



# Wild Plants of Bay Point Regional Shoreline

## Common Name Version

### A Photographic Guide

Sorted by Form, Color and Family  
with Habitat Descriptions and Identification Notes

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East Bay   
Regional Park District

New Revised and Expanded Edition - Includes the latest  
scientific names, habitat descriptions and identification notes



# A Photographic Guide to the Wild Plants of Bay Point Regional Shoreline

More than 2,000 species of native and naturalized plants grow wild in the San Francisco Bay Area. Most are very difficult to identify without the help of good illustrations. This is designed to be a simple, color photo guide to help you identify some of these plants. This guide is published electronically in Adobe Acrobat® format so that it can easily be updated as additional photographs become available. You have permission to freely download, distribute and print this guide for individual use. Photographs are © 2014 Wilde Legard, all rights reserved.

In this guide, the included plants are sorted first by form (Ferns & Fern-like, Grasses & Grass-like, Herbaceous, Woody), then by most common flower color, and finally by similar looking flowers (grouped by genus within each family). Each photograph has the following information, separated by '-':

COMMON NAME	According to <i>The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition (JM2)</i> and other references (not standardized).
(Scientific Name)	According to <i>JM2</i> and <i>eFlora</i> ( <a href="http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/IJM.html">ucjeps.berkeley.edu/IJM.html</a> ).
Origin & Longevity	Native, Naturalized, or Waif (not reproducing without human care). Annual, Biennial, Perennial, or a combination.
Family Name	Common family name according to <i>JM2</i> ,
(Bloom date range)	Period during the year when the plant blooms, according to <i>JM2</i> and other sources. '-' if plant does not bloom (ie. Ferns).
Habitat	Habitat description according to <i>JM2</i> and other sources.
ID Characteristics	Plant description with identification characteristics and other notes, based on multiple sources including: <i>Annotated Checklist of the East Bay Flora, Second Edition (2013)</i> , <i>JM2</i> , <i>Plants of the San Francisco Bay Region (Revised Edition)</i> , and <i>Weeds of California and Other Western States</i> .
Additional notes	Occasionally, an additional note may appear (ie. NOXIOUS weed, INVASIVE weed, Fed & Calif. ENDANGERED, etc.).

Revision: 3/2/2014

## Grass-like - Green/Brown

## Wild Plants of Bay Point Regional Shoreline - Sorted by Form, Color and Family

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**NARROW-LEAVED CATTAIL** (*Typha angustifolia*) Native Perennial - Cattail Family - (May-Aug) - Nutrient-rich freshwater to brackish marshes, wet disturbed places - Plant 4.9-9.8' tall. Leaves gen < 0.4" wide. Flower cluster gap > 0.4".



**BROAD-LEAVED CATTAIL** (*Typha latifolia*) Native Perennial - Cattail Family - (Jun-Jul) - Unpolluted to nutrient-rich freshwater (brackish) marshes - Plant 4.9-9.8' tall. Widest leaves 0.4-1.1" wide. Flower cluster with no gap between flower types.



**RIPGUT GRASS** (*Bromus diandrus*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr-Jul) - Open, gen disturbed areas - Plant 6-40" tall. Spikelet 1-2.8" long. Lemma body 0.8-1.2" long, awn > 1.2" long. Barbed seeds can stick in flesh of animals. INVASIVE weed.



**SALT GRASS** (*Distichlis spicata*) Native Perennial - Grass Family - (Apr-Sep) - Salt marshes, coastal dunes, moist, alkaline areas - Stem 4-20" long. Leaves 0.8-4" long, flat, stiff. Flower cluster 0.8-3" long, narrow. Spikelets straw-colored to purple, 2-20/group, 0.24-0.8" long.



**BARNYARD GRASS** (*Echinochloa crus-galli*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Jun-Oct) - Gen wet, disturbed sites, fields, roadsides - Stem 12-39" long. Leaf blades to 25" long, 0.2-1.2" wide. Spikelet 0.1-0.16" long, floret ~0.14" long, 1 per node. Awns 0-2" long on same plant.



**BEARDLESS WILD RYE** (*Elymus triticoides*) Native Perennial - Grass Family - (Jun-Jul) - Dry to moist, often saline, meadows - Plant 18-50" tall, from rhizomes. Flower cluster 2-8" long. Spikelets generally 2/node. Lemmas 3-7, 0.2-0.5" long, awn to 0.12" long.



