

A photograph of several seals resting on a red buoy in the water. The buoy has a red metal frame and a green mechanical component. The water is calm, and the background is a light, hazy sky.

2026 | CALIFORNIA & NEVADA

Legacy Club Field Trips



The Nature
Conservancy



THE
LEGACY
CLUB

The Nature Conservancy in California
830 S. Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Explore nature with The Legacy Club



Sign up today!
Scan or visit

nature.org/caLegacy



Scan to sign up!

Explore some of the
beautiful places you
help to protect.

Sign up today at
nature.org/caLegacy

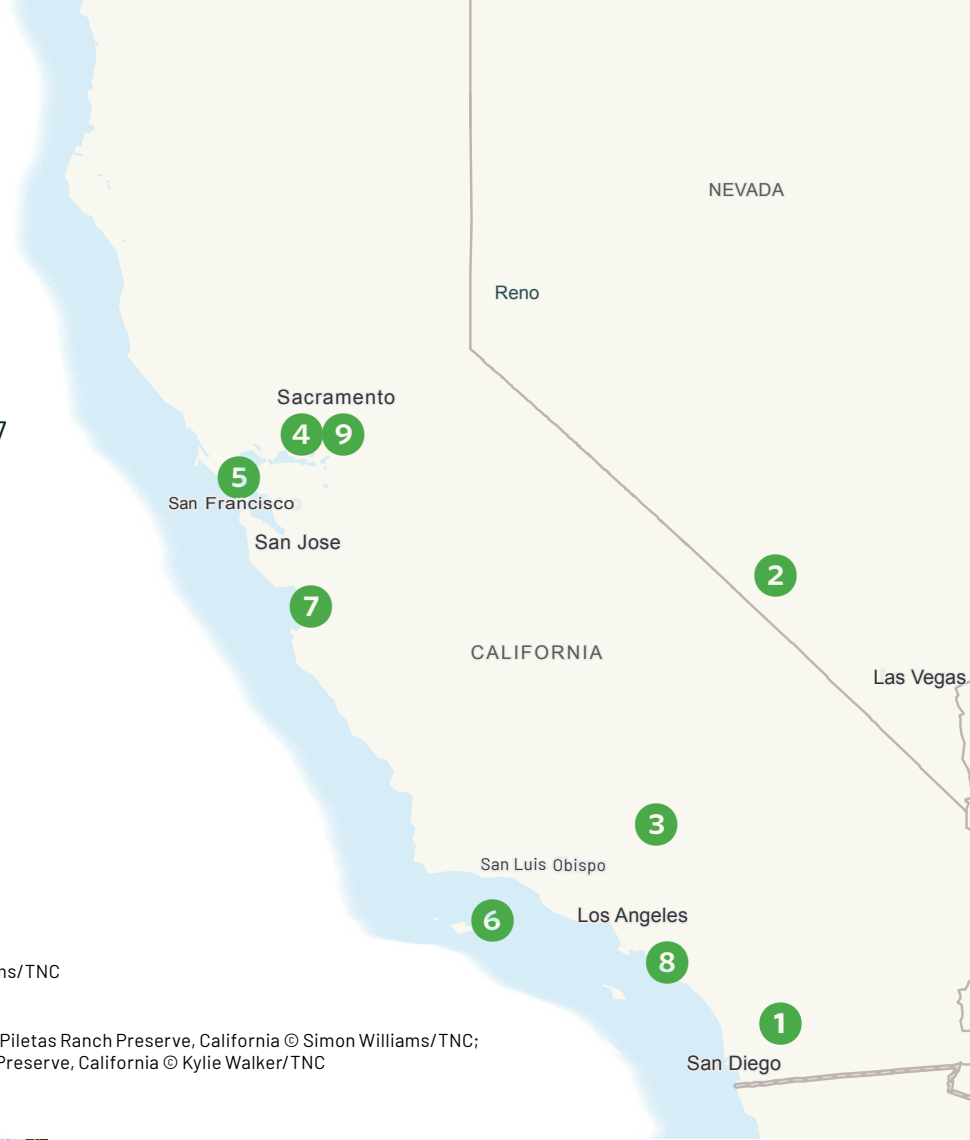
You're invited to join fellow Legacy Club members and Nature Conservancy experts to experience an inside look at how your support is building a healthier, more resilient future.

Space is limited! For more information and to sign up today visit **nature.org/caLegacy**. Contact caLegacy@tnc.org or (415) 363-4224 with questions.

2026 Field Trips

.....

