

west
marin

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action
committee

ADVOCATE

PROTECTING AND SUSTAINING THE UNIQUE LANDS,
WATERS, AND BIODIVERSITY OF WEST MARIN SINCE 1971

ACTION ALERTS, PROGRAM NEWS, KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS & GIVING

WINTER 2021

Executive Director's Note

Greetings Community,

This year, much like last year, has been another journey to say the least...and I am not talking about the pandemic that has impacted our communities since March 2020. I am referring to the biggest environmental crisis of our lifetimes, the climate emergency. It is here, and we are witnessing the impacts in the form of heat waves, fires, drought, rising sea levels, and unstable rainfall patterns and flooding.

This summer, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released their Sixth Assessment Report that stated, "*It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land. Widespread and rapid changes in the atmosphere, ocean, cryosphere and biosphere have occurred.*"

Key takeaways from the report include: 1) human caused greenhouse gas emissions are the leading cause of the climate crisis; 2) the last decade was the warmest in 125,000 years; 3) the average Arctic sea ice coverage has reached its lowest levels since 1850; 4) since 1900, sea levels are rising faster than any century in the last 3,000 years; 5) extreme weather events will become more common; and 6) unless we do something now to reduce emissions, many of the impacts will be irreversible, as they are setting off feedback loops that disrupt the natural cycles we have become accustomed to.

What does all of this mean for West Marin and EAC? *It is time to act.*

Despite the pandemic's impact to our operations – working remotely and challenges with being unable to engage in person with our community of supporters – we have dug in and built meaningful strategies to address the challenges of the climate crisis.

Within this year's annual newsletter, our team is reporting on several programs linked to the climate emergency that incorporate mitigation, adaptation, and community education, including:

Mitigation: We will continue to lead efforts and have strategic partnerships to reduce reliance on greenhouse gases by promoting clean energy solutions, advocating for policies to reduce fossil fuel reliance and production, and limit by-products of fossil fuels (like single-use plastics). Additionally, we will remain focused on supporting nature-based solutions to drawdown emissions through restoration of wetlands, marine protected areas, and monitoring development projects to protect habitat and biodiversity.

Adaptation: We will continue to engage in pilot and adaptation planning projects that seek to build community resilience that are based on science, policy, and the protection of our natural systems.

Education and Outreach: We will continue to provide events focused on the challenges of the climate crisis and highlight biodiversity. We will use our new office space in downtown Point Reyes Station to provide pop-up environmental education exhibits and events to educate our permanent and visiting communities on the environmental challenges we collectively face.

You can count on EAC to remain engaged on several strategies to respond to the climate emergency in the coming years. Our work is powered by the generosity, time, and engagement of our community. If you are interested in getting involved with local efforts, become a member, stay engaged, and reach out to us if you want to get more involved.

Thank you to all of our supporters who continue to make our work possible. It's quite a feat to have a local environmental organization embedded in the fabric of our community for more than 50 years. I look forward to celebrating our successes, and addressing challenges with you in person in 2022!

In gratitude,



Morgan Patton | Executive Director

P.S. We need your support more than ever to accomplish our mission. Please consider joining our member community, renewing your annual support, or making a special 50th anniversary gift before December 31st. Gifts can be made online, by sending in a check to EAC to PO Box 609, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956, or you can visit us at our office at 65 Third Street #12 in Point Reyes Station. Additional details on how to give a gift of stock, or through your donor-advised fund can be found online. Questions? Contact Jessica Taylor at giving@eacmarin.org, or call us at 415.663.9312.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

ADVOCACY

Use grassroots strategies to research and publicize local environmental issues facing our community to inform, empower, and educate stakeholders and our members.

APPRECIATION

Respect the complex ecology and intrinsic value of the natural world.

COLLABORATION

Partner with local communities, organizations, governments, businesses, and members to ensure maximum public participation around local environmental issues.

EDUCATION

Provide opportunities to learn about the environment through events, community workshops, outreach, and publications.

ENGAGEMENT

Engage our community in activities that promote a healthy environment, including stewardship through membership, events, community science, and volunteer opportunities.

INTEGRITY

Use science, law, and policy to make ethical decisions around complex environmental issues in a dynamic environmental and political landscape.



Mission

To protect and sustain the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity of West Marin.

Vision

Provide long-term protection of the unique ecosystems and rural communities of coastal Marin to serve as a foundation of environmental protection for future generations.

What We Do

For 50-years, we have advocated for and defended our public lands, safeguarded our coast and oceans, upheld critical environmental legislation, and protected biodiversity in coastal Marin, fondly known as West Marin. As one of the only local environmental advocacy nonprofits along Marin's coastline, we often take on multi-year, and sometimes decade-long advocacy campaigns, where we provide an essential voice for environmental protection, especially around irresponsible development, pollution, and the threat of the climate crisis. Often our efforts are not fought overnight; so the long-term support and generosity of our member community is critical to our ongoing efforts to ensure environmental protection measures are in place and lasting, especially as we mitigate and adapt to the climate crisis.

How We Do Our Work

We accomplish our work by bringing people, science, and policy together to protect vital ecosystems, defend critical legislation, enforce accountability of our leaders and legislators, and rally our members to become stewards of their community through action alerts and volunteerism.

Our Accomplishments

Through annual member support and grants we have been able to ensure wilderness designation for Drakes Estero Marine Wilderness; safeguard the Tomales Dunes-Wetland Complex in Dillon Beach; protect Tomales Bay's ecosystems and secure international Ramsar protection for the Bay; stop ill-conceived development plans for golf courses; keep sewage out of our coastal watersheds; secure a ban for offshore oil and gas development in Marin County; and so much more. Learn more about our successes online at www.eacmarin.org.



When Bay Area counties are ranked by the acres they have permanently protected in parks, wildlife refuges, and open space preserves, Marin County comes in first with nearly 56% of its land protected. This unique land conservation legacy allows native plants and wildlife to flourish, while also providing for human enjoyment and recreation. West Marin is shaped by tectonic plates, divided by the San Andreas Fault, and set along the Pacific Flyway and Pacific Ocean, resulting in an extremely biologically diverse environment. However, the area continues to face environmental threats, including development pressure, pollution, increased tourism, and climate change.

Protecting West Marin Lands

The health of our landscapes is dependent upon community vigilance and participation to ensure long-term conservation and sustainability of our open space and urban area land-use planning. We focus on engaging across jurisdictional boundaries working to protect our valuable resources by reviewing agency planning, proposals, restoration, and conservation efforts to ensure that public lands remain in public hands; conservation values are not eroded or modified for political or private interest; coastal resources are protected from irresponsible development projects; habitat loss is prevented; and access to public lands is equitable.

Seashore Finalizes Ranchland Planning

After five years of planning and public engagement, the National Park Service (NPS) finalized the Point Reyes National Seashore's (Seashore) General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA) by filing the Record of Decision (ROD) in September 2021.

The GMPA updates management guidance and policies for 28,000 acres of commercial beef and dairy ranch operations and has been steeped in controversy throughout this process due to the valid concerns related to the compatibility of ranching within a National Seashore. Ranching has negative impacts on water quality, visitor experiences, soil, vegetation, greenhouse gas emissions, and wildlife – like the iconic tule elk that will be managed (i.e. lethally removed) due to conflicts with commercial ranching.

Though the ROD included modifications to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) filed in September 2020, EAC is disappointed with the final outcome, as it leaves far too much room for interpretation, includes gaps for changes in future land and water use, and fails to protect wildlife from conflicts with commercial ranching operations.

The GMPA process determines the next two decades of Seashore management, and it is critical that accountability and transparency are built into the final plans to provide a clear framework for future management decisions related to the ranchland zone.

Multi-generational ranching leases in the Seashore are a privilege, not a guarantee. Over time, as ranching operations voluntarily retire or lease terms are violated, ranching will eventually phase out and be replaced with adaptive

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The Return of the Stream Conservation Area Ordinance

Earlier this year, the County of Marin released a Public Review Draft of the Stream Conservation Area (SCA) Ordinance for the San Geronimo Valley. The SCA Ordinance would establish a riparian development buffer of 100 feet or more, establish permit review procedures and requirements to protect the active channel, water quality and flood control functions, and associated fish and wildlife habitat values along streams.

