

GEOG 442 Field Trip to Palos Verdes, Saturday, 23 February 2013

Where/when we meet: Lot 14 at 9:00 a.m.

Where we're going: Palos Verdes

When we'll be back: around 3 p.m.

Some of what we'll see and do:

- Identify coastal sage scrub vegetation and exotic-dominated California prairie
- Discuss introduced exotic and invasive species that are all over Palos Verdes and their effects
- Learn to use a floristic key to identify native plant species gaining a toehold in exotic prairie
- Practice doing transect sampling near the intersection of Crenshaw Extension, Fire Station Trail, and Peacock Flats Trail (these data will be used in a lab later)
- Do transect-and-quadrat sampling near the southern intersection of Paintbrush Trail and Rim Trail
- See evidences of wildfire, the wildfire-urban interface (WUI), and successful wildfire mitigation in the WUI
- See (and feel) evidences of mass wasting in Palos Verdes: The Ancient Landslide and the Portuguese Bend Landslide (possibly others on our return trip)
- Learn about the uplift history of the Palos Verdes Anticline and Fault, the thirteen marine terraces it has produced in the last 2.8 million years, and Palos Verdes' origin as a Channel Island!
- Learn about the particular stratigraphic, geomorphic, and cultural factors that make Palos Verdes unusually susceptible to landslides

What you need to bring:

- Field notebook, pencil or pen, smartphone (if you have one, so you can access the PV key)
- Solid, covered, comfortable shoes and socks (e.g., hiking boots, sneakers)
- Long pants (small possibility of ticks)
- Hat and sunglasses
- Clothes you can layer (it can be foggy and cool there, or hot): t-shirt or tank top, light overshirt, sweatshirt or jacket, stuff you don't mind getting pretty grubby!
- Water (about 1 liter should do it, perhaps in two plastic half-liter bottles or a canteen, if you have one)
- Snack food (power bars, trail mix, crackers, cookies, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, apples, bananas, peaches or plums) that does not need refrigeration (mayonnaise will get you sick, cheese may get gross, candy may melt) or the use of plates and flatware
- Tissue paper (the "facilities" are not dependably supplied ...)
- Paper or plastic bag to portage your garbage to a trash can
- Something to carry your gear in (e.g., backpack, cloth grocery bag)
- Please don't smoke: This is fire hazard country and smoke can be very disturbing to others (bring your nicotine gum if you know you'll be miserable and distracted not smoking for a few hours)

Data gathering goals:

- Collecting biodiversity data for a lab on *alpha*, *beta*, and *gamma* diversity
- Identifying native CSS species that are colonizing exotic-dominated grasslands
- Figuring out the direction of CSS restoration (upslope vs. downslope) at a few sites
- Seeing what's coming up in the decades-old Great Lemonadeberry Forest that went completely up in smoke in 2009
- Data we collect can be used for your group projects later on.

Portuguese Bend Trails: http://www.pvplc.org/_lands/docs/Portuguese%20Bend%20Trail%20Map%202012.pdf

Nearest emergency-receiving hospital:

- Torrance Memorial Medical Center, 25530 Hawthorne Bl., Torrance 90505, (310) 373-2027 (N on Crenshaw past PV Dr., W on Rolling Hills Rd. to Hawthorne Bl)

