



**PRESS RELEASE**  
April 10, 2008

**Contacts:**  
Dan Cohen (510) 282-7621

## **The Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council Announces the Pilot Process to Guide the Preservation and Enhancement of Four Initial Project Areas**

*Bucks Lake, Kennedy Meadows, Doyle Springs and McArthur Swamp  
to be the first pilot projects*

SAN MATEO, CA – The Stewardship Council, a land conservation and youth investment foundation, announced the pilot process that will guide the preservation of four pilot areas - Bucks Lake, Kennedy Meadows, Doyle Springs and McArthur Swamp. The pilot process was reviewed and approved by the Stewardship Council Board of Directors at the board meeting held on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> in Chico.

The pilot areas were chosen because they each have unique historical, geographical and land use characteristics. The Stewardship Council will apply the knowledge learned from the pilot process to preserving the remainder of the 140,000 acres of watershed lands currently owned by PG&E and located in the Sierra Nevada and cascade ranges.

“We are on our way,” says Jayne Battey, Executive Director of the Stewardship Council. “We are moving forward to complete the pilot projects which will then guide our future efforts of preserving over 140,000 acres of California watershed lands. The pilot process has been a collaborative effort spearheaded by a great team, and reflects our commitment to a thoughtful, deliberative and transparent process moving forward.”

The process will lead to the development of the third and final volume of the Land Conservation Plan (LCP) which will consist of the preparation of specific Land Conservation and Conveyance Plans (LCCP) for each area. It will engage all stakeholders and other interested parties in the conservation and conveyance of the watershed lands, including funding of specific measures to preserve and enhance certain beneficial public values. The goal is to ensure that the Land Conservation Plan will permanently protect, preserve and enhance the watershed lands, consistent with the mission of the Stewardship Council.

“The pilot process provides a clear roadmap that will guide us as we move forward” said Dave Sutton, Vice President of the Council and Chair of the Planning Committee. “There have been multiple meaningful opportunities, for the public to engage with the Stewardship Council which has helped us to develop this process. Our commitment to public engagement will continue and ensure that for each of the pilot projects, there is a long-term public benefit.”

The Stewardship Council will oversee and facilitate the process, which includes planning, transactional and regulatory components, with input from the community, stakeholders, the board and future land stewards. For more information on the pilot communities and for a full description of the process, please go to the Stewardship Council website: [www.stewardshipcouncil.org](http://www.stewardshipcouncil.org).

## **ABOUT THE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL**

The Stewardship Council is a collaborative land conservation and youth investment foundation. Its 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 on the Stewardship Council, please visit: [www.stewardshipcouncil.org](http://www.stewardshipcouncil.org).

###