

2021

TRUCKEE DONNER LAND TRUST

PROTECT AND ENJOY



PAST



PRESENT



FUTURE

TRUCKEE SPRINGS
PROTECTED



Greetings from the Truckee Donner Land Trust

The staff, board, and I would like to thank our outgoing president, Jeff Brown. Jeff has done an amazing job as president in an unprecedented year, not to mention all of his hard work as president and as a board member for the last 10 years. Thank you, Jeff!

As I begin my stint as President of the Truckee Donner Land Trust, I could not be prouder of our organization, its staff, board, and donors. Together, we have accomplished so much over the years and I look forward to continuing the legacy.

It appears we are starting to see the light at the end of the Covid-19 tunnel, and we are excited to return to more normal times. One of our beloved programs – the Docent Hike Program – is back this year after a hiatus in 2020, and we are thrilled to provide you with guided educational and recreational opportunities on our properties.

With the closing of Truckee Springs deal, access to the Truckee River from downtown Truckee has never been easier. We are eager to open up this property to the public and add to Truckee’s already awesome downtown character. We could not have done this without all of your help and support, and we are so very appreciative!

Our small and mighty staff continues to work hard on the organization’s goals including diversity, equity and inclusion goals, which came to the forefront this past year. I am grateful to be part of an organization where it was already part of the culture to include these types of goals before it became a national issue. Our staff has relationships with the Washoe Tribe, consulting with them often on various matters, and has been working with organizations to get kids from various backgrounds out on the trails. This year our Board implemented a four-year need-based scholarship program for one local graduating high school student. These are just a few examples of what our organization has accomplished, and we are continually



working on ways to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion within our organization.

With a lighter-than-average snow fall this year, many of the trails on our properties are already available for recreating. As much as I love to ski, I always look forward to summer in the Sierra. Hope to see you out there!

Onward,

Aparna Reddy
Board President

About the cover: Truckee Springs past, present and future seen with the Ice Palace (Photo courtesy Truckee Donner Historical Society), Truckee Donner Land Trust staff taking down the no trespassing sign, and the beautiful open space that will be forever protected.

With a BIG Impact

A driving force in the Truckee Donner Land Trust’s conservation efforts is “landscape scale conservation.” That means that rather than protecting land scattered here and there, our priority is to conserve large, interconnected landscapes that allow for contiguous, consistent land management, and for wildlife to roam freely. In conservation, big acres matter — but so too does connectivity.

That goal of connectivity means small projects can add up to big wins, and the Land Trust has more than a dozen small-acreage projects (less than 100 acres) on our radar right now. These parcels hardly make a noticeable dent in filling in the Sierra Nevada Checkerboard, but are vitally important, nonetheless. Years ago, the Land Trust bought a five-acre and a three-acre parcel on Schallenberger Ridge. These private inholdings within Donner Memorial State Park were problematic for land managers, creating disparity in policy and confusion for users – with the private property owners able to snowmobile across State Park lands to access their property when nobody else was allowed to do the same. Eventually, the Land Trust tripled the size of Donner Memorial State Park with acquisitions big and small.

More recently, the Land Trust acquired Truckee Springs – a small property right in downtown along the Truckee River. But those 26 acres open up hundreds more to the public by bringing down the “no trespassing sign,” creates river access, and maintains connections between upland habitat and the river below. Truckee Springs also serves the unique role of an urban greenspace. While Truckee prides itself on being a small town, there is no doubt an urban greenspace will offer the same, well-known benefits of urban parks: equitable access to recreation and nature, promote alternative transportation, and improve public health (no kidding, parks are estimated to save \$1,500 per person in health care costs).

Some projects simply keep our region’s mountain character by protecting viewsheds. Hippie Hill, now known as Sierra College, was once considered for 500 condos that would have changed Truckee’s character, and not for the better. The Land Trust partnered with the college and maintained a long-established greenbelt. The same is true of an inconspicuous 1,200-square-foot dwelling on Old Highway 40 the Land Trust recently purchased to place a conservation easement on to ensure a future buyer won’t tear it down and build something that would forever mar the skyline of Donner Summit and views from Donner Lake.



