

# Update on CNLM-Managed Preserves in Carlsbad

Presentations by Preserve Managers: Brooke Prentice-Dekker and Kathleen Balazs

# Outline

- Brooke Prentice-Dekker
  - Biomonitoring and Preserve Results
  - Planting
- Kathleen Balazs
  - Coastal California Gnatcatcher survey results
  - Restoration
  - E-bikes and illegal trails

# San Diego Thornmint

- Rainfall 5.65 inches
- Below Average Counts but increase from 2021
- Rancho La Costa (988)
  - Uphill Outseed RLC (15)
  - RLC 1 (0), RLC 2 (87), & RLC 3 (7)
- Carlsbad Oaks North (331)
  - Outseed EFTS (5) & EFTN (1)
  - Uphill Outseed CON (91)



# Coastal Sage Scrub Monitoring



- CSS Monitoring
  - City of Carlsbad, RLC, CON, Aviara, Calavera Hills
- Results
  - Increase in Shrub Cover (77%)
  - 26 Native Forbs (Narrow Leaf Bedstraw, Wild Cucumber, Soap Plant)
  - 6 Nonnative Forbs (Tocolote)

# Blochman's Dudleya

- Fenced Area
- Three quadrats
- High of 14 occurred in January and March
- 24 flowering in surrounding area



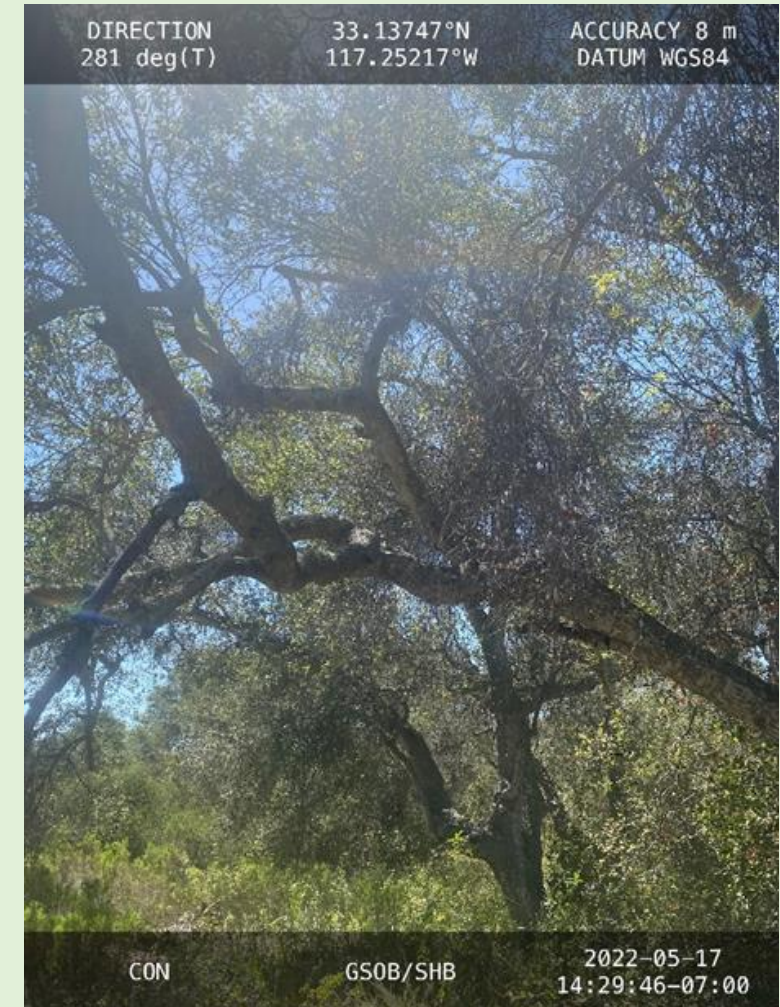
# Argentine Ant Surveys

- Focused Surveys Argentine Ants
- 26 Bait Cards; 6 Positive
- San Diego Coast Horned Lizard



