



CENTER FOR PLANT CONSERVATION

Save Plants



2017 Annual Report



From food to medicine, from clean air to clear water, to intrinsic beauty and the very landscape that covers our planet, plants define the human experience. But despite this indispensable and multifaceted role in our lives, plants are remarkably undervalued.

Nothing accentuates this neglect more than the sheer number of plants that face extinction – one fifth or more of all plants on this planet will die out in this century if current trends continue. Fortunately for humanity, there are those among us who spend their lives working to save these endangered species.

The Center for Plant Conservation (CPC) exists to serve plant conservationists in the effort to **Save Plants** from extinction.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Dr. John R. Clark, President and CEO



Nuttall's Lotus (*Acmispon prostratus*). Photo credit: Stacy Anderson.

The cooperative CPC Network maintains the National Collection of Endangered Plants. Believed to be the largest living collection of rare plants in the world, the collection contains nearly 1,500 of North America's most imperiled native plants. Live plant material is collected from nature under controlled conditions and then carefully maintained as seed, rooted cuttings or mature plants. Participating Institutions conduct research and carefully monitor these materials so that imperiled plants can be grown and returned to natural habitats. Several CPC institutions are also involved in restoration projects in the field (*in situ*). Scientists are stabilizing current populations of imperiled plants and reintroducing new populations in appropriate habitats.

To do this, we:

- **ADVANCE**
the science of saving plants.

- **APPLY**
cutting-edge tools and
methods to **Save Plants**.

- **ADVOCATE**
for plants and their value to
humankind.

Why we Save Plants

Preserving the diversity of species and biological communities is essential to human welfare.

Preventing untimely extinction of populations and species is possible through conservation actions and stewardship.

Rare plant species have special attributes that make them vulnerable to extinction. Our conservation collections help us better understand rare species and ultimately can help sustain species survival in nature.



Who we are:

A national network of leading plant conservation organizations and professionals dedicated to saving plants from extinction.

What we do:

The mission of CPC is to ensure stewardship of imperiled native plants in the U.S. and Canada.

Together, we work to **Save Plants** for future generations.

Photo credit: Tobin Weatherson.



More ways to

ADVANCE

science-based best practices
in plant conservation.

More technology and science to **Save Plants**

- Participating Institution Database Portal
- Participating Institutions Network
- Suite of Web Tools
- Publications

Participating Institution Database Portal

In 2017, we deployed the Participating Institution Portal on saveplants.org, which gives conservation officers the opportunity to edit plant profiles, submit data to the USDA-ARS National Laboratory for Genetic Resources Preservation, and nominate new species to the National Collection.

Dr. Joyce Maschinski seed collecting.
Photo credit: Stacy Anderson.



CENTER FOR PLANT CONSERVATION
at SAN DIEGO ZOO GLOBAL

You Can Help Save Endangered Plant Species
[DONATE TODAY](#)

