

Floral Associations documented in the:



CALIFORNIA BUMBLE BEE ATLAS



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Wildlife Diversity Program

California Department of Fish and Wildlife



Overview

1. Importance of Native Bees
2. Bumble Bees (*Bombus*)
3. Community Science & the Atlas
4. Rare Plants and Bees
5. Join the Project!

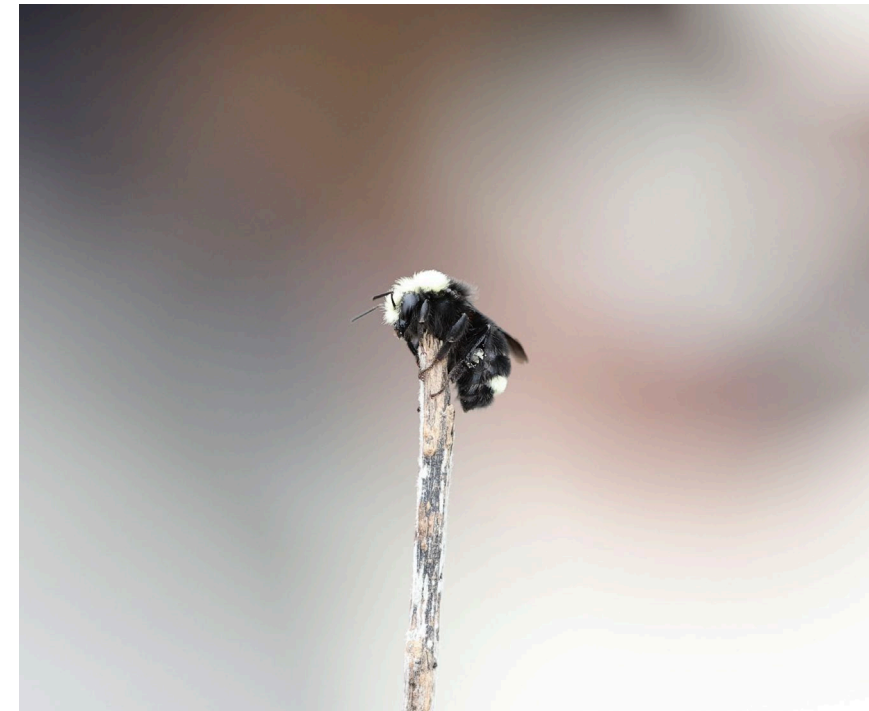


Photo: Patricia Simpson

Acknowledgements



Thank you to the volunteers!

Thanks Leif Richardson, Hillary Sardiñas, Rich Hatfield

Thank you to the Bees

Funding and Support



Project Leads



Photos: Leif Richardson



Hillary Sardiñas



Rich Hatfield

Importance of Native Bees as Pollinators

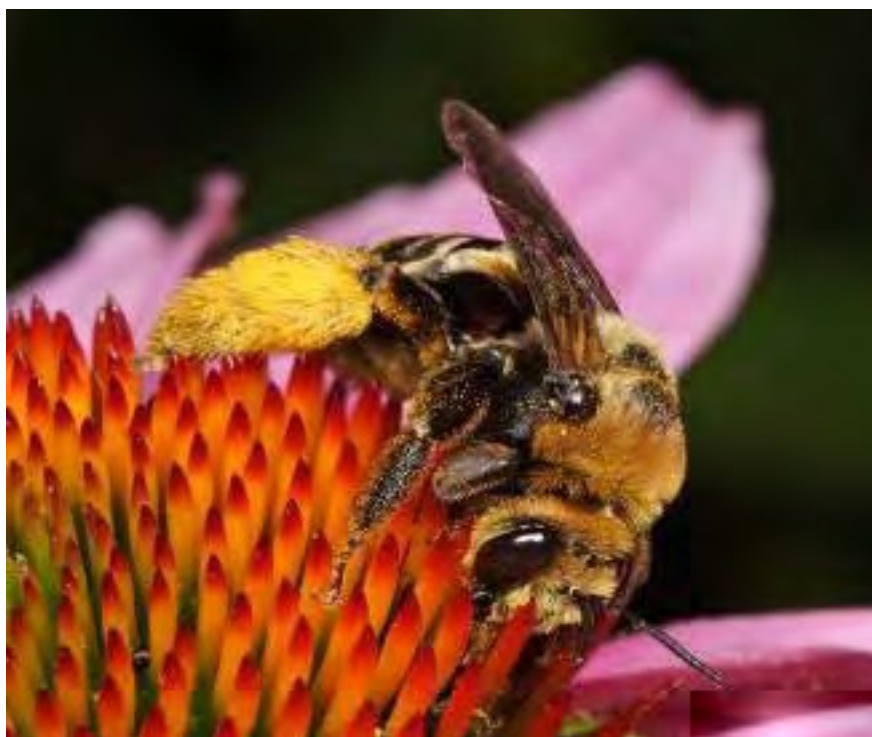
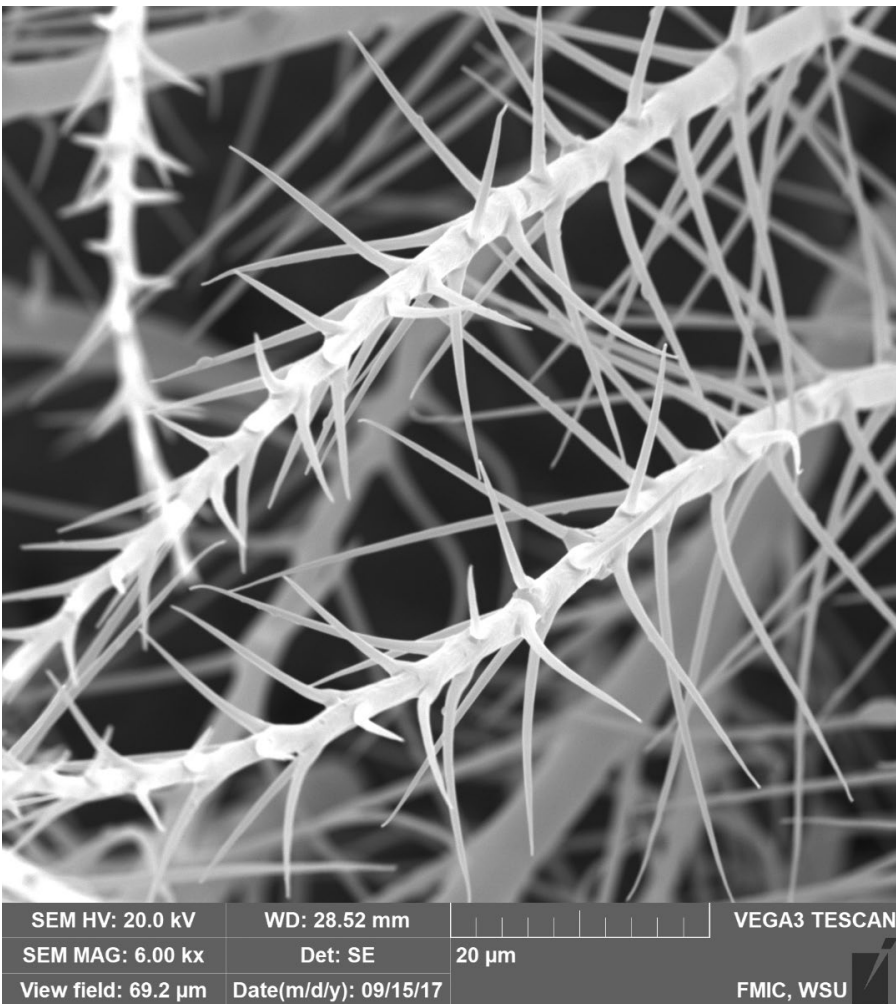
- 87% of flowering plants are pollinated by animals
 - Ollerton et al. 2011

- Wild bees are vital to wild and crop plant pollination
 - Garibaldi et al. 2013



Why are bees so important for pollination?

- Scopa – bristles of hair to carry pollen
- Bees eat Pollen



Why study Bumble Bees?



