

Media Release, Friday, June 12, 2015

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Title: Save Mount Diablo Protects Another Wildlife Oasis

Images: Link to download hi-res images with credit information in the file names:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1rvbdemjh4gq6dq/AADesvbhrfObGHv2CpEmBIEFa?dl=0>

As our communities grow, our highways often follow suit. This has the opposite effect on wildlife whose habitats and pathways can become smaller and disconnected as a result of a city's expansion. However, the grassroots environmental non-profit Save Mount Diablo is striving to make sure our communities and wilderness thrive together. In fact, their supporters are helping to give wildlife exactly what they need- their own kind of oases and highways. Save Mount Diablo works to protect oases of land like their new Hanson Hills property along a wildlife highway of sorts.

Hanson Hills' 76 acres include a rare desert olive grove, local grasses and wildflowers, and amazing views in all directions from Long Canyon's tall oak covered ridges. The land was named for those striking ridges and for the Hanson family who wanted to protect their property so that everyone could enjoy it as they have. Twinkling down the hills is another rare and critical need for wildlife these days—a stream that flows right into Marsh Creek. That section of Marsh Creek that the stream flows into happens to be on another property that Save Mount Diablo protected last year, Big Bend. Most importantly, it's another connection in the highway for wildlife.

The Marsh Creek corridor runs from the headwaters on Mount Diablo east to the delta and Hanson Hills is right in the middle of it. Publicly protected natural areas lie to the north of Hanson Hills as well. It's just one property away from the East Bay Regional Park District's future Deer Valley Regional Preserve.

According to Save Mount Diablo Executive Director Ron Brown, "That's important because an oasis is necessary not only for the wildlife to survive but to thrive and they need more than one isolated oasis. They need a continuous corridor of connected and protected wilderness." That is why Save Mount Diablo protects places like Hanson Hills and Big Bend all along Marsh Creek. The creek is a natural draw for wildlife seeking water and tends to be a popular pathway for them to the next protected oasis they need on their journey, "imagine a wildlife Route 66," said Brown.

It's all about connections. All living things in our local environment are connected. They rely on one another for food and shelter. "Without connected land, wildlife can't get what they need to survive. When you help us protect and connect lands, you get to enjoy them too. And future generations will get to experience and connect with nature just like you do."

Without Save Mount Diablo's supporters, pieces of Marsh Creek and the Diablo wilderness will be lost forever to development as our communities continue to grow. "We're creating a national park-sized wilderness right here in your backyard for you, wildlife and future generations to enjoy."

To learn more about Hanson Hills and Save Mount Diablo visit SaveMountDiablo.org.

Summary:

WHAT – Save Mount Diablo works to protect oases of land like their new Hanson Hills property along a wildlife highway of sorts. Hanson Hills' 76 acres include a rare desert olive grove, local grasses and wildflowers, and amazing views in all directions from Long Canyon's tall oak covered ridges.

WHO – The grassroots environmental non-profit Save Mount Diablo is striving to make sure our communities and wilderness thrive together.

WHERE – Save Mount Diablo is located in Walnut Creek and their new Hanson Hills property is at the middle of the length of Marsh Creek.

WHEN – Save Mount Diablo just announced another wildlife oasis is protected thanks to their supporters.

WHY - Save Mount Diablo is creating a national park-sized wilderness for you, wildlife and future generations to enjoy. As our communities grow, our highways often follow suit. This has the opposite effect on wildlife whose habitats and pathways can become smaller and disconnected as a result of a city's expansion. Save Mount Diablo's new Hanson Hills property is located near the middle of Marsh Creek which is like a wildlife Route 66. Hanson Hills will act as a wildlife oasis.

Save Mount Diablo is a non-profit 501(c)(3) conservation organization, which has been preserving lands on and around Mount Diablo and informing the public of the Diablo wilderness' natural values since 1971. Preserved lands have increased from 6,788 acres in one park to more than 110,000 acres in more than 40 parks and preserves. Save Mount Diablo continues to preserve, defend and restore the remainder of the mountain for people and wildlife to enjoy. Contact: Save Mount Diablo, telephone: (925) 947-3535, fax: (925) 947-0642, 1901 Olympic Blvd., Suite 320, Walnut Creek, CA 94596; www.SaveMountDiablo.org ###