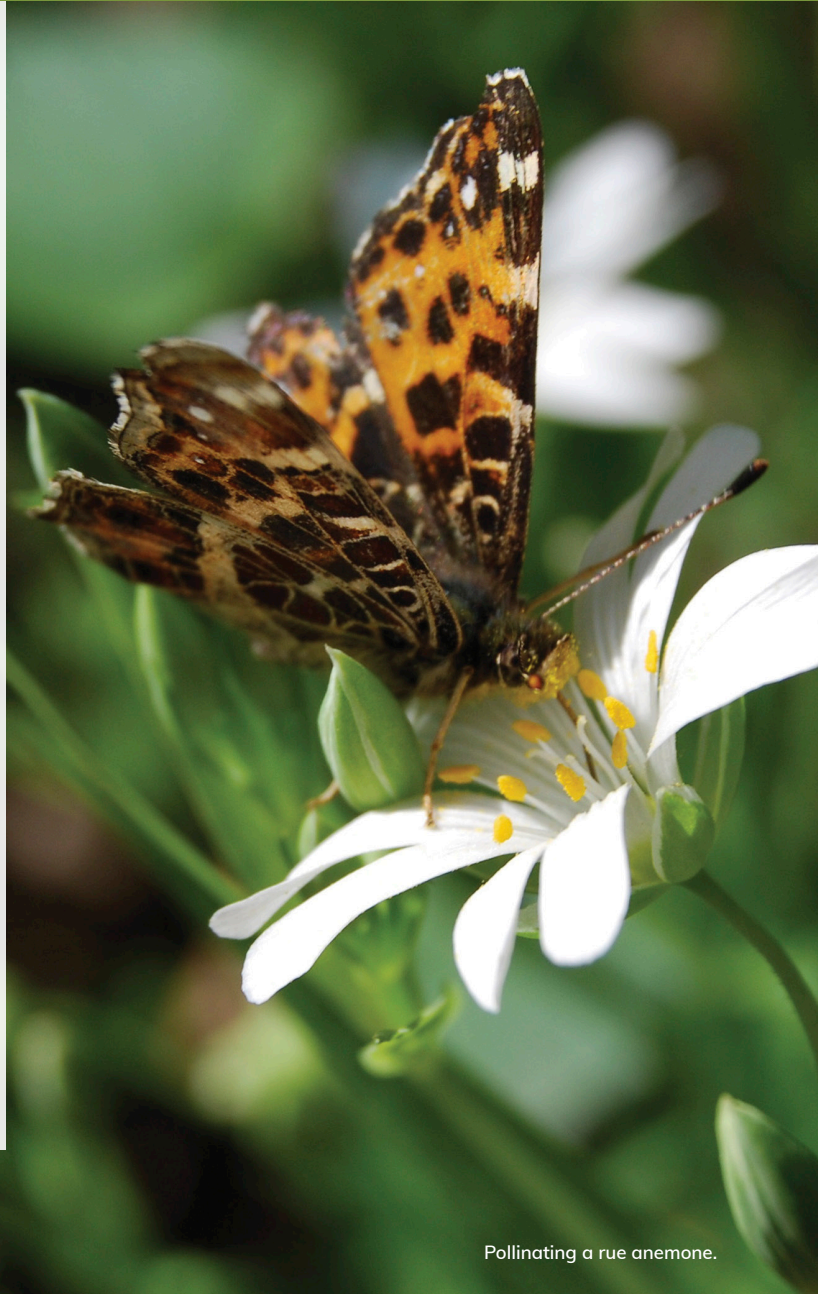
NATIONAL COLLECTION	CONSERVATION DIRECTORY	PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS	CONTRIBUTE	ABOUT	CONTACT	
	Amsonia kearneyana	Subgenus <i>Sphinctolophos</i> includes five Arizona species: <i>A. kearneyana</i> , <i>A. jonesii</i> , <i>A. palmeri</i> and <i>A. peeblesii</i> . <i>A. kearneyana</i> was considered as synonymous with <i>A. palmeri</i> (North American Flora 29:129), but Kearney, et al (1960) maintain <i>A. kearneyana</i> based on distinct characteristics of mature...				Go To Profile
	Cyperus grayoides	This sedge is fairly abundant in the few locations where it occurs. It requires open and deep sand dunes that are regularly disturbed by a variety of factors. While development has clearly hurt this population, as has fire suppression, the impact of grazing depends a great deal on the animal doing...				Go To Profile
	Cypripedium arietinum	The Southern lady's slipper is a tall, stately perennial herb with the largest flowers of any Lady's slipper (i.e., Cypripedium) leaves to 15 cm wide by ~24 cm...				Go To Profile
	Cypripedium kentuckiense	<i>C. filipes</i> is rare, but when observed, it is a small shrub with whorled leaves and white, solitary flowers. The berries are produced also...				Go To Profile
	Cyrtrandra filipes	This member of the African violet family has small white glands on its leaves and white flowers. The berries are produced also...				Go To Profile
	Cyrtrandra gracilis	<i>C. kaulantha</i> , a member of the African violet family, is described as a shrub sparsely covered in brown hairs that produced white flowers.				Go To Profile
	Cyrtrandra kaulantha	This perennial shrub is a member of the African violet family. It produces clusters of white flowers and leathery leaves, which have a hairy underside. White berries form, attracting rats unfortunately.				Go To Profile
	Cyrtrandra polyantha	<i>Dalea foliosa</i> is a perennial in the legume family (Fabaceae) that produces dense clusters of small purple flowers in early August. Lastly prairie-clover was first observed and documented in the late 1850s and 1890s. Since then, known occurrences of the species have declined dramatically due to habitat...				Go To Profile
	Dalea foliosa	Comanche Peak prairie-clover is a low, spreading perennial, which appears as a dense, mat-forming rosette. Numerous thick spikes of rose-pink to magenta-purple flowers bloom in May, before other <i>Dalea</i> species, and continue through June (NatureServe 2018). Until recently, this elusive prairie-clover...				Go To Profile
	Dalea reverchonii	<i>Dalea tentaculoides</i> is a shrub with numerous stems. The compound leaves have 9-17 leaflets, and the small, pea-like flowers are rose-purple in color. The plant flowers in April, through June, and sometimes again in September-October. It is a matting appearance to at least three other <i>Dalea</i> species...				Go To Profile
	Dalea tentaculoides	The monotypic genus <i>Dedeckera</i> contains the single species <i>Dedeckera eurekaensis</i> , a plant known by the common name July gold. It is endemic to California. July gold flowers from May through August and is a member of the buckwheat family. It is a matting appearance to at least three other <i>Dalea</i> species...				Go To Profile

