



A FOCUSED VISION: CELEBRATING OUR YEAR IN CONSERVATION

Stewardship Council
Annual Report
2019



At Fall River Mills planning unit, Pit Falls attracts kayakers and nature lovers at this bend in the volcanic river canyon of Pit River.
Photo by Megan Tolbert, 2019.



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THE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL PROTECTS AND ENHANCES WATERSHED LANDS & USES, AND INVESTS IN EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF YOUNG CALIFORNIANS THROUGH CONNECTIONS WITH THE OUTDOORS.



Stewardship Council Staff

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We are rapidly moving forward toward mission completion - a clear target coming ever closer into view. Soon more than 140,000 acres of PG&E Watershed Lands in California will be conserved in perpetuity. This historic effort is aimed at preserving and enhancing six Beneficial Public Values: natural habitat of fish, wildlife and plants; open space; outdoor recreation; agricultural uses; sustainable forestry; and historic and cultural values.

Our year was highlighted by the transfer and protection of lands and the extraordinary opportunities created through local collaborations and partnerships.

Among the more than 7,000 acres of PG&E Watershed Lands that were donated in 2019, was the transfer of the first of multiple properties to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) at the North Fork Mokelumne River planning unit. More than 1,000 acres in Amador County are now a part of CAL FIRE's expansive Demonstration State Forest System. This system focuses on sustainable forestry and climate change research; while protecting and enhancing biological resources, public recreation, and Native American values. Mother Lode Land Trust holds the conservation easement over these lands newly acquired by CAL FIRE.

In 2019, the Stewardship Council's efforts resulted in the transfer of 3,212 acres in land donations from PG&E to Native American tribal entities. The Potter Valley Tribe received a donation of 879 acres along the Eel River in Mendocino and Lake Counties. Additionally, 2,333 acres were transferred to the Maidu Summit Consortium, a nonprofit consortium of Native American tribal entities dedicated to stewarding their ancestral homeland. This historic transfer was memorialized by an extraordinary celebration in Tàsmam Kojòm in September 2019, where the Maidu Summit Consortium members gathered with Maidu elders and youth, and over 200 supporters. I will forever remember the Maidu youth lined up at the stretched-out ribbon, with scissors in hand, symbolizing more than just a ribbon cutting and signed documents for the historic transfer of land; but also the transfer of responsibility of stewarding the land from the elders to the younger generation. For the Maidu this was a long awaited return of their homelands.

This 2019 Annual Report includes Land Program highlights, an update on Youth Outside's important impact, and a report on our organizational finances. This year, we included a tribute to our late friend and colleague, Mike Millington. We have also featured Soapy Mulholland for her invaluable 13 years of dedication as Chair of our Watershed Planning Committee.

I sincerely thank you for continuing to collaborate with us as we work to achieve our remaining goals and develop an eventual wind-down plan for the Stewardship Council.

Heidi Krwick

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Stewardship Council Board of Directors at Bass Lake, 2019.

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL BOARD

The Stewardship Council's Board of Directors (Board) is composed of a diverse group of organizations representing state and federal agencies, water agencies, tribal and rural interests, forestry interests, conservation organizations, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). The Board's 2019 annual retreat occurred on PG&E Watershed Lands at Bass Lake where the Board toured the lake in a caravan of boats. Program Manager Steve Schweigerdt narrated the tour with a mix of slapstick humor and planning unit information. Stewardship Council's project partners gave presentations to round out the educational tour of Bass Lake. A representative from the U.S. Forest Service discussed issues of fire management, PG&E presented a history of its management of the lake and surrounding properties, and a North Fork Mono tribal elder talked about how her tribal people have co-existed with the area from past to present.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Current as of June 2020

OFFICERS

President

Art Baggett Jr.

Secretary

Nancee Murray

Treasurer, Asst. Secretary

Mike Schonherr

VICE PRESIDENTS

Chair, Fiduciary Committee, Asst. Treasurer

Truman Burns

Chair, Watershed Planning Committee

Soapy Mulholland

Chair, Youth Investment Committee

David Muraki

DIRECTORS

Association of California Water Agencies

Dave Eggerton

Alternate OPEN

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Nancee Murray

Alternate OPEN

California Forestry Association

Rich Gordon

Alternate George Gentry

California Hydropower Reform Coalition

Pete Bell

Alternate Richard Roos-Collins

California Public Utilities Commission

Allison Brown

Alternate Deidre Cyprian

California Public Utilities Commission

(Public Appointees)

