

News Release



Tijuana River
National Estuarine
Research Reserve

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Anne Marie Tipton
619/575-3613 x 304

**CELEBRATING THE TIJUANA ESTUARY-OUR LOCAL LIVING
LABORATORY-
AT FIESTA DEL RIO IN IMPERIAL BEACH
SUN. SEPTEMBER 8TH!**

Imperial Beach – On **Sunday, September 8, 2013** the theme for the 10th annual event will be **“Celebrating the Tijuana Estuary- our local living laboratory.”** We chose this theme to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the event and the critical wetland research at the Reserve. Imperial Beach Pier Plaza will host a variety of entertainment such as *Ms. Smarty Plants™* with Earth Heroes, *Gadgets and Tools-Past and Present*, and *Mariachi Estrellas de Chula Vista*; tours of the Reserve provided by Tijuana Estuary’s biologists; research and technology themed activities for families and children; and booths featuring Reserve scientists, Think Blue San Diego, Living Coast Discovery Center, and native Kumeyaay arts and crafts.

Each year Fiesta del Río celebrates the many cultures and unique biological diversity of our borderlands for National Wildlife Refuge Week and in honor of National Estuaries Day. Fiesta del Río also commemorates the Portolá Expedition that camped in the Tijuana River Estuary on May 13, 1769, marking the Spanish expansion into what now comprises the San Diego/Tijuana metropolitan area. California State Parks and the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge Complex host an exciting array of activities for the entire family that highlight the environment and cultures of the surrounding Tijuana River Estuary, an area that in the past has been home to Kumeyaay, Spanish, and *Californio* alike.

The Fiesta begins at 1:00 p.m.. Call 619-575-3613 or go to <http://www.TRNERR.org> for more information on the event.

“For the 10th annual event we are featuring the research and technology part of our National Estuarine Research Reserve role,” said Anne Marie Tipton, event chairperson, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve. “Reserve staff is excited to have the wonderful *Ms. Smarty-Plants™* back again from the Water Conservation Garden, an intriguing live timeline of technology called *Gadgets and Tools*, tours of our labs, and the always popular *Mariachi Estrellas de Chula Vista*.”

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Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve
California Department of Parks and Recreation
301 Caspian Way • Imperial Beach • CA • 91932
(619) 575-3613 • Fax (619) 575-6913 • www.TRNERR.org

Fiesta del Río Schedule of Events (1-5:00 pm):

Stage Entertainment, MC Anne Marie Tipton

1:00 p.m.	Welcome from Reserve Manager Chris Peregrin, Project Leader Andy Yuen, County Supervisor Greg Cox, and an Imperial Beach Councilmember
1:15 pm	Traditional Singers from California - Honor Place/Environment Home Theme
1:20 pm	<i>Los Californios</i> and Yesteryears Dancers
2:05 pm	Water presentation with the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
2:35 pm	Traditional Singers from California - Animal Theme
2:40 pm	<i>Ms. Smarty-Plants™ Earth Heroes from the Water Conservation Garden</i>
3:10 pm	Gadgets and Tools- Past and Present
3:55 pm	Traditional Singers from California - Water Theme
4:00 pm	<i>Mariachi Estrellas de Chula Vista</i>

Ongoing Children's Games and Activities

Discovery Zone

Whole Family:

Booths of Event Partners and Sponsors

Bus Tours of Reserve 1:45pm and 3:30 pm

The Tijuana River Estuary: A rich biological area where the river meets the sea, and where two countries come together, the Tijuana River Estuary is located on the U.S. side of the border. The U.S. side represents only 1/4 of the total watershed, with the remainder located in Mexico, from Tecate in the East to Tijuana in the West.

Community Partners: This collaborative effort connects the Reserve to a number of vital civic, cultural, commercial, and environmental organizations. **Our sponsors are the County of San Diego and Think Blue San Diego.** Other partners include the, South Bay Unified School District, Living Coast Discovery Center, and the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Program. As well as, California State Parks, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, and Friends of San Diego Wildlife Refuges.

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