20,000+ global Bee Species
~1% are Bumble bees

Photo: Mace Vaughn

Photo: Xerces Society

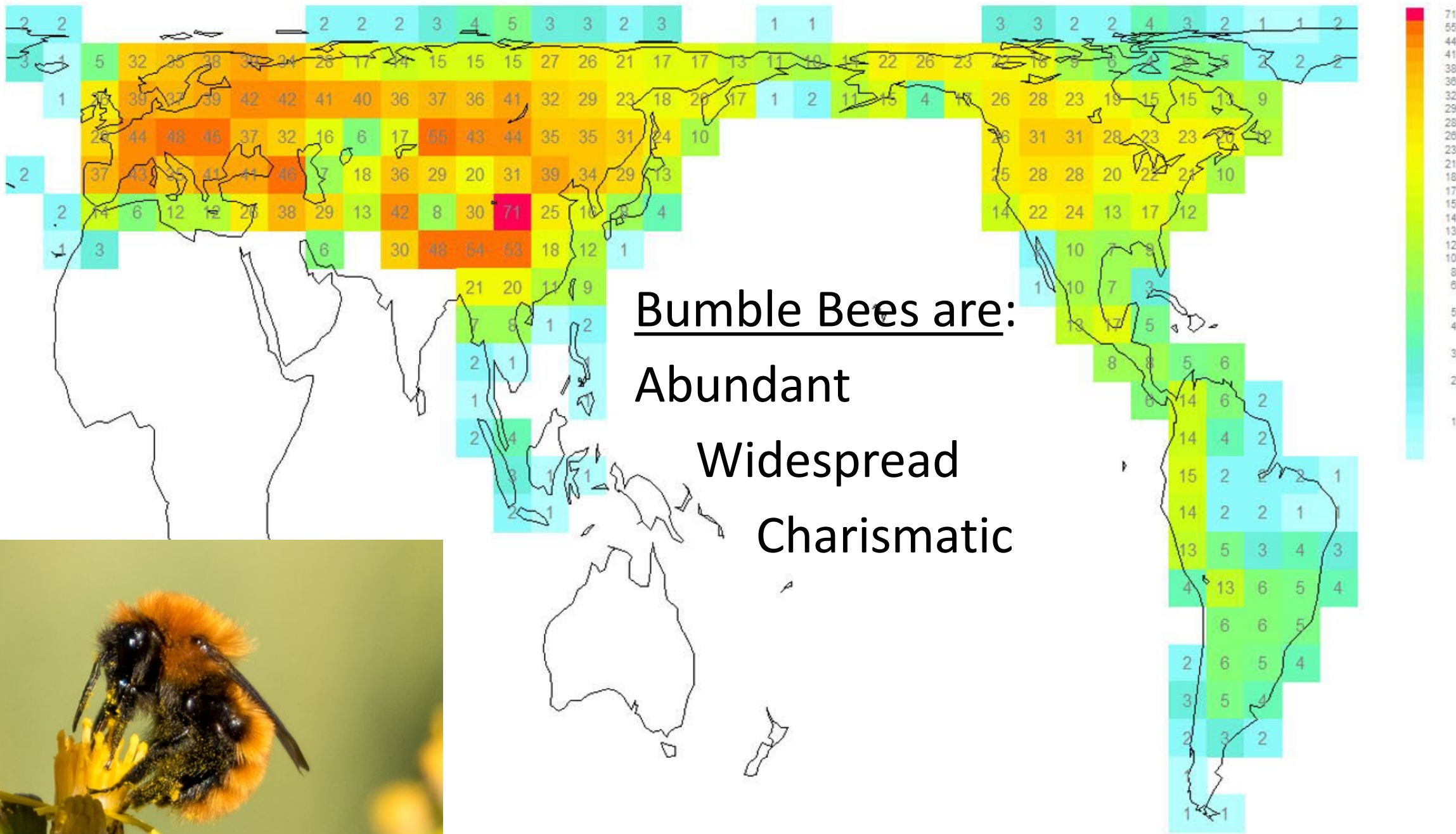


Photo: John D Reynolds

Illustration from: When did Bumblebees reach South America? - Williams et al. 2022

Bumble Bees are: **Social***

- Annual Colonies
- Nests of 50-200+
- Queens, Workers, Males
- Foraging multiple months of the year

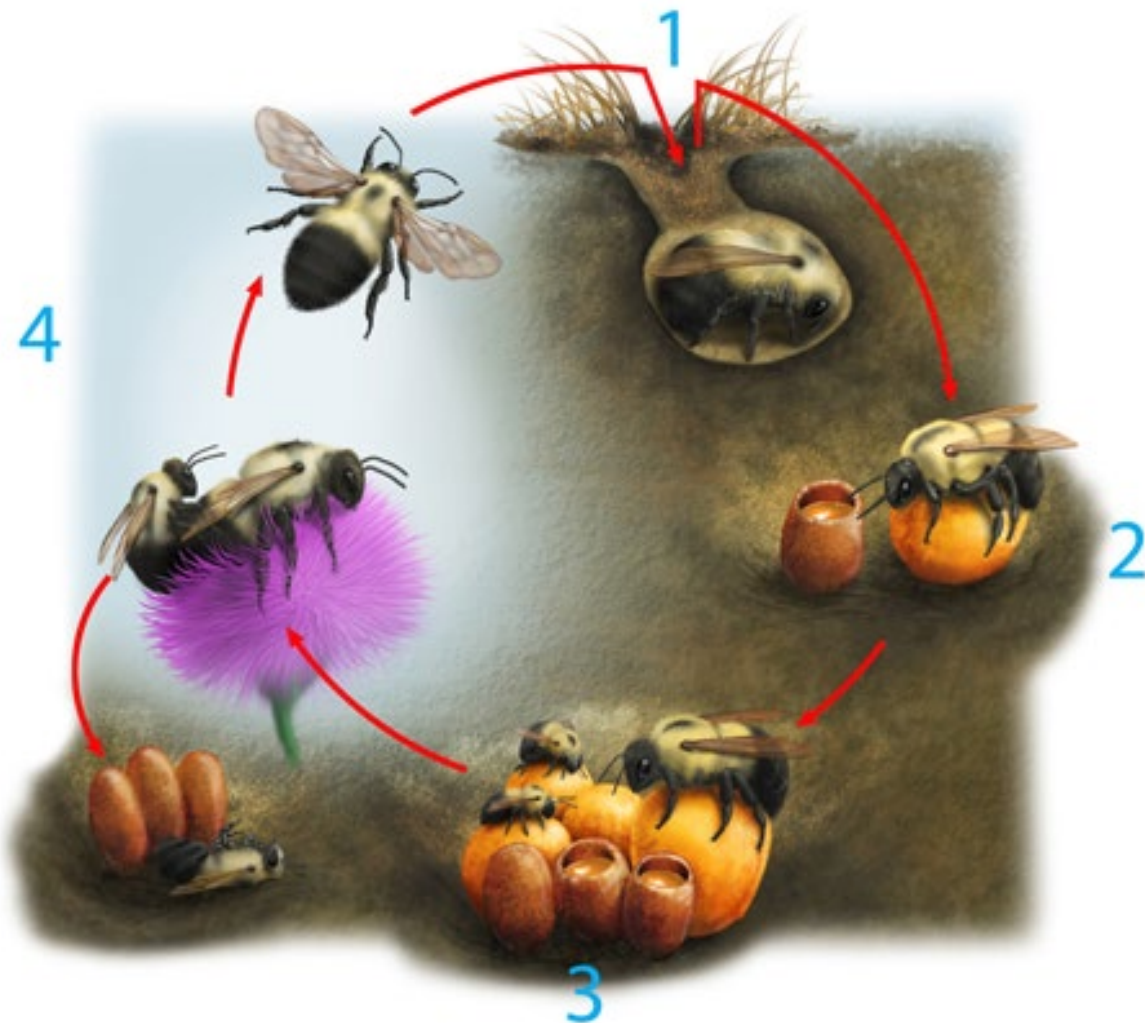


Image: David Wysotski / Allure Illustration

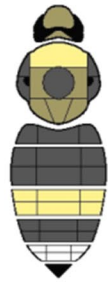
Bumble Bees are: **Generalists***

- Buzz-pollinating

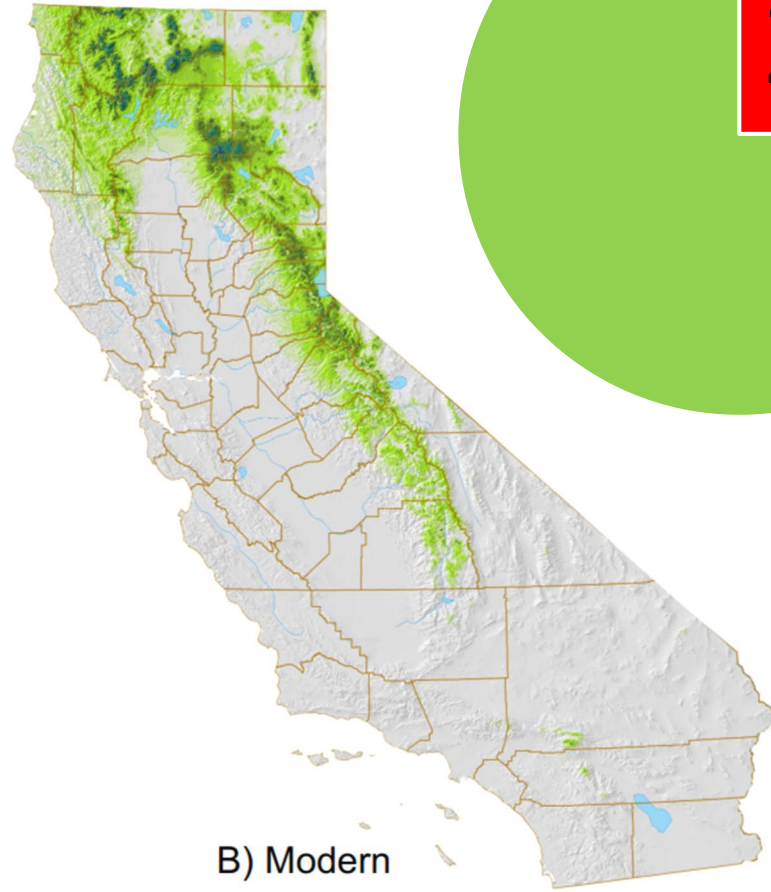


Bumble Bees are: Declining

Bombus occidentalis



A) Historic



B) Modern

25%

- of bumble bees in North America are threatened or declining

- Cameron & Sadd 2022

Why Community Science?

