

PENINSULA OPEN SPACE TRUST

Landscapes

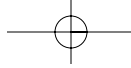
FALL 2010



Going with the Flow:
Watershed Protection on POST Lands

"To put your hands in a river
is to feel the chords
that bind the earth together."

— BARRY LOPEZ



*W*ater defines us. It's the reason we call our region the Bay Area. It shapes the Peninsula and sculpts the land. It cleans the air. It comes down from the sky as rain and fog, and comes up from the earth via springs and aquifers. It makes up more than 70 percent of most living things. Land carries the water, but water makes the land come alive, coursing through the earth and giving it health and vitality. Watershed protection has long been a priority at POST, and by helping us save open space, you preserve the natural systems found there, including critical water resources that nourish and sustain us.

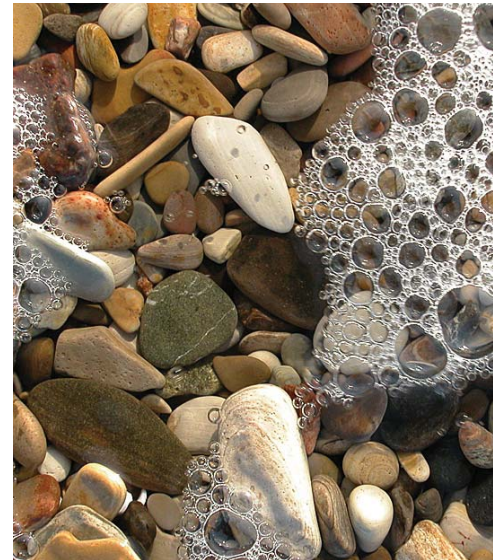
Connecting Land and Water

There are 16 major watersheds in the 63,000 acres POST has saved since its founding in 1977. These watersheds supplement our sources of drinking water, support native wildlife habitat, provide places of recreation and help us grow food close to home.

Saving land surrounding vulnerable waterways is the first step to ensuring the quality of our water. When it flows over land, water picks up things along the way, including nutrients, sediment and pollutants. In urban areas, runoff from paved surfaces, gardens and lawns degrades waterways, and in rural areas, sediment from erosion and runoff from poorly managed farms and ranches can be culprits. We can help prevent these negative impacts by conserving properties adjacent to our waterways and encouraging compatible land uses.

Clean water is a fundamental and increasingly scarce resource, especially in the West. California is no exception. With long-standing concerns about our state's water infrastructure and its impacts on public health, the environment and agriculture, preserving local watersheds has only increased in urgency and importance.

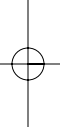
Your support of POST allows us to work strategically to protect key watershed lands so that rivers, creeks and streams in our area remain as clean as possible. We research and employ best practices for land management and stay abreast of pressing issues facing our watersheds, including growing threats from a warming climate. By understanding and safeguarding the inseparable connections between land and water in our region, we create a healthy, sustainable future for our communities and ourselves. 💧

