



# TODAY

... to protect the land forever | September 2021

## Part One

### What's going on in the Sears Point wetlands?



*More than 300 logs donated by Caltrans and PG&E are being embedded in front of the levees. Photo by Corby Hines.*

Almost six years after the levee breach changed the map of San Francisco Bay, the marsh has been developing rapidly. However, the 2.5-mile “habitat” levee, built to protect the surrounding lands from bay water and to provide high-tide refuge for marsh wildlife, is eroding along its shoreline. This is a common problem around the Bay where human-altered shorelines are exposed to wind waves, but it needs to be fixed to ensure the steady growth of the marsh. To solve the problem, Sonoma Land Trust is pioneering a nature-based solution called the “Living Shoreline” approach, using natural materials, like logs and soil, to maintain the ecological and flood protection benefits of the levee. “For decades, shoreline erosion like this has been dealt with by using boulders — which have no habitat value,” says Julian Meisler, Baylands program manager. “Instead, we’re using a dynamic solution: a unique combination of treatments that work together with natural tidal processes.” *We look forward to sharing more about this project next month in Part Two!*

DONATE NOW

### Latino Heritage Month

el Mes de la Herencia Latina



Last week, the Board of Supervisors declared Sept 15–Oct 15 Latino Heritage Month for the 8th year!

Del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre es el Mes de la Herencia Latina. Haz clic aquí para ver una guía comunitaria de los eventos que tendrán lugar en el condado de Sonoma durante el mes.

[Click here for a guide to events](#)

### CALM amidst the storm

**Thurs., Oct. 14, 7pm**



Through evacuations, fires, planned power shut-offs,

# We're 81 percent of the way to our goal!

## a FORCE for NATURE

THE SONOMA LAND TRUST CAMPAIGN

The Sonoma Land Trust Campaign continues to invest in natural solutions that sustain us all. As of August 30<sup>th</sup>, \$63,917,072 has been committed toward the campaign goal of \$80 million. *Thank you!* Your donation is invested in science-based land acquisition and restoration projects that are protecting biodiversity, helping humans live with wildfire and adapt to rising sea levels, and protecting our freshwater sources. You're also helping your land trust engage with people who may be new to conservation through the development of new urban parks and Land Trust programs. There is tremendous collective impact when thousands of people join forces and give what they can. So whether your gift is \$10 or has several additional zeros, know that it matters and is creating the change you seek. With your help, we will continue to lead the way in preserving the diverse, natural landscapes and infrastructure that sustain us.

[Click here for the latest campaign updates](#)

## California makes historic investment in climate resilience

a global pandemic, it is important to take care of our well-being and connect with others. Join Nichole Warwick from the Sonoma Community Resilience Collaborative as she explores environmental stressors and provides us with tools to navigate difficult situations.

[Register here](#)

### "Wood-Wide Web" Thurs., Sept. 30, 7pm



It is our pleasure to present UC Berkeley PhD candidate Lorenzo Washington for September's Language of the Land online presentation. Learn about the vast underground communication "web" through which trees, other plants and fungi work together to increase their chances of survival.

[Register here](#)

### Redwood virtual hike Tues., Oct. 19, 6-7pm





*Tidal marsh restoration can help protect crowded Highway 37 from rising sea levels. Photo by John Burgess/Press Democrat.*

With the State enjoying a \$76 billion budget surplus, the California Legislature finished their session in early September by passing what Senate leaders called “*the largest single investment in climate protection in California’s history.*” This \$3.7 billion funding package dramatically increases spending to address wildfires, sea level rise, flood events, droughts and extreme heat. It also allocates over \$760 million to meet the State’s goal of conserving 30 percent of California land and coastal waters by 2030. We are especially thankful to Senators Dodd and McGuire and Assemblymembers Aguiar-Curry and Levine for their hard work in delivering budget appropriations for Highway 37 tidal marsh restoration, the [Sonoma Valley Wildlands Collaborative](#), and over \$500 million in funding for the State Coastal Conservancy. As one Bay Area legislator said, “This is merely a down payment on climate resilience, given the enormity of what the climate crisis represents to our state.”

[Read more here](#)

## Wildfire resiliency funding for Land Trust & Collaborative



Experience the majesty of the old-growth redwood forest on a virtual tour of remote conservation properties Buckeye and Howlett Forests. Featuring photographs and video footage taken by Corby Hines, this virtual tour will delight and bedazzle you!

[Register here](#)

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

## Welcome, Lupita



Guadalupe (Lupita) Nava Franco is our new youth programs assistant charged with helping to plan and implement educational



When our natural landscapes are ecologically healthy, our surrounding communities are safer and healthier as well. We manage our preserves to make buildings safer, to provide defensible space for residents and firefighters, and to allow fire to move across the landscape in a more natural, less intense manner. Through the [Sonoma Valley Wildlands Collaborative](#), we are also using vegetation management and prescribed fire on more than 18,000 acres of conservation lands. To assist in these efforts, the Collaborative has just received a [CAL FIRE California Climate Investments Fire Prevention grant](#) of \$934,000 for fire fuel reduction activities and equipment, as well as \$500,000 of funding in this year's State budget. In addition, the [State Coastal Conservancy](#) awarded a [\\$150,000 Wildfire Resiliency grant](#) for fire fuel reduction projects and [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) granted \$45,000 for such work on our [Live Oaks Ranch](#).

[Learn more about the CAL FIRE grant](#)

## Earn your cap by Nov. 30!

participates. She has worked with [JUMP Youth Programs](#) at SSU, the [Adelante Migrant Education Program](#) and [Redwood Community Services Inc.](#) Lupita is working towards her M.A. in School Counseling.

### Donate used vehicles



Did you know that you can convey used vehicles (plane, boat, motorcycle, car or truck) to [Donate for Charity](#) to benefit the Land Trust! They will pick it up from you, sell it and send us the proceeds.

[Ask us about it!](#)



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for hiking the Sea to Sky Trail

(1) Take a selfie at the summit next to the Sonoma Land Trust sign,  
(2) Post to either Facebook or Instagram (or both) and tag @SonomaLandTrust, and  
(3) Also use the hashtag #sonomalandtrust

[More info here](#)

Questions or comments? Email Sheri Cardo, managing editor.  
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