

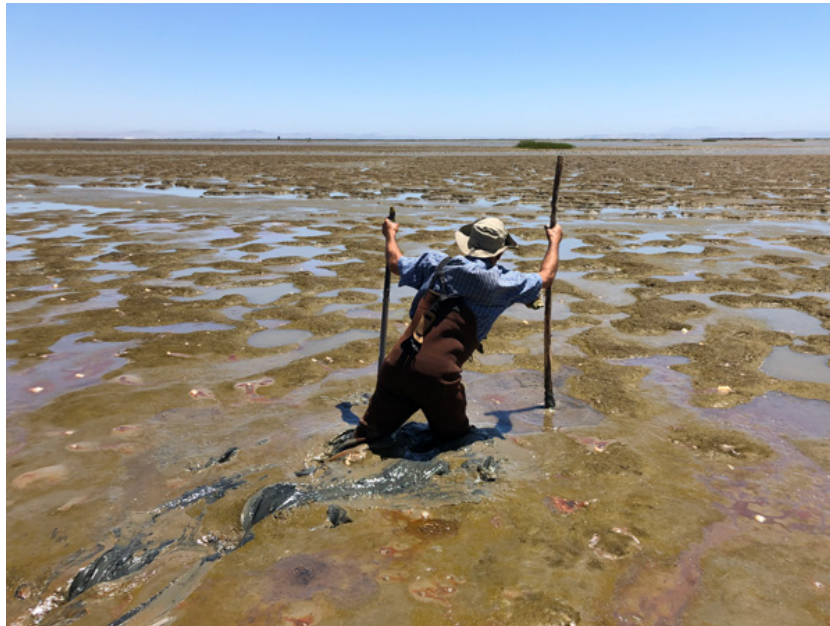


# TODAY

... to protect the land forever | February 2021

## A nature-based solution to levee erosion at Sears Point

[DONATE NOW](#)



*Physically monitoring the evolving wetlands.*

In ecological settings, what we call adaptive management is simply a cycle of “manage-monitor-adjust-repeat.” At the Sears Point wetlands, five years of monitoring has revealed many positive trends – but also shoreline erosion. Common to many restored and mature marshes, shoreline erosion is a challenge that will get worse with rising seas, so solutions are needed. Baylands program manager Julian Meisler recently presented to the [Delta Stewardship Council’s Adaptive Management Forum](#) on an innovative nature-based solution to shoreline erosion that Sonoma Land Trust is planning for this summer and fall. Here is a [five-minute video](#) explaining the project.

## Estero Americano & Pole Mountain guided virtual hikes



In March, we will continue to offer guided virtual hikes to Pole Mountain, as well as new guided virtual hikes to the Estero Americano. Join us in this interactive experience for a chance to get to know your fellow virtual hikers and see these amazing places in ways we wouldn’t otherwise.

[Register here](#)

*There is no charge for these events, which are made possible by the voters of Sonoma County who fund the work of Ag + Open Space with a quarter-cent sales tax.*

## Traditional Use of Fire: With Margo Robbins of the Yurok

Meet Dianne Brinson

## Thurs., Mar. 25, 7-8:30pm

Free of charge on Zoom



Join us for a Language of the Land presentation featuring Margo Robbins, co-founder and executive director of the Cultural Fire Management Council. Margo is one of the key planners and organizers of the Cultural Burn Training Exchange (Trex), which takes place on the Yurok Reservation twice a year. A co-lead and advisor for the Indigenous Peoples' Burn Network, Margo will speak about the Native American traditional use of fire and its benefits, as well as contemporary adaptations of these practices in a changed landscape. Margo comes from the traditional Yurok village of Morek in Klamath and is an enrolled member of the Yurok Tribe. She gathers and prepares traditional food and medicine, and is a basket weaver and regalia maker. Margo is the Indian Education Director for the Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School district, a mom and a grandma.

[Register here](#)

## New grant to allow more fuel reduction work in Sonoma Valley



We are delighted to welcome Dianne Brinson to the Land Trust board of directors. A former attorney, law professor, author and publisher, she and her husband Mark moved permanently to Sonoma County from the SF Peninsula in 2017. Originally from Mississippi, Dianne graduated from Duke University and Yale Law School.

