

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Jenny Villegas 650.691.1200

Midpen Launches 2017 Photo Contest Contest uses photography to engage the public with nature

Los Altos, California [February 15, 2017] – The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen) invites amateur and professional photographers alike to enter its eighth annual digital photo contest. The contest gives participants an opportunity to explore the outdoors while capturing the natural beauty of Midpen's open spaces.

Eligible contestants can visit openspace.org/contest to submit photographs in one or all of four categories: Wildlife, Plant life, Landscapes, and People in Nature. There is no entry fee and limited to three submissions per entrant, per category. Previous winners and staff are not eligible to enter. Entries must be in digital format and must be submitted electronically. The contest ends Wednesday, May 31, at 12 p.m. PST.

Contest details

The contest will accept photo submissions from March 1 to May 31, 2017. All photos must be taken in a Midpen preserve that is open to the public. Finalists' photos from previous years, as well as full details about the contest can be found at <u>www.openspace.org/contest</u>.

Prizes

One first-place winner will be chosen from each category will receive a \$100 REI gift card, a Midpen Swag Bag, and featured in the *Open Space Views* Summer Newsletter. The overall Grand-Prize winner from the four category winners, will also win a ride-along with a Ranger for a behind-the-scenes look at the preserves!

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Created by voter initiative in 1972, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District has successfully protected more than 62,000 acres of open space. The District is a California special district governed by an elected board of directors. The District's mission is to acquire and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land and agricultural land of regional significance in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.

www.openspace.org