SCHALLENBERGER RIDGE



TRUCKEE SPRINGS

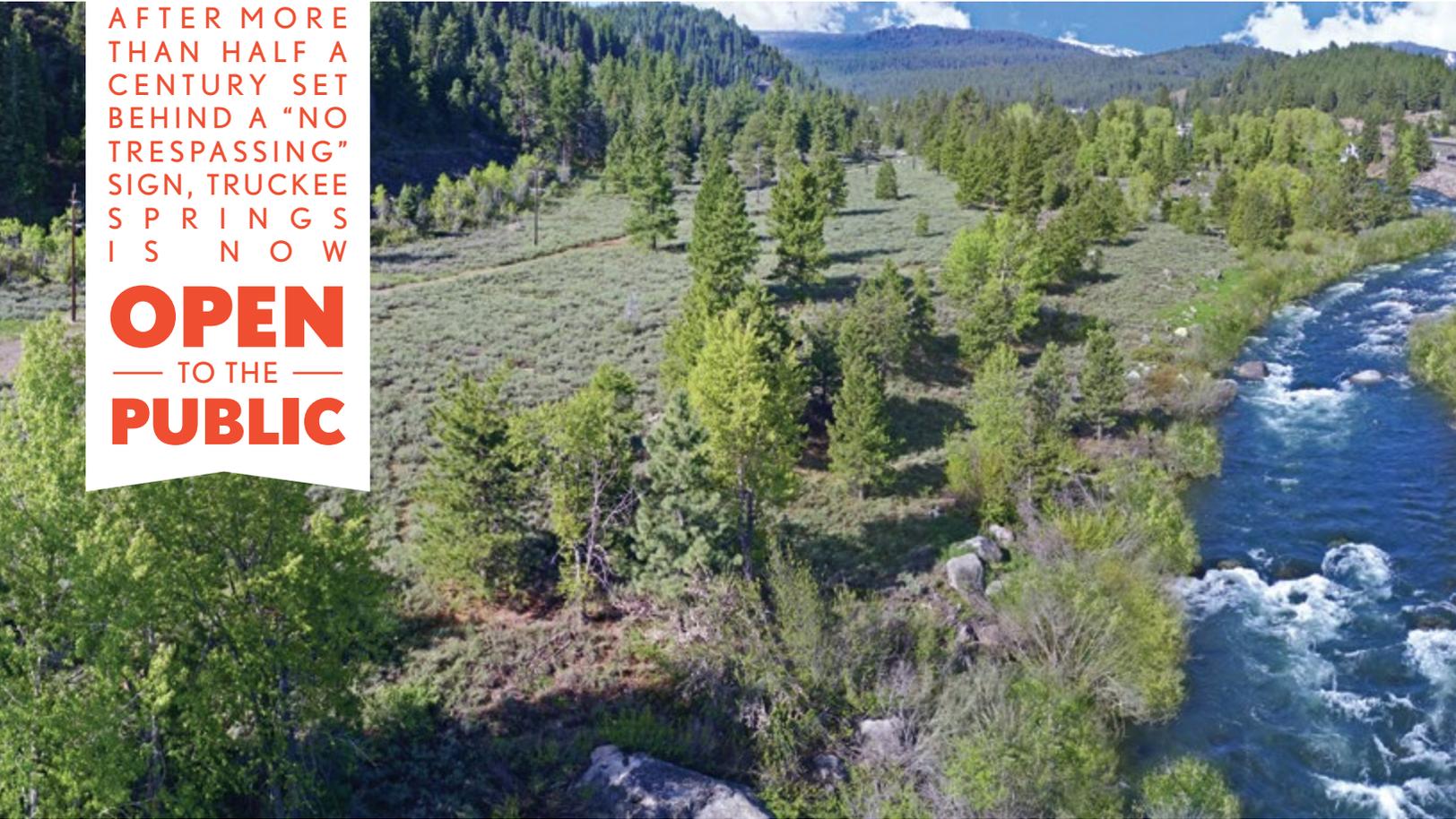


SIERRA COLLEGE

Truckee Springs

AFTER MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY SET BEHIND A “NO TRESPASSING” SIGN, TRUCKEE SPRINGS IS NOW

OPEN
— TO THE —
PUBLIC



Aerial view of Truckee Springs and the Truckee River. Photo by Lori Carpenter

Sculpted by the Truckee River and a catastrophic glacial dam break at Lake Tahoe long ago, the 26-acre Truckee Springs property has been home to the Washoe Tribe for centuries. Later it would be used for the short-lived Truckee’s Ice Palace, an early effort to draw tourists to Truckee. After decades of industrial uses, the property was eyed for a variety of proposed developments.

Now, thanks to far-reaching community support, Truckee Springs is now open to the public. The property is permanently protected and will offer new trails right in downtown for river access, hiking, running and biking. Truckee Springs will be a hub linking our entire region together via trails, changing the face of our community.

“This is nothing short of a total game-changer for Truckee,” said John Svahn, co-executive director for the Land Trust. “In five years people will have a hard time imagining a time when they weren’t able to picnic on a boulder along the river or take off on an all-day

adventure right from downtown.”

The Land Trust will begin working this summer on trails, creating a loop to explore the newly opened land with spurs offering river access – something previously not available in downtown Truckee.

“Unbelievable as it sounds, you couldn’t buy a sandwich in downtown and sit and enjoy it along the banks of our town’s river. Now you can.” Svahn said. “Visitors can now experience both Truckee’s historic downtown and it’s wild side all without getting in a car.”

Starting in 2022, the Land Trust will work with the Town of Truckee on extending the Truckee River Legacy Trail through the property – now reaching from Glenshire to Truckee River Regional Park – as it eventually makes its way to Donner Lake. The Town and Land Trust are also slated to begin construction on a pedestrian bridge spanning the Truckee River between downtown and Truckee Springs, offering more opportunities to get out of the car and explore on foot or by

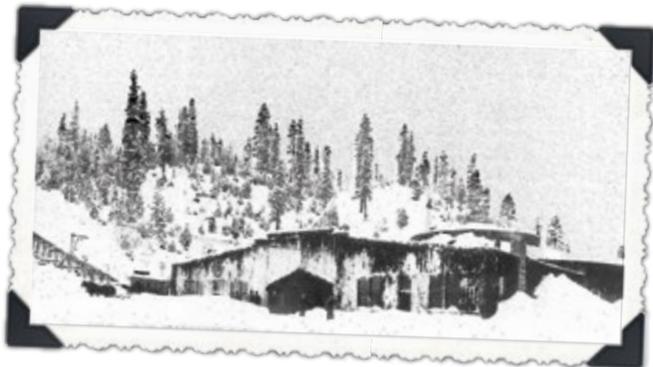


Truckee Donner Land Trust Board Member Levi Leipheimer exploring Truckee Springs with historic downtown in the background.

bicycle. Future connections will link up the hill to Sawtooth Trail, where you'll be able to continue on to Big Chief Trail, the Tahoe Rim Trail and beyond.

The property falls squarely within the Land Trust's conservation priorities – creating contiguous open space with the previously inaccessible California Department of Fish and Wildlife upstream and protecting wildlife corridors between the river and thousands of acres of upland habitat. Preventing extensive development on the property will help protect the Truckee River and its water quality.

Hundreds of you – from stalwart Truckee Donner Land Trust supporters to local children who stuffed a handful of wrinkled bills earned through chores into an envelope – helped raise the \$10.3 million needed to buy the property, build the trails and bridge and care for the land into the future. Major funders include the California



Historic Ice Palace on Truckee Springs. Photo courtesy of the Truckee Donner Historical Society

Wildlife Conservation Board, California Natural Resources Agency, Town of Truckee, Truckee Tahoe Airport, Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation, Vail Resorts Epic Promise, the Manitou Fund, Our Truckee River Legacy Foundation and the Martis Camp Foundation. Special thanks to major donors Ralph Eschenbach and Carol Provan – who provided a million-dollar matching gift to private donations.

Visiting Truckee Springs Today

While the Truckee Springs property is protected and open to the public today, we ask visitors to be considerate of the neighbors on South River Street until we are able to construct a small parking area – and eventually the pedestrian bridge – which will give better access to the land. Please don't park in the neighborhood – it's a short walk or bike ride from downtown. While no trails are yet built, a dirt road offers an opportunity to explore.

