



The Newsletter for Land Trust of Napa County  
Winter 2019-2020



# Land Trust Purchases Over 1,031 Acres Above Chiles Valley

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Land Trust of Napa County (LTNC) is pleased to announce the acquisition of more than 1,000 acres of undeveloped land as its newest preserve. In addition to its significant natural values, the property's strategic location will enhance and connect other protected lands. Story on page 3.

## INSIDE

Lions, ringtails and bears  
Wildlife cameras capture surprises



Letter from the CEO



**Support LTNC**

- Become a Member
- Give the Gift of Membership
- Join our Legacy Society
- Visit us online at [napalandtrust.org](http://napalandtrust.org)

Thank you again so much for your support for the Land Trust’s conservation work. I’m pleased to say that your support is having a very tangible impact today and a lasting impact for future generations.

In this newsletter, you’ll read about these very real results of your support:

- 160 acres protected above Calistoga – This land abuts Robert Louis Stevenson State Park and includes the upper reaches of the Napa River, protecting the river and the watershed that supply Kimball Reservoir, the main local source of water for the City of Calistoga.
- 408 acres overlooking Camp Berryessa – Now the kids who camp here can paddle across Putah Creek, the main source of water for the lake, and then hike to the high ridge on this property to enjoy views that extend from Mt. St. Helena in the county’s northwest corner to Berryessa Peak on the county’s far eastern boundary.
- 1,031 acres purchased above Chiles Valley (see cover story) – This property connects the 6,300-acre Cedar Roughs Wilderness Area to three easements held by the Land Trust, a key step toward ensuring a continuous wildlife corridor between the 5,000 acres protected around Lake Hennessey and the 75,000 protected acres around Lake Berryessa. The project also safeguards some of Napa’s rarest native plant species.
- Heminway easement donation – The Heminway family, owners of Green & Red Vineyard, donated their second easement to the Land Trust. Pam Heminway said, “My desire was simply to preserve the land’s wild beauty for future generations to enjoy just as my family has, from old trees, to free animals, to wildflowers and more.” This easement helps protect the same corridor as the 1,031-acre property, while also protecting Chiles Creek, which flows into Lake Hennessey, the main source of water for residents of the City of Napa.
- 680-acre easement project on a cattle ranch – This is the fifth easement we’ve completed in the last four years next to Lake Berryessa, protecting 7,400 contiguous acres.

I want to say a special thanks to Jim and Lee Meehan—you’ll see an article here about their commitment to conservation in Napa. They have been longtime supporters—Jim even served on our Board—and they recently disbursed funds to the Land Trust from their Charitable Remainder Trust, which they created years ago in order to help both their children and the Land Trust. Thank you Lee and Jim!

None of the properties listed above could have been permanently protected without your support. In addition, I want to tell you that we are currently working on several more projects that we hope to close by year-end. If we are successful, these efforts will protect even more acreage than everything listed above, combined.

So, with your help, we are keeping at it, translating your support into something tangible and very lasting, permanently protected land. Thank you for helping make all this conservation in Napa possible.

Best,

Doug Parker, President & CEO

P.S. In total, the Land Trust has now protected more than 76,000 acres—15% of Napa County!



Barn swallow  
(*Hirundo rustica*)



COVER  
STORY

# Over 1,031 Acres Purchased Above Chiles Valley

**Land Trust of Napa County** (LTNC) is pleased to announce the acquisition of more than 1,000 acres of undeveloped land that will become the nonprofit’s newest preserve.

“This property has significant natural values and is in a very strategic location that will enhance and connect other protected lands,” said Doug Parker, LTNC CEO.

