## ANNUAL REPORT 2000-2001

**Thanking our Donors and Volunteers** PENINSULA OPEN SPACE TRUST & WINTER 2001



## GOOD NEWS

The pumpkins are picked, the birds have flown south, and the wild-flowers are waiting for spring. It's a time to reflect on the past year.

While human affairs continue to sadden and baffle us, nature gives us perspective reminding us of the continuum and joys of life. This is the time when taking advantage of the successes POST has achieved can put you in touch with much-needed "good news."

We have a lot to be proud of and to enjoy. This past year, because of the *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign, you've seen POST in the news every month making announcements about land saving projects, gifts, grants and awards. To me, each announcement is a confirmation of the concern we all share about assuring the future — for ourselves, for the children and for the planet.

Of course it's more than just announcements. There are 6,467 acres — just over 10 square miles, which have been protected forever. These rural coastal lands of our "back yard" are unique. If we lost them to development, not only would our personal lives be lessened, but no longer would anyone have the opportunity to visit such a place and the natural and cultural diversity they represent would disappear from earth.

This issue of *Landscapes* thanks each of you who have made these successes possible. As you read through the pages of this "annual report" you will have the chance to revisit each project. Play the game we always do — if you could visit one of these places today, which would it be? The wild, soaring heights of Rancho Corral de Tierra with its 360 degree views? A walk on the beach at Bolsa Point inspecting the tafoni rock and tide pools? Maybe you'll choose my favorite — a walk up Wilbur's Watch trail to overlook Whaler's Cove, Pigeon Point Lighthouse and all the protected lands of the south coast. Give us a call. We'd love to see that you have the chance to visit what your gifts have been busy protecting.

Be assured, with your participation in *Saving the Endangered Coast*, the good news is going to keep on coming. As you know, we can't disclose what's next, but I suggest you stay tuned. It will be more good news!

Mudneyckust

Audrey C. Rust, President

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS JULY 1, 2000 – AUGUST 31, 2001

Thanks to your support, POST has just completed its greatest year ever in terms of coastal open space protection. From Pacifica in the north to Año Nuevo State Reserve in the south, POST has optioned and/or secured permanent protection for some of the last large unprotected parcels of open space remaining on the coast.

We must still raise funds to ensure that we can complete their purchase and secure permanent protection for many of these lands. Your continued support will be critical to our completing the work that we have just begun. Thank you for your generous commitment to POST's mission of preserving the beauty, character, and diversity of the San Francisco Peninsula landscape for people here now and for future generations.

## Rancho Corral de Tierra

A National Treasure

6 miles north of Half Moon Bay – 4,262 Acres

One of the most important properties targeted for protection in POST's campaign, *Saving the Endangered Coast*, Rancho Corral de Tierra stands out because of its sheer size, extraordinary natural resource value, recreation potential and panoramic views.

POST's acquisition of Rancho Corral de Tierra marks the beginning of what is expected to be a challenging, three-year process to protect this land as parkland. We must first gain congressional approval to expand the boundary of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) so that the property can be included in the national park system. Secondly, we will seek funding from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund to complete the acquisition and transfer it to the GGNRA. Our hope is to secure an appropriation of \$15 million, which is roughly one-half of the purchase price.

If you would like to see this spectacular property, just drive north from Half Moon Bay. When you get to the Half Moon Bay Airport, glance to your right to see sweeping views of farmland against a backdrop of mountains rising more than 2,000 feet above sea level. This wonderful vista is Rancho Corral. History tells us this property was a Spanish Land Grant. We think we can safely say with some confidence that this is a 21st Century Land Grant to the future!





## WHALER'S COVE Our Local Jewel PIGEON POINT – 2.5 ACRES

Without a doubt one of the most publicly lauded projects POST has ever done, the protection of Whaler's Cove near the Pigeon Point Lighthouse reminds us that we must stand ready to protect our endangered coast. While Pigeon Point Light Station's beacon protected sailors from the coast's rocky shores for more than 100 years, it could not prevent construction of a 9-unit motel on the land immediately adjacent. POST's purchase of Whaler's Cove halted construction of the motel and will reinstate public access to the beach, bluff, and tide pools. By January 2002 the buildings will all be removed. This most scenic of coastal retreats will eventually be transferred to California State Parks and will once again be open to the public.

