

TCC Turns 100!

President's message:

We are a bit behind getting out our newsletter and I take responsibility for that. But once you read, you will understand why. It is our centennial year and a great deal is happening.

MMWD is also celebrating its centennial this year. They are just two months younger than the TCC. The Golden Gate Bridge and Tomales Bay State Park are both celebrating 75 years. Pt. Reyes National Seashore is marks its 60th. GGNRA is on its 50th year, MCOSD (Marin Open Space) is 40 years old and the Olompali People are 30 years. Two other centennials: the San Francisco Symphony and last but no least, Oreo cookies!

Our Book is Ready

Some of our plans have been nearly four years in the making while others are still very much in the planning stages. We are happy to report our centennial celebration book, *The 100 Year Battle to Save Mt. Tamalpais* by author Barry Spitz should be in print by the time you receive this newsletter. The book is a bit over 240 pages with 100 historic photos and maps.

This book documents our long and rich history in this county and the deep interconnections between the TCC, MMWD, State Parks, GGNRA and the Mountain Amphitheater. It is an amazing story and makes us all very proud to be a part of the TCC and to have played such a major role in shaping Marin. History makes very clear that without those dedicated folks from 1912 on, Marin would be a far different place today. If you were a donor, your copy will be automatically mailed to you. If you are interested in purchasing the book, please visit our website for full details. Barry Spitz is currently scheduled to do a signing at the Book Passage on May 17. Please check with the Book Passage on specific times for this event.

Sharing the spotlight with MMWD

Next is our shared centennial with MMWD, "Celebrating a Century of Service and Stewardship". Their anniversary is April 25 commencing with an open house from 1-3pm in the corporation yard parking area. We will join with MMWD in book signing events this year. Board Director Jack Gibson has prepared a largely photo history of MMWD to be released June 11. Please check our website and the MMWD website for further details.

The Really Big Celebration

Along with our planned annual meeting on Sunday, May at the Marin Art and Garden Center, we have an even bigger celebration in the works, which is in large part why our newsletter has been delayed as we work on the details.

In late November, I was approached by State Parks Ranger Roberto Walton, suggesting we do some sort of celebration on Mt. Tam in 2012. Roberto came to us with the idea of doing a Wild and Scenic Film Festival. The Wild and Scenic Film folks have a library of over 300 hours of films ranging from five-minute shorts to feature length films. It is sort of a lending library from which we can rent three hours of films for a modest fee. The board has voted to go forward with the film festival.

Bringing music to the Mountain again

As our plans evolved (and are still very much evolving) we thought if we are going to go to the trouble how much more effort would it be to do a multi-day event? And then we started to consider whether this is the appropriate time to bring music back to the mountain theater with perhaps one night of films and one or two afternoons of music over a weekend.

Some of you may remember the last music festival held on Mt. Tam was in 1967, the Fantasy Fair and Magic Mountain Music Festival was an event held June 10 and 11 during the "Summer of Love" at the 4,000 seat Sidney B. Cushing Memorial Amphitheater. It featured some of the biggest acts of the day. However, it was estimated 40,000 people jammed Mt. Tam for the two-day event doing considerable damage. There was quite

(continued on page 2)

.....

Annual Meeting

**Enclosed in this issue is your invitation to
TCC's Annual Meeting on May 6 and your
ballot. Come and enjoy a picnic in our
beautiful new setting at the
Marin Art & Garden Center**

.....

(President's Message continued)

an outcry, including from the TCC, and it was the last time a festival was held in the amphitheater.

Raising money for State Parks

Going forward 46 years, much has changed. Our State Parks are in serious trouble with the planned closure of two parks (China Camp and Olompali) in Marin alone. We are viewing the amphitheater with a different set of eyes and see an opportunity to have a celebration and raise substantial money to help keep our State Parks open. So we are going to host a wonderful party and fundraiser to celebrate not just our event but also the many anniversaries that are converging this year. Of course, we are taking the necessary steps to ensure we throw a sustainable festival that minimizes impact on the mountain.

At the time of this writing, things are very much fluid but we can give you some details. One of our featured vendors and early supporters is Sol Food in San Rafael. If you know about Sol Food, you know it is incredibly popular with almost a cult following. We think their presence alone will be a huge draw. REI has also pledged financial and advertising support. The Agricultural Institute of Marin (the Bay Area Farmer's Market folks) pledged

their support. And the Mountain Play Association is helping us plan and implement the event. We are very grateful for their support, as their vast experience will ensure we manage the event successfully.

