



For Immediate Release

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FIRE BURNS PORTION OF PALOS VERDES NATURE PRESERVE

Rancho Palos Verdes, January 10, 2012 –A fire in Rancho Palos Verdes that burned Monday, January 9 was located in an area of the Three Sisters Reserve and in a part of McCarrell Canyon. The Reserve is located between McCarrell Canyon to the west and Barkentine Canyon to the east in the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve.

Monday's fire missed a 21-acre habitat restoration project located on the 99-acre Three Sisters Reserve. The Conservancy initiated the work in 2009 as part of our habitat management of the preserve which is owned by the City of RPV. It is one of the best remaining locations for coastal sage scrub habitat and home to rare local species here in the South Bay. The fire did damage a water mainline to the restoration area. In a site visit to the area, Conservation Director Danielle LeFer found, "Many portions of the fire did not seem to burn very hot, and some bushes and cactus remain post-fire. However, a large stand of mature cactus was destroyed."

According to Executive Director Andrea Vona, "We are extremely relieved there are no injuries to civilians or firefighters, nor any damage to nearby homes. We will be mapping the boundary of the fire area and assessing the overall impact to the vegetation and trails. We hope the landscape will be resilient against invasion from invasive plant species, which can occur after fire. We plan to be pro-active and fill in the burned area to prevent the loss of native habitat to these species."

The Palos Verdes Nature Preserve remains open to the public every day from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. For updates and more information, please visit: WWW.PVPLC.ORG

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to preserving land and restoring habitat for the enjoyment and education of all. The Conservancy owns or manages the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve, the Linden H. Chandler and George F Canyon Preserves in Rolling Hills Estates, White Point Nature Preserve, a facility of the LA City Department of Recreation and Parks, and a Native Plant Nursery on the Defense Fuel Support Point in San Pedro.