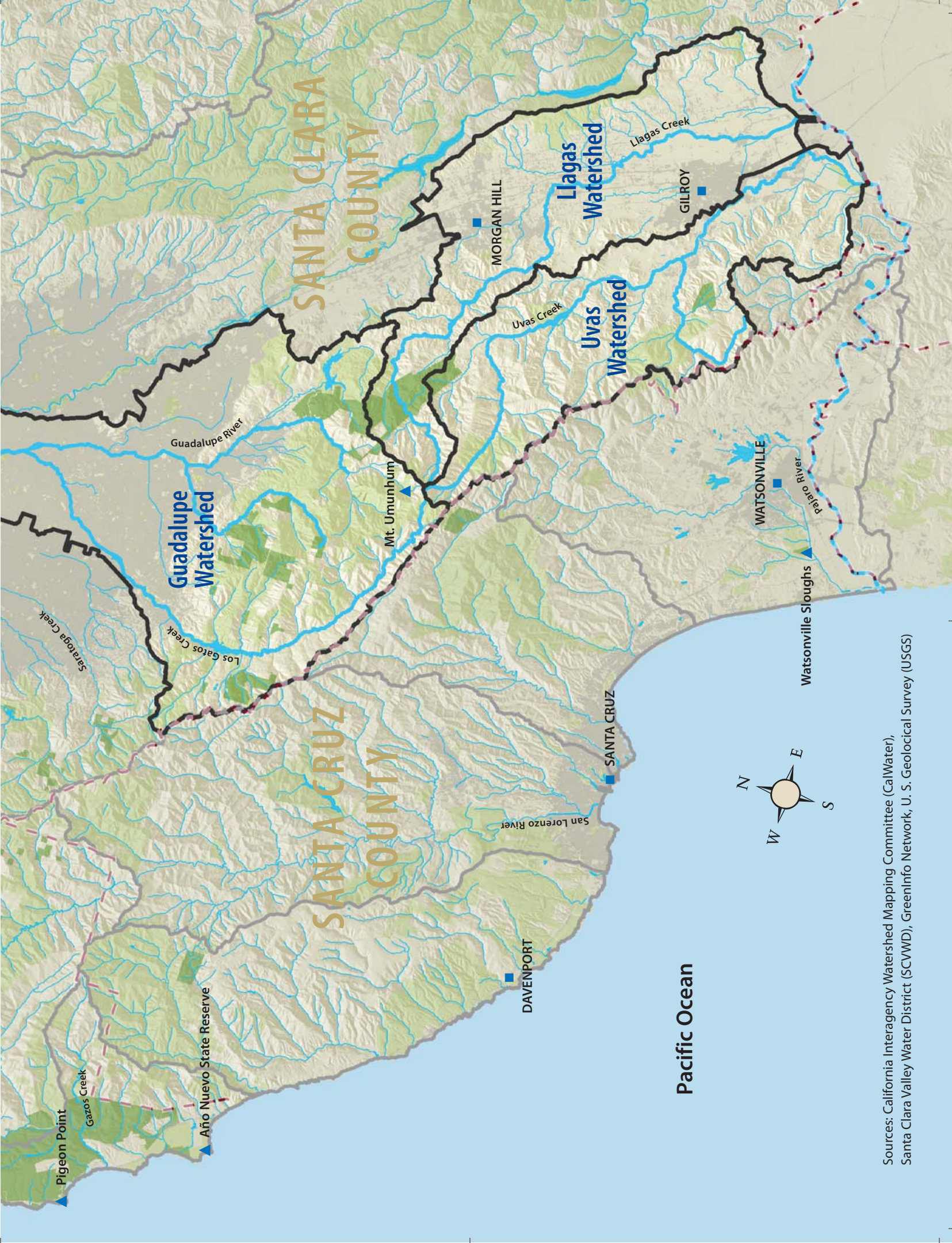


Beach Bubbles © 2003 Dan Quinn

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Sources: California Interagency Watershed Mapping Committee (CalWater),
Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), GreenInfo Network, U. S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Conserving Land, Protecting Water

SPOTLIGHT:

San Gregorio Watershed

San Gregorio Farms © 2002 POST



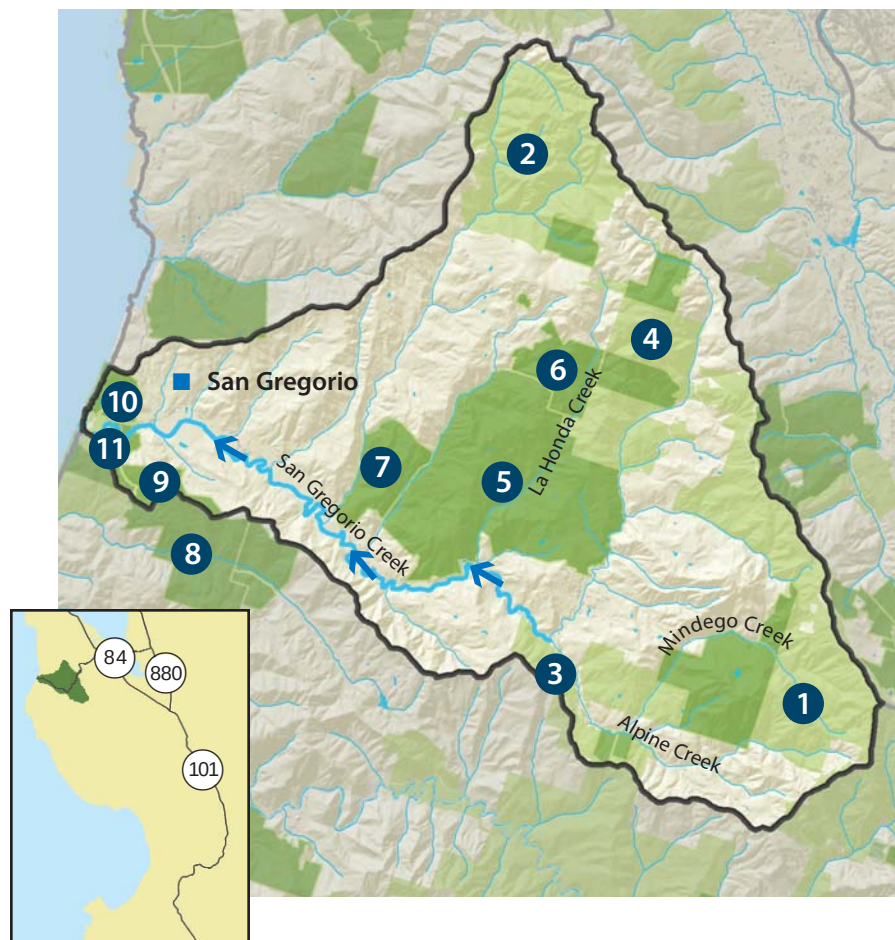
Ripples © 2009 David Hibbard

The San Gregorio watershed is one of 34 distinct drainages in San Mateo County. POST-protected lands help form a buffer around San Gregorio Creek and its tributaries, so threats to the watershed are eliminated or significantly reduced.

Water for drinking, plant and animal habitat, agriculture and recreation is best when its cycle of descent, accumulation and return takes place on undeveloped land. On POST properties, no massive development projects, dumping or grading occur and no sand, gravel or minerals are mined. In short, activities that might impair the quality of water on POST-protected land are prohibited.

POST Projects in the San Gregorio Watershed

- 1 **Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve (OSP)** - Rapley Ranch, 151 acres (2004); Mindego Hill, 1,047 acres (2007)
- 2 **El Corte de Madera OSP** - 264 acres (1985)
- 3 **Sam MacDonald County Park** - 77 acres (1987), 60 acres (1989)
- 4 **La Honda Creek OSP** - 112 acres (1986); 1,108 acres (1990)
- 5 **Driscoll Ranch** - 3,681 acres (2002)
- 6 **Djerassi Resident Artist Program** - conservation easement, 581 acres (1999)
- 7 **Redgate Ranch** - conservation easement, 624 acres (2004)
- 8 **Arata Ranch** - conservation easement, 1,161 acres (2004)
- 9 **Seaside School Ridge** - conservation easement, 151 acres (2003)
- 10 **San Gregorio Ranch** - conservation easement, 195 acres (1996)
- 11 **San Gregorio Farms** - 267 acres (2001)



Sources: CalWater, GreenInfo Network, USGS

A Water Droplet's Point of View

Watersheds are complex natural systems, but when it comes right down to it, they all start with a single drop of water. By tracing the droplet's journey from its origins to the sea and back again, we get a better sense of the water cycle and how we must protect entire landscapes to protect watersheds.