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*(right) Three seasons of Truckee Springs.
Photos by Bill Stevenson*

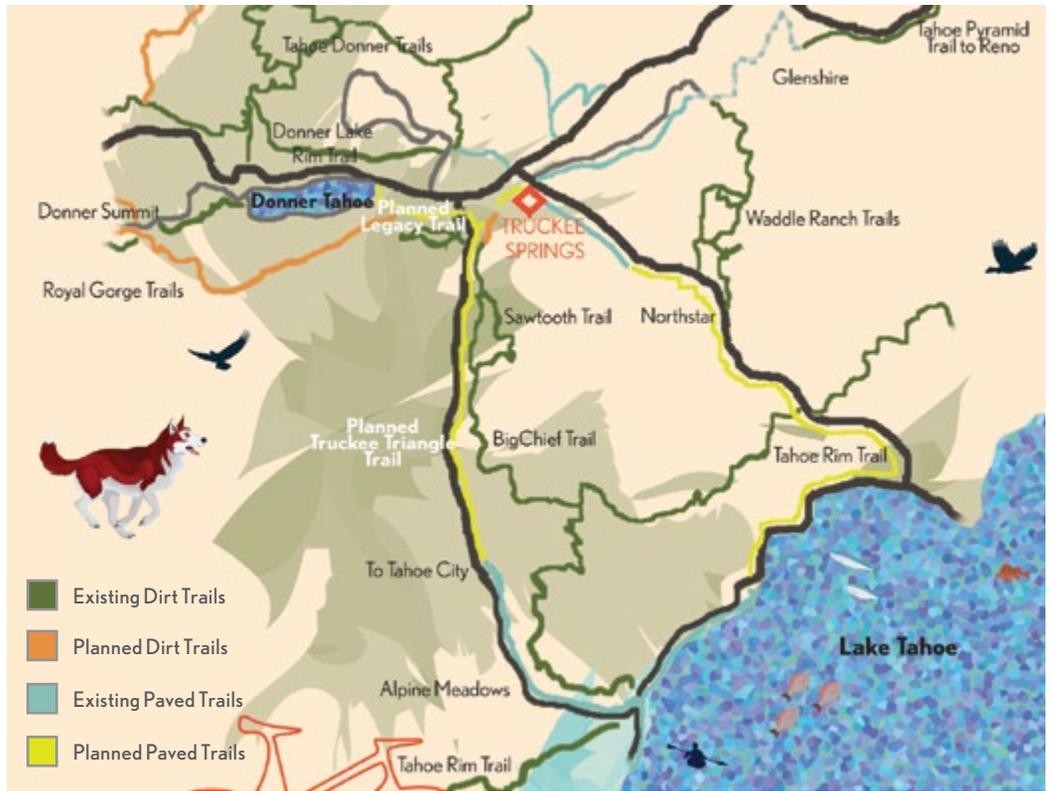
(below center) Truckee Springs –The Wild Side of Downtown poster. Design by Michael Schwab

(bottom right) A family enjoying Truckee Springs. Photo by Helen Pelster



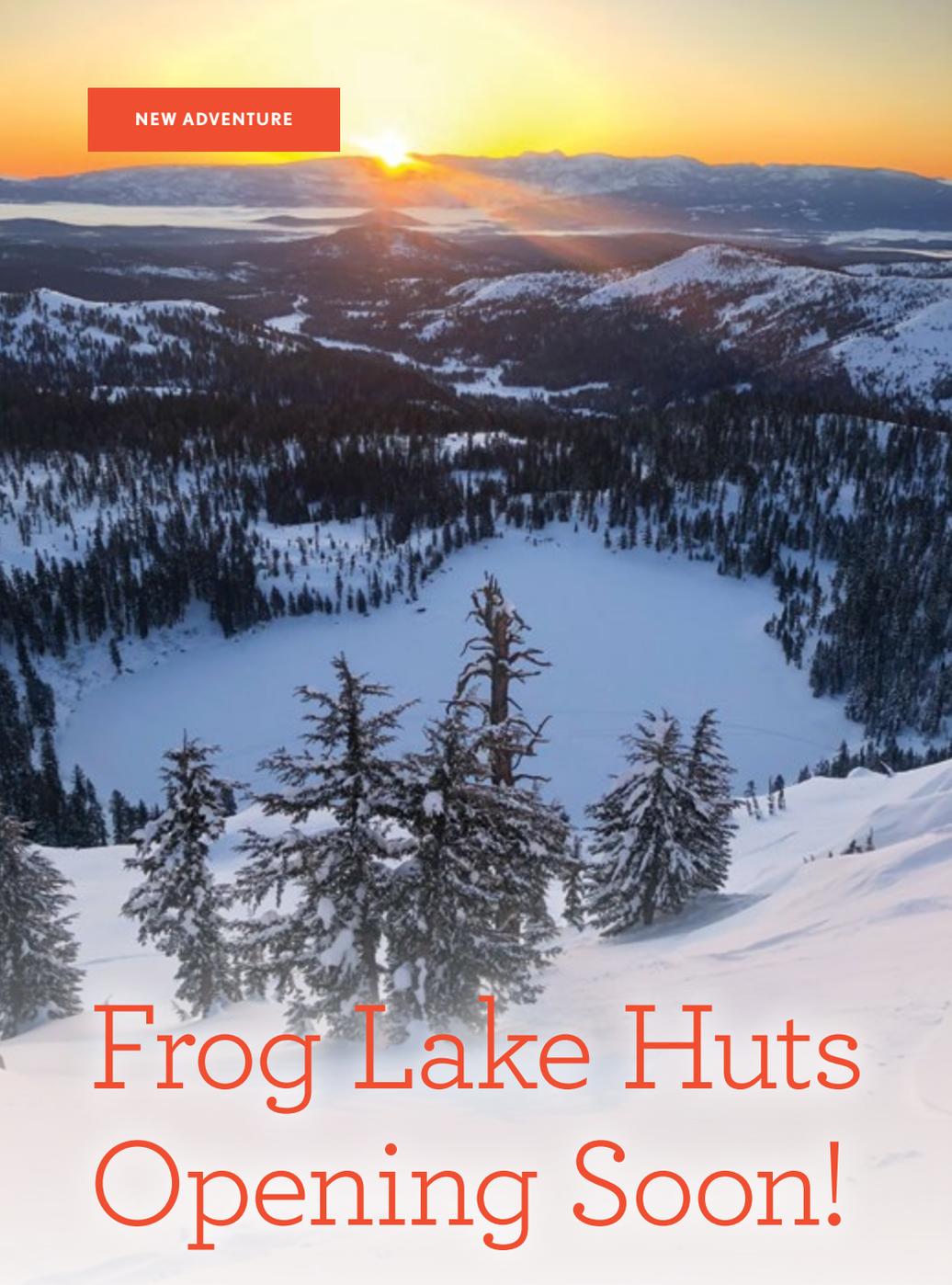
Visiting Truckee Springs in the Future

Once the pedestrian bridge is complete, the best way to access Truckee Springs will be from West River Street, where the Town of Truckee also plans a small riverfront park. The Truckee River Legacy Trail will make it safe and easy to access Truckee Springs from most neighborhoods – from Glenshire to Donner Lake – and connected trails through the Martis Valley and on the other side of downtown will offer options from Tahoe Donner, Prosser and Northstar. Paved paths are planned along Highways 267 and 89, eventually creating a Truckee-Tahoe triangle. Dirt trails will link up to Sawtooth Ridge, and on the other side of 89, Jackass Ridge, the Donner Lake Rim Trail and more. Anglers, paddlers and swimmers will have opportunities to access the river. Picnic areas and benches will also offer places to enjoy Truckee Springs.



