



2024 ANNUAL
**CALIFORNIA LAND &
WATER CONSERVATION
CONFERENCE**



**CALIFORNIA COUNCIL
OF LAND TRUSTS**



Message from the Board Chair

March 18, 2024



**CALIFORNIA COUNCIL
OF LAND TRUSTS**

Welcome Conference Attendees and Speakers!

California Council of Land Trusts (CCLT) is absolutely thrilled to welcome you to our 2024 California Land & Water Conservation Conference!

Our last conference was held in 2019, and the past five years have been a transformative time for the world, the nation, California, CCLT, and the land trust community. Like many of you, CCLT had to adjust its operations dramatically in 2020. The board has spent the last three years reflecting & listening to the land trust community, planning & working to renew CCLT and our programs to better respond to today's challenges.

The urgency and reality of climate change affects each of us and our work more dramatically with each passing day. We each feel so acutely the immediate effects of bigger fires, more flooding, hotter summers, and less rain & snow, personally witnessing the direct impacts to our conserved lands.

Governor Newsom made the bold pledge in October 2020 through the Nature-Based Solutions Executive Order N-82-20 to conserve 30% of California's land and waters by 2030 and invited land trusts to partner with the state to achieve this goal. And land trusts accepted, expanding their inspirational work. But we need more support.

CCLT is ready to support you. We have restarted this important statewide conference not only for your continued education and training but also for critical networking and relationship building. We are launching two major capacity building block grant and training programs in the next month thanks to over \$6.7 million in state funding from DOC and WCB. And, we continue to fight for more funding and support in Sacramento through our policy efforts to uplift your work.

CCLT stands in awe of our California land trust community and the day to day, innovative and highly effective literal boots-on-the-ground work that each of you do to conserve the uniquely special places in our Golden State.

CCLT also stands ready to listen - what else can we do to continue to strengthen you - this extraordinary network of land trusts? Please talk to any of our Board members and staff over the next few days we are together with your ideas, needs, or concerns.

We hope that you will feel recognized, refreshed, and reenergized over the next three days for the critical work that you are doing.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bridget M. Fithian
California Council of Land Trusts, Board Chair

Bridget Fithian, Chair
Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Kay Ogden, Vice Chair
Eastern Sierra Land Trust

Kaila Dettman, Secretary
Membership & Communications Co-Chair
The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County

Noelle Chambers, Treasurer
Peninsula Open Space Trust

Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis, Immediate Past-Chair
LEAD Task Force Co-Chair
Big Sur Land Trust

Linus Eukel
John Muir Land Trust

Kim Kolpin
Policy Committee Chair
Bolsa Chica Land Trust

Wendy Millet
LEAD Task Force Co-Chair
TomKat Ranch Educational Foundation

Harry Pollack
(Retired) Save the Redwoods League

Mark Silberstein
Elkhorn Slough Foundation

Sharon Weaver
Membership & Communications Co-Chair
San Joaquin River Parkway & Conservation Trust

Paul Ringgold
Conference Committee Chair
Save the Redwoods League





Sponsors

CHAMPION



Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) protects open space on the Peninsula and in the South Bay for the benefit of all. As a private nonprofit land trust, POST has been responsible for preserving more than 87,000 acres since 1977. POST works with private landowners and public agencies to connect people and nature.



Sonoma Land Trust is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to conserve, protect, and restore scenic, natural, agricultural, and open land in Sonoma County. Their work is at the front lines of climate change with nature-based solutions to maintain healthy ecosystems that produce clean air, and clean water for everyone.



Save the Redwoods League envisions vibrant redwood forests of the scale and grandeur that once graced the California coast and the Sierra Nevada, protected forever, restored to grow old again, and connected to people through a network of magnificent parks and protected areas that inspire all of us with the beauty and power of nature.



The Resource Legacy Fund has helped protect more than five million acres and generate more than \$30 billion in public funds for conservation, climate resilience, and healthy communities. They focus on effectively mobilizing influence, knowledge, and expertise to advance smart policies, secure public funding, and grow capacity among partners. Creativity, persistence, and collaboration characterize their approach. Resources Legacy Fund builds alliances that advance bold solutions to secure a just and resilient world for people and nature.

STEWARD



Environmental & Energy Consulting (EEC) is a lobbying and consulting firm specializing in environmental advocacy. We offer a team of conservation professionals trained as advocates and practitioners that support California's conservation objectives. The firm has extensive policy knowledge in a wide range of environmental issues including natural resources, open space, parks and park access, wildlife, climate, and cap-and-trade.



John Muir Land Trust protects and cares for open space, ranches, farms, parkland and shoreline in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties. Since our founding 30 years ago, JMLT has become one of the leading forces for conservation in northern California. With more than 3,500 acres protected, many beautiful places in the East Bay are permanently preserved for recreation and wildlife habitat. JMLT believes that the vitality of our natural open spaces is essential to the health of our earth, air, water, native plants and animals — and all of us.



