



NEWS

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Signature Burrowing Owl Cookie to Help Habitat and Conservation Programs

Shoreline Lake's Aquatic Center and Café to partner with public and private sector groups in fund-raising effort to save Mountain View's Burrowing Owl, a "Species of Special Concern"

Mountain View, CA. November 7, 2011 – Silicon Shores Corporation announced today it is selling a signature burrowing owl cookie to help raise awareness of this local bird's plight, as well as support regional efforts in regard to habitat enhancement and restoration projects. This large (5"x5") sugar cookie (decorated with royal icing and fondant details), priced at \$4.95, is available for individual sale in the Lakeside Café and for pre-orders.

Developed and made in-house by the Café's pastry chef (Leah Jacobs), \$2 of every cookie sold will be donated to organizations and programs that support burrowing owl conservation and educational activities: The owls carry the protective legal designation "Species of Special Concern" assigned by the California Department of Fish & Game to wildlife species at risk of disappearing. Per their relationship with the City of Mountain View, the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society (SCVAS) is currently slated to receive these proceeds, with other groups also being evaluated as potential recipients.

"We love the concept," says Shani Kleinhaus, an environmental advocate with SCVAS and a [TogetherGreen](#) (Toyota and National Audubon partnership for conservation) 2010 Fellow. "An innovative local opportunity to help save the owls is always welcome."

Creating the cookie was Silicon Shores President Christina Ferrari's response to a local news story about the owl population's severe decline (now estimated at 35 pairs remaining in Santa Clara County, down from hundreds in the 1980's). Given local interest in the owls, Aquatic Center & Café patrons benefitting from Shoreline Lake being a bird sanctuary, and Chef Leah's skill in producing tasty and popular confections, to Ferrari, selling the cookie was an obvious way to do something useful and get the word out beyond birders and conservationists.

"We appreciate Silicon Shores coming up with a practical and fun means to create awareness," says Kleinhaus. "Besides taking an interest in what we do, buying a cookie lets everyone in the community feel like they can contribute."

The City and Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society engage in a variety of programs to save the owls at Shoreline and within Santa Clara County. Additional information on the owls can be found via the City [website](#) and current [Birds of Shoreline: Aflight!](#) photography exhibition, as well as the SCVAS [website](#). To ensure operating hours do not restrict sales, the [Café](#) will take small batch pre-orders, while the [Events Team](#) is handling larger orders for events and fundraisers.

About Silicon Shores

Headquartered in Mountain View, CA, Silicon Shores Corporation oversees operations of the Shoreline Lake Aquatic Center and the Lakeside Café at the Shoreline at Mountain View wildlife and recreation area. Silicon Shores manages the facilities through a leasing arrangement with the City of Mountain View, which owns the Shoreline Lake park area. This private company, established in 2000, is incorporated in California. For more information, please go to www.ShorelineLake.com.

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