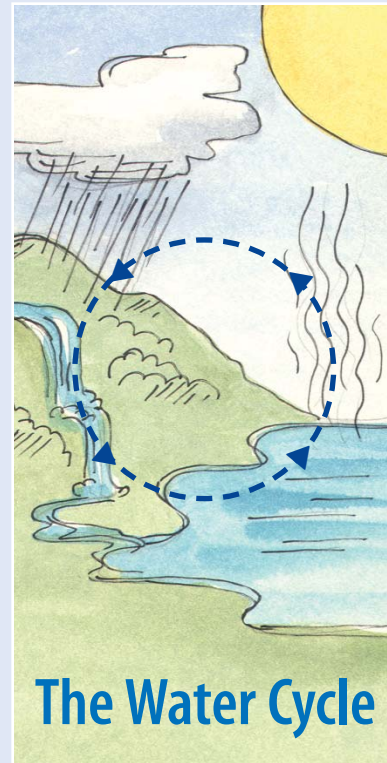
Take the San Gregorio watershed, where POST and our conservation partners have saved nearly 16,000 acres for local agriculture, wildlife and recreation. If you were a water drop here, you'd make a trail from Skyline Ridge to the San Mateo Coast and back.

Gravity would pull you along from the western slopes of Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve, and you would grow bigger and fatter, gathering fog-drip and rainwater until you gain a carver's strength as a part of Mindego Creek. Inch by inch, you etch away at the soil, maneuvering around rocks, tree trunks and grains of sand

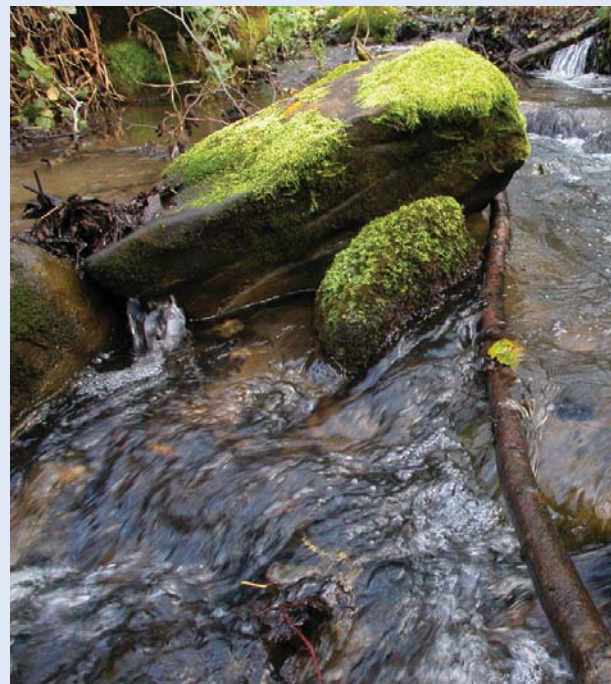
In the vicinity of Sam MacDonald County Park, you join Alpine Creek, now a substantial watercourse, wide enough to need a bridge for people to cross you. Ferns and sorrels climb along redwood-shaded slopes, and tiny fingerlings — very young salmon or trout — dart in your shady pools.

No longer a trickle but a bona fide force, in winter you routinely uproot trees and float them like matchsticks in a funnel. During especially heavy storms, you even have the power to jump your banks and swamp a whole house. You mix into La Honda Creek and continue west as San Gregorio Creek. Several tributaries add their contents to your flow, and by the time you reach Old Stage Road you are wide enough to have eddies and backwaters full of willows. Birds stop to preen and nest in the reeds that you sustain.

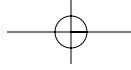
You spill lazily west, under the Highway 1 bridge, hoping not to have to burrow through a sandbar before tasting the salty Pacific. You reach the beach and join forces with the ocean, but it's a temporary victory. Eventually you evaporate out of the sea and roll back to Skyline Ridge on a fog bank. You condense as beads of mist on redwood fronds, drip from the tips and seep into the ground to collect in the earth's thirsty crevices. As great winds push landward, you drop once more as rain and begin your passage to the Pacific again, absorbing and recycling whatever elements drain off the land into your crystal-clear veins. 💧



© 2010 Dan DiVittorio



Purisima Creek © 2005 Dan Quinn



Alviso Slough © 2009 POST

The Guadalupe River watershed drains north from the Santa Cruz Mountains through the center of downtown San Jose into San Francisco Bay. POST has been active in this part of south Santa Clara County since the mid-1990s, helping protect vulnerable open space land around the watershed's headwaters and outlets into the bay. These conservation efforts, com-

bined with those of our private and public partners, have helped safeguard key water resources for the county, whose two million residents receive half of their water from local ground and surface water (the balance is piped from the Sierra). But much more work is needed, and POST remains committed to protecting land in the watersheds of south Santa Clara County.

