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Mail to:
Critter Creek Wildlife Station
36710 Sand Creek Road
Squaw Valley, CA 93675



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CRITTER CREEK WILDLIFE STATION

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, April 27th - 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Last tour begins at 1:30 p.m.
Come enjoy wood-fired pizza at the Dragon Wagon

Visit Critter Creek and find out how you can help support California Wildlife. Admission is by donation. For more information call (559) 338-2415 or email at crittercreekwildlife@hughes.net



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PERMANENT RESIDENT: Wild Pig – Snorts and Hamlet

Snorts arrived at Critter Creek as a young piglet. Dogs had separated her from her family as they passed through a home in Three Rivers. The owner rescued her and called for help. From the beginning, Snorts was friendly with people. She is what our volunteers call “interactive.” If you talk to her, she is quick to answer back which is how she got her name. She has already grown too heavy to pick up any more. It will take her several years to get to her estimated full weight of 350 pounds.

Hamlet is a more recent resident. He was found in the road in Wonder Valley by a family concerned for his safety. With no parent in sight they gathered him up and gave us a call. He still has remnants of his stripes. He has been aggressive as a piglet, but now that he has been neutered, we hope he will settle down. He lives with Snorts who has quickly taught him not to try his pushy ways with her. He has decided she makes an excellent adopted older sister.



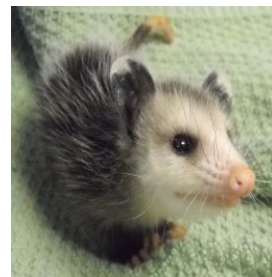
They can be seen snuggled up to each other during their frequent naps.

The pigs found in the Sierra Nevada foothills are considered feral pigs introduced around 1925. They forage for food at dawn and at dusk—causing considerable



damage to yards, fields, orchards, and crops. They have flexible tough snout discs that they use to root-up the earth in search of acorns, tubers, roots and grubs. They are fast runners and good swimmers. Their territory can extend from 5 square miles to 50 square miles. The sow travels with her family usually in a group of six to ten. The males tend to be solitary except during breeding season and are easily identified by their 3 inch to 5 inch upper tusks which are effective in protecting their family. The adults have quite a variation in color ranging from brown to grey to black. The piglets have long stripes that disappear at about two months old. The average life span for a wild pig is 15-25 years.

Spring is in the Air



MAJOR PROJECT TO HELP OUR REPTILES

The large project we are currently working on is the expansion of the reptile enclosure to accommodate the two alligators and desert tortoise we have. The current building is large enough to house our snakes but little else. The project calls for an outdoor alligator enclosure with a short block wall topped with a chain link fence. The enclosure already has the large pool placed in the ground for the alligators. The 16” footing prevents the alligators from digging out.



We will construct an addition to the building that will house the alligators in the winter. The foundation for those walls has been poured. There will also be an outside yard for the desert tortoise, allowing him some room to graze and roam in warm weather. It will be constructed of block walls with a buried footing.



It may be hard to visualize but see how far we have come on April 27th during our Open House...you might be surprised

Gift Shop

Critter Creek is looking for a portable office trailer (under 30') or small movable shed similar to the reptile house that we can use as a gift shop. We are hoping to find someone who will donate such a structure. Please be on the alert for the perfect deal that will allow us to open a gift shop during Open Houses, tours, and fund raisers.