Buena Vista Audubon’s Annual Movie Night Presents

*Searching for the Gold Spot: The Wild After Wildfire*
with Filmmaker Maya Khosla

California has been center stage for the massive wildfires now all too common in America’s West. Research has intensified as scientists and firefighters seek more effective ways to both prevent and mitigate the effects of these “super blazes” primed by a warmer world.

*Searching for the Gold Spot* documents the remarkable return of life in forests after wildfire, following teams of researchers and first responders through the Sierra Nevada, Cascade Mountains, and beyond. The discoveries turn recent policy on its head. Rather than logging what was believed to be a destroyed forest, the documentary shows hundreds of living, breathing reasons why post-fire forests need to be saved from logging. Birds, deer, bears, butterflies, bugs — an extensive diversity of animals (and plants) thrive in burned forests.

Creator Maya Khosla reminds us that fire is an “ancient force” and that “out of the transformed backcountry rises a whole new world.” Ms. Khosla and her film drive home the point that human non-interference can be a powerful, healing tool. We humans, however, are not always as resilient. We need emotional release and support. This drive for help drives Maya Khosla’s other passion—poetry. As Sonoma County’s Poet Laureate, her project brings the power of words to match the power of nature unfettered.

Join us for a night uniquely designed to look both beyond and within ourselves for answers that may have been there all along.

**Wednesday, June 19, 2018**
Social: 6:30 p.m.
Election of Board of Directors: 6:45 p.m.
Program: 7:00 p.m.
Nature’s Path Back

Wildfire and wildlife—what comes to mind? Maybe the fire scene from *Bambi*: Birds, squirrels, rabbits, raccoons, deer all fleeing through scorching embers, swirling smoke, and crashing, flaming branches, eventually finding a place of safety. In a real fire, that’s what happens even for non-animated wildlife. Animals that can run, run. Those that can fly, fly. Those that can burrow, burrow.

Of course, wildfires kill some animals. Small mammals that construct surface-level nests, such as woodrats, are more vulnerable because their nests are made of dry, flammable grasses and twigs. Even large mammals can have difficulty escaping wide, racing flames or fires that surge across the tops of trees. The majority of the large mammals that died in the Yellowstone fires succumbed to smoke inhalation due to thick ground smoke.

But populations of most species overall exhibit only temporary impacts of wildfires, primarily through changes in food and shelter options. Numbers of individuals and species of birds as well as both large and small mammals tend to drop for the first year or so following a major fire. Areas that do burn usually produce stronger, nutrient-rich grasses and forbs soon after a fire; grazing mammals move back quickly to enjoy the nutritious new forage. By about seven years post-fire, if no other fires occur, levels of wildlife density and diversity tend to be indistinguishable from those in similar habitats that experienced no fire. Moderate fire can also result in a wider variety of micro-habitats, from open meadows to re-growing forests that provide a variety of biomes supporting multiple species.

Regardless of the final outcome, a fire event always generates a succession of changes as plants, microbes, fungi, and other organisms recolonize the burned land. Wildlife have co-existed with wildfire for centuries. Survivors adapt.

To learn more about the impact of wildfires on wildlife, visit [https://bvaudubon.org/news/](https://bvaudubon.org/news/) and join us for movie night at Buena Vista Nature Center on June 19 at 6:45 p.m.

“Logging projects take the life and soul out of post-fire forests.”
— Maya Khosla, *Searching for the Gold Spot*
EL CORAZON GARRISON CREEK BIRD WALK
Wednesday, June 12 — 7:30 a.m.
The July and August walks are cancelled.
Denise will be birding along El Corazon’s Garrison Creek Trail. There is a nice variety of hawks, songbirds, and waterfowl to be seen.
Directions: From the intersection of El Camino Real and Oceanside Blvd., go east on Oceanside Blvd., turn left (north) into the first gate. Park to the left.
Leader: Denise Riddle (driddle1855@att.net)

STEVE BRAD’S TWO MONTHLY WALKS (DATES AND TIMES) ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!
Join Steve for these surprise-location walks. When and where we go is based on recent reports and Steve’s personal surveying. Starting times and days will vary, so send Steve an email if you are interested in being on his notification list!
Leader: Steve Brad (stepanbrad@gmail.com)

SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK BIRD WALK
Saturday, June 15 — 8:30 a.m. (San Andres Drive)
The July and August walks are cancelled.
We’ll be looking for various species of waterfowl, songbirds, and shorebirds.
Leader: John Haddock (760-941-7824)
FYI: The location of this walk alternates every month between Lower Crest Canyon and San Andres Drive.
Directions for Lower Crest Canyon— From I-5, take Via de la Valle west; left on Jimmy Durante Blvd.; left on San Dieguito Road. Drive east 1 mile to trailhead. (JAN, MAR, MAY, SEP, and NOV)
Directions for San Andres Drive— From I-5, take Via de la Valle east; go right on San Andres Drive to end of road. (FEB, APR, JUN, OCT, and DEC)

COASTAL 101 BIRDING
The Coastal 101 bird walk is cancelled for the summer months and will resume in September!
Executive Director’s Message, by Natalie Shapiro

Welcome to summer!

