



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Back to Natives Receives Generous Donation of Land in Dana Point

Property will be restored with locally native plants and remain open space to provide habitat for birds and butterflies.

Dana Point, Calif., December 1, 2015 - Back to Natives Restoration, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, received a donation of land from Kato Properties. The 2.5 acres of land along Del Obispo Drive in Dana Point are about a mile from the Pacific Ocean, less than a ½ mile from San Juan Creek, and less than 2 miles from the Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area. It is undeveloped and will remain so to provide habitat for birds and butterflies.

“Wild open spaces like this, while small, provide waystations for wildlife like birds and butterflies in urban Orange County where development has limited the amount of habitat available,” said Back to Natives Executive Director Reginald Durant. “We are extremely grateful to have received such an amazing and openly generous gift, and we look forward to being able restore the land.”

Restoration of the land will begin in 2016. Back to Natives will recruit volunteers from the community to remove invasive non-native species and plant native plants. Restoration events will occur twice a month on Sundays. Volunteers will have the ability to register for events on the Back to Natives Website, backtonatives.org in late December.

“It is our hope that this is the first of many land donations to Back to Natives,” said Durant. “Properties like this one – on a slope – are not ideal for development, but are ideal habitat areas. Now we need to raise funds to help restore the land. We have our work cut out for us, but we know our amazing volunteers are ready for the challenge.”

About Back to Natives

Back to Natives Restoration, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization connects the community to habitat restoration through service learning and native plant education. The Back to Natives Nursery at Santiago Park in Santa Ana, staffed by community volunteers, grows plants for habitat restoration and to raise funds for service learning and environmental education programs. The Back to Natives Native Plant Reserve provides habitat for birds and butterflies in Dana Point. For more information, please visit www.backtonatives.org or call 949-509- 4787.