

THE PAUL JORGENSEN BIRD RESEARCH GRANT

A \$1,500 GRANT FOR STUDENT RESEARCH IN THE PENINSULAR RANGE AND COLORADO DESERT REGIONS

The Anza-Borrego Foundation is pleased to announce a competitive grant program to assist undergraduate and graduate students conducting field studies in ornithology within the Colorado Desert and Peninsular Ranges of southern California. Grants of up to \$1,500 will be awarded annually to assist college students with costs associated with field work related to bird research. Costs can include equipment, supplies, and travel (see online guidelines for allowable costs). Funds will be provided upon the award of the grant.

Proposals will be evaluated for scholarly merit, project design, and potential contributions to the future of bird and habitat conservation in the region. Research within State Parks of the region will receive special consideration in the award process. State Parks of the region include Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, Palomar Mountain State Park, Picacho State Recreation Area, Salton Sea State Recreation Area, and Indio Hills Palms.

Student researchers must obtain all necessary permits prior to conducting their field research.

Paul D. Jorgensen (1946-2012) was born in San Diego and spent his life enjoying the diverse ecosystems of the region. He surfed the coast, studied wildlife on the Channel Islands, managed the Tijuana National Estuarine Sanctuary, and worked as a State Park Resource Ecologist in the Colorado Desert District of California State Parks. Paul was passionate about bird research and restoring local ecosystems. He studied the light footed clapper rail for his Master's Degree in Ecology, made many discoveries of bird species in the region, managed nesting surveys for the endangered least Bell's vireo, coordinated the San Diego County Bird Atlas for the east county, conducted post-burn studies in Cuyamaca Rancho after wildfires, and led many birding tours throughout the region. Paul was always grateful for a grant he received while in college to carry out his field work on the clapper rail. This grant is given in his memory as a fitting way to carry on his passion and legacy.

Application guidelines are available on the Anza-Borrego Foundation website at www.theabf.org. Applications are due on December 2, 2016 and awards will be granted by January 15, 2017. For further information, contact Briana Puzzo at briana@theabf.org or call 760-767-0446, extension 1004.

