



# TODAY

*... to protect the land forever | March 2019*

## Haire Ranch Wetland: Build it and they will come

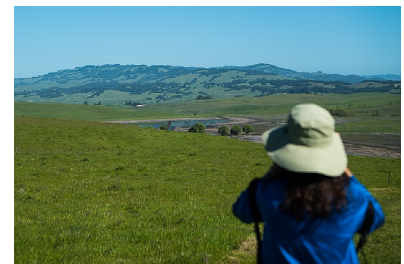


The project to restore Haire Ranch to wetland is up and running – with waterfowl flocking to check it out! The ranch, part of 4,400-acre Skaggs Island along Highway 37, lies in the ecological heart of the Sonoma Baylands and held the key to restoration of the entire island. Just five years ago, Sonoma Land Trust purchased the 1,092-acre property and transferred it to the [San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge](#), achieving a critical first step toward restoration of the entire Skaggs Island. In addition to providing a new home for wildlife, these marshes will help buffer the impact of sea level rise on the bay shore. We applaud the quick work of our partners, the Refuge, [National Resource Conservation Services](#) and [Ducks Unlimited](#).

## Important land for wildlife added to Hood Mountain park

[DONATE NOW](#)

### Hike Tolay with Bob



Join our stewardship director, Bob Neale, on a special guided ecology hike at Tolay Lake Regional Park during the park celebration and dedication this Saturday! There'll also be free cultural demonstrations, farm activities, food and music happening all day.

[Learn more](#)

### Six weeks of Bay Camp!



This summer, our bilingual Bay Camp includes three weeks of kayaking and another three weeks of bicycling at San Pablo Bay as



On March 19, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors accepted the donation of our 40-acre Santa Rosa Creek Redwoods property for adding to Hood Mountain Regional Park and Open Space Preserve. The Land Trust is grateful for the strong support of Supervisor Susan Gorin for this park expansion project, and to Regional Parks staff for working through all the details of the ownership transfer. This project is the latest example of our goal to permanently conserve properties in the Sonoma Valley Wildlife Corridor, as well as protect an important stretch of Santa Rosa Creek and one of the last known stands of redwoods in the upper watershed. Thank you to our acquisition funders — [Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation](#), [San Francisco Foundation](#), Wine Country Weekend and private donors — for making this acquisition possible.

## Riparian planting after fire at Glen Oaks Ranch

or playing in the outdoors and learn about marshland nature. Registration is now open for youth ages 7–12.

[More info](#)

## Thanking our volunteers



April is National Volunteer Month! In appreciation of our volunteers, we'll be celebrating them all month long by sharing stories of some stellar volunteers and the projects they're working on. Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) to see more!

## More than snorkeling



[Neal Ramus](#), director of community programs, surprised his partner, Erin, by proposing and then eloping on a recent trip to Hawaii. We are so delighted to have Erin join the Sonoma Land Trust family and wish them both the best in their new life together. *Cheers to the happy couple!*





*New plants on the south side of Stuart Creek. Note the burned stone barn in the background.*

In 2016, Sonoma Land Trust began a riparian planting project on Stuart Creek at Glen Oaks Ranch — an important stretch of the [Sonoma Valley Wildlife Corridor](#). We set out to plant 234 valley oaks, elderberry, coyote brush and other plants along the creek to provide food and nesting habitat for birds and create a buffer from human-made disturbances for animals like deer, bobcats and mountain lions who use the property to move across the valley. Not long after installing half the plants, the October 2017 Nuns Fire swept across the property, burning many of the new plants and melting the irrigation system. A year and a half later, we have replaced the burned plants, rebuilt the irrigation system and put in the remaining plants. A big thank you to our volunteers who helped protect those plants by installing 100 deer cages in early March, taking us over the finish line on a project that will improve wildlife habitat for decades to come.

## Business Partner Spotlight: Freezeout Coffee

## Sunsetting our blog



After three years of blogging from the land, Mountains + Molehills has published its last entry. For our final blog, learn about the Land Trust's partnership with Sonoma Clean Power to reduce the impacts of climate change.

[Read here](#)

## Celebrate the earth



Mark your calendars — Santa Rosa's 10th Annual Earth Day Celebration is April 27 at Courthouse Square! We'll be there with lots of family-friendly activities and sharing how we care for the land of Sonoma County.

[Details](#)





Freezeout Coffee, which recently celebrated its one-year anniversary, was founded by Duncans Mills' resident Jim Cole to provide artisanal coffee to environmentally-conscious coffee lovers. "Freezeout Coffee is building a community of coffee lovers committed to protecting the planet," says Jim. "I've supported Sonoma Land Trust for several years, so when I decided to create a purpose-driven coffee business, it was a natural to partner with the Land Trust and channel proceeds from our business to protecting the land forever." Jim lives on the banks of the Russian River, just down the road from the company's namesake, Freezeout Creek. "I'm a hiker, trail runner, photographer and writer, so I spend most weekends on the trails from Willow Creek Open Space near my home to Armstrong Woods to the Kortum Trail," he said. The company recently launched an e-newsletter, *Freezeout Unfiltered*, to share global and local environmental news with its community of coffee lovers.

[Learn more](#)

Questions or comments? Email Sheri Cardo, managing editor.  
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