**RYE GRASS** (*Festuca perennis*) Naturalized Perennial - Grass Family - (May-Sep) - Dry to moist disturbed sites, abandoned fields - Stem 20-40" tall. Spikelet 0.2-0.9" long, > glume, awned or awnless. Sterile shoots at base. **INVASIVE weed.**



**MEDITERRANEAN BARLEY** (*Hordeum marinum* subsp. *gussoneanum*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr-Jun) - Dry to moist, disturbed sites - Stem 4-20". Leaf blades to 32" long, auricles < 0.08". Central lemma awn 0.25-0.7" long. **INVASIVE weed.**



**HARE BARLEY** (*Hordeum murinum* subsp. *leporinum*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Feb-May) - Moist, gen disturbed sites. Common - Stem 12-43" tall. Central spikelet stalk ~0.06" long. Central floret << lateral florets. **INVASIVE weed.**



**RABBITFOOT GRASS** (*Polygomon monepeliensis*) Naturalized Annual - Grass Family - (Apr-Aug) - Moist places, along streams - Stem 8-39". Leaf 0.4-8" long, 0.16-0.24" wide. Flower cluster 0.4-6.7" long, plume-like. Glume awn > 0.14". Lemma awn gen < 0.1". **INVASIVE.**



**SEACOAST BULRUSH** (*Bolboschoenus robustus*) Native Perennial - Sedge Family - (Summer) - Brackish to saline coastal marshes - Plant 20-60" tall. Stem sharply triangular. Flower cluster dense, stemless, just above bracts. Spikelets 5-25, 0.4-1.2" long.



**TALL NUTSEDGE** (*Cyperus eragrostis*) Native Perennial - Sedge Family - (May-Nov) - Vernal pools, streambanks - Leaves basal. Flower cluster bracts 4-8. Spikelets 0.2-0.8" long, oblong, in heads to 1.6" wide. Seeds short-stalked.



COMMON TULE (*Schoenoplectus acutus* var. *occidentalis*) Native Perennial - Sedge Family - (Summer) - Common. Marshes, shores, fens, shallow lakes, often emergent - Stem 3.3-13' tall, fat, round x-section, blue-green.



PANICLED / WEEDY WILLOWHERB (*Epilobium brachycarpum*) Native Annual - Evening Primrose Family - (Jun-Sep) - Common. Dry open or disturbed woodland, grassland, roadsides - Plant 8-79" tall, diffuse. Petals 2-15 mm long, white to rose-purple.



CUT-LEAVED GERANIUM (*Geranium dissectum*) Naturalized Annual - Geranium Family - (Mar-Jul) - Open, disturbed sites - Stem 3-28" tall, rough-hairy. Leaf blades deeply divided. Petals violet-red, 0.1-0.25" long w/notched tips. Flower stalk sticky. INVASIVE.



BULL MALLOW (*Malva nicaeensis*) Naturalized Annual - Mallow Family - (Mar-Jun) - Disturbed places - Stem 0.7-2'. Leaf blade 1.2-4.7" wide, 5-7 shallow lobes. Bractlets egg-shaped, 0.16-0.2" long. Petals pink to blue-violet, 0.2-0.5" long.



WATER HYACINTH (*Eichhornia crassipes*) Naturalized Perennial - Pickerel-weed Family - (Jun-Oct) - Locally abundant. Ponds, sloughs, waterways - Aquatic. Leaf < 4" wide, inflated leaf stalk base. Flower lilac or pale blue to white. NOXIOUS.



CHICORY (*Cichorium intybus*) Naturalized Perennial - Sunflower Family - (Apr-Oct) - Common. Roadsides, disturbed places - Plants 16-78" tall. Stems leafless. Leaves dandelion-like. Flowers pale blue, 0.8-1.6" wide. Roots roasted as coffee substitute.



ANNUAL SALTMARSH ASTER (*Symphyotrichum subulatum* var. *parviflorum*) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Jul-Oct) - Marshes, disturbed places - Heads white to pink, solitary, in leaf axils and stem ends, <50 rays. Flower head bracts sharp-tipped.



COCKLEBUR (*Xanthium strumarium*) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Jul-Oct) - Disturbed, seasonally wet, often alkaline sites, in grassland, marshes, watercourses - Plant 4-32" tall. Stem spineless. Bur 0.4-1.2"+ long.



**WATER SMARTWEED** (*Persicaria punctata*) Native Annual-Perennial - Buckwheat Family - (Jun–Nov) - Shallow water, shores, marshes, floodplain forest - Flowers ~0.15" long, 5-lobed, white margins, gland-dotted. Fruit black, shiny.



