

## AUTUMN 2015

### Wildlife Movement Education Project



Bobcat February 2015

Check out our newest Cottonwood Canyon celebrity! We've photographed Bob visiting the Cottonwood spring several times, thanks to our Wildlife Movement Education Project funded by the Ann Peppers Foundation, Edison International, and Pasadena Recreation & Parks Foundation. With this funding, AFC placed two motion sensitive cameras at Cottonwood Canyon and is creating curriculum and a website to be used by educators to teach students about urban wildlife corridors.



Deer May 2015

Now we can accurately track the activity of the wildlife through this corridor, making it

easier for AFC to make our case about the importance of preserving this land in its natural state. On most days at least one animal makes an appearance. Bobcat, deer, coyote, racoons and even a red tailed hawk are just a few of the animals photographed visiting the spring. We are grateful to John Lynch, AFC Advisor, for installing and maintaining the cameras.

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## Cottonwood Canyon Acquisition Update

\$375,000 for Cottonwood and Corridors - this is the tremendous support our community has given so far to save the 11-acre Cottonwood Canyon property and secure the only passageway for wildlife into the San Rafael Hills. Remarkably we surpassed the \$300,000 goal. On top of that, professionals and volunteers added \$100,000 worth of their time. As exciting as this all is, it doesn't complete the job.

We are going after \$1,300,000 in government grants to buy the land. This is how we created our Rubio, Millard and Rosemont preserves: government grants for the land and community support for everything else. So what's happening? County and State sources are depleted. In November we all voted on measures to re-open the taps. The County measure fell just short of the required 2/3 vote, but a majority of voters passed the State Water Bond (Proposition 1). We are finally able to apply for these funds to save Cottonwood Canyon's spring and watershed. Separately, we are just about to send to California Department of Fish and Wildlife a major study we commissioned of the Hahamongna to Tujunga Corridor that should allow us to apply to a different source. (We will have more to tell you about the corridor in coming months.) We will not stop until we make certain that bobcats, deer and mountain lions keep moving through Cottonwood Canyon forever.

***"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares drop off like autumn leaves."***

**John Muir**

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## Programs are Afoot!

Tim Martinez is our new Program Administrator and he is dedicated to bringing our programs to a new level. He reports the following:

**Rosemont Preserve** - 3rd grade students from St. James enjoyed a plant adaptation field trip. 6th grade students from Monte Vista Elementary visited three days for geology field trips led by trained docents from the Friends of the Rosemont Preserve. They learned about tectonic plates, the Transverse Ranges, the San Andreas Fault; and how to identify



Paul Rabinov &  
Monte Vista Students

igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks found on the Preserve.

AFC hosted Nicholas Hummingbird, Nursery Manager of the Arroyo Seco Foundation's Hahamonga Nursery, and 40 participants on the Rosemont Preserve. Nicholas led them on a medicinal plant walk and taught how to identify native plants and use them in their daily lives. He also shared his culture as an indigenous Californian to inspire the crowd to steward our shared home of Southern California.

Friends  
of

Rosemont Preserve, led by Frank Colcord, installed jute netting on the Preserve's southern slope in anticipation of this year's El Niño rains.

**Cottonwood Canyon** - Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy's AP Environmental Science class pulled invasive plants in this crucial wildlife corridor that we are working urgently to save. Students were eager to help and enjoyed learning of the Canyon's history and how essential it is to the wildlife population.



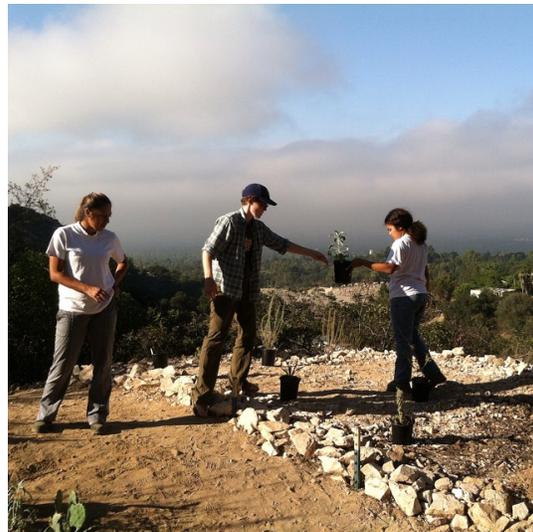
Nicholas Hummingbird

**Millard Canyon** - This year's drought made watering newly planted trees essential. Thanks to the crew from Outward Bound Adventures, trees were watered and invasive plant species removed.

Tim would love to work with you. You can contact him at [timmartinez@arroyosfoothills.org](mailto:timmartinez@arroyosfoothills.org) to see what can be created to interest you.

## Partnership with Outward Bound Adventures

In partnership with the [City of Pasadena's Rose Program](#) and Outward Bound Adventures, AFC hosted five young people, ranging from 14-18 years old, to take part in OBA's [Careers in Conservation](#) program. This innovative program provides local youth with temporary and permanent work with outdoor agencies, giving them skills and experience for "green" jobs in conservation. Led by Rachel Nannini of OBA, these young people gained valuable working knowledge of native and invasive plants, ethnobotany and ecology, and picked up some local history in the process.



OBA crew planting native plants

As part of the daily service activities, overseen by Tim Martinez, the crew cleared a considerable stretch of trail in Rubio Canyon of dead grasses and mustard, planted a native plant garden, watered trees at Millard and Rubio Canyons, and restored habitat in both of our Altadena nature preserves.

AFC is thrilled to share the success of this collaborative effort. We are excited for

future opportunities to get local youth out on our land to improve our trails and natural habitat, and help train the next generation of environmental stewards!

## Did you know .....

**Your Amazon.com purchases can earn donations to AFC!** Each time you make a purchase through Amazon, login to AmazonSmiles at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) before you start shopping. The first time you'll need to select Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy from their list as your charity of choice. From then on Amazon will donate 0.05% of each eligible purchase you make to AFC. Bookmark smile.amazon.com for all your holiday shopping!

## Get Involved with AFC!

### Rosemont Preserve

#### **Habitat Restoration Days**

2nd Saturday of every month,  
9:00-11:00 am

Join us in removing invasive plants and replacing them with natives.

#### **Open Gate Days**

3rd Sunday of every month, 2:00-4:00 pm  
Come visit the Preserve at your leisure,  
take a stroll...

Count the deer and enjoy this beautiful open space in your backyard.



### Rubio Canyon

Saturday, November 28, 9:00-11:00 am

Native plant restoration and invasive removal.

Meet at the trailhead of Rubio Vista Drive, between the houses numbered 1342 and 1352.

For more information about volunteering with the Rubio Canyon Nature Preserve, contact Tim Martinez, [timmartinez@arroyosfoothills.org](mailto:timmartinez@arroyosfoothills.org)

### Old Marengo Park

Sunday, November 29, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Fall Planting & Clean-up

Altadena Heritage & AFC join together to beautify Old Marengo Park. Clear weeds, clean up the park, and plant native plants and poppy seeds to see in the spring!

Located at the intersection of Marengo Avenue and Woodbury Road in Altadena.

Event is free and open to the public.

If you would like to volunteer in any way with AFC [click here](#).



Did you know that you can leave/create a legacy that commemorates your commitment AFC's mission? By making a gift through your estate or naming AFC as a beneficiary of your retirement or insurance plan, you will ensure that our work of protecting the land will continue. If you would like to learn more, please contact us at 626.796.0782.

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