

Volunteers Answer The Call of the Wild

Our densely forested woodlands, cascading creeks, rolling grasslands and magnificent marshlands are home to more than 500 fish and wildlife species. Currently, the East Bay Regional Park District protects and manages habitat for 70 special status fish and wildlife species. Our efforts of caring for the land

ensure the preservation of native species and habitats in the East Bay Region for generations to come.



California's only native sunfish, the Sacramento perch, has virtually disappeared from its native habitats and is now a California listed "Species of Special Concern".

Today, more than ever, the management and conservation of the District's diverse and treasured wildlife requires cautious stewardship and hands-on public involvement. The melding of volunteer energy with the expertise of our science based staff is producing extraordinary results. Volunteers are the cornerstone of our Wildlife Program! By sharing their time and talents, volunteers sustain our noble cause to promote the sound stewardship of the region's important natural resources.

Wildlife volunteers participate in numerous hands-on conservation and resource management activities that enhance wildlife habitats.

Volunteer projects include re-vegetating channels

with native willows and shrubs to improve an area's ecological value, creating and managing nesting habitat for endangered birds, planting tree seedlings to enhance the regeneration of oak woodlands, placing and maintaining nest boxes for a variety of wildlife, and controlling "green aliens" (noxious weeds). In addition, volunteers get to "immerse" themselves in the work through pond restoration efforts designed to help the region's "moist-skinned" treasures - Amphibians.



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Volunteers also enjoy the discovery of the "miracle of life" by checking wood duck nest boxes.



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Monitoring a nest box.

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Wildlife volunteers spend a lot of time, energy and efforts helping to protect and enhance the wildlife habitat in your East Bay Regional Parks. Why do these people go to such lengths? Some may say it is because of a personal commitment to conservation or the satisfaction that volunteer service brings.



People are "conducting" surveys for the most colorful and charismatic of our waterfowl – the wood duck

Whatever the motivation, volunteer efforts have become invaluable and crucial to our Wildlife Stewardship activities.

Volunteers not only perform many indispensable on-the-ground habitat conservation projects, but also participate in cutting-edge field research. Our trained volunteers help monitor riparian woodland songbirds, grassland dwelling reptile populations, and wetland nesting birds. Thanks to their attention to habitat improvements and research assistance, we are implementing management strategies that are a great benefit for wildlife and future generations of park users.



Our efforts are helping quail nest successfully.



Volunteers gain experiences with wildlife that they can cherish for a lifetime.

Now is the time to look ahead and seize the opportunity to do something truly heroic. In our society, resource management and conservation education play the key roles in shaping the future of our environment. As you experience the sights and sounds of your East Bay Regional Parks, consider your special place in them, and the role you can play when you answer the "call of the wild" by volunteering to preserve our rich natural grandeur.