Select Butterflies for NW California, and Associated Native Larval Food (Host) Plants, With emphasis on coastal Humboldt County (west of Lord Ellis Summit)

Larval Food Plant-

Butterfly Species	common name	Plant- Scientific name	Notes
Western Tiger Swallowtail (Papilio rutulus)	Willows	Salix lasiandra, S. hookeriana	For larger yards (particularly <i>S. hookeriana</i>)
Anise swallowtail (Papilio zelicaon)	 Coast angelica Lomatium Yampah 	 Angelica hendersonii Lomatium dissectum, L. macrocarpum Perideridia species 	The most-used host plant is the non-native and invasive Fennel (<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>), but not recommended
Orange Sulphur <i>(Colias eurytheme)</i>	1. Bird's foot trefoil 2. Lupines	 Acmispon americanus Lupinus rivularis, Lupinus polyphyllus 	Painted Lady may also use lupines
Echo (Spring) Azure (Celastrina echo)	Ceanothus shrubs	Ceanothus "Skylark" from local nurseries is compact, does well in coastal climate	
Acmon Blue (Icaricia acmon)	Coast buckwheat	Eriogonum latifolium	Particularly likely to attract this species on the north spit area (Manila, Samoa, etc.), or near open areas (Blue Lake,)
Lorquin's Admiral (Limenitis lorquini)	Willows	Salix lasiandra, S. hookeriana	
Painted lady (Vanessa cardui)	1. Checkermallow, Checkerbloom 2. Pearly everlasting 3. Native thistles	 Sidalcea malviflora Anaphalis margaritacea Cirsium occidentale, other 	Pearly everlasting spreads by runners, deer resistant. Thistles are used as nectar source by various species. Besides <i>C. occidentale, C. brevistylum</i> occurs locally (Calflora)
West Coast Lady (Vanessa annabella)	Checker mallow, Checker bloom	Sidalcea malviflora	Checker mallow is a great planting for native bees, too
Red Admirable (Red Admiral) (Vanessa atalanta)	Stinging nettle	Urtica dioica	will also use non-native nettles
Mourning Cloak (Nymphalis antiopa)	Willows	Salix lasiandra, S. hookeriana	
Mylitta Crescent (Phyciodes mylitta)	Native thistles	Cirsium occidentale, other Cirsium	Besides C. occidentale, C. brevistylum occurs locally (Calflora)
Field Crescent (Phyciodes pulchella)	California/Pacific aster	Symphyotrichum (Aster) chilense	Aster spreads readily

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Additional Native Plants for Butterflies and other Pollinators. (Nectar plants are needed by butterflies as much as larval host plants)

Nectar Plant, Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
Canada goldenrod	Solidago elongata	
	(canadensis)	
Bolander's phacelia	Phacelia bolanderi	
Coyote mint	Monardella villosa	
Seaside daisy	Erigeron glaucus	
Sneezeweed	Helenium bigelovii	
California poppy, coastal form	Eschscholzia	
	californica maritima	
Coyote bush	Baccharis pilularis	Pilularis subspecies form is local, low-growing, less
	ssp. pilularis	rangy
Common yarrow	Achillea millefolium	
Foothill penstemon	Penstemon	Penstemon is not native to coastal Humboldt, but
	heterophyllus	grows there and is a good nectar plant

Honorable Mention (non-natives and others)

Lavendar	Lavandula	Good nectar source for many insects
Native bunchgrasses and fescues	Festuca species, Stipa	
	species	Larval host plants for skippers

v. 9/8/2019, by G. Falxa, L. Lawrence, and B. Rodstrom for the Northcoast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society