



**PRESS  
RELEASE**

Contact: Mary Pearl Meuth, ANROSP Vice President  
Email: [mpmeuth@tamu.edu](mailto:mpmeuth@tamu.edu)  
Phone: 979-845-7294

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs Honored for Outstanding Work, Showcased at National Conference**

**UC California Naturalist Program wins 2017 ANROSP Outstanding Team Award**

PORTLAND, OR (September 21, 2017) – The Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs (ANROSP) concluded its national conference with an awards ceremony held at the World Forestry Center in Portland, Oregon.

The UC California Naturalist Program received the 2017 ANROSP Outstanding Team Award. This award recognizes ANROSP member program and partner efforts to define an issue and create a functional team to address the needs identified.

[California Naturalist](#) is built on an extended team of educators, scientists, conservation practitioners, and staff. The program utilizes a social franchise model by partnering with local organizations with missions related to informal environmental education, natural land conservation, and engaging volunteers or early career professionals (such as conservation corps) in stewardship and research. University of California, UC Cooperative Extension Units, community colleges, conservancies and land trusts, parks and park societies, watershed associations, and related workforces form the network of California Naturalist Program Partners. The leadership it took to develop this structure from the outset, the way the program was designed, and how that design has been implemented is the foundation of this recognition, and congratulations go to ANROSP members Sabrina Drill, Adina Merenlender, Greg Ira, Brook Gamble, and Marisa Rodriguez. For more information about the UC California Naturalist Program, please contact Sabrina Drill, UC California Naturalist Associate Director, at [sldrill@ucanr.edu](mailto:sldrill@ucanr.edu) or 805-645-1466.

Michelle Prysby, ANROSP President and Virginia Master Naturalist Program Director, said "ANROSP provides member programs an opportunity to share their best work in the areas of Outstanding Educational Materials, Outstanding Volunteer Project, Outstanding Team, Outstanding Program Evaluation and Program of the Year. Each year ANROSP is proud to highlight programs from across the United States in each of these categories." Award applications are peer reviewed and selection is made by the ANROSP Awards Committee, chaired by the ANROSP Vice President.

About ANROSP: The Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs is a national network of natural resource education and service programs which provides leadership, information, and resources to support the establishment and expansion of its member programs. For more information please visit [ANROSP.org](http://ANROSP.org)

Photo caption: Sabrina Drill (center) and Marisa Rodriguez (right) accepted the 2017 Outstanding Team Award from ANROSP President Michelle Prysby (left) on behalf of the UC California Naturalist Program. *(photo courtesy of Michele Richards)*

###