**WATER PARSLEY** (*Oenanthe sarmentosa*) Native Perennial - Carrot Family - (Jun–Oct) - Streams, marshes, ponds, gen aquatic - Plant 20-60" tall. Young shoots curled, tendril-like. Leaves twice-pinnate, leaflets alike, broad, serrate to lobed. Flowers white.



**BINDWEED** (*Convolvulus arvensis*) Naturalized Perennial - Morning-glory Family - (Mar–Oct) - Roadsides, open areas in many pl communities - Trailing. Leaf 0.8-1.2" long, w/round tip, pointed lobes. Flowers white to pink, 0.8-1" long. NOXIOUS.



**PERENNIAL PEPPERGRASS** (*Lepidium latifolium*) Naturalized Perennial - Mustard Family - (Jun–Sep) - Pastures, disturbed areas, fields, grassland, saline meadows, streambanks, sagebrush scrub, edge of marshes - Plant 14-47". Petals white. NOXIOUS.



**FENNEL** (*Foeniculum vulgare*) Naturalized Perennial - Carrot Family - (May–Sep) - Roadsides, disturbed sites - Plants 3-6.5' tall, anise-scented. Stems waxy-blue, canelike. Flowers yellow. Leaf segments thread-like, edible when young. INVASIVE weed.



**YELLOW STAR-THISTLE** (*Centaurea solstitialis*) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (May–Oct) - Invasive, roadsides, disturbed grassland or woodland - Plant 4-39" tall. Leaves woolly, extend down the stem. Flower bract spines 0.4-1" long. NOXIOUS weed.



**COMMON SPIKEWEED** (*Centromadia pungens* subsp. *pungens*) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Apr–Nov) - Grassland, saltbush scrub, disturbed sites - Spiny. Leaves smooth or rough to the touch.



**WESTERN GOLDENROD** (*Euthamia occidentalis*) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (Jul–Nov) - Marshes, streambanks, meadows - Stem < 6.6', smooth. Leaves < 4" long, <= 0.24" wide, w/dark glandular pits. Flowers yellow, rays 0.06-0.1" long.



**GREAT VALLEY GUMPLANT** (*Grindelia camporum*) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (May–Nov) - Sandy or saline bottomland, roadsides - Stem non-woody, 2-8' tall, whitish. Leaves gen resinous. Head to 1.2" wide, bracts bend downward.



**BRISTLY OX-TONGUE** (*Helminthotheca echioides*) Naturalized Annual-Biennial - Sunflower Family - (All year) - Common. Disturbed areas - Stem 1-6.5' tall, bristly. Leaf 2-8" long, covered with prickly bumps. Flower heads 0.8-1.6" wide. **INVASIVE** weed.



**TELEGRAPH WEED** (*Heterotheca grandiflora*) Native Annual - Sunflower Family - (Jun–Oct(± all year)) - Disturbed areas, dry streambeds, sand dunes - Plant 0.3-8' tall, bristly, sticky, branched above. Leaf 0.8-2.8" long, lower clasp stem. Rays 25-40, 0.2-0.3" long.



**PRICKLY LETTUCE** (*Lactuca serriola*) Naturalized Annual - Sunflower Family - (May–Oct) - Abundant. Disturbed places - Stem 1.6-10' tall, prickly-bristly. Leaves deeply-lobed, midvein and edges prickly-bristly. Flowers pale yellow, 0.16-0.2" wide.



**CHRISTMAS BERRY / TOYON** (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*) Native Perennial - Rose Family - ((May)Jun–Aug) - Chaparral, oak woodland, mixed-evergreen forest - Shrub-tree < 33' tall, evergreen. Leaf 2-4" long. Petals white, < 0.16" long. Fruit bright red.



**HIMALAYAN BLACKBERRY** (*Rubus armeniacus*) Naturalized Perennial - Rose Family - (Mar–Jun) - Common. Disturbed areas, roadsides - Shrub w/thorny 5-angled stem. Leaflets 3-5, white-hairy beneath. Blackberry-type fruit. **INVASIVE**.



**COYOTE BRUSH** (*Baccharis pilularis* subsp. *consanguinea*) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (Jul–Dec) - Coastal bluffs, woodland, grassland, disturbed sites, occ on serpentine - Shrub < 15' tall, brittle, common. Leaves gen 0.6-1.6" long.



**MARSH GUMPLANT** (*Grindelia stricta* var. *angustifolia*) Native Perennial - Sunflower Family - (May–Dec) - Tidal wetlands - Plant 3.3-6.6' tall, woody base, evergreen. Leaves 0.4-6" long, fleshy, not resinous. Flower rays yellow, 16-56, 0.5-0.7" long.