(middle right) Truckee bike map.
Illustrated by Nancy Holliday

(bottom right) The Truckee River Legacy Trail (seen here east of Truckee Springs) will continue through Truckee Springs toward Donner Lake.



Frog Lake Huts Opening Soon!



Looking down on Frog Lake at sunrise and a snowboarder descending toward Frog Lake. Photos by Jim Zellers

After a two-hour tour culminating in an exhilarating ski dropping more than 1,000 feet to Frog Lake, you kick off your ski boots in a cozy hut overlooking the water – big west-facing windows framing your ski tracks.

You settle in to your private hut, then saunter over to the Eschenbach Stone House – hand-hewn from local granite in the 1930s – and trade ski stories with your fellow backcountry travelers while planning tomorrow’s adventure while scoping lines in the maproom, finally settling in to cook dinner.

Or maybe you’d prefer visiting in the summer months, hiking the Red Dot Trail down from the shoulder of Castle Peak – pausing on the shore of Frog Lake for a refreshing dip before sitting out on the back deck of the Stone House before sinking into a comfy bed in your hut beneath the Sierra stars.

Truckee Donner Land Trust is thrilled to offer these opportunities with your new Frog Lake Backcountry Huts starting in December 2021 – a new and exciting venture for a conservation organization.

Working with SageModern, Dan Goddard Construction and Alpenglow Engineering, last summer the Land Trust began installing three new huts and renovating the century-old stone house with the goal of offering a new backcountry experience akin to that found in the Alps or Patagonia while preserving the natural splendor of Frog Lake and its surrounding peaks and ridges.

In fact, inspiration for the huts comes from a staff member’s time in refugios in Patagonia.

“Besides escaping what was often brutal weather, what I remember most of my time in the refugios was the wonderful people you met and shared meals with,” said Perry Norris, co-executive



Frog Lake receives more than 480 inches of snow annually.

director of the Land Trust.

The huts will have hot and cold running water, lighting, stoves for heat and flush toilets. The Eschenbach Stone house will have a well-stocked kitchen for guests to use.

Three new huts – the Ted R’s Hut, the Albert M. Rockwood Hut and the Morgan Family Foundation Hut – will provide overnight accommodations for groups big and small, set in a stand of red fir overlooking Frog Lake with the 1,200-foot granite Frog Lake Cliff above. The Eschenbach Stone House will serve as a comfortable gathering spot with a warm fireplace.

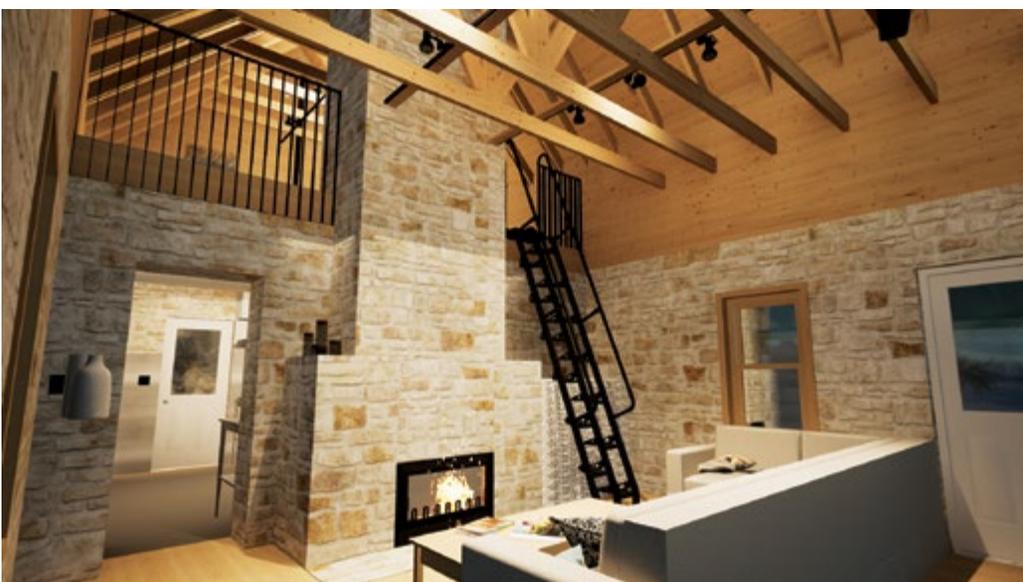
And for those who don’t want to cook or want to save a little weight in their packs on their way to Frog Lake, the Land Trust plans on selling pizza and beer (be on the lookout for Frog Lake Ale from FiftyFifty Brewery). The pizzas, made by a local chef, will be frozen and ready to go after 20 minutes in our hot oven.

“All you need to pack is a sleeping bag, your skiing or hiking equipment, some food and a toothbrush,” said John Svahn, co-executive director of the Land Trust.

The sleeping huts (The Albert Rockwood Hut a duplex for two groups of two to four people each, the Ted R’s Hut accommodating

What’s in a Name?

You’ll notice the huts’ names – Eschenbach Stone House, Ted R’s Hut, Albert M. Rockwood Hut and Morgan Family Foundation Hut. Each recognizes a stalwart supporter of the Campaign to Conserve Frog Lake, Red Mountain and Carpenter Ridge. Ralph Eschenbach is a longtime outdoorsman who played a critical role in GPS technology we all use in the backcountry. Ted Rheingold was an avid skier, cyclist and hiker, who’s motto was “enjoy every day,” and is commemorated here by his friends Chris and Crystal Sacca. Albert M. Rockwood is Liebe Patterson’s father; Liebe is a philanthropist and strong advocate for conservation. Jim and Becky Morgan founded the Northern Sierra Partnership, and with their children, support numerous Sierra and Bay area causes.