# Oak and Willow Monitoring

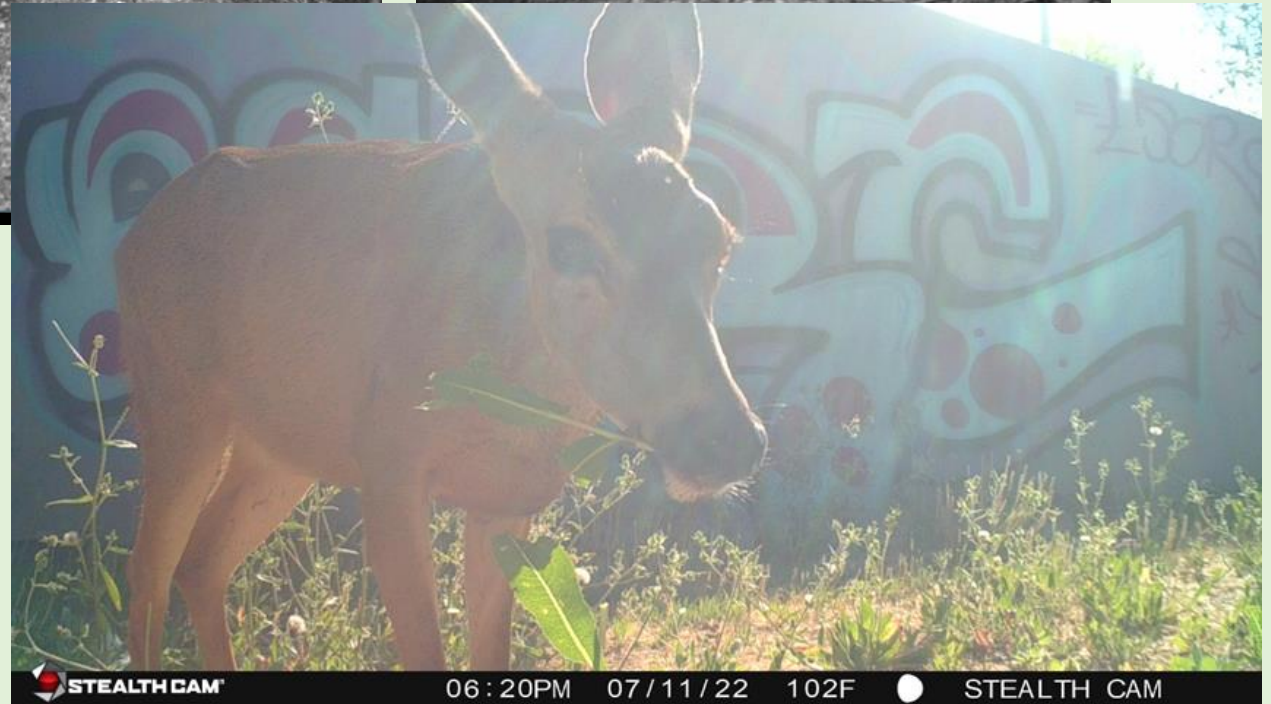
- Shot Hole Borer
  - Buena Vista
  - Carlsbad Oaks North
  - The Crossings (40% resprout)
  - Lagoon Lane
  - Poinsettia Park (Not Confirmed)
  - Carrillo Ranch
  - Lake Calavera
- Golden Spotted Oak Borer
  - Carlsbad Oaks North
  - Carrillo Ranch
  - Lake Calavera