Founded in 1982, the Land Trust Alliance is a national land conservation organization working to save the places people need and love by empowering and mobilizing land trusts in communities across America to conserve land for the benefit of all. The Alliance represents approximately 1,000 member land trusts and affiliates supported by more than 250,000 volunteers and 6.3 million members nationwide. The Alliance is based in Washington, D.C., with staff working in communities across the U.S.



Sponsors

STEWARD



Vulcan Materials Company is the nation's largest producer of construction aggregates including crushed stone, sand, and gravel, and a major producer of aggregates-based construction materials, including asphalt and ready-mixed concrete. Vulcan provides sustainable solutions to durable growth, serving the nation's growth centers.

SUPPORTER



Eastern Sierra Land Trust: Protecting Paradise, One Acre at a Time - Over 23,000 acres of breathtaking, unique and biodiverse Eastern Sierra natural and working lands permanently protected for future generations since 2001.



GreenInfo Network is a nonprofit organization with a mission to create, analyze, visualize and communicate information in the public interest. We support other nonprofits and government agencies by providing a wide range of GIS services. Additionally, as the data stewards for the California Protected Areas Database (CPAD) and the California Conservation Easement Database (CCED), we provide the foundational geospatial data for California's 30x30 initiative.



The first farmland trust in the nation, MALT was founded in 1980 by a broad coalition of ranchers, environmentalists, and community leaders to protect the future of farming in Marin County from mounting pressures for development. To date, MALT has protected more than 55,721 acres of Marin farmland, forever. Our mission is to permanently protect Marin's agricultural land for agricultural use. Our vision for Marin County is a thriving and inclusive agricultural community in a healthy and diverse natural environment.



Pacific Policy Group is a Sacramento based lobbying and consulting firm specializing in natural resources policy and funding. Our clients and our expertise are in the areas of climate change, natural and working lands, water, clean energy and local government. PPG seeks to bring a mix of clients together that work toward a common goal of protecting and enhancing California's natural resources and environment.



The grasslands, foothills, and forests between Yosemite and Kings Canyon National Parks provide land for farms and ranches, a home for native plants and wildlife, and a source of clean water. Sierra Foothill Conservancy honors our natural and cultural heritage by protecting these resources and ensuring that present and future generations will continue to experience and enjoy the land in this region. SFC has protected over 50,000 acres of native flora and historic rangelands since 1996.



Sponsors

SUPPORTER



Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP specializes in local government, land use, renewable energy, and environmental law. Since 1980, the firm has provided public agencies with the highest quality legal representation, offering an array of litigation, regulatory, counseling, and planning services. Known for its commitment to environmental and community values, SMW has achieved an exceptional record of court and administrative victories. As city attorney, general counsel, and outside counsel to numerous public agencies, SMW provides advice on the wide array of laws applicable to local governments, helping clients succeed in complex, and often highly controversial, matters.



The Nature Conservancy is a global environmental nonprofit working to create a world where people and nature can thrive.



Founded in 1975, PlaceWorks is a 100% employee-owned planning, design, and environmental consulting firm with offices throughout California. Our multidisciplinary team seamlessly integrates nature into the urban fabric and balances open space accessibility with natural resource protection. Informed by our expertise in landscape architecture, GIS, policy, and community engagement, PlaceWorks creates healthier places with increased access to shorelines, forests, and other open space. Our experience includes habitat and creek restoration, resource management, urban agriculture and forestry, open space master plans, and trail plans and designs.



The Center for Natural Lands Management practices science-based, professional stewardship on its portfolio of preserves -- all of which provide habitat for endangered species or protect waters of the US. Through perpetual commitments (ownership in fee or conservation easements), our committed staff provide protection to our (100+) preserves in California, Washington, and Oregon.

PARTNER



Elkhorn Slough Foundation (ESF) is a nonprofit land trust founded in 1982 to conserve and restore Elkhorn Slough and its watershed. We restore habitat, protect native species, improve water quality, support healthy farms and ranches, and nurture connections between people and nature. We also partner closely with both state and federal governments to support the Elkhorn Slough Reserve.



Conservation Partners is dedicated to promoting the preservation of land. We specialize in advising, negotiating, and drafting agreements to protect agricultural lands, natural habitats, and open spaces.



Big Sur Land Trust (BSLT) is a non-profit organization with a mission to inspire love of land across generations, conservation of our unique Monterey County landscapes, and access to outdoor experiences for all. We see a future where natural landscapes, working lands, urban open spaces and healthy communities are cared for by people who share a love of nature and a deep appreciation for the richness of their diverse cultures. Since 1978, our generous donors and partners have conserved over 45,000 acres throughout Monterey County.



CCLT acknowledges that all of the lands and waters in California in which we live and work are the traditional unceded ancestral homelands and sacred spaces of native peoples from more than 100 nations, who inhabited, and still inhabit, these lands. This Land & Water Conservation Conference is being held on the unceded traditional territories and sacred spaces of the Miwok, Nisenan, and Maidu peoples. As land conservation practitioners, we recognize and acknowledge the peoples who have been, and still are, a part of this land from time immemorial and we strive to work in solidarity in natural places and communities with them.