A rendering of the planned renovations to the Eschenbach Stone House by SageModern.

bigger groups of up to eight, and the Morgan Hut another duplex with two beds each) were designed with inspiration from both the Sierra and Europe. Practicality in the remote setting at 7,600 feet took precedent, designed for significant snow load with the windows and entrances facing the lake downslope in a way that will minimize shoveling during big storms.

“The roofs are constructed of a new material called cross-laminated timber, think of it as a huge butcher block of solid wood,” Said Paul Warner of SageModern. “This material gives us incredible structural properties and fire resistance, and it’s beautiful!”

The dark earth tones of the huts will blend in with the Red Fir stand surrounding them, minimizing their visual impact on the natural experience.

“While we think the huts are beautiful, the natural environment is far more spectacular,” Warner said.

The Land Trust will start accepting reservations for the huts this summer – and we expect demand to be very high – so stay tuned for the announcement and book early. We look forward to sharing this truly magical experience with you!



Frog Lake provides numerous aspects of incredible skiing.

Why is a Land Trust in the Hut Business?

One of the tenets of the Land Trust’s success has been what we call niche and focus. We know what we do and we try and do it well; we acquire land, restore it and plan and manage for the public’s enjoyment of it.

An entrepreneurial, costly and risky venture into the hospitality business may seem out of character for a small grass-roots conservation organization—the planning and work has been complicated, time-consuming, costly and at times frustrating. And that’s not to mention managing on-going operations, reservations, the countless cords of woods that needs to be cut and stacked, and the never-ending snow shoveling.

But Truckee Donner Land Trust is not your average land trust. We are not risk averse. Cool ideas morph into visions. We lease a Nordic ski area, own a campground, helped preserve a community golf course, are building a pedestrian bridge across

the Truckee River to downtown, put a new foundation under the oldest timbered building in Northern California at Webber Lake, and tore out a deadbeat dam at the headwaters of the South Yuba River.

When your mission is *Protect and Enjoy*, it covers a lot of ground. At the end of the day, our Board Member Jim Wintenberger said it best, “Huts are about opening world class landscapes to people, educating them on proper use and stewardship, and provide an experience at a fair enough price to earn lifelong advocates for our cause and others like ours.”



The new Frog Lake Backcountry Ski Huts.

Activities to Get Out on Land Trust Lands

HIKE WITH US



DOCENT HIKES ARE BACK!

After a year hiatus due to the pandemic, Truckee Donner Land Trust is thrilled to bring back our free docent-led hikes on Land Trust lands and trails. Numbers will be limited this year in compliance with health guidance – but a variety of weekend and mid-week hikes on a wide range of Land Trust properties are available to either experience a new place you’ve never been, or to learn more about a favorite wild spot.

Learn more and sign up at truckeedonnerlandtrust.org/hiking-schedule.

TRAIL DAYS RETURN FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Our stewardship crew has missed our dedicated and hard-working volunteers over the last year, and we’re excited to bring back our twice-monthly volunteer trail days this year. Like our docent hikes, numbers will be limited per health guidelines, so sign up soon. It’s a great opportunity to give back to the places you love, caring for the trails as they continue to grow in popularity and use. **Learn more about volunteer opportunities and sign up for a trail day at truckeedonnerlandtrust.org/become-a-volunteer.**



VOLUNTEER

Thank You to Our 2020 Donors

\$1M and over

Estate of Timothy Burns
Northern Sierra Partnership
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Estate of Jim Loughlin
The Nature Conservancy
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\$100,000 to \$500,000

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SketchDeck
Ellen and George Slater
Karen Patria Slusser
Jesse Smith
Susan Allen Smith
Teri Smith
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Janet Spencer
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Lucy K. Stein
Johanna Stek
Cindy Stewart
Dale and Stephen Stinson
Catherine Strand
Pieter Stroeve
Barbara E. Sullivan
Jack and Mary Sullivan
Marilyn and Casey Sullivan
Eric Svahn
Laurie Sweeney
Kristin and Greg Szabo
Mark Tavill
Ann and Ralph Taylor
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Margo and Robert Williamson
Glee Willis
Alan and Alicia Wilmunder
Jeanne Wilson
Frank Yeaman
Karen Sessler, Sam and Fred Zabel
Barbara and David Ziegler
Christine Denise Ziganti
Mary Conroy and Gary Zouzoulas

GRATITUDE

Special Acknowledgements

Partners, Foundations, Nonprofits

Auburn Ski Club
CA Resources Agency
CA State Parks
California Council of Land Trusts
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Natural Resources Agency
Donner Lake Property Owners Association
Donner Memorial State Park
Friends of Donner Summit
Friends of TD Trails
Gateway Mountain Center
Headwaters Science Institute
Lahontan Community Foundation
Martis Camp Community Foundation
Mike Smith
Morgan Family Foundation
Mountain Hardware & Sports
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
Nevada County

Northern Sierra Partnership
Northstar California Resort
Northstar Property Owners Association
OLAB
Our Truckee River Legacy Foundation
Paco's Bike and Ski
Patty Baird / Cedar House Sporthotel
Peter Trummer, Western International Securities
Placer County
Placer Land Trust
REI
Rotary Club of Truckee
Sierra Business Council
Sierra College
Sierra County
Sierra County Historical Society
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Tahoe Donner Association
Tahoe Donner Hiking Club
Tahoe Food Hub
Tahoe Institute for Natural Science

Tahoe Print Shop
Tahoe Pyramid Trail
Tahoe Rim Trail Association
Tahoe Sports Hub
Tahoe Truckee Airport District
The Access Fund
The Nature Conservancy
The Trust for Public Land
Town of Truckee
Trails & Vistas
Trout Unlimited
Truckee Chamber of Commerce
Truckee Donner Historical Society
Truckee Recreation and Parks District
Truckee River Watershed Council
Truckee Trails Foundation
US Department of Fish & Wildlife
USFS Truckee Ranger District
Vail Resorts Charitable Fund

InKind Gifts

Grant Barta
Elizabeth and Olof Carmel/Carmel Gallery
Ralph Hendrix
Bob and Carol Hicks
Herb Hwang
Law Office of Porter Simon
Mountain Hardware & Sports

Phillipa Nigg
Helen Pelster
Ann Penfield
Robison Engineering Company Inc.
Eva Rusk
Michael and Carol Sabarese
Alison and Claus Shelling
Daniel and Charlene Simmons
Bill Stevenson

Jill and Jack Svahn
Andrew and Jeanette Terry
Richard Tillis
Truckee Built - Dan Goddard Construction
Steve Ward/Advantage Equipment Sales
Angela White
Jim Zellers