The release of the SCA Ordinance follows a contentious history dating back to 2007 when the last attempts to update the zoning resulted in a legal challenge by the Salmon Protection and Watershed Network (SPAWN) that found the County needed to develop supplemental environmental impact analysis.

Terence Carroll, EAC Board Member, is our representative for the County working group. A successful SCA Ordinance should protect the health of streams and habitat for the endangered coho salmon and threatened steelhead trout in the San Geronimo Valley that is consistent with riparian protection policies from the 2007 Marin Countywide Plan and best available science. We remain engaged and provide feedback to the County to protect our local streams and wildlife.

The ordinance is scheduled to go before the County's Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors in the coming months and must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. The SPAWN lawsuit in the California Court of Appeals is not settled and will undoubtedly impact the final outcomes of the SCA Ordinance.

Stay Tuned for Updates in 2022

Golf Course Conservation Easement & Water Rights Secured!

In 2017, the Trust For Public Land acquired 157-acres in the San Geronimo Valley following years of contentious community debate. EAC supported this effort, and was thrilled to hear the Marin Open Space Trust was awarded a 135-acre conservation easement on the property, with additional water rights to support special-status salmonid species along the creeks. This new easement will protect open space indefinitely, enabling comprehensive restoration and preventing conversion or subdivision that could diminish or impair the natural resources. The property will remain publicly accessible and the existing network of paths will be made into a multi-use trail system with connection to surrounding open space areas, like Roy's Redwoods.

Learn More | www.eacmarin.org/sgvgolfcourse

Marin County LCP Finalized; Environmental Hazards On Hold

Marin County's Local Coastal Program (LCP), a vital county planning document identifying the location, type, densities, and other ground rules for development in the coastal zone, was finalized and approved in August 2021. Unfortunately, it did not include updates to the Environmental Hazards (EH) policies written in 1981 that will advise development as we mitigate the climate crisis. We have been advocating for updates for over 13 years, and while some existing policies will protect natural resources, preserve agricultural uses, and clarify permit processes, we opposed the finalization of the LCP without the EH updates. Read more in our Waters section, or check out more information online.

Learn More | www.eacmarin.org/marin-lcp

Protecting West Marin Waters

Keeping our freshwater, coastal, and marine systems healthy despite the challenges of a changing climate, pollution, politics, development, and overconsumption is essential because water is life. We focus on ensuring the long-term health of our water systems by protecting critical ecosystems, advocating for coastal resource protection, collecting data, working with coalition partners throughout the state, and providing outreach and education to protect the integrity of our watersheds, coast, and marine systems.

Drought: Balancing Human & Wildlife Needs

We are grateful for the unusually early seasonal rains during this exceptional drought year, even if most of it arrived in the form of an atmospheric river, and resulted in flooding. Despite the early rainfall, the California drought is far from over and water conservation efforts must continuously be evaluated with changing climate conditions.

Marin County is primarily reliant on our network of reservoirs and imported water, and this year has provided a preview of what to expect in the coming years as our communities cope with the climate crisis, a growing population, finding new water sources, rationing water, and balancing this precious resource to support species and habitats.

Droughts don't only impact humans, they have profound negative impacts on the natural environment. Looking at our dry creeks and stressed trees is a glimpse of the struggles to come. Finding a pathway to ensure the health and well-being of our entire ecosystem begs the question – *are we individually and collectively doing enough to plan and conserve water?*

For example, this fall Marin Water (formerly Marin Municipal Water District) applied to obtain a temporary urgency petition to change the timing and reduce the amount of water returned to the creek to support the endangered coho salmon, even when they had failed to meet their water conservation targets. We raised concerns about the petition, voicing our support for the salmon and calling out the inadequate community water conservation. Our advocacy raised awareness, and resulted in the Water Board and state agencies placing strict conditions and oversight into the temporary urgency change petition.

As we all grapple with hard decisions related to water and species, you can count on us to advocate for water conservation and solutions with the least environmental impact.

[Learn More | www.eacmarin.org/resilient-watersheds](http://www.eacmarin.org/resilient-watersheds)

Healthy Tomales Bay Campaign Update

Protecting Tomales Bay (Bay) and its watershed has been a top priority for EAC since our inception in 1971. The Bay is not only a RAMSAR site (wetland of international importance), but is also recognized for protection by the California Bays and Estuaries Policy, and must be managed for competing interests from the tourism/recreational, aquaculture, agricultural industries.

Our *Healthy Tomales Bay* campaign seeks to ensure the sustainability of the competing uses in the Bay, where we monitor the sustainability of recreational and commercial fishing, and help to ensure aquacultural best practices to reduce or eliminate marine debris and avoid impacting sensitive eelgrass habitat vital to declining fish and bird species.

As decisions made at the state level impact the Bay, our work has expanded into monitoring state and federal changes and a formation of a statewide NGO aquaculture coalition to ensure the industry is held to the highest environmental standards. This work includes engaging with the California Coastal Commission (CCC), the Ocean Protection Council (OPC), and the Fish and Game Commission (FGC) regarding fisheries and aquaculture issues that impact the Bay and surrounding watershed.

In 2021, our Legal & Policy Director, Ashley Eagle-Gibbs tirelessly advocated:

- For an emergency ban on recreational use of hydraulic pumps for clams and shrimp, while also supporting the requirement to use a separate container for clam collection. During the pandemic, many people found a renewed interest in

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Seashore Water Quality Testing Update

We completed a full year of recreational water quality sampling at Drakes Estero and Drakes Beach in the Point Reyes National Seashore in partnership with Marin County Environmental Health Services. The last sampling efforts at these beaches stopped in 2013, so this new data will be critical to understanding the impacts of ranching on water quality. Our last sample was collected this October following the atmospheric river that delivered more than 10 inches of rain in Marin County, and led to a public health advisory notice that many local sites greatly exceeded public health limits. We will resume testing through 2021, and into 2022. Results will be posted on our website.

[Learn More | www.eacmarin.org/water](http://www.eacmarin.org/water)

Marin's Groundwater: Beneath the Surface

Our recently published report, *Beneath the Surface: Groundwater, A Proactive Analysis Exploring California and Marin County Water Resilience in a Changing Climate*, is the first of its kind locally to explore current groundwater regulations in the context of a changing climate. With extreme drought conditions and weather events, it is imperative to ensure coastal Marin's natural resources and communities are prepared for these challenges associated with the climate crisis. We are looking forward to working on phase II of our groundwater and drought resiliency work in 2022, including implementing some of our recommendations. Download the report on our website for more details.

[Learn More | www.eacmarin.org/groundwater](http://www.eacmarin.org/groundwater)



California's coasts and oceans are among our most treasured resources. The productivity, wildness, and beauty found here is central to California's identity, heritage, and economy. Marin County's water resources include a network of fresh and marine water systems that support globally significant and extraordinarily diverse onshore and offshore habitats. In coastal Marin, there are miles of county, state and federal trails and coastal public access points spanning from Dillon to Muir beaches where one can explore Bolinas Lagoon, Tomales Bay, or the Pacific coast beaches. Offshore one can experience the abundant biodiversity of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries and the network of California's Marine Protected Areas.

Wildlife abounds in West Marin and is as varied as the landscape itself, ranging from large marine mammals, such as the blue whale, to relatively small, endangered Myrtle's silverspot butterflies. The area is also home to a broad spectrum of aquatic and terrestrial environments which support a diversity of habitats including forests, grasslands, coastal scrub, intertidal zones and marshes, coastal dunes, and wetlands. We are experiencing a global biodiversity crisis due to pollution, habitat loss, and climate change. We work locally and throughout the state with partners to protect habitat, support 30x30, provide public education, and advocate for the protection of vulnerable ecosystems and species to ensure ecosystem health. Conserving thirty-percent of our lands and waters by 2030 is a critical step forward in addressing climate change as well as the preservation of our most beneficial native species and habitats.