CCLT Membership Information

CCLT’s purpose is to conserve California’s extraordinary land and water resources through a strong network of land trusts with one cohesive voice across urban and rural communities.

LAND TRUST MEMBERSHIP

Nonprofit organizations whose principal purpose and activity is the direct protection and/or stewardship of land and water are eligible for Land Trust Membership. CCLT’s primary benefit to your land trust is its work on statewide issues, including shaping funding measures to meet land and conservation needs, building strong laws to ensure land trusts’ ability to operate and conserve land, and increasing the visibility and credibility of land trusts among elected officials, philanthropists, and the media. Land Trust Members also enjoy preferred pricing for CCLT events, action alerts, participation in forums and working groups, and training and networking opportunities.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Any individual, non-profit organization, professional or corporate entity that supports CCLT’s purpose is welcome and eligible for Professional Membership. Benefits include discounts for CCLT events, communications about statewide and regional conservation issues, networking and educational opportunities, and being known as a CCLT Professional Member who works to increase funding for land and water conservation, to support policies and laws that enhance land and water resources protection, and to increase awareness and visibility of conservation interests.

Scan the QR code to learn more about CCLT membership!



Conference Planning Committee

Paul Ringgold, Committee Chair

Chief Program Officer
Save the Redwoods League

Noelle Chambers

Vice President of Conservation
Peninsula Open Space Trust

Sharon Weaver

Executive Director
San Joaquin River Parkway
& Conservation Trust, Inc.

Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis

Executive Director
Big Sur Land Trust

Tasha Newman

Principal
Pacific Policy Group

Karin Winters

CA Onward Program Director
California Council of Land Trusts

Claire Marvet

Program Associate
California Council of Land Trusts

2025 California Land and Water Conservation Conference

Monday, April 1, 2025 through
Wednesday, April 3, 2025

Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite

Registration Coming Soon

California Council of Land Trusts
1017 L St. #664, Sacramento, CA 95814-3805
Federal ID number: 01-0826246

CCLT is a 501(c)3 public benefit
corporation in California.

Schedule At A Glance

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

Time	Room	Session Title
8:00am - 9:00am	Regency Foyer	Registration & Breakfast
9:00am - 11:30am	Regency ABC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> —— Welcome & Conference Opening —— Message from CNRA Secretary, Wade Crowfoot —— Conference Overview —— State Funding Panel —— CA Onward Capacity Building Programs
11:30am - 1:00pm		Lunch (on own)
1:00pm - 2:30pm	Carmel AB Golden State Regency C Regency A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> —— Land Acquisition 101 —— Regenerative Agriculture & Stewardship: Working in Partnership to Care for Land —— Carbon Projects: Land Trust Opportunities & Challenges —— Conservation Forum: Housing & Conservation - Competing Priorities?
2:30pm - 3:00pm	Regency Foyer & 2nd Floor Hallway	Networking Break with Coffee/Tea Service
3:00 pm - 4:30pm	Carmel AB Golden State Regency C Regency A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> —— California Department of Fish and Wildlife Entity Due Diligence Process —— Land Trust/Resource Conservation District Partnerships - Complementary Relationships —— Advancing Agricultural Land Access —— Conservation Forum: Prevailing Wage Issues & Subdivision Map Act
4:30pm - 5:45pm	Regency Foyer	Welcome Reception Happy Hour
5:45pm - 8:00pm	Regency ABC	California Conservation Awards Dinner

Schedule At A Glance

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

Time	Room	Session Title
8:00am - 9:00am	Regency Foyer	Breakfast
9:00am - 10:00am	Carmel AB	—— 30x30 Data Tracking
	Golden State	—— Working with State & Federal Partners on Stewardship of Public Lands
	Regency C	—— Building Community Support: Career Pathways Through Programs
	Regency A	—— Executive Directors Summit
10:00am - 10:30am	Regency Foyer & 2nd Floor Hallway	Networking Break with Coffee/Tea Service
10:30am - 11:30am	Carmel AB	—— How to Review a Title Report
	Golden State	—— Returning Beneficial Fire to the Landscape
	Regency C	—— The Santa Rosa Southeast Greenway: A Case Study in How an Abandoned Freeway is About to Become Santa Rosa's Newest Park
	Regency A	—— Executive Directors Summit, cont.
11:30am - 1:00pm	Regency Ballroom	Affinity Group Lunch
1:00pm - 2:30pm	Carmel AB	—— Constructing Robust Endowments & Managing them in Perpetuity
	Golden State	—— Indigenous-Led Land Protection
	Regency A	—— SALC - Building Equity in Conservation - Tools for Meaningful Engagement
2:30pm - 3:00pm	Regency Foyer & 2nd Floor Hallway	Networking Break with Coffee/Tea Service
3:00pm - 4:30pm	Regency ABC	—— Why Conservation Matters
		—— Welcome to the First Annual California Council of Land Trusts Film Festival
		—— SALC - A Decade of Conservation
4:30pm - 5:30pm	Regency ABC	Closing Networking Reception

