

Encinitas Native Plant Ordinance

Select Acronym Glossary:

SWCA Native Plan Lists Summary Table

Cal-IPC = California Invasive Plant Council

CNPS = California Native Plant Society

CCH = Consortium of California Herbaria

L.A. = landscape architect

WUCOLS = Water Use Classification of landscape Species

USDA = United States Department of Agriculture

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Name	Sponsor/Organization	Link	Document Type	Maintained	Contact Information	Simple or Complex	Database (Y/N)	Description	Defensibility of Definition(s)	Pro(s)	Con(s)	Recommend Use per Consultant's Research	Industry Use	Recommended Category for Ordinance Use
Calscape	CNPS	https://calscape.org/search	Web-based document or list; Excel spreadsheet	Yes; frequency unknown	https://calscape.org/contact	Moderate-Complex	Y	Searchable database of 8550 plants native to California; includes pages to guide in finding native plants, designing, finding nurseries, garden care, and locating landscape professionals; Adopts the taxonomy of the Jepson eFlora uses the CCH distributional information to model potential plant ranges. Calscape is a partnership of home gardeners, volunteers, industry professionals, universities, and funders	High	User-friendly search and filtering options; Searchable by address, nursery availability, plant type, sun and water needs, special uses, soil drainage, ease of care, wildlife suitability, size, flowering season, seasonality, cultivars and plant communities. Searchable by scientific and common names. Can save lists to personal account.	(1) Does not include any non-natives, so it cannot be used to verify that a plant is not native. Not a significant concern, as this can be resolved with a secondary search on an alternative website. (2) Search for "Southern California" does not generate a comprehensive list. Not a significant concern. Plant range can be confirmed on species page, (3) Does not include all common names.	Recommend as primary list for defining natives. Use secondary list (i.e. WUCOLS, Calflora, or USDA plants) for species that aren't found on this list when searching.	Landscape architect	Primary/Secondary List for Native and Non-Native Classification
Calflora Search for Plants	Calflora	https://www.calflora.org/search.html	Web-Based Document or List	Yes; Updates information from each authority as needed (e.g., typically updates information from the Jepson eFlora 3 times per year)	(510) 883-3148 spprt@calflora.org	Complex	Y	Searchable database. Includes a planting guide search page. Calflora references many sources including the Consortium of California Herbaria, Naturalist, public agencies, nonprofits, scientists, private donors, and site users that enter information (a list of all data sources is available at https://www.calflora.org/occ/about-data.html); The Jepson eFlora (JEF) USDA plants. Taxonomic treatments follow the Flora of North America north of Mexico. The CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants; This is a list of ~2500 rare plants; Certain names are accepted by CNPS which are synonymized by the other authorities; Plants of the World Online (POWO), from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; iNaturalist; iNaturalist uses POWO preferred names for most taxa, but sometimes uses names not accepted in POWO.	High	List is comprehensive; Searchable county, plant type, CA native status, and plant community; Searchable by scientific and common names; On the planting guide page you can search by address and select from a number of criteria including low water, riparian, shade, sci name, common name, etc.; Can save palettes to personal account.	(1) Does not include all common names. (2) Taxonomically current; (3) lacks information about plant care and landscape use. (4) Less user-friendly than WUCOLS;	Not recommended for primary list source, could be secondary. Intended for professional biologists but accessible to DIY homeowners.	Professional biologist; landscape architect	Primary/Secondary List for Native and Non-Native Classification
Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (WUCOLS)	UC Davis, California Center for Urban Horticulture	https://ccuh.ucdavis.edu/wucols-db	Downloadable lists based on selected search criteria	Yes; frequency TBD	530-752-1011; https://ccuh.ucdavis.edu/contact	Simple	Y	Searchable database that provides water use information about plants commonly used in California gardens; plant list based on a poll of landscape architects.	Low	User-friendly; Searchable by City/Region, Plant Name, Water Use, Plant Types, and CA native status; Provides information about plant maintenance and use in landscapes, including water use by climatic zone; Includes photographs for most spp.; Plants can be saved to "favorites" and subsequently downloaded in a variety of formats	(1) Limited to query options if plant name is unknown, or if only common name is known (3) Database is not comprehensive, it only includes the most commonly used plants by landscape architects	Good resource for initial palette development, to be improved with input from primary list(s). Especially useful for complying with municipal water district water use requirements.	General public; landscape architect	Primary/Secondary List for Native and Non-Native Classification
USDA Plants Database	Natural Resources Conservation Service U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	https://plants.usda.gov/	Database	Yes; frequency TBD	USDA plants Database Team	Complex	Y	Searchable database of plant attributes, taxonomy and symbols; Intended to provide standardized information about the vascular plants, mosses, liverworts, hornworts, and lichens of the United States and its territories. It includes names, plant symbols, checklists, distributional data, species abstracts, characteristics, images, crop information, automated tools, web links, and references; Native and naturalized plants of the PLANTS Floristic Area (PFA), which consists of North America and all additional U.S. territories and protectorates. 38,000 plants + additional 5000 non-naturalized species. References the CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants and the Jepson Manual	High	Searchable by plant type, growth habitat, rarity, invasives, and U.S. State; Detailed information on appearance, uses, growth needs, and ecological roles. Features like Characteristics Search and the National Wetland Plant List help identify plants based on specific traits and wetland indicators. Includes lists of invasive species and endangered plants, supporting conservation and land management efforts. Fact sheets and plant guides provide detailed, practical information for restoration and management.	(1) Search queries cannot be combined; (2) when searching a state, you must choose by state and individual plant, rather than by a state or subregion to produce a comprehensive list for that geography; (3) is not user-friendly for the general public	Not recommended for primary list source, could be secondary. Intended for professional natural resource specialists, but could be useful for landscape architects	Professional biologist; Landscape architect	Primary/Secondary List for Native and Non-Native Classification