Art Baggett, David Muraki, Chris Nota

California Natural Resources Agency

Wade Crowfoot

Alternate Jennifer Norris

California Tribal Interests

Larry Myers

Alternate Ken Tipon

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Soapy Mulholland

Alternate Robert Schneider

Public Advocates Office, CPUC

Truman Burns

Alternate Julie Halligan

Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Mike Schonherr

Alternate Rebecca Doidge

Rural Counties Representatives of California

Lee Adams

Alternate John Viegas

State Water Resources Control Board

DeeDee D'Adamo

Alternate Jeffrey Parks

The Trust for Public Land

David Sutton

Alternate John McCamman

U.S. Forest Service

Jerry Bird

SOAPY MULHOLLAND



Since 2007, Soapy Mulholland has been the Chair of the Stewardship Council's Watershed Planning Committee. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board connected Soapy to the Stewardship Council, and it was her invaluable experience with land trusts that put her in a strategically important position. She was integral to the development of a practical and implementable structure that would help to operationalize the requirements of PG&E's 2003 Bankruptcy Settlement Agreement into conservation easement protections.

It was a leap of faith for land trusts to enter into conservation agreements around this new framework that we were suggesting. However, as Soapy recalls, "The only way we were going to meet our goal was to think outside the box and try something new."

One can hear the joy in Soapy's voice when she talks about working with various people throughout the years, and a par-

ticular pride in her colleagues who make up the Watershed Planning Committee. This committee has faced challenging conservation issues and tough conversations, but has worked well together. Soapy explains the committee's success reaching consensus over the years is attributed to, "active listening, open minds and diverse perspectives and values – they're a real gift."

In 2019, Ms. Mulholland announced her retirement from Sequoia Riverlands Trust (SRT) where she dedicated the last 19 years growing SRT from a tiny organization to one of significant regional impact and state and national influence. Soapy continues to represent the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board on the Stewardship Council Board.

"THE ONLY WAY WE WERE GOING TO MEET OUR GOAL WAS TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX AND TRY SOMETHING NEW."

Soapy Mulholland

TRIBUTE TO MIKE MILLINGTON

The Stewardship Council sadly reports the passing of Mike Millington, the President of the Fall River Resource Conservation District (FRRCD). Mike served as a Naval Submariner and retired from law enforcement, and then moved to the town of Fall River Mills to grow wild rice. Mike began his service on the FRRCD board of directors in 2008 and served there for 12 years. He was a steward of land in the Fall River area and took part in unique transactions through the Stewardship Council's process including land acquisitions at the McArthur Swamp and Fall River planning units. Mike mentored Sharmie Stevenson, FRRCD's Executive Director to take charge of FRRCD's operations and carry on his dedication and legacy through her work.

"THE LOSS OF MIKE IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT. HE WAS SO GENUINE, SELFLESS, AND HARDWORKING. MIKE WAS A VERY PRESENT PART OF THE FRRCD AND WITHOUT HIS TIRELESS DEVOTION TO EXPANDING THE CAPACITY OF THE FRRCD IT WOULD HAVE REMAINED MUCH THE SAME AS IT WAS IN 2008. DUE TO MIKE'S VISION, WE HAVE EVOLVED AND WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO ADVANCE THE ROLE OF THE FRRCD."

Sharmie Stevenson,
FRRCD Executive Director





LAND PROGRAM

The Stewardship Council's Land Conservation Program ensures over 140,000 acres of PG&E Watershed Lands throughout California are protected for future generations with a focus on a broad range of Beneficial Public Values: natural habitat of fish, wildlife and plants; open space; outdoor recreation; agricultural uses; sustainable forestry; and historic and cultural values. This occurs through the placement of conservation easements on the properties and land donations to organizations that will conserve these Watershed Lands for public benefit in perpetuity.

LAND PROGRAM

PROGRESS TOWARD MISSION COMPLETION



The Land Conservation Program achieved several significant milestones in 2019. The Board approved its final set of recommendations of organizations to receive a donation of fee title to select properties. As a result, over 40,000 acres is being transferred to qualified organizations including federal, state and local public agencies, and Native American tribal entities. In 2019, the Board approved nine Land Conservation and Conveyance Plans (LCCPs) recommending conservation easement holders and the terms of conservation easements on 9,622 acres of PG&E's Watershed Lands. Of that 2019 approved acreage, 1,775 acres were specifically for two tribal entities - the Pit River Tribe and the Maidu Summit Consortium.

A key measurement of success is the number of transactions that close escrow, which results in a land transfer and/or recordation of the conservation easement. Of the 11 transactions that closed escrow in 2019, seven pertained to land that the Board had recommended for donation. The Potter Valley Tribe and the Maidu Summit Consortium combined received 3,212 acres in land donations in 2019.

