

Newsletter No. 2 – November 2005

ABOUT US

The Stewardship Council is a collaborative land conservation and youth investment foundation. Our mandate includes evaluating and providing recommendations for the conservation of over 140,000 acres of watershed lands (currently owned by PG&E) spread across 22 counties, as well as developing and implementing community-based park and environmental education opportunities for underserved youth. For more information about the Stewardship Council visit www.stewardshipcouncil.org.

GREETINGS!

It's hard to believe how quickly the end of the year is approaching. When I look back over 2005 it's been an amazing year for the Stewardship Council. Our fledgling organization is now fully operational, with eight full-time staff and a vibrant and active Board membership. We've made significant strides in both our land conservation and youth work. We couldn't have done it without the help of the many individuals, community members, consultants, contractors, volunteers, interns, and Board member staff that contributed their creativity, time, and energy. So, to everyone that has helped us along the way, thank you.

And our adventures are just beginning! On the land conservation planning side, our baseline work is nearly complete and we will move forward with developing and assessing potential alternatives to ensure the protection of over 140,000 acres of watershed lands for a broad range of public beneficial uses. Community input will continue to be important to us during this process, so staff and Board members will be back to visit with stakeholders, local residents, and resource experts across northern and central California throughout 2006. I encourage you to visit our website to get the latest updates on the schedule for community workshops and Board meetings for 2006.

I am also very pleased to announce that the Stewardship Council has committed a total of \$2.6 million to help support efforts to connect California's youth to the outdoors – from parks in the city to watersheds in the wilderness. We released the first round of Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for youth grants at the end of October. Please visit our website to learn more about this exciting new source of funding!

As we head towards the close of the year, I wish everyone a healthy and happy holiday season. Thank you again for your input, expertise, and commitment to the work of the Stewardship Council. We look forward to continuing our work with you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jayne".

Jayne Battey
Executive Director

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

The Stewardship Council's Board of Director's last meeting of 2005 will be held in Sacramento at the Public Library, 828 I Street, from **1-4 PM on Wednesday, November 16**. The meeting begins with a public comment period where attendees are welcome to address the Board.



LAND CONSERVATION PLAN



The Stewardship Council is tasked with ensuring the permanent protection of over 140,000 acres of PG&E-owned watershed lands for the benefit of the citizens of California. To accomplish this goal, we are currently developing a Land Conservation Plan (LCP) to summarize our recommendations.

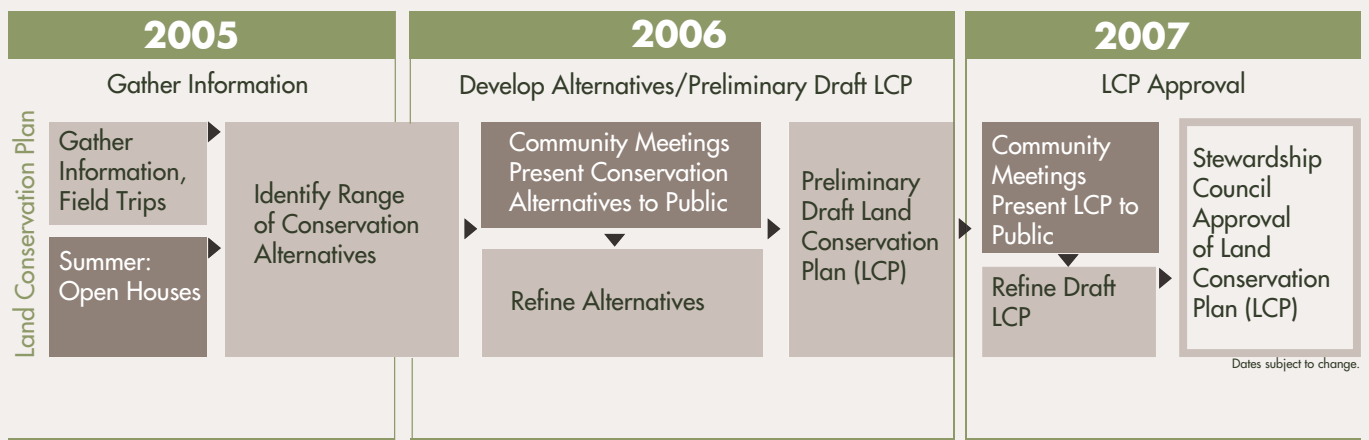
Over the past summer, our work on the LCP included meeting with a variety of resource experts, tribal organizations,

and other interested parties. We also held public open houses in eleven communities across the watershed lands, from Burney to Bakersfield, and talked with over 250 local residents. We learned about current uses and resources on the lands and potential management challenges. We also heard your hopes and concerns about the possibility of changes that might take place in the future. We appreciate your valuable insights and thank everyone who came out to talk with us.

Over the next several months, our land planning study team will continue its work with a pilot study of nine of the 49 planning units we have now identified within the watershed areas. This pilot effort will help us test our planning process and allow the Stewardship Council to start considering some broader policy decisions in the context of specific examples. In early 2006, we will be back out to the watersheds and ask for your participation in this pilot study - so be assured that our process will continue to ask for and encourage a high level of public participation.