The 1,031-acre property is above Chiles Valley and adjacent to the 6,300-acre Cedar Roughs Wilderness Area. This area’s importance for conservation has been thoroughly assessed and documented twice in recent years—12 years ago when the Cedar Roughs Wilderness Area was first created (one of only two wilderness areas in the Bay Area) and four years ago, when land around Lake Berryessa, including the Cedar Roughs Wilderness Area, was designated as part of the new Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

One of the key conservation priorities for natural areas in the region is to connect existing protected lands to support critical wildlife corridors. Protection of this new property will help accomplish that goal. It provides the direct link between the wilderness area and three easements held by the Land Trust, one of which just closed in July.

“Protecting this property is a key step toward developing an unbroken corridor of protected land from the protected 5,000 acres around Lake Hennessey to the 75,000 acres around Lake Berryessa,” said Parker, “ensuring that wildlife can move freely across these large open spaces into the future.”

“I want to thank the donors who allowed the Land Trust to purchase this large property,” he continued. “It would not

have been possible without major support from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, as well as support from the Long Foundation, the Gasser Foundation, and from several individual supporters in Napa.”

“This is a great win for conservation in Napa County and the whole Bay Area,” said Dan Winterson, who manages the Bay Area Conservation Program at the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. “The combination of the property’s habitat value and its connection to large-scale wildlife corridors have made it a top priority. The Land Trust of Napa County did an amazing job of seeing this transaction through to completion, and we are very pleased to have been able to contribute.”



Besides its strategic location, a botanical assessment of the property completed by Napa botanist Jake Ruygt found a significant diversity of habitat types as well as special-status species. The property includes excellent examples of several

natural community types, including oak savannah and oak woodland as well as serpentine habitats. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has documented habitat for more than 300 wildlife species that depend on oak woodlands for food and shelter. Protection is a priority because oak woodlands are endemic to this region and only 4% are protected statewide. Serpentine soils support, by far, the largest number of rare plant species of any soil type statewide. Rare species at the site include Green Coyote Mint (*Monardella viridis*) and Napa Lomatium (*Lomatium repostum*), species (cont'd on page 4)



Green  
Coyote  
Mint

(cont'd from page 3) whose entire range is centered on Napa County. They exist only here and just across the county boundary in a few neighboring counties.

“To date,” according to Jake Ruygt, “216 plant species have been identified, representing 54 families. Of the total number of species observed, 86% are native.”

“The Land Trust plans to work toward restoring native plant communities where they have been degraded through an integrated invasive species management strategy,” said Mike Palladini, Stewardship Program Manager for the Land Trust.

The majority of the property is dominated by intact chaparral and woodland habitats that are largely free of invasive exotic species. However, native species are being threatened in some open areas by invasive species, including barbed goatgrass (*Aegilops triuncialis*), one of the few invasives that can threaten native species on serpentine soils.

Where appropriate, the Land Trust will also consider active reestablishment of native plant communities by propagating and out-planting native species in previously invaded areas, something the Land Trust has successfully undertaken on other properties. ■

## Land Trust Protects Portion of Napa River Headwaters Thanks to Late Keith Hangman



**Land Trust of Napa County** is pleased to have acquired a 160-acre property next to Robert Louis Stevenson State Park. The property was protected thanks to a generous outright donation of the land from the estate of Keith Hangman, a longtime resident who passed away in 2016.

“Keith was always a land steward, as per the historical definition,” said his brother Kevin Hangman. “As much as he was a real estate businessman, he would still buy properties that were not economically viable, just because they were unique and irreplaceable.”

“We are very thankful to Keith for deciding to protect this land in perpetuity,” said Doug Parker, LTNC CEO. “We know he had long been interested in protecting this property—he spoke to the Land Trust about it several years ago—so we are pleased to accept the land in order to ensure that it will be protected forever, just as he wanted.”

