

UCR Boyd Deep Canyon Lecture Series 2013-14



In partnership with UCR Palm Desert & The Living Desert



Held on
Thursdays
at 6 p.m.
UCR Palm Desert

This series
is free
and open
to the public.

75-080 Frank Sinatra Dr.
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NOVEMBER 14TH

Dr. Jeff Lovich

Jeffrey E. Lovich, U.S. Geological Survey, Southwest Biological Science Center, Flagstaff, AZ

Renewable energy development & terrestrial & aquatic wildlife conservation: the new frontier

Renewable energy development is experiencing a renaissance particularly in the Desert Southwest United States where wind and especially solar energy potential is high. The region is characterized by high biodiversity including threatened and sensitive species like Agassiz's desert tortoise. We surveyed the peer-reviewed scientific literature for information on the known and potential effects of utility-scale renewable energy development (USRED) and operation on non-volant terrestrial and aquatic wildlife.



DECEMBER 12TH

Dr. Norm Ellstrand

UCR Professor of Genetics, Department of Botany and Plant Sciences

Prying into the Long Distance Romances of Plants

The exchange of genes between plant populations by seed, pollen, or plants can have important evolutionary and applied consequences. But plant geneticists had dismissed such gene migration as too insignificant to have any impact. Until Dr. Norman Ellstrand came along. Ellstrand will discuss how his research at UCR radically challenged that view and how it lead him to apply what he found to answer questions about the risks of genetically engineered plants.



JANUARY 9TH

Dr. Anne Houtman

California State University Bakersfield, Dean, School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering, Professor, Biological Sciences

Why We study Hummingbird Song: What can we learn from hummingbird song?

The study of bird song has given us a richer understanding of the evolution of communication, the nature of human language and mind, and the impact of technology on the natural world. Hummingbirds' little-studied song offers unique insights into these matters, and illustrates the importance of field studies for science and for education.



FEBRUARY 13TH

Taylor Edwards

Assistant Staff Scientist, University of Arizona

Turtle Trouble! Applying science and technology to turtle conservation

Turtles and tortoises are one of the most threatened groups of animals on the planet with over half of all turtle species at risk of extinction. This is a global phenomenon and while the usual suspects of habitat degradation and environmental change contribute to the problem, the biggest threat to many species are human consumption and exploitation.



MARCH 13TH

Dr. Dan Costa

University of California, Santa Cruz, Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Ida Benson Endowed Chair in Ocean Health

Title goes here

Daniel Costa's research focuses on the ecology and physiology of penguins, whales, dolphins and other marine mammals and seabirds, taking him to every continent and nearly every habitat from the Galapagos to Antarctica. He has done pioneering work using animals to provide oceanographic data as well as data on their own behavior.



Reservations are required. Register online at palmdesert.ucr.edu/programs/events.html