

The Truckee Donner Land Trust preserves and protects scenic, historic and recreational lands with high natural resource values in the Truckee Donner region.



Spring/Summer Newsletter Volume 39 ❖ May 2011

# Announcing two new acquisitions

Summit Canyon to be added to Donner Memorial State Park, page four

Another acquisition in the Martis Valley, page six

A thank you to our members, page eight

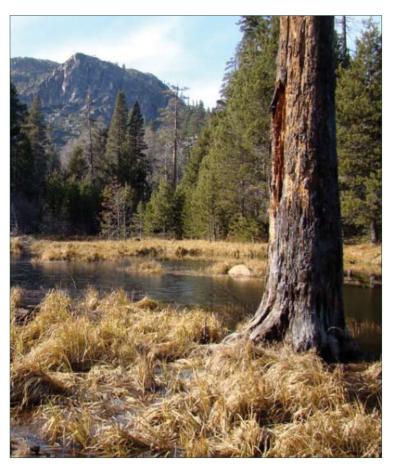
## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends.

When I was 11 years old, I was on a Little League baseball team that went 19-1. Despite losing that one painful game, I learned what it was like to be on a winning team — the excitement, confidence and optimism of individuals working toward a common goal. It was one of the proudest moments of my life then.

You probably know where I am going with this nostalgic reverie; I am reminded a great deal of the Truckee Donner Land Trust team on the field today. We-our Land Trust staff and Board, our many partners and you, our "we-couldn't-do-itwithout-you" supporters-are on a pretty good roll.

In the past year and a half the Land Trust, often in partnership with The Trust for Public Land or The Nature Conservancy, have completed eight separate transactions, protecting nearly 11,000 acres with a value of \$35,675,000.



A pond on the Summit Canyon property. A very large bear is often spotted here. Photo by Janet Zipser Zipkin.



Looking south across Webber Lake. The old icehouse is on the right. On the property is one of the oldest standing structures in Northern California, the Webber Lake Hotel built in 1860.

This is nothing short of an extraordinary achievement and serves as a true record of our success.

Further, in 2011 we are raising funds to complete the protection of Lacey Meadows and Webber Lake (see page 19) and record the final phase of the Henness Pass Conservation Easement with Sierra Pacific Industries. Together, these acquisitions, with a value of \$12,250,000, add another 5,720 acres to the tally above.

I am more proud now than I have ever been. This winning team, the Land Trust team, of which we are all a part, is not only going places, we're saving places, acre by beautiful acre.

At the Land Trust, our commitment to conservation includes all our resources, and we are dedicated to running a lean ship. We have only four full-time employees funded through member donations. We promise to efficiently put every dollar of your money to good use as we continue to pursue our mission: To preserve and protect scenic, historic and recreational lands with high natural resource values in the Truckee Donner region.

I hope you will continue to support the Land Trust as we forge ahead. You are an important member of our winning team. We couldn't do it without you. Here's to going 20-0.

Warm regards,

**Executive Director** 

## TRAILS UPDATE

Winter's abundance means it may be a while before we play in dirt again, especially in the high country. The good news is that this year's significant snowpack will keep our soils bound longer, meaning less dust on hikes and rides, less erosion, and more productive trail maintenance. It should be a great year on the trails!

#### Trails in Winter

Land Trust staff is eager to see how the new trails at Waddle Ranch Preserve fared over the winter. One member in mid-March skied the alignments to see if trails were becoming exposed and/or if trees had come down across them. While we can't say with certainty the trails are unscathed (they were under three feet of snow), we can say Lake Ella (aka Dry Lake) and Beacon Meadows are breathtaking in winter and provide for an excellent snowshoe or cross-country ski.

#### **Forging Ahead**

This summer the Land Trust will focus on the permitting, analyses, and designs for a new section of the Donner Lake Rim Trail; a new access trail in Billy Mack Canyon; trails at Independence Lake; and trails on the new Summit Canyon acquisition. This time-consuming and expensive process is the necessary behind-thescenes work that results in a more sustainable - environmentally and archaeologically friendly - trail.

