

*The Twenty-Second Annual
Spring Outing
Botanical Excursion
Foray, Retreat, and Escape to the Environment*

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! SO BE FREE 22 !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Brought to you by the Bryophyte Chapter of the California Native Plant Society!

<http://bryophyte.cnps.org>

Monday to Thursday, 27-30 March 2017

Coordinators: Paul Wilson, David Hutton, Brent Mishler

Founded in 1996, SO BE FREE is a series of West Coast forays (see http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/bryolab/Field_Trips.html for a summary of past trips). The main focus is on bryophytes, but we also encourage experts on other groups to come along and smell the liverworts. We welcome specialists and generalists, professionals and amateurs, master bryologists and rank beginners. SO BE FREE is held each spring, somewhere in the Western U.S., associated with spring break at universities. Evening slide shows and informal talks are presented as well as keying sessions with microscopes. In addition to seeing interesting wild areas and learning new plants, important goals for SO BE FREE include keeping West Coast bryologists (and friends) in touch with each other, and teaching beginners. SO BE FREE also serves as the annual meeting of the Bryophyte Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

SO BE FREE 22 will be held just outside Sequoia National Park, roughly 5 hours by car from the Bay Area, from Los Angeles, and from Las Vegas. A nearby airport is Fresno-Yosemite (FAT). The habitats we will be visiting are spectacular and very rich in bryophytes, including the foothills where the valley fog hits the rock outcrops and oak savannahs. The geology includes marble as well as granitics. Depending on snowpack, we may be able to take a group to the giant sequoia forests.

This year we want to especially encourage participation by staff and consultants of land management agencies. We will be learning many of the mosses and liverworts that are common throughout the foothills. The foray is being coordinated with the National Park Service and the U.S. Geological Survey. And as always, beginners are very welcome to SO BE FREE. A beginners session/walk will be offered on the first day.

Food and Lodging

We will be based at a pair of catholic camps: Saint Anthony Retreat Center (<http://www.stanthonyretreat.org/>) and Santa Teresita Youth Conference Center (<http://www.stteresitaycc.org/>). We will be able to walk outside our door without getting into a car and explore beautiful terrain including a stream that has a waterfall. Bryophytes are rich and abundant. Saint Anthony's has wifi and motel-like rooms, each with their own bathroom. For students and other poor folk, Santa Teresita has dorm rooms each with their own bathroom and no wifi, and individuals who insist on sleeping in a tent or a truck can register as if for a dorm bed. Those staying at Santa Teresita must bring their own linens. We strongly suggest that you stay on campus, to enjoy the camaraderie that is the core of SO BE

FREE, and not seek lodging in town. For locals only, we have a commuter rate that pays for three dinners and facilities.

- Check-in will begin Monday 27 March at 4:00 PM. Cabin and room assignments will be given at that time.
- You are also encouraged to bring microscopes and to set up them up in the dining hall. Don't forget to bring extension cords and power strips.
- Meals will begin with Monday dinner at 6:00 PM, and continue until breakfast on Thursday morning. Box lunches will be provided for each day's field trips. Meals are served buffet style.
- Each night we will gather for a short lecture or discussions in the Chapel where acoustics are better than we are used to. Probably, Monday night will feature introductions and a local giving us the lay of the land with an introduction to the local flora. Probably, Tuesday night will be a time for students and other researchers to give informal lightning talks. Wednesday night will be for our Chapter's annual business meeting.

Registration

Registrations will be processed by David Hutton (chapter treasurer). Please email dhutton475@astound.net with registration questions only.

Questions about the **foray itself and room assignments** will be coordinated by Paul Wilson (this foray's organizer): paulsiriwilson@gmail.com 541-840-7524.

Please fill in the registration form below, print it, and return by snail mail with your check to the address indicated on the form. Please complete a separate registration form and waiver for each participant.

