

SANDAG Will Decide on Sales Tax for Regional Transportation Plan April 8



On April 8 our regional planning agency, SANDAG, will make a pivotal decision. Will they approve a 1/2 cent sales tax to fund a fatally flawed Regional Transportation Plan? Or will they reject that plan and support another vision for our region- a vision that includes good jobs, a sustainable economy and climate stabilization? Preserve Calavera is one of a coalition of conservation, environmental justice and labor organizations that support that alternative vision. Perhaps our way forward can be informed by looking back, as one of the first nation tribes of Canada has done. "They hold a few things certain, but one could not be more fundamental. It is that their approach, anchored in ancient knowledge and arched toward a habitable future, is how the world can be saved: by loving the natural world and living economies more than mere money and profit."

Some Issues With Recent Changes to Lake Calavera



Lake Calavera has gone through a number of changes recently. An algae bloom led to some local fish die-offs, Then the lake level was rapidly lowered in anticipation of El Nino rains that have not yet materialized. Now there are some issues with repair of a filtration system. Man, (in the form of the City of Carlsbad Water Utilities Department) has not been the best steward of the lake lately. But let us hope these osprey are a good sign that our little fresh water lake is still in pretty good condition- and these visitors will decide to stay with us for a while.

(Osprey at Calavera Preserve; photo courtesy Todd Nordness, CNLM Manager)

Preserve Calavera's CA Naturalist Certification Course - the First in SD County - Graduates 25 Certified Naturalists



March 8 was the culmination of a 10-week California Naturalist certification course put on by Preserve Calavera in partnership with UCSD's Natural Reserve System. Held at the Buena Vista Audubon Nature Center, lead instructors Paige DeCino, Karen Merrill and Isabelle Kay taught and coordinated a wide range of subjects related to California's natural history and led 4 field trips to local reserves. This UC Extension-designed class graduated 25 certified naturalists - the first in San Diego county. Each student finished the class with their own capstone project ranging from designing curriculum or brochures to working on restoration sites to carrying out citizen science projects. The next class will likely be offered in January 2017. To get on our interest list please email pdecino@preservecalavera.org.

Children's Sign at San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy Gets Better Results



Which would you rather see- a sign like this, or one of the typical ones that say "Stay Out- Sensitive Habitat". Recent studies have shown that signs featuring children's artwork, and heartfelt words about protecting our natural lands, get better results. Buena Vista Audubon Society recently supported a poster contest to create some similar signs that will be installed next month to protect Snowy Plover nesting areas. This will be part of a broader local education program about endangered species- mark your calendar for May 21 and plan to attend the only Endangered Species Day event in north county.

Our all-volunteer organization cannot do what we do without your help. Your time, talent and donation can make a difference right in your own backyard. Call or email us to see how else you could get involved.

To donate online: <http://preservecalavera.org>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Arbor Day Event at Rancho Carrillo

Care for the environment and help Carlsbad retain its status as a Tree City USA!

Plant trees in a city park – volunteer registration begins at 8:30 a.m., with a tree planting demonstration to follow. There will be tree maintenance displays and information booths from CAL FIRE, SDG&E, Davey Tree, Western Environmental Consultants and West Coast Arborists.

Tools will be provided; wear work gloves, hat, sunscreen and closed-toe shoes. For location and event flyer:

<http://www.carlsbadca.gov/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=30380>

May 21, 2016; Saturday, 10 am- 3 pm

5th Annual Endangered Species Day Event

June 4, 2016; Saturday

National Trails day at Lake Calavera

TBD

Fall Hike at Dawson Reserve

Sept 24

Trail work at Village H

Oct 15

Trail work at Lake Calavera

Nov 12

Hosp Grove Trail Work

Jan 2017

Dates TBD; Second CA Naturalist Class