This acquisition ensures the conservation of significant scenic, natural and watershed values. The property rises toward Mt. St. Helena and is visible from Highways 29 and 128 as well as Petrified Forest Road. It contains undisturbed

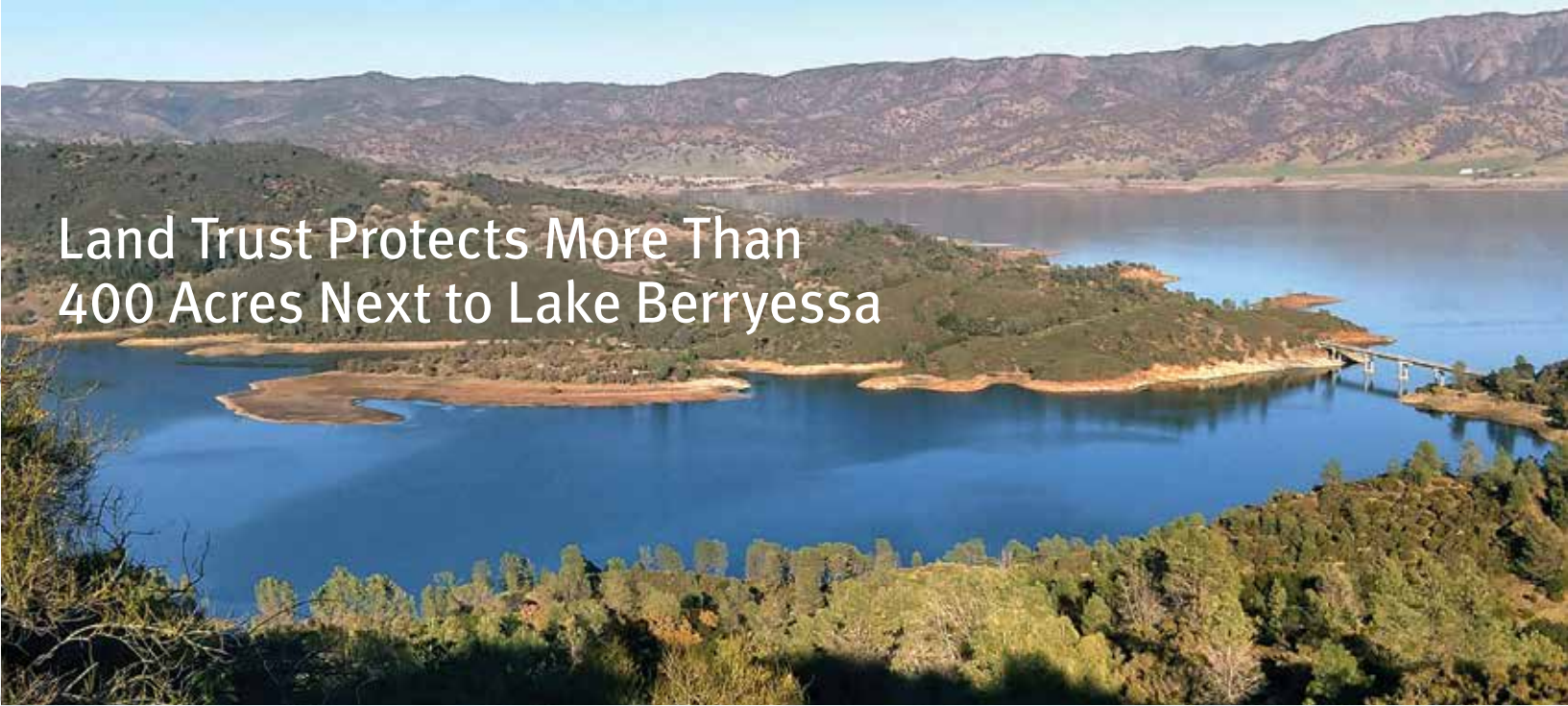
natural habitats of mixed manzanita chaparral as well as Douglas fir and Knobcone pine near the stream.

“The property is in an important location,” said Parker. “On the north and west, it abuts Robert Louis Stevenson State Park and it includes a deep canyon, through which flows the main stem of the Napa River headwaters, so its protection also safeguards municipal water supplies.”

