

# California Legacy Club Field Trips

## 2018-2019



Email [caLegacy@tnc.org](mailto:caLegacy@tnc.org) to  
RSVP for a trip today.

KEY: Current project  
 Historic project  
 Exclusive access  
 Debut Legacy Club tour



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**Elkhorn Slough National  
Estuarine Research Reserve**   
(Moss Landing, Monterey County)  
Friday, September 21, 2018

The 7-mile-long Elkhorn Slough provides critical habitat for more than 100 species of fish, thousands of waterfowl and shorebirds, and California's densest concentration of southern sea otters. Explore the estuary's natural wonders from the seat of a kayak and learn firsthand about the Conservancy's efforts to conserve coastal habitats in the face of sea-level rise.

**\$30/person non-refundable fee for kayak rental. Must be able to paddle for 2 hours.**

► **Kayak:** 2-hour tour, no experience necessary. Difficulty varies.



© Lynn McBride

**Landels-Hill Big Creek Reserve**   
(Big Sur, Monterey County)  
Friday, October 12, 2018

This 3,800-acre reserve in the Santa Lucia Mountains features rugged ridges that descend through redwoods and along perennial streams to a rocky shoreline. Purchased by the Conservancy in 1977, this land is now part of the University of California Natural Reserve System. Learn about the Conservancy's marine work in the region, our role in protecting this ecologically rich area, and our efforts to help plants and wildlife become more resilient to climate change.

► **Hike:** Option of strenuous, 3 miles, or easy, 1 mile

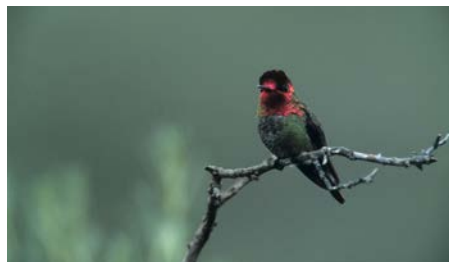


© Alan Eckert Photography

**Cosumnes River Preserve**   
(Sacramento County)  
Wednesday, November 14, 2018

A major stop on the Pacific Flyway, this 50,000-acre preserve hosts thousands of resident and migratory birds, including lesser and greater sandhill cranes. As the last free-flowing river on the Sierra's western slope, the Cosumnes River provides beneficial flooding that makes it a wellspring of conservation opportunities. See the Conservancy's strategies in action for agricultural water management and habitat restoration. The trip culminates with a viewing of the sandhill cranes at sunset.

► **Hike:** Easy, 1 mile



© Richard Herrmann

**Buena Vista Lagoon**   
(San Diego County)  
Thursday, January 17, 2019

In the 1960s, the Conservancy and our partners preserved this rare coastal freshwater lagoon, which became California's first ecological reserve. Now stewarded by the state, the 206-acre wetland provides key habitat for migratory birds, including threatened and endangered species. Enjoy excellent birding while learning about the Conservancy's efforts to restore this crucial ecosystem and other wetland habitats.

► **Hike:** Easy, less than 1 mile



© Richard Herrmann

**Monte Vista Ranch**   
(San Diego County)  
Thursday, April 4, 2019

The conservation of this ranch and its surrounding land is one of the Conservancy's most outstanding achievements in San Diego County. The 5,000-acre property—now owned by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife—is a critical link in an open space network that connects the Cleveland National Forest with coastal habitats and provides a key migration corridor for birds and wildlife. Explore its mosaic of coastal sage scrub, chaparral, woodlands, grasslands and riparian habitat.

► **Hike:** Easy, 1-2 miles



© Stephen Francis

### Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve

(Riverside County)  
Friday, April 5, 2019



Located at the southern end of the Santa Ana Mountains, this 9,000-acre reserve is part of a network of natural lands that allows wildlife such as mountain lions to move through the region. It features rare Engelmann oak woodlands, native grasslands, vernal pools and other habitats that provide refuge for 49 endangered, threatened or rare plant and animal species. Find out how the Conservancy is protecting this landscape and other migration corridors.

► **Hike:** Moderate, 4 miles



© Treve Johnson

### Blue Oak Ranch Reserve

(Santa Clara County)  
Tuesday, April 23, 2019



Nestled on the slopes of Mount Hamilton, this 3,259-acre reserve is part of a network of research and classroom field sites in the UC Natural Reserve System (UCNRS). Enjoy a hike through the diverse terrain, which includes lush ponds, oak meadows and vistas over San Jose. Discover how the Conservancy and the UCNRS are partnering to protect the area and conducting innovative research into the effects of climate change on California's landscapes.

► **Hike:** Moderate, 2-3 miles



© Peter Montgomery/The Nature Conservancy

### Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve

(Santa Barbara County)  
Friday, May 3, or Saturday, May 4, 2019



The Nature Conservancy made conservation history in 2017 by acquiring a 24,500-acre ranch at Point Conception, a critical juncture between Northern and Southern California. The new Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve stitches together a network of protected areas covering 125,000 acres of ecologically important, climate-resilient habitat. Join us for a tour of this magnificent property and hear about our plans for its future.

► **Hike:** Moderate, 2-3 miles



© Grant Johnson

### Sacramento River and Hamilton City

(Glenn County)  
Friday, May 17, 2019



The Sacramento River is California's largest river. The Conservancy is employing innovative forest-management strategies along its course to improve water quality and preserve habitat for Chinook salmon and other imperiled species. Visit our project sites at the river and in Hamilton City, where we are working with the Army Corps of Engineers to develop a levee that will protect residents from floodwaters while meeting nature's needs.

► **Hike:** Easy, 1 mile



© Simon Williams/The Nature Conservancy

### Independence Lake

(Nevada County)  
Friday, June 21, 2019



Nestled in the heart of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, at 7,000 feet, Independence Lake is a critical source of fresh water for Nevada's second-largest metropolitan area. Experience the splendor of this pristine alpine setting, where the Conservancy is using conservation strategies such as forest thinning and controlled burns to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, protect fish and wildlife habitat, and preserve water quality.

► **Hike:** Moderate, 2-4 miles

“These trips help me **reconfirm my commitment** ... It is important that we be reminded—both **viscerally and beautifully**—what TNC does!”

*Legacy Club member and 2017-2018 field trip attendee*

#### Calling all naturalists!

If you have an interest in volunteering as a naturalist on a field trip, contact Allison at [caLegacy@tnc.org](mailto:caLegacy@tnc.org).