



# TODAY

... to protect the land forever | February 2018

## Campaign for parks and clean water ballot measure launches statewide



On the upcoming June ballot, California voters will have a chance to support a critical funding measure to invest in our state's most important water, park and natural resource assets. On the heels of last fall's historic wildfires, California is now facing renewed threat of drought and myriad challenges posed by climate change. Prop. 68 will provide funding to safeguard our water supplies, and to prepare for future environmental challenges and natural disasters. Prop. 68 will also provide essential funding to help communities across California that lack access to safe parks and clean drinking water. Sonoma Land Trust is in strong support of Prop. 68, a \$4 billion investment to protect California's own unique natural resources. To learn more about the measure and how you can get involved, please visit [www.yes68ca.com](http://www.yes68ca.com).

## A partnership for land protection along Coleman Valley Creek

DONATE NOW

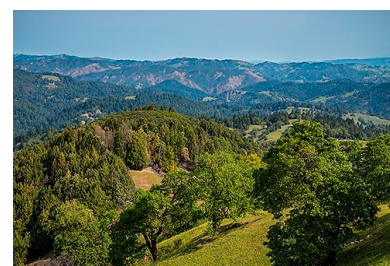
### "When the World Rode In"



Join us Thursday, March 8 for an evening with California historian Martha Vallejo McGettigan, a descendent of General Vallejo, and revisit the original founding of the San Francisco Presidio.

[Register here](#)

### Mark your calendar!



[OpenRoad with Doug McConnell](#) will air a special story filmed on the top of Pole Mountain, the highest point along the Sonoma Coast, on Sunday, March 11 at 6:30pm on NBC (Channel 3). You won't want to miss this look at one of our most stunning preserves, soon to be opened to the public!



To ring in the new year, your land trust was excited to grant our partner Bodega Land Trust a conservation easement over a beautiful quarter-mile stretch of Coleman Valley Creek west of Occidental. The creek, which runs across a property that Sonoma Land Trust accepted donation of in 2017, is a tributary of Salmon Creek and a priority for Bodega Land Trust's land and water protection work in the watershed. The new Gilchrist Conservation Easement is named after Alden Gilchrist, who loved the underlying property and whose partner generously donated the land to your land trust. As was the donor's vision, after permanently protecting the creek we sold the property and are using the proceeds to advance our conservation work countywide. Thanks to both Alden and Bodega Land Trust for their commitment to protecting the land forever — in the Salmon Creek watershed and beyond!

## New levee markers will help birds



*Sheri at Sea Change in 2015.*

Congratulations to director of communications Sheri Cardo on her 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with Sonoma Land Trust. A career public relations professional, and also a longtime advocate for the environment and wildlife, Sheri heads up all of our publications, media relations, social media, branding and marketing.

## Goodbye, Maggie



We're sad to bid farewell to development associate Maggie Stockel, who has taken a position with the Museums of Sonoma County. Maggie has been a key member of our development team since 2015 and we wish her the very best!

## Seeking database manager

We are looking to hire a detail-oriented individual with experience in donor database management to join our team as development associate. Application deadline is March 5.



Pablo Bay? These 12 markers, recently installed, pinpoint the stations where volunteer citizen science bird monitors observe, count and record returning bird populations to the newly restored tidal marsh. Many thanks to bird monitor Joe Roberts for crafting these station markers. With the help of fellow volunteers Barry Weinzveg and Craig Roth, these markers are situated at the spots where citizen scientists will record data over the coming years. Their work will help the entire restoration community better understand how migrating and resident birds respond to the restoration.

[Learn more about volunteering](#)

## Progress toward turning the Sears Point levee into habitat



*Contractors planting creeping wild rye along the shoreline at Sears Point Ranch.*

The levee at Sears Point will eventually provide important habitat for marsh wildlife that require cover on the edge of the marsh during periods of extreme tides and storms. The parade of colorful 16-inch flags you may have seen flapping by the water line recently represent more than 4,000 individual grasses that our contractors at [Pacific Watershed Associates](#) planted over the past few weeks. The flags help us locate the grasses for watering and monitoring during this dry winter. All of the grasses were harvested from nearby naturally occurring populations with the enormous help of the [San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge](#) staff and their backhoe, which reduced hours of backbreaking shovel work into less than hour of mechanical work. The new grasses complement growing populations of naturally colonizing pickleweed and cordgrass along the shoreline. It all points in the right direction for habitat development and is very encouraging. Come take a stroll and see it for yourself!

## Film: "Wilder Than Wild"



Join us at the Sonoma Valley Film Festival on Thurs., March 22 and Sat., March 24 for the world premiere of "Wilder than Wild," a new documentary about responding to wildfires as they intensify with climate change. Our stewardship director, Bob Neale, will speak at the Saturday night premiere about SLT's fire response efforts.

More information [here](#)

## Say "fromage!"



Join us for all things cheese at the California Artisan Cheese Festival March 23-25 — in Santa Rosa this year! Sample an array of local artisan cheeses while supporting the cheesemaking community and its sustainability. We'll be representing at the Artisan Cheese Marketplace on March 25, so stop by our booth and say hi!

[Learn more](#)

## Larry Broderick, a hero

## A message from our new business partner: Three Twins Ice Cream



*Photo courtesy of Wayne Freedman, abc7news.com*

Our remarkable volunteer and raptor expert Larry Broderick made headlines recently for bravely saving lives at the site of a major multi-car crash on Mendocino Ave. You continue to amaze us, Larry!

[Read or watch KGO-TV story](#)

"Here at Three Twins, land conservation is a cornerstone of our company ethos. In 2011, we launched an innovative initiative called 'Ice Cream for Acres.' Through the program, buyers of Three Twins Ice Cream fund the purchase of rainforest land, sensitive habitats and other significant spaces. When you buy a pint of our ice cream, you're funding the purchase of six square feet. The purchase of a quart saves even more and, for each single-serve cup, we're preserving at least two square feet. We started 'Ice Cream for Acres' to conserve land, and also to demonstrate how such a seemingly insignificant choice such as which ice cream to buy can have a meaningful impact. We are proud to support nonprofits that share our passion for land conservation. That's why we are happy to have an ongoing partnership with Sonoma Land Trust. We appreciate all they do to keep Sonoma County, our own backyard, beautiful and productive!"



Questions or comments? Email Sheri Cardo, managing editor.  
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