We look forward to your continued participation in our land planning work in 2006. Watch our website for updates on open houses, board meetings, and workshops in your community!

NEXT STEPS - TIMELINE



YOUTH INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Stewardship Council to Distribute \$2,600,000

On October 27, the Stewardship Council launched its Youth Investment Grant Program to support efforts to provide access for underserved youth to the outdoors.

Studies show that outdoor experiences uniquely transform individuals through personal, social, and academic growth. Unfortunately, poor and underserved youth often have the least access to these life-changing experiences.

Over the next year, the Stewardship Council will dedicate \$2.6 million to connect underserved youth to the outdoors. The grant program will target outdoor programs and urban parks that serve youth who have the least access and opportunity to enjoy outdoor experiences.

There are three levels of funding:

- **Small Grants**
(\$1,000 up to \$20,000)
- **Mid-size Grants**
(\$20,000 up to \$50,000)
- **Partnership Grants**
(over \$50,000)

You can apply for the level of funding that makes sense for your organization.

We will announce the first round of grant awards at the end of January 2006.

To find out more:

Go to www.stewardshipcouncil.org
or call us at 650-286-5150



HOW TO APPLY:

1 Go to our website at www.stewardshipcouncil.org for guidelines, applications, and a detailed description of the Youth Investment Grant Program.

2 Download an application. (If you have difficulty, call or write us to have an application sent to you.)

3 Complete the application and email it along with other requested documents to us (or send by U.S. mail). The first round of grant applications for small grants is due by **December 15, 2005.**

Stewardship Council Key Contacts

JAYNE BATTEY
Executive Director

ELISE HOLLAND
Land Conservation Manager

STEVE HAGLER
Youth Investment Manager

LISA WHITMAN
Communications Manager

Board of Directors

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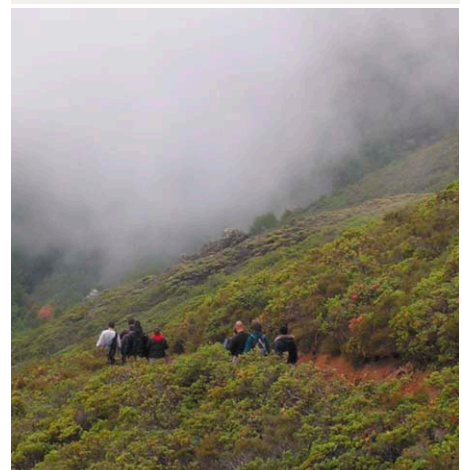
Larry Myers

Chris Nota

Robert Schneider

J. Alfred Smith, Jr.

David Sutton



MISSION

The Stewardship Council protects and enhances watershed lands and uses, and invests in efforts to improve the lives of young Californians through connections with the outdoors.

CORE VALUES

Collaboration

We value diversity and believe that greater outcomes are achieved by working together towards cooperative solutions. We strive for and nurture productive relationships with a diversity of communities and stakeholders, and will build alliances and encourage partnerships with people and organizations across the California landscape. We value the input of the public as part of our collaborative effort and will encourage community dialogue as part of our work.

Stewardship

We exist to protect and enhance the beneficial values and uses of the watershed lands and to improve the lives of young Californians through connections to the outdoors. We are bound individually and collectively by the obligation to be good stewards for both land conservation and

youth investments, and we will ensure that every action we take and commitment we make clearly serves this purpose.

Discovery

We will encourage and welcome an atmosphere of learning, discovery, and innovation. We will be flexible and demand a culture that focuses on how something can be accomplished, rather than focusing on why it cannot. We will seek collaborative and innovative solutions to conventional challenges, and we will not shy away from untested approaches we believe offer promising solutions.

Sustainability

We will make sustainable contributions to California, and provide a legacy of land conservation and youth enrichment that will live beyond the Stewardship Council.

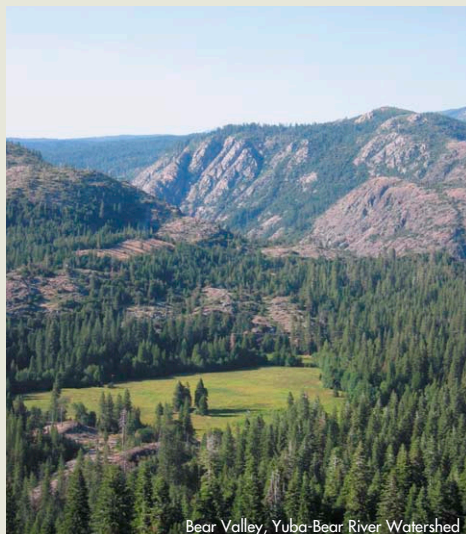
Our actions and decision-making will include a clear recognition of long-term stewardship to ensure the benefits of our work are shared by Californians for generations to come.

Leadership

We will strive to be leaders in California and national environmental and philanthropic communities, and contribute to the further development and education of ourselves and others. We personally commit to and will hold one another accountable to conduct our work in a thoughtful, creative, and comprehensive manner. We will be sincere, honest, non-discriminatory, and forthcoming in all of our actions, and practice the highest standards of professional integrity in all our work.



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Bear Valley, Yuba-Bear River Watershed

www.stewardshipcouncil.org