Sierra Azul OSP

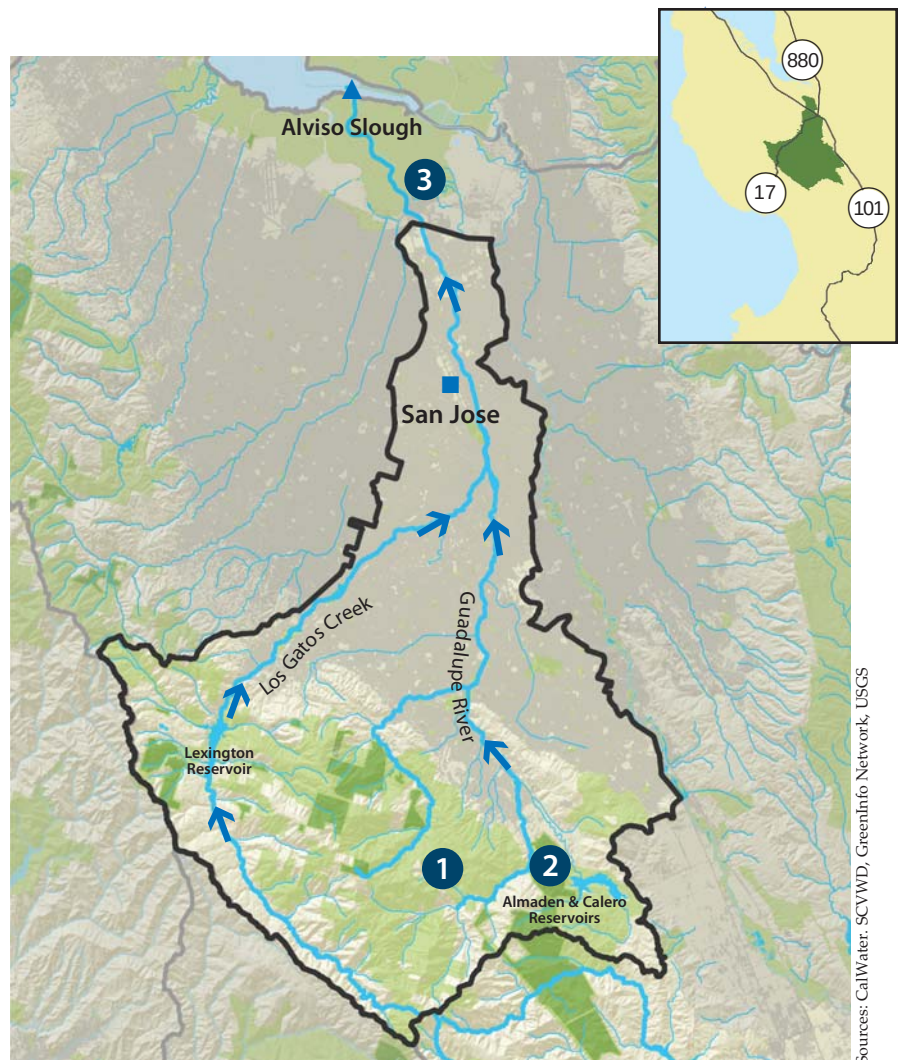
1 Since 1996, POST has made 13 property additions to Sierra Azul OSP, where the headwaters of the Guadalupe River gather. From there, the water drains into Los Gatos Creek, which flows into Lexington Reservoir, joining with tributaries from another POST-protected property, 1,345-acre Bear Creek Redwoods, before continuing toward the bay.

Rancho San Vicente

2 A canal built by the Santa Clara County Water District in 1935 runs across 966-acre Rancho San Vicente, which POST saved almost a century later from becoming home to luxury estates and a golf course. The canal carries floodwater from Almaden Reservoir to Calero Reservoir and ultimately to filtration plants before being delivered to the public as drinking water.

New Chicago Marsh

3 POST has helped protect various parcels of baylands including 10 acres at New Chicago Marsh. The area is now part of the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, a vast network of restored marshland that acts as a natural water filter and flood barrier for the South Bay.



Rancho Cañada del Oro © 1999 Robert Bueltman

SPOTLIGHT:

Uvas and Llagas Watersheds



Sources: CalWater, SCVWD, GreenInfo Network, USGS

Rancho Cañada del Oro

1 This property, along with portions of Calero County Park, act as a tiny continental divide in south Santa Clara County with some surface waters draining north into the Guadalupe River and the bay, while others drain south into Llagas and Uvas creeks, joining the Pajaro River on its way to Monterey Bay. The preserve now includes 865-acre Blair Ranch, which drains into Uvas Creek.

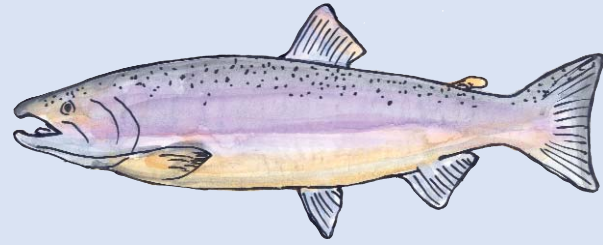
Clark Canyon Ranch

2 On this 408-acre POST-protected property, mountain lions, badgers and bobcats have been photographed near water sources, while native steelhead travel all the way from the Pacific to spawn here. It's a perilous journey, as the creek is often too warm, shallow, polluted or obstructed by dams and other diversions for the fish to pass. POST has worked with the local group CHEER (Coastal Habitat Education & Environmental Restoration) to rescue steelhead fingerlings and transport them to safety when water levels are too low for survival.

Uvas and Llagas creeks originate in south Santa Clara County and flow south into the larger Pajaro River watershed, which drains an area of 1,300 square miles in five counties. The Pajaro watershed has a major impact on agricultural land between Gilroy and Watsonville as well as on the health of Monterey Bay, into which it flows. POST has helped protect land surrounding its tributaries, including the Uvas and Llagas creek watersheds, with far-reaching consequences on land and sea.



