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Embark on a Riveting Journey to Save Livermore's Native Turtles!

Exciting news for Livermore residents! The Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) is thrilled to announce an ambitious expansion of our groundbreaking research on Western pond turtles—and the Livermore community is set to be at the heart of this pioneering venture!

Why now?

The clock is ticking for California's cherished native turtles, the Northwestern and Southwestern pond turtle (WPT), as they face the threats of urban sprawl and climate change. These pressures are causing alarming declines in their populations, not just in California, but across the entire West Coast. Recognizing the urgency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is proposing federal protections under the Endangered Species Act.

Since June 2023, the ACRCD, alongside esteemed collaborators and backed by the USFWS, has been at the forefront of turtle conservation. We've deployed cutting-edge GPS telemetry in Alameda County's rangelands to track these elusive turtles, gaining invaluable insights into their breeding habits and habitats. And now, we're taking it to the next level by turning our focus to the urban waterways of Livermore.

Why Livermore?

As the largest city in the Tri-valley area, it provides critical habitat for both WPT species. With its unique blend of urban and rural landscapes, Livermore presents an unparalleled opportunity to deepen our understanding of how these turtles navigate and thrive in city environments. This expansion isn't just about research; it's about our community coming together to safeguard these precious creatures and their ecosystems.

Join the Mission!

This is where you come in! You can be part of this monumental effort to alter the fate of the WPT right here in the Livermore/Tri-Valley area. Your generous support of funding for GPS

tracking technology is crucial for monitoring WPT. Utilizing GPS tracking, the ACRCDC will be able to gather data on the movements of WPT as they traverse Livermore's creeks; including the adjacent upland habitats which are vital for nesting turtles. This data will allow researchers to identify WPT "hot spots" which will be critical for informing management decisions, restoration efforts, and increasing breeding success (i.e., more baby turtles!!!).

Act Before It's Too Late!

The window to make a difference is narrowing, with an April 30, 2024 deadline for donations that will make a real impact. The expansion of our conservation work kicks off in June 2024, marking a new chapter in our quest to preserve these iconic species.

Ready to be a part of this exciting adventure? Visit ACRCDC's [Western Pond Turtle Conservation Project](https://acrcd.org/projects/westernpondturtleconservation/) (<https://acrcd.org/projects/westernpondturtleconservation/>) to discover more about how you can contribute to this vital cause.

Let's make history together, Livermore!



Baby Western Pond Turtle



Western Pond Turtle with GPS unit

Photos by: Ed Culver (East Bay Regional Park District) and Dr. Farley Connelly (ACRCDC)