Protecting West Marin Biodiversity

Protecting biodiversity in coastal Marin is a primary driver of our work and interconnected to our lands, waters, and climate crisis focal areas. We bring people, science and policy together to respond to biodiversity loss in our community and support state and federal initiatives to protect threatened, endangered, and keystone species that have ecosystem level influence to preserve and enhance our natural systems. Biodiversity loss is a major crisis that requires urgent action to protect vulnerable ecosystems and species for current and future generations.

Marin's Monarchs: Right Action, Right Place, Right Now!

Save monarchs, plant milkweed...that was the conservation message we received loud and clear. Missing from that message, what type of milkweed, where should we plant it, and what about nectar plants?

The western monarch has been in existence for 175 million years. However, in just 200 years, their population has reached possible extinction levels due to loss of habitat, pollution, pesticides use, climate change, and more.

In 2020, the western monarch population crashed. In California there were only 2,000 butterflies counted at overwintering sites. This year, the population along the central coastline is promising with 50,000 butterflies counted so far at Pacific Grove. In coastal Marin, the overwintering counts are just starting, and we are getting promising reports of small clusters being spotted in Bolinas and Stinson Beach.

These improvements are encouraging; however, it's important to remember, while the numbers are better this year, the overall population remains in steep decline. In the 1990s, we counted millions of butterflies along the coast. Today, the population is less than 1% of what it was in the 1990s and less than a fraction of that when compared to the stories shared with EAC by the Coast Miwok.

Despite these declines we have an opportunity to help the butterfly and other species rebound by evaluating our habits and garden spaces to ensure the best possible native habitats to support their life cycles.

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Protecting 30% of Our Land and Water by 2030

Biodiversity loss, pollution, and the climate crisis are straining our natural systems. To mitigate and prevent additional irreparable loss, efforts to protect 30 percent of our lands, rivers, lakes, wetlands, and marine systems by 2030 (30x30) have been launched.

In response to this call to act, *"California has set an ambitious goal to protect 30 percent of California lands and coastal waters by 2030 and advance nature-based solutions to address climate change, equity and species loss. We can only achieve this by holistically examining the depth and breadth of these issues with input from a variety of stakeholders."* - California Secretary for Natural Resources, Wade Crowfoot.

California's goals have been complemented by President Biden's executive order, *America the Beautiful*, that directs the Secretary of the Interior to submit recommendations for conserving 30% of the nation's lands and waters by 2030.

30x30 efforts will help to improve the integrity of ecosystems, provide safe havens to help wildlife adapt to climate change, and sustain natural systems that store carbon, such as forests, mangroves, seagrasses, wetlands, and grasslands. Realizing 30x30 goals will require extensive public participation to define, identify, and plan in the coming years.

Statewide Initiatives

- The California Natural Resources Agency kicked off public participation this summer with a series of workshops. We engaged in the process to ensure a transparent, open process focused on

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California Pesticides Lawsuit Victory!

In 2015, EAC along with several other environmental groups filed a lawsuit under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) against the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), challenging the programmatic environmental impact report (PEIR) for pest management. The lawsuit was filed because of issues with the PEIR around lack of notice and public input, and the broad authority given to CDFA to spray 79 pesticides (many of which are known to be carcinogenic and toxic) across California. This long-fought case came to a close in October 2021 with a ruling in favor of EAC and the other plaintiffs.

"The court affirmed Californians have the right to know when dangerous pesticides are sprayed in their communities and what the risks are to people and to pollinators crucial to our food supply," said Jonathan Evans, environmental health legal director at the Center for Biological Diversity.

The ruling points to numerous instances where the department evaded its responsibility to analyze and disclose the health and environmental harms of the more than 79 pesticides that the agency proposed to use statewide, and into the indefinite future. The court decision highlighted that the proposal was made largely without public notice and without evaluating local impacts or allowing opportunity for affected communities to opt out.

Thank you to Tom and Barbara Gaman, Scoby Zook and Kris Brown, Chuck and Alice Eckart, and Russell and Margaret Ridge who made generous contributions supporting this important issue.

Learn More | www.eacmarin.org/pesticidelawsuit

Combating the Climate Crisis

Local response to the climate crisis is at the forefront of our work as the most critical environmental issue of our time. This work has multiple facets – as we work to preserve coastal Marin’s lands, waters, and biodiversity in the face of a changing climate – while also finding pathways to support adaptation efforts (nature-based land-use strategies to preserve our coastal resources and communities), mitigation strategies (reducing greenhouse gas emissions and turning to renewables), and raising public awareness around the crisis and solutions. We work locally and statewide on climate solutions and resilience efforts that impact our communities.

Coastal Communities Working Group & Adaptation Projects

Over the next century, climate change will continue to exacerbate sea level rise, increasing the frequency and intensity of coastal flooding, and placing essential structures in Marin County at risk. We are dedicated to supporting climate adaptation strategies based on the most up-to-date science and research available as a member of the Coastal Communities Working Group (CCWG).

CCWG is a group of stakeholders organized by the Marin County Community Development Agency (CDA), tasked with connecting the Marin County community with current research and planning for coastal climate adaptation. Current stakeholders include EAC, Surfrider Marin, the Alliance of West Marin Villages, and additional village association representatives.

Stakeholders act as liaisons between the County and their respective communities, and their feedback is used to inform projects or future planning processes. This builds on the County’s C-SMART (Collaboration: Sea-level Marin Adaptation Response Team) process that identified vulnerabilities and potential solutions to the County’s coastal climate challenges.

Three projects are currently the focus of the CCWG: 1) Stinson Beach Nature-Based Adaptation Feasibility Study, 2) Tomales Bay Living Shoreline Feasibility Study, and 3) Local Coastal Program (LCP) environmental hazards policy amendments. We look forward to continuing our review of these important projects in 2022.

[Learn More | www.eacmarin.org/climate-change](http://www.eacmarin.org/climate-change) | www.eacmarin.org/marin-lcp

Marin LCP Finalized; Hazards Draft in Limbo

In August, Marin County finalized a 13-year process of amending the Local Coastal Program (LCP); a project EAC has been involved in since the beginning. However, the County failed to update the critical environmental hazards (EH) policies written over 40 years ago, which we believe is irresponsible and neglects the public’s responsibility to protect and advance healthy, safe, and equitable communities. The danger of rising sea levels and flooding was not considered in the 1980s planning documents, and we vehemently disagree with maintaining outdated EH policies in the face of the climate emergency. Unfortunately, the County ultimately decided to finalize a partial update and is now coping with how to implement the outdated policies alongside the updated policies as development permit applications are submitted.

LCPs are the basic planning tools used by local governments, in partnership with the California Coastal Commission (CCC), to guide development in the coastal zone and contain the rules and regulations for future development and protection of coastal resources. The CCC delegates authority to local jurisdictions to develop LCPs, but they must be approved by the CCC to ensure Coastal Act compliance.

So, where are we in the process of updating hazards? The County has drafted an EH chapter, but has not negotiated an agreement with the CCC staff to ensure Coastal Act consistency within the draft, which is necessary to finalize the document. In addition, the County’s Coastal Communities Working Group, has provided limited feedback to the

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Dive Into Our Coastal Climate Education Series

In 2020, we launched a series of free online community education webinars focused on the impacts of the climate crisis. Visit our website to learn about Rising Waters in West Marin: Sea Level Rise and Emergent Groundwater; The Climate Crisis, Butterflies, and You!; and Adaptation Pathways: Coastal Resiliency Pathways and Nature Based Solutions. Webinars feature Dr. Charles Lester, Dr. Kevin Befus, Dr. Patrick Barnard, Matthew Forister, Mary Ellen Hannibal, and Dr. Kristina Hill.

[Learn More | www.eacmarin.org/our-coastal-climate-online-educational-series](http://www.eacmarin.org/our-coastal-climate-online-educational-series)

Protect the Pacific: No More Dirty Oil!

