



Administering
Campus
UC Davis

Established
1991

Location

Napa County, on a southern peninsula of Lake Berryessa; half-hour drive from the Davis campus.

Size

784 ha (1,937 acres)

Elevation

134 to 462 m (440 to 1,516 ft)

Average Precipitation

62 cm (24 in) per year

Average Temperatures

January: 8°C (46°F)

July: 28°C (82°F)

Facilities

Field station includes one bedroom, a laboratory/workspace, full kitchen, and bath. Camping areas are available for class use.

Personnel

Roving staff reserve manager;
no on-site personnel.

NRS Publications

Reserve brochure published 1993.

Contact Information

Virginia L. ("Shorty") Boucher
Reserve Manager, UCD NRS
DESP / Wickson Hall
University of California
Davis, CA 95616

Phone: 530-752-6949

Fax: 530-752-3350

E-mail: vlboucher@ucdavis.edu

NRS Website

<<http://nrs.ucop.edu>>

Quail Ridge Reserve

Located on a precipitous peninsula in one of the driest parts of the northern Coast Ranges, the Quail Ridge Reserve projects into Lake Berryessa and holds outstanding remnants of extremely rare native grassland, savanna, and oak woodland habitats. The near-pristine understory is relatively free of introduced annuals and includes remaining strongholds of native grasses, including purple needlegrass, junegrass, California oniongrass, and California fescue that once covered an area the size of Nevada. The woodlands harbor a diverse mix of oak species, such as valley, interior live, blue, black, and scrub oak along with numerous hybrids, including oracle oak. High and rugged Quail Ridge (formerly Wragg Ridge) first became a peninsula in 1958 with the flooding of Lake Berryessa after construction of the Monticello Dam. The consequent isolation of the ridge, now a peninsula, is in large part what has kept the habitat relatively uninvaded by weeds. The Quail Ridge Reserve, along with two other NRS sites — McLaughlin Natural Reserve and Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve — and UC Davis's Putah Creek Campus Reserve, represent an important link in a series of protected lands in the Putah Creek watershed.

Selected Research

Floral studies include effects of grazing on the evolution of plant life history; pollen loads in *Clarkia unguiculata*; and spatial segregation of coyote brush.

Biological surveys of butterflies, rodents, reptiles, and amphibians.

Ringtail home range, territory size, and density in foothill woodlands.

Studies of wild turkey populations.

Lyme disease studies.

Special Programs

Field courses: Site visits by university courses in wildlife field techniques, California insect diversity, geology field studies, botany, and others.

Public outreach: Volunteers from Quail Ridge Wilderness Conservancy offer interpretive walks and environmental education programs for local elementary and secondary schools.