



Canyon News

Black Mountain Park • Del Mar Mesa Preserve
Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve
Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, Inc.

Jan., Feb., Mar., 2012
Volume 26 No. 1

Your Support Letters Needed Now

Mike Kelly, conservation chair

From our friends at San Diego Canyonlands Coalition, we learn that our support is needed now to increase the protection of Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, Black Mountain Open Space Park, Del Mar Mesa Preserve, and other open space lands in San Diego. On January 11, a sub-committee of the City Council, the Rules Committee, will meet and vote on whether to **Dedicate** more than 1,000 acres in Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve and many thousands more city wide, totally about 10,000 acres. Ideally you can write a letter of support for a yes vote on dedication to Mayor Sanders before January 5, when he is expected to decide his recommendation on the issue to the council committee.

Canyonlands has set up a form letter (link below) that will be automatically sent to Mayor Sanders and City Council members. It only takes about a minute to do. Please fill it out and forward the link to your group lists and your other friends. Please post this on your Facebook and social networking sites. Thank you for your prompt action and for all that you do for our wonderful canyons.

Link to the form letter with ample background information:
<http://www.sdcanyonlands.org/letter>

What does **Dedication** of City open space lands do? It increases the protection of the land as permanent open space. The parcels that make up our Preserve and others in San Diego were often deeded over to the City as exactions from Developments. Although intended to be spared development and maintained as open space there is no legal requirement to do that. The City Council can legally decide to sell off any of these parcels for development and make a windfall profit on land they got for free. But if the City Council or the State Legislature votes to formally **Dedicate** these parcels under the law, that gives the land a higher level of protection. After formal Dedication **it takes a vote of two-thirds of the voting public** to convert this land to non-park uses. Land that is simply "designated" (not "Dedicated") as open space can be converted, transferred or sold with just five votes of the City Council. **Five votes.**

(see page 6)

Megan Jennings and friend

Highlights Inside

Hikes and Volunteer Opportunities	2-3
Trail for All People Status Report	3
Election Results	3
Introducing Thomas Stuhr	4
Habitat is Home	4
Acorn Woodpeckers	5
Introducing Lisa Wilson	6
Bobcat Study	6
Black Mountain NRMP	7
Membership Application	7
Friends' Directory	7
Waterfall Restoration Progress	8

Bobcat Study in Los Peñasquitos Canyon and Black Mountain Preserves

Megan Jennings

(Thanks to Ranger Lisa Wilson for facilitating this article and photo.)

As many Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve know, the preserve is part of the network of open space covered under the San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSCP). This plan was designed to protect biodiversity by establishing a network of core habitat areas. For the network to function as intended, connectivity among cores is essential. Now, these areas are in the spotlight as researchers focus in on assessing connectivity by using bobcats as an indicator species.

(see page 6)



Upcoming Hikes and Volunteer Opportunities

All of our hikes are free. There is a fee for the Tracking survey classes. See below for details.

Wear good trail sneakers or boots and sun protection (hat, sunscreen or both), and bring plenty of water. Call 858-484-3219 for more information.

Repeating Events

Every Saturday and Sunday:

Historic Adobe Ranch Tour

San Diego County Park docents lead a free guided tour of San Diego's second oldest standing residence, Rancho Santa María de los Peñasquitos, at 11 a.m. on Saturdays and 1 p.m. on Sundays, lasting 45 minutes. See an historic Mexican era rancho with three foot thick adobe walls, settler and Indian artifacts and tour the grounds. The Ranch House is located on Canyonside Park Driveway off Black Mountain Road between Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos.

Every month:

Wildlife Tracking Walk

Sat. 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 10, Apr. 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 8
Everyone is invited to join an SDTT tracker for a free, easy introductory tracking walk to learn about the art of tracking and the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve. Look for tracks, scat, and further evidence that coyotes, bobcats, raccoon, deer and other wildlife have been in the area! Information at www.sdtt.org. Meet at the Historic Adobe Ranch House on Canyonside Park Drive and Black Mountain Road, Rancho Peñasquitos.