DAY 1 | MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

8–9am | Regency Foyer | Registration and Breakfast

9–11:30am | Regency ABC | Opening Plenary

Welcome, Conference Opening

Bridget Fithian, Chair, CCLT Board of Directors, Executive Director Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Keynote Address

Wade Crowfoot Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency

State Funding Panel

John Walsh, Deputy Executive Director, Land Acquisition, Wildlife Conservation Board

Julie Alvis, Deputy Executive Officer, Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Randi Adair, Environmental Program Manager, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director, Resource Protection and Improvement, CalFire

Keali'i Bright, Division Director of the Land Resource Protection Division,
California Department of Conservation

Amy Hutzler, Executive Officer, State Coastal Conservancy

Teresa Mallory, Deputy Director for Bonds and Grants, California Natural Resources Agency

Richard Rendon, Chief, Office of Grants and Local Services, California State Parks

Several of our state partners will present an overview of their funding programs and priorities, share information on upcoming opportunities for land trusts and their community partners, and discuss budget implications for future funding.

CA Onward Capacity Building Programs

Karin Winters, CA Onward Program Director, California Council of Land Trusts

CCLT staff will present an overview of their two new grant programs funded by the Department of Conservation and the Wildlife Conservation Board to provide capacity building block grants and technical assistance to land trusts and their partners over the next three years.

Conference Overview

Bridget Fithian, Chair, CCLT Board of Directors, Executive Director Sierra Foothill Conservancy

11:30am–1pm | LUNCH (on own) | List of nearby restaurants included in attendee bag

DAY 1 | MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

1-2:30pm | Carmel AB | Land Acquisition 101

Session Track: Easements and Acquisitions

Owen Wozniak, Land Transactions Program Manager, Land Trust Alliance
Becky Bremser, Chief of Land Acquisition, East Bay Regional Park District

This session is intended for anyone interested in learning land protection basics. We'll cover the major components of typical fee simple and conservation easement acquisitions, starting with project evaluation and continuing through landowner outreach, negotiation, transaction due diligence, and closing. We'll touch on common challenges regarding appraisals, title review, environmental site assessments, legal descriptions, and surveys.

