

## Palmate-bracted bird's beak (*Chloropyron palmatum*)

Status - Federal: Endangered; California: Endangered



Leopoldo Moreno (DPR Endangered Species Program)

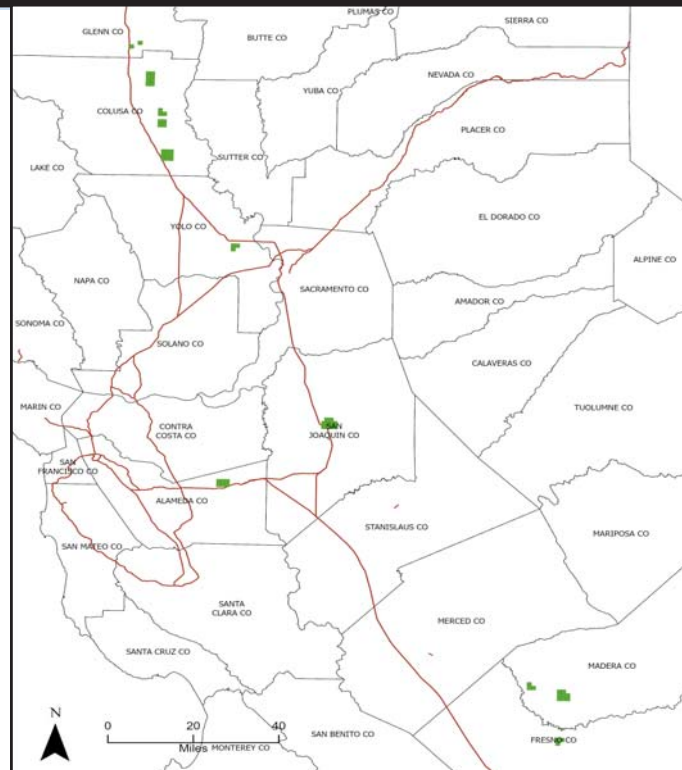
The palmate-bracted bird's beak is a highly-branched pale green gray annual herb of the broomrape family (Orobanchaceae). Its leaves and bracts are covered by salt deposits excreted from glandular hairs. A bract is a modified leaf that grows near a flower, often differing in color, shape, or size from regular

leaves. Bracts serve several functions, including protecting reproductive parts and attracting pollinators to flowers with their showy appearance. The plants of this species are *hemiparasitic*, meaning that they produce their own food but obtain additional water and nutrients from the roots of other plants. This species flowers from May until October. Its flowers are white, enclosed in green to pale purple bracts. Bumblebees are the primary pollinators of this species. The species is restricted to seasonally-flooded lowland plains and basins with saline and alkaline soils. The nature of the species allows palmate-bracted bird's beak to grow during the hot, dry months after most annuals have died.

California Department of Pesticide Regulation  
Endangered Species Program  
<https://www.cdpr.ca.gov>



## Palmate-bracted bird's beak



**Distribution** - Currently, it is known to occur in locations in the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Glenn County, Delevan NWR and Colusa NWR in Colusa County, the Woodland area in Yolo County, Springtown Alkali Sink near Livermore, western Madera County, and the combined Alkali Sink Ecological Reserve and Mendota Wildlife Management Area in Fresno County.