

TRAILS & CONSERVATION

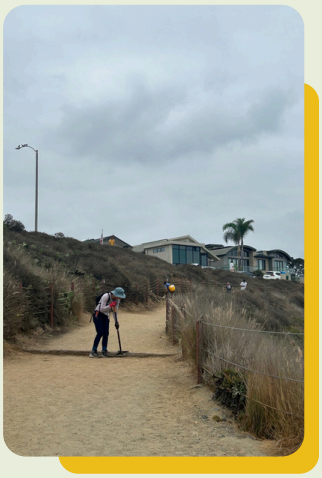


A SUMMER OF CONSERVATION

In preparation for the rainy season to come, both volunteers and our Trails and Conservation staff got to work on all things trails. Over the last 3 months, **119 volunteers** helped us make great progress in trail maintenance, organic waste diversion, and invasive species management.

TRAIL STEWARDSHIP

Four trail events were hosted at Hubbs Trail where volunteers helped with trail widening, invasive species removal, water bar building, and loose trash pickup. **Seven water bars** were built at the head of the trail to divert water and help maintain the treadway. Volunteers also helped remove **131.69 pounds of trash** from the lagoon.









ORGANIC WASTE DIVERSION



We are grateful for our ongoing partnerships with local restaurants **Campfire**, **Herb & Sea**, **Jeune et Jolie**, and **Vigilucci's Seafood & Steakhouse**, as well as **Jimbo's** grocery store. Through these partnerships we are able to successfully divert organic waste that would otherwise go to the landfill and repurpose it to support our sustainability projects at our Discovery Campus and trails.

PRODUCE COLLECTION

In partnership with Jimbo's food recovery program, **151.15 pounds** of unsellable organic produce was collected to sustainably support our animal ambassadors' diets.





RECYCLING

Through our oyster shell collection program, we diverted **707 pounds** of oyster shells from the landfill and repurposed them into **16 oyster wattles** to prevent erosion on our trails and bluffs.





MOTUS

Motus is a radio-telemetry system that functions as a network of collaborating researchers and organizations. Our Discovery Campus hosts a receiving tower which operates on a single frequency. The digitally coded “nanotags” on small animals such as birds, bats, and insects can be detected by any receiving tower in the network.

AGUA HEDIONDA MOTUS STATION

Motus data allows researchers to analyze **flight metrics, local movement, migration strategy, habitat use, and anthropogenic and environmental impacts**. So far this year our Motus tower has detected 2 different species.



Connors, J. (n.d.). Northern Hoary Bat. www.native-nature.org.

A **Northern Hoary Bat** was detected on January 18th as it was traveling from its tagged site, just a couple miles west of our Discovery Campus.



McGowan, J. (2017). Breeding Adult. www.allaboutbirds.org.

Our most recent species, the **Greater Yellowlegs**, was detected on April 10th. This bird was traveling from the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge and stopped at our station for a total of 8 minutes before continuing its journey north.



HABITAT RESTORATION

ALGERIAN SEA LAVENDER

In our ongoing effort to eradicate Algerian Sea Lavender (*Limonium ramosissimum*) from our lagoon, large scale treatment methods have been executed by our trails team in conjunction with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and contracted workers. These treatment methods include tarp deployment, flame-torching, and hand pulling. A total of **37,632 sq ft** of Algerian Sea Lavender was treated this quarter.





INVASIVE TO NATIVE

164 sq ft of invasive plant species were removed from our Discovery Campus. Removing invasives and overgrown vegetation cleared the path for us to install **26 California native plants** to support local biodiversity.



TRAILS AND CONSERVATION TEAM



Riley Millan



Patty Ten Boom Byrnes

TRAILS AND CONSERVATION COORDINATORS

Our Trails and Conservation Coordinators, Riley Millan and Patty Ten Boom Byrnes, are at the forefront of maintaining and enhancing the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation's trails and conservation areas. Their duties include leading habitat restoration projects, volunteer stewardship efforts, and environmental education initiatives.

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE ACTION CORPS

AHLF is thrilled to partner with the California Climate Action Corps (CCAC) for the 2026-2027 service term, welcoming one full-time CCAC Fellow Fabian Montes-Davis! This partnership supports our shared mission to build a more sustainable future through hands-on community engagement. Over the next year, Fabian will take on exciting projects that strengthen environmental stewardship and inspire local action.



Fabian Montes-Davis



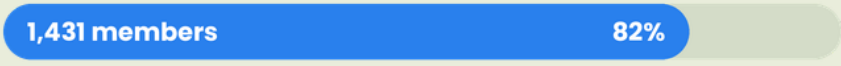
BECOME A MEMBER

YOUR MEMBERSHIP MAKES THIS POSSIBLE

Every trail we maintain, every invasive plant we remove, and every pound of waste we divert is supported by our members. Membership dues directly fund the conservation work you see in this newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP GOAL

1,750 active members by June 30, 2027



Only 319 more members to reach our goal!

Join or renew at aguahedionda.org

Become a member or renew today at **aguahedionda.org** and help protect the lagoon for wildlife and our community.

This year, our goal is to reach **1,750 active members by June 30, 2027.** We currently have **1,431,** so we need **319 more** neighbors to reach our goal.

2026 PARTNERS

PINNACLE	PREBYS FOUNDATION
LEGACY	nrg
VISIONARY	Nordson, SLAGGIE FAMILY FOUNDATION
CHAMPION	Carlsbad Educational Foundation, Grand Pacific Resorts, SANDERS TECH ED FOUNDATION
GUARDIAN	Hunter, The Leonard Foundation.
STEWARD	SWIFT FOUNDATION, ThermoFisher SCIENTIFIC, RINCON TRIBE
ADVOCATE	Pratt, POPPY BANK
FRIEND	DAVID C. COPLEY FOUNDATION, ELWYN HELLER FOUNDATION OF SAN DIEGO





Upcoming Events

November 6th
Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Bayshore Trail: 4700 Bayshore Dr

November 7th
Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Hubbs Trail: 4200 Garfield St

December 3rd and 5th
Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: TBD

REMINDERS

- Gloves, tools, snacks & water provided
- Bring your friends and family!
- Check out our social medias!

THANK YOU

We're grateful to all volunteers who supported our trail events and weekly habitat restoration! Your time and care are restoring habitats, maintaining trails, and protecting these special places for our community and wildlife.

JOIN US

Use the QR code provided here to sign up for future events and help us make a difference!