- We want to learn more about Bumble Bees across the whole state
- California is too big!
- We need volunteers to help us survey



CALIFORNIA BUMBLE BEE ATLAS

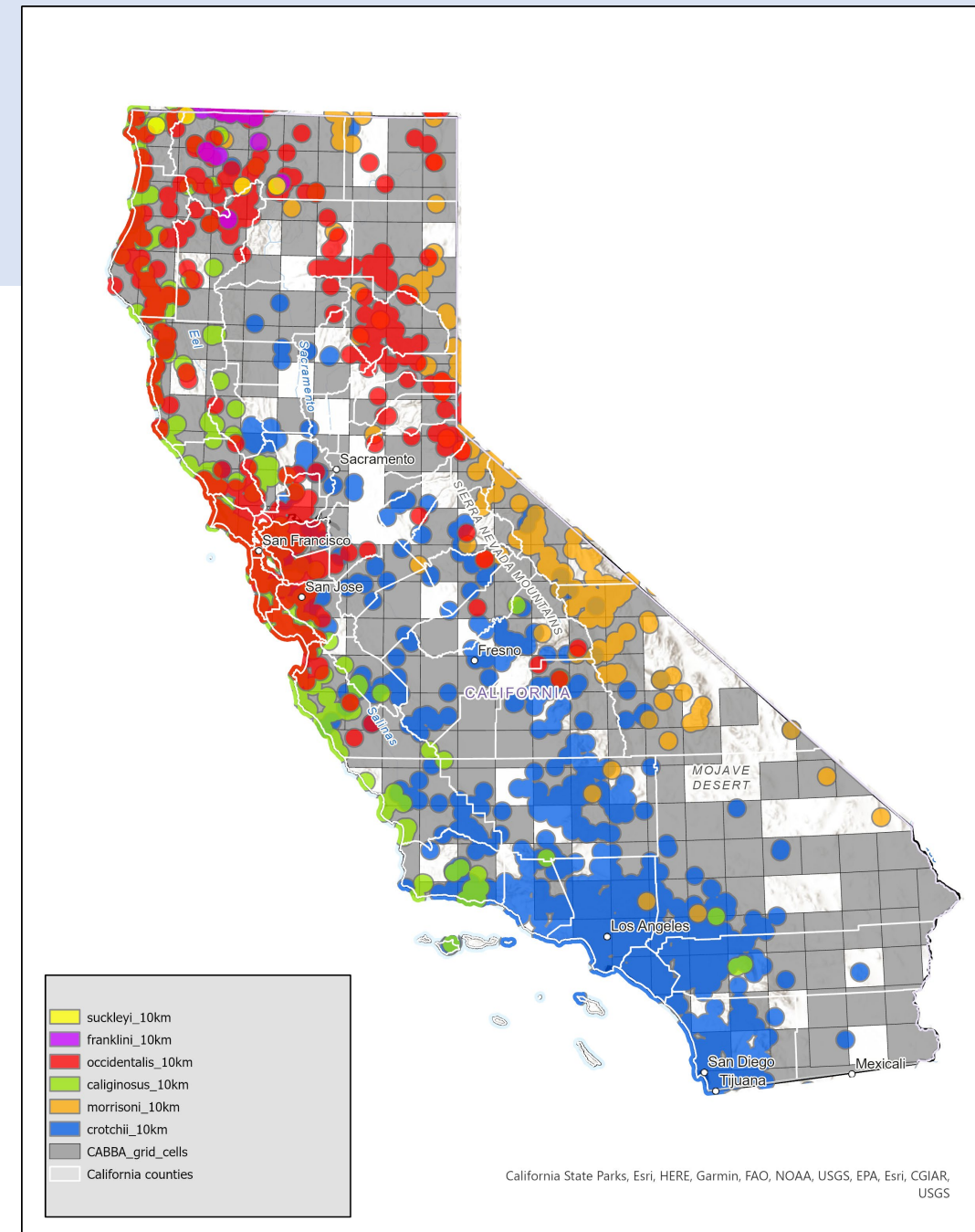


Figure: Leif Richardson



California Bumble Bee Atlas



Sign up!

About

Events

Get Involved

Submit Data

Resources

Permitting



Get Involved!

What?

The California Bumble Bee Atlas is a collaborative project to track and conserve the bumble bees of California. The project joins similar inventory efforts in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, collectively, the Western States Bumble Bee Atlas. Our goal is to gain a better understanding of the distribution of bumble bees throughout

- <https://www.cabumblebeeatlas.org/>

Atlas Highlights so far!