Volunteer Weed Warriors

Sun., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Jan. 22, Feb. 26, Mar. 25, Apr. 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, Aug. 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 28, Nov. 25
Volunteers needed to help control invasive weeds throughout the preserve! Community service credits available. Meet at the Rangers station office 12115 Black Mountain Road (same driveway as Canyonside Stables). Call Ranger John Garwood at 858-538-8066 for more info.

Every two months:

Black Mountain Open Space Park Citizens Advisory Committee

Thurs., 6:30 p.m. Jan 12, Mar 8, May 10, July 12, Sept. 6, Nov 8

Public is welcome to attend this meeting to plan park activities. Meet in the Canyonside Recreation Center at Black

Mountain Road and Canyonside Park Driveway, Rancho Peñasquitos.

Peñasquitos Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee

Thurs. 6:30 p.m. Jan. 19, Mar. 15, May 17, July 19, Sept. 13, Nov. 15

Public is welcome to attend this meeting to plan park activities. Meeting is at the Historic Adobe Ranch House on Canyonside Park Driveway and Black Mountain Road, Rancho Peñasquitos.

Friends of Peñasquitos Canyon Board of Directors

Tues., 7 p.m. Jan. 3, Mar 6, May 1, July 3, Sept. 4, Nov. 6

Members are welcome to attend this business meeting to plan Friends' activities. Meeting is at the historic Adobe Ranch House at Black Mountain Road and Canyonside Park Driveway, Rancho Peñasquitos.

Quarterly:

Beginning Tracking Wildlife Surveys

Sat. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Jan. 14, Apr. 21, July 21, Oct. 20

This class prepares you to participate in surveys that monitor the wildlife in major open space preserves and other critical areas. Topics include basic recognition and identification of animal tracks and other signs, introduction to track patterns and gaits, wildlife journaling, an overview of the survey protocol, and more! Classroom time is supplemented with plenty of time in the field ("dirt time").

This training is required for survey volunteers and also serves as a prerequisite for the Intermediate Tracker/Naturalist class. After this training, students are expected to participate in at least one SDTT wildlife survey. Preregistration is not required for individuals, but requested for groups. The \$25 fee includes a number of valuable reference materials. Dress prepared to spend time outdoors and bring a sack lunch and water.

Also, please bring your calendar to sign up for transects. For more information: 760.715.4102 or www.sdtt.org. Meet at the Historic Adobe Ranch House on Canyonside Park Driveway and Black Mountain Road, Rancho Peñasquitos.

Intermediate Tracking for Wildlife Surveys

Class: Wed. 7-9 p.m. Mar. 14, Sept. 19
Field: Sat. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mar. 17, Sept. 22

This class expands on the beginning training and includes recognition and interpretation of tracks and sign on a variety of surfaces. There are exercises in speculative tracking, aging, soil dynamics, debris inter-

Maps of Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve and Black Mountain Open Space Parks are available at www.Peñasquitos.org

action, trailing, mammal skull and dental identification, and tracking on various substrates. Additional gait interpretation is covered. Cost: \$50 (\$10 discount for SDTT or Friends members). Pre-registration required. Go to www.Peñasquitos.org/classes.htm for more information or e-mail lppt@cox.net to register.

Advanced Tracking Wildlife Surveys Class: Wed. 7-9 p.m. May 16, Nov. 14

Field Sat. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. May 19, Nov. 17

The Advanced Class continues to develop your tracking proficiency. Subtle details of track identification are presented. Techniques and exercises for trailing animals through various surfaces will enable you to stay on the right track. Drills and exercises will help expand your knowledge base, point out areas to work on, and give you a preview of the tracker evaluation process. Cost: \$50 (\$10 discount for SDTT members). Pre-registration required. Go to www.Peñasquitos.org/classes.htm for more information or e-mail lppt@cox.net to register.