Just below the property is Kimball Reservoir, the main local source of water for the City of Calistoga. ■



Keith Hangman and friend



**The Land Trust** completed the permanent protection of a 408-acre property next to Lake Berryessa. The property connects other protected lands, safeguards scenic values as well as the watershed of Lake Berryessa and creates new opportunities for summer camp programs for children.

This acreage abuts federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Management on its west side and by the Bureau of Reclamation on its east side, connecting protected land in an area important for wildlife corridors. The property is just above Putah Creek where it empties into Lake Berryessa. Putah Creek drains much of Lake County and northeastern Napa County and is the main source of water for Lake Berryessa.

The owner, Patricia Harunk, said, “My daughters and I are so pleased the property will remain in its natural state and will be preserved and protected as a wildlife habitat.”

“I want to thank the owners for selling the property below appraised value through a bargain sale,” said Doug Parker. “It’s a beautiful location and in addition to its scenic and natural values, the property will allow new opportunities for outdoor educational experiences for kids.”



The land rises up to a high point above the lake, directly across Putah Creek from Camp Berryessa, site of the Napa Open Space District’s outdoor educational programs for children. Protection of the property will allow expansion of these programs to include paddling across the creek and hiking to the high point on the property, providing campers with striking views back down to the camp and across the lake to the peaks of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument on the eastern side of the lake. Camp Berryessa provides sleepover camps for kids and is also available to youth outdoor education groups, including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and schools.

The long-term plan is for the Land Trust to transfer ownership of the property to the Napa Open Space District. “We are grateful that the Land Trust was able to quickly take advantage of this unique opportunity to preserve an important watershed and habitat property just to the west of our Camp Berryessa,” said Napa Open Space District General Manager John Woodbury. “We look forward to the day when we will be able to acquire the property from the Land Trust and manage it in conjunction with Camp Berryessa. This will provide a whole new experience for groups staying at the camp, who will be able to kayak across the lake for a day hike or overnight remote camping.”

The property’s protection will also ensure that the scenic views of its high ridge, visible from Berryessa-Knoxville Road, Pope Canyon Road and boaters on the lake, will continue on into the future. The acreage is completely undeveloped and surrounded by very rural land. By connecting with other protected lands, existing corridors will be assured into the future, allowing wildlife to migrate freely and enhancing the long-term value of these corridors. ■



## Heminway Family Donates Second Conservation Easement


**The Land Trust** is pleased to announce the donation of a conservation easement by Pam Heminway, her daughter Tracy Barnes and son Jeb Barnes. This is the second conservation easement donated by the family. Combined with the first easement that Jay and Pam Heminway donated several years ago, today, a total of 170 acres are protected on the property where the family produces their well-known Green & Red wines.

“I want to thank Pam, Tracy and Jeb for their farsighted generosity in donating this easement to protect the beauty and natural values of their land,” said Doug Parker, LTNC CEO. “This land is in a key location for both water and wildlife and we are very pleased to be able to help the family protect these values into the future through permanent land conservation.”

The new easement adds another of the family’s parcels into protection and eliminates all future development potential on that particular parcel, in line with the family’s aspirations to protect the property’s natural values in perpetuity.

“My desire,” said Pam Heminway, “was simply to preserve the land’s wild beauty for future generations to enjoy just as my family has—from old trees, to free animals, to wildflowers and more.”

Starting in the Chiles Valley and rising to the hills above, the property includes a portion of Chiles Creek and is in a key location within a priority wildlife corridor. Chiles Creek is a perennial tributary of Lake Hennessey, the chief local source of water for residents of the City of Napa. The property consists of dense oak woodland habitat with pockets of rocky grassland. The forest contains significant components of madrone, coast live oak and black oak.



The property abuts an easement donated by the Eisele family that extends northeast toward the Cedar Roughs Wilderness Area near Lake Berryessa. Together, both properties are key to ensuring a permanent wildlife corridor across the area.