Since our founding, we have opposed offshore oil drilling and have actively worked locally and at the state level to hamper plans for leases off the coastline in Marin County.

Since 2016, we have worked with coastal partners under the *Protect the Pacific* coalition to galvanize communities to enact resolutions and ordinances throughout the state to oppose offshore oil and gas development.

At the end of 2020, the County of Marin enacted an ordinance to ban any offshore oil and gas infrastructure within county boundaries without a public vote. We will keep you engaged on how you can get involved in fighting offshore oil and supporting renewable energy in 2022.

[Learn More | www.eacmarin.org/protectthepacific](http://www.eacmarin.org/protectthepacific)



Marin County is a vulnerable community when it comes to climate change, particularly due to rising sea levels, emergent groundwater, changing storm patterns, wildfire risk, and fragile ecosystems. Marin is already experiencing the impacts of extreme flooding, exacerbated by sea level rise, storm surges and king tides, as well as a long wildfire season. Sea level rise causes shoreline erosion that alters the landscape including beaches, wetlands, and riparian areas, as well as causing damage to critical infrastructure.



2021 Volunteers in Action | Litter Bugs Me | Point Reyes Station, CA

WAYS TO GIVE: JOIN, RENEW, SHOP & VOLUNTEER

The Environmental Action Committee of West Marin is a member-supported environmental grassroots advocacy organization, which has been protecting and sustaining the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity of West Marin since 1971.

In celebration of our 50th anniversary, we invite you to join our member circle, renew your annual membership, or consider the number of other ways listed below that your support can make a lasting impact on our mission.

Give with purpose, and support our mission by making a tax-deductible donation online, or postmark your donation by December 31st, 2021 and mail your contributions to: EAC | PO Box 609 | Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

JOIN OR RENEW

Join our community of dedicated supporters whose annual contributions help us to protect and sustain the unique lands, waters and biodiversity of West Marin through advocacy, education, and engagement opportunities, so generations can experience the wild beauty of our coastal communities for years to come! Membership starts at \$35 for individuals and \$50 for households.

Member benefits include:

- Access to e-mail action alerts.
- Printed newsletter.
- Early-bird access, registration and discounts to our annual Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival (each April).
- Invitations to our Annual Member Meeting, Awards & Potluck, Piper on the Ridge, Winter Gathering and more.

Often our efforts are not fought overnight, so your long-term support and generosity are critical to our ongoing efforts to ensure environmental protection measures are in place and lasting.

BECOME A GUARDIAN

Join our Guardian Circle with a gift of \$500+, and join a group of key supporters whose annual gifts provide critical funding for our mission.

EXPAND OUR COMMUNITY CIRCLE WITH A GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Introduce a friend or family member to our community of supporters by giving a gift membership. For gifts of \$100+, we will include a *West Marin Wild* pint cup and sticker as special gift.

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT: WORKPLACE GIVING & EMPLOYER MATCHES

Double or even triple your impact for our mission by asking your employer about their workplace giving options, including annual payroll deductions, employer donation matches, or volunteer support programs. You can even use our link online to see if your employer has a matching gift program.

BE OF SERVICE: VOLUNTEER

We are always looking for dedicated individuals who want to donate their time or skills to the cause. Join our Marin MPA Watch team, or help in the office or at events. Opportunities can be found online, or by contacting us directly with your interest and skills.

GIFTS OF STOCK, DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS & QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS (IRA)

A gift of stock, or other appreciated assets can be an advantageous way to give. Get our stock instructions online, or contact your charitable fund or IRA to make a gift to EAC, today using our Tax-ID 23-7115368.

PLANNED GIVING & BEQUESTS

Where *there's a will, there's a way!* A new trend among donors is considering *giving, while living*, by including their favorite charity (like EAC!) in their planned giving bequests. This type of gift helps the organization with long-term planning, contact us for more info.

SHOP ONLINE WITH PURPOSE

Consider checking out the EAC online store for branded gear, or visit us at the office to check out our selection of earrings, books, *West Marin Wild* cups and utensils, and more. Or shop through one or more of our Shop & Give Programs ([Giving Assistant](#), [eScrip](#) or [AmazonSmile](#)) by adding the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin as one of your charities. Whether you're shopping for the holidays or throughout the year, this is an easy way to support our mission. Details on our website.

Contact Us (415) 663.9312 | www.eacmarin.org | giving@eacmarin.org



50th Anniversary Fund A Gift for Our Future

\$50K PUBLIC SUPPORT + \$50K MATCHING GIFT
= \$100K 50TH ANNIVERSARY FUND

Join us in celebration of our 50th Anniversary this year, and donate a special tax-deductible gift above your annual membership dues, to our new 50th Anniversary Fund, and one of our long-time, and anonymous supporters will match your tax-deductible gift up to \$50k before the end of 2021!

By making a one-time, time-sensitive gift to this fund before the end of the year, you will help build upon our strategic planning efforts over the past five years, strengthen our organizational capacity, enhance our programmatic work, our ability to invest in staff and specialization, and help nourish our reserve fund.

Let's face it, it's been a difficult couple of years for our community. The pandemic has slowed, delayed, and even shuttered many businesses. On top of this, our climate is in crisis and is placing our coastal communities at risk with rising seas, wildfire, and drought. More than ever, West Marin needs EAC to advocate for the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity in coastal Marin.

Moving into our next 50-years, it will be imperative to strengthen our grassroots environmental advocacy to address the climate crisis, and threats from development, pollution, and industry.

Fortunately, this thoughtful matching gift has brightened our outlook, and our ability to plan for the future.

Annual membership dues provide 70% of our baseline funding to accomplish our advocacy, education, and engagement programs each year, and allows us to take on critical environmental issues in coastal Marin, while remaining responsive to take on issues as they arise. By providing your annual membership gift, you ensure we continue to protect the places you love in West Marin.

However, by providing an extra one-time gift to our 50th Anniversary Fund, you will not only enhance the work we do below, but you will provide vital funding for our organizational growth, which is otherwise unavailable through foundation grants.

Please take a moment to consider an extra gift in 2021 to the Guardian Circle (500+) or provide a gift at any level to help us reach our Anniversary Fund goal before the end of the year. The lifeblood of EAC has been, and always will be, our network of community supporters who have made our work possible the last 50 years - thank you for your unwavering dedication to the environmental legacy we are leaving for coastal Marin! We look forward to celebrating our successes and anniversary with you in 2022! More details coming soon.

Learn more about this Fund, and how you can contribute online at: www.eacmarin.org/eacs-50th-anniversary-fund. You can donate online, or postmark a donation to EAC by December 31st, 2021 to PO Box 609 Point Reyes Station, CA 94956.

Guardian Circle

**This special community of supporters have made a one-time major gift, above their annual member dues, to our 50th Anniversary Fund!
Thank You!**

\$10,000 +

Cynthia Lloyd via Echnida Fund
Bridger & Katherine Mitchell

\$5,000-\$9,999

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Donations \$25 - \$499

Donn Furman and Cynthia Fialho
* Joanne Lee * Mardi Leland *
Don Lloyd * Ralph Mihan *
Kevin Morrison & Michelle Ling *
Mairi Pileggi, Dom Richard & Friends *
Todd & Gretchen Plummer *
Claire & Metja Seda * Joe & Sue Soule

Our 5-Year Growth Snapshot

STRATEGICALLY PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

2016

- * New Executive Director
- * New Conservation Director
- * New Development Director

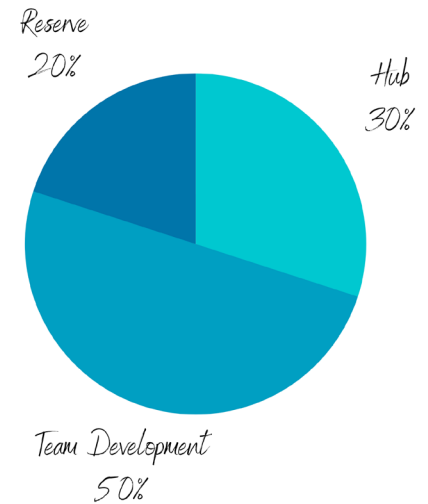
In 2016, new leadership emerged at EAC, embracing the challenge to protect the lands, waters, and biodiversity of coastal Marin, while also strengthening the organization with investments in people, and strategic planning. The initial \$20k investment (made possible through a handful of individual donors) increased our overall funding by \$193,000 over the course of three years resulting in the expansion of our advocacy, education, and engagement programs.

