



## Jessica S. Vinje

---

Conservation Biology Institute  
136 SW Washington Ave., Suite 202  
Corvallis, OR 97333  
Ph. 541-757-0687  
[consbio.org](http://consbio.org)  
[jessie.vinje@consbio.org](mailto:jessie.vinje@consbio.org)

Local Contact:  
1807 Esquire Glen  
Escondido, CA, 92029  
Ph. 760-445-3684

Jessie is a biologist/botanist with 22 years' professional experience in field biology, botany and land management throughout California with a strong background in coastal and desert ecology, botany, and natural resource management and restoration. She is particularly knowledgeable of the central and southern California coast and coastal ranges, western and central Mojave Desert, and central and southern Sierra Nevada Mountains where she has surveyed for and located more than 120 threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species. Additional experience includes coastal California gnatcatcher surveys, least Bell's vireo nest monitoring, sensitive plant and animal monitoring and management, threats assessments and trend analyses, botanical research, vegetation mapping, wetland and upland habitat restoration, and preserve management. Jessie prepares habitat management plans, work plans and budgets, and annual reports, and has created public outreach literature and organized and led outreach events and volunteer workdays. Jessie communicates regularly with the conservation community through workshops and presentations, and is a member of the San Diego rare plant oversight committee and the San Diego County Weed Management Area steering committee.

### EDUCATION

- 1998 Bachelor of Science, Forestry and Natural Resources Management, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
- 2000 Arc View Certificate. California Polytechnic State University, Pomona

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- Present Biologist/Botanist, Conservation Biology Institute, Corvallis, OR
- 2006 – 2012 Preserve Manager, The Center for Natural Lands Management, San Diego, CA
- 2001 – 2005 Botanist, AMEC Earth & Environmental, San Diego, CA
- 2005 – 2007 Botanist, San Diego State University Research Foundation, San Diego, CA

1998 – 2001 Natural Resources Specialist/Botanist, Bureau of Land Management,  
Barstow, CA

## **SELECT PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

### **Program Lead/Lead Botanist - San Diego Monitoring and Management Program (SDMMP) Inspect and Manage (IMG) Rare Plant Monitoring Coordinator (San Diego County) – 2016 -2021** (San Diego Association of Governments [SANDAG]).

Project manager and lead botanist for this regional project to monitor Management Strategic Plan (MSP) rare plants in San Diego County using the SDMMP IMG rare plant monitoring protocol. Assisted SDMMP staff with creating and modifying the IMG rare plant monitoring protocol. Coordinated with over 50 San Diego County entities to monitor their rare plant occurrences. Trained over 18 San Diego County land management groups in the field, assisted with the classroom training session, and led the field training sessions in 2016 - 2019. Gathered, compiled, organized, and submitted all land manager IMG monitoring data to SDMMP.

### **Project Manager/Lead Botanist - South County Grasslands Adaptive Management Framework – Otay Tarplant (*Deinandra conjugens*) Restoration Project (Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve) – 2012 – 2017** (SANDAG). Project manager and lead

botanist for this research project to restore a population of the federally threatened and state endangered plant, Otay tarplant (*Deinandra conjugens*) on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Rancho Jamul Ecological Preserve. Responsibilities included designing the experiment, coordinating invasive plant treatments, monitoring treatment plots, and preparing the report and presentations to the conservation community. The project successfully restored Otay tarplant in historic habitat through invasive plant control, increasing population size from 0 plants at the start of the project to >280,000 plants over a 5-year period.

### **Botanist - Brachypodium Management (Crestridge Ecological Reserve and South Crest Properties) – 2012 – 2017** (SANDAG). Botanist assisting with the creation of a

science-based approach to develop and implement treatment strategies for the invasive plant species, *Brachypodium distachyon*, and to restore habitat for covered species and focal habitats impacted by this plant on the South Crest properties within the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge acquisition boundary and the Crestridge Ecological Reserve. Assisting with the creation of experimentally-based treatment and restoration strategies; developing and implementing reserve-level treatment and restoration plans; and coordinating volunteer participation in restoration activities.

### **Botanist - Conservation Vision and Management Strategy for *Dehesa nolina* (San Diego County) – 2014** (California Department of Fish and Wildlife Local Assistance

Grant). Conducted distribution surveys and recorded threats of major populations, assisted with the development of management recommendations, and prioritization of conserved populations for management at the preserve and management unit levels.

