



Effie Yeaw Nature Center

Endangered Species of California's Central Valley



When most people think of endangered species, they probably think first of tigers, elephants or whales. But there are many plants and animals that are disappearing rapidly right here in California. In the last 200 years, more of California's plants and animals have become endangered than in the last 10,000 years. Over 20 percent of our naturally occurring plant and animal species are classified as endangered, threatened or "of special concern" by state and federal agencies. Why? The Central Valley grows about a quarter of the nation's food and the human population of 32 million is predicted to double in the next three decades. Increasing population, air pollution and escalating water demands are causing problems for farmers, nature enthusiasts and wildlife. Californians now face an important question: **How can plants, animals, and people SHARE the Central Valley?**

The Effie Yeaw Nature Center is proud to present Endangered Species of California's Central Valley for loan to other organizations. This award-winning educational exhibit is filled with sights, sounds and interactive experiences designed for visitors of all ages and abilities. Photos and artwork of Central Valley plant and animal species abound throughout the exhibition. Small visitors can crawl through the human-sized kit fox burrow and learn about the endangered San Joaquin kit fox, Blunt-nosed leopard lizard and Giant kangaroo rat. Visitors can try on a pair of 10 ft. fabric condor wings, and learn about the efforts to bring this endangered bird back from near extinction while "feeding" a condor chick puppet with its puppet "mom." Read success stories about the Bald eagle, Swainson's hawk and Peregrine falcon while listening to their calls. Explore the life cycle of the salmon through photos, games, artwork and text. An electronic game helps clear the confusion over terms like "threatened" and "species of concern." Discover the history of California wildlife protection and ways that people are working together to save wildlife. Learn how farmers are restoring wildlife habitat on their property and benefiting from wildlife-friendly farming practices. Get a close-up look at tiny vernal pool shrimp, and watch a video on endangered plants.

These are just a few of the attractions the exhibition has to offer, and it is available for loan for just \$2,925 for a three-month minimum time period.