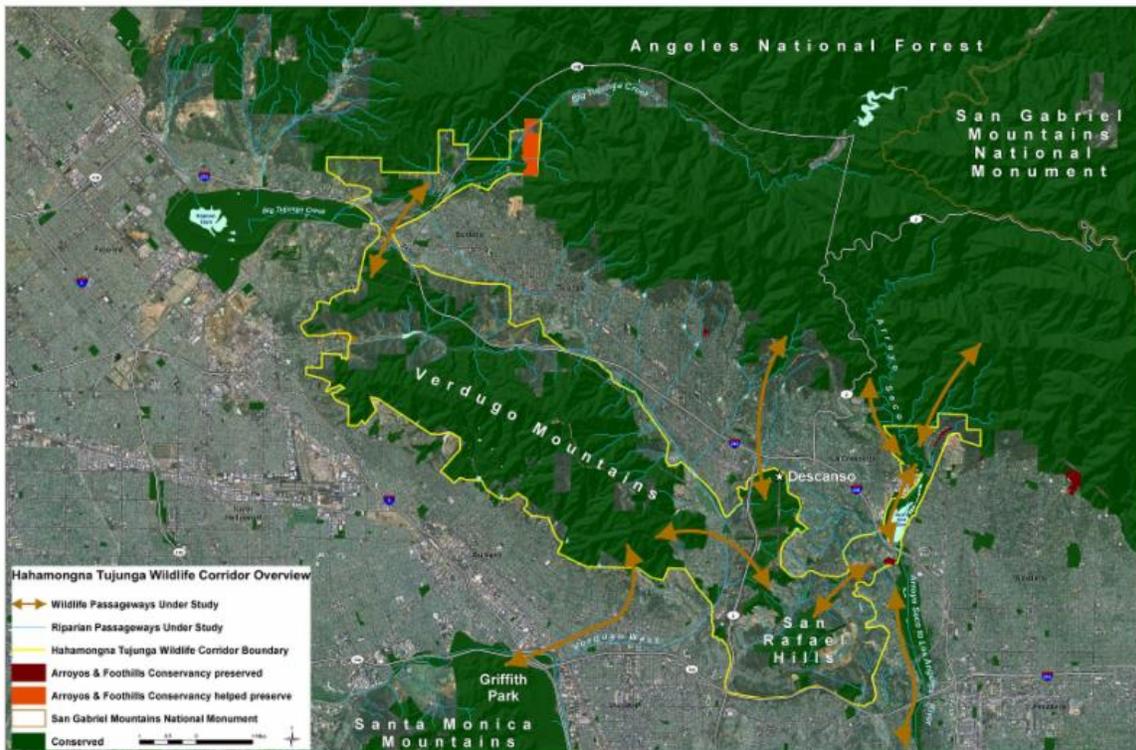


AFC Conservation Analysis Garneres Funding for Conservation of 111 Acres in Big Tujunga Wash



It took five years, but persistence by neighbors, expertise of AFC and the Mountains and Recreation Conservation Authority (MRCA) and funding from the California Legislature and two agencies has resulted in 111 beautiful acres of open land in Big Tujunga Wash being preserved forever.



Big Tujunga property shown in orange in the North West of the corridor

In 2013, neighbors living near this idyllic scene began fighting a planned 100 home-development on the canyon floor. Click [here](#) to read the LA Times

article describing it.

In February, 2017, the local State Assembly Member asked AFC for assistance in acquiring this land. When we checked the property's habitat value in our Biological Study and Land Prioritization Matrix it became evident that this land is a critical part of the Hahamongna to Tujunga Wildlife Corridor. We confirmed it with site visits. This made a compelling case for the Joint Legislative Budget Committee to make a special allocation of \$3,500,000 toward the purchase price. Click [here](#) to read our letter to the Committee.

In 2016, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife adopted our Biological Study as a work plan for the Corridor. This opened the door to an additional \$800,000 of funding for the Big Tujunga Wash property from the Wildlife Conservation Board. \$140,000 from our County Supervisor Kathryn Barger rounded out the necessary funding, and MRCA purchased it.

Saving this land is more than a victory for the Tujunga community and the Corridor. It is a victory for you, our supporters. Your enduring support increased our capacity to impact conservation on a regional level. Now that these 111 acres located at the far west end of the Hahamongna to Tujunga Wildlife Corridor and our all-important 11-acre Cottonwood Canyon on the east end are preserved forever, the Corridor is quite literally "on the map" for these and other essential funding agencies as we move to acquire other properties throughout the Corridor.

So, we want to pause to say a heartfelt thank you to all our supporters who made this possible ... and then we're on to the next acquisition!

Volunteer Spotlight - Mel



It's been over a year since we first met a wonderful trail enthusiast who says "just call me Mel" on the dusty trails of Rubio Canyon. We'd been wondering why the trails were looking so good, and discovered that Mel had taken it upon himself to roll his wheelbarrow out early mornings and work on keeping them well maintained.

He's been a wonderful resource to us ever since.

