



SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY CONSERVANCY

ANNOUNCEMENT

CITIZEN SCIENCE 2019!

San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy is pleased to announce exciting new citizen science programs in 2019!

Our focal site for 2019 will be the **Santa Fe Valley Open Space** located off of Del Dios Highway in the Santa Fe Valley / Del Dios Gorge. The Santa Fe Valley Open Space is a 170-acre open space preserve which contains high quality riparian, grassland, marsh, vernal pool, coastal sage scrub, and chaparral habitats.

The open space is managed by **Rincon Consultants**, a longtime SDRVC partner. In addition to our core citizen programs which include spring **botanical** surveys, quarterly **bird** surveys, continuous **wildlife camera** photos, and intermittent **herpetological surveys**, SDRVC's 2019 citizen science program plans to include surveys for new taxa including late spring **butterfly surveys** led by Conservation Manager Jonathan Appelbaum and **water bug surveys** led by local naturalist Bob Forthun.

Our water bug survey will take place on **Saturday March 30** from 9 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and our first butterfly survey is tentatively scheduled for Sunday May 19 from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M.).

SDRVC is partnering with **California Native Plant Society (CNPS)** for our spring botanical surveys at the Santa Fe Valley Open Space. This year our botanical survey (scheduled for Friday March 8 from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M.) will include a professionally-instructed workshop to introduce interested citizen scientist

botanists to CNPS' Rare Plant Treasure Hunt survey method followed by a expert-led field survey to record sensitive species throughout the Open Space.

SDRVC and local botanist **John Messina of Mira Costa College** will also be hosting a 'Fire Followers' hike at the City of San Diego's Clevenger Canyon South Open Space Preserve on Highway 78 in the San Pasqual Valley on Saturday March 23 from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. Under the expert guidance of Mr. Messina citizen scientists will identify and record the rarely seen plant species that bloom following wildfires like the ones that burned the San Pasqual Valley and Clevenger Canyon Preserve during July 2018.

Finally, SDRVC will host a '**BioBlitz**' event at the **City of San Diego's Crest Canyon Open Space Preserve on Sunday April 28 from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. in conjunction with the nationwide City Nature Challenge.** Under the guidance of SDRVC Conservation Manager Jonathan Appelbaum and SDRVC Boardmember Jim Smith, volunteers will use the INaturalist smartphone app. to document and record as many unique species of plants and wildlife within the Open Space as possible.

Keep an eye out on SDRVC's Website, Facebook, and Instagram pages for announcements of upcoming surveys or contact SDRVC Conservation Manager Jonathan Appelbaum at Jonathan@sdrvc.org for more information. Space is limited so please register for SDRVC Citizen Science events using our Eventbrite page at: <http://sdrvc.eventbrite.com/>

BECOME AN SDRVC CITIZEN SCIENTIST TODAY!