© 2010 Dan Quinn



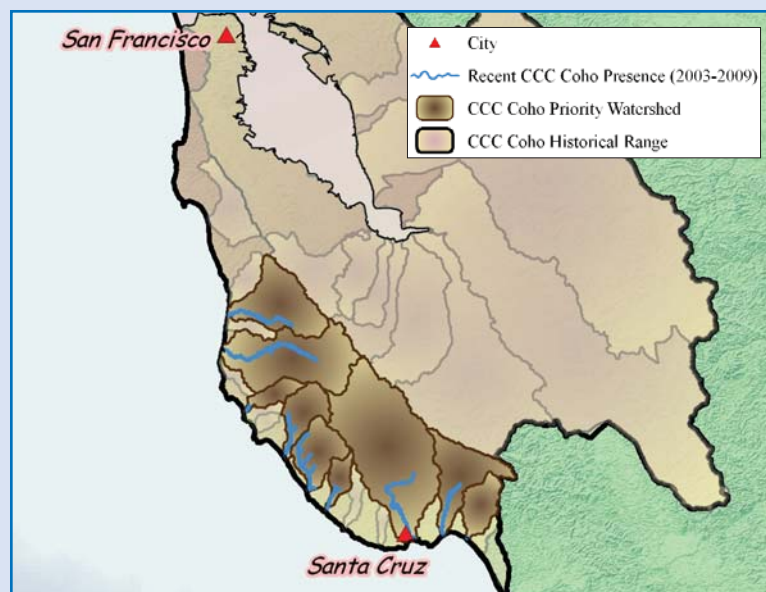
Coho Salmon Test the Health of Our Watersheds

Of the seven species of wild salmon native to California's Pacific coast, the Coho is the one most endangered and sensitive to environmental conditions, whether in tiny headwaters where

their eggs hatch, or in the deep ocean where adult fish roam. For this reason, it is an excellent "indicator species," one whose condition takes a read on the health of the habitat zones it inhabits at each stage of its life cycle.

"If Coho decline, the health of an entire watershed is suspect," says Wendy Millet, POST conservation easement monitor and director of the Pacific Salmon Ecosystem Program for The Nature Conservancy. A decline likely means there is watershed degradation occurring within all the places Coho rely on to survive — forests, creeks, streams, rivers, estuaries and oceans.

Range of Central California Coast Salmon*



Mark Your Calendars for Coastal Day Cleanup!

More numerous than grains of sand are the activities planned throughout the state to celebrate COASTWEEKS. Festivities, workshops and serious work begin **September 25**, when volunteers mobilize to remove trash from beaches, wetlands and waterways of all sizes. To learn more, visit www.coastforyou.org.

For Coho, the news is grim. From Half Moon Bay to Santa Cruz, their numbers have dropped so dramatically that few individuals have been counted between 2003 and 2009.¹ No single culprit is to blame. As Millet says, it's "death by a thousand cuts."

To save Coho on the central California Coast, a restoration plan by the National Marine Fisheries Service was released for public review and is now making its way through government. The plan calls for work in 28 watersheds, including San Gregorio, Pescadero and Gazos creeks, where POST is active. As habitat in local watersheds improves, so will the fate of the Coho. 💧

¹ California Central Coast Coho Salmon ESU (Evolutionary Significant Unit) Draft Recovery Plan, March 2010, p. 23.

*For the full map, see the journal *Science*, January 29, 2010.

3 Ways to Enjoy the Water!

Alviso Slough

Walk the levees or drop your kayak into the South Bay

After 25 years, Alviso, north of San Jose, has reopened the waterways of Alviso Slough, complete with a concrete boat ramp, two piers and parking. The slough offers impressive birdwatching—from pied-billed grebes to black-necked stilts.

Directions: From Highway 101, take Highway 237 east to Great America Parkway exit. Turn left onto Great America Parkway, turn right on Gold Street connector, left on Gold Street, left on Elizabeth Street and right on Hope Street.

Upper Gazos Creek Road

Wander a shady Coastside creek

Get a taste of autumn strolling along a rushing stream on Gazos Creek Road south of Pescadero. This narrow country road winds its way beneath a canopy of sun-dappled leaves along the southern boundary of Butano State Park. No sidewalk, but with limited car traffic, the road is safe for pedestrians who stay close to the narrow shoulder.

Directions: From Highway 1, turn east onto Gazos Creek Road. Go approximately two miles to a fork. Park along the side of the road and walk up the right fork (east) along Gazos Creek Road.

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

Explore a tide pool's nooks and crannies

Life in a tide pool can be extreme—crashing waves followed by drying sun. The creatures that reside at San Mateo County's Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, located in Moss Beach near POST's Pillar Point Bluff property, are as unique as their environment, and also very fragile. Check a printed or online tide table in advance to plan your visit; it's best to go at low tide when more is visible (www.fitzgeraldreserve.org).

Directions: From Highway 1, turn toward the ocean on California Avenue. At the end, turn right on Lake Street and you will come to the Reserve parking. Walk the short path down to the beach. Tide pools will be on your left and right.

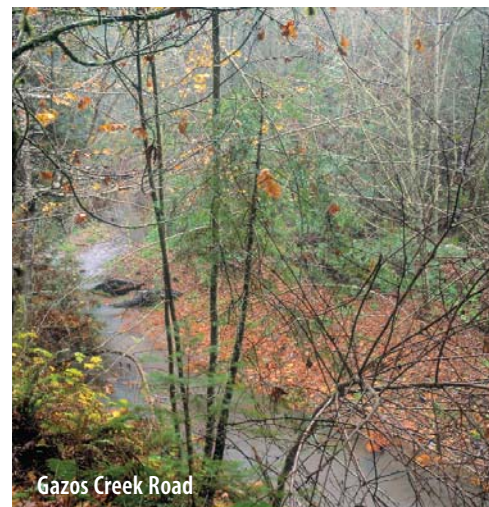
Also, don't miss the all-access pedestrian and bike trails along Los Gatos Creek and Guadalupe River.

For other suggestions on where to go, visit www.openspacetrust.org/activities.

The waters that shape the Peninsula and Bay Area also provide amazing recreational opportunities. Here are some of our favorites on or near POST-protected land.