3 Years

>342

Forage plant
genera

>18000

individual bee
records

>1000
volunteers
trained

23/25

Bumble Bees
observed

■ Bee Species Observed ■ Species not Observed

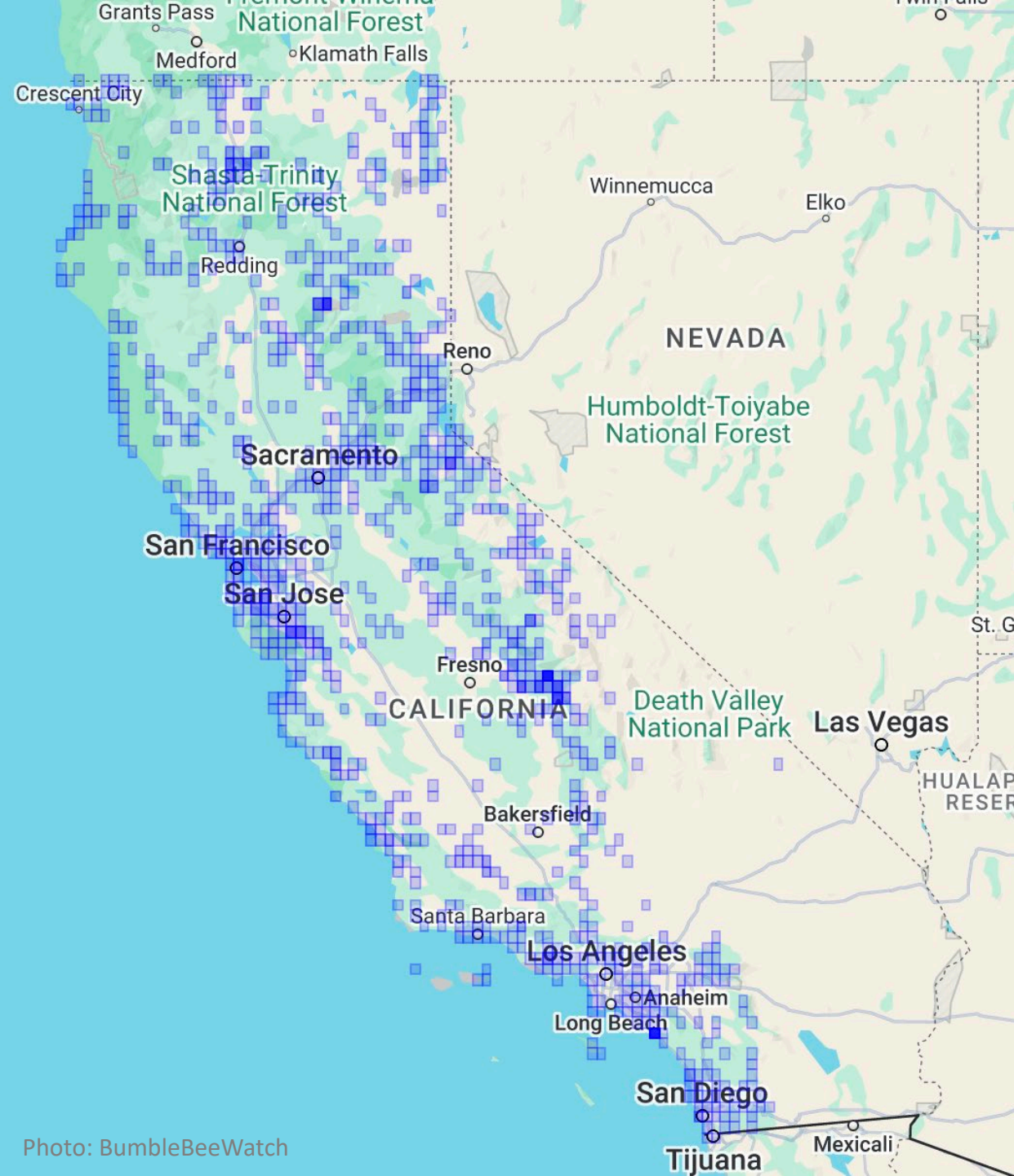


Photo: BumbleBeeWatch

Bombus franklini



Bombus occidentalis



Bombus caliginosus



Bombus suckleyi



Bombus crotchii



Bombus morrisoni



Rare Plants

Ceanothus ferrisiae



*Chorizanthe
cuspidata* var. *villosa*

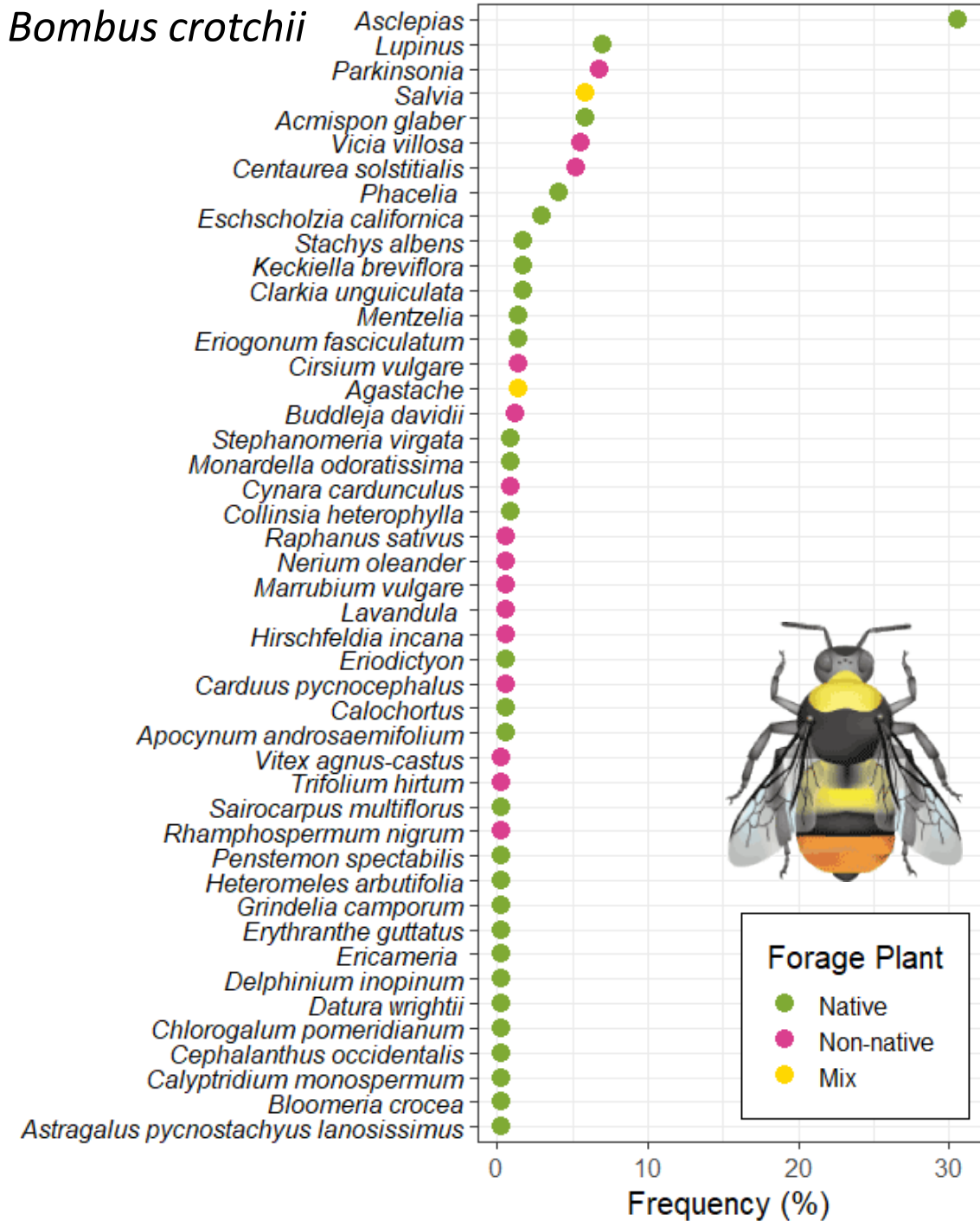


*Astragalus
pycnostachyus* var.
lanosissimus



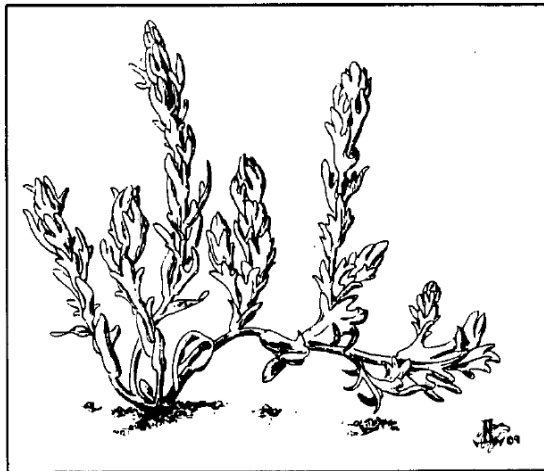
	CA Coastal Sage	Cascades	C. Basin&Range	Central Valley	Coast Range	E. Cascades	Klamath	N. Basin&Range	Sierra Nevada	S. Pine-Oak Mountains	No. Ecoregions
<i>Lupinus</i>	4			3	3		3		2		5
<i>Cirsium</i>					1	1	1	1			4
<i>Phacelia</i>			1			4			3		3
<i>Vicia</i>	2			2	4						3
<i>Monardella</i>		1							1		2
<i>Salvia</i>	1			1							2
<i>Acmispon</i>	3									2	2
<i>Penstemon</i>									5	1	2
<i>Eriogonum</i>		3							4		2
<i>Sidalcea</i>		2	5								2
<i>Solidago</i>		4				5					2
<i>Stachys</i>		5								5	2
<i>Allium</i>								2			1
<i>Arnica</i>			2								1
<i>Aster</i>							2				1
<i>Ericameria</i>						2					1
<i>Rubus</i>					2						1
<i>Eriodictyon</i>										3	1
<i>Melilotus</i>						3					1
<i>Mertensia</i>								3			1
<i>Trifolium</i>			3								1
<i>Asclepias</i>				4							1
<i>Delphinium</i>								4			1
<i>Perideridia</i>							4				1
<i>Turricula</i>										4	1
<i>Wyethia</i>			4								1
<i>Castilleja</i>								5			1
<i>Centaurea</i>				5							1
<i>Eschscholzia</i>	5										1
<i>Hastingsia</i>							5				1
<i>Hypochaeris</i>					5						1

Bombus crotchii



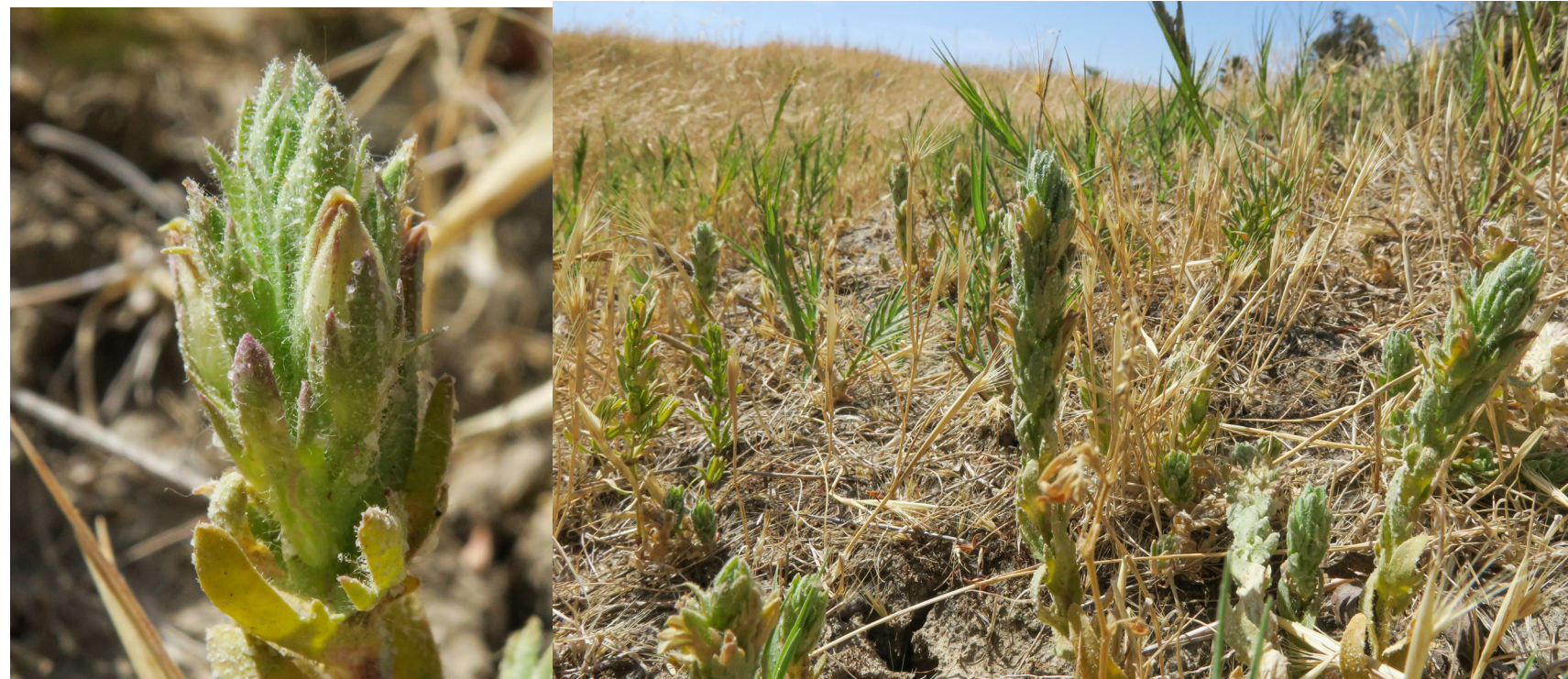
Chloropyron

Conservation of the
palmate-bracted bird's beak,
Cordylanthus palmatus



Center for Conservation Biology
Department of Biological Sciences
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305-5020

Bird's beak requires the bees for pollination and the bees benefit from bird's beak as a food source" – Grewell 2005



Quote: Olson, J. J. (2012). A Conceptual Restoration Plan and Tidal Hydrology Assessment for Reconnecting Spring Branch Creek to Suisun Marsh, Solano County, California.

Rare plants and bees need each other



Photo from Bumble Bee Watch: Sara Snyder.