The Stewardship Council's grant program has enabled a variety of projects to be completed on PG&E Watershed Lands to improve and protect the Beneficial Public Values. Since the program began, \$12.6 million in enhancement and capacity building grants have been awarded, and of that over \$4.5 million has already been paid out. In 2019, payments to grantees totaled \$522,106. In 2019, the Board approved grant awards for trail and camp-ground improvements at Tàsmam Kojòm in Plumas County, Manzanita Lake in Madera County, and the Sky Mountain Camp in Placer County. The grantees for these projects respectively are the Maidu Summit Consortium, the County of Madera, and the San Joaquin County Office of Education. Several Stewardship Council grants awarded for projects in the Fall River area of Shasta County are underway. An update on the wide-reaching community and conservation impacts of these projects is presented at the end of this section.

ACTUAL & ANTICIPATED LCCP'S APPROVED BY BOARD

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
5	12	6	16	14	16	9	19

2019 LAND PROTECTION ACHIEVEMENTS: TRANSACTION CLOSINGS & LCCP APPROVALS

KEY
-- Watershed Boundary
■ Planning Units
■ LCCP Approved (acres)
■ Transaction Close of Escrow (acres)
■ Fee Title Donee/ Conservation Easement or Covenant Holder

COW-BATTLE CREEK WATERSHED

Battle Creek (2,335)
PG&E / Northern California Regional Land Trust

Cow Creek (66)
PG&E / Shasta Land Trust

EEL RIVER CREEK WATERSHED
Eel River – Upper Trout Creek/Alder (201)
Potter Valley Tribe / Mendocino Land Trust

Eel River – Trout Creek (678)
Potter Valley Tribe / Mendocino Land Trust

UPPER MOKELUMNE RIVER WATERSHED
North Fork Mokelumne (1,052)
CAL FIRE / Mother Lode Land Trust

STANISLAUS RIVER WATERSHED
Lyons Reservoir (460)
PG&E / Mother Lode Land Trust

WILLOW CREEK WATERSHED
Auberry Service Center (29)
PG&E / Sierra Foothill Conservancy

PIT-MCLOUD RIVER WATERSHED

Hat Creek #1 (830)
Pit River Tribe / Shasta Land Trust

Lake Britton (119)
California State Parks / Shasta Land Trust

Fall River Mills Gun Club (434)
Fall River RCD / Shasta Land Trust

FEATHER RIVER WATERSHED

Lake Almanor Trail (8)
Lake Almanor Wetlands (296)
Maidu Summit Consortium / Feather River Land Trust

Tàsmam Kojòm (Humbug Valley) (2,325)
Maidu Summit Consortium / Feather River Land Trust & CDFW

Bucks Lake (2,164)
PG&E / Feather River Land Trust

North Fork Feather River (5,671)
PG&E / Northern California Regional Land Trust

YUBA-BEAR RIVER WATERSHED

Lower Drum-Bell Road (28)
PG&E / Placer Land Trust

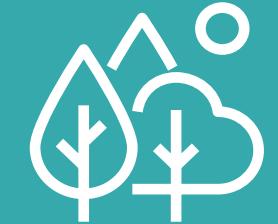
Fordyce-White Rock Lake (40)
PG&E / Bear Yuba Land Trust

Lower Drum-Folsom (12)
PG&E / Wildlife Heritage Foundation

Lake Spaulding (62)
San Joaquin County Office of Education / Wildlife Heritage Foundation

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1	2	6	7	12	10	11	12	20	16

LAND DONATIONS TO CALIFORNIA NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBAL ENTITIES



Native American tribal entities are important stakeholders in our effort to permanently protect PG&E's Watershed Lands. Several tribal entities have submitted proposals for fee title ownership and grants from the Stewardship Council to undertake enhancement projects on the lands. 2019 was an important year for tribal entities as significant fee title donations closed escrow for the Potter Valley Tribe and the Maidu Summit Consortium (MSC). Additionally, LCCPs were approved by the Board for both

the Maidu Summit Consortium and Pit River Tribe. The Board has approved eight land donations to three Native American entities totaling 4,654 acres; in 2019 four donations have closed escrow.

The Potter Valley Tribe was the first Native American tribal entity to receive a donation of PG&E Watershed Lands. In July 2019, two Eel River watershed properties in Mendocino and Lake Counties totaling 879 acres of ancestral



Inventorying the Eel River planning unit with the Potter Valley Tribe. Photo by Gregg Young, 2019.



The truck the Potter Valley Tribe uses for the Eel River Cleanup also helps promote the event. Photo by Gregg Young, 2019.

lands - Eel River Trout Creek and Eel River Upper Trout Creek/Alder - closed escrow. The conservation easements for these properties are held by the Mendocino Land Trust.

Members of the Potter Valley Tribe are the historic inhabitants of the area, and current Tribal members have been committed to the land transfer process for the past decade. The Tribe looks forward to enhancing existing resources, opening certain areas up for ceremonial and cultural activities, enhancing fishery resources, expanding environmental education programs, and participating in future recreational development opportunities. At Upper Trout Creek/Alder, the Tribe plans to develop facilities to further the recreational, educational and cultural uses of the property.