We are approaching several of our local musicians and musical acts to see whom we can book for the event. We have a lot of flexibility as to the exact date depending on who we are able to book and for what date. Again, keep checking our events calendar on our website for further details. However, our plans are to stage the event sometime between mid-July and mid-August.

This is all very exciting and very historic and we are aiming for a sell-out. It is difficult at this stage to predict how much money we will raise but we expect it to be quite substantial. We look forward to your participation. This is a great example of how we in the community can take creative steps to protect our parks.

Roberto Walton deserves the credit for taking the initiative to get this off the ground. It is yet another example of our long history working together with State Parks.

- Larry Minikes

Manzanita Fire Road Preserved

The Tamalpais Conservation Club and the Marin Horse Council were early donors to the campaign to raise \$100,000 from the public to complete the \$650,000 purchase of a 20+ acre property on San Geronimo Ridge that straddles the Manzanita Fire Road. Each pledged \$5,000. In January, Marin County Parks and the Marin Open Space Trust (MOST) announced the successful completion of the campaign.

In fall 2011, the California Coastal Conservancy approved a grant of \$450,000 toward this purchase and the County committed \$100,000. This left a balance of \$100,000 to be raised from private sources.

The campaign to raise funds from the public was led by the Marin Open Space Trust, a tax-exempt non-profit corporation formed several years ago to support MCOSD. MOST also received a \$10,000 contribution from an anonymous donor and a \$25,000 "challenge grant" from another anonymous donor, both being residents of the San Geronimo Valley.

Other organizations supporting this acquisition include the San Geronimo Valley Planning Group, the San Geronimo Valley Land Trust, the Marin Conservation League, the Bay Area Ridge Trail Foundation, the Sierra Club (Marin Chapter), the San Geronimo Valley Lions Club, the Marin County Bicycle Coalition and the Forest Knolls Freewheelers.

This property is uniquely valuable to Marin County Parks, and to hikers, equestrians and bikers, because it controls public access to the Giacomini Open Space Preserve over the Manzanita Fire Road. This fire road, unlike some other access routes to San Geronimo Ridge, is open to all users all year. Once the acquisition is completed, the property will become part of the Giacomini Open Space Preserve and continued public access over the Manzanita Fire Road will be ensured.

- Delos Putz

EARTH DAY ON MT. TAM
APRIL 14

It's time to give back to the mountain we all love! Mt Tamalpais State Park with the sponsorship of the Mt. Tam Interpretive Association (MTIA) is hosting an Earth Day volunteer event.

This event will focus on trail restoration and removal of invasive plants around the Pantoll area, the central headquarters for the State Park and the busiest area in the park. Meet at the Pantoll parking lot 9 am. Bring study shoes, work gloves if you have them, water, sunscreen and dress in layers.

Afterwards there will be a free lunch and raffle for all volunteers.

To register for this event, please leave you name, phone number and volunteer opportunity you are interested in at:

Mt. Tam Information line: 415-258-2410

Email: answers@mttam.net

Fax: 415-785-4583

It's also fine to just show up that day, but registering is preferred.

THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING!

Marijuana on the Mountain: Health and Safety Issues

Eradication of illegal marijuana growing on our watershed lands was the subject of a March 7 joint members meeting with the Marin Conservation League at the Marin Art and Garden Center. Participants included the MMWD ranger and watershed departments, the National Park Service and the Marin Sheriff's Department.

While the subject was pot, the real underlying issue is the illegal use of our lands for profit and the long-term, cumulative effect this could have on our health and the health and well-being of future generations.

This is an issue about user safety, about deforestation, the killing of animals and beneficial insects and the range of chemicals that are being dumped willy-nilly into our watershed. We may not actually be able to measure the effects for years to come, but eventually these chemicals could very easily work their way into our drinking water.

These illicit "grows", run both by individuals and by highly organized cartels, use a tremendous variety of chemicals, including environmentally unfriendly fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides and rat poisons. There is no concern for environmental damage. And this is happening right under our noses. As you read this, as it is almost a certainty there are growers out there scoping out plots and clearing land for this spring's planting.

There is overwhelming evidence that the cartels are here in Marin and are growing wherever they can find suitable water sources. And what better place than our watershed?

Consider this: from 1982 to 2004 a total of 1,430 plants were removed from various small plots spread across the watershed. In 2006 this figure shot up to 26,000 plants in the Bolinas Ridge/Kent Lake areas. After being discovered, for the next several years the large-scale growers moved to plots just off watershed lands. But then again in 2010-2011, over 23,000 plants were eradicated, again mostly on Bolinas Ridge and in smaller plots in the Indian Fire Road area.