Hikes & Volunteer Opportunities

January

Volunteer Planting Project

Sat., Jan. 7, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Volunteer planting to restore a Friends of Peñasquitos owned canyon. Bring gloves, water and sun protection. Community service hours available. Groups please RSVP to Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856 or email mkelly1@san.rr.com. Meet on Waterford Street at Adobe Bluffs. Park on Waterford.

Miner's Loop Trail Walk, Black Mountain Open Space Park

Sat., Jan. 21, 9 - 11 a.m.

Join hike leader Arne Johanson to hike the Miner's Loop trail on the north face of Black Mountain Park. Meet at the parking staging area at 14850 Carmel Valley Road, about 1/4 mile east of the intersection with Black Mountain Road in Rancho Peñasquitos.

Volunteer Planting Project

Sat., Jan. 21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Volunteer planting to restore a Friends of Peñasquitos owned canyon. Bring gloves, water and sun protection. Community service hours available. Groups RSVP to Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856 or email mkelly1@san.rr.com. Meet on Waterford Street at Adobe Bluffs. Park on Waterford. St.

Vernal Pool & Flower Walk on Carmel Mountain

Sat. Jan. 21, 9 - 11 a.m.

Tour one of San Diego's newest nature preserves with Diana Gordon. Learn about rare Southern maritime chaparral. See spring flowers and learn about vernal pool lifecycles. Meet at 4730 Fairport Way at Shorepoint Way in San Diego.

Lopez Homestead History Hike

Sun. Jan. 29, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Hike into Lopez Canyon with Will Bowen, PhD, to learn about the Old Lopez Homestead - a small turn-of-the century dairy farm. Visit the orchard, the Old Road, and see the remains of the barn, house, and milking station. Discover the importance of the Lopez Family in early San Diego history. Meet at the West end Parking Staging area.

February

Vernal Pool & Flower Walk on Carmel Mountain

Sun, Feb 11, 9 a.m.—11 a.m.

Tour one of San Diego's newest nature preserves with Diana Gordon. Learn about rare Southern maritime chaparral. See spring flowers and learn about vernal pool lifecycles. Meet at 4730 Fairport Way at Shorepoint Way in San Diego.

Volunteer Planting Project

Sat., Feb. 11, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m..

Volunteer planting to restore a Friends of Peñasquitos owned canyon. Bring gloves, water and sun protection. Community service hours available. Groups please RSVP to Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856 or email mkelly1@san.rr.com. Meet on Waterford Street at Adobe Bluffs. Park on Waterford St.

Miner's Loop Trail Walk, Black Mountain Open Space Park

Sat., Feb 18, 9 - 11 a.m.

Join hike leader Arne Johanson to hike the Miner's Loop trail on the north face of Black Mountain Park. Meet at the parking staging area at 14850 Carmel Valley Road, about 1/4 mile east of the intersection with Black Mountain Road in Rancho Peñasquitos.

Volunteer Planting Project

Sat., Feb. 25, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m..

Volunteer planting to restore a site at the Peñasquitos Canyon waterfall. Bring gloves, water and sun protection. Community service hours available. Groups RSVP to Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856 or email mkelly1@san.rr.com. Meet at the west end of Park Village Road in Ranch Peñasquitos.

Carroll Canyon History Hike

Sun., Feb 26, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Hike with Will Bowen, PhD, to explore little known Carroll Canyon. Learn about Pueblo Lands, the coming of the railroad, and the ranch farms of Bonafacio Lopez, Pierre Bovet, Andrew Cassidy, and Max Dietrich. See large trunked oaks and an old cattle tunnel. Meet at the corner of Scranton and Carroll Canyon Road.

March

Vernal Pool & Flower Walk on Carmel Mountain

Sat. Mar 10, 9 - 11 a.m.

Tour one of San Diego's newest nature preserves with Diana Gordon. Learn about rare Southern maritime chaparral. See spring flowers and learn about vernal pool lifecycles. Meet at 4730 Fairport Way at Shorepoint Way in San Diego.