New trail construction will resume in the summer of 2012.

#### Gooddirtyfun

This season, the Land Trust will build on its partnership with the Truckee Trails Foundation's program *Gooddirtyfun* to maintain area trails weekly. Last year was

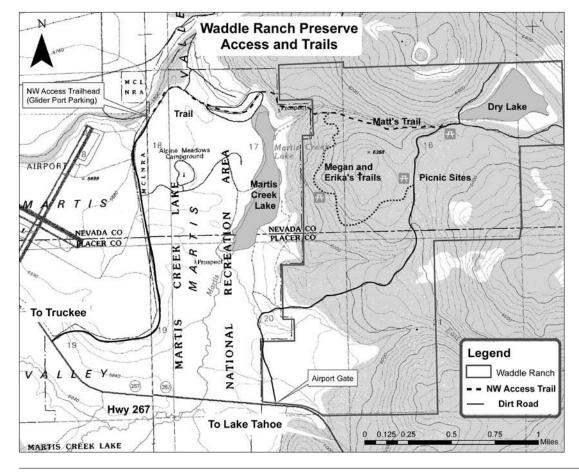


Mountin bikers enjoying a day's ride. Photo: Michael Schwartz/The Backcountry.

an overwhelmingly successful inaugural year for *Gooddirtyfun*: 125 volunteers constructed two miles of trail and maintained 16 miles of trails regionally (much on the Donner Lake Rim Trail).

#### A correction:

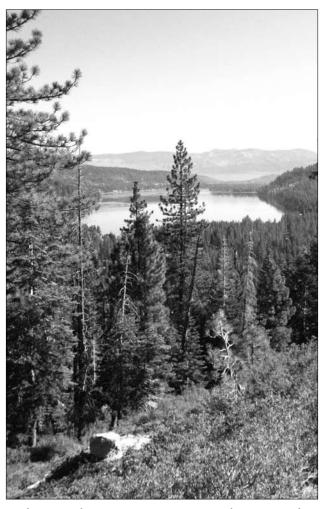
In last spring's newsletter we mistakenly suggested members access Billy Mack Canyon via Billy Mack Rd. off of Old Highway 40. This is a private road and not open to the public. We apologize for our mistake.



Volunteers are almost entirely responsible for construction of the Land Trust's trails. If you would like to join this praiseworthy band of stewards this summer, contact John at john@tdlandtrust. org or sign up for the regular maintenance days at gooddirtyfun. org. We look forward to seeing you on the trail! See trail building dates on page 16.

## PRESERVING

# Completing phase IV of the Donner Memorial State Park project



Looking east down Summit Canyon towards Donner Lake. Summit Creek and Billy Mack Canyon Creek merge on the property, forming the largest tributary of Donner Lake.

The Truckee Donner Land Trust, in partnership with California State Parks, is acquiring 260 acres in Summit Canyon west of Donner Lake and immediately below Donner Summit. The project is the number one priority for the State Parks Sierra District and is of statewide significance. Once acquired, the acreage property will be added to Donner Memorial State Park for the public to enjoy. State Park lands will now extend west, south and east of Donner Lake significantly aiding its protection. The purchase should be completed in June.

The project includes Summit Creek and the confluence of Summit Creek and Billy Mack Canyon Creek. Combined, these creeks are the largest tributaries to Donner Lake. Along with 360 acres the Land Trust has already protected in the watershed, over 11,000 linear feet of Billy Mack Canyon Creek and 5,000 linear feet of Summit Creek will be protected within a total of 764 acres and nearly three miles of riparian corridor.

The property has an existing trail network that provides access to the historic features on Donner Pass such as the petroglyphs and China Wall and provides a scenic route to the Pacific Crest Trail, creating a myriad of new hiking loops.

Also bisecting the Summit Canyon property is the "Old Stock Trail", formerly County Road 37. This historic route was one of the earliest routes over Donner Pass and is believed to be a part of the Dutch Flat-Donner Lake Road. It was briefly in the State inventory of roads before becoming a County Road and then a Stock Trail, as the Lincoln Highway and U.S. Route 40 were

constructed.