These growers are very dangerous people and have been clearly documented being on our watershed fully armed with the discovery of various types of ammunition including AK-47 and shotgun shells along with literally tons of garbage and chemicals.

The Marin Sheriff's Department and the MMWD Rangers are doing a terrific job covering over 22,000 acres given the lack of support the board is providing. We have lost a number of key rangers and watershed staff to retirements in recent years.

Reflect on these numbers for a moment as they tell a compelling story:

In 1995 we had 12 full-time rangers on staff

In 2003 we had 10

In 2010, that number dropped to seven and now we are down to six rangers this year. With yet another retirement this year and no planned replacement in place, only five field rangers will remain.

Our enforcement staff are among our most valuable resources in Marin County. The value of a trained ranger or enforcement officer who knows our watershed cannot be overstated. As you may know, after five years our rangers remain unarmed. The board seems very reluctant to even consider either increasing ranger staff to near levels of a few years ago, or in arming the rangers. A little background is in order.

During the time of the Trailside Killer, rangers were provided arms. Several years past before it was realized they were not properly certified to carry firearms and five years ago they were taken away.

Last year, rangers had their peace officer status restored and have been fully POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) certified to carry arms. However they remain unarmed. The board has not tackled this issue and in our opinion, several board members are oblivious to the danger the rangers face or the danger these cartels pose to public health and safety.

This is not about whether you agree with gun issues in this country or not. It is purely a common sense issue, which we seem to lack on occasion in Marin County. If you place peace officers in uniform and send them out looking for these plots, under what basis, except from a pure financial savings standpoint, would you deny them their ability to defend themselves? After listening to a couple of board members we had to shake our heads in near disgust with their ignorance.

Unlike the usual environmental issues we face, is it very much within our grasp to resolve this issue. We need to convince the MMWD board to support our enforcement personnel and to provide them with the tools they need to get the job done. By going out and destroying these plots and chasing these guys off our watershed and hopefully out of Marin, we can keep our public lands safe for water users and visitors. This is a matter of the board setting priorities while the problem is manageable. There is so much profit to be made that these organized gangs are going to continue to come back year after year unless we are willing to act with conviction.

This is exactly the kind of issue where we need your help and involvement in making your feelings known to the board. We in the public want them to take this issue seriously and stop pushing it under the rug. You need to tell the board there is a sense of urgency here and that we all have to pull together to eradicate this very real threat. Get involved, call or write to your board member, attend the meetings and speak up. They do pay attention to you, the public.

- Larry Minikes

Spotlight on TCC Board Members

Connie Berto Named to Marin Equestrian Hall of Fame



TCC board member Connie Berto, a resident of San Anselmo, is the first recipient of the Marin Horse Council's recently created Hall of Fame Award. The award honors equestrians who have made outstanding contributions to the Marin equestrian community. Connie was a founding member of the Horse Council in 1981 and served as a board member continuously from 1991 until her retirement in January 2012. The award honors her service as an advocate for safe equestrian access to trails and her accomplishments as a distance rider. The award was presented on February 18 at the Horse Council's annual "Horse Course" at the Marin Humane Society.

Trails Advocacy

Over the last 35 years, Connie has represented the Marin equestrian community at literally hundreds of meetings of the boards, commissions, committees and agencies that manage the state, federal and county lands of Marin County. In 1976 she was chosen to represent equestrians on newly formed subcommittee of the Marin County Parks & Open Space Commission known as the Trails Committee. Connie served on the committee for 27 years. Connie was a member of the American Endurance Ride Conference's Trails Committee for five years, chairing the committee for two of those years. She is also a Charter Member of the California Equestrian Lands & Trails Coalition and a founding member of EnviroHorse, an organization dedicated to the funding, collecting, archiving and dissemination of research pertaining to the true impact of equines on the environment.

Distance Riding

Connie has accumulated over 12,000 miles in distance riding competitions. She has completed 14 five-day, 250-mile rides and four one-day, 100-mile rides, including the famous Tevis Ride over the Sierras from Squaw Valley to Auburn. She has ridden 231 AERC rides and completed 225 of them, a completion rate of 97.4%. Remarkably, she achieved this record on just two horses, both Morgan geldings, in a sport dominated by Arabians. The American Morgan Horse Association designated her first endurance horse, GNR Kid Pecos ("Billy"), as its National Championship Endurance Horse in 1992, 1993 and 1996. Her second endurance horse, Eco Stardust ("Dusty"), won the same award from the Morgan Horse Association in 2004.