# Wildlife Movement

- Wildlife Cameras

- Calavera Hills
- Carlsbad Oaks North
- Rancho La Costa
- Encinas Creek





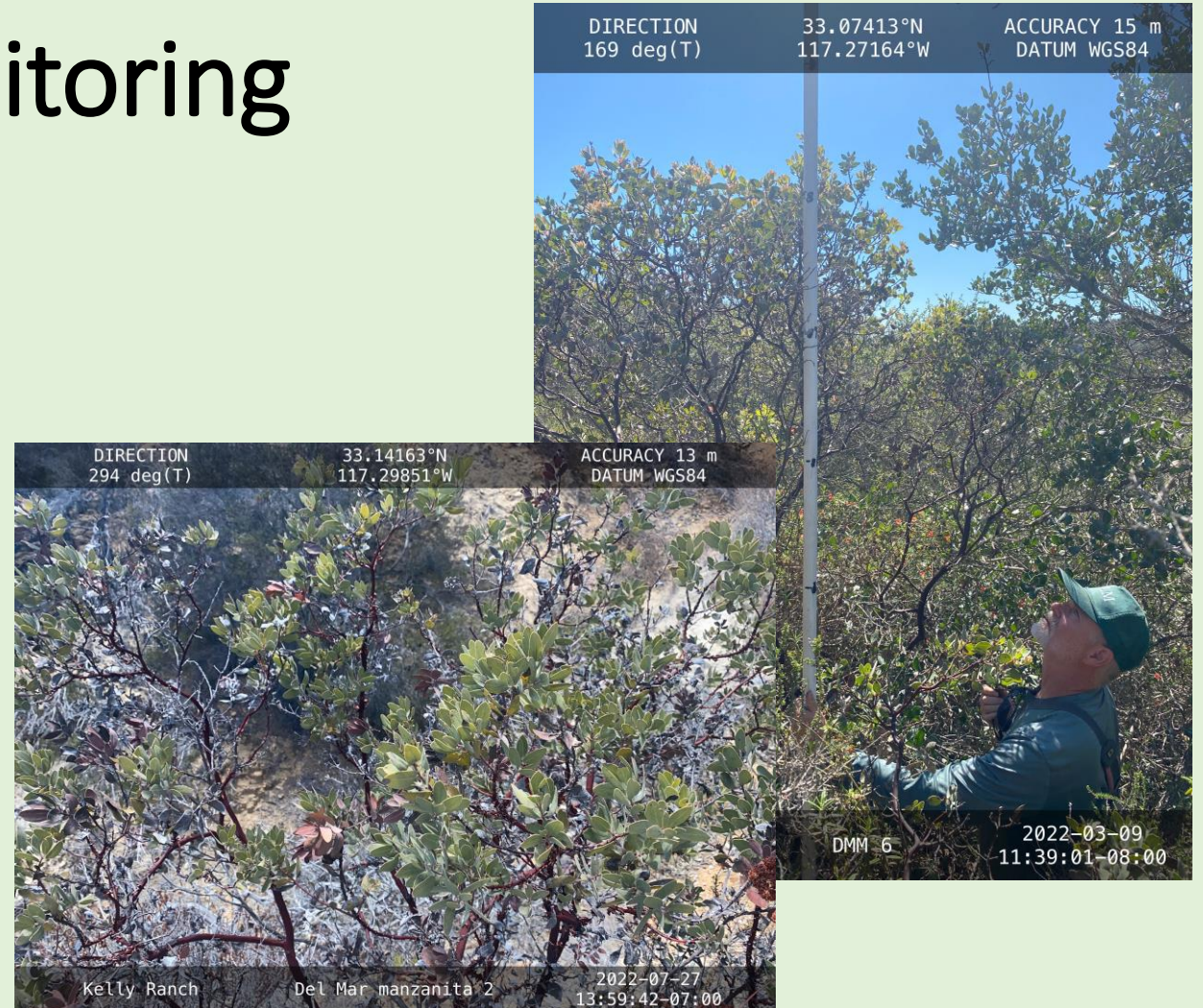
# CNPS and Clay Lens Focused Studies



- Kelly Ranch
  - Clay Lens x 2
  - CNPS Coastal Sage Scrub x 2
- Calavera Hills/Robertson Ranch
  - Clay Lens x 4
  - CNPS Southern Maritime Chaparral x 2

