

## First Round of Grants Help Connect California Youth to the Outdoors

### \$225,000 Awarded to 16 Organizations

**O**n January 31, 2006 the Stewardship Council announced the recipients of \$225,000 in grants aimed at connecting California youth with the outdoors. Sixteen organizations were awarded between \$5,000 and \$18,000 to increase access to urban parks, gardens, wilderness programs, and other outdoor education opportunities.

The Stewardship Council will distribute another \$2 million in grants in 2006, and will work with park and youth program providers to bring new opportunities to underserved youth. This funding is the first phase of a ten-year, \$30 million commitment that will support efforts to invest in parks and youth programs in both urban and rural areas of Northern and Central California.



### More Opportunities to Come

There will be one additional grant cycle in 2006 with Request for Proposals released on May 1 and final applications due on June 9. Awards will be announced in mid-August. In this round, applicants may apply for Small grants ranging between \$1,000 and \$20,000.

Visit [www.stewardshipcouncil.org](http://www.stewardshipcouncil.org) for guidelines, applications, research and background material, and frequently asked questions.

### Next Grant Cycles Well Underway

In addition to the Small grant awards, the Stewardship Council has two additional levels of funding – Midsize (\$20,000–\$50,000) and Partnership (over \$50,000).

Applications for the 2006 Midsize and Partnership grant cycle are currently under review by the External Advisory Panel (EAP). The EAP is made up of a diverse group of experts in the fields of outdoor education, parks, and recreation. They are charged with reviewing proposals and providing recommendations for the Stewardship Council to consider.

Midsize grants will provide organizations with the capacity to address the gaps in their organization's ability to connect underserved youth to the outdoors. Grants may be used for a variety of purposes, such as, purchasing equipment, funding dedicated staff, or paying for park infrastructure.

Partnership grants are designed to support longer-term collaborative ventures that match the Stewardship Council's goals and advance the fields of parks and outdoor education. These grants represent strategic investments in building the capacity of the organizations and programs funded. The hope is that that these programs will serve as model collaborations to others in the field.

Midsize grants will be awarded in April. Partnership grants will be awarded in July.

## January 2006 Grant Awards

Congratulations to the recent recipients of the first round of Small grant awards. For more information about grant recipients and the programs that were funded, please visit our website at: [www.stewardshipcouncil.org](http://www.stewardshipcouncil.org).



Carquinez Regional Environmental Education Center (CREEC)

Downtown High School's Get Out & Learn

The Girl Scouts of Monterey Bay

The Girls Club of the Mid Peninsula

The Hayes Valley Neighborhood PARKS Group

Healing Waters

The Kern County Probation Department

Mission High School

The North Fork Mono Rancheria

Oasis High School

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

Seven Tepees

The Friendship Club

Urban Sprouts

Youth Corps – San Jose Conservation Corps

YWCA Monterey County

## Stewardship Council Key Contacts

**Jayne Battey**  
Executive Director  
jbattey@stewardshipcouncil.org

**Elise Holland**  
Land Conservation Manager  
eholland@stewardshipcouncil.org

**Steve Hagler**  
Youth Investment Manager  
shagler@stewardshipcouncil.org

**Lisa Whitman**  
Communications Manager  
lwhitman@stewardshipcouncil.org

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# Inside the Planning Process

## Pilot Process Paves the Way for Future Analysis

The Stewardship Council is moving closer to its goal of developing a Land Conservation Plan for over 140,000 acres of watershed lands located across 22 counties – from Shasta County in the north to Fresno County in the south.



Since last year, study teams have been working diligently to understand, document, and map existing conditions and historic uses of the lands, and are now moving into creating initial land management concepts to consider for the future care and management of the lands.

The process of creating these concepts is largely based on what the historic and current uses and values reveal. These factors are combined with a focus on ensuring the long-term preservation of beneficial public values. These beneficial values include: protection of natural habitat, preservation of open space, outdoor recreation, sustainable forestry, agricultural uses, and historic values.

### Pilot Study Process

Over the past three months the Stewardship Council has focused its land use analysis on nine pilot study areas.

County	Planning Area
Alpine County	Blue Lakes
Amador/Calaveras County	North Fork Mokelumne River
Amador/Calaveras County	Lower Bear
Butte County	Butte Creek
Plumas County	Bucks Lake
Plumas County	Humbug Valley
Shasta County	Lake Britton
Shasta County	Pit River
Shasta County	McArthur Swamp

Work on these pilot areas created an opportunity to test the planning process and identify key issues and concerns. Preliminary land planning concepts are being shared with local officials and interested stakeholders to obtain further input and ideas.

Analysis will continue to be refined based on additional information and evaluation throughout 2006. Initial work on the pilot process is anticipated to be complete in late March. Lessons learned through the pilot study process will begin to be applied to the remaining 40 planning areas this same month.

### Public Input is Critical

Public participation will continue to play an vital role in the planning process. Communication via email, U.S. mail, telephone, or scheduled meetings is strongly encouraged. In addition, community meetings are being held in locations across the watershed lands to enable members of the public to share their thoughts on how best to ensure these lands are protected for future generations.