Sid Baskin: Water Rate Advisory Committee Member

I have been member of the Marin Municipal Water District's Water Rate Advisory Committee (WRAC) for the past year. The committee is composed of 16 citizens for the purpose reviewing and making recommendations and providing input to the district relative to its financial challenges with a focus on a water rate structure. I volunteered to participate on this committee hoping to gain a better understanding of the costs and rates of the MMWD and to have the opportunity to contribute to the development of a fair rate structure. I also hoped to gain a better understanding of our water district's operations. As a citizen of Marin and as a member of the TCC Board, I have a very deep appreciation and concern for the long term health and preservation of our watershed. With the MMWD's annual watershed operations expenditure in excess of \$4 million, I was able to participate in addressing a program that is a unique and significant component of the MMWD budget. Although it is never easy to get consensus on a citizen's advisory committee, specifically one that addresses a rate structure, I am optimistic that our efforts will result in a positive outcome for MMWD customers.



Here we are!

The TCC board at the Marin Art & Garden Center, home of our new office. Seated are Larry Minikes and Perry Cole. Standing, Dani Duran, Joan Bennett, Connie Berto, Sid Baskin, Arlin Weinberger and Janice Barry. Not pictured: Manon Baze.

TAMALPAIS GUARDIAN

Spring 2012 Volume 96, No. 1

The Tamalpais Guardian is published three times a year by the:

Tamalpais Conservation Club

P.O. Box 2272
Mill Valley, CA 94942
415-389-9914
TCC@tamalpais.org
www.tamalpais.org

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Larry Minikes
VICE PRESIDENT: Steven Schoonover
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Manon Baze
RECORDING SECRETARY: Janice Barry
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY : Joan Bennett
TREASURER: Perry Cole

DIRECTORS:

Sid Baskin, Connie Berto, Arlin Weinberger

MEETINGS:

Monthly: Board of Directors meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Tamalpais Conservation Club office at 7 p.m. Members are welcome. Call 389-9914 for directions.
Annual: In May, Mt. Tam.
Semi-Annual: In September, Mt. Tam.

COMMITTEES:

Editor:	Arlin Weinberger	(415) 444-0611
Trails:	Carlo Gardin	
	Larry Nilsen	(415) 453-3500
Conservation:	Larry Minikes	(415) 459-7724
Membership:	Manon Baze	(415) 272-8766

MEMBERSHIP FOR INDIVIDUALS:

Regular	\$ 25.00/yr
Affordable	\$ 5.00/yr
Life	\$250.00/one time only

Send Change of Address and Membership to:

**Tamalpais Conservation Club, P.O. Box 2272
Mill Valley, CA 94942**

Membership/Gift Application:

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone No. _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Gift: \$ _____

Dear Tamalpais Conservation Club,

Attached you will find your quarterly donation. We are proud to support your organization and hope our donation can help further your efforts. As a small business we work and live in this community and your efforts help make it a better place to be.

The total donation we have made to TCC since you joined our Shop & Give program is \$2,262.

As a reminder, our program entails customers mentioning your organization during checkout. We then donate 2 percent to your organization. As long as the total sales for your organization total \$500 or more for the quarter, you will receive 2 percent of the total. It costs nothing, no items are exempt and there are no administrative fees.

We have been in business in Mill Valley for over 80 years and our family has lived here just as long. We see the impact that organizations like yours have on our community. We are proud to support you and we only ask that you show us support in return.

Sincerely,
David and Doug Canepa
Mill Valley Market
12 Corte Madera Ave.
Mill Valley, CA

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

Our membership is strong and committed as we enter our centennial year. Please visit our new website: www.tamalpais.org. It is a great and easy way to renew your membership, give a membership to a family member or friend, donate to TCC and keep updated with upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. Also it is a great way to share photos of our mountain. Please consider a gift membership for family and friends. We will be holding our Annual Members Meeting May 6 at the Art and Garden Center. Check the website for up to date details of this annual event. Please join us for connecting with new and old friends, excellent food and an interesting talk. Your invitation is enclosed.

- Manon Baze

MMWD's Work Plan for 2012

At the March MMWD Watershed Committee meeting Watershed Manager Mike Swezy presented the following plan:

The Watershed Work Plan is a list of the significant projects to be implemented by watershed staff for the 2012 construction season. These projects are primarily road and trail projects, but the list includes a building project. The work plan does not include vegetation management projects which are primarily routine maintenance activities conducted by a combination of staff and contractor as specified by the Mt. Tamalpais Area Vegetation Management Plan and EIR. The work plan is prefaced by a brief description of the road and trail work accomplished last year. This information is presented to give the public greater understanding of that which could change visitor access temporarily or permanently.