“This easement helps protect both the beautiful Chiles Valley and the waters that flow into Lake Hennessey,” said Parker. “In addition, it is a key step, along with our recent 1,031-acre acquisition, toward a larger-scale effort to ensure long-term protection of an important wildlife corridor stretching from Lake Hennessey to Lake Berryessa.” ■



## 680 More Acres Protected on Webber Ranch

**The Land Trust** is pleased to announce the completion of a conservation easement protecting 680 acres of Webber Ranch, near Lake Berryessa. The project was completed in partnership with the California Department of Conservation (DOC) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

The first half of the ranch was protected through an easement with the Land Trust last year. Now, the entire 1,412-acre ranch is protected. The easement restricts residential and commercial development but does not interfere with the existing cattle ranching operation.

In the last four years, LTNC has completed five separate easement projects in this area, protecting 7,400 contiguous acres. This land also abuts federal land around the lake and

at the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. Altogether, more than 30,000 contiguous acres of land are now protected on the east side of the lake.

“I want to thank landowner Pete Craig for his far-sighted commitment to permanently protect this beautiful property,” said Doug Parker. “Pete has now completed four easements with the Land Trust in the last four years.”

“With continued pressure from urban sprawl, large tracts of land like this are constantly under threat of being taken out of grassland production,” said Pete Craig. “This reality not only eliminates the ranching way of life, but takes away the ability of Mother Nature to work in combination with cattle ranchers to produce natural, low-cost protein ... beef, and at the same time, help fight global warming, through enhanced carbon sequestering. Having this land protected and dedicated to ranching will help us achieve our dream of a sustainable ranching operation next to beautiful Lake Berryessa. And it will allow my son, Will, the opportunity to follow in my footsteps, if he has it in him!”

The ranch extends from just above the Lake Berryessa shoreline eastward toward the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument along the ridge between Napa and Yolo counties. By connecting protected land around the lake with that at the National Monument, the project ensures protection of extensive wildlife habitat, while maintaining a viable ranching operation.

“I want to thank DOC and NRCS for providing the funding for this important conservation project,” said Parker. “It would not have happened without their programs and without the work of their staff.”

Partial funding for this easement transaction came from the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) Program—a component of the Strategic Growth Council’s Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program. DOC administers the SALC Program, which aims to protect Ag lands from development, simultaneously supporting California’s food security and reducing future emissions of greenhouse gases. This program is part of the California Climate Investments, which use proceeds from the State’s Cap and Trade auctions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while advancing a variety of additional environmental, economic and health benefits.

“We are thrilled to partner with the Land Trust and Mr. Craig on protecting Webber Ranch for generations to come,” said

DOC Director David Bunn. “By conserving large working rangelands like Webber Ranch, Californians benefit from more secure food production, increased biodiversity, reduced sprawl and increased carbon sequestration in the land itself. This project truly exemplifies the goals of California’s Climate Investments.”

Funding was also provided by NRCS’ Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). This program helps landowners, land trusts and other entities protect, restore and enhance wetlands, grasslands and working farms and ranches through conservation easements.

The project protects important natural values, as the property contains extensive oak woodlands and oak savannahs, as well as annual grasslands. The property includes the upper reaches of Jackson Creek and the entire acreage is within the watershed of Lake Berryessa, a key water source for Solano County. The project also includes a sustainable management plan to ensure ongoing protection of these natural values. ■



# Land Trust Honors Phelps Family with Acre by Acre Award



The 2019 Land Trust Acre by Acre Award was presented to the Phelps family and Joseph Phelps Vineyards during the sixth annual Cornerstone Society Gathering. The award honors outstanding conservation accomplishments in Napa that embody LTNC’s mission to preserve the character of Napa by permanently protecting land.