The Tribe is planning a tribal blessing and celebration for the land. The Chairman of the Potter Valley Tribe, Salvador Rosales, declared, "We are grateful for the Stewardship Council's effort to restore ancestral land to the Tribe and the CPUC for approving this very

important transaction."

The Maidu Summit Consortium (MSC) also had an eventful year receiving significant land donations in Plumas County and an enhancement project grant. The 2,325-acre property at Humbug Valley, also known as Tàsmam Kojòm in Maidu, was the site of a momentous event in September celebrating the historic transfer of fee title from PG&E to the MSC. The Board awarded an enhancement grant to the MSC earlier that month for a project to improve infrastructure for the first Tribal Cultural Park in California and to protect natural and cultural resources while enhancing visitor use. The conservation easement for Tàsmam Kojòm is jointly held by the Feather River Land Trust and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife will also play a role in the collaborative management of Tàsmam Kojòm with the MSC, showcasing the power of combining traditional ecological knowledge with western science practices.



The MSC's project includes improvements to Yellow Creek Campground with upgraded restrooms, a new cooking area, a new group campsite, and upgraded existing campsites with food storage lockers and amenities. The project also includes construction of connecting trails as well as interpretive panels, along with a meadow restoration effort funded with matching grants from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

To close out a historic year for the MSC, a smaller property referred to as the Maidu Trail on the west side of Lake Almanor was transferred to the MSC in December 2019. This property is near the Lake Almanor Recreation Trail and will include cultural interpretive signage in the future when the trail is extended through the Maidu Trail property.

North of Lake Almanor in Shasta County, the Pit River Tribe achieved a significant milestone toward acquiring portions of their ancestral territory. In January 2019, the Board approved the first LCCP for the Pit River Tribe to receive fee title to approximately 830 acres at the

Hat Creek planning unit. By June, the Board had recommended that properties totaling approximately 4,214 acres within Hat Creek, Lake Britton and Fall River Mills planning units be donated to the Pit River Tribe.

In addition to these fee title donations and the MSC enhancement project grant, Stewardship Council staff worked with other tribal entities across the Watershed Lands to facilitate introductions, relationships and conservation partnerships. In the case of the lands donated to Madera County at Manzanita Lake, the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California and the County have developed a Memorandum of Understanding to create a formal partnership. Together they will implement an enhancement grant awarded to Madera County to develop the Bass Lake North Fork Regional Trail.

The Stewardship Council congratulates these partners and looks forward to the closing of additional land transfers and awards of further enhancement project grants in the coming year.



Looking toward Humbug Valley from Yellow Creek near the Yellow Creek Campground.
Photo provided by Stewardship Council, 2019.



The Stewardship Council Board admires Lake Valley Reservoir from the main building at Sky Mountain Camp. Photo provided by the Stewardship Council.

LAND PROGRAM – SJCOE

THE FUTURE FOR SKY MOUNTAIN CAMP



A major goal of the Stewardship Council has been to provide outdoor education opportunities for underserved youth on PG&E's Watershed Lands. Sky Mountain Camp is a legacy project that will make an existing recreational camp in the Sierra Nevada Mountains available to underserved youth, bringing thousands of public school students to the camp each year to participate in environmental education programs.

The camp accommodates up to 250 people and the property is contiguous with other PG&E Watershed Lands being conserved near Yuba Gap off Interstate 80 in Placer County, adjacent to Lake Valley reservoir. As a part of the Land Conservation Commitment, PG&E will donate 62 acres underlying the camp to the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE).

SJCOE is an innovative organization that will utilize the facilities and the surrounding environment as an environmental and science camp to connect youth to the outdoors and give them a place to learn about nature. The site will provide teachers an ideal place for professional development and other groups a natural setting for team building and outdoor recreation.

In SJCOE's 2010 outdoor education survey of over 700 fifth and sixth grade students in San Joaquin County, over 50 percent of the

students had not visited an area with snow and 36 percent of students had not been to a forest. This is in part due to 60 percent of the county's students living at some level of poverty. James Mousalimas, San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools, said that this makes it "...difficult for families to provide outdoor experiences for children. At the Sky Mountain Outdoor Education Center, we seek to inspire lifelong curiosity of the natural world and develop a new generation of innovative, ecologically literate community stewards and leaders."

At the June 2019 Board meeting, the Board approved the Land Conservation and Conveyance Plan for the land donation as well as a grant of \$5 million to SJCOE to purchase the camp facilities and make necessary camp upgrades. SJCOE will soon be able to offer students an opportunity to experience the ecological diversity of the Sierras, and provide exposure to a diversity of natural resources jobs and careers.

