



# TODAY

... to protect the land forever | November 2019

## Check out our new Conservation Cocktails guide!



We have created a new on-the-land guide that allows you to connect with nature at your leisure: ***Conservation Cocktails: Recipes for Saving the Land***. We hope you enjoy this carefully crafted cocktail book inspired by the regions and places we all work hard to protect and restore — and we expect that, as you read through this book and sip on your drink, you'll feel the connection to the land, too. The guide includes:

- Five unique cocktail recipes inspired by Sonoma County's landscapes
- Recommended hiking spots to inspire your cocktail hour
- Mocktail substitutes for each recipe

[Download your free guide](#)

[DONATE NOW](#)

### More fall hikes



Join us for a hike to Pole Mountain, a raptor walk at the Estero Americano, or bring your family and take a walk in the redwoods. Check out our end-of-year offerings on our [outings page](#).

### Congrats, Kendall!



Our staffer Kendall Webster, land acquisition program manager, was recently appointed by the Petaluma City Council to the city's newly formed Climate Action Commission, the first public body in Sonoma County designed to directly address the community's



## Help us meet our \$1M challenge for nature

### Challenge graph

We're asking our supporters to help us raise \$1 million by December 31 to help accelerate the pace and scale of our vital work — focusing on climate resiliency and adaptation. Your end-of-year gift helps to:

- Restore wetlands to combat sea-level rise in San Pablo Bay
- Ensure that nature's many benefits are available to all
- Extend our network of protected lands to safeguard wildlife passages

Join this challenge, issued by generous donors Mary Love in honor of her late husband David Love, and Sonoma Land Trust's Board of Directors, to ensure that your donation has tremendous impact. Whether you're a member already (thank you!) or new to our work, your gift today will help us leverage additional funding, maximizing your impact!

[Donate](#)

P.S. Donating stock? Be sure to tell us the name of the stock and number of shares you are donating so that we can send you an acknowledgment letter and recognize your generosity. [Learn more.](#)

## The state of the land after the Kincade Fire

and resilience. Petauma couldn't ask for a better representative!

### Honoring our county's heritage



Indigenous tribes made their home in bountiful Sonoma County some 12,000 years before the Spanish, Mexicans and Americans arrived. This month, we celebrate Native American Heritage Month and listen to current poet laureate Joy Harjo, the first Native American poet to serve in this national position, recite her powerful poem, "Grace."

### McCormick in the news



The news media has been buzzing about our plans to purchase McCormick Ranch. Read some of the articles about this stunning future parkland:

San Francisco Chronicle: [Huge old ranch straddling Sonoma, Napa to become parkland after sale](#)

Press Democrat: [Sonoma Land Trust secures \\$14.5](#)



*Bear Canyon Wildlands Preserve after the fire.*

In the aftermath of another devastating wildfire, our hearts go out to all those affected and our thanks go out to the amazing first responders who helped keep us safe. Many people have asked how our conservation lands were affected by the fire. Sonoma Land Trust's preserves, White Rock and Bear Canyon Wildlands, burned entirely, but with some notable differences. At White Rock, it appears that the fire burned at a moderate intensity, though it was uneven; the fire charred grassland but the trees mostly survived, leaving a generally intact canopy. At Bear Canyon Wildlands, the fire burned with a higher intensity and severity, consuming the chaparral vegetation and blackening the pine forest along the ridgelines. During the fire, a bulldozer line was created to help contain the fire, so we are now focused on repairing this impact and controlling erosion. Neither of these two ecological preserves contained any structures. We believe that both preserves will recover naturally over the coming years and, going forward, we will work to monitor and respond to the conditions of the land as it recovers. Nature is resilient — and so is Sonoma County!

For more details, [watch this update from our stewardship team](#).

## Updates to our volunteer program

[McCormick Ranch eyed for parkland](#)

[Napa Valley Register: McCormick Ranch overlooking Napa Valley to be preserved as public open space](#)

## OpenRoad Thanksgiving special



With full bellies (and hearts!), take a break from the food to tune into a very special episode of [OpenRoad with Doug McConnell](#). This new episode, featuring the Golden Gate National Parks, premieres at 10pm on NBC Bay Area Thanksgiving night!

## Kids and climate change



Overwhelmed by climate change and unsure how to talk to your kids or grandkids about it? Check out this great podcast from NPR about how you can help them — and yourself — move beyond helplessness and toward action.

[Listen here](#)





As a result of our recent volunteer satisfaction survey, we are introducing a new orientation and training for all current and future volunteers. All current volunteers will receive an invitation to attend one of the monthly trainings where they'll learn more about our work and how to help. Keep an eye out for an email with the 2020 training dates so you can sign up to attend. During this training, we will provide an overview about our new online software, [Better Impact](#), that will empower volunteers to take more control of their volunteer experience. This process will roll out over the next year – and there will be plenty of support during the transition. Thanks for being on this journey with the Land Trust! We look forward to seeing you out there on the land.

To learn more about volunteering, please [visit our website](#).

Questions or comments? Email Sheri Cardo, managing editor.  
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