

#### **Conservation and Access**

The acquisition of the 552-acre Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in 1989 represented a unique opportunity to preserve a comparatively large area of rare habitat in nearly pristine condition.

The Laguna Creek Trail was a visionary project that took ten years of conservation planning. This portion of the property is owned and operated by four local land trusts, The Land Trust of Santa Cruz, Save the Redwoods League, Sempervirens Fund, and Peninsula Open Space Trust.



# Rare Habitats and Spaces

These trails meander through several rare plant communities. The rare sandhills habitat is an ecologically significant resource (only found in ancient marine sand deposits in Santa Cruz County) that merits special management and protection. Due to the unique soil characteristics, specially adapted plants and animals thrive only in this habitat.

The Laguna Creek trail is a moderate one mile adventure through a second growth redwood forest. The Marbled Murrelet, an endangered bird, nests in the area, and the threatened Steelhead trout can still be found in the Laguna lagoon.



## Fire and the Landscape

Fire and recovery are integral parts of the history of this landscape. The Cotoni Awaswas managed the land with fires, and since then this area has experienced many fires including the 2008 Martin Fire and the 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Fire that burned 86,509 acres. Many of the rare, native plants found here are fire adapted, including coast redwood, Santa Cruz cypress, and Santa Cruz wallflower (pictured above).

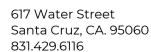
#### Welcome to

# Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve and Laguna Creek Trails



### **While Hiking on Trails**

- · Remain on established trails.
- · No dogs allowed on Laguna Creek trail.
- · Do not disturb or feed wildlife.
- · No firearms or other weapons are allowed.
- · No camping, campfires, or smoking.
- · No motor vehicles, bicycles, or horses.
- · No collecting of plants, animals, or rocks.
- No littering or dumping. Please take trash with you when you leave.





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