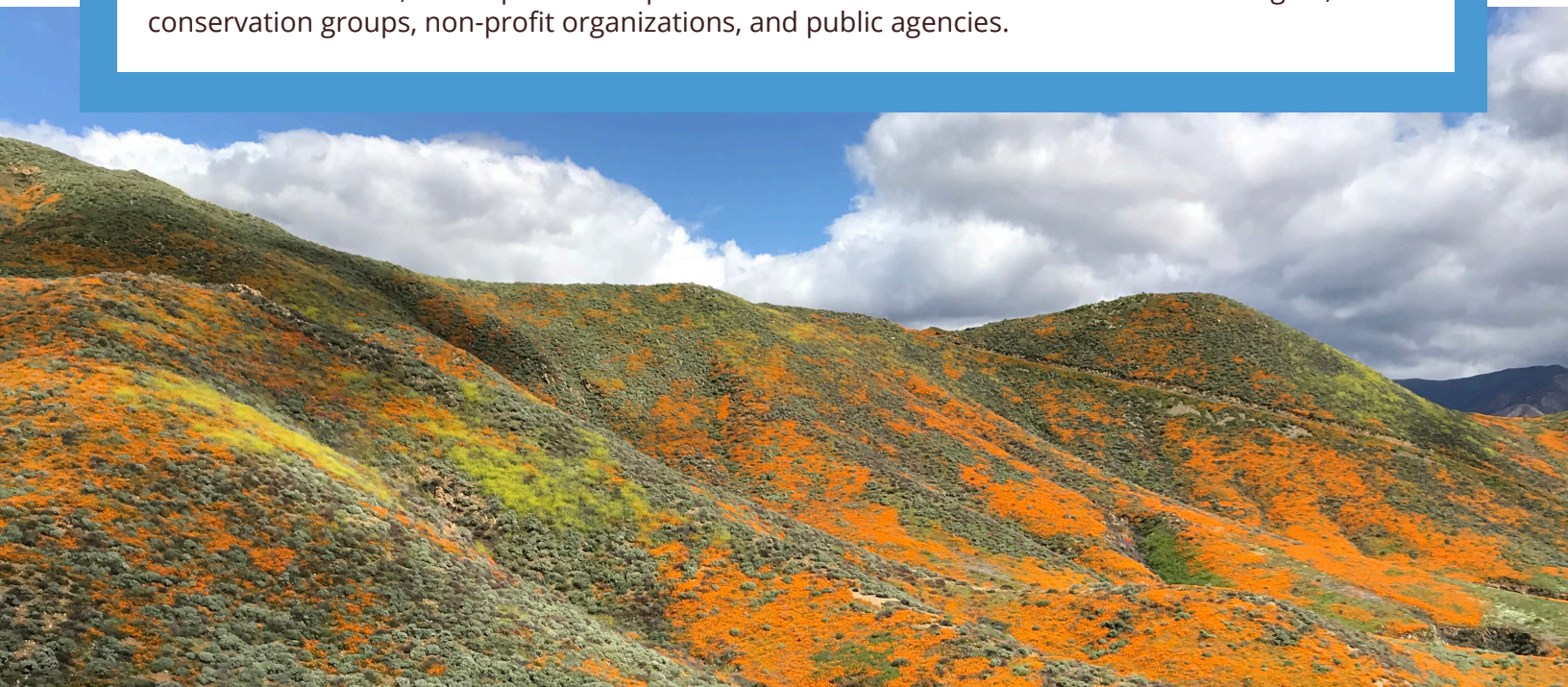
1-2:30pm | Golden State

Regenerative Agriculture and Stewardship: Working in Partnership to Care for Land

Session Track: Stewardship

Eliza Milio, Agricultural Stewardship Program Manager, San Mateo County Resource Conservation District
Drew Loganbill, Area Resource Conservationist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Bonnie Eyestone, Working Lands Conservation Director, Point Blue Conservation Science
Hayley Strohm, Regenerative Science Coordinator, TomKat Ranch Educational Foundation

Regenerative agriculture can be an effective and scalable tool for preserving and enhancing the health of protected lands. This talk highlights the many ways that the NRCS, San Mateo RCD, TomKat Ranch Educational Foundation, and Point Blue Conservation Science are implementing the principles and practices of regenerative agriculture in the Central Coast of California. Additionally, this talk will showcase how regenerative agriculture can support the work of conservation organizations, share tools and resources, and explore examples of collaborative success between land managers, conservation groups, non-profit organizations, and public agencies.



DAY 1 | MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

1-2:30pm | Regency C | Carbon Projects: Land Trust Opportunities & Challenges

Session Track: Stewardship

Lauren Fety, Forest & Climate Program Manager, The Conservation Fund
Ailla Wasstrom-Evans, Conservation Defense Manager, Land Trust Alliance
Misti Schmidt, Partner, Conservation Partners
Travis Croft, Senior Project Analyst, The Climate Trust

Most land trusts fund their conservation work with the traditional conservation finance tools of government and foundation grants and donations. This panel will provide a broad overview of the carbon markets, which are additional and complimentary sources of funding that have not yet been fully tapped by the land trust community. The panel will also discuss lessons learned from recent carbon market participation by pioneering land trusts, including key takeaways from LTA's technical assistance to its members.

1-2:30pm | Regency A | Conservation Forum: Housing and Conservation - Competing Priorities?

Session Track: Conservation Forum

Daniel Olstein, Director of Land Stewardship, Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST)
Gabriel Ross, Attorney, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP
Taylor Jang, Senior Coyote Valley Project Manager, Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST)

California's housing crisis is intimately tied to ecological crises, but mitigations for one can look like impediments to solving the other. In the last several years, the State has worked to streamline local housing approvals, partly in the hope of reducing sprawl. But as they roll through California's cities and suburbs, these laws might interfere with past decades' conservation efforts, as housing applications go head to head with older conservation and open space easements. Meanwhile, as land trusts continue to acquire property rights, they will increasingly find themselves holding land with tenants, whose continuing residence may not be compatible with conservation goals. We'll consider the technical and policy problems raised by these collisions between housing and conservation, and discuss how land trusts can strike a balance between goals that sometimes seem to be in conflict.

MCLE Credit can be offered. You must pre-register and sign-in to receive credit.

2:30-3pm | Regency Foyer & Second Floor Prefunction Area Networking Break with Coffee/Tea Service



DAY 1 | MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

3pm-4:30 pm | Carmel AB

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Entity Due Diligence Process

Session Track: Easements and Acquisitions

Craig Zeff, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), CDFW Conservation and Mitigation Banking
Monica Aquino, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), CDFW Conservation & Mitigation Banking & Wildlife Connectivity Advance Mitigation
Lauren Miller, Conservation Director, Sierra Foothill Conservancy

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will present on their Entity Due Diligence process. Government Code section 65967, subdivision (c) requires a state or local agency to exercise due diligence when approving governmental entities, special districts, and non-profit organizations (e.g., land trusts) proposed to hold conservation easements or manage and steward mitigation lands. Additionally, entities proposed to hold endowments must also be reviewed to ensure they are meeting specific requirements outlined in Government Code section 65968, subdivision (e), paragraphs (1-5). After CDFW presentation, Lauren Miller will present from the land trust perspective of applying for and managing and stewarding mitigation lands.

