

Preserve Calavera 2023 Accomplishments

Restoring native habitat:

- **Supporting David Newman's Capstone Project:** Calle Pera (Carlsbad) Restoring Empty Greenbelt between two HOAs- Planting activity on January 15
 - 45 native plants were planted over a 1.5 acre area
- **El Corazon** - continue with invasive plant removal and add native plants to this site
 - We hosted 14 Saturday morning events at this site
- **Rancho La Costa**- Restoring a small area of coastal sage scrub and a hillside back to native grassland; includes watering young plants
 - We hosted 20 regular Saturday morning events at this site
 - Phase 3 planting on December 9: 103 new plants, 160 seed balls

Lands Management:

- **Settled litigation over the environmental impacts of two Oceanside projects-** [link to November newsletter](#).
- **Commented on numerous local developments** (for example; Modera Melrose Project and Eddie Jones Warehouse in Oceanside) to help reduce the potential damage to natural resources.

El Salto Falls Cleanup Events

- **Annual Creek to Bay Clean up**-PC sponsored with the city of Oceanside and the San Diego Habitat Conservancy-April 22
 - 5500 pounds of trash
 - 101 volunteers
 - 14 shopping carts
- **Annual I Love a Clean San Diego Clean up**, partnered with City of Oceanside and San Diego Habitat Conservancy-Sept 23
 - 4000 pounds of trash
 - 500 pounds to recycle
 - 91 Volunteers

WQ Monitoring:North San Diego County Watershed Monitoring Program

- **We continue to monitor/sample our 3 sub-watersheds 6 times/ year** (Jan, March, May, July, September and November)

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- Buena Vista
- Agua Hedionda
- Batiquitos
- [Link to Data Reports](#)
- For the 6 sampling session there were 530 volunteer hours clocked
- **eDNA and microfibers are a recent addition to our program**
- **We have several student volunteers from our local high schools who have been participating in the WQ program.**
 - One student is conducting an AP research project looking for any correlation between homeless encampments and *E. coli* along Buena Vista Creek.

Climate Change/GHG Reduction

- **Oceanside Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Fund (OGHGERF)**
 - Planted trees at local schools. Tree San Diego together with Oceanside Unified School District's Grounds Crew planted 10 trees on Oceanside High's campus and 15 trees at North Terrace Elementary School.
 - 3 solar projects were approved on non-profits in Oceanside – Brother Bennos and 2 at Vista Community Clinic.
 - 2 eBikes for police at MiraCosta College
- **Over the last 2 years negotiations have lead to 3 projects going to all electric.**
 - North River Farms- 395 homes
 - Tierra Norte- 359 homes (maximum allowable)
 - Ocean Kamp - 667 homes (maximum allowable)Which gives our community a potential of 1,421 all electric homes.

Education/Outreach:

- **Wildflower Hike with James Dillane (CA Native Plant Society) through the Carlsbad Highland Ecological Reserve-March 25**
- **Hike in the Buena Vista Creek Ecological Reserve Valley** with Mel Vernon (Captain, San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians) Mel gave a local history and shared stories of the Luiseño People who called this place home-June 3
- **CA Naturalist Certification**- We graduated our 6th class of Certified Naturalists in March
- **Endangered Species Day** at Buena Vista Lagoon Nature Center- event is sponsored by Buena Vista Audubon and Preserve Calavera-

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May 20

- **Planting for Pollinators Events**- educating the public about native plants to attract our local pollinators
 - August 27: Friends of El Corazon Event- celebrating plants and pollinators with local artist Linda Kallas
 - October 14: Holiday Park Event with Studio ACE
- **Our monthly newsletter** provides timely articles about topics related to our mission of protecting, enhancing, and restoring the natural resources of coastal north San Diego County

Community Scientist Projects:

CA King Tides Project: King Tide Event January 22 at Ponto Beach presented by Preserve Calavera & Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation

Grunion Monitoring- PC's Paige DeCino continues to work with a group of trained volunteers who go out at a Carlsbad State Beach during high tides (full and new moons) from March into August to monitor/record grunion populations.

Bat Hike: Bat hike at Lake Calavera Trail head (August 25) was led by local bat expert Janell Cannon and PC's Karen Merrill. An Echo Meter Touch was used to detect and identify nearby bats. Karen and Janell were able to detect 9 species. Here are the top 5 with most detections recorded in order of frequency:

- Canyon
- Yuma Myotis
- Mexican Freetail
- Pocketed Freetail
- Western Red

Wildlife:

Wildlife Movement Corridor Through Oceanside: We developed a plan to update the analysis of the wildlife movement corridor through Oceanside – a project that will be a major focus of our work in 2024.

Land Acquisition:

We explored, but ultimately decided not to proceed with an acquisition of a small parcel of farmland along the San Luis Rey River. We continue to explore other opportunities to acquire farmland and other high value land for conservation.

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Preserve Calavera Volunteer Project Hours for 2023										Draft Jan 9 2024			
	La Costa Restoration		ELC Restoration		Dog Poop		Water Quality		David's Site		grunion		
	Shifts	Hrs	Shifts	Hrs	Shifts	Hrs	Shifts	Hrs	Shifts	Hrs	Shifts	Hrs	
Jan	3	6	0		6	10.5	23	66	18	38			
Feb	6	11.75	10	16					2	4			
Mar	1	1.5	8	2.5	4	7	39	74.3	4	4	4	6	
April	7	12.5	5	9.25	4	7			4	4	20	28.5	
May	5	9.5	13	21.5			40	67	4	4	12	18.4	
June	4	7	2	4					4	4	18	34	
July	4	6	6	10			51	111.2	4	4	12	21	
Aug	10	15.5	10	15.5					4	4	6	6	
Sep	3	6.5	16	25	2	4	29	69	4	4			
Oct	9	14	13	24	5	8.75			4	5			
Nov	7	11	15	23.5			32	75	4	4			
Dec	73	186.5	6	9.5	6	8.75	3	9	2	2			
Total	132	287.75	104	160.75	27	46	217	471.5	58	81	72	113.9	
Grand Total											596	1160.9	
Other/Special Events-													
Wildflower Hike - 20 attendees for 3.5 hours													
Cal Nat Class - 1143 hours by 23 students jan- mar													
El Salto Clean-up - 101 volunteers													
ESA Day - 45 volunteers 134 attendees													
Pollinator Event Holiday 10 volunteers (4 hours each)													
El Salto Hike - 23 attendees													
El Corazon Concert 4 volunteers (4 hours each); 41 attendees													