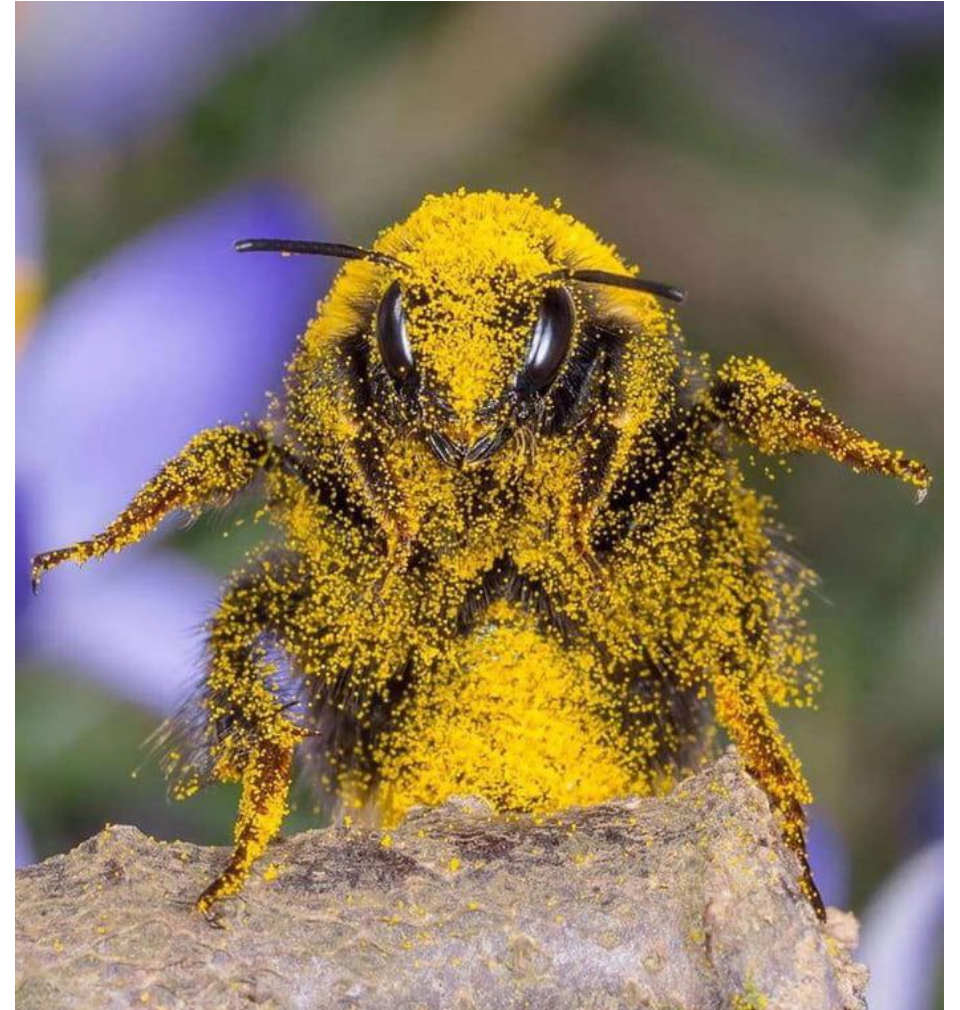
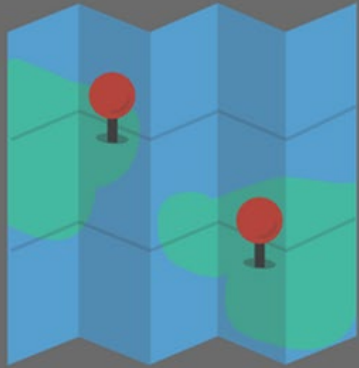


Photo: Kutub Uddin, West Sussex.

How to Participate

1: Adopt a Grid Cell



2: Survey for bumble bees

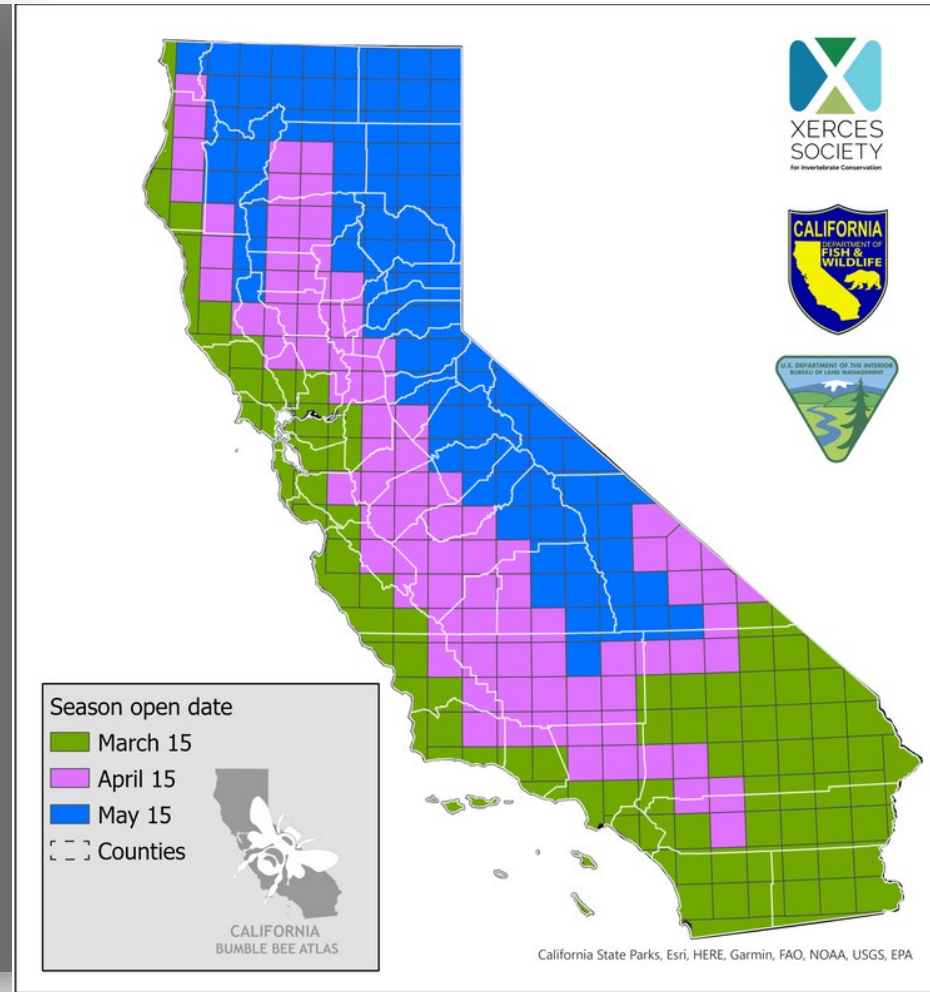


3: Submit your data online



BumbleBeeWatch.org

Photo: Bumble Bee Atlas/Xerces



Join Us! - <https://www.cabumblebeeatlas.org/>



Next Season Starts: **March 15, 2025**

- Virtual Trainings
- In-person Events
- Workshops

Photos: Dylan Winkler

Join Us! - <https://www.cabumblebeeatlas.org/>

Thank you NorCal Botany!

Questions?

- My email: dylan.winkler@wildlife.ca.gov



Bombus franklini



Bombus occidentalis



Bombus caliginosus



Bombus suckleyi



Bombus crotchii



Bombus morrisoni



Bombus franklini



Bombus occidentalis



Bombus caliginosus



Bombus suckleyi



Bombus crotchii



Bombus morrisoni



How to Get Involved

1. Register for the project: <https://www.cabumblebeeatlas.org/>
2. Adopt a grid cell: <https://www.cabumblebeeatlas.org/adoptagrid.html>
3. Watch our training workshop: <https://www.cabumblebeeatlas.org/training-videos.html>
4. Take a quiz to get added to our Permit: <https://tinyurl.com/CAbumblequiz>
5. Read about the project on our website and project manual. Get your gear together for next year!: <https://www.cabumblebeeatlas.org/project-resources.html>

