

# California Landscape Stewardship Network

## Purpose

The California Landscape Stewardship Network (Network) was formed in 2016 by six groups working on multi-jurisdictional land stewardship in different parts of the state. We came together to learn from each other, to address shared challenges, to develop cross-boundary partnership skills, and to build awareness of the value of this collaborative landscape-scale approach among the funding and legislative communities.

By joining forces, we hope to advance the practice of collaborative, landscape-scale stewardship across California, and to work at the pace and scale needed to meet and even exceed our most pressing collective ecological, social, and funding challenges.

Network priorities include:

- Sustainability and capacity building, including long-term funding and diversified business models
- Strategic management and implementation of cross-agency land stewardship priorities
- A common vocabulary and communication tools to share this work with key stakeholders
- Cross-border data collection and management systems
- Multi-agency project planning and permitting

## Current Work

Network priorities are collectively set at biannual convenings. A volunteer Core Team meets monthly to plan these convenings and advance priorities set at past meetings. Topic-specific Working Groups (e.g., Landscape Stewardship, Funding and Legislation, Communication and Data Management) are formed as needed to address those priorities that require additional time and expertise. Coordination and administrative support are provided by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, one of the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative partners.

The Network discussed and affirmed its goals, focus, and initial priorities at two convenings in 2017. We also began work on several key priorities, including:

- Defining an effective Network structure that will allow for future flexibility in the future
- Developing a new landscape-scale stewardship communication framework and related outreach tools
- Identifying funding and legislative opportunities and how best to engage multiple funding audiences
- Exploring ways to address shared challenges with multi-jurisdictional project planning and permitting

The next convening will be held on June 14-15, 2018, where we will share updates on these topics, and ratify a proposed initial Network structure.

## Looking Ahead

This purpose of this emerging “network of networks” may evolve with time as members’ needs change and the practice of collaborative land stewardship advances.

To learn more about the California Landscape Stewardship Network, contact Sharon Farrell at [sfarrell@parksconservancy.org](mailto:sfarrell@parksconservancy.org).



## Membership

The six founding members span a range of 750 miles from northern to southern California:

- Redwoods Rising (<https://www.savetheredwoods.org/project/redwoods-rising/>)
- The Lake Tahoe Basin Environmental Improvement Program (<http://www.trpa.org/>)
- Tamalpais Lands Collaborative (<http://onetam.org>)
- Peninsula Working Group
- Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network (<http://scmsn.net/about/>)
- Irvine Ranch Conservancy-Crystal Cove Collaborative (<http://letsgooutside.org/about/partners-on-the-land/>)

The majority of these partnerships include federal, state, and local agencies, non-profits, and in some cases academic institutions and private land managers. While some have been working together decades, others are just emerging. For example, the Lake Tahoe Basin Environmental Improvement Program is well established but the Redwoods Rising and Irvine Ranch-Crystal Cove efforts are in the early stages of developing their governance models and identifying shared priorities. The Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network, Peninsula Working Group, and Tamalpais Lands Collaborative have each been making steady progress toward their shared goals for several years.

*While their compositions, missions, and geographies vary, what these partnerships all have in common is a recognition that cross-jurisdictional, landscape-scale stewardship is how we care for the places we love, enjoy, and depend upon, and how we continue to renew and sustain these places for current and future generations.*

With this common mission in mind, the Network can thoughtfully and intentionally expand to include other partnerships across the state that share these goals. A recently developed charter and vision will help guide future growth.