For many years, the "Old Stock Trail" has been a source of contention over whether a public right-of-way exists on the property.

"The public can explore wherever their interests take them on the property," said John Svahn, the Land Trust's Stewardship Director, "but please tread lightly and be sure not to disturb the historic and cultural resources that may exist."

Since the Land Trust's founding, the protection of lands surrounding Donner Lake has been a top priority. Coupled with previous acquisitions, the Land Trust has now protected most of all the major drainages to Donner Lake. These include Gregory Creek, Billy Mack Canyon Creek, Summit Creek, and Lakeview Creek. In 2002, the Land Trust added nearly 2,000 acres to the Park, tripling its size. Included in the expansion efforts are Schallenberger Ridge, portions of Coldstream Canyon, and Lakeview Canyon. In 2006, the Land Trust added an additional 350 acres to the Park, including parts of Emigrant Canyon and several other small "inholdings" acquired over the years.

The Summit Canyon property has an existing turnkey trail system including miles of meandering and scenic trails and a large parking area/trailhead. The property is surrounded by public land to the west and south, and to the north by land already conserved by the Land

## SUMMIT CANYON

Trust. Its proximity to public and conserved lands provides exciting and important opportunities for new trails connecting to the Pacific Crest Trail and the Donner Lake Rim Trail. The property also offers excellent opportunities for camping, biking, equestrian, fishing, birding, cross country and backcountry skiing, and rock climbing.

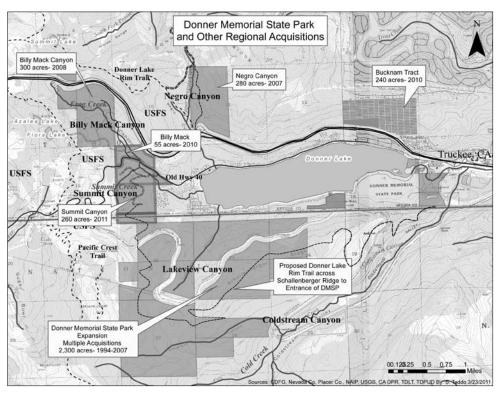
"Its proximity to public and conserved lands provides exciting and important opportunities for new trails connecting to the Pacific Crest Trail and the Donner Lake Rim Trail," said the Land Trust's master trail builder, John Svahn.

The Rim Trail, championed by the Land Trust, will be a 23-mile trail encircling the ridges above Donner Lake.

"This one-of-a-kind property at Truckee's doorstep is now open for the public to enjoy," said Land Trust Executive Director, Perry Norris. "The acquisition would not have happened without the help of Nevada County Supervisor, Ted Owens, and Town Council member Barbara Green. They served as critical intermediaries with the sellers, Frank and Julie Cadjew of Reno."

"This is an absolutely beautiful property with fabulous views. The potential trail connections here will connect Truckee and Donner Summit. The recreational opportunities will be enjoyed by locals and will attract new visitors," said Barbara Green of Truckee's Town Council.

"By creating new opportunities and destinations for recreation, the Land Trust's conservation efforts boost tourism, aiding our local economy," said Nevada County Supervisor Ted Owens. "This is a terrific project, for the economy, for recreation, and for conservation.



The expansion of Donner Memorial State Park since 2002. The Land Trust added more than 2,500 acres to the Park.

I am very proud to have been a part of opening this wonderful property to the public."

"The property also has significant historical values, playing a role in emigration, the transcontinental railroad, and development of America's highway system," added Owens.

"For the Cadjew's, the property was a labor of love. Most their weekends in the summer were spent attending to improving forest health, maintaining trails, and preventing erosion," Norris said. "They were very good stewards and the property has been well cared for and preserved."

The Land Trust, working with State Parks, will also be making several improvements to facilitate public use. These improvements include new signage, construction of a new bridge, and a trailhead.

Funding for this \$3.475 million acquisition came from Prop 84 State Parks funds restricted to acquisitions, the Northern Sierra Partnership, and private individuals.

