

# BOYD HILL NATURE PRESERVE

## *Global Turtle and Tortoise Conservation: Priorities for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

**Dr. Craig Stanford, Professor of Biological Sciences and Anthropology,  
University of Southern California**

**Thursday, May 16, 2019 (7:00 pm)**

Of all major vertebrate groups, turtles are among the most threatened with extinction. Today, tortoise and freshwater turtle populations are under intense pressure from humans and their populations are extirpated by development, agriculture, and both land and water pollution. They are eaten along with their eggs, collected both by traditional peoples who have done so for centuries, and to feed current, larger scale tastes for turtle meat and eggs. In some parts of the world they are used in traditional medicines. Further, the pet trade, both legal and illegal, severely threatens many species. While there are a few success stories, most chelonians are in terrible trouble, with a few at the very edge of extinction. This presentation will outline those threats and discuss particular species' cases and efforts underway to prevent a pending wave of extinctions.



Dr. Craig Stanford is a Professor of Biological Sciences and Anthropology at the University of Southern California, and a well-known authority on animal behavior and conservation. He is currently the Chair of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Species Survival Commission - Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group. He has conducted field research on wildlife for 30 years in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Stanford holds a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley and is the author of 16 books and 150 articles on animal behavior and conservation.



**Boyd Hill Nature Preserve is located at 1101 Country Club Way S. in St. Petersburg, FL.**

**For more information or directions, please call the preserve at (727) 893-7326.**

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