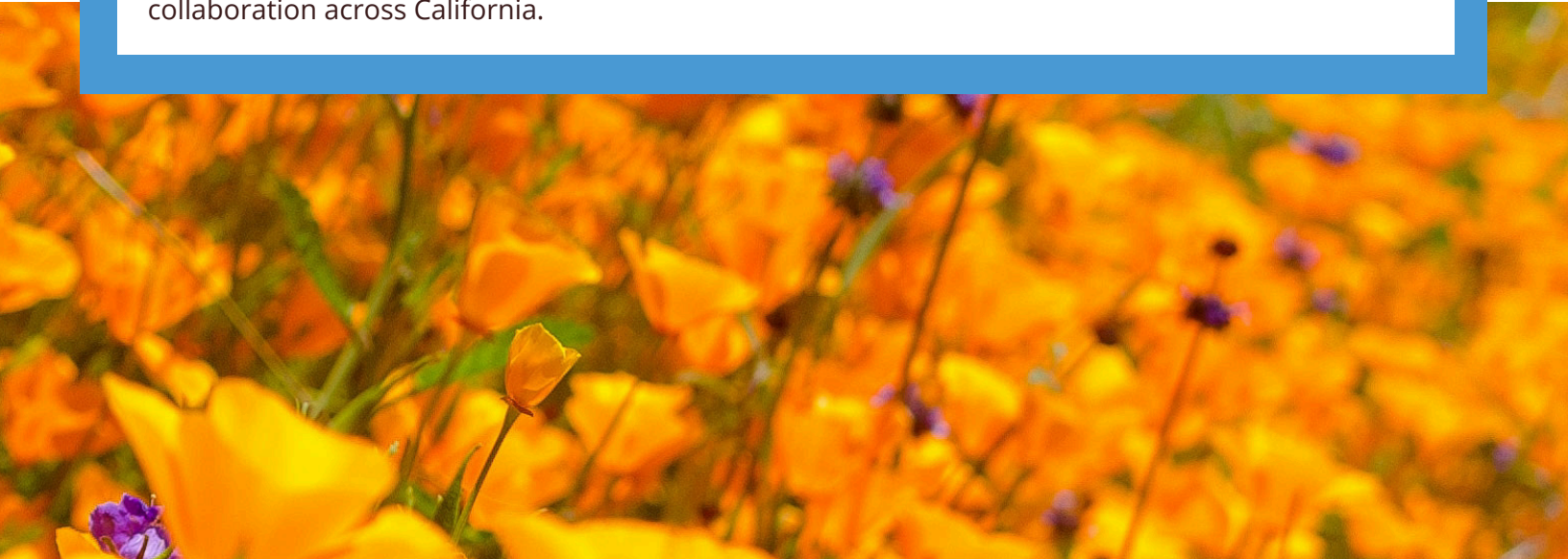
3-4:30pm | Golden State

Land Trust/Resource Conservation District Partnerships – Complementary Relationships

Session Track: Stewardship

Nancy Wahl-Scheurich, Executive Director, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
Kellyx Nelson, Executive Director, San Mateo RCD
Heather Nichols, Executive Director, Yolo County RCD
Lucas Patzek, Executive Director, Napa RCD

Many Land Trusts and Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) have created successful partnerships that have led to protection and restoration of habitat and community benefits across the state. But it's complicated. The panel will discuss successes, challenges, and ideas for broader Land Trust/RCD collaboration across California.



DAY 1 | MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

3-4:30 pm | Regency C | Advancing Agricultural Land Access

Session Track: Community Conservation

Kathryn Lyddan, Principal, Convivial Land Consulting
Kendra Johnson, Principal, Kendra Johnson Land Consulting
Dorian Payan, Director of Holistic Land Relations, California Agricultural Land Access Task Force
Bryan Largay, Conservation Director, Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
Benjamin Wright, Director of Land Transactions, Peninsula Open Space Trust

The panel will explore how land trusts can work with farmers, ranchers, and partners to advance equitable access to California agricultural land. We'll hear about the new California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force and learn about land trusts that are working to ensure that the next generations of farmers and ranchers have access to land.

3-4:30pm | Regency A | Conservation Forum:

Avoiding Legal Pitfalls - Prevailing Wage Issues & Subdivision Map Act

Session Track: Conservation Forum

Sarah Sigman, Partner, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP
Peter Silchuk, Attorney, Boutin Jones Inc.
Stephanie Tavares-Buhler, Sr. Acquisition Specialist, Sonoma County Ag + Open Space
Laura Beaton, Partner, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP
Sharon Weaver, Executive Director, San Joaquin River Parkway & Conservation Trust
Mitch Hayes, Partnership Manager, Save the Redwoods League

This session will focus on avoiding legal pitfalls around prevailing wage and the subdivision map act. Learn about avoiding issues related to the subdivision map act, including mergers, lot line adjustments and similar concerns that land trusts face in their transactions. Another legal pitfall relates to prevailing wage - when do you have to pay it? What is required? What are best practices for compliance? Which agencies have different requirements? How are federal rules different from the state? Finally, why should you not try to avoid prevailing wage, but embrace it?