2017

- Strategic Planning Kick Off:
- * Planning for 2018-2022
- Increased Revenue \$100k**

The 50th Anniversary Fund is a opportunity for us to raise much needed funds, above our annual budget, to continue this growth model, and invest in:

- A specialized and diverse team (staff and intern) who led our communications, land-use, coastal protection, climate adaptation, and conservation programs, and implement strategic program and fundraising plans that improve our advocacy, expand our partnerships, and foster the next generation of environmental leadership.
- A vibrant environmental hub in coastal Marin (downtown Point Reyes Station) to provide education on key environmental issues that celebrates, educates, and connects our community in an inclusive, diverse, and equitable manner through partnerships and targeted engagement.
- Increasing our financial reserve capacity to ensure long-term financial stability, the ability to withstand emergencies (like the pandemic), and respond to the dynamic environmental challenges and needs in the coming years.



2018

- Strategic Planning Accomplishments:
- * New Website
- * New Database
- * Expanded Internships
- Increased Revenue \$27k**

2019

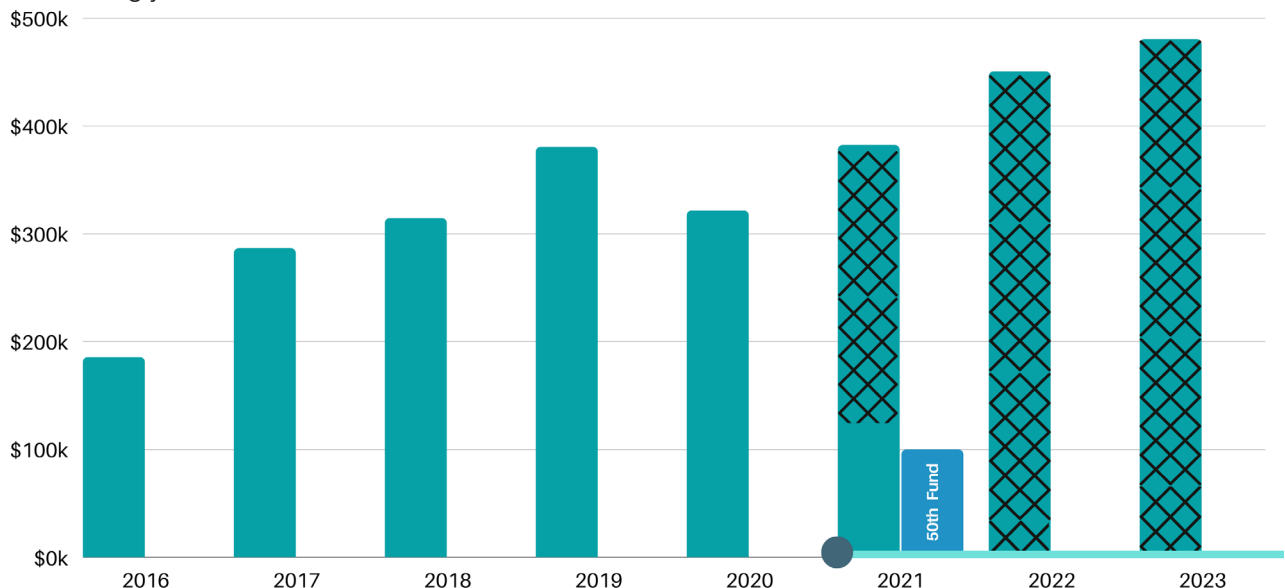
- Strategic Planning Accomplishments:
- * New Accounting System
- * New Committee Structure
- * New Communications Platform
- Increased Revenue \$66k**

2020

- Pandemic**
- * Pandemic/Office Closed
- Team Worked Remotely
- Strategic Planning Accomplishments:
- * New Office Space
- * Diversity & Equity Training
- * New Development Plan
- Loss of Revenue \$60k**

2021

- * 50th Anniversary Delayed
- * Office Reopened
- * Update Volunteer Programs
- * Hired New Program Director



- * Celebrate 50 Years of EAC
- * Implement Anniversary Fund Goals
- * Update Strategic Plan

Seashore Finalizes Ranchland Planning *Continued*

conservation planning as the highest priority.

One pathway that achieved higher resource protection levels and increased accountability was the federal consistency process that required the NPS to obtain approval from state and federal agencies. The California Coastal Commission's (Commission) consistency determination, which passed narrowly, added several additional conditions for NPS to:

- Provide an annual report to the public of comprehensive water quality reporting including metrics, timelines, and investments;
- Return to the Commission with water quality monitoring and climate change impact strategies by April 2022; and
- Return to the Commission with an implementation update in five years.

We have worked diligently for years on this topic, including our most recent work to build water quality protections into the GMPA framework, ensuring accountability, transparency, and integrity in data collection to protect the watersheds within the Seashore. Ultimately, the water quality requirements will hold both NPS and leaseholders accountable for failures to protect park resources.

The next steps include the implementation of the plan and the issuance of new leases in July 2022 when the current interim leases expire. We await the release of the water quality and climate strategies that must be reported to the Commission prior to new leases being issued and ranch operating agreements being finalized. We continue to remain fully engaged on this matter, as the importance of ongoing local monitoring of plan implementation is essential.

Marin LCP Finalized; Hazards Draft in Limbo *Continued*

County on draft language.

Overall, we are concerned the County will fail to meet their ambitious schedule to update the EH chapter in early 2022. This chapter is incredibly contentious, since it forces us to make hard decisions about private property in the coastal zone. The goal of the chapter is to provide guidance for development without exacerbating vulnerabilities in coastal communities that will be impacted by rising sea levels, erosion, flooding, and fire. Updating the EH chapter requires comprehensive and forward-thinking planning efforts to cope with the impending and unavoidable impacts of the climate crisis, while also balancing the protection of coastal resources (including sandy beaches, public access, and community character).

Despite this frustrating and delayed process, we remain steadfast in our advocacy to work together to draft and finalize a EH policy to be approved by the CCC. We will continue to engage on the completion of the hazards chapter, while also focusing on adaptation planning like preservation of wetlands, blue carbon sequestration, nature-based feasibility studies in Tomales Bay and Stinson Beach, and continued preservation of equitable public access to our local beaches. You can take action on this issue by contacting Marin County, and encouraging them to finalize the EH policy, and ask to be placed on their LCP update list.

Healthy Tomales Bay Campaign Update *Continued*

recreational clamming and other marine pursuits, increasing impacts on these delicate ecosystems. The regulation was unanimously adopted, and a formal rulemaking process has commenced.

- For the finalization of the 2021 statewide aquaculture principles to inform a coordinated statewide approach to operations and intertidal leasing, a moratorium for new aquaculture leases until the statewide principles were finalized, and served as an alternate on the OPC aquaculture action plan working group to support natural resource protection.
- For the development of a process to establish clear criteria for whether a new aquaculture lease is in the public interest. With a new aquaculture operation being considered in Tomales Bay for the first time in 25+ years, this nuanced, but important issue will be discussed at a future Marine Resources Committee meeting in 2022. This is an important point, as any new lease will impact environmental resources and must be properly sited to avoid environmental and community conflicts.
- Opposing a problematic state bill (Assembly Bill 303) that sought to exclude the CCC from the regulation of multiple aquaculture pilot project areas throughout the state. The CCC, charged with enforcing the California Coastal Act, has proven to be a very systematic, fair, and strong regulator of the aquaculture industry. Due to our collective advocacy, AB 303 has been amended and delayed until 2022, allowing additional time for discussion.

We will remain engaged, alongside our NGO partners, on marine aquaculture policy and its impacts on Tomales Bay including meeting with agency staff, participating in agency meetings, and reviewing key legislation. Stay tuned for more information in 2022.