## **BOLSA POINT RANCHES**

Spectacular Natural Diversity Near Pigeon Point and Pescadero – 1,719 acres

One of the first properties optioned under POST's *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign, Bolsa Point Ranches connects Whaler's Cove with POST's Cloverdale Coastal Ranch. This connection links more than 54 square miles of contiguous open space, a vast natural panorama that includes all the land that can be seen from Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park.

Bolsa Point Ranches was not only the most expensive property ever purchased by POST, but at \$39 million was also the most money ever paid by any local nonprofit land trust to purchase open space in the western United States. Its cost was dictated by the fact that if we had not stepped up to acquire Bolsa Point Ranches it would have been developed into 51 very expensive, exclusive mini-estates.

This year our boldness was rewarded when the state's Wildlife Conservation Board approved a \$10 million grant to purchase a 1,000-acre easement on Bolsa Point Ranches to protect critical wildlife habitat. In addition, California's 2001 Budget awarded \$5 million to POST to add 30 acres to the Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park.

Thanks to you, our generous supporters, and the State of California, we will be looking forward to the time that this agricultural, recreational, and natural resource treasure will be protected for everyone's enjoyment and use. During the next two years we will be working hard to raise all the funds needed to acquire Bolsa Point Ranches to assure its protection.

## SAN GREGORIO FARMS

Critical Wildlife Habitat

#### JUNCTION OF HIGHWAY 84 AND HIGHWAY 1 - 267 ACRES

San Gregorio Farms' grassy meadows, rolling hills, and agricultural fields typify the lovely, graceful lands that rise up from Highway 1 on the east and face the Pacific Ocean. From the higher reaches of the property you can see spectacular views of the coast and neighboring hillsides, while the lowland areas form rich wildlife habitat that is home to many endangered and threatened species including the California red-legged frog, western pond turtle, and the San Francisco garter snake.

The San Gregorio Creek courses through the northern portion of the property for nearly a mile, creating rich plant and animal habitat. The property's resource values were considered so important that the California Coastal Conservancy asked POST to consider acquiring the Farms.

San Gregorio Farms has been used in recent years for hay production, organic farming and an unusual "worm farm" operation. In the future it will provide a permanent home to wildlife, and the potential for expanded recreation on the coast.

## Addition to Johnston Ranch

#### Coastal Ranch Heritage

#### Southern Boundary of Half Moon Bay – 215 Acres

If you have ever driven south from Half Moon Bay on Highway 1, the Johnston Ranch property is all the land surrounding the lovely white "salt box" house that you can see on the eastern hillside. POST's acquisition of this 215 acre parcel, when added together with POST's earlier purchase of 647 acres of the property, reunites the lands comprising the original ranch, and ensures that this valuable farmland will not be lost to development. In addition, its purchase increases the potential to create trail connections and parkland that could extend from the Skyline Ridge to Half Moon Bay.

By protecting Johnston Ranch, we have ensured that the coast's rural character will be preserved, and that the grand vistas provided by this property will be protected in perpetuity.







## COASTAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

It's my pleasure to report to you that POST's campaign, *Saving the Endangered Coast*, is well on its way! Since April 2001 we have raised \$132,033,615 in private and public donations from supporters like you and other members of the community, local foundations and businesses, government grants, and leadership gifts from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and The David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

At this time, when all of us are considering those things that are important in our lives and that reflect our values, we remain firmly committed to reaching the goal of this campaign to protect more than 20,000 acres of coastal open land. What makes us resolute in our commitment is that we see the urgent need to protect this land while we still can and preserve this extraordinary natural resource for our children and future generations.

In addition, we also know that our local lands contain scenic views, plants and wildlife, and recreational experiences that are unequalled anywhere on earth. We need go no further than the San Mateo coast and drive south from Pacifica to Año Nuevo on Route 1 to appreciate and enjoy this local treasure.