MCLE Credit can be offered. You must pre-register and sign-in to receive credit.

4:30-5:45pm | Regency Foyer | Welcome Reception Happy Hour | Sponsored By Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), Save the Redwoods League and Sonoma Land Trust

5:45-8pm | Regency ABC | California Conservation Awards Dinner (separate ticket required)

DAY 2 | TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

8–9am | Regency Foyer | Registration and Breakfast

9–10am | Carmel AB | 30x30 Data Tracking

Session Track: Easements and Acquisitions

Amanda Kochanek, Senior Project Manager and Geospatial Data Analyst, GreenInfo Network
Dariya Draganova, GIS Analyst, GreenInfo Network

Learn about 30x30 data tracking from GreenInfo Network including:

- What data goes into 30x30
- Who can submit updates and how
- How close are we to 30%
- How CPAD/CCED will support 30x30 in the coming years
- Questions, Request for Feedback, Discussion

9–10am | Golden State

Working with State and Federal Partners on Stewardship of Public Lands

Session Track: Stewardship

Ben Blom, Director of Stewardship and Restoration, Save the Redwoods League
Mitchell Hayes, Partnership Manager, Save the Redwoods League
Jay Chamberlin, Chief of Natural Resources, California State Parks

Redwoods Rising is an innovative partnership centered around restoration of approximately 70,000 acres of highly degraded lands within the iconic forests of Redwood National and State Parks. Through Redwoods Rising, the three primary partners (California State Parks, the National Park Service and Save the Redwoods League) achieve far more together than they could as individual entities. This presentation will describe the framework, relationships and activities that have allowed Redwoods Rising to blaze a new path for landscape-scale restoration.



DAY 2 | TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

9–10am | Regency C | Building Community Support: Career Pathways Through Programs

Session Track: Community Conservation

Molly Schnur-Salimbene, Director of Programs Administration,
San Joaquin River Parkway & Conservation Trust

Katie Kincaid, Director of River Camp Programs, San Joaquin River Parkway & Conservation Trust

Carina Damian, High School Programs Manager, San Joaquin River Parkway & Conservation Trust

This session will explore three different programs-based recruitment strategies for staff members through engaging program, volunteer, and job opportunities for youth and young adults. We'll learn how unique and memorable experiences lead to an incoming workforce of staff connected to the local environment and discuss methods to expand programs through partnerships that prioritize career pathways in the environmental field as a key outcome.

9–10am | Regency A | Executive Directors Summit

Bridget Fithian, CCLT Board Chair, Executive Director, Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Kay Ogden, CCLT Board Vice-Chair, Executive Director/CEO, Eastern Sierra Land Trust

Check-in with your fellow Executive Directors for candid conversations about your role and responsibilities, how CCLT can support you, personnel management, private fundraising, and other issues you find yourself struggling with.

10–10:30am | Regency Foyer & Second Floor Prefunction Area

Networking Break with Coffee/Tea Service



DAY 2 | TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

10:30–11:30am | Carmel AB | How to Review a Title Report

Session Track: Easements and Acquisitions

Jenna Archer, Attorney, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP
Lena Pollastro, Conservation Director, Land Trust of Napa County
Joseph Navari, Supervising Right-of-Way Agent, Wildlife Conservation Board

This panel aims to provide the foundational requirements and concerns related to a land trust's review of title for both Conservation Easement and Fee acquisitions, plus WCB's perspective on what it looks for related to title.

10:30–11:30am | Golden State | Returning Beneficial Fire to the Landscape

Session Track: Community Conservation

Sara Clark, Partner, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP
Valetin Lopez, Chairman, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band
Curtis Lee, Vice Chairman, Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians

Indigenous peoples, scientists and governments have all called to expand the use of beneficial fire (prescribed fire, cultural burning, and managed wildfire) to address the wildfire crisis. Land trusts from across California have joined in the effort, adding fire as a key land management tool and working with Tribes to revitalize important Indigenous practices. This panel explores opportunities, policy trends, and practical steps you can take to help return beneficial fire to the landscape.

10:30–11:30am | Regency C | The Santa Rosa Southeast Greenway: A Case Study in How an Abandoned Freeway is About to Become Santa Rosa's Newest Park

Session Track: Community Conservation

John McCaull, Land Acquisition Director, Sonoma Land Trust
Jill Scott, Real Estate Manager, City of Santa Rosa
Pierre Ratte, Acquisition Specialist, Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District

After more than a decade of work, the City of Santa Rosa is poised to purchase the Santa Rosa Southeast Greenway—an abandoned freeway right of way through the heart of the city—from Caltrans in Spring 2024. Our presentation will focus on how this unique transaction has been structured, and in particular how land trusts and local partners can bring technical assistance, fundraising prowess and community engagement skills to support local cities and counties in expanding equitable park access and urban green space.

