

# Sulphur Creek Nature Center 2024



## **Alameda County Fish & Game Report for Sulphur Creek 2024**

In the Spring of 2024, Sulphur Creek Nature Center was thrilled to receive an incredible \$8,000 grant from the Alameda Fish and Game Commission. This generous funding has made a profound difference in our ability to care for the animals that call our center home, ensuring they receive the best possible care while also supporting our mission of environmental education. We are deeply grateful for this support, which has enabled us to provide essential resources and care to both our resident animals and wildlife in rehabilitation.

Our resident animals, all of whom are non-releasable due to injuries that prevent their return to the wild, are living ambassadors for wildlife conservation. Despite not being able to return to their natural habitats, these animals play a crucial role in educating the public about the wonders of the natural world. More than half of the grant has gone toward purchasing food, providing these animals with a varied and nutritious diet, including chicks, mice, quail, rats, rabbits, and insects. With rising food costs, this support has been invaluable, ensuring that the animals receive the sustenance they need to thrive.

The grant has also been essential in addressing the medical needs of our residents. Many of our animals are older or suffer from ongoing health challenges that require frequent veterinary care. Thanks to the Alameda Fish and Game Commission, we have been able to cover the costs of crucial treatments, from antibiotics and pain medications to vaccines and flea treatments. These expenses quickly add up, and this grant has made it possible for us to alleviate some of the financial burdens, ultimately improving the quality of life for many of our senior or ill residents.

In addition to medical care, we have been able to invest in new equipment for our rehabilitation hospital. The purchase of an oxygen concentrator has allowed us to provide vital breathing support to animals in distress. A new refrigerator has also been added to help us store medications and vaccines in an organized and accessible manner. These upgrades have not only supported the well-being of our resident animals but have also benefited the wildlife patients that come through our doors for rehabilitation.

The grant has also played a key role in enhancing our educational programming. This year, we conducted 136 programs, reaching nearly 2,000 people. Thanks to this generous support, we have been able to expand our collection of biofacts—interactive educational tools that allow visitors to engage more deeply with the natural world. These additions are a wonderful asset to our weekend touch table, where community members of all ages can explore and learn about the creatures and ecosystems of Alameda County.

We are especially grateful to the Alameda Fish and Game Commission for helping us reach even more people with the vital message of wildlife conservation and appreciation. This funding allows us to continue fulfilling our mission of nurturing a connection between the community and nature, fostering a future where wildlife is respected, protected, and celebrated.

Once again, thank you to the Alameda Fish and Game Commission for your unwavering support. Your contribution makes it possible for us to continue providing exceptional care to our animals, expand our educational offerings, and make a lasting impact on the people of Alameda County. To learn more about our work and how you can get involved, please visit [www.haywardrec.org/sulphurcreek](http://www.haywardrec.org/sulphurcreek).



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