NatureMapping "Train-the-Trainers" Workshop

Millerton Area Watershed Coalition

Friday, April 7, 2006 through Sunday, April 9, 2006

McKenzie Preserve (Table Mountain)
Sierra Foothill Conservancy, Auberry Road

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This workshop is directed towards individuals that are involved in education, research and land management within the Sierra Nevada mountain/foothill range and San Joaquin valley – in particular the *Kings, San Joaquin, Fresno, Chowchilla and Merced River watersheds*. The program is funded under a grant from the California Bay Delta Authority also known as CALFED – and is administered locally by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

The workshop will be conducted by Karen Dvornich, National Director of the *NatureMapping* Program which is based at the University of Washington.

The workshop is open to a maximum of 30 participants – with their primary focus on the Kings, San Joaquin, Fresno Chowchilla, and Merced River watersheds in the Sierra Nevada Range and San Joaquin Valley

Who should attend?

- Watershed Coordinators
- Environmental Educators
- Natural Resource Agency Professionals
- Local Experts and Citizen Scientists

How much will it cost?

The cost for the workshop is $30 in which to cover drinks, snacks & lunch

About Karen Dvornich, NatureMapping National Director
Workshop Instructor

Karen Dvornich joined the Washington Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit in 1991 at the University of Washington as the Washington Gap Analysis Project Assistant. She co-founded The *NatureMapping* Program in 1992 in an effort to collect data from the public on common species for Gap project that was creating predicted range distribution maps for all terrestrial vertebrates within Washington State.

Karen continues to implement Gap and other biodiversity datasets into county and watershed planning efforts while involving schools and local communities in the process. Karen is the National Director of The *NatureMapping* Program. She has B.S. degrees in both Ethology and Zoology and 20 years experience in information technology and telecommunications.

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Funding for this project has been provide in full or in part through an Agreement with State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) pursuant to the Costa-Machado Water Act of 2000 (Proposition 13) and any amendments thereto for the implementation of California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the SWRCB, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

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The *NatureMapping* Program
Workshop Descriptions

The goals of The *NatureMapping* Program workshops are:
Building skills in mapping, wildlife and habitat identification
Providing resources for networking within communities and with local agencies
Education through outdoor awareness
Curriculum integration to meet state education standards
Data gathering to build wildlife/habitat inventories
Public participation in resource issues at a local level
Biodiversity research utilizing GIS technologies

Level 1 – Data Collection and Monitoring

- The history of *NatureMapping* and why citizen data are important
- How to complete the data collection form on paper and into the *NatureMapping* spreadsheet
- Finding a "sit spot"
- How to locate yourself on a map using different coordinate systems
- How to classify habitats and learn the coding system
- Learning terminology used by natural resource professionals
- Understanding binoculars
- Utilizing field guides
- Developing a search image
- Outdoor fieldwork collecting and preparing data for submission
- Using soot trays, fluorescent powder, silhouettes, and track stencils to aid in finding and identifying wildlife

Level 2 – Project Design

- Apply what was learned in the Level 1 workshop
- How to design a project based on participants' scientific questions
- Different data collection strategies that can be used for the project
- Habitat mapping
- Technology that can be used for your project
    - CybterTracker (field notebook on a PDA (Personal Digital Assistant)
    - GPS (Global Positioning System)
    - Maptech mapping software
- Outdoor fieldwork using CyberTracker and GPS units

Level 3+ – Data Analysis

- How to use the *NatureMapping* data collection spreadsheet for personal analyses
- CyberTracker data analyses, exporting to spreadsheets and to GIS
- Maptech data export to spreadsheets and to GIS
- Overview of GIS

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The *NatureMapping* Program
Syllabus for April 7-9, 2006

Day 1 – Mapping, habitats and preparing for and compiling of data collection, conducting fieldwork

9:00 – 9:15	Introductions
9:15 – 9:45	Overview of the *NatureMapping* Program
9:45 – 10:15	How to NatureMap
10:15 – 10:30	Break
10:30 – 11:00	Mapping – manual, TRS, lat/long, GPS, projections
11:00 – 12:00	Mapping Stations – in teams
12:00 – 12:30	Lunch
12:30 – 1:00	Sit spot – journal observations and **describe** habitat
1:15 – 1:45	Name that Habitat - How to assign habitat codes-very general codes
1:45 – 2:15	Show how to break habitats into detail using Guidelines
2:15 – 2:30	Break
2:30 – 3:30	Field guides, binoculars, and species codes using Guidelines
3:30 – 4:00	Overview for Day 2

Day 2 - Data collection and entry, animal signs, search image, community projects