Tadpole and Fairy Shrimp Hike

Sun. Mar. 11, 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Hike on Carmel Mountain with Will Bowen, PhD, to look for tadpoles and fairy shrimp in the road pools and puddles formed by the early Spring rains. Meet at the Carmel Mountain Trailhead, 4730 Fairport Way at Shorepoint Way.

Miner's Loop Trail Walk, Black Mountain Open Space Park

Sat., Mar 17, 9 - 11 a.m.

Join hike leader Arne Johanson to hike the Miner's Loop trail on the north face of Black Mountain Park. Meet at the parking staging area at 14850 Carmel Valley Road, about 1/4 mile east of the intersection with Black Mountain Road in Rancho Peñasquitos.

Volunteer Planting Project

Sat., Mar. 17, 9 a.m. -1 p.m.

Volunteer planting. Site to be determined. Call Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856 or email mkelly1@san.rr.com for details.

El Cuervo Adobe History Hike

Sun., Mar. 25, 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Hike with Will Bowen, PhD, into the west end of Peñasquitos Canyon for an intimate look at the ruins of the "El Cuervo" Adobe. Learn about the Alvarado family who lived there. We will also take a short side hike to see Norwood Brown's old cattle roundup corral. Meet at the parking lot at 4206 Sorrento Valley Blvd.

Trail for All People Update

Jas Arnold

A status report presentation, followed by a request for funds was made to the Rancho Peñasquitos Planning Board at their March meeting. The board really supports the project yet feels the prudent approach is to first get this project on the city of San Diego Capital Improvements Program (CIP) list. The CIP program coordinator, Deborah Sharp, has requested a list of potential fund sources. I'm eager to get your ideas during this critical time to secure some larger commitments.

To date, this list consists of:

- charitable contributions
- the Rancho Peñasquitos Planning Board
- Open space fees from developers
- the Park and Rec Council
- State and Federal grants
- **your suggestions :-)**

The goal is to get the project on the 2012-2013 CIP, fine-tune the design, develop construction documents, and build all of us a really cool trail. Please email me at ziphel@san.rr.com with suggestions for funding sources or for more information.

Board of Directors Election Results

In the last newsletter, we announced the nomination and election process for the next two-year term of the Friends' Board of Directors.

The nomination period passed quietly, the ballots were mailed and returned and the election has been completed.

The officers for the 2012 - 2014 period are:

President: Les Braund
Vice President: Don Albright
Secretary: Edward Di Bella
Treasurer: Pat Watkins

Directors-At-Large for the 2012 - 2014 period are:

Jeanie Anderson
Anne Harvey
Mike Kelly
Mary Lueking
Janet Nelson
Brian Swanson



Introducing Our New Ranger Thomas Stuhr

Greetings to you all. My name is Thomas Stuhr and I am a newly hired park ranger for the city of San Diego. I work in six open space parks ranging from Crest Canyon in Del Mar up to Clevenger Canyon which is in the San Pasqual area. My primary park is Black Mountain Open Space Park.

I have worked as a park ranger for several different agencies before coming to work for the city. I just recently finished up working as a U.S. Park Range for the Bureau of Land Management in New Mexico.

Just as I enjoyed my work out there and the visitors I was able to meet, I look forward to meeting the visitors of the new parks I am now assigned to work in, manage, and take care of. If you see me in one of the parks, please feel free to come say hello.

The map to the right is of the trail system in Gonzalez Canyon Open Space Park. This park is in the northern part of Carmel Valley and connects to the bigger San Dieguito River Park to the north. The map can be downloaded from www.sdcanyonlands.org or the City of San Diego's Open Space Park website.