Marin Monarch's: Right Action, Right Place, Right Now Continued

With the release of our collaborative report, *Marin's Monarch Movement*, we have compiled information on the dramatic population decline of the western monarch butterfly and the best available science that highlights ways everyone can get involved to help this species including specific nursery and plant lists to make your garden space more monarch friendly!

Join us in this effort by taking the *Right Action, in the Right Place, Right Now*:

- **If you live within 5 miles of overwintering habitat for monarch butterflies: do not plant milkweed.** Instead, fill your garden with plenty of blooming native pollinator flowers to provide the monarchs with nectar to fatten up and survive the winter.
- **If you live 5 miles or more away from the coast: plant native narrowleaf or showy milkweed and native pollinator flowers.** Native milkweed blooms when the monarchs are migrating and breeding and dies back in the fall and winter when the monarchs migrate to the coast to survive the winter. Native pollinator plants help to keep the breeding and migrating monarchs fed and also help to support other pollinators too!
- **If you planted non-native milkweed (like tropical milkweed): Remove and replace with native milkweed.** Find a trade out program or purchase milkweed at your local native plant nursery. See our report for plant lists and nurseries to visit or contact.
- **If you are rearing monarchs at home: Stop.** The population is in a severe state of decline. Rearing monarchs may spread disease, and could have population level impacts.
- **If you are using pesticides in your garden: Stop.** Pesticides bioaccumulate and are harmful to many species. Do not use pesticides or purchase plants that have been treated with neonicotinoids.
- **Download our free report on our website** to learn about the decline, and how you can support the species, and share with family and friends. A huge thank you to our key financial supporters including: Cynthia Lloyd, Mia Monroe and Stephan Meyer, Karen Culler and Thomas Weidinger, Claire John Eschelbach, Gail Grasso, The Nancy P. and Richard K. Robbins Family Foundation, and David and Patty Wimpfheimer for making this work possible. Thank you!

Lastly, we invite you to our first educational exhibit in our new office hub to learn more about the plight of the western monarchs. The exhibit is open to the public Thursday through Saturday 12 pm - 4 pm through January 31st, 2022 at 65 3rd Street, Suite 12 in Point Reyes Station. We want to thank the following people for helping to make the exhibit a reality: Lynne Axelrod, the Coast Miwok Tribal Council, Alice Cason, Audrey Fusco, Marshall Livingston, Luis Mora, Ed Nute, Birgit O'Connor, Carlos Porrata, Ole Schell, and our Friends at Unicorn Printing.

Protecting 30% of our Land & Water 2030 Continued

coastal resource and wetland protection, rather than merely focusing on terrestrial land conservation.

- We are members of the Blue Carbon Collaborative advocating to advance blue carbon aquatic ecosystems (i.e. seagrass beds and wetlands) throughout the state. Blue carbon focuses on the sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions in the soils of salt marshes, eelgrass, and aquatic wetlands through complex biogeochemical processes.

Local Initiatives

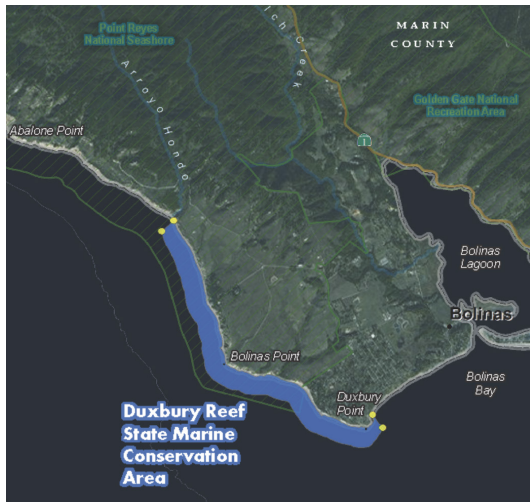
- We promote, defend, and educate the public about federal and state Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) including our local MPAs, wetlands, and coastal resources to protect biodiversity and identify pathways to strengthen 30x30 efforts.
- We are members of the Marin Biodiversity Corridor Initiative, a collaboration of organizations and individuals working to raise awareness of the biodiversity crisis within local agencies and with elected representatives, supporting on-the-ground biodiversity projects, gathering data, and promoting public understanding of ecological and cultural connections through outreach and education.

We will continue to advocate for nature-based solutions to mitigate climate crisis impacts and sequester greenhouse gases; protect our invaluable coastal resources; and collaborate with partners to provide local, state, and federal support for these priceless and threatened habitats. We encourage our members to get involved and raise awareness within their communities about these important initiatives.

Duxbury Docent Program to Kick Off in 2022 in Bolinas, CA

We are happy to announce a special collaboration with Marin County Parks and Open Space to develop a Duxbury Docent Program at Agate Beach County Park located in Bolinas, California. The volunteer program will focus on helping to educate the public about stewardship activities in the sensitive habitat in and around the Duxbury Reef State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA).

The Duxbury Reef SMCA is the largest shale reef in California and one of the largest in North America - a true gem of coastal Marin. The Monterey shale that composes the reef was formed during the Miocene Epoch (spanning about 5 to 23 million years ago), when a mixture of volcanic ash and small plankton called diatoms sank to the seafloor, creating layers of fine-grained, silica-rich sheets of rock over time.



Protecting nearly three miles of rocky shore, Duxbury Reef SMCA safeguards substantial habitat where a diverse array of marine species live. Researchers who study the rocky intertidal zone at Duxbury Reef as part of the state's MPA Monitoring Program

have identified over 100 different species of invertebrates, seaweeds, and marine plants that cling to the reef as the tide ebbs and flows. The gentle slope of the reef also makes exploring the tidepools on foot accessible to almost everyone and has become a popular destination for people seeking to explore this type of habitat.

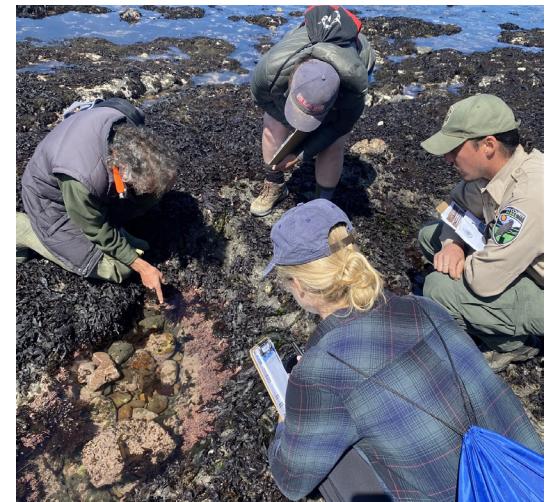
Since 2014, our Marin Marine Protected Area (MPA) Watch Volunteer Program has been collecting data in and around the reef as part of the statewide MPA Watch program to better understand visitation and activity trends. Volunteers use standardized surveys and protocols to collect relevant, scientifically rigorous, and broadly accessible data for MPA managers.

While reviewing the data for this location for our annual reports, we noticed an increase in public visitation by an average of 72% per year since 2018. The increase in visitation prompted us to draft a report with Kent Khitkian, a Bolinas resident and volunteer with our Marin MPA Watch and the California Academy of Science Rocky Shore Intertidal Naturalists programs in 2019. Then in 2020, our volunteers reported a marked increase in poaching (collecting intertidal species) and visitation during the pandemic.

We were deeply concerned by this, so we flagged the poaching activities to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, raised concerns to the Fish and Game Commission, and presented our observations to Marin County District Four Supervisor, Dennis Rodoni, and Marin County Parks and Open Space General Manager, Max Korten. This sparked a partnership to develop a community-led docent program to provide educational resources to the visiting public.

While we believe the coast should be accessible to all, it is imperative we also educate visitors about the importance of being good stewards. Together, with the Marin County Parks and Open Space and the Friends of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, we have been working diligently to develop our docent program materials and training. Our new program director, Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook is spearheading this program and kicked off our first training in June 2021 for Marin County Parks and Open Space rangers covering the intertidal ecology at the reef.

