

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

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## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Tulare County Office of Education Announces: Field Trips Now Booking for Circle J-Norris Ranch**

Circle J – Norris Ranch, an incredible outdoor education field trip site, is accepting calendar bookings. Teachers and students can explore and study the 620 acres of oak woodland with colorful wildflowers, historical sites, 5-acre Heron pond and abundant wildlife. A field trip to the site provides students with exciting, hands-on learning experiences such as:

- Student-designed experiments investigating blue oak regeneration
- Developing observation and written expression through nature journaling
- Exploring the relationships between wildflowers and their pollinators
- Scientific monitoring of water, soil, weather and land cover through the GLOBE program
- Gazing at distant galaxies through the telescope
- Catching and examining wriggling pond insects
- And much more!

Tulare County Office of Education operates Circle J – Norris Ranch as part of the SCICON program, extending outdoor education opportunities to all ages. Primary, middle, high school, community college and university students participate in authentic, vital field study experiences that enrich and extend their classroom learning.

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Teachers appreciate how field study serves to integrate many areas of their classroom curricula in one memorable experience.

“Circle J-Norris Ranch is a wonderful addition to our outdoor education program, offering a myriad of learning experiences to students at all grade levels,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. Educators visiting the Circle J – Norris Ranch may create their own, unique programs or tailor existing programs to meet the needs of their class. Photos of the ranch and program descriptions are available on the worldwide web at [www.tcoe.org/circlej](http://www.tcoe.org/circlej). Teachers and home school facilitators interested in organizing a field study session at Circle J – Norris Ranch may contact Nancy Bruce, education coordinator at (559) 539-4006.

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