- 1 **Santa Ysabel East Preserve**, March 13
- 2 **Gary and Lajetta Atwood Preserve**, March 27
- 3 **Las Piletas Ranch Preserve**, April 14
- 4 **Jepson Prairie Preserve**, April 15
- 5 **Ring Mountain Preserve**, May 8
- 6 **Santa Cruz Island**, September 16
- 7 **Elkhorn Slough Reserve**, October 16
- 8 **Newport Bay**, November 6
- 9 **Cosumnes River Preserve**, November 18



COVER California sea lions, near Santa Cruz Island, California © Simon Williams/TNC

BACK COVER Las Piletas Ranch Preserve, California © Simon Williams/TNC

INSIDE (FROM TOP) Gary and Lajetta Atwood Preserve, Nevada © Dan Quinn; Las Piletas Ranch Preserve, California © Simon Williams/TNC; Santa Cruz Island, California © Ian Shive; Sandhill cranes, Cosumnes River Preserve, California © Kylie Walker/TNC

Santa Ysabel East Preserve

Friday, March 13

Enjoy an outdoor adventure among rolling grasslands, groves of towering oaks and giant sycamores. Learn about the Santa Ysabel East Preserve, including the threatened and unique plants and animals found there, and how TNC has worked with partners to protect this special place.

→ **Hike:** Strenuous, 4 miles

.....

Gary and Lajetta Atwood Preserve (NV)

Friday, March 27

Explore this 900-acre preserve, formerly known as the 7J Ranch, dotted with springs and naturally irrigated meadows that harbor native fish, amphibians and springsnails found nowhere else on Earth. Its unique geography—between the Great Basin and Mojave deserts—is a linkage that sustains a vast web of species. Join us to learn how TNC is conserving this important landscape at the headwaters of the Amargosa River.

→ **Hike:** Easy, 1-2 miles

Gary and Lajetta Atwood Preserve, Nevada





Las Piletas Ranch Preserve

Tuesday, April 14

Las Piletas Ranch Preserve boasts 13,500 acres of rolling foothills, grasslands and oak woodlands and 24 miles of springs and seasonal creeks. The preserve was purchased in 2022 by TNC which uses it as a living laboratory to develop and test innovative technologies as tools for conservation. Learn how strategies like genomics, AI-enabled wildlife cameras and virtual fencing are helping to attain outcomes like increased populations of rare Camatta Canyon amole lilies and restored habitat to protect blue oaks.

➔ **Hike:** Moderate, 3-4 miles



Jepson Prairie Preserve

Wednesday, April 15

An enclave of the native bunchgrass prairie that once covered California's Central Valley, the preserve supports a teeming habitat for rare crustaceans and amphibians. Tour one of the largest remaining vernal pool ecosystems in the Golden State and enjoy views of the surrounding uplands covered by millions of tiny wildflowers. Discover why TNC protected the preserve in 1980 before transferring ownership to the Solano Land Trust.

➔ **Hike:** Easy, less than 1 mile with many stops

Ring Mountain Preserve

Friday, May 8

Revel in spring wildflowers, oak woodlands and fantastic views of the Bay Area as we celebrate the importance of local conservation stewardship. Learn about Ring Mountain's unique biodiversity—including at least nine endemic species like the rare Tiburon mariposa lily, found nowhere else on Earth—along with TNC's partnership and ongoing conservation projects.

→ **Hike:** Strenuous, 3 miles

Santa Cruz Island

Wednesday, September 16

Board a catamaran and sail to the largest of California's eight Channel Islands. Since 1978, TNC has owned most of Santa Cruz Island, where more than 1,000 species of plants and animals inhabit its high peaks, deep canyons, pastoral valleys and 77 miles of dramatic coastline. Once on the brink of ecological collapse, the restored island provides a glimpse of what Southern California looked like hundreds of years ago.

→ **Hike:** Strenuous, 3–4 miles, or easy, 1 mile; must be able to use a ladder to board the boat

Cost: \$70 per person for catamaran transportation

Santa Cruz Island, California





Cosumnes River Preserve, California

Elkhorn Slough Reserve

Friday, October 16

TWO OPTIONS

10:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. or 12:30–2:45 p.m.

Relax on a pontoon boat while exploring Elkhorn Slough, a 7-mile-long backwater estuary that provides critical habitat for more than 100 species of fish, an abundance of waterfowl and shorebirds, and California's highest concentration of southern sea otters. Learn firsthand about TNC's role in protecting the reserve and efforts to conserve coastal habitats in the face of climate change.

→ **Activity:** 1.5-hour naturalist-guided cruise

Cost: \$35 per person



Newport Bay

Friday, November 6

Visit a gem on the coast of Orange County that's home to nearly 200 bird species. As an important rest stop and wintering ground for migrating birds from Alaska and Canada, it's one of the top birding sites in the country. Learn how TNC is working to help Southern California's wildlife thrive amid a changing climate and ensure that the region has sustainable water supplies.

→ **Hike:** Easy, 1-2 miles

Cosumnes River Preserve

Wednesday, November 18

Spot a variety of birds on your visit to this major stop on the Pacific Flyway. Spanning more than 50,000 acres, the preserve hosts over 250 species of birds, including sandhill cranes. As the last free-flowing river on the Sierra Nevada's western slope, the Cosumnes provides beneficial flooding that makes it a wellspring of conservation opportunities. Come see TNC's agricultural water management and habitat restoration strategies in action. The trip culminates with a sunset viewing of sandhill cranes.

→ **Hike:** Easy, 1 mile; wheelchair accessible