Bumble Bees are:
(relatively)
Easy to identify

California Bumble Bee (*Bombus*) Females

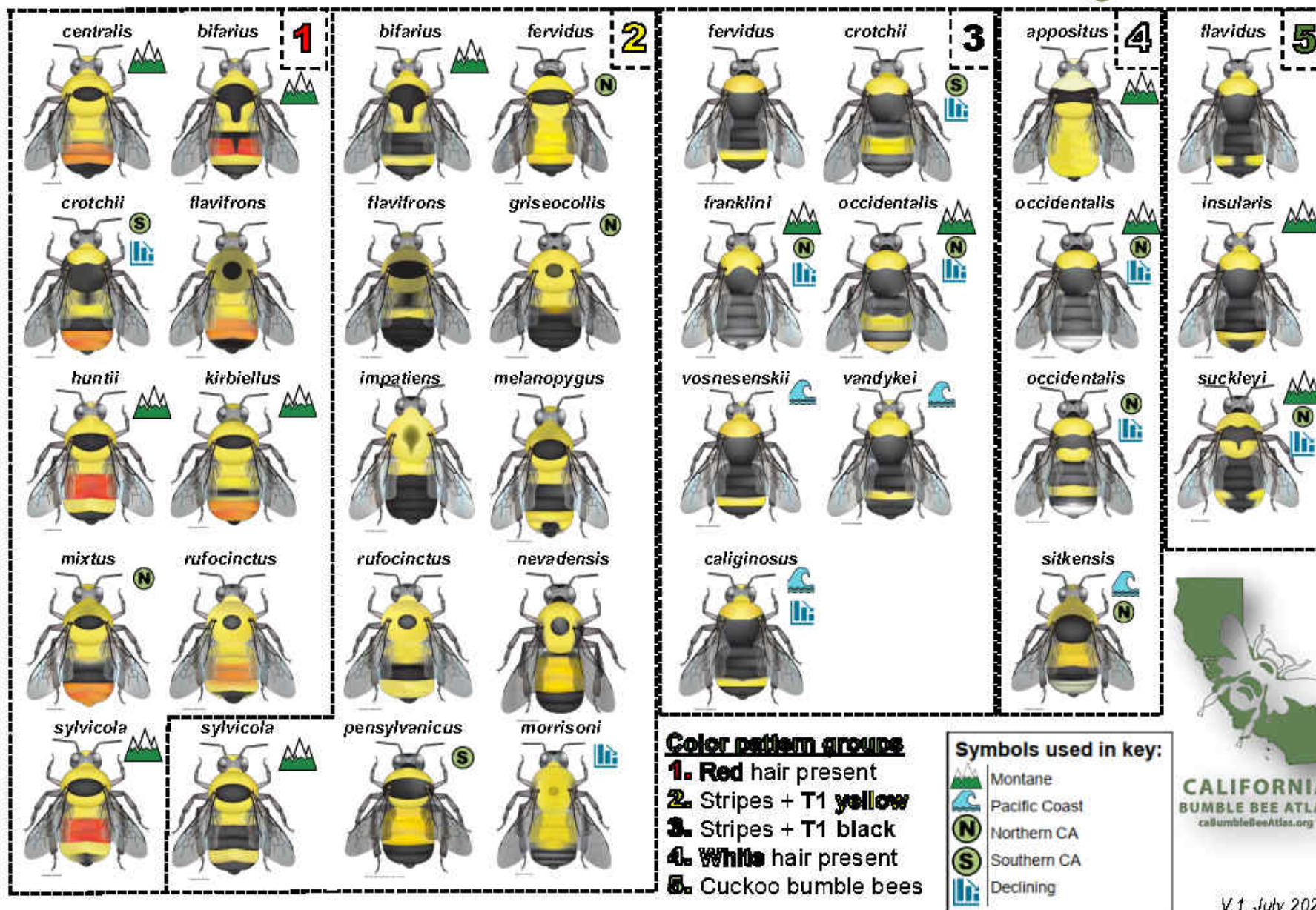
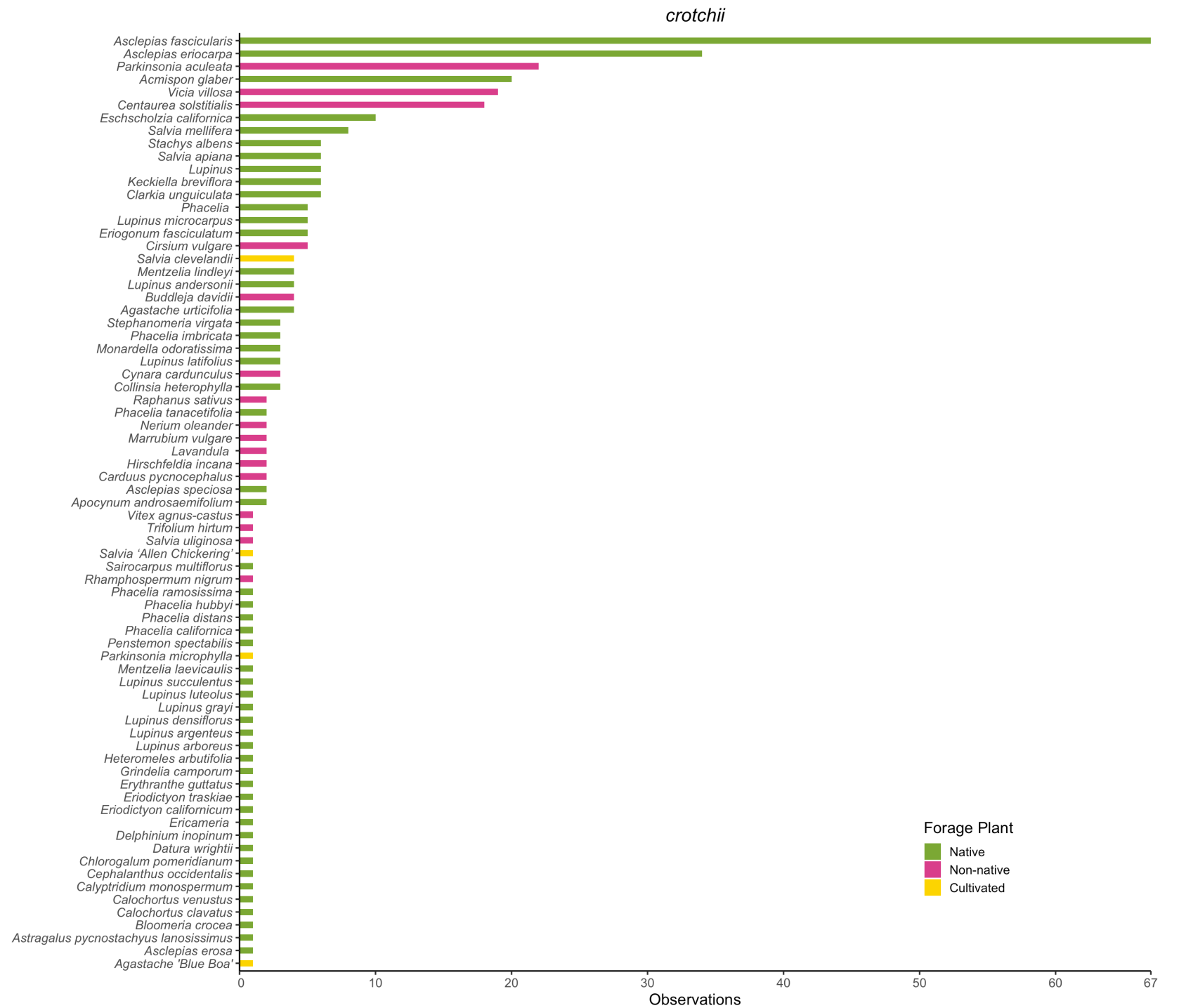
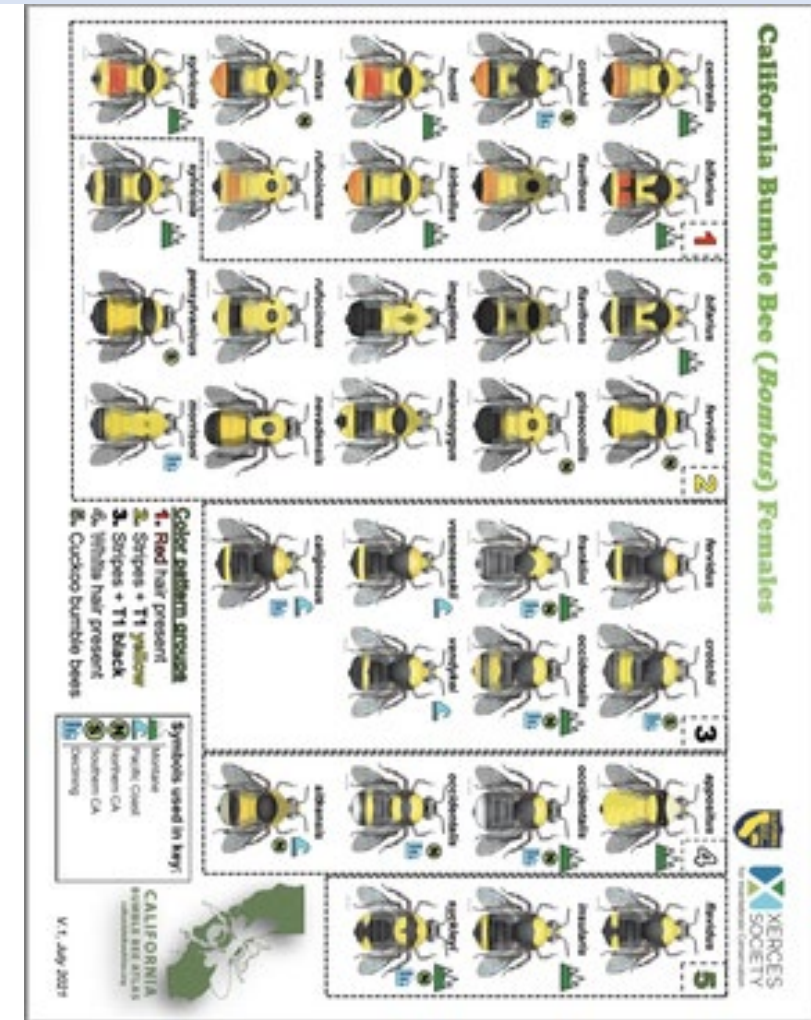
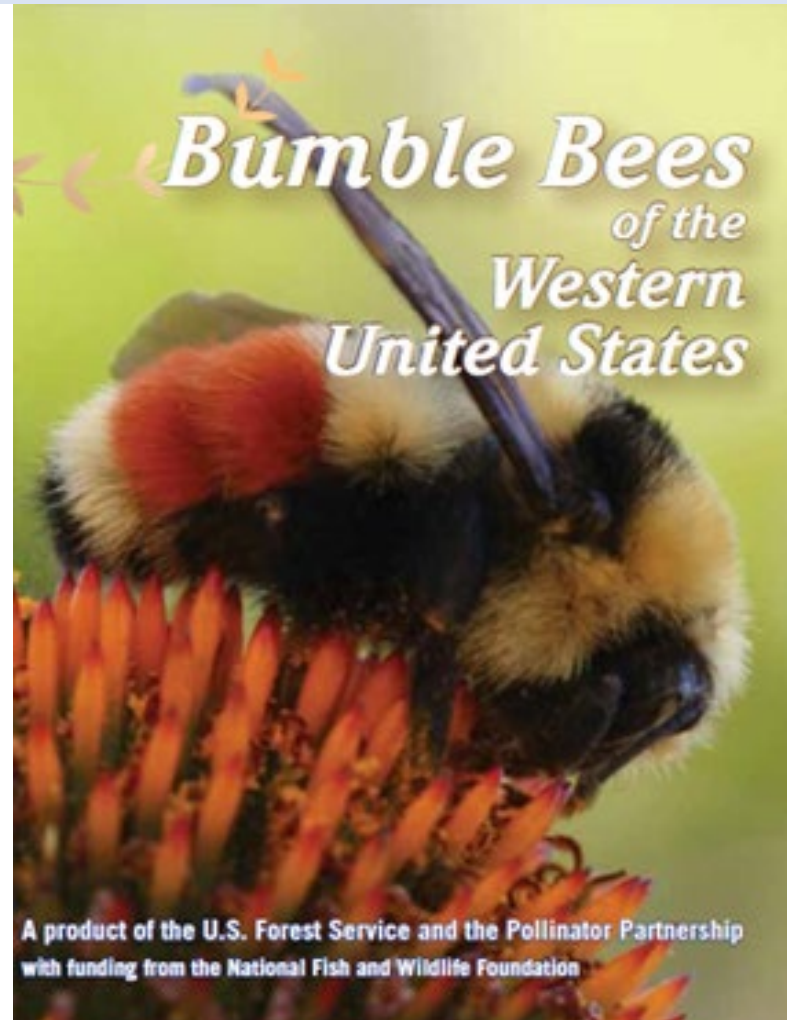
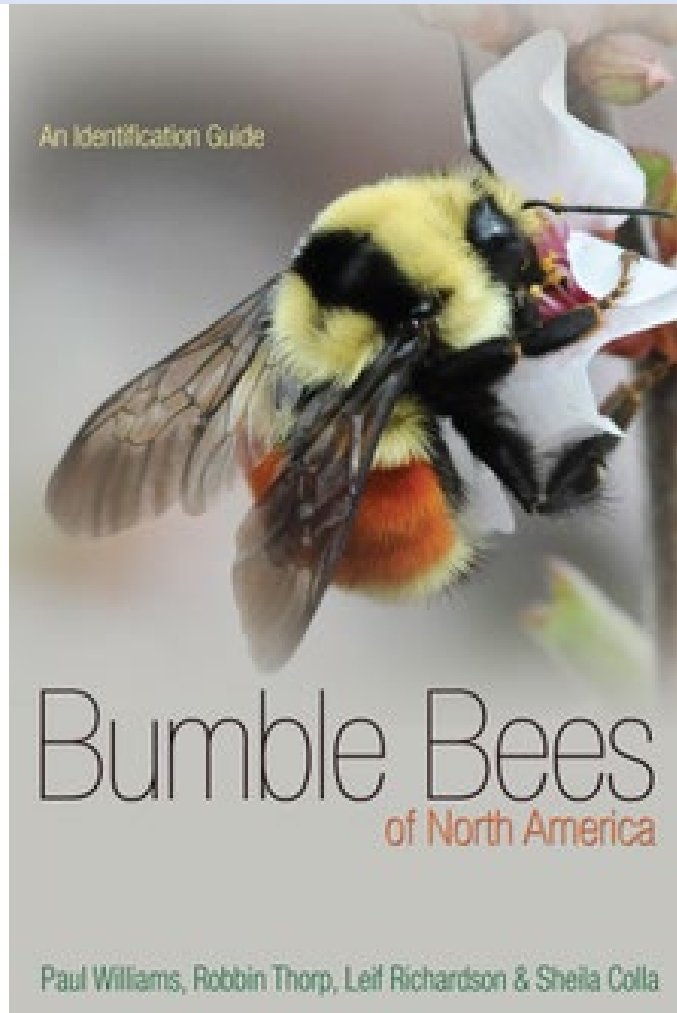


