

Perennial Pond



The trail to this site passes through a variety of established native vegetation assemblages on the way to a man-made perennial pond. Native plant species here include mugwort, goldenrod, sedges, rushes, and numerous other riparian species. There are several wetland plant species present, as well as an abundance of frogs, and signs of numerous reptiles and mammals. Also many ducks have been seen using the pond. The trail continues past the pond and tops out on another remnant section of the old haul road.



Mugwort



Sycamore Grove



This site is the down stream boundary of the property, reached by continuing down the old haul road. There is a depression in the landscape that has been colonized by a relatively large grove of sycamore trees. This settling, although influenced by human activities, represents a natural process of levee building (represented by the road) along the bank of the creek. This allows the larger riparian species, such as sycamores and valley oaks, to establish on the upland side of the levee. Also notice the star thistle growing up through the asphalt of the road, showing the strength of this invasive, non-native plant. It is not only replacing native grasses in meadow areas but has the capability to take hold in any disturbed area, such as along roadways and eventually the roadbed itself.



Star Thistle



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