



[Nature Nuts]

Be a Biologist

Join the ranks of citizen scientists and collect real data in the name of the environment, whether from your own backyard or in the field. Following is a sampling of research opportunities; discover more projects at inaturalist.com. —Brenda Rees

Not Too Taxing

SKY

Help Audubon track and discover where and how hummingbirds migrate. Download the **Hummingbirds at Home** app, grab a chair, and record which and how many hummers visit your feeders, trees, and flowers. hummingbirdsathome.org.

Roll Up Your Sleeves

The U.S. Forest Service needs your eyes from December through March for its annual **Bald Eagle Count** held at various lakes in the San Bernardino and San Jacinto mountains, including Big Bear Lake. fs.usda.gov/sbnf.

LAND

Learn and use wildlife tracking techniques at the **Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy**. Weekly tracking surveys monitor and check for signs of coyotes and red and gray foxes. November through March. pvplc.org.

Reptiles and Amphibians of Southern California (RASCals), a project of the **Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**, wants to know what you've discovered in backyards or parks, on trails, or anywhere else. Submit images or audio to rascals@nhm.org.

WATER

Trained volunteers identify and count whales and dolphins and note behavior for the **Gray Whale Census and Behavior Project**, sponsored by the American Cetacean Society, Los Angeles Chapter. Daylight hours, December through May at Point Vicente Interpretive Center in Rancho Palos Verdes. acs-la.org.

Certified divers can submerge with a purpose when they join **Reef Check California**. Divers are needed at numerous sites to identify, count, and measure which species of fish, invertebrates, and more inhabit rocky reefs. One-day and overnight surveys. reefcheck.org.