© 2010 Tamara Shear



© 1998 David Hibbard



© 2005 Michael Powers

Water and the Land that Feeds Us

Mindago Hill © 2008 Karl Kroeber



You might think a fog-laden coastal area would never thirst for water, that its farms and ranches would be flush with irrigation for crops and animals. But even in this part of the world, things dry up, especially in summer. Without the right kind of land with good access to water, many local agricultural operations would come to a halt. That's why protecting prime land for farming and ranching with appropriate water resources has always been a priority for POST, contributing to a healthy supply of local food.

To do this, POST has worked to identify and buy agricultural land at risk of development, continuing to lease it to farmers and ranchers and, in several cases, selling it to these operators subject to a conservation easement. Agricultural properties represent 20 percent of the 63,000 acres POST has saved to date. Currently POST leases land to eight farmers for row-crop agriculture and dry farming, and to three cattle ranchers for grazing. As they themselves will tell you, the presence of water on the land is essential to their success.

Thirsty Grasses, Hungry Cows

"Water is key," says Doniga Markegard, who with her husband, Erik, and their four children grazes cattle on POST's Toto Ranch, near San Gregorio. "I think of the watershed we're in as our lifeboat. Everything in it runs downhill, and it affects everything we do."

The couple's firm, Markegard Family Grass-Fed,* provides grass-fed beef and lamb to local families and restaurants. Toto Ranch, where they operate, was conveyed to POST in 2008 significantly below market value from previous owner Kathleen Scutchfield. The 952-acre property has a long history of grazing cattle, sheep and goats. It also plays a significant role in the Tunitas Creek watershed, home to threatened and endangered animals such as steelhead trout, Coho salmon and California red-legged frogs. "Management of the watersheds is foremost in our grazing operation," says Markegard. "We're committed to keeping the waterways on Toto Ranch clear of pollution and sediment run-off, and have seen an added benefit of stock ponds as habitat for threatened animals like the red-legged frog."

*For more information, visit markegardfamilygrassfed.wordpress.com

© 2010 Erik Markegard



The Markegard Family

A Farmer's Search for Water

"There are only a few places on the Coastsides with fertile soils and available water, and POST has done a good job of locating and protecting that land," says John Giusti, a Coastsides farmer and owner of POST-protected Purisima Farms near Half Moon Bay. Giusti remembers a time in the 1970s when his late father, Aldo, then a tenant on nearby Johnston Ranch, thought he might lose the farm to a golf-course developer. "When my Dad started to look for other ranchland to lease, none had the kind of water that Brussels sprouts need," Giusti says. Fortunately, in 1999, POST was able to save Johnston Ranch, which Giusti still farms. Today, Brussels sprouts—the San Mateo Coast's most prevalent crop—make up about 75 percent of his overall business.

"I think of the watershed we're in as our lifeboat. Everything in it runs downhill, and it affects everything we do." — Doniga Markegard

While local farmers have creative strategies for meeting their water needs, including dry-farming (a technique requiring no additional irrigation in areas that receive little natural rainfall), they are often at the mercy of the land. For its part, POST has helped its agricultural partners address some of the many challenges related to farmland irrigation, investing hundreds of thousands of dollars to reinforce and maintain existing water rights and infrastructure. But significant challenges remain. POST continues to work closely with farmers to explore off-stream storage options such as reservoirs, institute water conservation measures and help prevent agricultural runoff from reaching our creeks.

Just the Right Mix

Local row-crop agriculture survives on the Coastsides, but in other areas it has essentially disappeared, says farmer and POST Board member Larry Jacobs. "Over the past 100 years we've paved over some of our most productive coastal soils. Once developed, their potential for producing food and fiber is lost," he says. "Now more than ever we need to make sure that tomorrow's farmers have someplace to farm. Protecting land and watersheds for future generations is what POST does best." 💧



Rancho Corral de Tierra © 2005 Dean Little



Blue House Farm © 2010 Kathryn Hargis



Jacobs Farm © 2007 Hal Fenney

Protecting Our Water's Future

© 2008 Dan Quinn



Rancho San Vicente © 2009 Karl Kroeber



The future of our region's water supplies is anything but assured. Expanding population, development pressure, pollution and a changing climate will all affect the quality and quantity of our water. Land conservation, while not the whole solution, helps protect water at its source and is the first line of defense.

Protecting strategic areas of open space and improving water quality on the lands we own are just some of the ways POST is helping to ensure clean, plentiful water for generations to come. Says POST Executive Vice President Walter T. Moore, "Keeping local open space covered with trees and plants instead of parking lots and rooftops helps safeguard our water for drinking and other uses, recharges valuable underground aquifers and keeps our soils intact."

Nature's Return on Investment

A century ago, the dominant means of assuring a reliable supply of clean water was to protect the headwaters of a major river or creek. As science and technology advanced, water treatment became more sophisticated and the quality of source water seemed less important. Now, however, municipalities, water suppliers, and the people they serve are discovering it is far easier, not to mention cheaper, to begin with clean water, and this is where land conservation is critical.

A 2002 study by the Trust for Public Land surveyed 27 water suppliers across the country to compare their treatment costs with and without forest conservation in watershed headwaters. They

"Keeping local open space covered with trees and plants instead of parking lots and rooftops helps safeguard our water for drinking and other uses." — Walter T. Moore, POST Executive Vice President

found that the more forest cover there was, the less they had to filter and treat water before people could use it. In other words, nature was providing its own filtering service in the form of trees for a whole lot less money! Of course, other natural lands such as wetlands and stream corridors also help reduce water pollutants. By conserving key watershed land as the first step, we can help achieve reduced downstream infrastructure costs for water treatment plants and chemicals. As one African proverb says, "Filthy water cannot be washed."

