

Hillside Gooseberry (*Ribes californicum* var. *hesperium*)

Order: Saxifragales

Family: Grossulariaceae (Gooseberry Family)

Flowers: December - March

Ribes californicum var. *hesperium* is a perennial shrub. It is found in only a few locations on the peninsula. The nodes along the stem have 2-3 spines. The leaves are roundish and are often 3 to 5 lobed (lobes shallow). The flowers have a hypanthium (glabrous or hairy) that is greenish and bowl shaped. The sepals become reflexed with flower development and stay seperated. The sepals are also crimson red or can be a light green with a tinge of red. The petals are erect and generally white. The length of the stamens can be less than or equal or just slightly beyond the petals. The fruit is a berry that is red, generally spherical with stiff red bristles, and it can be glandular or not. The seed is brown and ellipsoid. It is an endemic to California