Habitat is Home

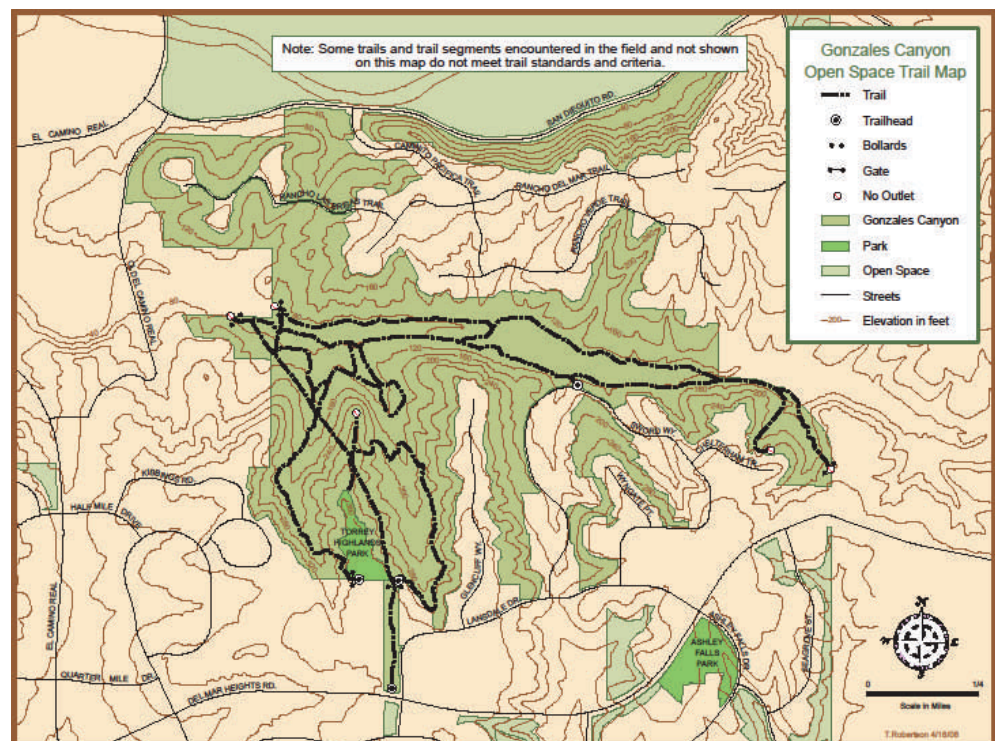
Thomas Stuhr, Park Ranger

My name is Thomas Stuhr and I am one of the park rangers who help manage Gonzalez Canyon Open Space Park for the city of San Diego. While on patrol the other day I was checking out the canyon park, and checking in with the visitors of the park as well. Hikers, mountain bikers, even some dog visitors. It is always great to see park visitors using the park in a positive and responsible manner.

As I made my way to the eastern side of the canyon I noticed multiple wildlife tracks in a nearby shallow muddy water pond. There were tracks made by deer, bobcat, raccoon, small rodents, and even the small tracks of a raven or two. To just think, all those animals live right in the park, and share the resources with us fellow humans; it is pretty amazing. It would make sense then that the same area of park that we as humans use for recreation is used by wildlife as their home.

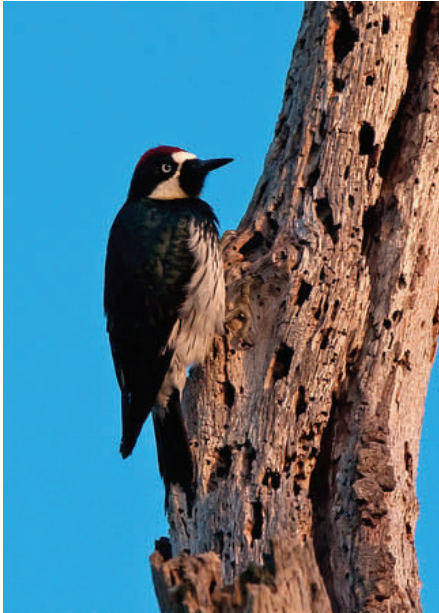
Wildlife corridors, undisturbed habitat are what wildlife needs to thrive in an urban setting. This is the same said for wildlife in remote places as well. It was a great sign to see those tracks in the mud right near the small natural pond. To me it was more than just evidence that we have diverse wildlife in our parks here in San Diego. To me it symbolized the true adaptability and perseverance of wildlife found here in this part of the country.