In December 1999, Joseph Phelps donated a 480-acre conservation easement to the Land Trust. It was not only a significant, generous and lasting accomplishment by itself, but was important in the history of LTNC. “It was one of the largest conservation easements the Land Trust had received up to that point,” said CEO Doug Parker, “helping to build the credibility of easements as an effective tool for conservation. Joe Phelps’ example helped motivate other landowners to protect their land through easements.”

The family’s commitment to conservation continued beyond the original donation. Joe’s son Bill Phelps served on the Land Trust Board from 2000-2006 and Joseph Phelps Vineyards has continued to host gatherings for LTNC and yearly hikes on the property. Joe’s daughters, Laurie Anderson and Lynn Finch, along with their husbands, attended the event and accepted the award on behalf of their family. Thank you to all the members of the Phelps family. ■

## Cornerstone Society Preserves Napa for Generations to Come

Land Trust Cornerstone Society members gathered for a celebratory evening hosted by The Napa Valley Reserve. Paul Asmuth, general manager of The Reserve and an LTNC Board member, along with his wife Marilyn, generously hosted the Society as the group enjoyed dinner outside on the patio amidst the vineyards and picturesque views.

The Reserve is a microcosm of Napa history and its 80-acre property is framed on all sides by natural boundaries and is CCOF certified, with all vineyards and gardens farmed organically. The Land Trust thanks the more than 50 members of our 2019 Cornerstone Society and offers our gratitude for their generous support of our ongoing mission to preserve agricultural, biodiverse, scenic and viewshed lands in Napa County in perpetuity.

LTNC CEO Doug Parker, the Board of Trustees and staff extend our gratitude to all of these far-sighted local families and organizations helping protect Napa for the long term. ■



**Give the Gift of Membership this holiday season!**  
Visit <https://napalandtrust.org/get-involved/gift-of-membership>

# Land Trust Hosts Legacy Reception



LTNC recently hosted an estate-planning reception to inform guests about the tax benefits of charitable trusts and other legacy giving options. This year’s event was generously hosted by Spottswoode Estate Vineyard and Winery. President and CEO Beth Novak Milliken welcomed guests and the event featured expert presenters (left to right) Senior Counsel at GVM Law Jon Hollister, LPL Financial Advisor Mark Richmond, Legacy Society donors Jim and Lee Meehan, and Land Trust CEO Doug Parker. ■

## Leaving a Legacy as a Family

This year, the Land Trust was a beneficiary of a financial plan Jim and Lee Meehan put in place 20 years ago. It came through their Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT) and for the Meehans, their family and their two designated charities, it was a winning game plan.

Jim and Lee lived most of their lives together in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 1990, they relocated to New Orleans for Jim to take ownership of a division in an international auditing company specializing in big data for large retail



corporations. In 1999, Jim sold his division back to the parent company and was selected to be its COO. Looking to minimize his capital gains taxes, he took inspiration from *Die Broke*, a book by Stephan Pollen and Mark Levine. Their idea was both simple and profound: To paraphrase—Put your wealth into a trust that can empower you and your family while you’re alive and when the trust expires, the remainder goes to benefit the charity or charities of your choice. By putting the proceeds of Jim’s business into a CRT, the capital gains tax bill decreased, an annual income was generated through investing and after the set amount of time, the remaining funds were donated to charity.

Jim and Lee wanted to recognize the charitable needs of the two communities they love and did a good deal of research to determine how best to do that. Upon returning to California, they were quick to see how precious open space had become in the intervening years—how business

developments and housing tracts were paving over the rich lands threatening agriculture, wildlife and even the quality of life. Several meetings with the Land Trust convinced the Meehans the organization had strong support and a long-lasting commitment to conserving and protecting open space in the Napa Valley. Their New Orleans charitable choice was also a great fit for their CRT. Lee, with a background in teaching and as a PBS executive, recognized the life-changing work that the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts was doing for high school students in New Orleans and Southern Louisiana.