I concur with Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz that "there's no place like home." Let's work together to protect our piece of America, our home. Please contact Kathryn Morelli, Vice President of POST, at (605) 854-7696 to find out how you can contribute to *Saving the Endangered Coast*.

Thank you.

Kaine Thom

Karie Thomson, Chairman

## FINANCIAL REPORT

#### JULY 1, 2000 – JUNE 30, 2001

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001 POST completed a twentythree year goal, the protection of Bear Creek Redwoods near Los Gatos, and publicly announced an ambitious and visionary multi-year campaign to protect the open rural lands along the San Mateo coast.

Both of these events reflect the long-term nature of land conservation efforts, and how POST puts your gifts to work to protect open space. You can see and experience the results of your contributions every day.

Following is a breakdown of POST's revenues and expenses during the fiscal year from July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001:

Operating Revenues:	\$ 2,487,317
Operating Expenses:	
Land Department	
(includes land management costs):	\$ 1,773,470
General & administrative:	\$ 836,291
Fundraising:	\$ 462,438
Other program expense:	\$ 115,961
Campaign and other revenue restricted	
TO LAND PURCHASE:	\$ 62,497,040
Land purchases:	\$ 47,224,528

Campaign and other contributions for land purchase have been spent or are obligated to be spent on land. The amount spent on land purchases varies from year to year depending on the nature of specific land conservation projects.

POST's most recent audited financial statement is available on request by calling POST at 650-854-7696.



# NINTH ANNUAL Wallace Stegner Jecture Series



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2002



CREATING THE NEXT INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION "suph weather. Advance and the set of a special of the set - These Hundre's Level "Proc large" and set (Set Transporter PAUL HAWKEN AMORY LOVINS L HUNTER LOVINS

## L. HUNTER LOVINS

CEO of Rocky Mountain Institute and Co-author of Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution

L. Hunter Lovins is CEO of the Rocky Mountain Institute, an entrepreneurial, public benefit corporation that fosters the efficient and restorative use of resources to create a more secure, prosperous, and life-sustaining world. She has co-authored nine books, including *Natural Capitalism* (1999), and dozens of papers. She helped establish and for six years was Assistant Director of the California Conservation Project (Tree People), an innovative urban forestry and environmental education group. With colleague Amory Lovins she shared a 2000 *Time Magazine*'s "Hero for the Planet" Award, 1999 Lindbergh Award, 1993 Nissan Award, and 1982 Mitchell Prize. Ms. Lovins serves on the boards of two private corporations and many public interest groups. In her spare time, she serves on the local fire/rescue service as an EMT. She trains polocrosse horses, competes at polocrosse, and rides rodeo. Sponsorship pending.





Thursday, March 28, 2002

## **JIM WHITTAKER** First American to Climb Mt. Everest and Author of *A Life on the Edge: Memoirs of Everest and Beyond*

Jim Whittaker, a Northwest native and past president and CEO of Recreation Equipment Inc. — better known as REI started his climbing career with the Boy Scouts before he began leading expeditions on Washington State's Mount Rainier. In 1963, Whittaker became the first American to climb Mount Everest. In 1990, he organized and led the Mt. Everest Peace Climb, which put twenty men and women from America, China and the Soviet Union on the summit of Everest to help focus world attention on environmental issues. On their descent they removed two tons of garbage left on the mountain by previous expeditions. He recently published a memoir of these and other expeditions entitled *A Life on the Edge: Memoirs of Everest and Beyond* and enjoys the time he now spends sailing around the world. Sponsored by Paul and Antje Newhagen. MARK YOUR CALENDARS and subscribe today to the ninth annual Wallace Stegner Lecture Series, beginning on Valentine's Day, February 14th, 2002. You can order tickets by calling the POST office at (650) 854-7696 or by mailing in your order form when you receive your Stegner Series brochure in early January.

All four lectures will be held at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts beginning at 8:00 p.m. Series subscriptions are \$60, single tickets are \$20. A subscription at the Stegner Circle level of \$300 per ticket, or the Patron level of \$150 per ticket, will give you preferred seating, and your tax-deductible contribution will further benefit POST's land conservation work.