So, just remember the next time you are out on designated trails, walking with your dog on leash, or using the parks in a responsible manner, that you too are helping to keep habitat healthy and well. The wildlife will thank you for this in their own little way, sort of like how these animals displayed to me their tracks to remind me that there is a place for wildlife when they are given a chance to live in healthy habitat that is created by our beautiful open space parks here in San Diego, and other places all over the world. We as humans can coexist with wildlife.



ACORN WOODPECKERS ~ SOCIAL NETWORKING EXPERTS

Jeanie Anderson



Male Acorn Woodpecker at the granary in Los Peñasquitos Preserve.

In the canyons of Los Peñasquitos Preserve, a uniquely social species of woodpecker thrives. They are the Acorn Woodpeckers, named after their diet of acorns. They utilize a communal granary or acorn tree to store or cache their live oak acorns from season to season.

Being skillful at drilling holes is one of their gifts. Their “social networking” group tends to the acorns, moving them to the right size holes as the acorns dry out and shrink.

Another job is to protect and defend their cache from robbers like the Western Scrub Jays. They stick together as their shared survival depends on their granary’s fortunes.

Acorn Woodpeckers communicate to their tribe with loud raucous “ratchet-ratchet-RACHET” **calls** that sound like laughing to us humans. Also, they are noted for their “**drumming**” which is a woodpecker’s way of communicating with the group. Drumming consists of 2-20 evenly spaced taps and is often executed on specific drumming posts, typically dead limbs with good resonance. Drumming is associated with intra-specific territorial encounters and as a method to attract mates. Drumming is done by both sexes and may occur at any time of the year but is most common in spring. (Koenig, 1995) Drumming is also done on telephone poles, buildings and other man-made structures that provide good resonance. (...Often to the dismay of their human neighbors!)

Where can you find these denizens of the Preserve? A good place is the north side of Peñasquitos Preserve – the trail head at Park Village Drive and Camino Del Sur. Hike in to the main trail and turn toward the east. The trail jogs toward the north at one spot. Within a dozen steps look to the right – toward the creek – and you should see the granary tree in the photo below. Wait a good 10 minutes – especially in the early evening – and you should reliably see some woodpecker activity.

Look closely at their head colors. The Males sport a large red cap starting at the forehead with white toward the front. Females sport a smaller red cap with some black toward the top and white in front. When feasting your eyes on one, you may agree that they look a bit like Woody Woodpecker who was partly based on their comical facial plumage.

Hope you get to see these amazing birds soon! See you on the trail.

Reference

Koenig, Walter D., Peter B. Stacey, Mark T. Stanback and Ronald L. Mumme. 1995. Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*), *The Birds of North America Online*. Vol 194 (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology



Male Acorn Woodpecker showing full wing span as he lands at the granary. Female on right side above.

Introducing Our New Ranger Lisa Wilson

My name is Lisa Wilson. I am a San Diego native and Ocean Beach resident. I returned to school later in life and received my BA in Environmental Studies and Women & Gender Studies from Sonoma State University (SSU) in 2006. Before coming back to San Diego, I began my career as a Park Ranger with the US Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Sonoma and Warm Springs Dam (Sonoma County).

Upon graduation from SSU, I had the pleasure of working a six month stint in Mammoth, California with the National Park Service at Devil's Postpile National Monument and the Mammoth Visitors Center. After a brief eight-month assignment with the County of San Diego, working in and around the Julian area, I accepted a position with the City of San Diego in order to be closer to family. After four years working at Mission Bay Park, I enthusiastically accepted the offer of a transfer into the Open Space Division, where I currently split my time between Los Peñasquitos Canyon, Del Mar Mesa, and Black Mountain Preserve (and other associated open space areas).