Upstream Stewards

Proper stewardship on POST lands has a significant impact on the long-term quality of our watersheds and wildlife habitat found there. Since 1997, POST has protected a total of 7,262 acres at Cloverdale Coastal Ranches near Pescadero. Historic management practices of the land had left some of its 30 ponds, reservoirs and their associated wetlands in poor condition. In addition to providing valuable water storage for agriculture, these wetlands are home to the threatened California red-legged frog and the endangered San Francisco garter snake. The wetlands also act as efficient filters of water running into the creeks that provide habitat for Coho salmon and steelhead trout, and drain onto public beaches. To address the problem, POST secured grants from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, including the Bob and Edie Kirkwood Fund, to inventory wildlife, repair dams and spillways and eliminate invasive species. Says POST's Director of Land Stewardship, Paul Ringgold, "Our ongoing work at Cloverdale is a prime example of POST's commitment to finding solutions designed to maintain the health of our ecosystems now and into an uncertain future."

A Changing Climate

The potential impact of future climate change is another factor POST and other groups are trying to gauge within watersheds. Much more study is needed to determine how exactly local water supplies will be affected, but some statewide trends like a shrinking Sierra snowpack, higher temperatures and sea-level rise will all play roles in the availability and quality of our water. A small ray of hope is that scientists believe the Bay Area's high degree of "climate variability" (wide temperature ranges and precipitation amounts) may help buffer some of these larger trends.

While there are no easy answers, it's becoming clear that natural habitats will have to adapt to a changing climate. As temperatures rise and water supplies change, certain plant and animal species will need to move in order to survive. Without protected corridors of open space, they may simply have nowhere to go. Addressing this issue requires a big-picture approach to conservation by connecting strategically significant areas of open space and watershed lands—an approach that POST pursues and embraces. By saving as much contiguous watershed land as possible today, we can help meet our water needs tomorrow. 💧



Alder Leaves and Reflection © 2009 David Hibbard



© Mark Hatasaka

Thank you to David Hibbard

Fine art photographer David Hibbard of Menlo Park is among the many artists who contribute their work to POST. His images can be found throughout this issue devoted to water, including on the cover.

More of David's work can be seen in his book *Natural Gestures* or on his website www.davidhibbard.com.

Ambassador "Bill" Lane

1919– 2010

We've lost a grand spokesman for enjoyment of our shared outdoor places. Ambassador Laurence W. "Bill" Lane, Jr. passed away July 31, 2010, at the age of 90.

"Bill was a man who cared deeply about the public," says POST President Audrey Rust. "His involvement was wide-ranging. He was among POST's early donors, helped found the Town of Portola Valley, and gathered support for our county, state and national parks. He and his wife, Jean, contributed to the new field station at Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve and endowed The Lane Center for the Study of the American West at Stanford University. Through this whole range of activities, he understood the value of the natural world and its benefits to everyone, not just to a select few."

Bill was the longtime publisher of *Sunset* magazine and retired co-chairman of the board of Lane Publishing Co., now the Sunset Publishing Corporation owned by Time Warner. Through the magazine, and the books which were overseen by brother Mel, Bill reached into our homes with practical hints on building, cooking, gardening and travel in the West. Their financial empire developed through the earnest pursuit of issues close to their hearts as did the leadership positions they would hold, including Bill's appointment as United States ambassador to Australia and ambassador-at-large in Japan from 1985 to 1989.



Under Bill's leadership, the magazine rarely took a stand on political issues, yet a consistent message about the need to walk lightly on the land while discovering its special beauties ran between the lines.

It is advice Bill himself took seriously. He loved Yosemite, where he had worked during summers as a youth. He was an enthusiastic horseman, which may account for his fondness for red Stetson hats and bolo ties. He even had a silver horse on the hood of his hybrid station wagon, license plate "West 1."

Bill and Jean made numerous gifts to POST and were among those whose early support gave credibility to the organization. The Lanes made a gift to POST's campaign to preserve the Phleger Estate, now part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. They gave \$1 million to POST's *Saving*

the Endangered Coast campaign to protect 20,000 acres along the San Mateo County coast. They provided seed money for an early stewardship fund and sponsored POST's annual Wallace Stegner Lecture Series since it began in 1994. As a member of POST's Summit Society, Bill was as generous with his time as he was with his money. We are fortunate to have Jean continue their tradition of protecting our last open spaces.

A plaque at Portola Lookout, a meadow in the Long Ridge Open Space Preserve, recognizes the spirit in which Bill and Jean donated millions of dollars and countless hours to support local, regional and national parkland. The meadow as well as more distant places are here for us to enjoy because, as the plaque states, their "love of the West inspires them to champion its wild and open landscapes." ■

Passages Mary Page Stegner

Mary Page Stegner, wife of the late novelist Wallace Stegner, passed away May 15 at The Sequoias retirement community in Portola Valley. She was 99. Until ill health curtailed her activities, she was a regular attendee at POST's lecture series, named in her husband's honor. Since its inception 17 years ago, the annual series has been sponsored by the late Ambassador Bill and his wife, Mrs. Jean Lane.

Always gracious and ready to listen, Mary Stegner is best remembered as the indispensable helpmate and frequent editor of her famous husband, who founded Stanford University's creative writing program. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize

in Fiction in 1972 for *Angle of Repose*. Through his work with the Committee for Green Foothills he was a major force in educating Peninsula residents about the need to protect our local open spaces. On the national level, his 1960 "Wilderness Letter" helped pave the way for passage of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Mary remembered POST in her will, and we are extremely grateful for her generosity. She is survived by her son, Stuart Page Stegner, a writer and professor emeritus at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Mary is also survived by her daughter-in-law, Lynn Marie Stegner, and three grandchildren. ■



© Leo Holub

Wallace and Mary Stegner

Patricia Hooper

Longtime major donor and member of the POST Advisory Council, Patricia "Trish" Hooper passed away June 3 at The Sequoias retirement community in Portola Valley. She was 87.