"The San Joaquin County Office of Education is very excited for all the new learning opportunities this will provide students," said Mr. Mousalimas. "The Sierra region is different from what our students know living in the San Joaquin Valley, and this location will give them a chance to explore new animals, plant life and careers in this unique ecosystem."

GRANTS FOR ENHANCEMENTS ON WATERSHED LANDS BENEFIT LOCAL COMMUNITIES

In Shasta County, Stewardship Council funds are supporting projects to increase amenities for local residents and build partnerships between local agencies, nonprofits, and local Native American tribes. The enhancement grant funds promote projects that improve and protect the Beneficial Public Values including recreational improvements, restoring forest and wildlife habitat, enhancing agricultural uses, and protecting cultural and natural resources.



Stock ponds are strategically placed for cattle management at McArthur Swamp.
Photo by Fall River RCD, 2019.



These efforts provide more than habitat and access – they bring meaningful partnerships and income generating opportunities for tribal youth to manage natural resources in rural California. These relationships also build local resilience around common economic and natural resource issues such as cost of living and fire risks. Here are a few examples of enhancement projects that were awarded grants:

THE ENHANCEMENT GRANT AWARDED TO THE FALL RIVER RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (RCD) FOR PROJECTS AT THE MCARTHUR SWAMP planning unit in Shasta County allows the RCD to demonstrate agricultural best practices for cattle grazing on a site that provides essential food, breeding grounds, wintering habitat, and nesting cover for birds. The site also supports public recreation including hunting, wildlife viewing, and bird watching. The RCD also works with the Pit River Tribe to protect cultural resources on the property.

The Stewardship Council's enhancement grants are enabling the RCD to take extra measures to enhance the Beneficial Public Values of the property. These measures include developing a resource management plan, undertaking a cultural resources survey and ethnographic study, and erecting fencing to protect habitat and cultural resources from grazing and off-road vehicle use. As part of its invasive species management plan, the RCD will remove 420 acres of perennial pepperweed. The grant award also funded bridge repair and the siting of cattle watering ponds to prevent cattle from damaging sensitive resources.

The McArthur Swamp project requires a long-term management view, and the Fall River RCD has the resources and practices in place to protect McArthur Swamp in perpetuity.

THE FALL RIVER TRAIL AND ECOCULTURAL ENHANCEMENT project is within walking distance of the town of Fall River Mills and is an exciting opportunity for the Fall River Community Service District to partner with

the Lomakatsi Restoration Project to address fire suppression, grazing, and off-road vehicle impacts. The project will restore 20 acres of grassland and woodland ecosystems, improve outdoor access by creating two miles of dedicated trail, and reduce fuels that are a hazard to the Fall River community. Educational native plant guilds will be installed to highlight the cultural importance of the native species and create an outdoor classroom experience for students at the nearby Fall River Elementary School.

For the oak woodland restoration portion of the project, fuels reduction was performed using an ecological thinning method and traditional slash burning. These efforts reintroduced an indigenous land tending practice of favoring the white and black oak trees by reducing competition around them and using carefully applied fire to ensure a good mast of acorn crops for gathering. Combined with trail realignments and native plant revegetation efforts, habitats for a host of diverse mammal, bird, and insect communities are being supported.

The Lomakatsi's 2019 workforce training program members, comprised of the Ajumawi Band of the Pit River Tribe and local student volunteers, continue to perform the hands-on work necessary for this project as part of the broader effort to prepare community members with the experience and skillset to implement trail construction and ecosystem restoration projects.

"By bringing all these partners together—including our youth and tribal business—we're building the capacity of the Ajumawi to



During a typical day of hard work, the Oak Woodland Restoration Project crew takes a pause for a photo. Photo by Lomakatsi, 2019.

pursue collaborative ecocultural restoration,” said Ginger Amoroso, Lomakatsi’s Tribal Youth Crew Manager and elected Cultural Representative of the Ajumawi Band. “Our lands need to be cared for and protected for future generations. Through this effort, we’re training our tribal youth and giving them an opportunity to work and build a positive place for people to enjoy in our Ajumawi homelands.”

The next phase of the project in 2020 and 2021 includes construction of the trail that connects to the local elementary school and installation of ecocultural plantings with interpretive elements that instruct the public in the traditional uses of the plants and invasive plant management.

ANOTHER ENHANCEMENT GRANT SUPPORTS THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO RIVERS PARK on a portion of the 39 acres of

Watershed Lands that PG&E transferred to the Fall River Valley Community Services District (CSD) in 2018 in the small, rural community of Fall River Mills. The new park will provide a significant community benefit since park amenities are very limited in the local area. The CSD secured state funding in 2011 to develop an area of the peninsula between the Pit and Fall Rivers, but needed to provide design and engineering plans to utilize the state funding. The Stewardship Council enhancement grant funded the planning required so that the CSD can now access the state funding to complete the capital improvements and provide this amenity for the residents of Fall River Mills. The CSD is partnering with the local school district to connect students to the park for outdoor education.