Much of this work is identified in the district's 2005 Mt. Tamalpais Watershed Road and Trail Management Plan and EIR. Road and Trail Plan projects may be funded by the annual operating budget, grants and, in some cases, the Capital Improvement Program. Some trail projects may also be supported by volunteers or matching labor contribution courtesy of the Conservation Corps North Bay Proposition 84 Grants.

Goals of the 2005 Road and Trail Plan

1. Improve water quality by strictly minimizing road and trail related erosion and sediment delivery to creeks and reservoirs;
2. Reduce the impact of the road and trail network on natural resources;
3. Reduce the maintenance costs associated with the road and trail network; and
4. Improve visitor safety

Timing of construction on many of these projects is tentative subject to environmental constraints, such as northern spotted owl nesting and other permit requirements.

Work Performed in 2011

The major projects on the watershed or performed by watershed staff in 2011 included:

1. Lagunitas Creek Water Quality and Habitat Improvement project work downstream of Peters Dam, including a new arch culvert at Dog Creek, storm-proofed armored crossings on the Cross Marin Trail, which holds the District's Nicasio Transmission Line, and sediment reduction work on unpaved roads in Cheda and McIssac watersheds. This project was supported by a \$534,000 EPA grant with the goal of sediment reduction for water quality improvement in Lagunitas Creek.
2. Slide repair work on Sky Oaks Road, Concrete Pipe Road and Shaver Grade (a CIP funded project), including repair for the purposes of emergency access of a road from Sky Oaks past the Meadow Club Golf Course to Bolinas-Fairfax Road;
3. Reshaping and drainage work on Fish Grade and Shaver Grade to prevent erosion,

4. Phase III of Project Restore which eliminated redundant and confusing trails and improved trail marker signage in the Kent Trail/High Marsh area.

Work Projects for 2012

The major projects scheduled for this construction season, listed in order of those which will likely be most noticeable to the public, are:

1. Fairfax Gate House to Ross Reservoir Pipeline Culverts

Due to delays in securing regulatory permits, five major culvert replacements originally slated to be replaced as part of the 2010 Phoenix pipeline replacement project were deleted from the construction contract for the pipeline. Now that regulatory approvals are in hand, watershed staff will replace these culverts during late spring or summer (schedule dependent on nesting surveys for the northern spotted owl). These culvert projects include two on Concrete Pipe Road, one on Shaver Grade, one at the intersection of Worn Spring Road and Phoenix Road, and one on Phoenix Lake Road near Natalie Coffin Greene Park. These projects will require multi-day to week-long road closures and will limit public access on popular recreational routes. Staff will provide public notice of closure and alternate routes well in advance of starting the culvert replacements.

2. Lagunitas Creek Water Quality and Habitat Improvement Project

Watershed staff will return to the Cross Marin Trail, Dog Creek and Cheda and McIssac watersheds to finish the remaining grant-funded, road-related, sediment reduction work. The portion of this year's work with the largest impact on the public will be making the storm-proof upgrades to the stream crossing on the paved part of the Cross Marin Trail, in and around the campground at Samuel P. Taylor State Park. Watershed staff are currently working with State Parks to provide ample notice to campers and day use visitors. Work on the unpaved portion of the Cross Marin Trail was mostly completed last year with the exception of wooden puncheons across some of the armored creek crossings constructed last year. Work at Dog Creek and in Cheda and McIssac Creeks will be touch-up and fine tuning based on last season's performance.

3. Project Restore Phase IV

This phase of Project Restore will tackle several non-system trails in the vicinity of West Peak of Mount Tamalpais, the location of the former Mill Valley Air Force Station. Since the District regained control of the old Air Force Station in 2005, numerous non-system trails have developed in the area even though it has two system routes through it – the Mountain Top Trail and the Arturo Trail. The former is a connector to Lagunitas-Rock Spring Road at its intersection with Ridgecrest Boulevard, the latter being the connector to the same road at Rifle Camp near Potrero Meadow. The main objectives of this work will be to decommission, or otherwise make unusable, the non-system routes and to make the route of the Mountain Top and Arturo Trails more evident by enhancing the trailheads

with better signage and tread work. This project will reduce the chance of visitors getting lost, decommission redundant and confusing trails and minimize the impact of the trail system on natural resources.

