

Plants in a Dune Environment

Native plants are adapted to the harsh environment of the beach bluffs. They



Purple clarkia (*Clarkia purpurea*)



California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*)

throughout the year to provide a diversity of resources for native animals and color to the bluffs. The pink-white flowers of dune buckwheat turn rust-red as they go to seed.

endure long periods of drought, grow in nutritionally poor sands, and tolerate constant ocean winds. Plants on the lower bluff colonize areas cleared by shifting sands or occasional wave action. The shrubbier species of the upper slopes are adapted to a more stable environment.



Beach evening primrose (*Camissonia cheiranthifolia*)

Unlike typical house gardens with lawns and flower borders, native plant communities are filled with plants of varying heights and colors. Their flowers are subtle and bloom successively



Dune buckwheat (*Eriogonum parvifolium*) and California poppies (*Eschscholzia californica*)



Beach Bluffs Restoration Project

The Beach Bluffs Restoration Project began in 2001 when a group of local residents, nonprofit groups, and government agencies united to implement a common vision of restoring the native vegetation of the bluffs along the southern portion of Santa Monica Bay, between Ballona Creek and the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

- Goals of the Project**
- Increase the ecological value of the bluffs and dunes
 - Promote the beauty of native plants
 - Educate the public about the natural history of our urban beaches