

## **AQUATIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR DIVERSE AUDIENCES**

**Description:** (Double Session.) Participants will learn about the Aquatic Education programs offered at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) two estuarine-based education and research facilities. Located along California's central coast is the Elkhorn Slough Ecological Reserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve, and in southern California is the Back Bay Science Center at Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve. Starting with a classroom style presentation, CDFW staff will highlight the similarities and differences of programs and facilities at these two unique locations. Attendees will have a chance to learn about the successes and challenges of programming at both sites, and gain take away lessons and messages they could potentially apply to their own programs. Afterwards, hands-on activities will be offered outside incorporating the iNaturalist smart phone app. and citizen science opportunities for all ages! Learn how to use this easy app to track biodiversity at your favorite fishing spot. Learn how to engage anglers and their families in this easy, fun way to monitor change while enjoying their favorite pastime.

**Location:** Scott Peak Room

**Session Time:** Wed., 1:30 PM (Double Session, 1 hour, 45 min.)

**Presenters:** Virginia Guhin, Program Coordinator/ Interpreter II, Elkhorn Slough Reserve, California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and Robin Madrid, Education Program Coordinator, Back Bay Science Center, California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife