

Youth in Wilderness



Ventana Wilderness Alliance

The Ventana Wilderness Alliance's Youth in Wilderness Program is celebrating the end of a successful 2010-2011 field season, and is looking forward to an ever expanding group of partners and increased wilderness opportunities for youth across the central coast.



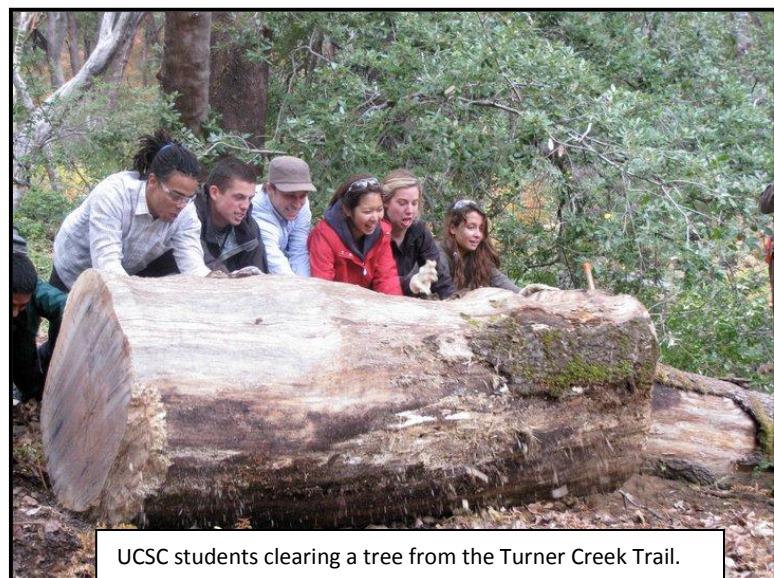
Students from Salinas Community School hiking the Carmel River Trail

This year we expanded our existing relationships with Salinas Community School, CSU Monterey Bay, and UC Santa Cruz. These included environmental education trips up the Carmel River and Tassajara Creek, as well as trailwork restoration trips on the Skinner Ridge Pine Ridge, and Ventana Double Cone Trails. We also fostered new partnerships with Rancho Cielo Alternative High School, Big Sur Land Trust, King City Elementary Science Camp and Cal Poly San Luis

Obispo. These new partnerships included fire suppression work on the Marble Peak Trail, trailwork on the Cruikshank trail, and environmental education on the Mitteldorf Preserve. In addition, we led interpretive hikes and multi-day backpacking trips for high school students from across the state, underscoring the importance of getting all Californians excited about their public lands.

The breadth of ages, as well as disparate cultural and geographic backgrounds within our trips, demonstrates our success in connecting with and serving the youth and young adults of Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Luis Obispo counties, as well as the state at large.

In 2011-2012, these successes will continue to grow. In addition to growing our list of



UCSC students clearing a tree from the Turner Creek Trail.

partners, we have had exceptional volunteer leaders develop through a partnership with the CSUMB Outdoor Adventure Club. Sara Kelly and Mike MacDonald have been valuable additions to the program, bringing experience and positive mentorship for trip participants.

Our trips are provided at low to no cost in an effort to keep wilderness accessible. To help ensure that we are able to continue inspiring the youth of California, please consider a donation to the Youth in Wilderness Program. Your donation will allow us to keep providing fun and memorable outdoor experiences to youth, many of whom would otherwise not have the opportunity.

2010-2011 Field Year

Number of Outings	Elementary Students	High School Students	College/University Students	Partners	Educational Hours	Restoration Hours
12	236	90	49	11	1452	2156

-For more information, please contact Morgan Harris at morgan@ventanawild.org or (831) 423-3191-