Canoeing at McArthur Swamp in Shasta County. Photo provided by Stewardship Council, 2018.

YOUTH PROGRAM

In addition to its land conservation efforts, the Stewardship Council remains focused on the future stewards of the natural lands in this state – the youth of California. That focus has resulted in significant program investments, all aimed at ensuring equitable outdoor access for all young people and developing the next generation of diverse conservation leaders.



*Sunrise Middle School students connecting with the outdoors.
Photo by Youth Outside, 2019.*

YOUTH PROGRAMS BUILD RACIAL EQUITY INTO LEADERSHIP

In 2005, the Stewardship Council established a Youth Investment Program to support outdoor and environmental programming for youth. Five years later, the Stewardship Council created the Foundation for Youth Investment (FYI) to sustain this important work beyond the life of the Stewardship Council. In 2013, the Stewardship Council awarded a \$10.76 million grant to FYI to connect underserved youth in the PG&E service area to the outdoors. FYI later changed its name to Youth Outside to reflect the heart of their work: connecting youth to nature by eliminating barriers, providing resources, and promoting outdoor programming to build healthy lives and inspire future stewards of our planet.

We're excited to provide some highlights of Youth Outside's recent successes.



Fulfilling a great need in the outdoor youth programs community, in 2019 Youth Outside awarded grants to 39 youth-focused organizations (37 multi-year grants and 2 one-year grants) totaling \$801,000. The list of 2019 award grantees can be found online at youthoutside.org/grantmaking/grantees/2019-grantees/.

In 2019, Youth Outside's Outdoor Educators Institute included 25 young participants in two cohorts, one in the San Francisco Bay/Oakland area and another in the South Bay. The Outdoor Educators Institute is a four month-long professional and workforce development program for young adults from communities historically underrepresented in the outdoors. Youth Outside continues to see very encouraging data about the effectiveness and

THE YOUTH OUTSIDE MISSION:

WE STRIVE TO ENSURE THAT THE LIVED EXPERIENCE OF ALL YOUTH IS HONORED AS PART OF THE OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE. WE PROVIDE GRANTMAKING, CAPACITY BUILDING, AND TRAINING TO PROMOTE HEALTHY LIVES AND INSPIRE FUTURE CHAMPIONS OF THE PLANET.

value of participating in the program, with 100 percent of participants identifying that the peer support and networks that they gained through their participation in the Outdoor Educators Institute prepared them for employment in outdoor education. In addition, 95 percent of participants stated that the Outdoor Educators Institute strengthened their connection to the outdoors.

Seventeen members participated in their Rising Leaders Fellowship (RLF) program gaining valuable career experience on curriculum development and program implementation. This program supports the professional development of individuals in entry-to mid-level positions within youth-serving outdoor programs. Over the course of RLF, participants were tasked with working in small groups on projects that could be implemented at their organizations to increase equity, inclusion, and cultural relevancy efforts.