Special Tribute Gifts

GRATITUDE

In honor of

Jeff Brown
Charles Almestad
Juli Anderson
Sean and Krista Anderson
Peter and Tatiana Beaupre
Shivani Beri and Pranay Kapadia
Cassie and Chris Bost
Jennifer and Jason Brooks
Kistin Hillmer and Joel Cameron
Carmen Carr
Susan and Jeff Cashen
Carmen Castro-Franceschi
Helen Conway
Gina Costa-Jones
Sean Devlin and Family
LLX Dexter-Dungan Shearer
Christopher Eckerle
Justin and Montine Fredrickson
Rik Frost
Frank Galli and Lisa Querimit
Sonja Harris and Nute Mullings
Audrey Haug
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Chris Kaufman
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Tim Knuth and Kathy Buchanan
Craig Labadie and Debra Margolis
Diana and Paul Luhmann
Peter and Marlene Lyhne

Cole Marshall
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Bill Pearson
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Jill Spangenberg and Jerry Barakos
Terri Stanfield
Cary and Barbara Stevens
Matt Thomson
Gina and Michael Updegraff
Jean and Glenn Urban
Cully Wahtola
David Wardlaw
Graeme Ware

In memory of

Darin C. Bell
Jan Anderson
Louise Anderson

John Ashcraft
Helen Bass
Rita Boehner
David Brown
Dorothy Burden, Charter Member of DLPOA
Ruth Burgess
Bill Carpenter
Elda Croce Cavagnolo
Pierre Chevalier
Larry Colborn
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Nataline Croce Lagorio
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Bob Martin
Donald C. McCormack
Fred Meyer
Keri R. Miller
J. Richard (Dick) Murphy
Dan Murphy
Dr. Lawrence E. Phillips
Emily Sparks
Bud Tollette
Mike Turner
Verne Walton
Chris Woodward



THE PEOPLE OF THE LAND TRUST:

Keri Starr Hamby & Russell Hamby



Keri Starr Hamby (left) and Russell Hamby (right) with their daughter Natalie on adventures in the Truckee-Tahoe area.

As outdoor lovers, parents, owners of a bike and ski shop, and involved members of the community, Russell and Keri Hamby have many reasons for supporting the Truckee Donner Lake Trust. They are ambassadors, donors, advisors and advocates for the Land Trust – and have been for many years.

Keri and Russell call Truckee home for the same reasons many do – skiing and other outdoor adventures, along with the community: their friends, neighbors and customers.

“I’ve always had a strong connection to Truckee – I love to ski, love to mountain bike – I’ve been coming up here since the mid-90s to ride with the old Tahoe crew and fell in love with the lifestyle,” Russell said.

So, when Russell decided to retire from professional cycling, Truckee was the next logical step.

“What clinched it was the community – I remember going to a town council meeting to advocate for Measure R (bike trails) in 2007 and the amount of passion ... I’d never experienced that,” Keri said.

Russell, Keri and John Svahn (the Land Trust’s co-executive director), worked together at Pacos, the bike and ski shop now owned by the Hambys. When John began at the Land Trust, the three often talked about the Land Trust’s work and the importance of conservation.

“I learned about why we had these connectivity issues – the fragmented

The most fun part for me is getting to talk to all the customers that walk in the door, tell them about the protected lands and trails they can go explore.

*~ Russell Hamby
Co-owner of Pacos Ski & Bike*

landscape from the Sierra Checkerboard,” Russell said. “It’s a big part of the reason I support the Land Trust, to get the land back and build something for the community.”

Over time, the Hambys became more involved with the Land Trust, learning more about its mission and ways to get involved.

“The most fun part for me is getting to talk to all the customers that walk in the door, tell them about the protected lands and trails they can go explore,” Russell said.

But Russell and Keri’s interest in the Land Trust goes beyond recreation, both as residents and as parents.

“We’re at a critical time with the environment and preserving and not just maintaining, but restoring it too,” Keri said. “People should support the Land Trust because they get it done – it’s an effective use of money toward conservation and it’s nice to know those funds are going to be used well – we have full confidence.”

The Hamby’s shop and their combined passion for conservation have been a fantastic

avenue for exposing the Land Trust’s mission and work to a wide variety of visitors and residents alike.

“Russell, Keri and Natalie are three of my favorite people,” John said. “In addition to being great friends, I appreciate their support and their passion for making our community a better place.”

Through their shop (formerly owned by Land Trust Board

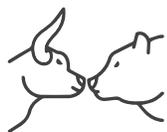
Member Paco Lindsay), the Hambys have helped drive awareness and donations. Last year they made a Truckee Donner Land Trust water bottle, with a portion of the proceeds going toward the Land Trust’s work.

“Frog Lake, Webber Lake, Royal Gorge – who else is going to do these things that make our community better?” Russell said of the Land Trust.



The Hambys created Truckee Donner Land Trust water bottles in 2020 to help support conservation in the northern Sierra.

WAYS TO GIVE



Supporting Conservation with a Gift of Stock

Truckee Donner Land Trust’s work would not be possible without your generosity – whether through donations, volunteering, or advocating for our mission. The Land Trust offers numerous ways to give to fit your needs, and gifts of stock has been a valuable tool for many of our supporters.

If the stock market has been good to you, there are significant tax advantages to giving appreciated stock that you have held for more than a year. You’ll get a tax deduction on the fair market value of the securities and avoid the capital gains tax on the appreciated stock. (Which you can buy back to reset the cost basis!)

1

YOU SAVE ON TAXES

By donating stock rather than selling it, you avoid paying capital gains tax, which can be as high as 20% for long-term holdings, such as stocks held more than one year.

2

GIFTS OF STOCK CAN BE DEDUCTED

For those of you itemizing, gifts of stock can be deducted at the stock’s fair market value on the day you donate it.

3

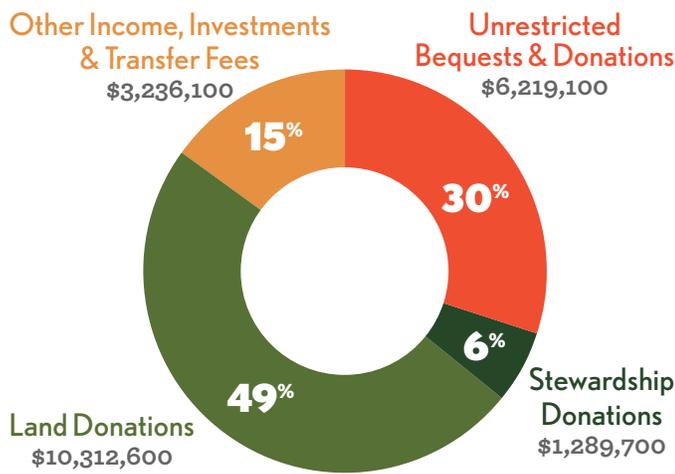
KEEP YOUR PORTFOLIO

If the stock is at a higher value, donating and buying back new shares resets your cost basis at the current, higher price, thus decreasing future capital gains difference as the stock grows in value.