Participating Institutions Network

For over thirty years, the Center for Plant Conservation has been working to end plant extinction through innovative, science-based partnerships with leading botanical institutions in the U.S. and abroad. These Participating Institutions do the hard work of plant conservation each and every day. CPC provides guidelines, scientific expertise, and resources to ensure that these organizations are best equipped to **Save Plants**.

New PI Categories

We have expanded the categories of Participating Institutions in the CPC Network to save more plants. In addition to the Conservation Partners we have added Research, Corporate, and Network Partners. In 2017, we welcomed 5 new Network Partners: American Public Gardens Association, NatureServe, USDA-ARS National Laboratory for Genetic Resources Preservation, Botanic Gardens Conservation International, and Millennium Seed Bank Partnership.



Pollinating a rue anemone.

Suite of Web Tools

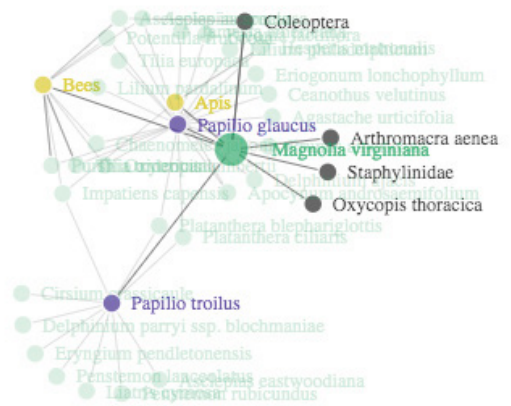
A rare plant search tool helps identify rare plants in individual states that are in the National Collection and those plants still needing to be collected and protected.

A mapping tool that allows PIs to view the location of past collections and locate plant populations.

A pollinator database and web app of rare plants that lets users compare the diversity of pollinator types among plant groups.

A database of all the seed and living collections of California Native Plants held at six of the botanical gardens in the California Plant Rescue (CaPR) network.

A target list that allows CaPR institutions to communicate about collections plans.



Publications

In 2017, the conservation officers at several of the Participating Institutions collaborated on research papers on seed storage, genetics, and plant reintroductions. These papers, published in scientific journals, have added to the body of knowledge of plant conservation. These published papers enabled CPC to more widely share the science behind plant conservation, reaching more people who can save more plants.



We're preserving
1,483  plant species in our
National Collection



of the total
imperiled
plants are now
safe-guarded



In 2017

567
plants

were added to the
National Collection

\$78k

to
Participating
Institutions
for seed
collections

\$141k

to
Participating
Institutions
for rare plant
curation

Expanding our network



We realize it's a huge task to save so many imperiled plants, so in 2017 we expanded partnership possibilities. In addition to our 43 Conservation Partners, we have added: Research, Corporate, and Network Partners categories.

5 + 43

5 first ever Network Partners joined our coalition of 43 botanical gardens, arboretums and other organizations working to save plant species.

More people working to

APPLY

these practices to **Save Plants**
from extinction.

2017 National Meeting ●

The National Collection ●

Funding Seed Collections ●



2017 CPC National Meeting



In 2017, leading plant conservationist in our network came together at CPC Headquarters at San Diego Zoo Global to generate ideas and techniques for saving more endangered plants.

90 participants worked in collaboration to advance the science protecting plant collections and returned to their homebases to apply information gained to their operations.

