



# IRVINE-LAGUNA WILDLIFE CORRIDOR

Connecting Habitats from Mountains to Coast

A PROJECT OF LAGUNA GREENBELT, INC.

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## PLANTING IN WINTER? YES, IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA!

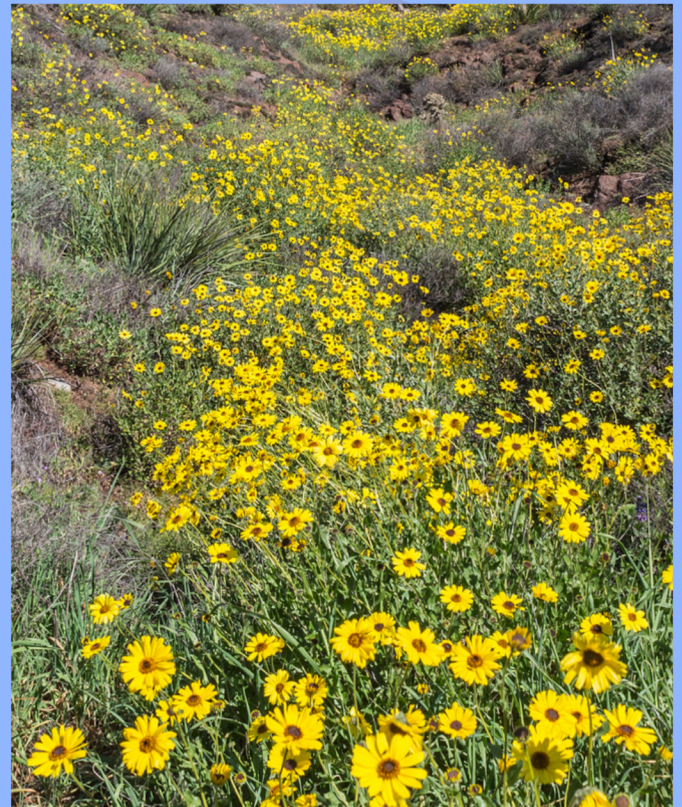
By Giovanni Di Franco

Traditionally movies and television series have portrayed people gardening in the cool mornings of springtime. Unfortunately in Southern California, our spring season can be quickly interrupted by the heat of summer. Fall and winter have become more common planting seasons from the everyday gardener to planting professionals like restoration practitioners who are focused on plant establishment success.

There are multiple factors that contribute to more successful plantings in late fall and early winter. Primarily cooler temperatures and a decrease in sun intensity are less harsh on the delicate leaves of saplings. Additionally, winter is our rainy season. While most home gardens have sprinkler systems, rain storms provide supplemental water to establish plants. The rainy conditions from December to February are wonderful for practitioners restoring habitats as an on-site water source is seldom present.

To learn more about plant establishment please read *Your Native Garden's First Year* by the Theodore Payne Foundation along with other plant guides.

<https://theodorepayne.org/learn/guides/>



Besides planting, late fall and early winter is a great time to prune native plants as they prepare to grow during the rainy season. The optimal time to prune plants does vary by species and should be researched. Pruning helps plants focus energy on new growth and helps maintain their size and shape!

Visit [homegrownnationalpark.org](http://homegrownnationalpark.org) for additional information on planting natives.

If you decide to add to your garden this year, we highly suggest introducing more native plant species. They will provide additional habitat for local animals and require less attention once established as they are adapted to the local climate.

# ENVIRONMENTALISTS HOPE 'PRIORITY' PROJECT WILL MAKE TRAVEL FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA EASIER FOR WILDLIFE



BY ERIKA I. RITCHIE  
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Environmentalists for decades have been working to create a six-mile wildlife corridor to help bobcats, foxes, raccoons, birds and mountain lions transit from thousands of acres of open space at the coast to the Santa Ana Mountains in the Cleveland National Forest. Now, they are hopeful a final barrier to the plan can soon be eliminated.

If the corridor — essentially a road for wildlife — is completed, experts say, it will enrich the gene pool and revive species. Removing the obstacles could require engineering studies and ultimately a bridge that would give the animals unimpeded access.

“We need to figure out how this will work, what is possible and how much it will cost,” [Norm Grossman, Laguna Greenbelt Board President] said, adding that a recently completed wildlife overpass in Los Angeles County that goes from the Santa Ana Mountains across the 101 to Agoura Hills benefited from private company funding, something he hopes might also be a reality for this corridor.

**To read the  
entire article,  
please visit  
[https://bit.ly/  
3TihcTI](https://bit.ly/3TihcTI)**



Laguna Greenbelt, Inc.

**IRVINE-LAGUNA  
WILDLIFE CORRIDOR (ILWC)  
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**WE WILL HAVE  
SHIRTS! STICKERS! DIORAMAS!**



Did you know that  
native Toyon is  
also known as  
California Holly?

# Happy Holidays

Laguna Greenbelt, Inc. works to preserve open space and support wildlife that depend on local habitats to thrive.

<https://lagunagreenbelt.org/donate-2/>

Mail checks to  
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