



PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

IN CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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## Disabled zoo animals to get help from gadgets invented by local students and state engineers

**SACRAMENTO** – On Friday, 3-D drawings and models of inventions intended to aid rescued and special-needs **Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary** animals at the will be on display. The contraptions are intended to aid rescued and special-needs **Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary** animals.

The kids are meeting with members of **Professional Engineers in California Government (PECG)**, who will critique the students' plans during the third annual **Innovate for Impact Mentor Day**. Among the ideas: a hanging feeder to encourage turtles to exercise, a Jenga-style puzzle for bored macaques and seven decorative storage sheds to hold animal provisions and zoo equipment.

The students are using professional software and, in some instances 3D printers, to design their projects. After consulting with PECG's design professionals on Friday, the students will submit their plans to the zoo in a few weeks with the goal of installing the new amenities next spring.

**Photo/video opportunities:** 3-D renderings of shed plans and, tentatively, to-scale models of some projects. **Interview opportunities:** school kids, teachers and engineers ready to discuss the projects; STEM education; women in engineering and mentoring. [Click here](#) for **Nov. 29 B-roll footage and photos** from Folsom Zoo. (Please credit PECG.)

**What:** The Innovate for Impact program's third annual Mentor Day.

**Who:** Students and teachers from Eich Middle School and Cordova, Folsom and Rio Americano High Schools. State engineers and design professionals from PECG.

**When:** Friday, Dec. 1, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.

**Where:** Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 J St., Rooms 202 and 203.

**Why:** Students, teachers and state engineers and other design professionals are mentoring STEM students by critiquing plans for adaptive aids to assist Folsom Zoo animals.

*PECG represents 13,000 state-employed engineers and related professionals responsible for designing and inspecting California's infrastructure, improving air and water quality, and developing clean energy and green technology.*

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