



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts:

Wida Karim: 714.508.4760

Kelley Reetz: 714.401.6756

Remembering the 2007 Santiago Canyon Fire Through Photographs

Witness the damage and the rebirth...

(Irvine, CA)— October 21st marked the one year anniversary of the Santiago Canyon Fire, in an effort to reflect on the changes, the Irvine Ranch Conservancy has partnered with the Santa Ana Zoo to display a small selection of photos that depict the damage of that fire, as well as, the re-growth a year later. The exhibit will be at the Santa Ana Zoo in Prentice Park beginning November 1st through November 30th inside the barn. A small “meet and greet” of the photographers who took part in this program will start on opening day from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The Zoo is located at 1801 E. Chestnut Avenue, Santa Ana CA 92701.

The fire photo documentation interpretive program first began on March 8th 2008 with a full roster of participants and ran its course for eight months, ending on October 4th 2008. More than 60 participants and 17 volunteers have taken part in this project. The photos are a wonderful compilation of the various changes that have occurred in the burned areas, specifically in Round Canyon during the past eight months.

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“The idea was to capture the re-birth and re-growth of the plants in Round Canyon after the Santiago Canyon Fire using either digital or traditional film cameras,” says Kelley Reetz, IRC Field Naturalist. “We wanted to recap and share our photographs with each other as well as the general public. This is a great way to keep the memory of the disaster alive and to remember that the risk of another devastating fire in the wildlands is always possible.”

Nearly 40,000 acres of open space on the historic Irvine Ranch have been designated a Natural Landmark by both the State of California and the U.S. Department of Interior in recognition of their importance to California and the nation.

Irvine Ranch Conservancy is a 501(c)3 non-profit, non-advocacy organization created to protect the wildlands and parks on the historic Irvine Ranch and enhance the public’s connection to them, while helping partners and landowners with all aspects of stewardship. It offers a variety of free, guided outdoor programs for all nature enthusiasts including hiking, mountain biking, horse-back riding and much more. For more information, go to www.irvineranchwildlands.org or call 714.508.4757.

For further information about the Santa Ana Zoo, please visit <http://www.santaanazoo.org/>.

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