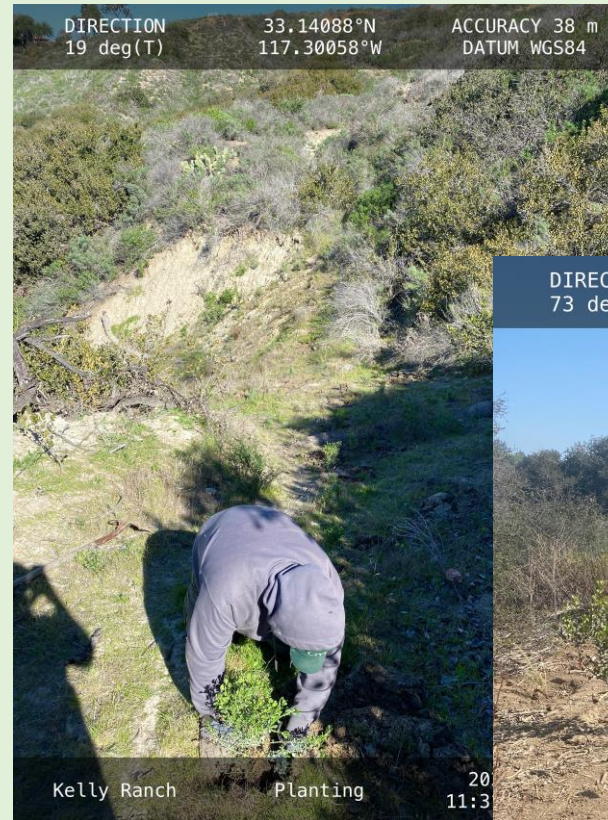
# Sensitive Shrub Monitoring

- La Costa Glen
  - Summer Holly
  - Del Mar Manzanita
- Kelly Ranch
  - Cliff Spurge
  - Del Mar Manzanita
  - Box Thorn
  - Wart-stemmed Ceanothus

