

# BOYD DEEP CANYON LECTURE SERIES

EXAMINE THE NATURAL WORLD IN NEW AND SURPRISING WAYS  
WITH RESEARCHERS AT THE FOREFRONT OF THEIR FIELDS



To reserve your spot, visit [palmdesert.ucr.edu/events-programs](http://palmdesert.ucr.edu/events-programs). Each free program will be held at UCR Palm Desert Center, 75080 Frank Sinatra Dr., Palm Desert. Everyone is welcome!



**6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20**

**Shells, Science and Students: Using Camera Traps and Radiotelemetry to Monitor Desert Tortoises**

**Speaker: Dr. William Hoese, Ph.D. California State University Fullerton**

Over the past 4 years, undergraduate researchers have used camera traps and radiotelemetry to study desert tortoise ecology at the extreme southern edge of their range at Boyd Deep Canyon Desert Research Center. We discovered this population contains hatchling, juvenile, and adult tortoises. We documented behaviors at burrows with the goal of gaining insight into how these tortoises respond to extreme and changing climate conditions. Tortoise burrows also attract other species, and we are identifying the community that uses these burrows across space and time. Our collaboration highlights the value of student-driven research in advancing conservation science.



**6 p.m. Thursday, March 13**

**Rat Poisons Kill A Lot More Than Rats: Rodenticide Exposure in Southern California Snakes**

Dr. Greg Pauly, Curator of Herpetology at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, will discuss the ecological consequences of people using rat poisons. Prior research has shown that exposure to rat poisons can be a major conservation concern in raptors and mammals that may prey upon or scavenge poisoned rodents. Dr. Pauly will present results of recent research showing that multiple snake species are also being unintentionally poisoned, highlighting that use of rat poisons can harm the native species that would otherwise be helping to control rodent populations.



**6 p.m. Tuesday, April 22**

**Lizards in Wonderland: California's Bounty of Scaly, Four-Legged Life**

California is a wonderland for the small and scaly beasts we call lizards, yet most of us ignore them as background noise. Dr. Emily Taylor of California Polytechnic State University (San Luis Obispo) cures our collective "sauroblivion" in her recent book, *California Lizards and How To Find Them*, and tonight she will regale us with delightful "tails," beautiful photos, hilarious footage, and fascinating scientific observations about our tiny four-legged friends. There will be a book signing following this special Earth Day lecture.