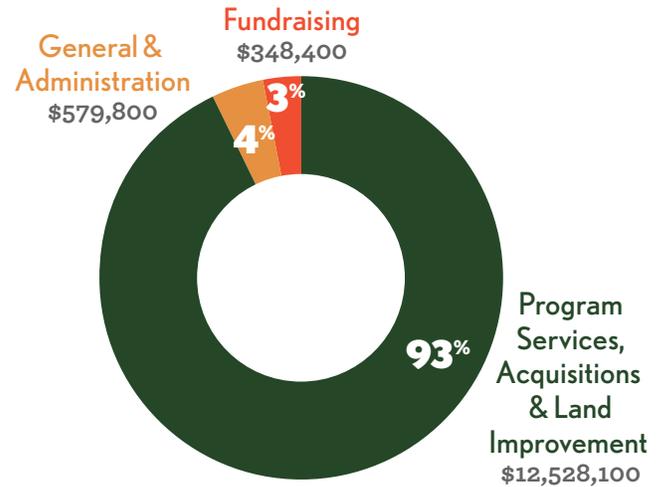
If that sounds complicated – we have it broken down into a few simple steps at truckeedonnerlandtrust.org/stock-gift-donation.

TRUCKEE DONNER LAND TRUST'S 2020-21 Fiscal Year Finances

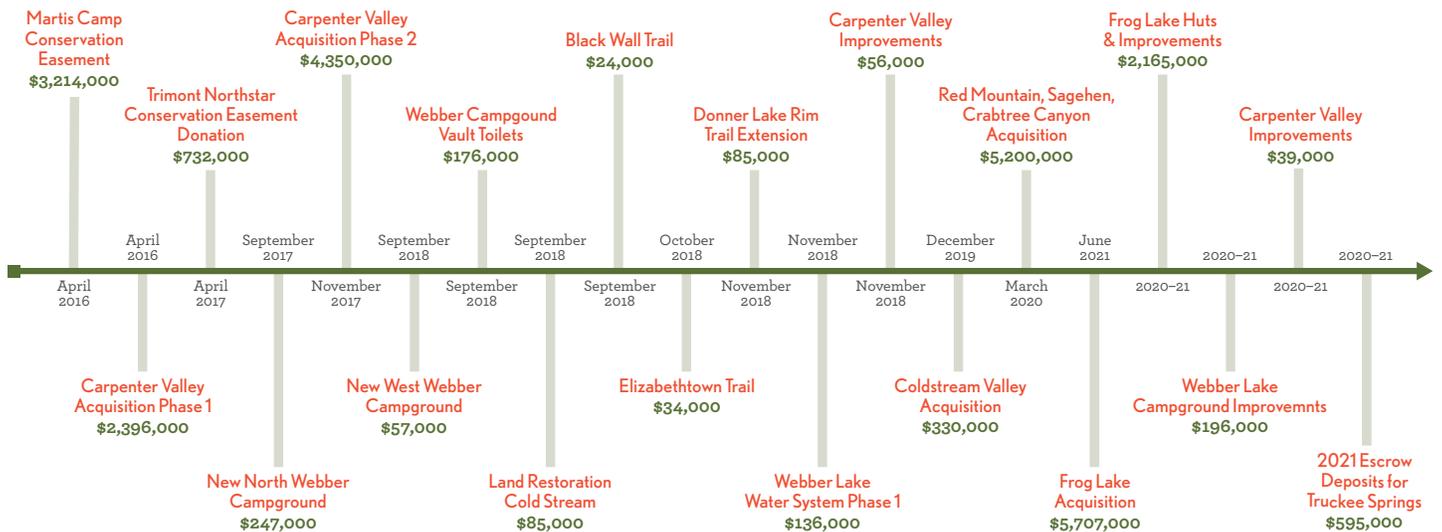
SOURCES OF FUNDS:
\$21,057,000
TOTAL REVENUE



USE OF FUNDS:
\$13,456,300
TOTAL EXPENSES & CAPITAL COSTS



OVER \$25.8 MILLION IN LAND / CONSERVATION EASEMENT ACQUISITIONS & IMPROVEMENTS





Planned giving helps ensure future generations will continue to enjoy lands protected by the Truckee Donner Land Trust. Photo by Mike Schwartz

Making an Impact

PLANNED GIVING WITH THE LAND TRUST

Truckee Donner Land Trust has only been able to protect 40,000 acres of open space, maintain 45 miles of trail, care for those lands and so much more because of your support.

In an effort to make the most out of your generous gifts and interest in supporting conservation in the northern Sierra, the Land Trust has added a range of tools for planned giving from IRA charitable rollovers to estate planning, from charitable remainder trusts to gifts of real estate – all designed to have the greatest tax benefits for you.

We're here to help you navigate these and other tools for planned giving – visit tdtlegacy.org or contact our Chief Financial Officer, Ward W. Fansler, CPA to learn more at **(530) 582-4711** or ward@tdlandtrust.org.



**SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE
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PLANNING GUIDE.**

The Truckee Donner Land Trust often talks about our work in “bucks and acres,” but it’s the people that make it happen, from donors and volunteers to board and staff. This year, the Land Trust lost two giants – both having served as board members, been supporters over multiple decades, and been true drivers of our successes.

The Milky Way over Webber Lake. Photo by Phil Mosby



Judy Mayorga

You seldom cross paths with someone as generous, kind and humble as Judy Mayorga. A longtime Land Trust Board member and volunteer, educator and artist, Judy passed away last January. In our early years the Board was filled with (let’s just say) men with strong opinions. Judy was the measured and trusted voice of reason. Barbecues at her house celebrating week-long work crews on the Donner Lake Rim Trail are telling of her giving spirit and stalwart dedication to the Land Trust and the DLRT. With her husband Guillermo (Bill), who preceded Judy in death, she could be found nearly every week end in the hills, Pulaski in hand, or skiing and hiking.