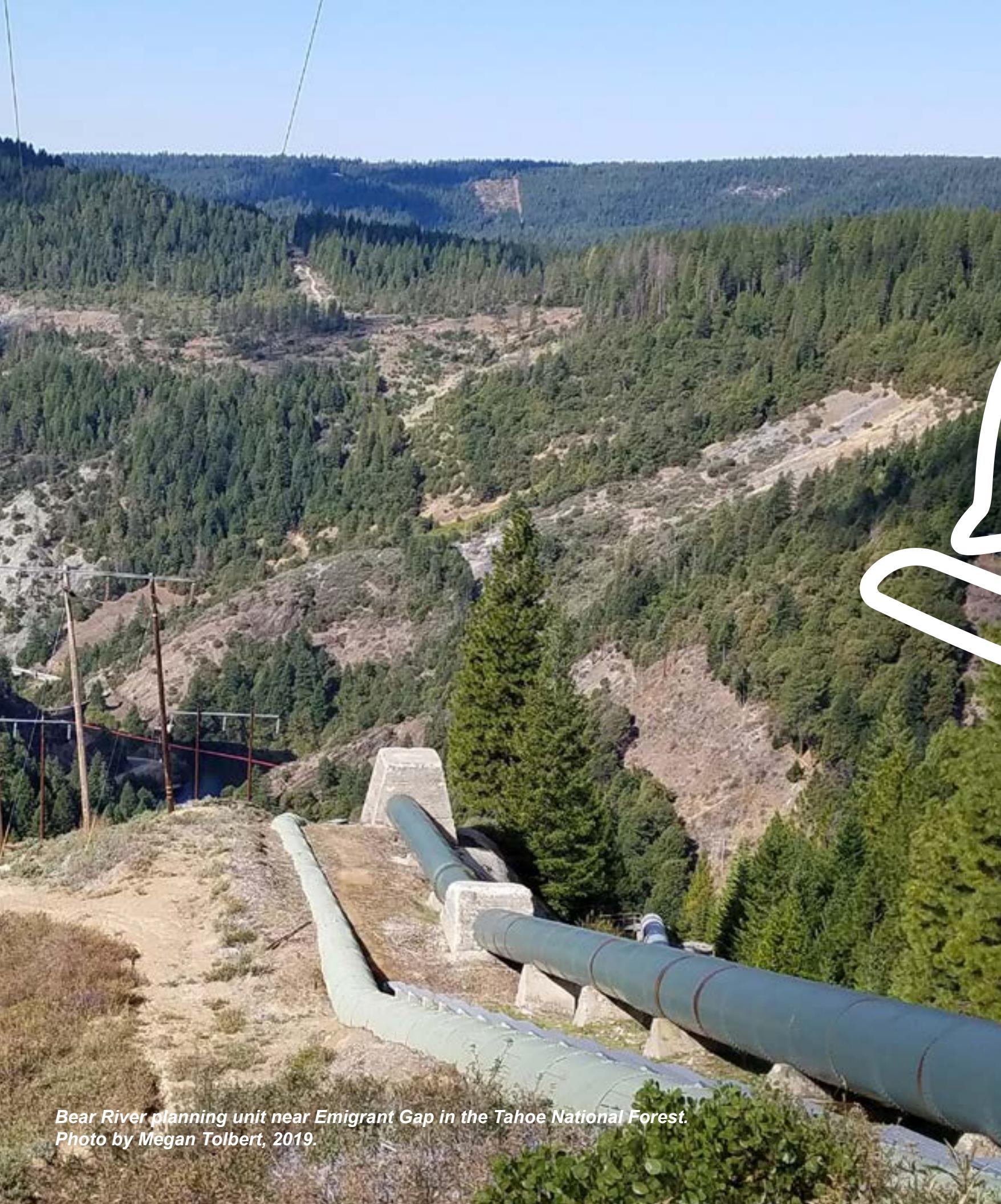
Their Grantee Cohort Series turned its focus in 2019 to how organizations can continue to elevate youth leadership and youth voices. The series launched in April with participation from 33 organizations. Through this program, Youth Outside's grantees have an opportunity to network and work collectively to increase access to the outdoors for underrepresented youth.

Youth Outside is assessing whether there is interest in the expansion of its Cultural Relevancy Series nation-wide. This program provides a learning community where organizations can gain a greater understanding of cultural relevancy as it pertains to the outdoor field, explore organizational cultural change, and create and implement an action plan.

Additionally, Youth Outside recently partnered with the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to address racial equity by building capacity for non-profit organizations across the country who are led by, and committed to empowering, those who have historically been underrepresented in the outdoor and environmental fields. This new conservation fund provides the financial support necessary to empower diverse communities, and through this, the ability to continue empowering youth and a legacy of leadership for Youth Outside for years to come.



Students learn tools for nature observation at the YES Nature to Neighborhoods program. Photo by Youth Outside, 2019.



*Bear River planning unit near Emigrant Gap in the Tahoe National Forest.
Photo by Megan Tolbert, 2019.*