“The success of our two nonprofits exceeded all our expectations. When the CRT was dissolved in 2019, we were gratified that we had chosen two stars—their programs are even more vibrant and successful than when we first met them,” said Jim and Lee.

“Twenty years later, to the delight of all concerned, the amount donated to each organization was three times the amount originally estimated!” said the Meehans. For the Land Trust, the generous donation was almost \$400,000.

“We have had the privilege and pleasure of working with each organization directly, getting to know them and helping them accomplish their goals, while our family also had the benefit of 20 years of income that we’ve used to finance our children’s dreams—advanced education degrees, first-time home buys and starting new businesses. It worked for our family and for our two favorite nonprofits as well,” concluded the Meehans.

LTNC thanks the Meehans for their generosity and foresight. For more information on leaving a legacy, please visit <https://napalandtrust.org/get-involved/legacy-society/> or contact [Legacy@napalandtrust.org](mailto:Legacy@napalandtrust.org). ■



Goat herd reduces heavy accumulation of weed thatch in blue oak woodlands on the Land Trust's 730-acre Wantrup Preserve in the Pope Valley. Dense weed thatch can quickly carry a wildfire, and can impact the survival of native plants.

## Land Trust Awarded NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant for Prescribed Grazing Project

The Land Trust has been awarded a competitive, three-year Conservation Innovation Grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), one of only six projects funded across the state. This grant funding will pay for one-half of a carefully controlled, dry-season goat and sheep grazing on our Wantrup Preserve in the Pope Valley. The project has both fuels reduction and habitat restoration objectives, and includes detailed monitoring of grazing effects on both native and non-native plant species.

Over the last three years, LTNC has been using multi-paddock, dry-season grazing to reduce a heavy accumulation of non-native annual plant dry matter (weed thatch) in oak woodlands on the Wantrup Preserve. We have been assessing the effects of this grazing on plant communities by comparing grazed

and un-grazed vegetation monitoring plots across the 230-acre project area.

In addition to acting as fine fuel that can quickly carry a wildfire, heavy weed-thatch buildup can become a physical barrier to the germination, growth, survival and reproduction of remaining native plants. Dry-season grazing has the advantage of allowing many of the remaining native plant species to produce and disperse seed before being impacted by grazing. The multi-paddock rotational grazing approach provides a high level of control over grazing duration and intensity, and ensures even and thorough grazing coverage while keeping animals grouped and moving frequently. Working with professional botanist and Napa County flora expert Jake Ruygt, we are collecting detailed information on

Heavy accumulation of fine fuels generated by non-native plant dry matter (weed thatch) that characterized much of the Wantrup Preserve prescribed grazing project area before grazing began.



Example of an ungrazed (control) vegetation monitoring plot within the project area. Vegetation in this plot will be compared with vegetation in a paired grazed plot three meters away to assess grazing effects on native plant communities.



Portable fencing and stock water systems allow multi-paddock grazing techniques to be utilized for the Wantrup grazing project.



Photo illustrating thorough, even grazing coverage goats achieved in each paddock area, and demonstrating the substantial fuels reduction benefits of the grazing project.

plant species in paired, grazed/un-grazed monitoring plots to assess grazing effects.

"We hope our findings will provide initial insight into the effects of fuels-reduction-based grazing on plant communities in similar oak woodland habitats across private and public lands in Napa County, the San Francisco Bay Region, and elsewhere in California," said Mike Palladini, Land Trust Stewardship Program Manager. "As the severity of wildfire seasons, extreme wildfire events, and the human costs of destructive wildfires have continued to increase throughout California in recent years, the potential for using dry-season grazing to reduce hazardous fuel loads is becoming more evident. We hope this project will provide a useful and well-documented example for other land managers who may be

considering initiating fuels-reduction-based grazing on their lands." This type of project can not only reduce fuel loads, but also provide a significant benefit for native species and this project will measure the impacts on those species.