9:00 – 9:05	Sign in and go to sit spot
9:05 – 9:30	Collect data at sit spot
9:30 – 10:30	Spreadsheet overview and add sightings
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 11:45	Animal signs, search images, tracking, silhouettes, stencils, fluorescent powder, soot tray – tools and awareness skills for the field
11:45 – 12:30	How animal signs explain behaviors
12:30 – 1:00	Lunch
1:30 – 2:00	GPS
2:00 – 3:00	CyberTracker training
3:00 – 3:15	Break
3:15 – 4:00	Citizen science projects, Sierra Foothill Conservancy / Sierra Nevada Alliance projects, Overview of Day 3
4:00 - 4:30	Set up participants computers with CyberTracker software

Day 3 - CyberTracking field work

9:00 – 9:30	Divide into teams, field instructions
9:30 – 12:00	Field work
12:00 – 12:30	Lunch
12:30 – 1:30	Data download, display of maps and data
1:30 – 2:30	Data querying, making your own tables
2:30 – 3:30	Setting up a long-term sampling strategy
3:30 – 4:00	Closing discussions

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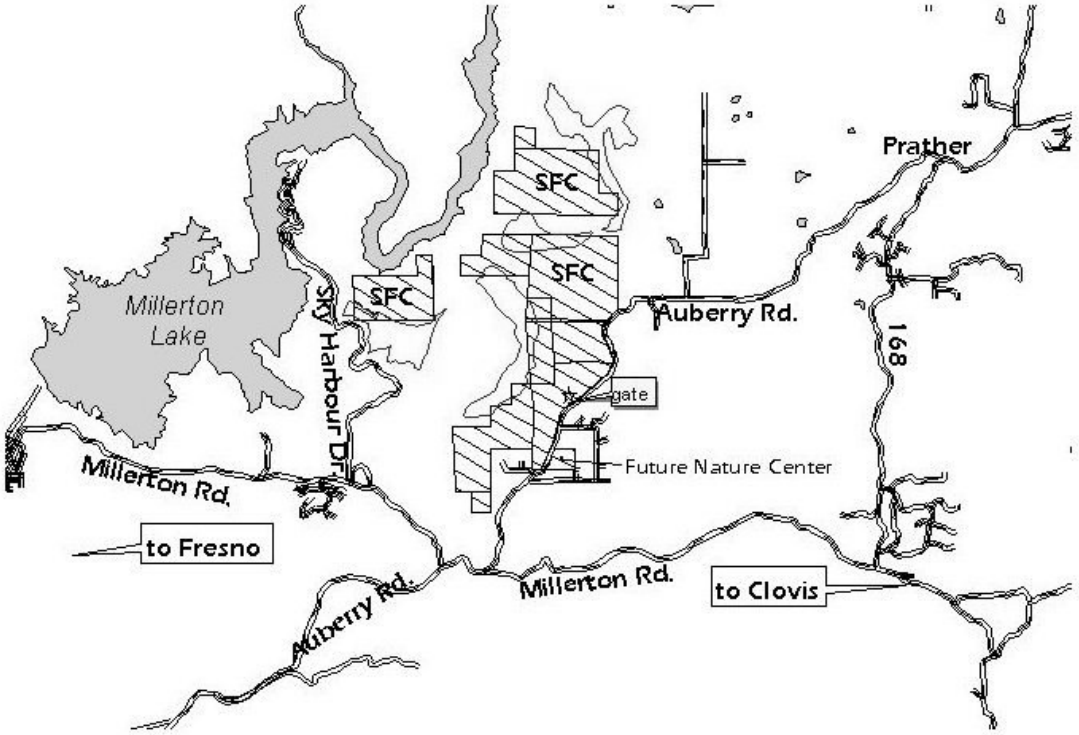
Sierra Foothill Consrevancy's
McKenzie Table Mountain Preserve



Directions to Table Mountain Preserve

From Fresno, take Freeway 41 north. Exit at Friant Road and turn right at the bottom of the off-ramp. Take Friant Road to the town of Friant. You will see Friant Dam ahead of you. Follow Friant Road uphill, past the dam. At this point, Friant Road bends to the right and changes its name to Millerton Road. Stay on Millerton Road for five or six miles until you come to a stop sign at Auberry Road.

At Auberry Road you will see a gas station on your left. Using the gas station as your benchmark, note your mileage.

Turn left on Auberry Road. Go slightly over 3 miles on Auberry Road. You will see some table mountain formations ahead. When you reach the 3 mile mark, slow down and prepare to stop.

The entrance to the preserve is on the left side of Auberry Road at about 3.3 miles. You will see a large corral with a green gate. Drive in at the gate and park in the parking lot.