Mel has a tremendous passion for Rubio Canyon, and is a walking encyclopedia of its history and lore. We have come to rely on Mel to lead our Summer Interns, community groups, and La Salle High School volunteers in restoring and maintaining Rubio's historic trails.

Mel brings a leadership background from the Boy Scouts of America that is well suited to the job, and is now a founding member of the newly created Friends of Rubio Canyon. (If you are interested in learning about the Friends of Rubio Canyon, our Programs and Lands Administrator Tim Martinez will be happy to fill you in -- timmartinez@arroyosfoothills.org.)

We salute you, Mel, and are grateful for your help!

Shumei Native Garden Installation



AFC collaborated with Shumei America this spring to install the first California native plant garden at their Pasadena Center.

Shumei, a spiritual organization, hosts the annual Green Life Food Festival, two days of lectures and workshops covering the growing, preparing, and consuming of healthy food.

AFC's Programs and Lands Administrator, Tim Martinez, offered native plant workshops during this year's festival, and was invited back to advise Shumei on the planting of a permanent habitat and learning garden.

The new garden at Shumei includes sages, grasses, fuchsias, manzanitas, and other native plants of the chaparral and coastal sage scrub -- bringing a piece of the arroyos and foothills to the Pasadena Center grounds. We look forward to coming back and teaching at this "living laboratory" and to watching the garden grow!

Patagonia Pasadena Supports AFC Summer Internship Program!

Patagonia Pasadena has generously sponsored AFC's upcoming Summer Internship Program for the Summer of 2018!

Now in its third year, the Summer Internship Program seeks to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards. AFC introduces high school and college students interested in a variety of different careers to the importance of preserving and restoring our natural open spaces.

Patagonia funding will be used to purchase needed supplies, provide transportation, and finance other operating costs and expenses. We look forward to another summer of education and service, and thank Patagonia for their continuing support.



Wildlife Corridors Make an Impact

AFC's work with the Wildlife Corridor Working group is paying off in a big way. Wildlife corridors are being included in Caltrans plans, city planning ordinances and we just got wind of a \$10 million Prop 68 allocation for the Wildlife Conservation Board to provide grants for wildlife corridor infrastructure projects.

These important passageways for urban wildlife are finally being recognized for what they are: critical to the survival of our native wildlife. Thanks to your support we've identified and validated the prominent corridor in our neck of the woods. Now we continue with the work to ensure it becomes and remains a viable wildlife highway connecting the fragmented natural open space in our area.

Events & Volunteer Opportunities with AFC!

[Rosemont Preserve](#)

Habitat Restoration Days

2nd Saturday of every month,
8am-10am

Join us in removing invasive plants and replacing them with natives plants along with some light trail work.

Open Gate Days

1st and 3rd Sunday of every month,
9am-11am

Come visit the Preserve at your leisure, take a stroll...Count the deer and enjoy this beautiful open space in your backyard.



Guided Hike with Tim Martinez

Saturday, July 28, 9am-11am

Join AFC Program and Lands Administrator Tim Martinez for a hike through Rosemont Preserve! Learn plant uses, history, and survival skills of the San Gabriel Mountains. Develop a relationship with the plants in your area, and practice ethical harvesting in your own garden. Please dress appropriately and bring a canteen of water.

Urban Wildlife Tracking Tour with Johanna Turner

Saturday, August 25th, 9:00am - 11:00am

Join wildlife photographer and expert tracker Johanna Turner for a tour through the Preserve. Johanna helps the National Park Service track and document mountain lions in the Verdugo Mountains. AFC is lucky to partner with her and Denis Callet who have installed cameras on several AFC properties to document wildlife passage through these natural open spaces.

Learn what to look for when taking a stroll in the wild and the differences between animal tracks. Because of the intimate nature of this tour - looking for tracks along the trail - we need to limit our group to 15. If you would like to attend please **RSVP to RosemontFriends@gmail.com** to let us know you will be attending. The first 15 to respond will be guaranteed a spot, a waiting list will be created in case of cancellations.

[Hahamongna to Tujunga Corridor](#)

[Patagonia Pasadena: A Presentation on Wildlife Tracking & Corridors](#)

Thursday, June 28, 7pm-10pm

Join us for a fascinating evening at [Patagonia Pasadena](#) with wildlife photographer Johanna Turner, and AFC Programs and Lands Administrator Tim Martinez, to learn about local wildlife tracking and corridors. Find out about the Hahamongna to Tujunga Wildlife Corridor Initiative, which seeks to link the San Gabriel Mountains at Hahamongna Watershed Park to the San Gabriels at Big Tujunga Wash - a 20-mile passage for wildlife through the San Rafael Hills and the Verdugo Mountains.

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



Legacies & Bequests

You can create a legacy that commemorates your commitment to 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 and the wildlife on it will continue. If you would like to learn more, please contact us at 626.796.0782.

Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy

www.arroyosfoothills.org
arroyosfoothills@gmail.com

[\(626\)796-0782](tel:6267960782)

 Like us on Facebook

[DONATE NOW](#)