**Watch us on OpenRoad this Saturday!**

**Feb. 27, 6:30pm, NBC Bay Area**



Doug McConnell interviews our staff about how we are adapting to rising seas along the bay and managing open space treasures in and around Sonoma Valley to avoid catastrophic fires. We also explore magnificent wildlands saved to help nature flourish and provide us with clean air and water.

**“Moon shot” for nature**





*Photo courtesy of Sonoma County Regional Parks.*

Sonoma Land Trust received a \$319,364 grant on behalf of the Sonoma Valley Wildlands Collaborative to implement vegetation management and fuel reduction activities across 18,000 acres of protected lands and conduct countywide public education activities to increase wildfire resilience. This grant will be used to treat 720 acres of wildlands to reduce risk to life, land and property, grow prescribed burning capacity, and increase health and wildfire resilience of diverse habitats. The grant comes from the [Resilient Communities Program](#), a collaboration between Wells Fargo and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, that aims to help communities better prepare for and respond to climate-related natural disasters by investing in green infrastructure. “Fire management and the impacts of climate change are pressing challenges that transcend property boundaries or jurisdictional lines and that require us to work together,” says Tony Nelson, a stewardship program manager for Sonoma Land Trust.

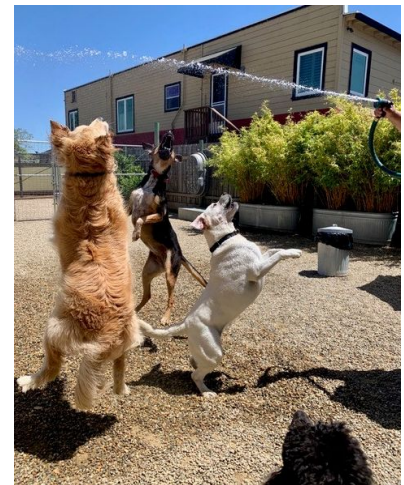
[Read new Press Democrat article on the Collaborative’s work](#)

## Partner Spotlight: Conservation Corps North Bay

“moon shot” for nature — to conserve 30% of U.S. land and 30% of its ocean waters by 2030 — the national land trust community pledges to conserve at least another 60 million acres by the end of this decade. We plan to do our part.

[More info](#)

## Thanks, Sonoma Dog Camp!



Three woofs for Sonoma Dog Camp for holding a special fundraiser for Sonoma Land Trust! On a “pay what you want” for daycare day, 30 clients made donations to the Land Trust, which owners Sue Simon and James Cribb matched for an even bigger impact. Many thanks to all!



**Press Democrat**  
Bay Area lawmakers [seek federal funding for bay](#)



Working with young adults employed through [Conservation Corps North Bay \(CCNB\)](#) to steward Sonoma Land Trust's protected lands is one of the most inspiring aspects of our land management work. CCNB provides job training and leadership opportunities for local youth while partnering with the community to conserve and restore natural resources. This past winter, we worked with CCNB crews to manage vegetation and promote wildland health on two coastal preserves. At our [Little Black Mountain Preserve](#), CCNB helped clear roadside vegetation to maintain emergency access and reduce fuel loads, while promoting forest health and wildfire resilience through removal of sudden oak death-infected trees and small Douglas firs that act as ladder fuels. At the [Estero Americano Preserve](#), CCNB crews removed non-native Monterey pines that are displacing the [native coastal prairie grasslands](#), a threatened and native habitat type. Thank you to CCNB for helping us accomplish our goals for this project by keeping grasslands intact while reducing fuel loads.

**Press Democrat**  
Board of Supervisors approves [Vital Lands Initiative](#), quoting Eamon O'Byrne.

**Kenwood Press**  
John McCaull is quoted in [this informative piece](#) on the current state of planning for the Sonoma Developmental Center.

**Press Democrat**  
James Edward Mills [talks about racial inequality in outdoor recreation](#).

**Sonoma Index-Tribune**  
Tony Nelson talks about a [new grant for fire resiliency](#) from Wells Fargo and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.