The "Project Restore" methodology includes:

- 1) significant public outreach;
- 2) physically removing non-system trails or intersections by restoring soil profiles and encouraging natural revegetation;
- 3) installing new trail marker posts at key intersections that include directional, destination and distance information, and
- 4) posting the decommissioned route closed to all users, followed by monitoring, enforcement as necessary

This formula has proven successful over the last three years as evidenced that all closed routes have remained closed.

4. Lower Carson Falls Trail through Big Trees Road to Trail Conversion

This project, which is identified in the Road and Trail Plan and EIR, will convert an old unpaved road to a hiking trail and fix erosion problems along the route in several locations. The purpose of the project is to strictly minimize road-related sediment delivery from this route to Little Carson Creek and Kent Lake, thereby improving water quality and making a safer and more sustainable hiking trail. This road was constructed over 100 years ago for logging and access to an old hunting camp known as Big Trees. Slides have made the road impassable to vehicles and maintaining vehicle access is no longer necessary or feasible. In addition, across from Big Trees, the existing trail is threatened by a 20' landslide scarp above the creek. The proposed project will improve about 1/3 of a mile of existing routes and consists of the following elements:

- (a) Converting approximately 300 feet of unpaved road to trail, including removing two creek crossings (and their culverts) and restoring the natural creek channel in these locations;
- (b) Installing two puncheons across small creek tributaries just before Big Trees, and
- (c) Building a new, approximately 25-foot-long "rustic" log bridge across the creek and decommissioning about 200 feet of existing trail threatened by the scarp on the north side of the creek.

5. Devils Gulch Road-Related Sediment Reduction Work

In the early 2000s, MMWD began exploring erosion control projects in the Devil's Gulch watershed for the purposes of meeting the goals of the 1997 Lagunitas Creek Management Plan. In 2005, with the input of Pacific Watershed Associates (PWA), Prunuske Chatham, Inc. (PCI) and MMWD's Lagunitas Creek Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), several erosion sites and their associated recommended treatments were identified.

MMWD and its partners have received permits and implemented several of these recommended treatments since 2005. Still, some erosion sites on National Park Service land have not been fixed yet due in part to delays in securing necessary authorizations. As of today, all necessary authorizations have been secured; however, the US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit, and related Water Quality Certification, originally issued for the work have expired (application is being made to

re-secure these authorizations). This final suite of improvements in Devil's Gulch is included in the new Lagunitas Creek Stewardship Plan.

The project involves implementing recommended treatments at five separate sites to make them "storm-proof" or, in other words, to strictly minimize the road related sediment delivery from them to Devil's Gulch. At two sites the work would involve replacing existing culverts with new upgraded storm-proof culverts. At another site, the work would stabilize the creek bank to prevent further erosion of road bed and lower road to regain some road width. This would involve bank stabilization that includes log "J-vanes," redwood logs and root balls. At the fourth site, the work would excavate "slumping" fill on the outboard edge of the road which could fall into the creek. At the last site, an existing culvert and log headwall will be replaced with a new storm-proof armored crossing.

6. Sky Oaks Office Space Project Phase II

Currently, the Sky Oaks campus provides public contact, office space, storage, parking and shop space for 21 full-time employees, two contract sheriff deputies, four Americorp interns, up to six seasonal watershed aides and up to a dozen natural resource interns and watershed ambassadors. In 2008, to address inadequate office space issues at Sky Oaks, staff installed a modular office building to replace a smaller leased trailer that at the time housed only the fishery work group. At the same time the Sky Oaks residence, which had been vacated by the retiring Watershed Superintendent, was refurbished and occupied temporarily as additional office space. Budget challenges then delayed the installation of a planned second modular building. Staff is now working on a capital program funded project to install the second modular building on the Sky Oaks campus and allow the Sky Oaks residence to be occupied by one of our rangers. This residence is key to watershed security and public safety. It overlooks the main entrance gate for public use, access to several dams and the Bon Tempe Treatment Plant as well as the Sky Oaks office and corporation yard. Letting out locked-in after-hours patrons, monitoring illegal night time activities, and responding to emergency call outs would be greatly enhanced by having a ranger in the Sky Oaks residence in particular.

Staff is working on an overall plan to guide management of all ranger residences, likely to be completed by late 2012 or early

Tamalpais Conservation Club

P.O. Box 2272
Mill Valley, CA 94942
415-389-9914

Address Service Requested

TIME VALUE