Conservancy Advisory: Preventing Road Kills

Abundant wildlife on the Preserve is one of the great benefits of our unique conservation community. Recent mowing and weed management has improved roadside habitat and increased visibility. A leisurely drive through The Preserve these days can provide National Park quality wildlife viewing opportunities.

To safeguard our members, visitors, and wildlife, it is important to use caution when driving in the Preserve. You can make a difference by slowing down and watching for wildlife, from deer and bobcats to acorn woodpeckers, tree squirrels, and lizards. These animals are often using the roads to forage for insects or bask for warmth and may not move out of the way of fast-moving vehicles.

Sadly, we have recently noticed an increase in wildlife fatalities along our roads. The Preserve’s posted speed limits are intended to keep both people and animals safe. When passing wildlife, hikers, and horseback riders, please slow down and give a wide berth when safe to do so.

**What you can do to stay safe and avoid wildlife-vehicle collisions:**
- Follow posted speed limits: 30 mph on Rancho San Carlos, 25 mph on all other roads.
- When you see deer or other wildlife just off the road, please slow down to 15 mph.
- Slow down and give space to hikers and horseback riders using trails adjacent to roads.
- A honking car horn can cause confusion and increase injuries to wildlife.
- Please promptly report unsafe driving to the Gatehouse (620-6750) – commercial traffic is a particular concern.

**Questions?** Contact Lindsay Cope, Conservation Program Manager (831) 238-2210 and lcope@slconservancy.org.