



# RIVERSCAPE

SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY CONSERVANCY | SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK JPA

## Top Stories



### **Plotting biodiversity data for City Nature Challenge**

Dozens of community scientists joined our bioblitz April 27-28 to document wildlife for City Nature Challenge 2024.

Outings took us to Raptor Ridge and Clevenger Canyon, where we tapped our findings into the iNaturalist app, a hub for biodiversity data.

Our teams included herpetologist Jeff Nordland, San Dieguito River Park rangers and members of the San Diego Tracking Team and the UC San Diego Hiking Club.

We recorded findings of snakes, a skink, bugs, beetles and many other critters.

Thanks to all!

To learn more about using the iNaturalist app on your hikes, contact Conservation Manager Joseph Rivera: [joseph@sdrvc.org](mailto:joseph@sdrvc.org).





## Coast to Crest Trail Closed at Horsepark

A popular segment of the Coast to Crest Trail adjoining Del Mar Horsepark west of El Camino Real remains closed as crews repair a large washout and undermined footbridge. Heavy rains and a damaged storm drain are to blame for erosion that caused the bridge to sink. The San Dieguito River Park JPA and 22nd District Agricultural Association, which owns Horsepark, are working to complete repairs as soon as possible. In the meantime, thank you for following directions of the posted closure signs.

## Upstream



MEET  
THE  
SPEAKER



Dr. Josh Kohn



COME LEARN ABOUT THE  
EFFECTS OF SUPER-  
ABUNDANT NON-NATIVE  
HONEY BEES ON PLANTS AND  
POLLINATORS IN  
SAN DIEGO BY DR. JOSH KOHN

### May 1: Speaker on bees

Join us tonight in Del Mar as Dr. Josh Kohn discusses how super-abundant, non-native honey bees affect plants, pollinators and other wildlife.

Register



**FREE**  
**CREEKSIDE CRITTERS**

**ALL AGES!**

**May 4, 2024**  
11:00AM - 12:00PM

**San Elijo Lagoon Nature Center**  
2710 Manchester Ave.

**REGISTER NOW** Scan QR code or visit: [sdrvc.org/events](https://sdrvc.org/events)

**FAMILY FRIENDLY HANDS-ON EDUCATION SERIES**  
FEATURING  
LIVING COAST DISCOVERY  
CENTER EDUCATORS AND  
TIDEPOL CRITTERS!

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY CONSERVANCY** **LIVING COAST** **COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO PARKS AND RECREATION**

## May 4: Creekside Critters

Creekside Critters are back! Join us 11 a.m. May 4 at the San Elijo Lagoon Nature Center for a family-friendly, hands-on session with our friends from Living Coast Discovery Center.

Register



## May 5 and 19: Yoga at the Birdwing

Have you tried Yoga at the Birdwing? We meet on the first Sunday of the month for yoga sculpt and the third Sunday of the month for a traditional Vinyasa flow, as these yogis practiced in April. For this month, sculpt with us 10 a.m. May 5 and flow at 10 a.m. May 19.

Register



**MAY  
16TH  
10AM**



## May 16: Ride with San Diego Mountain Biking Association

San Diego Mountain Biking Association is partnering with us for an intermediate-level ride that starts 10 a.m. May 16 at the Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead. Don't wait to sign up as space is limited and a signed waiver is required.

[Register](#)



## May 18: Drawing is Seeing

Artist Sue Britt returns 9 a.m. May 18 to lead a drawing class designed to focus attention, retain details and indulge curiosity. She's an incredible instructor and students don't need any drawing experience to get a lot from the class. Meet at the Piedras Pintadas trailhead.

[Register](#)

**June 2: Valley Vibes**

Presented by  
 SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY CONSERVANCY  
 SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK

**VALLEY VIBES**  
 a FAMILY-FRIENDLY FUNDRAISER

**Save the Date:**  
**Sunday, June 2nd**  
**8:30am - 3pm**  
**JPA Coastal Ranger Station**

FOOD - BEER/WINE - MUSIC - HIKE - YOGA - ART  
 MORE DETAILS TO COME

Save the date! We're laying plans for Valley Vibes — a very-fun, family fiesta from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 2 at the River Park JPA's Coastal Ranger Station.

The fun includes live music, a guided hike around the San Dieguito Lagoon, yoga, an art workshop with the Ilan-Lael Foundation and interactive educational displays.

Beer and wine service and wood-fire pizza from Urbn Catering begins at 11:30 a.m.