DAY 2 | TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

10:30–11:30am | Regency A | Executive Directors Summit, Cont.

Bridget Fithian, Executive Director, CCLT Board Chair, Sierra Foothill Conservancy
Kay Ogden, Executive Director/CEO, CCLT Board Vice-Chair, Eastern Sierra Land Trust

Continue the conversation with fellow Executive Directors.

11:30am–1:00pm | Regency Ballroom | Affinity Group Lunch

Grab a box lunch and join groups to network, meet other land trust staff from throughout the state, and discuss topics of mutual concern. Groups include: Operations and Finance; Development and Communications; Land Stewardships; Acquisition; Agriculture; Board and Executive Directors; Community Conservation. Each group will be led by experienced practitioners.

1–2:30pm | Carmel AB

Constructing Robust Endowments and Managing them in Perpetuity

Session Track: Easements and Acquisitions

Deborah L. Rogers, Co-Executive Director & Director of Conservation Science and Stewardship,
Center for Natural Lands Management
Melanie A. Barranco, Co-Executive Director & Chief Financial Officer,
Center for Natural Lands Management

Endowments for stewardship (and conservation easements) are a good financial strategy for conservation lands and are typically a requirement for those lands that are serving as mitigation. Given their perpetual nature, endowments should be constructed with the best available information and the benefit of lessons learned. During this seminar, we'll provide that information from over 30 years of experience in constructing endowments for conservation properties, explaining principles, the role of "I&C" funds, the impacts of differing drawdown rates, and some means of including support for adaptive management. We will continue with an explanation of some accounting concepts for endowment management and how annual budgets can be constructed so as to help protect the principal, while allowing for intermittent use of 'above average' funds.



DAY 2 | TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

1-2:30pm | Golden State | Indigenous-Led Land Protection

Session Track: Stewardship

Hawk Rosales, Ndé (Apache), Indigenous Lands Defender & Consultant, Indigenous Conservation Strategies
Teri Red Owl, Bishop Paiute Tribe Nüümü from Payahuunadü, Executive Director, Owens Valley Indian Water Commission
Ken Lucero, PhD, Tribal and Indigenous Lands Director, The Trust for Public Land
Paul Ringgold, Chief Program Officer, Save the Redwoods League

Since time immemorial, Tribal Nations have diligently maintained relationships of reciprocity with cultural landscapes that have ensured legacies of biological diversity and abundance. Panelists will share insights on how land trusts can be respectful and effective partners in Tribal-led endeavors to protect nature and reestablish their traditional roles as guardians. They will share examples of cultural land return and tenure, and discuss building relationship and collaboration with Tribes to realize shared goals.

1-2:30pm | Regency A

SALC - Building Equity in Conservation - Tools for Meaningful Engagement

Session Track: Community Conservation

Sarah Rubin, Outreach and Engagement Advisor, CA Department of Conservation
Bridget Fithian, Executive Director, CCLT Board Chair, Sierra Foothill Conservancy
Fawn Scheer, Founding Partner, Helianth Partners, LLC
Qi Zhou, Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Program Manager, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
Shanna Atherton-Bauer, Conservation Programs Manager, CA Dept. of Conservation

Are you connecting with as diverse of a population as you would like? If you are interested in learning ways to create meaningful connections in your community, you don't want to miss this session. At this interactive session, you will learn ten tools from four seasoned professionals that you'll be able to apply as soon as you get home.

2:30-3:00pm | Regency Foyer & Second Floor Prefunction Area

Networking Break with Coffee/Tea Service

DAY 2 | TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

3-4:30pm | Regency ABC | Closing Plenary

Why Conservation Matters

Jennifer Norris, PhD , Executive Director, Wildlife Conservation Board

Welcome to the First Annual California Council of Land Trusts Film Festival

Michael Hawk, @naturesarchive on Instagram & Facebook & @jumpstartnature on Instagram & Facebook
Michelle Fullner, @goldenstatenaturalist on Instagram & TikTok
Jessie Dickson, @sacramentofoodforest on Instagram & TikTok

Hear tips and tricks on how harness the power of social media with short videos to elevate your work. Watch the videos and learn the winners. Most Popular, Most Inspirational, Most Entertaining

SALC - A Decade of Conservation

Keali'I Bright , Division Director, Land Resource Protection, California Department of Conservation
Shanna Ahterton-Bauer, Conservation Programs Manager, California Department of Conservation
Tracy Ellison, Conservation Director, Solano Land Trust
Bridget Fithian, Executive Director, Sierra Foothill Conservancy
Paul Vienneau, Executive Director, Shasta Land Trust
Bob Roach, Board Member, Ag Land Trust

In the last decade, SALC has awarded nearly \$500M in funding to permanently protect at-risk agricultural lands across California. Join us for this whirlwind tour across the state to hear first-hand from SALC grantees about a few of the approximately 280 projects that this program has supported.

4:30-5:30pm | Regency ABC | Closing Networking Reception

