

Who we are

The Coyote Valley Landscape Institute at De Anza College was developed to foster the sound science needed to identify and study the critical wildlife linkages in the Central Coast Region of California.

Our focus on sustainability, sound science and stewardship is helping students realize that they can make a difference and help create a "green vision" for their communities.

Why we are passionate

The Institute will pioneer the largest, long-term connectivity study of the Central Coast region in California history! The research will also provide a foundation for long-term planning for species and ecosystem restoration within California.



One of the major benefits of this program is the on-the-job training provided to community college students. Our **Students** are learning science in the most appropriate place – one of the largest outdoor classrooms in the state – while conducting top-level research and contributing to their **Community** through a sound science approach. In addition, this work instills leadership, team-building and problem solving skills which are essential for solving social and environmental problems in our



communities. Our team has worked extensively with many community leaders, including Assembly member Ira Ruskin, to share concerns about these essential landscape linkages. AB 2785, authored by Assembly member Ruskin and recently signed into law, directs the Cal Department of Fish and Game to identify and protect wildlife corridors throughout California. The Institute's long-term study provides the sound science and fieldwork needed to assist in this effort by assembling field research teams to collect, record, and analyze data. The Institute will also form working partnerships with resource agencies, nonprofits, land trusts and other academic institutions. Furthermore, it will develop strategies to include cultural, ethnic and gender groups in creating and implementing community-based collaborative efforts to preserve, protect and restore native species and ecosystems.

What others are saying...

Students in the program don't just learn the value of wildlife corridors. They also receive specialized training that will allow them to document wildlife movement for public agencies like the Valley Transportation Authority and Santa Clara Valley Water District. – *Bay Nature, January 2009*

De Anza College researchers and students are working to make sure that wildlife and people can coexist in the Santa Cruz Mountains. – *Santa Cruz Sentinel, December 2008*



Why should I donate?

The Institute is working to secure a permanent endowment to conduct this long term visionary study. The funds will allow field research teams to be put into the seven Central Coast key connectivity points over the next 50 years by supporting field instructors, field interns, equipment and program oversight. In addition, it would provide funding for educational outreach activities, which would include K-12 students, other community colleges and universities. These outreach activities would provide invaluable training for students and community members while at the same time building long-term community-based partnerships to protect one of California's most valuable natural resources; **Wildlife.**

The Environmental Studies Department has already received support from The Morgan Family Foundation, Ben and Ruth Hammett, Michael Lee Foundation and others. Community members just like you are making a Statewide Wildlife Corridor System a reality!

Will you join us in our efforts?

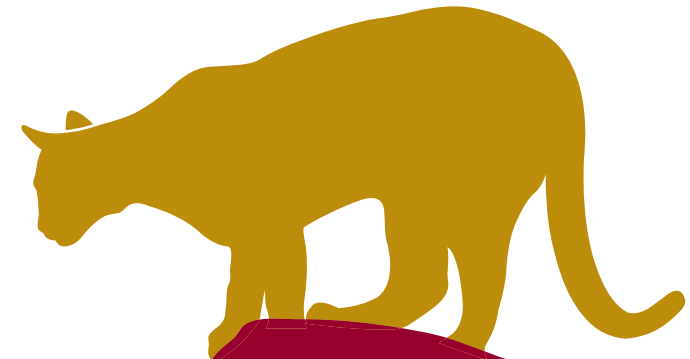


Where we research

The Institute's long-term study will encompass all of the Central Coast region including the following key connectivity points.

Corridor Connections

- Coyote Valley (Diablo Range and Santa Cruz Mountains)
- Pajaro River Valley (South Santa Cruz Mountains and Diablo Range)
- Salinas River Valley (Sierra de Salinas and the Gabilan Mountains)
- San Benito River Valley (Diablo Range and the Gabilan Mountains)
- Pacheco Pass (Northern and Southern Diablo Range)
- Diablo Range (Northern Diablo to Southern tip of Diablo)
- Santa Cruz Mountains (Southern Santa Cruz Mountains surrounding Monterey Bay and North to San Mateo)



Coyote Valley is one of the 10 most endangered landscapes in America.

– *Scenic America Designation, Awarded 2001*



What we do



Through traditional and cutting edge survey techniques, students have been able to utilize their Wildlife Corridor Technician training to discover some amazing information about Coyote Valley, a threatened open space and critical wildlife corridor providing connectivity for many species between the Diablo Range and the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Prior to the effort in Coyote Valley, no long term or multiple year data had been collected and analyzed on the impacts of developing this essential corridor.

De Anza College students:

- **Tracked** and surveyed mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, badgers, deer and 19 other species of mammals moving across Coyote Valley. This clearly demonstrated that Highway 101 is not a complete barrier to wildlife movement, as previously stated in a published Draft Environmental Impact Report.
- **Identified** over 170 bird species using Coyote Valley, such as ferruginous hawks, golden eagles, bald eagles, peregrine falcons, short-eared owls and even a crested caracara. California birders are flocking to Coyote Valley!
- **Educated** over 5,000 students and community members about the vital importance of this ecological treasure!

Coyote Valley is crucial to the youth and community of San Jose - serving as a gateway to reconnect our college students with nature. This is an effort to protect this indispensable area for future generations by forging a "partnership for the future" by linking wildlife needs, the cultural heritage of the Amah Mutsun and Muwekma Ohlone peoples of Coyote Valley, educational opportunities and a natural history museum for millions of ecotourists.



Ways to Donate

You can contribute your tax deductible donation in many ways! When using any one of these methods, please make sure to clearly denote "De Anza College, Environmental Studies Program" so that funds will help support The Coyote Valley Institute.

- Give with confidence through our secure website at: <https://secure.entango.com/donate/fhda>
- Send a check or provide your credit card information using a gift form available at: <https://fhdafiles.fhda.edu/downloads/fndfhda/gift.pdf>

Mail, email or fax the gift form to the attention of:

Pat Cornely, Executive Director

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For more Information on creating an endowment please contact our project manager:

Julie Phillips, Morgan Family Chair Environmental Studies

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Links are also available on the Environmental Studies website: www.deanza.edu/es/
Donations of any and all sizes are welcomed and most graciously appreciated.



The Coyote Valley Landscape Institute

at De Anza College

Making connections for
students and wildlife
since 2006.