## Downstream



### Exchanging Information at Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Meeting

Community Engagement Manager Kim Yingst (center) made friends and exchanged important information April 4 during the Southern California meeting of the Governor's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force.

The meeting drew more than 300 attendees to the San Diego Zoo Safari Park.

Hosted by the Resource Conservation District of San Diego County and the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, the meeting focused on initiatives tied to managing wildfire and forest lands.



### Mike Thacker Talks Rocks

Retired scientist Mike Thacker talked rocks April 6 during a presentation and hike at the Santa Ysabel Nature Center.

The get-together was the latest in our "Connecting Creatures, Climate, and Community" speaker series.



### All Gussied Up



Joseph, Cheryl and Kim got gussied up to attend Volcan Mountain Foundation's Dinner Dance fundraiser April 6 at Camp Stevens in Julian.

We're always pleased to support our partners.

Congrats to Volcan Mountain Foundation for a fantastic year of accomplishments in conservation and education!



## Bernardo Mountain Walk N Talk

Walk N Talk hikes are just like they sound. We walk. We talk. We take in beautiful scenery and pick up expert information from River Park rangers, Conservancy staff and others who join in. Our April 11 Walk N Talk took us up the blooming slopes of Bernardo Mountain.





## Earth Day events in RB and Ramona

We always love to talk with families about the San Dieguito River watershed and what makes it special. That's what we did April 14 during Rancho Bernardo's annual Earth Day Fair and April 20 at the Ramona Earth Day Festival.





## Excited About Nature

Nobody gets kids excited about nature like Conservation Manager Joseph Rivera. Joseph led a homeschool group's visit to the San Dieguito Lagoon April 16.

They learned about the cool plants and animals that live there, discovered how we can protect them, and even got to plant some plants themselves!





## Cacti Planting at Bernardo Mountain

Let's hear it for the volunteers who joined River Park rangers April 16 to plant cacti at the Bernardo Mountain Habitat Mitigation Area.

The cacti will grow to support habitat of the California cactus wren.





### **Rangers Lead Lagoon Tour**

During a lagoon tour led by River Park rangers April 17, members of a gardening group visited the cliff swallows who make their homes beneath the Interstate 5 bridge.

## Coast to Crest Trail Challenge



**Amy, Becca, Andrew and Jake Lane**



## **Year 7 Coast to Crest Trail Challenge**

For the Year 7 Coast to Crest Trail Challenge, you can hike with the group, go solo, with spouses, sweethearts, besties, kids, dogs or any combination of the above.

**Year 7 C2C Challenge  
Webpage**



**Judy and Alan Kiraly**



**Patti Saraniero and Ben Thoron**



**Kevin and Cindy Stephens**



**Bill Hornung**



**Eva Freeman and Randolph Franklin**



**Tim Shell, Morgan Welch and Mark Fordham**



**Paulette Sottak**



**Anna Tink and Trish Johnson**

## Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead



### A Well-Traveled Artifact Discovered at Sikes Historic Farmstead

*By Anita Hissem*

One of the more unusual items recovered and now displayed is a very badly corroded, worn, and bent square coin. This coin had traveled a very long way: it is a Straits Settlements One Cent bronze coin, minted in 1920.

[Open Full Story](#)

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Monthly Trail Maintenance

**9 a.m. to noon May 12** Contact  
Leana: [leana@sdrp.org](mailto:leana@sdrp.org)

Work with rangers to improve the trails and restore native habitats from 9 a.m. to noon May 12 in Rancho Santa Fe. Meet at the Santa Fe Valley Staging Area, 8175 Del Dios Hwy., Rancho Santa Fe. We'll provide tools, training and work gloves. Please bring drinking water, sun protection and wear sturdy, closed-toed shoes.



We can't wait to see you!



## Gardening at Sikes Adobe

**Every Month on the 1st and 3rd  
Sunday and the 2nd and 4th  
Monday from 9 to 11 a.m.**

Work with our dedicated Friends of Sikes Gardeners to preserve and promote the heritage and beauty of the gardens at the Historic Sikes Adobe.

Email [Calei@sdrp.org](mailto:Calei@sdrp.org) for details.

## Donate



Your donations make San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy's programming possible. Thank you!  
Photo: John Weare

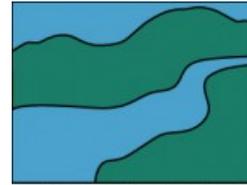
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**SAN DIEGUITO  
RIVER VALLEY**



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San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy | 3030 Bunker Hill Street, Ste. 309-1 | San Diego, CA  
92109 US

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