We hope you'll join us for our first public training slated to begin in January 2022, so docents will be prepared to help educate visitors in time for the spring low tides. Visit us online for more details.



If you love rocky intertidal habitats, spending time outdoors at the coast, and engaging with the public, we invite you to check our event calendar to register, or contact Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook (leslie@eacmarin.org) to learn more.

JOIN US

APRIL 21ST - 24TH, 2022

13TH ANNUAL

POINT REYES BIRDING & NATURE FESTIVAL

Come have a hoot with us along the Pacific Flyway's #1 birding hotspot in 2022!

As pandemic restrictions lift, we are excited to flock together again for our biggest event of the year. Proceeds benefit our mission to protect and sustain the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity of West Marin.

Educational field outings and classroom-based events with the Bay Area's top birders and naturalists exploring the fauna and flora of Marin and Sonoma counties. Join as a participant, or skilled guides and naturalists can apply to lead one or more outings.

FREE youth program in partnership with Amigos Alados (*Winged Friends*).

Become a *Friend of the Festival Sponsor* and help us take flight. Sponsorship starts at \$250 and includes donor benefits.

Additional Details Coming in 2022!

TICKETS ON SALE FEBRUARY 2022

Join our member community or renew your annual support, and receive early-bird access and registration one week before the general public.

Individual membership starts at \$35, or \$50 for a household of two.

Learn More & Register
www.pointreyesbirdingfestival.org

Questions? Contact Us
(415) 663.9312 | events@eacmarin.org



Litter Bugs Me, A Coastal Watershed Clean Up Effort Is a Success!



We were thrilled to welcome the return of community stewardship events after cancelling so many events in 2020. Our annual Litter Bugs Me roadside clean up event kicked off the week of September 13 and ended on Coastal Clean Up Day September 18th (pictured Legal & Policy Director Ashley Eagle-Gibbs and members Carlos Porrata and Tom Gaman). Litter Bugs Me was originally spearheaded by Dennis Rodoni, (Marin County Supervisor and Rigdon Currie in the 90s to activate community businesses, village associations, and nonprofits to adopt roadsides to clean up before the winter rains arrive.

This year more than 50 volunteers from the East Shore Planning Group, Inverness Association, Olema Association, Point Reyes Station Village Association, San Geronimo Valley Lions, Salmon Protection and Watershed Network, West Marin Community Services, and West Marin Climate Action joined a Team Up to Clean Up crews. In addition, we hosted over 25 volunteers to remove trash in Point Reyes Station, Nicasio Reservoir, and along Platform Bridge Road.

Overall, the community effort eliminated over 1,200 pounds of trash and 500 pounds of recycling from our coastal watershed!

Notable items removed from the roadsides, creeks, and waterways included a couch, a boat steering shaft, several car parts (including a bumper), a dump site of six trash bags from the creek, a paint disposal site near Lagunitas Creek that was estimated at being 40 years old, and an abandoned campsite near Point Reyes Station.

Thank you to all the volunteers and partners, including our sponsors at HomeLight, Point Reyes Village Association, and to our in-kind sponsors at Recology of Sonoma-Marín and Lagunitas Brewery for helping to bring this event to life and keeping our watersheds clean!

We are excited to announce we will be receiving funding from the County of Marin to expand Litter Bugs Me to a year-round program with our partners at the Department of Public Works to help activate volunteer teams to get out ahead of the spring and summer roadside mowing season, which will help reduce harmful microplastics into our environment!

If you are interested in joining this volunteer effort as an individual, family, or as an organized team, please contact our program coordinator, Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook (leslie@eacmarin.org) for more information.

Learn More
www.eacmarin.org/litter-bugs-me

Marin MPA Watch in Action!



Following a year-long pause due to the pandemic, we were thrilled to resume our Marin MPA Watch training this summer. The MPA Watch volunteer program is a part of a statewide network that trains volunteers to observe and collect data on human uses of coastal and marine resources both inside and outside of Marin Protected Areas (MPAs).

Highlights of the 2021 program include:

- Welcoming our new program coordinator, Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook to manage our program and volunteer team.
- Providing seven field trainings at Duxbury Reef, Limantour Beach, Drakes Beach and Corte Madera Marsh, welcoming a total of 23 new volunteers to our team.
- Delivering our first Spanish language training thanks to Coastal Advocate intern, Dhalma Suarez, who translated our volunteer materials, and delivered the training session for her capstone project.
- Conducting 130 beach surveys (1,436 surveys have been completed since starting this program in 2013).
- Providing data to California's first MPA Decadal Management review process, a comprehensive analysis that contributes to adaptive management of the California MPA network.

Join our team, pick a location, attend a training and set your schedule based on the tides. Dates and details online.

Learn More
www.eacmarin.org/mpa-watch

Activating the Next Generation of Environmental Advocates



An important part of our work is providing job training for the next generation of environmental advocates through our Fostering Environmental Stewards program. Each year we welcome legal, policy, and coastal advocate interns to join us in helping to deliver our mission. We believe that these opportunities create lasting and meaningful impressions that help to foster the environmental stewards of the future. During the pandemic, we were able to broaden this program by hosting remote internships.

This year we welcomed four Coastal Advocate interns, Lauren Goetz, Kate Carpenter, Dhalma Suarez, and Briana Muschi, who worked on coastal conservation through our Marin Marine Protected Area (MPA) Watch program. They helped us update our training materials, train volunteers, conduct surveys, and review data.

They completed capstone projects that deepened their knowledge of coastal issues including researching issues about intertidal foraging and poaching and developing fact sheets; researching Coast Miwok culture and building information sheets about their relationship to the coast; and creating our first Spanish language Marin MPA Watch volunteer training and translation of materials.

We also welcomed five Legal and Policy interns, Ariel Orr, Katherine Pond, Ryan Garroway Myers, Issac Serratos, and Richard

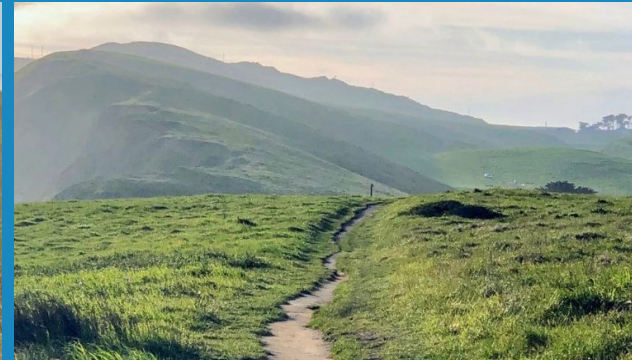
Yates who helped to expand our policy and advocacy work. Climate has become such an important part of our work that the whole legal and policy intern team helped in many ways reviewing data, attending meetings, and drafting memos related to the climate crisis.

They also completed capstone projects to advance our work focused on developing a climate resilience scorecard for coastal Marin; analyzing the Williamson Act; researching the Local Coastal Program update; and providing extensive research and analysis on the California drought and water conservation.

We are also grateful for the continued service of Grace Milstein, who first joined our team in 2020 and has stayed on to help us improve our social media and graphic design presence throughout this year. Grace helped to design our Marin Monarch Report, currently manages our social media posts, developed our community stewardship webpages, and is finalizing our print Stewardship Guide for visitors to coastal Marin.

We want to thank our interns for all your help advancing our mission. We look forward to seeing and hearing about the places you'll go!

Coastal Marin Stewardship Guide



As a gateway to Point Reyes National Seashore and with close proximity to the San Francisco Bay Area, the villages in coastal Marin experience high visitation annually resulting in excessive litter, public health issues (human and pet feces), and other harmful activities including illegal camping, and poaching, collecting and/or fishing in prohibited areas. In addition, we are often contacted by concerned residents about how to address property issues, tree cutting during the breeding season and more.

In order to address these issues, we are creating a dynamic online community resource guide, a printable visitor stewardship guide, and a social media toolkit to raise awareness of these problems and reduce impacts with grant support from the County of Marin and West Marin Fund.

