



MEDIA ADVISORY

A Ceremony to dedicate the former Rancho Canada Golf Course as the new Palo Corona Regional Park and to celebrate the partnerships that made it possible

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CARMEL, Calif.—The Trust for Public Land, Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, Santa Lucia Conservancy and Trout Unlimited announce an event on September 28, 2018 to dedicate the recently expanded Palo Corona Regional Park and celebrate the successful acquisition and permanent conservation of the former Rancho Canada Golf Course with our project partners and supporters.

In 2015, one of three properties on which the 36-hole Rancho Canada Golf Course had been developed was put up for sale. Conservation stakeholders quickly launched an effort to acquire this and an adjacent property for permanent conservation of their outstanding ecological, water, and recreational values. The Trust for Public Land, Santa Lucia Conservancy and Trout Unlimited formed a partnership to negotiate the terms of and raise funding for the acquisition. This effort was successful and led to an agreement with the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District to convert Rancho Canada to Palo Corona Regional Park and to dedicate almost all of the water formerly used to irrigate the golf courses to restoring the lower Carmel River and its threatened run of native steelhead trout. Numerous state and federal elected officials and agencies lent their support to this initiative, which was finalized when The Trust for Public Land conveyed the property to the Park District in April 2018. On July 28, 2018, Palo Corona Regional Park officially opened to the public.

WHAT: A ceremony to dedicate the former Rancho Canada Golf Course as Palo Corona Regional Park and to celebrate the partnership that made possible the land acquisition and conversion.

WHO: Hosts: The Trust for Public Land, Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, Santa Lucia Conservancy, and Trout Unlimited.

Distinguished Guests and Speakers: Charlton H. Bonham, Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (invited); John Donnelly, Wildlife Conservation Board; Polly Escovedo, Bonds and Grants Unit Manager, California Resources Agency; Trish Chapman, Regional Manager, California Coastal Conservancy; Guillermo Rodriguez, California State Director, TPL; Kelly Sorenson, MPRPD Board President; Linda Yamane, Rumsen Ohlone Tribal Historian.

WHEN: Friday, September 28, 2018. The event opens at 2 pm and concludes at 6 pm. The dedication ceremony with Distinguished Speakers begins at 3 pm on the grass near the Discovery Center (the former golf clubhouse). Festivities include music, guided walks, activities, and food for purchase. Guest speakers and representatives of the organizations involved will be available immediately after the ceremony for media interviews.