

Are There Quail on Quail Ridge?

Named after the cute little birds with their endearing method of running (chasing that little dongle hanging in front to their heads), Quail Ridge Reserve serves an important scientific purpose.

<https://ucnrs.org/reserves/quail-ridge-reserve/>

Located on a precipitous peninsula in one of the driest parts of the northern Coast Ranges, the Quail Ridge Reserve projects into Lake Berryessa and provides outstanding remnants of native grassland, savanna, and oak woodland habitats, extensive chaparral, and several small ponds.

The reserve has become an innovative resource for cross-disciplinary research and instruction, including studies on wireless networks and automated animal tracking. The Quail Ridge Reserve protects over 2,500 acres of Coast Range habitat for research, teaching and outreach. A hilltop field station provides a scenic base for classes, meetings and meals, and diverse overnight housing options are available to academic users.



The reserve is a unique partnership between the University and the Bureau of Land Management, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Land Trust of Napa County. Quail Ridge Reserve is open for approved academic uses. All visitors must have pre-arranged their arrival with the reserve director.

A variety of college and university courses from UC Davis and surrounding schools use the reserve. Courses include ecology, wildlife biology, entomology, herpetology, and botany.

Selected Research:

Floral studies include effects of grazing on the evolution of plant life history; pollen loads in *Clarkia unguiculata*; and spatial segregation of coyote brush; Biological surveys of butterflies, rodents, reptiles, and amphibians; Ringtail home range, territory size, and density in foothill woodlands; Studies of wild turkey

populations; Lyme disease studies. The 2020 LNU Lightning Complex fire burned the entire understory of the reserve. Fire intensity varied across the landscape and different habitats, resulting in a suite of regeneration timelines.

Many photos of Quail Ridge wildlife are available at the Quail Ridge Reserve Check List:

https://www.inaturalist.org/check_lists/5474-Quail-Ridge-Check-List?page=2

