

Sulphur Creek Nature Center Alameda Fish and Game Commission Grant Report



Alameda Fish and Game Commission awarded Sulphur Creek Nature Center \$10,000 in the Spring of 2023. The grant is making a great impact on our center as it supports the overall care for the resident animals. The financial impact of our reduced revenue is greatly felt; with the help of this grant we have been able to maintain a well-stocked food supply, keep up with veterinary services, expand on our education tools, and keep up the bio-security needs for our residents.

Sulphur Creek Nature Center's resident animals are non-releasable due to their injuries. Even though they cannot return to their natural habitats they serve the community by being wildlife ambassadors for their species through our group programs and park displays. More than half of the grant has gone to purchasing food for the animals we care for at our center. We have been able to purchase chicks, mice, quail, and insects throughout the year. It is important to offer a variety of food options to all of our animals as it helps them with their nutritional needs. With the rising cost in food we greatly appreciate the support to help maintain this variety.

This grant has also aided our center through veterinary expenses this year. Many of our resident animals need additional veterinary care depending on age, unforeseen illness, or unexpected injuries that may occur. The Alameda Fish and Game Commission Grant has financially helped our center keep up with the influx of medical expenses. Having the grant's support this year has helped cover cost for our resident foxes, coyote, amphibians, and many

more. With this we have been able to obtain the needed antibiotics, pain meds, flea meds, vaccines, and vitamins our animals need. Medical costs have added up quickly; this grant has helped reduce the burden of medical bills, and improve the quality of life for many of our senior or ill resident wildlife.



Group program presenting our resident bat

This year Sulphur Creek has also been awarded funds for cage maintenance. We were able to upgrade our bio-security for our residents birds, because of HPAI (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza). We have been able to keep our resident birds safe by having footbaths setups at each bird enclosure, this help prevent the spread of the virus that may be located on our staffs' shoes. Lastly, we were also able to buy hardware equipment to help upgrade some of the perching in the aviary enclosures. All the supplies we have acquired due to this

grant have truly helped to keep our resident animals safe.

A portion of the funds from the Alameda Fish and Game Grant have gone to improving our group programming by funding our bio facts needed for the educational programs. Our Center has performed 310 programs this year, reaching out to 5,000 people. This grant has allowed us to slowly increase and improve our collection of bio facts, which are a big hit. These tools will also help our future programs as we move to in-person programs.

Thank you again to the Alameda Fish and Game Commission for all of your support to our facility. It allows us to do our part in supporting the Alameda County community. More information about our organization can be obtained at www.haywardrec.org/sulphurcreek



Sulphur Creek's Biofacts during an event.