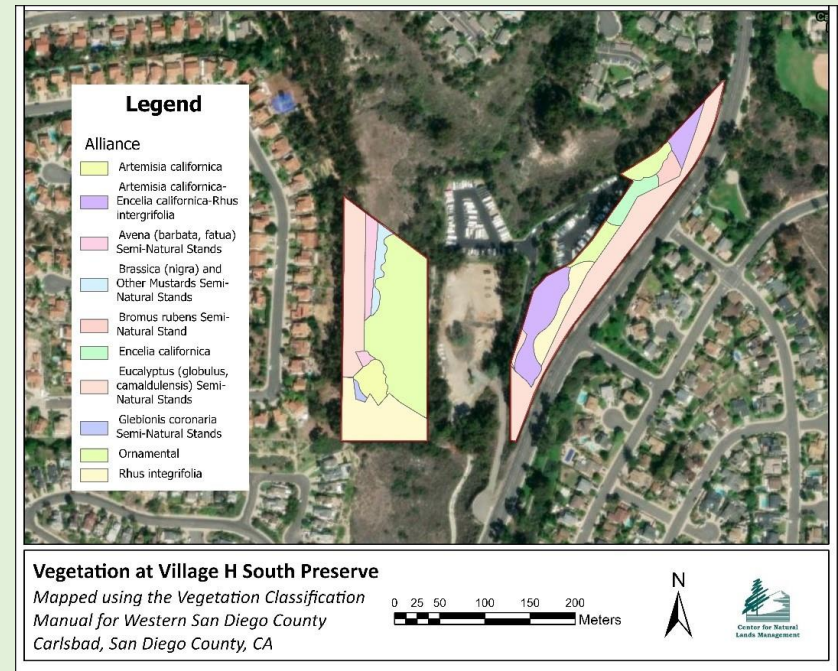
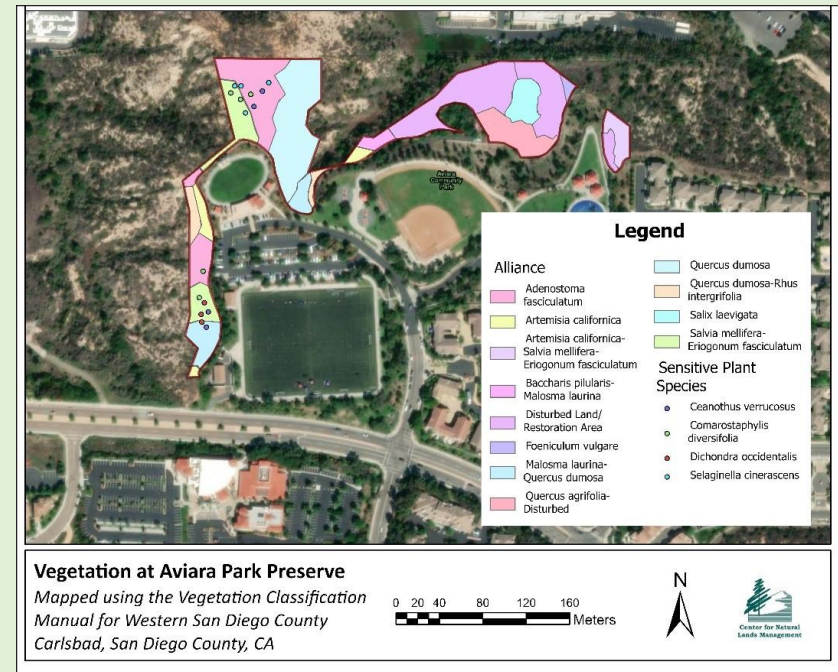
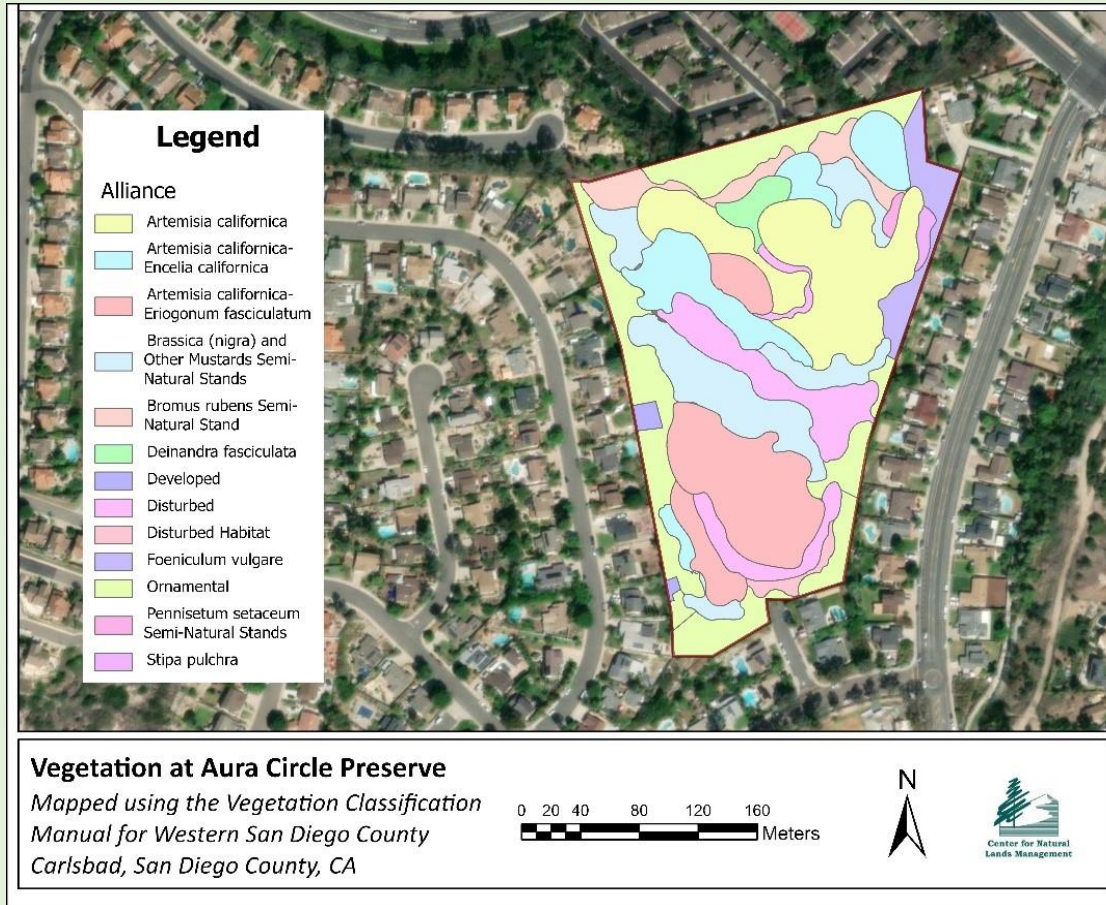


# Planting

- Carlsbad Oaks North
  - Added to Restoration Area
- Lake Calavera
  - Planted Oaks
- Kelly Ranch
  - Planted in Erosion Area
- Calavera Hills
  - Village H North CSS and Grassland
- Rancho La Costa
  - Gibraltar Restoration



# Updated Vegetation Maps



A California Gnatcatcher is perched on a branch with small yellow buds. The bird has a black cap, a white breast, and a long tail with a black tip. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

# Results from 2022 Carlsbad City-Wide California Gnatcatcher Surveys

Kathleen Balazs

## Coastal California Gnatcatcher (*Poliioptila californica californica*)

- Federally-listed Species (1993 - Threatened)
- Habitat: coastal sage scrub
- Range: southern Ventura County south to Baja California
- Peak breeding season: March-April





