

From KATHLEEN GODDARD JONES

TO: N. J. CAR

Deadline: MARCH 1, 1995

FOR: SPINDRIF

People f

For the first time in the "history" of environmental
"Save the Nipomo Dunes" (from oblivion by industrial developme
industrial development) - back in the early 1960's, the wildfl
have come ablaze very, very early.

The height of blossoming set in during February! Bo
assisted wildflower seekers from afar by publicizing that "The
the Nipomo Dunes to find wildflowers most abundant is from Mar
But in this year of 1995, not so! COME AT ONCE to catch the g

(Coreopsis gigan

Yes, the ~~Coreopsis~~ Giant Golden Coreopsis/is all out
Carnival Poppy (Meconella linearis var. pulchella), too, is in
even steep slopes, nodding its fragile petals of alternating s
And among these miniature poppies is ~~the~~ its close friend and
Larkspur (Delphinium parryi var. blochmaniae). The Dunes Wal
suffrutescens) had lifted its tall mustard yellow heads everyw
and on hill slopes since the ~~storm~~ rain-storms paused in Janua
Indian Paintbrush (Castilleja mollis formerly; now identified
is offering its soft-leaved rosy presence here and there. Po
astonishing appearance is one plant of delicate Indian Pink (S
flash of startling scarlet sheltered in the soft chaparral of
completed Monument area. How surprising that the lavender-purp
has chosen to forsake August and is joining the unusual spring

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of the prevailing northwest wind in its face at the turn of the location, back on the Monument slope an early out-of-season purple (undulata var. frutescens) along the Purple Mint Trail leading to still distinguished as officially rare-and-endangered.

No summer flowers yet, of course: no Deer Weed (Lotus Purple Pincushion (Pholisma arenarium or paniculatum), no exp. (Senecio blochmaniae), none of my favorite dune flower, the d. Woolly Blue Star (Eriastrum densifolium), no Live Forever, the (Dudleya lanceolata), nor the yellow or the lavender-pink sand favorite of botanist Clare Hardham, the rare but abundant ~~Lotus~~ splurge of delicate flowers, carpeting in pink and white and

But much, much more: Everlasting in pink and white abundant little yellow dune daisy (Senecio californica), and coastal form says Dr. Robert Hoover of Pink Prickly Phlox (L and carpets of pale lavender Phacelia douglasi, which for cor - with knowing inaccuracy - the Baby Blue Eyes of the Dunes.

Telephone Kathleen anytime for a special stroll when the abandon of color in dune wildflowers may even continue on for

-Kathleen Goddard
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