Ms. Hooper was an essayist, watercolor artist and author of *April in Paris*, a memoir of life with her young family in Paris and other European cities between 1957 and 1967. Her

late husband, John Hooper, was a San Francisco attorney who later became a diplomat with NATO.

Ms. Hooper's articulate, well-researched letters brightened the editorial pages of the *Almanac* and *San Francisco Chronicle* as well as national publications such as *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Time* and *Newsweek*. She was a tireless defender of human and animal rights and active with Mission Hospice and the Peninsula Humane Society. She helped edit the Sequoias' monthly newsletter. Writing about POST-protected Windy Hill she once said, "Tired of sitting indoors? Tired of walking the perimeter road? Tired of being told by your doctor that walking is the best exercise of all? Give it another try: try another route!" The same can be said for how Trish lived her life. Her contagious enthusiasm will be missed. ■

Courtesy of Hooper/Blair families



The mission of Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) is to give permanent protection to the beauty, character and diversity of the San Francisco Peninsula and Santa Cruz Mountain range. POST encourages the use of these lands for natural resource protection, wildlife habitat, public recreation and agriculture for people here now and for future generations.

Leaves and Stream © David Hibbard



Out & About with POST Donors

This spring and summer POST hosted events for friends new and old to savor the benefits of supporting our conservation work.



(L to R) Mariquita West and Celia Thompson-Taupin with POST President Audrey Rust



Don and Miriam DeJongh

Gathering in the Garden

On a sunny afternoon in May, members of POST's **Open Space Legacy Society**, supporters who have included POST in their estate plans, were honored with a reception at Allied Arts Guild in Menlo Park. To learn more about our Open Space Legacy Society, please contact Adelaide Roberts at (605) 854-7696 x312 or aroberts@openspacetrust.org.



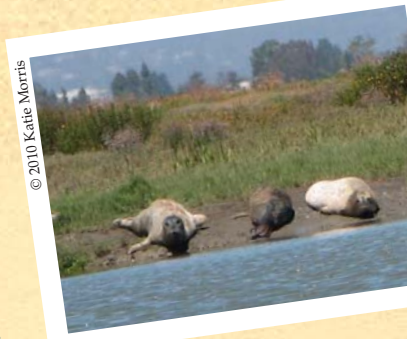
(left) POST Intern Kelsey Grousbeck



(top) Carrie Drake, Jackson and Charlotte Stein

Down on the Farm

In June, **Skyline Society** members tasted the fruit of their support with a visit to Blue House Farm, a certified organic farm located on POST's Cloverdale Coastal Ranches. For more about our Skyline Society, whose members contribute annual gifts of \$1,000 or more, please contact Kathleen Ward at (650) 854-7696 x303 or kward@openspacetrust.org.



A Day on the Water

As a part of our "Walks & Talks" series, for donors who annually give \$500 or more, nearly 40 guests toured Bair Island by boat with guides from the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. For more information, please contact Katie Morris at (650) 854-7696 x315 or kmorris@openspacetrust.org.



(L to R) Waldo Griffin, Martha Girdlestone, Veralyn Davids, Stanley Judd and Fritz Bernhard

Gifts of Real Estate: A Winning Proposition

Do you have a vacation home you don't use, or a rental property you no longer want to manage? Has the thought of capital gains taxes or selling it yourself kept you from doing anything about it? Then here's some good news: making a gift of real estate to POST can reduce your taxes, ease the demands of owning property and even provide you with lifetime income.

Here are three ways to make a real estate gift to POST, each with its own benefits to you:

- **Making an outright gift** allows you to receive the maximum charitable income tax deduction and avoid capital gains taxes.

- **Giving POST a remainder interest in your property** allows you to receive a tax deduction at the time of the gift and continue enjoying the property during your lifetime.

- **Establishing a charitable remainder trust** with real estate allows you to avoid capital gains taxes, obtain a tax deduction at the time of the gift, and receive income for the rest of your life.

No matter what method you choose, your gift helps protect our region's extraordinary natural lands.

For more information about POST's real estate gifts program, please contact Adelaide Roberts at aroberts@openspacetrust.org or (650) 854-7696 x312. ■

TRIBUTES

May 1 – July 31, 2010

POST is grateful to receive gifts in honor or in memory of particular individuals. These gifts are a wonderful way to pay tribute to a person's love of outdoor places.

GIFTS IN HONOR OF

Delilah
Stefanie and the
Woodside Fire Fighters
Madison Bandy
Anne and David Bernstein
Ed Cassidy
Sue and Ken Dinwiddie
Susan Fan
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Matthew White and
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LANDSCAPES FALL 2010

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Little Basin © 2007 Karl Kroeber



Last Chance to Hike Little Basin with POST!

**Boulder Creek, Saturday,
October 2, 9 a.m. to noon**

Little Basin will be transferred to California State Parks within the year, so join us for a last exclusive look at this historic property! Choose an easy, moderate or strenuous hike.

RSVP to walks@openspacetrust.org or
call (650) 854-7696 x304



Cowell Ranch Beach © 1987 John Brennan

Keep State Parks Open Vote Yes on Prop. 21!

Keep our state parks open by voting "yes" on Proposition 21 on the November ballot. The measure would put an \$18 annual surcharge on most California vehicles to fund parks and wildlife conservation. Vehicles would receive free, year-round admission to all 278 state parks. Your "yes" vote preserves these treasured lands for future generations to enjoy.

To learn more, go to
www.openspacetrust.org/stateparks

Cover photo: Pastel Reflections © 2004 David Hibbard