Observed CAGN on  
CNLM Preserves in  
North County San Diego  
~1,500 Acres of CSS  
Surveyed  
92 pairs observed, 29  
single male/unk

Preserve or Area Name	Acres of CSS Surveyed	# pair	# single male or unk
Alemere-County off-site	60	1	0
Aura Circle	15.1	1	0
Aviara Park	5.6	1	0
Batiquitos Drive	2.6	0	0
Buena Vista Creek Ecological Reserve	12	3	1
Calavera Hills Phase II Habitat Consv. Area (aka Calavera West of Calavera Heights) & Robertson Ranch	Village K	1	0
	Village H	0	0
	Village U/W	1	0
	Village X	0	1
	Robertson Ranch West (Reveg in progress, < 1 acre pre-existing)	6	0
	Robertson Ranch East (28 + 10 ac. css reveg)	2	0
	Total 210 acres		
Cassia	No CSS, but some suitable habitat	0	0
Carlsbad Oaks North	73	13	2
Carlsbad Village	5.8	1	0
Copper Creek-County Off-site purchase by City of Carlsbad	Approximately 125	4	1
Encinas Creek/N. County Habitat Bank	1	0	0
Kelly Ranch HCA	49	2	2

Preserve or Area Name	Acres of CSS Surveyed	# pair	# single male or unk
La Costa Canyon Park	6.9	1	0
La Costa Glen	21	0	1
La Costa /Romeria	3.3	0	0
Lake Calavera	70	5	1
Los Monos	18.9	1	0
Luchia		1	2
Macario Canyon	14.4	0	1
Municipal Golf Course	121	12	7
Poinsettia Park	5.6	0	1
Rancho La Costa (La Costa Villages) ~650 acres	Choumas-P-County	15	1
	Greens	7	1
	Ridgeline-West	7	1
	Ridgeline-East	2	2
	Denk Mountain	4	4
	Nelson-County	0	0
University Commons		1	0
Veterans Preserve	14.9	0	0
Village H	15.1	0	0

Observed CAGN on CNLM Preserves in North County San Diego  
~1,500 Acres of CSS Surveyed  
92 pairs observed, 29 single male/unk



# SWFL, LBVI, Raptor Surveys

- *Least Bell's vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus; LBVI) and southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax traillii extimus; SWFL): Carrillo Ranch, The Crossings, Lagoon Lane, Lake Calavera, and Poinsettia Park.*
- *Raptor surveys: Carrillo Ranch, Lake Calavera, and Poinsettia Park.*

## Raptor Survey Spring 2022

Preserve	Barn Owl	Coopers Hawk	Northern Harrier	Osprey	Peregrine Falcon	Red-tailed Hawk	Red-shouldered Hawk	White-tailed Kite
Carrillo Ranch							2	
Lake Calavera	1	4	3		1	2	2 adult, 1 juvenile	3
Poinsettia Park				2			1 adult, 1 juvenile	

# Habitat Restoration – Grassland at Gibraltar St.



## Native Grassland Species Planted

- Purple needlegrass** (*Stipa pulchra*)
- Giant wild rye** (*Elymus condensatus*)
- Deerweed** (*Acmispon glaber*)
- Milkweed** (*Asclepias fascicularis*)
- Gumplant** (*Grindelia camporum*)
- Blue-eyed grass** (*Sisyrinchium bellum*)
- Everlasting** (*Pseudognaphalium californicum*)



# Rancho La Costa – E-bike and Illegal Trail Issues



- Denk Mountain trails: 15 new speed limit signs around trails at trail heads and going downhill from viewpoint and east connector
- Wildlife corridor: 4 speed limit signs, 4 additional no EMTB signs
- East Ridgeline: 3 speed limit signs, 4 additional no EMTB signs

# Future Plans

- Bird monitoring
  - LBVI
- Invasive Species Removal
- Continued SDTM Enhancement
- Restoration via Planting
- Coastal Sage Scrub Monitoring
- Bat Surveys
- Vegetation Mapping
- Pollinations Studies
- San Diego Horned Lizard and Ant Surveys
- Wildlife Movement Studies