Jim Hoelter

Jim Hoelter was an exceptional successful businessman and entrepreneur, but you’d never have guessed it. In an era of grandstanding CEOs, Jim was the quintessential servant-leader. He passed away in September of 2020. A graduate of Harvard School of Business, Jim grew Textainer to become one of the largest container leasing companies in the world. A long-time resident of Serene Lakes, Jim brought his acumen for getting things done to the Truckee Doner Land Trust and played an instrumental role in “Saving Donner Summit” with the Land Trust’s acquisition of Royal Gorge in 2012. Summer visitors to Royal Gorge will most often start their adventures at the eponymous Hoelter-Hall Trailhead – when you hit the trail we hope you’ll think of his contributions.



Looking down from Red Mountain while scouting a new trail alignment between Frog Lake and Lower Carpenter Valley.

TRAIL PROJECTS

Donner Lake Rim Trail, Frog Lake and Waddle Ranch

Summertime is go-time for the Truckee Donner Land Trust's trail crew, and a low snowpack over the last winter gave them a jump start on clearing trails, as well as on-the-ground scouting for new trails.

Staff are finishing planning and securing permits the southern half of the Donner Lake Rim Trail – the Land Trust's marquee trail project – that will eventually add 12 to 15 miles of new trail south of Donner Lake. When complete, the new section of trail will run east-west along Schallenberger Ridge with incredible views of Donner Lake, Coldstream Canyon and the Sierra Crest.

"The trail will have views most folks haven't been able to access before, dropping into beautiful forests and around huge glacial erratic boulders," said Kevin Starr, stewardship coordinator for the Land Trust.

At Frog Lake, work began last summer to improve the old Red Dot Trail from the Warren Lake Trail east of Castle Peak down to Frog Lake. From there, the Land Trust is in the planning phase for

the trail to continue over Red Mountain before dropping down to Lower Carpenter Valley. Eventually, the Land Trust wants to continue the trail north to Independence Lake.

"The trail is going to take you right over the peak of Red Mountain with 360-degree views of the Sierra Crest, Lower Carpenter Valley, Euer Valley and as far as Mount Rose," Starr said.

At Waddle Ranch Preserve in the Martis Valley, the Land Trust is working with Truckee Trails Foundation and Truckee Tahoe Airport to plan some potential additions to our trail network, creating new connections in this beautiful preserve. The new trails will create alternatives to steep fire roads and double tracks, connecting existing singletrack trails.

While these projects are all in the planning phase, we have 45 miles of trail ready for you to explore. Head to truckeedonnerlandtrust.com/explore to find a new trail to enjoy.

Protect and Enjoy: All About Stewardship



Stewardship staff work to clear Land Trust trails each spring.

While new acquisitions and new trails tend to grab the most headlines – the end of a campaign for a new piece of property is often just the beginning for the Land Trust’s work.

Stewardship can generally be divided into three categories: restoration, recreation and forestry. Well before the Land Trust enters into negotiations for a piece of open space, staff is already assessing its natural resource values, its potential for sustainable recreation and what work may need to be done to ensure the land is healthy and available for the public to enjoy for generations to come.

This work has only become more pressing in recent years and into the foreseeable future, as stewardship is how the Land Trust responds to a changing climate, the growing

threat of catastrophic wildfire, and the increasing popularity of outdoor recreation in our region.

“It started with staff and board standing around a table, looking at a map, and setting a property priority list decades ago,” said Kevin Starr, stewardship coordinator for the Land Trust. “We look at each possible project from a natural resources standpoint and a recreation standpoint.”

Some properties have higher natural resource values that drive the Land Trust’s interests – like Lower Carpenter Valley – while others are more important in creating recreational opportunities – like Truckee Springs.

“Our staff starts by creating stewardship goals for each property,” said John Svahn, co-executive director for the Land Trust. “Then we often work with a variety of

partners to leverage expertise and funding to decide what’s best for this particular piece of land.”

Staff then begin exploring the property to assess what it may need for forest health, watershed health, or the best recreation opportunities compatible with the natural environment.

On restoration projects, usually involving stream and meadows the Land Trust may work with government agencies like the US Forest Service, or nonprofits like The Nature Conservancy or the Truckee River Watershed Council. For example, the Land Trust has partnered with the Watershed Council on stream and meadow restoration at Lacey Meadow and Perazzo Meadow, where watercourses have been restored to a more natural state creating more habitat and a steadier release of water into the

Truckee River watershed.

Even in the middle of town, the Land Trust looks for opportunities for restoration, such as at Winter Creek off of Old Brockway Road, as part of a partnership to restore wetlands that had been disconnected from the Truckee River, resulting in healthier wet meadows with more wildlife.

Forestry can be both an immediate need and an ongoing project. Working with registered foresters, the health of the forest on each property is evaluated, and a plan created to bring it into a healthy balance that offers better habitat and wildfire resiliency.

Extra attention is paid to forests bordering residential communities.

The Land Trust takes great pride in its commitment to sustainable recreation. It takes painstaking and serious planning to create world-class recreation opportunities that won't trample or impact the plants, animals and water courses.

"A core tenet of the Land Trust is we believe a key to conservation is a public that is invested in conservation all the way to their core, where they can get out on the land and understand first-hand how special these places are," Svahn said.



(left) Volunteers help maintain the Elizabethtown Meadow Trail.

(below) Truckee Trails Foundation crew worked with the Land Trust to build boardwalk in Lower Carpenter Valley to help protect the sensitive habitat of the valley.



Stewardship can generally be divided into three categories:

1 RESTORATION

2 RECREATION

3 FORESTRY

Plans vary property to property, Svahn said. "What we found was Royal Gorge could handle greater and more varied recreation, while at lower Carpenter we needed to do more to protect the fens, rare species and wetlands of Lower Carpenter Valley with specific trail alignments and boardwalks."

Trail decisions are driven by the Land Trust's 10-Year Trail Plan, and that map helps the Land Trust make acquisition decisions as well as ideas for new trail destinations and connections.

Ongoing stewardship boils down to taking care of our protected open spaces

year after year – whether it's cleaning up trails impacted by winter storms or growing numbers of users, or performing annual monitoring that allows the Land Trust to track changes on our lands driven by climate change, fire and recreational use over the span of years and decades.

The Land Trust's stewardship also depends on you – our supporters. Whether you participate in a volunteer trail day or you follow the principles of Leave No Trace when you hit the trail, it's an undertaking that takes all of us. To learn more about the Land Trust's stewardship work, go to truckeedonnerlandtrust.org.



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Future generations learning to love the lands of the northern Sierra at Webber Lake. Photo by Helen Pelster