I look forward to continuing to learn and grow in the position of Park Ranger and to share the knowledge that I gain with others. Besides the incredible opportunity to be in nature on a regular basis, my greatest enjoyment "on the job" comes from wonderful interactions with our awesome volunteers and friendly and thoughtful park visitors. See you on the trails.

Support Letters (cont from page 1)

Now, the City Council does retain the right to grant easements for utility purposes across Dedicated property for utility purposes, including roads, sewer lines, drainage channels, etc. That's a necessary "evil" we have to live with.

The current proposal would refer any City of San Diego decision on Dedication as a recommendation to the State Legislature for Dedication, as was done in 2007 for some 6,600 acres. Although the City can do this process itself, they can save as much as \$1 million by having State Senator Kehoe carry a bill through the legislature, a smart savings for the City.

Lastly, are we losing important flexibility when we "tie up" land like this with a 2/3rds vote to change its use? No, in the 1980s, a developer, Genstar/Newland of Canada, approached the city and conservation groups with a proposed land swap. They coveted Dedicated land near the I-5 in what we now call Sorrento Hills. I think it was about 40 acres or so. They offered, in exchange, a parcel of 80 acres adjacent to the north of the waterfall in the Preserve and a \$1 million fund for park projects in Rancho Peñasquitos and Black Mtn. Open Space Park. The Friends, the Sierra Club, the City, and others thought the deal made sense, a net gain for the park. We all supported it and the voters approved it by the necessary 2/3rds vote. What the 2/3rds vote signifies is that a consensus is needed in situations such as this, which is appropriate when deciding on the future of land designated as permanent open space. The voters approved the land swap handily. The swap proved to be beneficial for the canyon, a good test of the higher protected status of the land.

Bobcat Studies (cont from page 1)

Researchers Megan Jennings and Rebecca Lewison from San Diego State University (SDSU), in collaboration with the United States Geological Survey (USGS), have undertaken a multifaceted research project to study connectivity of key zones focusing in on bobcat movement and habitat use. This project involves trapping, collaring, and GPS tracking of bobcats in several core areas in the MSCP network, including Los Peñasquitos Canyon. These data will be supplemented by remote camera station surveys, roadkill collection, and genetic testing of study animals. The combination of data sources will help researchers to identify specific corridors, pinch points, and barriers between the targeted cores so they can assess the current status and make recommendations on how to maintain and improve connectivity for bobcats and other large animals.

Work has already started in Los Peñasquitos Canyon and Black Mountain to examine bobcat movement across SR-56 and connectivity to eastern core areas such as Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch Preserves. To date, several remote cameras have been installed and five bobcats collared. Two of these animals are particularly unique because they were bobcats that were orphaned this past summer and placed in a wildlife rehabilitation facility until November, when they were old enough to be released. These cats, dubbed Lenny and Melvin, along with the three others, will be tracked for nine months to see how they move in the preserve and navigate the fragmented habitat along the edges where they may encounter homes, business parks, and roadways.

Black Mountain Open Space Park Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP)

Jas Arnold, Chairperson, Black Mtn. Open Space Park Citizens Advisory Committee

The need for a general plan for the Black Mountain Open Space Park (Park) has been identified as a top priority by the Park's Citizens Advisory Committee. This living document is on its way to being presented to the San Diego City Council for final approval. The NRMP serves as an excellent resource for plant and animal life indigenous to the Park, provides a set of guidelines for park maintenance and development, and provides recommendations for the implementation and perpetuation of the NRMP.

Information generated from studies conducted during the last decade has provided an extensive list (Appendix A of the NRMP) of flora and fauna that exists within the Park. Guidelines for restoration efforts conducted by city staff, contractors, and volunteers are provided in order to ensure the natural maintenance of these restoration areas. Much of the work needed by the Park is restoration. The scars seen from the West are a prime example.