Figure: Xerces Society

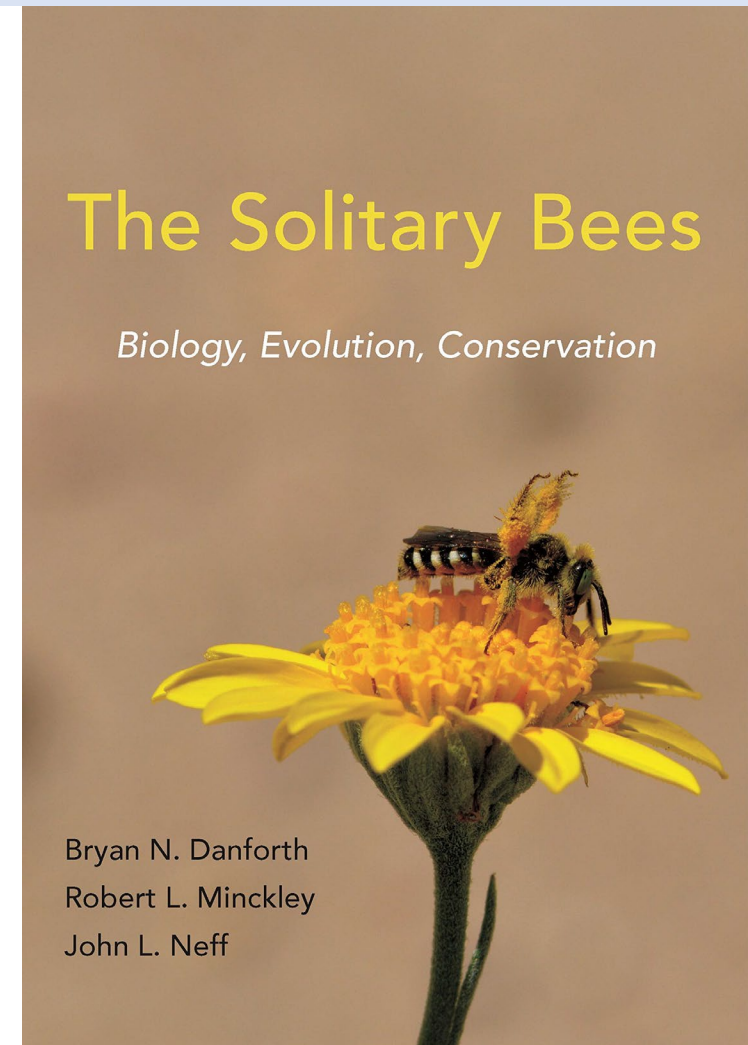
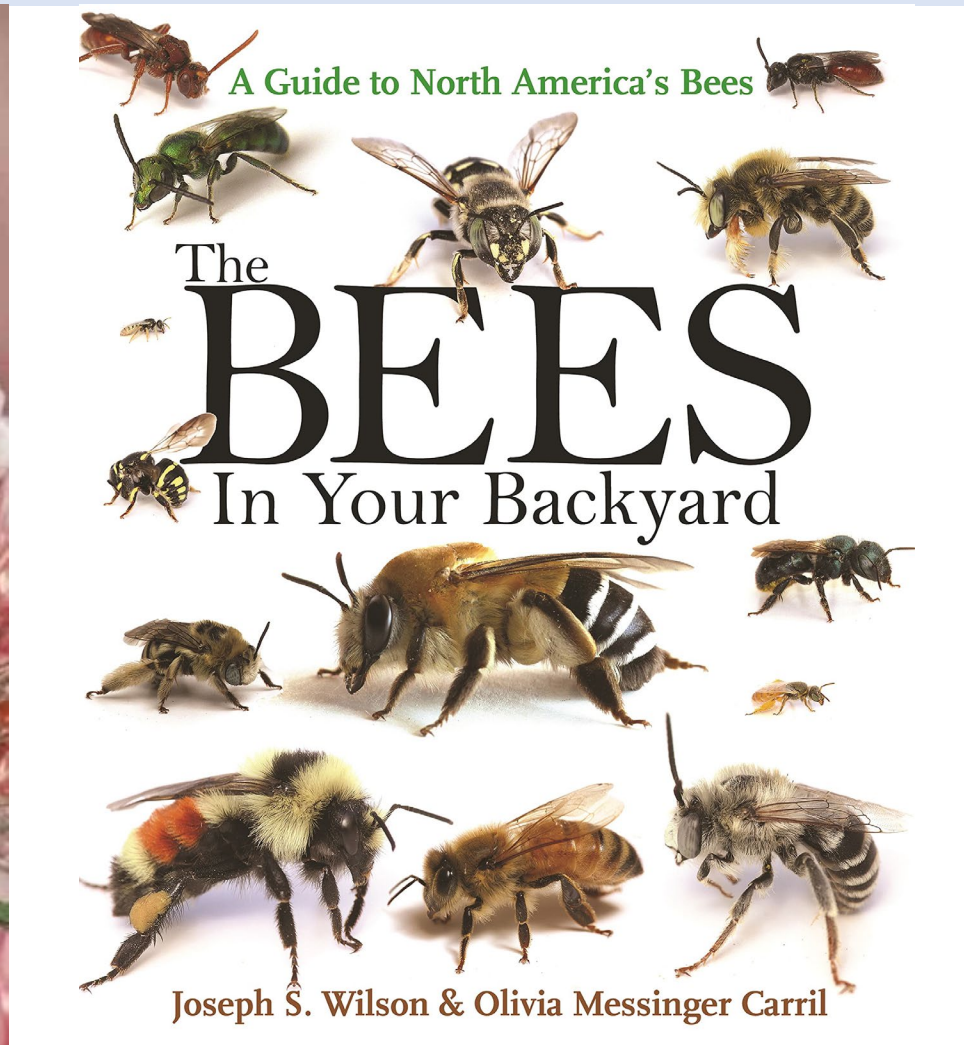
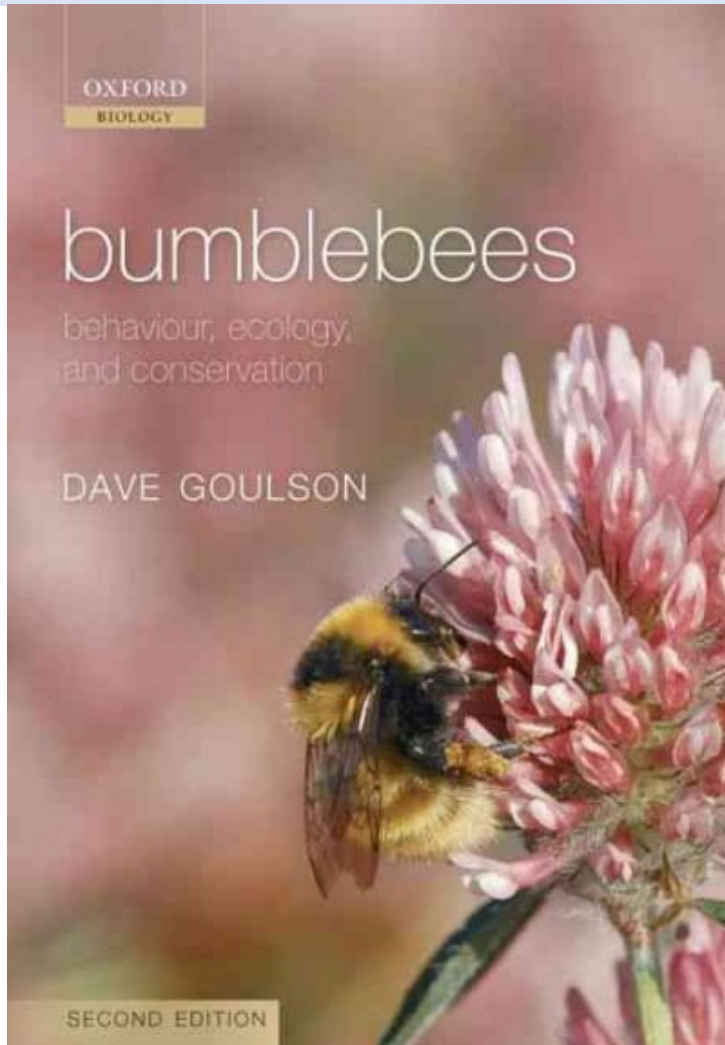
Crotchii



