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Saltmarsh Baccharis

(*Baccharis glutinosa*)

Family: Asteraceae

Description: This native perennial herb grows three to six feet (.9–1.8m) high. It occurs in a variety of habitats but along the coast can be found in coastal salt marshes, coastal sage scrub, and riparian areas. The lance-shaped leaves can grow up to 5 inches (13cm) long with a short “winged” stalk attached to the stem. The foliage and flower clusters are resinous and sticky. Male and female flowers occur on different plants, with clusters of 40 whitish staminate (male) flowers on male plants and bunches of up to 150 fluffy whitish pistillate flowers on female plants.

Pollinator and Wildlife Use: In late summer, predatory wasps, native flies, and small native butterflies feed on the saltmarsh baccharis’s abundant flowers.

Other Facts: The species has a discontinuous distribution, found in western North America and in South America. The North American populations were for many years listed as a separate species, *B. douglasii*, but more recent studies suggest that the plants are better regarded as one species.



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References and Useful Websites:

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