

UPPER CHIQUITA NEEDS YOUR HELP

PROTECT
THE
WILDERNESS

THE TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AGENCIES (TCA) has been mandated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) to preserve the wildlife and flora at the Upper Chiquita Canyon Conservation Area (Upper Chiquita). Upper Chiquita contains coastal sage scrub, oak woodland, and riparian habitat on approximately 1,200 acres. This site was formerly used for cattle grazing and ultimately planned to be a golf course. However, in coordination with the USFWS and CDFG, the TCA was able to place a Conservation Easement over the property thereby protecting it from development in perpetuity.

WE HAVE IDENTIFIED OVER 125 SPECIES, such as the California gnatcatcher, which is considered to be threatened with extinction by the USFWS. Other wildlife species identified on site include the cactus wren, barn owls, lazuli bunting, horned lizards, mule deer, bobcat and mountain lion. The TCA conducts surveys for rare and endangered plant species which has identified six species within Upper Chiquita, including the Catalina mariposa lily and the Coulter's matilija poppy. TCA have been actively managing Upper Chiquita by conducting wildlife and plant surveys, vegetation mapping, eradicating non-native species (i.e., mustard and artichoke thistle), and re-establishing native habitats (i.e., coastal sage scrub) allowing rare and endangered species to once again flourish and thrive at this site.



AS PART OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT, the TCA is responsible for preserving, managing and restoring this area. Management activities include weed control and scientific testing of different habitat management techniques. **UNFORTUNATELY,** to meet our responsibilities to the area, public access must be restricted. However, **AS AN ALTERNATIVE,** we do host annual guided spring tours, which feature the Upper Chiquita Conservation area for the public to view and learn about the area.

WE ALSO INVITE YOU TO VISIT AND TO EXPLORE ONE OF ORANGE COUNTY'S WILDERNESS AREAS DESIGNATED FOR PUBLIC USE:

O'Neill Regional Park
949-923-2260

Riley Wilderness Park
949-923-2265

Caspers Wilderness Park
949-923-2210

For all of us, the plant life and wildlife, we ask your help to keep this site free from unauthorized recreational activities. Your efforts to help spread the word will not only be a benefit to us all - the plant life and wildlife will thank you too.

Thank you for your help!

Environmental Planning Department at the Transportation Corridor Agencies (949) 754-3481