ID Resources



Book Resources



Bombus vosnesenskii

Most similar to: *caliginosus*, *vandykei*,
fervidus, *occidentalis*

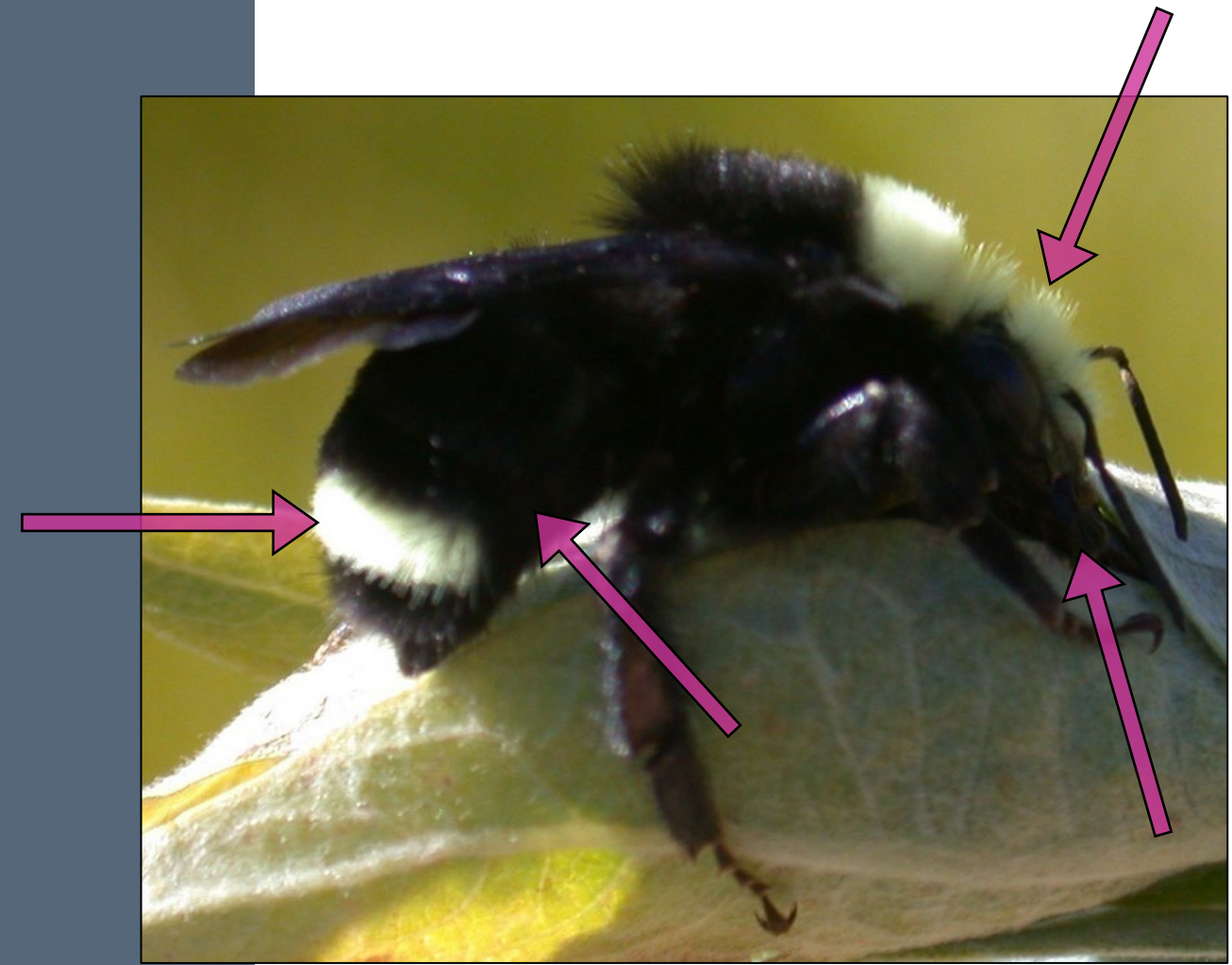
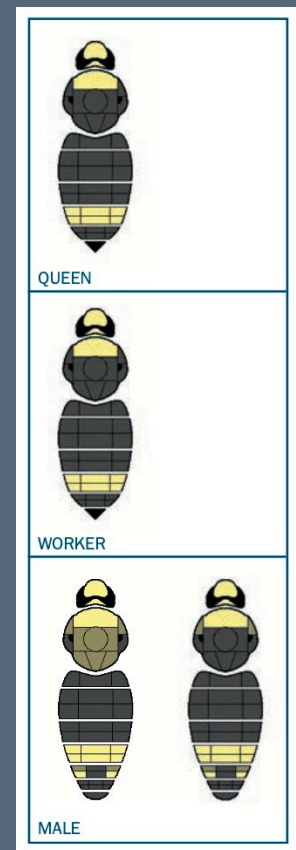
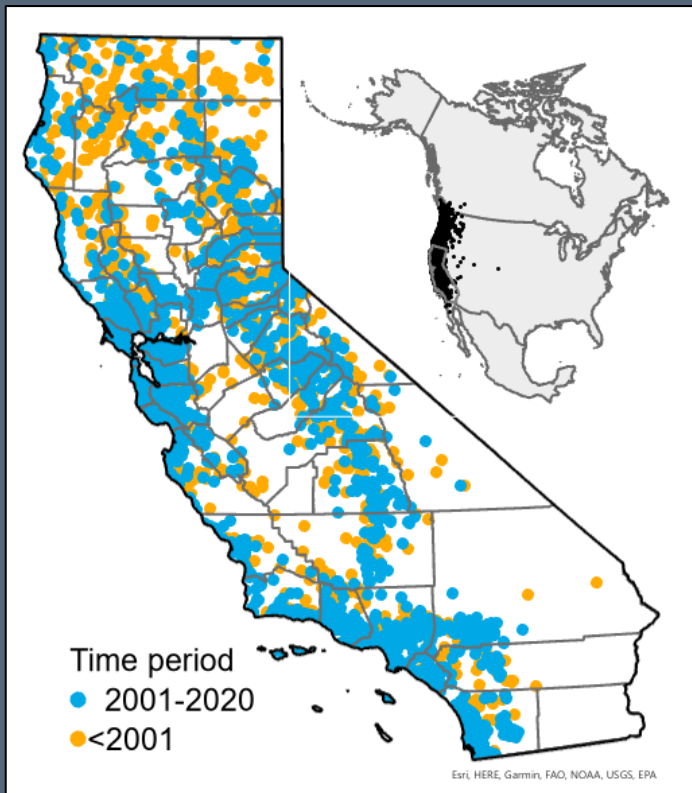


Photo: Rich Hatfield (Xerces Society); diagrams: Williams et al. 2014