Field Trip: Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve

Please arrive by 2:20 pm

Be prepared to get wet from at least your waist down & muddy from your knees down!

Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve is due west of the city of Carpinteria. It is 20 miles west of Ventura and 10 miles east of Santa Barbara.

Driving Directions:

- Take the Ventura Freeway (Hwy 101) North past Ventura to Carpinteria
- Take the Santa Monica Road exit
- After exiting, make a quick right onto Via Real
- Go about 0.1 mile and make another right on Santa Ynez Ave (you will now be going towards the ocean)
- Proceed over the freeway (Hwy 101) and turn right on Carpinteria Ave
- Drive about a half mile and make a left on the small, inconspicuous Estero Way
- Park along Estero Way
- We will meet by the Nature Information Board near the fence and the parking lot. From there, you can choose to drive into the reserve on the dirt road, or walk in.

General Considerations:

- We will enter Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve through a locked gate. You must be on time, or you will be locked out.
- Driving time from CSUN without traffic is about 80 minutes. Give yourself 1.5 hr on the way there. On the return, with heavy traffic, who knows how long it will take to get back to campus?!
- Dress appropriately: plan on getting wet and muddy. You will get wet from at least the waist down and muddy from at least your knees down.
- Bring a towel and extra clothes & shoes to replace your wet, muddy clothes & shoes when we’re done.
- Bring drinking water and wear sunscreen. Consider bringing a snack.
- It is often quite cool in Carpinteria, regardless of how hot it might be in Northridge. You should wear layered clothing so you can deal with whatever the weather dishes out.
- Wear footwear that can get wet and muddy; dive/surf booties are best, but old tennis shoes are fine, too. Bare feet are unacceptable. Flip flops, slip on shoes, and rain boots won’t work.
- Bring a wetsuit or waders if you have them.
- Bring some tap water to rinse the mud off your feet.
Ichthyology

Meet here