

# enterprise

YOLO COUNTY NEWS



Tuleyome's staff Certified California Naturalists will set up and maintain the field equipment necessary to track and photograph wildlife and build a baseline data base of the animal species that inhabit Tuleyome's properties in and around the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, including the Silver Spur Ranch in Lake County. Mary K. Hanson/Courtesy photo

## Community News

### Sacramento Zoo grants Tuleyome \$3,500

By **Mary K. Hanson**

Last week, the Sacramento Zoo's Conservation Fund awarded Tuleyome with a grant for \$3,500.

The funds will be used to purchase field equipment for use in Tuleyome's Certified California Naturalist program, citizen science projects and other environmental field studies.

The equipment will initially be used for tracking and photographing wildlife and building a baseline data base of the animal species that inhabit Tuleyome's properties in and around the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, including the Silver Spur Ranch in Lake County. Anecdotal evidence on the ranch suggests that it is being used by mountain lions and tule elk as a thoroughfare and may also be visited by black bears. The field equipment will allow Tuleyome to find out exactly what is out there and how the property is being used by the animals.

Once the database is established, the equipment will be used to further track fluctuations in wildlife habitation from year-to-year and season-to-season and, in the future, to launch in-depth behavioral studies. All of this is being done in the hopes of creating a more effective and proactive management system for Tuleyome's properties in the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. Data will be made available to Tuleyome's partners in the community including the Bureau of Land Management, the US Forest Service and other nonprofit conservation organizations.

Although the Silver Spur Ranch was badly scorched by recent wildfires, Tuleyome see this as an opportunity to watch how different species of wildlife reestablish themselves in their habitat in the wake of a devastating wildfire.

The grant supplied by the Sacramento Zoo was part of its small grants program which sets aside money for projects that aim to save wild animals and wild places. The Sacramento Zoo Conservation Committee meets at least quarterly and applications are reviewed on a rolling calendar throughout the year. Tuleyome's award was a result of the most recent grant cycle.

Based in Woodland, Tuleyome was founded in 2002 as a volunteer advocacy-oriented nonprofit conservation organization. Their mission is to engage in advocacy and active stewardship with diverse communities to conserve, enhance, restore, and enjoy the lands in the region. Their Certified California Naturalist program debuted earlier this year and was such a success that two classes are being offered in 2019.

The Sacramento Zoo Conservation Fund is one of several sponsors of Tuleyome's Certified California Naturalist program. Other donors and sponsors include Adventure Publications, Backcountry Press, Blademate, Cachuma Press, Christina Mann, Douglas Toys, Eric Newman, Folkmanis Inc., Forest Origins, Grayl, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, Lifestraw by Vestergaard, MIT Press, Nalgene, Naturegraph Publishers, Nature's Way, Oberon Design, Putah Creek Council, R.W. Morse Company, Sakura of America, Sneed Collard III and Bucking Horse Books, The Experiment Publishing, The Fit Life, The Strong Foundation, Waterford Press, Wetsox, Woodlink and Wild Republic.

For more information about the Certified California Naturalist program, see Tuleyome's website at <http://tuleyome.org/projects/calnat/>.

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