Efforts are currently underway to revegetate these eyesores. The NRMP contains a map that shows where trail maintenance is recommended; trails to be opened, improved, and closed.

As recommended in the NRMP, impacts to the vanishing native grasslands should be avoided. An example is a minor realignment of the Trail for All People in order to avoid the grassland north of the Miner's Ridge Loop staging area. The NRMP provides an excellent guide to its implementation. The collaborative effort between the city of San Diego and groups of enthusiastic volunteers are seen as an excellent vehicle for maintaining and improving pristine regions such as the Black Mountain Open Space Park.

This report should be part of all of our libraries. The NRMP and associated exhibits are available at <ftp://ftp.sannet.gov/OUT/Parks/Black%20Mountain%20Ranch/Black%20Mountain%20Natural%20Resource%20Mangement%20Plan/>

The efforts of many people and organizations can be attributed to the success of this document. Many thanks to all who have contributed.

Membership Application

Membership category: (circle 1 below)

Senior (62) or Student \$10	Individual \$15	
Family \$20	Sponsor \$30	Patron \$100
Corporate \$250	Life \$1000	
Contribution \$ _____		

I/We are interested in the following:

- Volunteer to help a committee (call to discuss)
- Hikes
- Indian Culture
- Educational Workshops
- School, Family, Youth Programs
- Environment (Plants, birds, mammals, geology)

Other: _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Email _____

Please make checks payable to:

Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, Inc.
P.O. Box 26523, San Diego, CA 92196

Thank you for your support! Your donation is tax deductible.
Call **858.484.3219** or **858.342.8856** for more information.

Don't be left out!

- Want to keep up with all the events sponsored by the Friends of Peñasquitos? Get all the latest information and details by giving us your email address. Email your contact information to Mike Kelly at mkelly1@san.rr.com or to Pat Watkins at pwatkins2008@gmail.com.

Friends' Directory

Officers

President: Les Braund	858-566-3958
Vice-President: Don Albright	619.443.5937
Treasurer: Pat Watkins	858.538.2527
Secretary: Edward DiBella	619.563.0717

Other Members of the Board of Directors

Jeanie Anderson, Anne Harvey, Mike Kelly, Mary Lueking, Janet Nelson, Brian Swanson

Walk Leaders

Don Albright, Will Bowen, Diana Gordon, Arne Johansen, Mike Kelly, Linda King, Mary Lueking, David Robertson, Brian Swanson, Pat Watkins

Committees

Conservation Chair: Mike Kelly, 858.342.8856
Newsletter: Janet Nelson, 619.519.3150
nelson.janet1@gmail.com
Tracking Team Coordinator: Rick Botta,
858.672.0584
Webmaster: Beth Williams



Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, Inc.
P O Box 26523, San Diego, CA 92196
858-484-3219 www.Peñasquitos.org

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If your expiration date is close or has come and gone, please take the time to send in a renewal check for your membership dues and save us the postage for reminder mailings!



Waterfall Restoration Progress

Mike Kelly, conservation chair

Boy Scout Karl Garrett organized our first volunteer restoration project of the current season. Pictured are members of Boy Scout Troop 648 in Mira Mesa amongst native plants they put in the ground. The scouts first cleared a lot of dead weeds. As was the case last year, we found 4 rattlesnakes as the day progressed. Two of the scout dads and myself did a sweep of the site for rattlesnakes, found two baby rattlers (still very venomous), which we caught and translocated. Later we found two adult rattlers. We let them be since they weren't in our immediate work area. The scouts planted Laurel Leaf Sumac, Lemonadeberry, Scrub Oaks, native bunch grass, California holly, and California gum plant. Scout Troop 648 was the usual hard working volunteers they have been in the past.



The restoration site on the north side of the waterfall is looking good. We will be expanding this site on Feb 25, 2012. See page 3 for details.

Photos by Mike Kelly