The National Collection

Applying advancements in science and technology enables us to maintain more plants in the National Collection – in 2017, 567 species of plants were added to our National Collection. Many of these plants being worked on by our partners have now been included because of our improved and streamlined online plant nomination process. Adding species to the National Collection provides vital information on what plants are being conserved as well as help to identify those that currently are not.

We also sponsored more than 270 plants in the National Collection, providing Participating Institutions with \$141,000 to support the propagation and research on these plants.

Funding Seed Collections

In 2017, we funded more than \$78,000 for seed collecting by the Participating Institutions. One of the important aspects of the 2017 collection is that we targeted imperiled species greatly impacted by catastrophic storms and flooding.



More outreach to

ADVOCATE

for plants and their value to
humankind.

Share best practices ●
beyond the CPC network

Promote and share our mission ●


Social media and web-based information ●



Spreading the Word




Featured Plants




Godfrey's Butterwort | Bok Tower Gardens
June 8th, 2018

[Read More >](#)




Gina's phacelia | Denver Botanic Gardens
June 6th, 2018

[Read More >](#)




Small Whorled Paganion | New England Wild Flower Society
April 17th, 2018

[Read More >](#)




Neches River rose mallow | Mercer Botanic Gardens
April 9th, 2018

[Read More >](#)



Island Barberrry | Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
April 2nd, 2018

[Read More >](#)



Autumn Buttercup | The Arboretum at Flagstaff
March 29th, 2018

[Read More >](#)

Expanded Communication Outreach

Our website was updated and is now more robust with information, data, and tools as well as increased opportunities for more people to get involved and contribute.

Our newsletter, social media presence and general communications have all been completely revised from the ground up and are reaching more people than ever.

Board of Trustees

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Message from our Board Chair

Dr. Peter H. Raven

Collectively, plants make our lives possible; in terms of their beauty, they help to make our life joyous and fulfilled. I am pleased to have been a part of the growth of the Center for Plant Conservation since its foundation, with more effective attention to our endangered plants now than ever before. I look forward to the future with confidence and hope.



Message from our incoming Board Chair

Lynde B. Uihlein

I am honored to serve on the CPC board, and I thank our excellent trustees and CPC staff members for all they do to Save Plants. CPC has grown to include more partners and many more imperiled species than ever in its history. With this excellent team, we are ever closer to achieving our goals.

Thank you to our Generous Donors

Aeschynomene virginica. Photo credit: dogtooth77 (<https://tinyurl.com/ydcwbu89>)



Benjamin Franklin Circle (\$10,000+)

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Patricia D. Barrett - A memorial in the name of James M. Barrett III
Sharon L. Blackburn
Josephine Bush
Carroll Family Foundation - Dr. Charles Carroll IV and Mrs. Geraldine Carroll
Pierce Family Advised Fund, a Donor Advised Fund of the The U.S. Charitable Gift Trust
McPheeters & Rickard Family Fund - John & Connie McPheeters, Alex & Jenny McPheeters, Lizzy & Dave Rickard and Katherine McPheeters
David and Nancy Doyle
Edward K. Love Conservation Foundation - At the request of Andrew S. Love
Helen Clay Frick Foundation - At the request of Arabella S. Dane
Kew Foundation America
Erica Leisenring
Janine Luke - In honor of Dr. Peter Raven
Lindsay W. Marshall
Dr. Barbara Millen - In honor of Dr. Peter Raven
F. Thomas Ott
F. Thomas Ott - In honor of Dr. Peter Raven
King and Hope Poor - In memory of Janet Meakin Poor
Lynde B. Uihlein
Lynde B. Uihlein - In honor of Dr. Peter Raven
Anonymous (2)

President's Circle (\$5,000-\$9,999)

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Mrs. Francis W. Hatch
North Shore Garden Club of Massachusetts
Mary Ann Streeter
Gwendolyn Wittlinger - In memory of Janet Meakin Poor

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Conservator (\$1,000-2,499)

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Anonymous (1)

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For a complete list of donors, please visit saveplants.org



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Vice President,
Operations and Advancement



Katie Heineman, Ph.D.
Plant Ecologist and Data Scientist



Ann-Cathrin Howard
Senior Administrative Assistant

Our Team

The CPC National Office, headquartered at San Diego Zoo Global, has grown into a thriving focal point for our continent-wide operations. With three Ph.D.s on the staff rounding out a lean but expert team of conservation and nonprofit professionals.

