

For Immediate Release Contact:

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California Wildlife Day Honors the Vital and Diverse Wildlife Throughout the State We are a Part of Nature, Not Apart from Nature

Carmel CA, Thursday, March 9, 2023 – The <u>Carmel River Watershed Conservancy</u> and <u>Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District</u> (MPRPD) invite the public to celebrate <u>California Wildlife Day on Sunday, March 26 at Palo Corona Regional Park in Carmel Valley</u>. This year's theme, "We are a Part of Nature, Not Apart from Nature," honors California's rich and diverse wildlife.

In 2017, the California Legislature unanimously passed the resolution establishing California Wildlife Day on the Spring Equinox. Authored by Senator Bill Monning, the resolution was created to recognize and protect one of California's greatest assets. "California has some of the most spectacular wildlife in the world due to our unique and diverse climate and geography, so it makes sense that the state officially recognizes one of our greatest assets—our environment," Monning said. "California Wildlife Day will help advance the preservation and protection of our ecosystem for future generations through public education about native plants and animals."

All are invited to celebrate California Wildlife Day on Sunday, March 26 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm at Palo Corona Regional Park, 4860 Carmel Valley Road, in Carmel; rain or shine. Doors open at this FREE event at 9:30 am. The event will feature live wildlife demonstrations, exhibitors from environmental, conservation, and educational organizations, panel discussions on topics including urban and wildlife interface, water and our watersheds, and other activities such as walks, student presentations of their wildlife projects and poetry, and more. Food will also be available for purchase.

Nature and wilderness are a source of inspiration, education, and physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Many state and nonprofit organizations work to celebrate our diverse wildlife, promote environmental awareness and stewardship, and collaborate to provide opportunities through education and service at California Wildlife Day.

For more information, visit www.CAWildlifeDay.net or call (831) 372-3196 ext. 102.

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About the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) has been preserving and protecting parks and open space since 1972. MPRPD is committed to being an inspirational, inclusive, respected, sustainable, and valued open space district that collaborates with and serves the community, and its conservation needs through interconnected open spaces, public parks, education, and advocacy for the entire community. For more information on the MPRPD and its mission, vision, and open spaces, please call 831.372-3196 or visit www.mprpd.org.

Carmel River Watershed Conservation's mission is protecting the Carmel River through research, outreach, advocacy, and education. For more information visit www.carmelriverwatershed.org.