**Botanist - San Diego Thornmint (*Acanthomintha ilicifolia*) - Adaptive Management Framework (San Diego County) - 2012 - 2014** (California Department of Fish and Wildlife Local Assistance Grant). Assisted with developing a comprehensive and updated matrix of historic and current San Diego thornmint populations, including threats and past and current management actions and research for each population. Worked with the SDMMP to identify potential vegetation correlates. Assisted with developing San Diego thornmint goals and objectives and created Best Management Practices for managing invasive, nonnative plants in San Diego thornmint habitat.

**Lead Botanist/Preserve Manager - Botanical Surveys and Research Projects for the Manchester, Rancho La Costa, Wilmont Ranch, Morro Hills, Whelan Ranch, and Blossom Valley Habitat Conservation Areas (San Diego County) - 2005 - 2012.** Responsible for botanical surveys, inventories, mapping, rare plant monitoring and research on southern California Preserves. Listed plant species include: thread-leaf brodiaea, San Diego thornmint, Del Mar Manzanita, and Orcutt's hazardia. Selected sensitive species include: Orcutt's brodiaea, Wart-stemmed ceanothus, summer holly, coast barrel cactus, and Campo clarkia. Assisted with the development of monitoring and research project for thread-leaf brodiaea and familiarly with implementing monitoring methodology for San Diego thornmint. Organized in collaboration with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game, the San Diego Thornmint Working Group. Identified and mapped vegetation communities using various mapping methodologies, including implementation of the California Native Plant Society rapid assessment protocol.

**Preserve Manager - Sensitive Wildlife Surveys for San Diego Habitat Conservation Areas (San Diego County) - 2005 - 2012.** Responsible for conducting protocol level surveys for coastal California gnatcatcher and protocol nest monitoring and presence/absence surveys for the least Bell's vireo on southern California Preserves.

**Lead Botanist - Botanical Surveys for the San Felipe Valley Ecological Reserve - California Department of Fish and Game (San Diego County) 2005.** Conducted sensitive plant surveys on approximately 14,000 acres of land under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Fish and Game through a contract with the San Diego State University Foundation. Three sensitive plants (Payson's jewel-flower, Colorado Desert larkspur, and *Banner dudleya*) were located during the survey effort.

**Botanist - Botanical Surveys and Biological Assessment/Evaluation, Southern California Edison - Four National Forests in Southern and Central California - 2003.** Provided NEPA documentation for Southern California Edison operations and maintenance activities associated with hydroelectric facilities on four National Forests: San Bernardino, Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra. Conducted surveys for sensitive plants on Sierra and Sequoia National Forests. Sensitive plants located included Mariposa pussypaws, tree-anemone, Kern County larkspur, orange lupine, slender-stalked monkeyflower, and Hall's wyethia. Surveyed for noxious weeds and plants of Native American concern on the Sierra National Forest.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS, PERMITS AND CERTIFICATES**

- United States Fish and Wildlife Service Least Bell's Vireo Section 10(a)1(a) Incidental Take Permit (Qualified to nest monitor least Bell's vireo).
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal California Gnatcatcher Section 10(a)1(a) Incidental Take Permit (Qualified to survey for California Gnatcatchers).
- California Department of Fish and Game Memorandum of Understanding for Birds, authorized to independently conduct field investigations and survey for the California gnatcatcher and least Bell's vireo nest monitor.
- California Department of Fish and Game Scientific Collecting Permit, authorized to conduct surveys for the California gnatcatcher and least Bell's vireo.

### **TECHNICAL REVIEW SERVICES**

US Fish and Wildlife Service—Federal Register, Part III, Department of the Interior. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for *Acanthomintha ilicifolia* (San Diego thornmint); Final Rule. Tuesday, August 26, 2008.

### **SELECT PRESENTATIONS**

Inspect and manage – a regional, collaborative approach to monitoring rare plant species in San Diego County. Symposium presentation, California Native Plant Society, San Diego, California. February 2018.

Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve success story. Restoration of Otay tarplant (*Deinandra conjugens*) habitat. Symposium presentation, California Invasive Plant Council, San Diego, California. October 2015.

Restoration of Otay tarplant (*Deinandra conjugens*) habitat on the Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve. Invited speaker. Weed Management Area Stakeholders Meeting, San Diego, California. June 2014.

The effects of Fusilade II and dethatching on population numbers and flowering in thread-leaf brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*), a state and federally listed plant species. Symposium presentation, California Native Plant Society, San Diego, California. January 2012.

Cumulative experience of two land managers with invasive weeds. Invited speaker, Weed Management Area Stakeholders Meeting, Fallbrook, California. February 2011.

The management status of San Diego thornmint. Invited speaker, The California Native Plant Society. March 2010.