

# Exploring California Biodiversity

*Berkeley Natural History Museums GK-12 Outreach Program  
... to inspire in children, an appreciation for the diversity of life and a  
recognition that biodiversity is not confined to the rainforests of exotic places,  
but exists even within their own school yards.*



## **K-12 Teacher workshop at Sagehen Creek Field Station:**

### **Enhancing academic achievement through exploration of California's biodiversity**

**August 20-21, 2007**



Explore the biodiversity of California and the Sierra Nevada with experts from UC Berkeley's Natural History Museums



Learn how to teach standards and improve academic achievement through activities that engage children in the process of science and explore local biodiversity



Visit the UC Berkeley Natural History Museums' beautiful Sagehen Creek Field Station



Receive credit through UC Berkeley Extension

This workshop is intended for K-12 teachers, interested administrators, and pre-service teachers, especially from the Tahoe-Truckee area. Our primary focus is middle grade span (5-8) but content and field activities are appropriate for teachers up to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

The workshop will begin at 8:30 a.m. on August 20 and end at 4:30 p.m. on August 21.

Lodging at the site will be provided in 6 or 8 person cabins. Meals will be provided.

This workshop is funded by the National Science Foundation's GK-12 program.

You can find further details about content and application materials on our website:

<http://gk12calbio.berkeley.edu>.

If you have questions, contact Betsy Mitchell (510 643-7426, [betsyjm@berkeley.edu](mailto:betsyjm@berkeley.edu)) or Christine McMorrow (530 525-9457, [christine@4swep.org](mailto:christine@4swep.org))

## **ABOUT THE WORKSHOP:**

This is a two day field course held at the U.C. Sagehen Creek Field Station. It is intended for K-12 educators and pre-service teachers who are interested in strengthening their knowledge of concepts and techniques used in the study of biodiversity, incorporating field and schoolyard studies into their teaching programs, and integrating science, literacy and math in their curricula.

After completing this two day course, participants will be familiar with concepts and techniques for the study of biodiversity, basic biology of organisms and ecological communities in the Sierra, and ways to use local biodiversity and the outdoors to teach science and improve academic achievement of K-12 students. Participants will also be better able to understand current issues and research on biodiversity and its conservation.

Content will be presented as a series of field lab exercises supplemented with lecture and analysis components. The exercises are designed to convey in-depth content and field techniques in conjunction with activities that can be adapted for use with K-12 classes. Content and activities will be aligned to and support California Science standards, particularly life science and investigation and experimentation. Facilitated group discussion will reinforce strategies for incorporating math and language arts. The course includes 17 hours of instruction over two days

**Date and times:** August 20 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
August 21 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Location:** Sagehen Creek Field Station  
11616 Sagehen Rd.  
Truckee, CA 96160

You can find information about the field station on the Sagehen website (<http://sagehen.ucnrs.org>) and directions at <http://sagehen.ucnrs.org/Documents/map%20&%20directions.pdf>.

**Participants:** The maximum number of participants will be 20. This workshop is intended for K-12 teachers, interested administrators, and pre-service teachers. Our activities are particularly appropriate for 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders, but are easily adaptable for other grade levels

**Lodging:** For those wishing to stay overnight at Sagehen, lodging will be provided in 6-8 bed cabins. The cabins are rustic (participants should bring a sleeping bag). Nearby bathrooms have plumbing and showers.

**Meals:** We will provide lunch and dinner on August 20 and breakfast and lunch on August 21.

**Cost:** This workshop is funded by a grant to the U.C. Berkeley Natural History Museums from the National Science Foundation's GK-12 program. The program will cover all costs, including the fees for one unit of academic credit from University of California Extension.

## **APPLICATIONS FOR THE WORKSHOP:**

Please fill out the workshop application (also available on our website: <http://gk12calbio.berkeley.edu>) and email or mail to

Betsy Mitchell  
Berkeley Natural History Museums  
1101 VLSB mc 4780  
University of California  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
[betsyjm@berkeley.edu](mailto:betsyjm@berkeley.edu)

Applications will be accepted until the workshop is full. Acceptance notifications will be sent out beginning on July 5.

If you have questions please contact Betsy Mitchell (510 643-7426, [betsyjm@berkeley.edu](mailto:betsyjm@berkeley.edu)), or Christine McMorow (530-525-9457, [christine@4swep.org](mailto:christine@4swep.org)). (note, Mitchell will be away 6/17-7/1)