket Manual for Identifying Pacific Coast Trees, Tom Watts, 2004.

A Field Guide to Western Trees: Western United States and Canada (Peterson Field Guides), George A. Petrides, 1998.

Trees of Western North America (Princeton Field Guides), by Richard Spellenberg, Christopher J. Earle, and Gil Nelson, 2014.

Oaks of California, Bruce M. Pavlik, Pamela Muick, and Sharon Johnson, 1993.

Conifers of California, Ronald M. Lanner, 1999.

Coast Redwood: A Natural and Cultural History, Michael G. Barbour, Sandy Lydon, Mark Borchert and Marjorie Popper, 2001.

Introduction to Fire in California (California Natural History Guides), David Carle, 2008.

Native Peoples, Ethnobotany, Edible and Medicinal Plants

California Indians and Their Environment: An Introduction (California Natural History Guides), Kent G. Lightfoot, 2009.

The Natural World of the California Indians (California Natural History Guides), Robert Fleming Heizer, 1981.

Tending the Wild: Native American Knowledge and the Management of California's Natural Resources, M. Kat Anderson, 2013.

Early Uses of California Plants (California Natural History Guides), Edward K. Balls, 1962.

The Ethnobotany of the California Indians, George R. Mead, 2014.

Edible and Useful Plants of California (California Natural History Guides), Charlotte Bringle Clarke, 1978.

Foraging California: Finding, Identifying, and Preparing Edible Wild Foods in California Christopher Nyerges, 2014.

A Field Guide to Western Medicinal Plants and Herbs (Peterson Field Guides), Christopher Hobbs, 2002.

Medicinal Plants of the Pacific West, Michael Moore, 2011.

Living Wild: Gardening, Cooking and Healing with Native Plants of California, Alicia Funk and Karin Kaufman, 2013.

Geology and Soils

Reading the Earth, Landforms in the Making, Jerome Wyckoff, 1999.

California Geology, Deborah Harden, 2003.

Geology of California, Robert M. Norris and Robert Wallace Webb, 1977.

Assembling California, John McPhee, 1994.

Introduction to California Soils and Plants, (California Natural History Guide), Arthur R. Kruckeberg, 2006.

Introduction to Earth, Soil, and Land in California (California Natural History Guides), David Carle, 2010.

Water, Rivers, Wetlands, and Coast

Introduction to Water in California (California Natural History Guide), David Carle, 2009.

Cadillac Desert, The American West and Its Disappearing Water, Marc Reisner, 1993.

Field Guide to California Rivers (California Natural History Guides), Tim Palmer, 2012.

Rivers of California, Tim Palmer, 2010.

California Rivers and Streams: The Conflict between Fluvial Process and Land Use, Jeffrey F. Mount, 1995.

Wetlands, William J. Mitsch and James G. Grosselink, 2007.

Wetland Ecosystems, William J. Mitsch, James G. Grosselink, Li Zhang, and Christopher J. Andersen, 2009.

Introduction to California's Beaches and Coast (California Natural History Guides), Gary Griggs, 2010.

Regional Guides:

Sierra Nevada

The Laws Field Guide to the Sierra Nevada, (California Academy of Sciences), John Muir Laws, 2007.

Sierra Nevada Natural History (California Natural History Guides), Tracy I. Storer, Robert L. Usinger, and David Lukas, 2004.

Sierra Nevada: The Naturalist's Companion, Verna R. Johnston, 2000.

Geology of the Sierra Nevada, (California Natural History Guide), Mary Hill, 2006.

Sierra Nevada Wildflowers: A Field Guide to Common Wildflowers and Shrubs of the Sierra Nevada (A Falcon Guide), Karen Wiese, 2013.

Sierra Nevada Wildflowers, Elizabeth L. Horn, 1998.

Plants of the Tahoe Basin: Flowering Plants, Trees, and Ferns, Michael Graf, 1999.

Sierra Nevada Tree Finder, Jim Paruk, 1998.

California Deserts

The California Deserts: An Ecological Rediscovery, Bruce M. Pavlik, 2008.

The Mojave Desert: Ecosystem Processes and Sustainability, Robert Webb, Lynn Fenstermaker, Jill Heaton and Debra Hughson (editors), 2009.

A Natural History of the Sonoran Desert, Steven J. Phillips and Patricia Wentworth Comus (editors), 2000.

Introduction to California Desert Wildflowers (California Natural History Guides), Philip A. Munz, 2004.

Mojave Desert Wildflowers, (A Falcon Guide), Pam MacKay, 2013.

Sonoran Desert Wildflowers: A Field Guide to the Common Wildflowers of the Sonoran Desert, Dr. Richard Spellenberg, 2003.

The Jepson Desert Manual: Vascular Plants of Southeastern California, Bruce G. Baldwin, Steve Boyd, Barbara Ertter, Robert Patterson, Thomas J. Rosatti, Dieter H. Wilken (Editors), and Margriet Wetherwax (Contributor), 2002.

San Francisco Bay Area

Natural History of San Francisco Bay (California Natural History Guides), Ariel Rubissow Okamoto and Kathleen M. Wong, 2011.

Geology of the San Francisco Bay Region, (California Natural History Guide), Doris Sloan, 2006.

Plants of the San Francisco Bay Region: Mendocino to Monterey, Linda H. Beidleman and Eugene N. Kozloff, 2003.

Southern California

Southern California Nature Guide, Erin McCloskey, 2009.

Introduction to the Geology of Southern California and Its Native Plants, Clarence A. Hall, 2007.

Geology Underfoot in Southern California, Robert P. Sharp, 1993.

Introduction to the Plant Life of Southern California: Coast to Foothills (California Natural History Guides) Philip W. Rundel, 2005.

Northern California

Northern California Nature Guide, Erin McCloskey, 2008.

Roadside Geology of Northern and Central California, David Alt and Donald W. Hyndman, 2000.

Wildflowers of Northern California's Wine Country & North Coast Ranges, Reny Parker, 2007.

Environmental Classics

A Sand County Almanac (Outdoor Essays & Reflections), Aldo Leopold, 1986.

Silent Spring, Rachel Carson, 2002.

My First Summer in the Sierra, John Muir, 2004.

The Wilderness World of John Muir, John Muir, 2001.

The Fight for Conservation, Gifford Pinchot, 2010.

Walden, Henry David Thoreau, 2013.

Nature and Other Essays, Ralph Waldo Emerson, 2009.

Desert Solitaire, Edward Abbey, 1990.

The Diversity of Life, E. O. Wilson, 2010.