

Land



Courtesy of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife

California's rich natural landscapes provide economic, environmental, cultural, and aesthetic value.

More than 50 million acres in California are protected. Performing ongoing stewardship of this land poses financial and management challenges. Meanwhile, over one-half of California's land is privately owned. Sustaining natural systems relies on developing and demonstrating practices that private owners can apply to steward their land.

California has an opportunity to enhance its varied landscapes – from coastlines to

agricultural valleys to forested mountains – for people and nature. The Foundation’s strategies focus on advancing land management and conservation systems to ensure the long-term vitality of California’s land resources.

STRATEGIES

Advancing Durability and Relevance of Protected Lands

The Foundation fosters effective stewardship of California’s protected lands to enhance local communities, preserve wildlife habitat, and provide recreational opportunities over the long term.

The Foundation invests in statewide efforts and organizations committed to effectively managing protected areas and facilitating coordinated land management.

Through its grantees, the Foundation is:

- **Strengthening the capacity of statewide systems**, such as California State Parks and the state’s land trust community, to care for protected lands.
- **Developing new models of landscape-scale coordination** among land managers to enhance stewardship, overcome fragmentation, and improve results.

Aligning Incentives for Conservation on Private and Unprotected Lands

The Foundation supports effective natural resource management on private and unprotected lands to benefit both natural and human communities.

The Foundation invests in innovative programs that engage private landowners and managers to be effective stewards of their land by removing barriers and aligning incentives to encourage natural resource conservation.

Through its grantees, the Foundation is:

- **Developing and piloting new approaches to conservation** on agricultural, ranch, and forest lands that demonstrate the value and incentivize the protection of nature’s benefits.
- **Bringing promising projects to scale** to enhance how conservation is pursued

throughout the state.

- **Strengthening the capacity of California institutions and organizations** to use incentive-based approaches to conservation.

GRANTEE HIGHLIGHT

Conservation That Works



Sustainable Conservation **Sustainable Conservation** partners with businesses, government agencies, and nonprofits to solve California’s environmental problems. Together, it works to find solutions that are based in science, are economically sustainable, and demonstrate real results.

Sustainable Conservation’s efforts make effective conservation “business as usual.” The organization’s Healthy Waterways for People and Wildlife initiative in particular accelerates the restoration of impaired rivers and lands to boost clean air, abundant water, and wildlife throughout the state.