Confirmations will be by email only so please remember to include your email address. **The retreat center will not accept direct reservations! Room reservations will be filled on a first-come first-served basis, so please register early! The regular registration Deadline is 15 Dec. 2016. Late registration (and cancellation for a refund) must be received by 26 Feb. 2017.**

There is a \$25 discount for members of the Bryophyte Chapter of the California Native Plant Society -- to join see: <http://bryophyte.cnps.org>.

Weather is a wild card this time of year. Plan on bringing appropriate rain gear as well as sunscreen and hats. Maps will be sent via email to registrants.

SO BE FREE 22, MARCH 27-30, 2017
Please complete a separate form and waiver for each participant!

Regular Registration Deadline is 15 Dec. 2016. Late registration Deadline is Feb. 26, 2016.
All registrations must be received by 26 February 2017!

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone No: _____ Email: _____

People you would like to room with who are paying separately (otherwise roommates will be assigned) _____

Children in Group? _____ Minors must share a room with a parent, and may not stay in the dorms. For families, we have a few rooms that have more than two beds.

Are you requesting a single room? _____ a double room? _____ a dorm bed? _____

Gender _____

Meal restrictions _____

Cost per person (except commuters) including 8 meals, 3 nights housing, and meeting room use:

For those who are CNPS members affiliated with the Bryophyte Chapter (if you are not already, you may join at the same time you send this form in) and who register before 15 December 2016:

In a motel-like shared room:	\$290 per person <input type="checkbox"/>
Occupying a motel-like room alone:	\$355 per person <input type="checkbox"/>
A bed in a dorm room (non-student)	\$220 per person <input type="checkbox"/>
A bed in a dorm room for a student	\$195 per student <input type="checkbox"/>
Locals commuting to and from your own bed but eating dinner with us	\$65 per person <input type="checkbox"/>

For those who are either not a CNPS member affiliated with the Bryophyte Chapter or who register between 16 December 2016 and 26 February 2017:

Add \$25 per person _____

Add \$25 more for a late-registering student in dorm _____

Donation to support the student discount + _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please make your check payable to **CNPS**. Please write "Bryophyte Chapter SO BE FREE 22" in the memo line, and **fill out the waiver form**. Then please mail your check and signed waiver form to:

David Hutton (treasurer, Bryophyte Chapter, CNPS); 475 Summit Rd.; Walnut Creek, CA 94598, USA

PLEASE REMEMBER TO ATTACH CHECK AND WAIVER FORM

Bryophyte Chapter of California Native Plant Society

Waiver for SO BE FREE 22 based at Saint Anthony Retreat Center and Santa Teresita Youth Conference Center, near Three Rivers, March 27-30, 2017

Understanding of Risks: This CNPS field trip carries with it various risks. Some, but not all of these, include risk of personal injury or death, and damage to, loss of or theft of property. The set of field trips involves exploring rough terrain with many opportunities to clamber around on rocks and in ravines where surfaces may be slippery. Individuals are urged to use caution and to not press to the limit of their abilities.

Waiver and Release. In consideration for being allowed to participate in this set of trips, the undersigned participant voluntarily assumes all risks associated with participating in these trips — from any cause whatsoever — even if caused by the negligence or other misconduct of CNPS, its trip leaders, any other participant on the trip, or any third parties or other causes. Further, the participant releases CNPS, its trip leaders, and all others acting on its behalf, from any claim for damages of any kind, whether injury, death, or damage to, or loss or theft of, property caused by, or resulting from participating in this trip. Similarly, the undersigned participant releases Saint Anthony Retreat Center, Santa Teresita Youth Conference Center (of the Diocese of Fresno) from any claim for damages of any kind, whether injury, death, or damage to, or loss or theft of, property caused by, or resulting from participating in SO BE FREE 22.

Name (Print) _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Email _____

Emergency Name _____ Emergency Phone _____

If the above person is a minor: The form must also be signed by a parent or other legal guardian

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____