



Cathy Koehler

Cathy Koehler has been with the UC Davis Natural Reserve System since 2002, first as co-Director and currently as Director of the McLaughlin Natural Reserve. Prior to this, she has used field stations in western North America and internationally on an annual basis since 1985, both for classes and research projects, including several University of California Natural Reserves. She studied and taught Zoology and Ecology, holds an M.Sc. in Behavioral Ecology, and has diversified into plant ecology. She also has participated in numerous K-12 Science Education programs and hosts several annual public outreach events at the McLaughlin Reserve.

Cathy originally comes from Canada, where she grew up and went to school in Calgary, Alberta. After finishing her B.S. in Zoology and M.S. in Behavioral Ecology at the University of Calgary, she worked on a variety of wildlife

management jobs in California and Arizona. Because of habitat quality issues underlying many wildlife management projects, plant ecology and conservation became an important element in her work, and today most of her focus in researching or enjoying natural systems centers on plants, including the striking relationships between geology, botany, and plant ecology that are so prominent in California. She has also worked in various capacities towards fostering an appreciation and understanding of science and nature in the general public and school children. She brings her skills and interests to the position of Resident Director of the University of California's Donald and Sylvia McLaughlin Natural Reserve where she has worked since Sept 2002. Cathy also strives to work across topical, physical, and political boundaries to broaden societal understanding and experience of nature, science, and the human experience on a landscape scale.