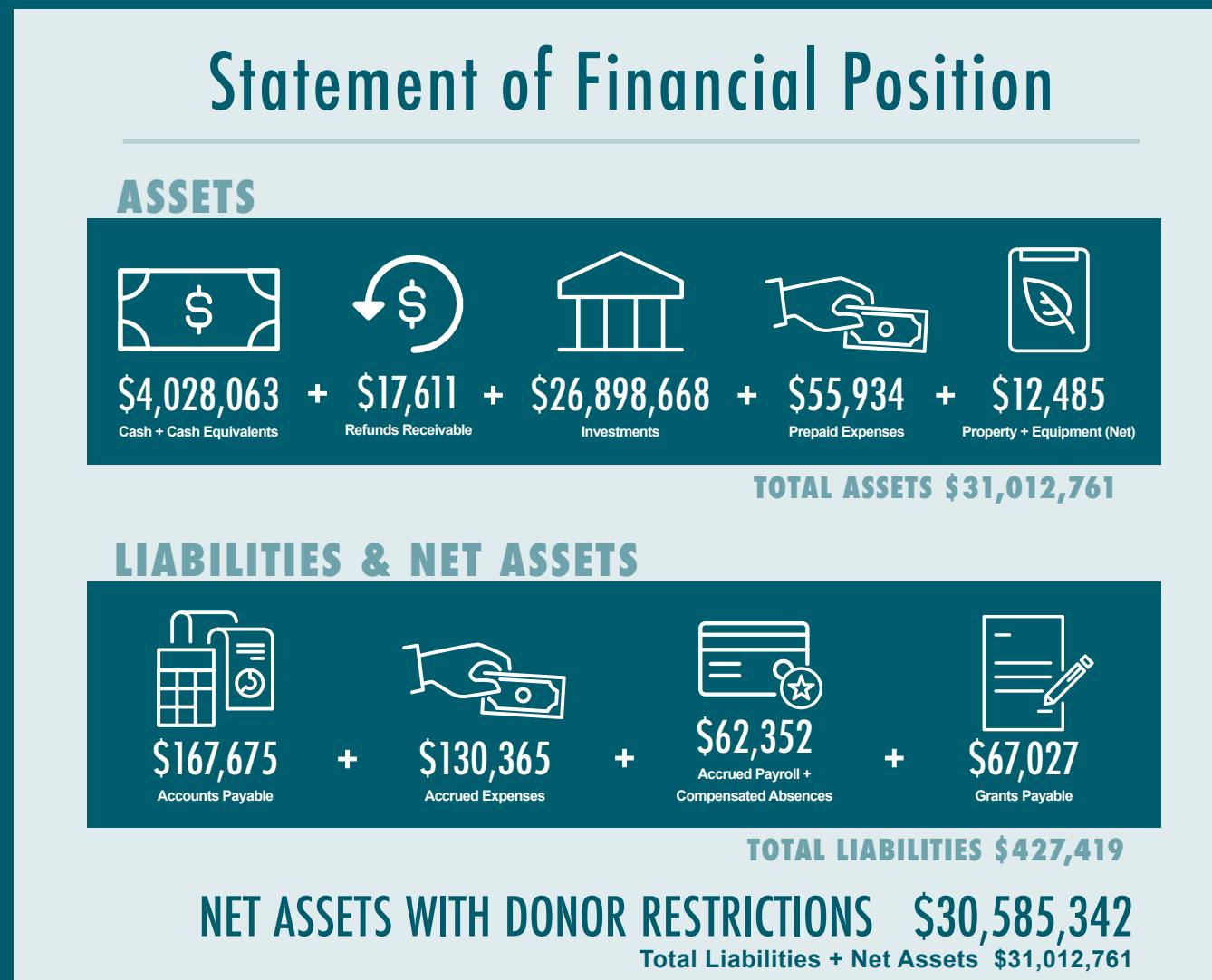


The Stewardship Council was funded by PG&E with \$100 million to implement a dual mission to protect and enhance 140,000 acres of Watershed Lands and to connect underserved youth to the outdoors. Of these funds, \$70 million was set aside to protect and enhance lands and \$30 million was allocated for the youth investment initiative. The Stewardship Council Board has thoughtfully managed these funds and strategically invested in a portfolio that primarily utilizes conservative fixed income mutual funds to optimize diversification, preserve principal, and maintain liquidity. As of December 31, 2019 the Stewardship Council had \$31 million in total liabilities and net assets.

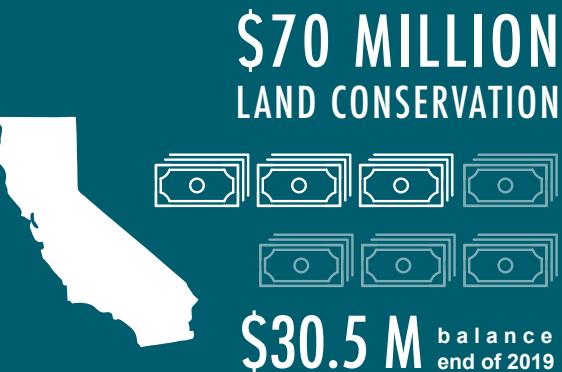
STEWARDING CONSERVATION FINANCES

From its inception through 2019, the Stewardship Council has spent more than \$50.1 million to protect and enhance the Watershed Lands. As we approach mission completion, the Stewardship Council anticipates granting a total of approximately \$18 million to the holders of conservation easements and covenants that will protect land in perpetuity, and up to \$14 million for projects that will enhance the protected lands.

For detailed financial statements, visit stewardshipcouncil.org/public_information/financial_statements.htm.



\$100 MILLION PG&E FUNDING



Statement of Activities

NET ASSETS BEGINNING OF 2018	\$34,948,229
+ NET INCOME	\$1,087,857
- EXPENSES	\$5,450,744

NET ASSETS END OF 2019

\$30,585,342



Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council
3300 Douglas Boulevard, Suite 250
Roseville, CA 95661
916.297.6660



stewardshipcouncil.org



Hat Creek. Photo by Megan Tolbert, 2019 (front & back cover)