LTNC very much appreciates this generous NRCS funding assistance, and we look forward to sharing our project findings with other conservation organizations, agencies and landowners in hopes that it will help to inform future management of California's biologically rich oak woodlands.

We are still seeking the other half of the necessary funding, so if you can help, please let us know. We look forward to keeping Land Trust members and supporters updated as we move forward with this exciting project. ■

## Wildlife Picture Index Project Yields Second Detection of Elusive Ringtail, Confirms High Bear Abundance



Over the last three years, the Land Trust has been using an array of 20 motion-activated cameras deployed across nearly 5,000 acres to gain a better understanding of wildlife within Land Trust preserves and Napa County wildlands.

LTNC catalogues and analyzes the photo data from these cameras using a standardized scientific protocol referred to as the Wildlife Picture Index (WPI). With two years of data catalogued and analyzed, the WPI project has yielded some exciting results.

In addition to showing healthy levels of overall mammal diversity, the data indicate that we have a particularly high abundance of black bear. “Based on comparisons with results from other Wildlife Picture Index projects, it appears that we have among the highest black bear abundance in the San Francisco Bay region,” said LTNC Stewardship Program Manager Mike Palladini.

Excitingly, we also just logged our second ringtail detection! The ringtail is a member of the raccoon family, and is listed as a fully protected species in California. However, little is known about the animal’s distribution or abundance in the San Francisco Bay region due to its reclusive, nocturnal behavior. “We’ve detected two ringtails with a grid of 20 cameras deployed over three years and 5,200 acres, showing persistence really can pay off,” said Palladini. “Two detections doesn’t give us a population estimate, but it does provide rare confirmation of the ringtail’s presence in the Bay region.”

Moving forward, the Land Trust plans to expand its analysis of the WPI data to better understand what may be influencing the presence and abundance of terrestrial mammal species, such as the number and pattern of different habitats available within the project area, and the availability of sites that stay cooler and wetter during the hottest, driest times of the year.

We also hope to work with our partners on public outreach, education and citizen science to track bear movement through critical habitat linkages, and to increase awareness and appreciation of bears and wildlife corridors in our area. ■





Dr. David A. Clark

Harrington holds a BA from the University of Missouri, Columbia with a major in Finance and Banking and an MBA from the University of California, Berkeley. Additionally, he is a CFA charterholder and a Certified Estate and Trust Specialist. ■

A portrait of Dr. Robert M. Anderson, an older man with white hair and a beard, smiling. He is wearing a light blue button-down shirt. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery.

During these gentlemen's tenure, the Land Trust permanently protected 21,000 acres! We thank them both for their ongoing commitment and generous support. ■



Your contributions and efforts have made it possible to protect over 76,000 acres—15% of Napa County!

- 144 Conservation Agreements donated by over 90 property owners (properties stay in private ownership, but the Land Trust holds the land conservation agreement)
- 21 properties transferred to resource agencies (Fish & Wildlife, State Parks, etc.)

- 37,832 acres protected under Land Conservation Agreements
- 26,180 acres transferred to resource agencies (Fish & Wildlife, State Parks, etc.)
- 12,122 acres owned by the Land Trust



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**Linda Falls Hike:  
January 26, 2020**

#### Upcoming Field Trips & Events

##### JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day: Top of Mt. St. Helena
- 11 Wragg Ridge Expedition
- 12 Linda Falls Workday
- 26 Linda Falls Hike
- 31 Foote Botanical Preserve Workday

##### FEBRUARY

- 1 Mushroom Walk in PUC Forest\*
- 9 Sutro Preserve Workday
- 15 Owling in the Napa Valley\*
- 16 Calistoga to Wildlake
- 29 Leap Day Hike:  
Stag's Leap Wine Cellars

\*For Land Trust members only—a great reason to join and support us! For details, to register or to join as a member, visit [napalandtrust.org](http://napalandtrust.org) or call 707.252.3270.

We'd love to see your adventures! Please share your pictures and use #gohikenapa