Sand Plant (Pholisma arenarium)

Order: Boraginales

Family: Lennoaceae (Lennoa Family)

Flowers: April - July

Pholisma arenarium is a perennial herbaceous plant that is non-green and parasitic. It has only been found in one spot on the peninsula. It appears to be parasitizing Ericameria ericoides at Malaga Dunes. The leaves of this plant are triangular, glandular, and mostly underground. The inflorescence is generally conical and densely covered in flowers. The calyx of the flower is glandular. The corolla of the flower has a lavender color to it with the margins white and usually frilly. Fruit is a capsule. Unfortunately, this plant does not appear to be doing well at Malaga Dunes because of constant off trail use, encroachment by non-native plants, and the general loss of habitat throughout Malaga Dunes.

