

# Sulphur Creek Nature Center

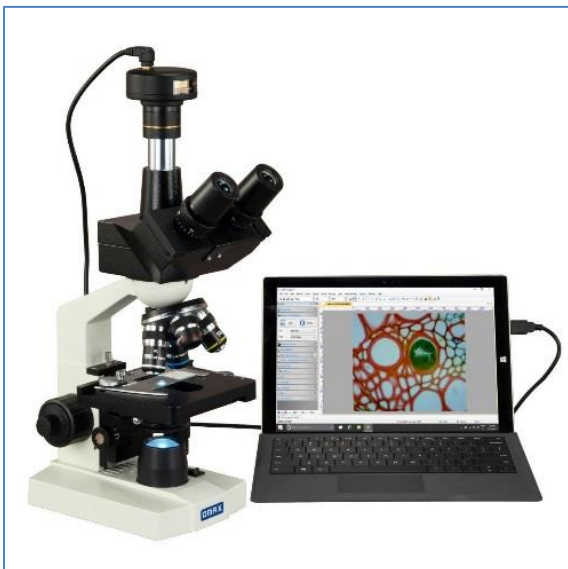
Alameda County Fish and Game Commission Grant 2016



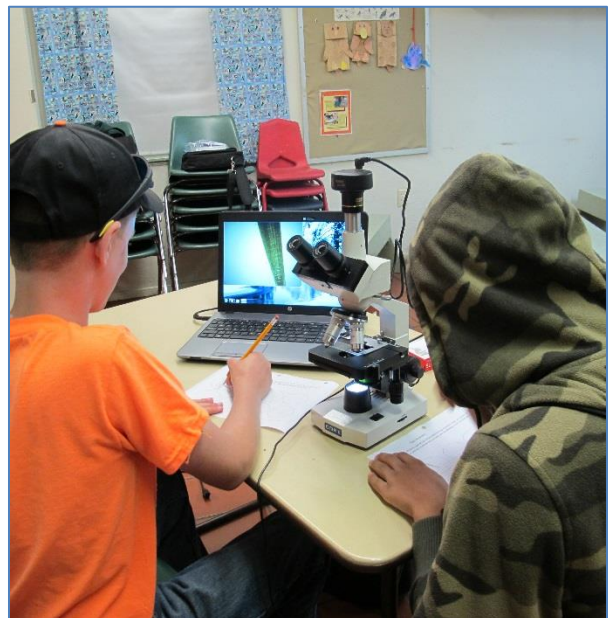
The release of a juvenile opossum

In the Spring of 2016, Sulphur Creek Nature Center was awarded a \$9,856.68 grant from the Alameda County Fish and Wildlife Commission. The grant that was awarded was essential in helping our nature center feed injured and orphaned wildlife and educate the public in 2016.

With the first part of the grant, we were able to order a classroom set of 15 microscopes as well as an instructor microscope. The instructor microscope was especially exciting and useful because it plugs directly into our laptop or projector. This feature made it very easy to teach our wildlife campers how to use microscopes and explore scale structure, plant structure, and feather structure, among other things. The instructional microscope also comes in handy in our wildlife hospital because we can take pictures with it and enlarge images of internal and external parasites. It makes diagnosing, taking pictures, and sharing them with our veterinarians very easy!

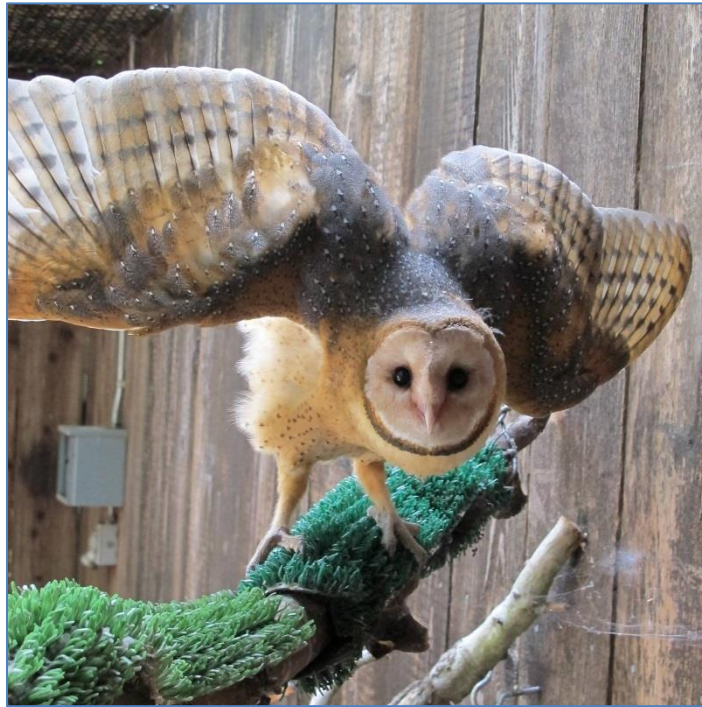


The Instructional Microscope



Campers using the instructional microscope

The rest of the grant was used to purchase feed supplies for our over 800 wild patients in our hospital and our permanent residents animals. We were able to purchase one year worth of feeder chicks and one year worth of meal worms to feed to the animals. Countless opossums, skunks, hawks, bats, songbirds and more have directly benefitted from this grant. Their recovery and release is the ultimate goal and with this grant, we were able to release many healthy and thriving animals back into the wild.



A young barn owl, like this one, can stay at our center for up to 3 months, eating almost 10 mice per day. That is a total of about 900 mice during its stay with us! Your generous grant helped this youngster get back to the wild.

We would like to thank the Alameda County Fish and Game Commission for such a generous grant to help our facility do our best to help the wildlife of Alameda County. More information about our organization can be obtained at [www.haywardrec.org/sulphurcreek](http://www.haywardrec.org/sulphurcreek).