To contact us:

760.796.5686

15600 San Pasqual Valley Rd., Escondido, CA 92027

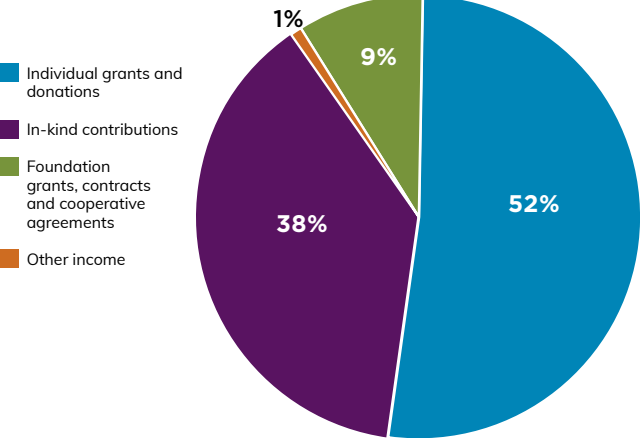
info@saveplants.org | saveplants.org



San Diego Thornmint (*acanthomintha ilicifolia*). Photo credit: Stacy Anderson.

Financial Health

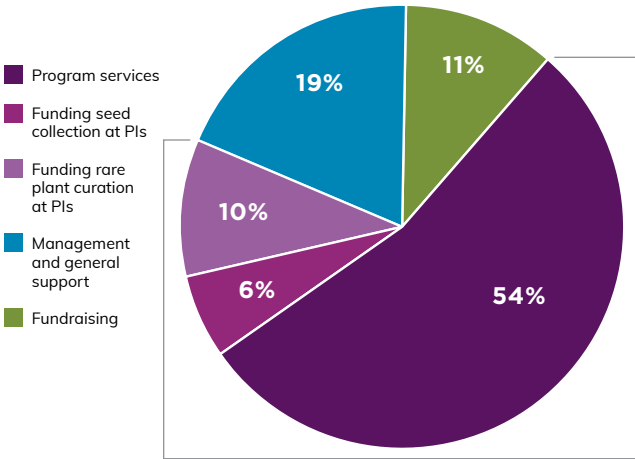
Operating Revenues - \$1,524,749



In 2017, CPC continued to grow financially. With generous and loyal support from our community of donors, including our dedicated board of trustees, as well as the support we receive from our host institution, San Diego Zoo Global, CPC was able to dedicate more funds to the work of saving plants. With new streamlined operation costs, we will undoubtedly see this trend continue.

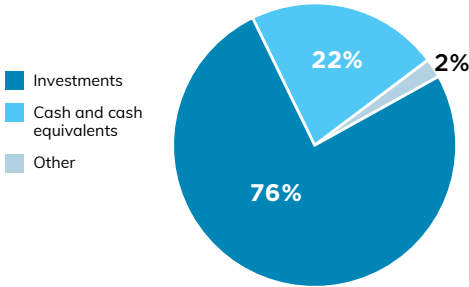
We are grateful to our donors and partners, whose contributions have achieved the results described in this annual review. We strive to be as efficient as possible directing **70% of our operating expenses to programs in 2017.**

Operating Expenses - \$1,371,408

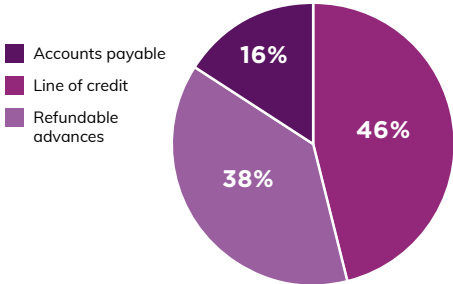


70% of our operating expenses directly supports our conservation programs.

Assets - \$5,746,072



Liabilities - \$333,053





The Center for Plant Conservation is dedicated to preventing the extinction of native plants. With more than 40 Participating Institutions in North America, we maintain the largest living collection of rare plants in the world. Through research, restoration, technical assistance, and education, we are protecting more than 1,000 species of imperiled plants.

And we need your help.

- Learn more about the native and endangered plants in your region.
- Plant native plants in your own gardens.
- Support the work of the Center for Plant Conservation.



CENTER FOR PLANT CONSERVATION

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Escondido, CA 92027-7000, USA

saveplants.org

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Back cover photo : San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation
Research summer intern Rosa Chang.