

Bee Campus USA - University of California Riverside

Report on 2024



Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Please describe pollinator habitat creation or enhancement projects in your community in 2024, and whether your committee hosted them or not.

Rankin – Continued habitat enhancement in the Entomology Teaching Garden, worked with landscapers to select native nectar plants incorporated into the landscaping outside two new buildings on campus.

How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance in 2024?

2

How many people (staff, volunteers, students, partners, etc.) helped with those projects?

3

How many projects benefit monarchs, milkweed, or nectar plantings?

1

How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

800

Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance last year with pollinator benefit in mind.

- Flower garden
- School garden



A cactus bee (*Diadasia*) from the pollinator teaching garden (photo credit nomolosx on Inaturalist project)

Education & Outreach

Please describe pollinator conservation events or outreach activities in your community in 2024, indicating whether your committee hosted them or not.

All of the committee members were at the insect fair in downtown Riverside in April 2024. This event brought in about 14,000 people to learn from the labs about pollinators. This is hosted by the city of riverside and the UCR entomology department (which the committee is a part of). Rankin presented at California Native Plant Society event about gardening for hummingbirds. She also led diversity week event, focusing on bees and birds visiting native plants. McFrederick gave a public presentation at the Riverside Corona Resource Conservation District's Bees and Blooms event. The Baer or CIBER lab gave outreach talks about bee health for Long Beach Beekeepers twice, San Diego Beekeepers, Darwin's Birthday Event, Wellness Talk, UCR Dining Services, Science Night, Bee Awareness on campus, and at Artistic Expression of Original Research (a science-art show). We also have a lab member who is the honey bee princess and she goes around doing outreach for that. The CIBER lab also hosted a pollinator health conference including beekeepers and academics. One member of the lab also gave out informative photography books about native bees at outreach events including the Festival of Books after talking about bees on a panel.

How many pollinator-related events or outreach activities did you host or help with in 2024 (in total)?

13

How many people attended those events (in total)?

1700

Number of permanent interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed to date?

2

Number of temporary interpretive/educational/Bee Campus USA signs installed in 2024?

2



McFrederick Lab members at the insect fair (photo credit - unknown person at event)



CIBER lab members doing outreach for the Inland Empire BASC meeting (photo credit - unknown person at event)

Curriculum, Continuing Education, & Service Learning

Please describe the curriculum your campus engaged in 2024, indicating whether it was part of a for-credit course or continuing education.

Rankin- Learning about pollinator ecology and the pollinator crisis (for credit course), Pollinator monitoring and community diversity metrics (for credit course), Plant community surveys and community diversity metrics (for credit course). McFrederick – Pollinator conservation was a central theme in their Invertebrate Zoology Course. Woodard had pollinator conservation content in their insect behavior class and honors insect decline class. Baer/CIBER lab taught ENT20 which was a bees and beekeeping class so this was mostly teaching students about beekeeping.

How many of your for-credit courses included pollinator-related information in 2024?

9

How many students attended those for-credit courses?

Please describe the service-learning projects your students were engaged in 2024, indicating which, if any, were associated with a course.

1. Invasive species monitoring (on campus): students learned to use both a plot and a transect method to survey for invasive ants, which are known to harass pollinators. Then they monitored two plots on campus. We identified a new fire ant incursion which was then treated by facilities. Students were taught how to survey plots for invasive weeds. They assessed the diversity and density of invasive weeds and compared the native plant diversity in invaded and uninvaded plots. Invaded plots did not meet the threshold for treatment. 2. Biodiversity week: (off-campus) members of the public learned about the native birds and bees in the Idyllwild area. We noted and helped members of the public take (identifiable) pictures of wildlife for the diversity week iNaturalist bioblitz. 3. iNaturalist City Nature Challenge (CNC): (off-campus) the Inland Empire coordinating committee held several iNaturalist info sessions and trained teachers/naturalists/gardeners in how to use iNaturalist for a photo bioblitz and its best practices. Helped drum up interest and increase participation in the Inland Empire's CNC.

How many service-learning projects did your campus host and/or support to enhance pollinator habitat on- and off-campus?

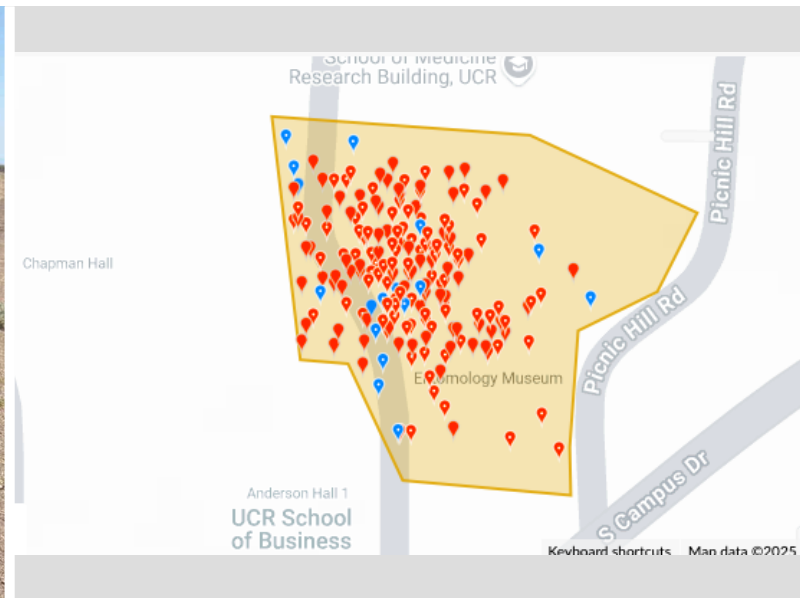
3

How many students participated in service-learning projects in 2024 to enhance pollinator habitat on or off-campus?

500



McFrederickLab Native Bee Summer Research Program



Map of all of the observations made by people on campus at our pollinator teaching garden (photo credit screenshot from iNaturalist project)

Policies & Practices

Please describe actions taken to make pest management more pollinator-friendly.

The Baer/CIBER lab monitored the bee hotels that were set up on campus to see what pollinators were present. There is a Masters student, Josh Santos, working on this project to determine the impact of bee hotels. We have also been working on a manuscript about the literature that already exists about bee hotels.

In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?

Not that we know of.

Did your committee participate in any continuing education on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management planning?

No

Please check actions you have taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly.

- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds that were not treated with neonicotinoids



Bee Health Conference Photo. Here people wrote up policies for sustainable honey bee management (photo credit, unknown person walking by)

Committee Photo

[Learn More](#)

[Integrated Pest Management Plan:](#)

[Recommended Native Plant List:](#)

[Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:](#)

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