## 2005 Gather Information

Summer: Open Houses

Gather Information, Field Trips

Identify & Refine Range of Conservation Alternatives

## 2006 Develop Concepts/Pre

Stakeholder & Community Meetings to Present Draft Land Management Concepts (Mar/Apr)

Stakeholder Draft Land



## Seeking Local Input & Expertise

The Stewardship Council is seeking local input on the draft concepts developed for the future use and management of the watershed lands, as well as the criteria used to evaluate them. We hope you will take the opportunity to join us and share your input, expertise, and point of view! For updates on times and locations, please visit our website at [www.stewardshipcouncil.org](http://www.stewardshipcouncil.org).

### Jackson: March 13, 6-8pm

Holiday Inn Express  
101 Clinton Road, Jackson

### Burney: March 20, 6-8pm

Veterans Memorial Hall  
37410 Main Street, Burney

### Redding: March 21, 6-8pm

Red Lion Hotel  
1830 Hilltop, Redding

### Auburn: March 23, 6-8pm

Location to be Determined

### Chester: April 3, 6-8pm

Location to be Determined

### Quincy: April 4, 6-8pm

Quincy Elementary School  
246 Alder Street, Quincy

### Chico: April 5, 6-8pm

Oxford Inn & Suites  
2035 Business Lane, Chico

### Ukiah: April 11, 6-8pm

Holiday Inn Express  
1720 N State Street, Ukiah

## Coming Soon to a Town Near You

The Stewardship Council is looking forward to a big year in 2006! We have ambitious plans to make substantial progress with our youth investment and land conservation planning programs. But we can't do it without you – we need your input and perspective.

We're looking for qualified grant applicants for our youth investment program to help young organizations get off the ground, or established organizations step up to a new level. We also want to connect youth-serving organizations with one another to build greater capacity for their communities. Let us know how we can help you, and tell us about the great youth programs and park projects in your community.



For our land conservation planning effort, we're looking for your input on how to enhance or protect the 140,000 acres we are tasked to conserve. Our planners are working diligently to prepare some initial concepts, but we need your help to refine these ideas to reflect the values and diverse interests of the greater California community.



We've developed a variety of tools in various formats to connect with you:

- **Website, email, or telephone.** We're only a call or click away! Our web site contains information about our work, progress and upcoming meetings. You can contact us directly via email, or call us toll free at (866) 791 5150.
- **Public Meetings, Open Houses, and Workshops.** We will be hosting a series of events in the watershed regions throughout 2006. Watch our web site, your local newspaper, and your email inbox for dates that we'll be visiting your community.
- **Organizational Meetings and Presentations.** We're currently scheduling presentations and meetings with a variety of organizations across the state. If you'd like us to come speak to your board, staff, membership, or council, please let us know.
- **Board Meetings.** Stewardship Council board meetings are held every other month and are open to the public. The agenda always includes an opportunity for public input, and the board enjoys hearing directly from you.

We look forward to talking with you in 2006!

Jayne Battey  
Executive Director

## Preliminary Draft LCP

Stakeholder & Community Meetings to Present Management Concepts (Oct/Nov)

Preliminary Draft Land Conservation Plan (LCP)

## 2007 LCP Approval

Stakeholder & Community Meetings to Present Draft LCP (Feb)

Refine Draft LCP

Stewardship Council Approval of Land Conservation Plan (Apr)

## Earth Day 2006

On April 22, 2006, the Stewardship Council will partner with California State Parks Foundation for its annual Earth Day Restoration and Cleanup program.

The Stewardship Council has committed funds to make long overdue park improvements to three parks in California. The board and staff will also provide volunteer muscle to help make this day a success.

We encourage you to join us on this important occasion, and to restore and care for the places where we live, work, and play for this and future generations.

For more information, contact the State Parks Foundation at (888) 98-PARKS or visit [www.calparks.org](http://www.calparks.org).



## About Us

- The Stewardship Council includes a staff of eight professionals and a board of 18 members. We officially opened our offices in Foster City, California, in April of 2005.
- Our Board of Directors is composed of representatives from state and federal agencies, water districts, tribal and rural interests, forest and farm industry groups, conservation organizations, the California Public Utilities Commission, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company.
- Board meetings are held every other month at locations around the state. All meetings are open to the public and include an opportunity for the public to directly address the board.
- The Stewardship Council believes that its programs can only be successful through active involvement of its intended beneficiaries: the people of California.

## Mission

The Stewardship Council's mission is to protect and enhance watershed lands and uses, and invest in efforts to improve the lives of young Californians through connections with the outdoors.

## Our Core Values

Collaboration  
Stewardship  
Discovery  
Sustainability  
Leadership

## Contact Information

Toll-free phone (866) 791 5150  
[www.stewardshipcouncil.org](http://www.stewardshipcouncil.org)

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Next Board Meetings

Wednesday, March 29, 2006  
1:30-4:30 pm at  
Sierra 2 Center for the Arts  
2791 24th Street  
Sacramento

Wednesday, May 10, 2006  
1:30-3:30 pm at  
Preservation Park, Nile Hall  
668 13th Street  
Oakland

Next Board Meetings

308 Vintage Park Drive, Suite 150  
Foster City, CA 94404



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