As we develop these resources, we are working with the County of Marin and other public agencies and stakeholders including the Point Reyes National Seashore, Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, California State Parks, Marin County Parks and Open Space, the California Department of Public Health to better coordinate with our public agencies, village associations, and our network of nonprofits to provide services, enforcement, a vital pathways for visitor outreach and education.

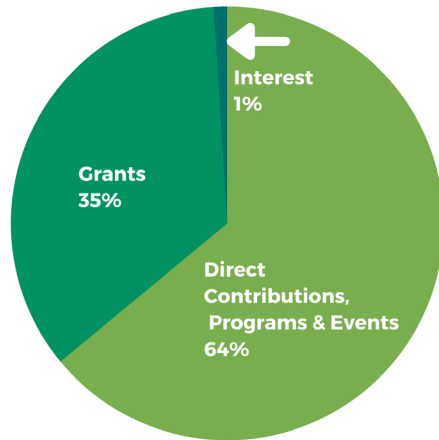
Learn More and/or Apply for an Internship
www.eacmarin.org/internship-apply

Learn More
www.eacmarin.org/community-resources

2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

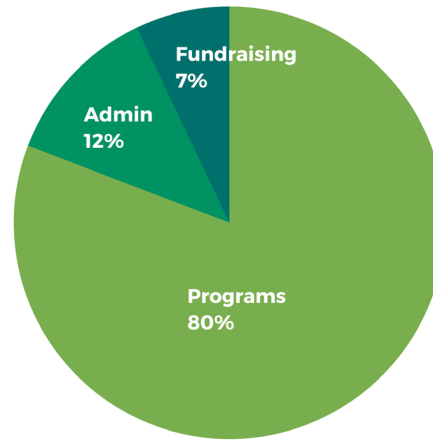
2020 Income

Direct Contributions	\$194,581
Grants	148,580
Program & Events	78,292
Retail Sales	128
Interest	5,663
Cost of Goods	-207
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	\$427,037



2020 Expense

Programs	\$321,460
Administrative	48,963
Fundraising	29,733
	<hr/>
	\$400,156



Assets

Cash	\$213,583
Reserve Funds	93,835
Prepaid Expenses	2,407
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Total Assets	\$309,826

Liabilities

Other Liabilities	\$4,492
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	\$4,492

Equity

Unrestricted Funds	\$208,163
Restricted Funds	96,979
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	\$305,142
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Total Liability & Equity	\$309,142

2021 KEY SUCCESSES

- **Achieved a major pesticide victory** (with 11 co-plaintiffs) that requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture to study, minimize threats, and to inform the public before spraying neonicotinoids, the toxic fumigant methyl bromide, and the chemical warfare agent chloropicrin on our communities;
- **Published our collaborative report, *Marin's Monarch Movement***, exploring the population crisis of the western monarch butterfly and the actions our communities can take to support the butterfly. The monarch is like the "canary in the coal mine" as an indicator of the broader impacts of habitat destruction and the climate crisis;
- **Published a report, *Beneath the Surface: Groundwater, A Proactive Analysis Exploring California and Marin County Water Resilience in a Changing Climate***, the first analysis of its kind in the County of Marin exploring our local and state groundwater regulations and highlighting opportunities that our communities, elected officials, and water districts could seize to protect one of our most precious resources;
- **Advocated for greater environmental protections (including water quality), transparency, and accountability** in the public planning process for the Point Reyes National Seashore's General Ranch Management Plan;
- **Opposed Marin County's approval of the Local Coastal Program** (local development planning and guidance) without updating the environmental hazards policies, which will leave our communities ill-prepared issues like sea level rise and flooding;
- **Supported local, statewide, and national efforts to protect 30% of our lands and waters by 2030** with a focus on blue carbon solutions through our participation in the California Blue Carbon Collaborative, and established a state coalition around ensuring aquaculture is sustainable and properly sited;
- **Raised awareness of the impacts of drought** on freshwater species, like salmon, with Marin Water and the State Water Board;
- **Addressed inequity and environmental justice** by developing a Equity Committee to review our internal policies and guidance to ensure that we are carefully considering equity and environmental justice in all we do;
- **Fostered the next generation of environmental stewards** through our high school, college and graduate school internships;
- **Engaged our community** through online events including our Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival webinars, Piper on the Ridge, and our Annual Member Meeting & Awards;
- **Relocated and expanded our office** to better achieve our mission; and
- **Launched our first environmental display** on the western monarch in our new office hub.

SUPPORTER SNAPSHOTS



Dick Ogg
EAC Waters Committee

"I spend a lot of time out on the ocean and consider myself a true conservationist. My focus is to provide a sustainable, organic product to the public with understanding, collaboration, and communication. This knowledge (along with my work on coastal and marine issues) helps me to provide a unique perspective on EAC's waters committee. Organizations like EAC provide a critical partnership between sustainable business interests and conservation. I encourage you to support marine conservation and become a member if you're not already!"

Bio: Dick Ogg brings over 45 years of experience working in fisheries. He is actively supporting and maintaining healthy fisheries by serving on our committee, the Dungeness Crab Gear Working Group, Dungeness Crab Taskforce, Cordell Bank Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council, the Spud Point Advisory Board, and as a Director in the Bodega Bay Community Fishermen's Association, Vice President of the Bodega Bay Fisherman's Marketing Association, and director on the California Salmon Council. His long-term vision is to find an effective way to coexist with all creatures in our oceans and still provide a sustainable organic product to the public.



Sarah Allen
EAC Waters Committee
& Bird Festival Guide

"EAC is a leader in conservation locally, but also statewide through their advocacy for preservation and protection of land and seascapes in Marin County and beyond. For over 50 years, they have been a pioneer in environmental protection through tireless review of policy, through partner collaborations, willingness to tackle the tough issues, and grounding their positions in science. I am grateful to be a member and honored to be on the waters advisory committee. There are many ways to be involved at EAC and make a positive difference in the environment, from membership, to the bird festival, and volunteering with the Marin MPA Watch, to name a few."

Bio: Dr. Sarah Allen, Ph.D. is recently retired from the National Park Service, where she worked for 26 years, and before that she was at Point Reyes Bird Observatory (now Point Blue) for many years. She was the Science Program Lead for the National Park Service's Pacific West Region before retiring, and now is active in several conservation efforts. For over 40 years she has studied marine birds and mammals extensively in California. She has authored and co-authored many scientific papers, including the UC Press book, *A Field Guide to the Marine Mammals of the Pacific Coast*.



Nils Warnock
EAC Waters Committee
& Bird Festival Guide

"Having worked in West Marin since the mid-1980s, with a particular focus on birds and science, I have come to especially appreciate the role that our country's environmental advocates play. Combining science, law, and policy, the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC) has been working non-stop since 1971 to protect the wild things and places of West Marin. They have long recognized that clean water and air, abundant biodiversity, and accessible places for all people to engage in the outdoors, lead to healthy communities. That is why I participate on EAC's water committee and support its mission. I urge you to do the same."

Bio: Nils Warnock, Ph.D. is the Director of Conservation Science for Audubon Canyon Ranch. He develops scientific programs and conservation activities for ACR's system of wildlife sanctuaries in Marin and Sonoma counties. Nils is a Fellow of the American Ornithological Society and has over 35 years of experience pertaining to the ecology and conservation of Pacific Flyway birds, especially shorebirds. Nils started his ornithological career in West Marin at what was then the Point Reyes Bird Observatory (now Point Blue). Most recently, he served as the Executive Director of Audubon Alaska and a Vice President of the National Audubon.



ESTABLISHED 1971

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Point Reyes Station, California 94956

www.eacmarin.org

The Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC) is a 501(3)(c) environmental nonprofit Tax-ID 23-7115368

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Tom Baty | Recreational Fisherman
Bruce Bowser | Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council
Kevin O'Connor | Program Manager, Moss Landing Marine Labs
Richard Ogg | Commercial Fisherman
Nils Warnock | Director of Conservation Science | Audubon Canyon Ranch

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