Buena Vista Audubon has been hard at work this past year, tidying up our Nature Center and trail, setting the stage for new projects, and leading hundreds of participants – young and old – on tours through the Nature Center and on bird walks throughout the county. The sagging trail received a partial makeover with decomposed granite, making it more level and able to withstand flooding a little longer. Thanks to the City of Carlsbad, we received a grant last fall toward installing a boardwalk for the trail so that it is accessible during times of seasonal flooding. This project is currently in the permitting stage and we anticipate construction to begin in the fall. Our dedicated Monday morning Garden Crew and Urban Corps have reduced the abundance of invasive grasses around our trail to a manageable level, allowing the native plants to flourish.

Another grant award came from the Malk Nature Fund for several projects to help enhance the Nature Center and grounds. For instance, last summer, we hired a museum display designer to create and install an interactive replica of the Buena Vista Creek watershed on our upstairs deck to help visitors — especially youngsters — understand how we impact our watersheds. We are also in the planning stage of our Master Plan, which will be a blueprint for ideas on how to freshen up the Nature Center and how to tell the story of BVAS, the watershed, and the ecosystem in a compelling manner.

Other news: Buena Vista took a giant step forward and hired an Executive Director. I was the lucky one chosen for this position. I wear many different hats at BVAS, including helping manage the huge restoration project at our Mauro Nature Preserve, coordinating our various projects, working with Annette on various Nature Center activities, fundraising, and outreach.

And finally, the most important thing: come visit us this summer! Bring the kids (or just yourself), wander through the Nature Center, walk the trail, have a picnic at one of the picnic tables, and then take a stroll along the bike path on the Coast Highway to the beach. We would also love for you to join us. We are always looking for volunteers to host at the Nature Center; work with the Garden Crew; or be a part of the Nature Guides, educating children about the wonders of nature. Come by, sign up, and make a world of difference!

Did you know? Exposure to natural daylight, which is 10 to 100 times brighter than artificial light, can boost your mood. It’s also free.
In Memory Of…
Buena Vista Audubon would like to acknowledge gifts given over the last year in memory of:
Marilyn Hendron
David Rorick
Lee Shapiro

We are touched and honored by the generosity of the friends and families making these donations.

Thank You, Cream of the Crop!
Each spring, organic grocer and neighbor, Cream of the Crop, holds an unsolicited fund raiser during the week of Earth Day for BVAS. Filling bags with healthy surprises, the store sells them for $5.00 each and donates the proceeds to the nature center. This year they earned $600 for BVAS!

BVAS 2019
PELAGIC BIRDING SCHEDULE
May 12 — 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. $125 early-bird
June 9 — 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. $125 early-bird
Aug. 18 — 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. $135 early-bird
Sept. 22 — 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. $135 early-bird
Oct. 13—7 a.m. - 5 p.m. $125 early-bird

For more information visit http://sandiegopelagics.com

Buena Vista Lagoon Nature Camp
This camp focuses on outdoor education and conservation. Campers will have fun learning about local animals and the watershed. Daily activities will include walks, games, art, and music. Various speakers will share their expertise. Register by July 1st at the Buena Vista Audubon Nature Center.

Dates: July 15-19
Time: 9:00-12:00
Ages: 6 - 9 years
Class size: 18
Cost: $125
Questions? Call Dovie at 760-723-0915

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KIDS’ CORNER AT THE NATURE CENTER
Joey and Johnny’s Clubhouse
Sunday, June 16, from 1-4 p.m.
In June we’ll celebrate dads by making tree cards and learning about trees. The Clubhouse will continue in the summer on July 21 and August 18.

Preschool Nature Storytime
Monday, June 24, at 10 a.m.
Bring your little ones (ages 3-5 years) to our monthly program. The focus for June will be ladybugs. July will be canceled. We will return on August 26 to learn about water. Questions? Call Sally at 760-525-2351.
BVAS QUICK CALENDAR

Sat. June 1  Whelan Lake Bird Sanctuary.  8:00 a.m.
(Also July 6 & Aug. 3)

Mon. June 3  Garden Crew  10:00 a.m.
(Every Mon. through summer)

Thurs. June 6  Birding Leo Carrillo  8:00 a.m.
(Also July 4 & Aug. 1)

Fri. June 7  Nature Guides Meeting  10:00 a.m.

Wed. June 12  El Corazon Garrison Creek  7:30 a.m.
(July & August walks are cancelled.)

Sat. June 15  San Dieguito River Park Bird Walk  8:30 a.m.
(July & August walks are cancelled.)

Sun. June 16  Joey & Johnny’s Clubhouse  1:00 p.m.
(Also July 21 & Aug. 18)

Wed. June 19  General Meeting  6:30 p.m.
Movie: Searching For the Gold Spot

Fri. June 21  Board Meeting  9:00 a.m.
(Also July 19 & Aug. 16)

Mon. June 24  Preschool Nature Storytime  10:00 a.m.
(Also Aug. 26)

Mon. July 15-19  BVAS Nature Camp *  9:00 a.m.

For Steve Brad’s walks, days and times will vary. If interested, send Steve an email: stevanbrad@gmail.com

* Must be signed up ahead of time.

Buena Vista Audubon
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760-439-BIRD = (760-439-2473)
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website: www.bvaudubon.org

Find out how an extensive diversity of plants and animals, including a rare nesting pair of Northern Goshawks, thrive in burned forests. See page 1.

Center Hours
Sunday: 1 - 4 p.m.
Monday: CLOSED
Tuesday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.