**POST** wishes to thank and acknowledge Ambassador Bill and Mrs. Jean Lane for their ongoing sponsorship of the Wallace Stegner Lecture Series. The Lanes' generous support makes it possible for POST to attract the best environmental writers and thinkers for this series. The Lanes have supported the lecture series since its inception in 1994. Thank you, Bill and Jean, for your gift to POST and to the entire community!



## MICHAEL POLLAN Author of The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-eye View of the World

Michael Pollan is a contributing editor to the New York Times Magazine as well as a contributing editor-at-large to Harper's Magazine. His current book, The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-eye View of the World is listed on the New York Times Bestseller List. It explores the relationship between four fundamental human desires - sweetness, beauty, intoxication and control — and the four plants that embody them: the apple, the tulip, marijuana, and the potato. He is the author of two previous prizewinning works: Second Nature: A Gardener's Education and A Place of My Own: The Education of an Amateur Builder. Listeners to National Public Radio have heard Pollan interviewed by Terry Gross on Fresh Air. He was recently awarded the first Reuters-World Conservation Union Global Award for Excellence in Environmental Journalism. Co-sponsored by EarthCare Landscaping and Fitzgerald, Abbott & Beardsley, LLP.





Thursday, May 16, 2002

## DR. MARK PLOTKIN

Ethnobotanist and Author of *Medicine Quest: In Search of Nature's Healing Secrets* 

Renowned ethnobotanist Dr. Mark Plotkin has worked for much of the last twenty years in the rainforests of Central and South America, learning the ancient traditions and knowledge of the shamans and native tribes. Five years ago he founded the Amazon Conservation Team, a public benefit corporation dedicated to working in partnership with indigenous people to conserve the biodiversity, health, and culture of tropical America. Dr. Plotkin's book, Tales of a Shaman's Apprentice, is currently in its nineteenth printing and has been published in English, Dutch, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish. In 2000, Dr. Plotkin's work was highlighted in the IMAX film "Amazon," which was nominated for an Academy Award as Best Documentary. Little-Brown will publish his next book in 2002, entitled The Killers Within, which will focus on drug-resistant bacteria and new medicines from nature. Sponsored by Sand Hill Advisors.

## POST'S MISSION STATEMENT

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

recreation and agriculture.

## Stock Gifts to POST

Stock gifts are a wonderful way to make a gift to POST's annual fund or to the *Saving the Endangered Coast* campaign. A gift of securities is fully taxdeductible at its market value at the time of your contribution. An added benefit is that by contributing your stock directly to POST you avoid the capital gains tax. POST can sell the stock tax-free and use 100% of your gift to save land. To make a gift of stock to POST, please do the following:

**Step #1:** Contact your stockbroker. He or she can make a direct electronic transfer of your stock certificates to POST's account with the following information:

DTC #773
Banc of America Securities LLC
Montgomery Private Client Services
600 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94111

Attention: Julie Helwig or Kelly Lawson (415) 627-2191 (800) 227-4786

Account Name: Peninsula Open Space Trust Account Number: 110-66982

**Step #2:** Give your stockbroker POST's taxpayer identification number: 94-2392007.

**Step #3**: Notify POST as soon as the transfer instructions have been given so that we can alert our stockbroker. Please provide the name of the security, the number of shares to be donated, and the name and phone number of your stockbroker. To notify POST, please contact:

Daphne Muehle, Director of Annual Giving Peninsula Open Space Trust 3000 Sand Hill Road, Building 4, Suite 135 Menlo Park, CA 94025 (650) 854-7696

Thank you for your support of POST and your commitment to the Peninsula's open space!



# Landscapes

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A little too abstract, a little too wise, It is time for us to kiss the earth again. It is time to let the leaves rain from the skies, Let the rich life run to the root again.

**Robinson Jeffers** 

Front cover photo: Brian O'Neill. Back cover photo: Ronert Buelteman



LANDSCAPES WINTER 2001

Peninsula Open Space Trust 3000 Sand Hill Road, 4-135 Menlo Park, CA 94025

A land conservancy for the San Francisco Peninsula

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