This is a terrific project, for the economy, for recreation, and for conservation. I am very proud to have been a part of opening this wonderful property to the public.

- Ted Owens, Nevada County Supervisor

# NEWLY

## Another 122-Acres protected in the Martis Valley

In April, the Land Trust closed on a 122-acre property off SR 267 across from the entrance to Northstar-at-Tahoe™. Known as Martis Creek Estates, the marketing name of a subdivision that never got off of the drawing board, the property includes nearly a mile of the Middle Fork of Martis Creek and a large, wet meadow.

Last year, a would be developer lost the property in foreclosure and the Land Trust was able to purchase it in April for \$2.6 million, well below its appraised value. In 2008, the property appraised for \$5.6 million.

The downturn in the real estate market has created many opportunities for conservation groups to acquire land at significantly deflated prices.

"The folks that held the note were happy just to cut their losses," said David Brown, Chair of the Land Trust's Lands Committee that oversees all acquisitions.

> Since pursuing Waddle Ranch Preserve in 2005, this small but conspicuous and important acreage in the Martis Valley has been on the Land Trust's radar.

"This acquisition is very important to the future of Waddle Ranch Preserve, Martis Valley and the region," said Tom Van Berkem, the Land Trust's Board President. "And it will be great to remove that prominent developer's sign."

A tentative map had been recorded for a subdivision of estate parcels on this site. Earlier zoning would have allowed as many as 250 units on the property.

While the resource values of the site are fairly substantial, paramount is how

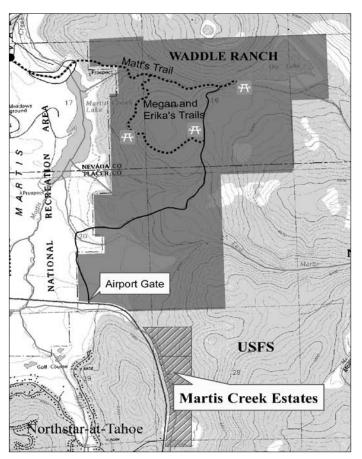
the acquisition augments conservationists' overall strategy in the Martis Valley to prevent development on the northeast side of SR 267. This 122-acre piece is a small but conspicuous part of that assemblage of natural lands. Once completed, natural lands will extend from the Martis Valley to the Mt. Rose Wilderness and onto the Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest creating more than 70,000 contiguous acres of natural lands.

Also, the Middle Fork of Martis Creek, a year round stream, runs for nearly a mile through the property. While the property is mostly Jeffrey pine forest, it does provide riparian and aquatic habitat and has a functioning wet meadow. The parcel is also part of a scenic viewshed off SR 267 and could possibly provide a trailhead off of SR 267 to access Waddle Ranch Preserve or, in the future, Sierra Pacific Industries' 7,000 acres that borders the property.

Key partners in the acquisition include the Truckee Tahoe Airport District, the Northern Sierra Partnership, Mountain Area Preservation Foundation, Sierra Watch, and East West Partners.

"Residents and visitors have been blessed with a forward thinking airport Board and staff. Over the past four years the airport has invested more than \$7 million into open space protection," said Perry Norris, the Land Trust's Executive Director.

"This is a critical parcel of property in close proximity to the airport," said Kevin Smith,



Martis Creek Estates and its proximity to preserved public lands.

# ACQUIRED



A large meadow on the recently protected property. At one time, zoning would have permitted as many as 250 units on the property.

Residents and visitors have been blessed with a forward thinking airport Board and staff. Over the past four years the airport has invested more than \$7 million into open space protection.

 Perry Norris, Land Trust Executive Director

General Manager of the airport district. "It not only protects aircraft over flight areas but also allows and facilitates additional access to other important airport properties."

This summer, the Land Trust will begin thinning overgrown stock for forest health and to reduce the chance of wildfire.

Settlements negotiated by Sierra Watch, MAPF and East West Partners provided critical funding. Our thanks to these organizations.



This summer, the Land Trust will be undertaking substantial cleanup of the property and forest management. Anyone need a truck?

Your generous and continued support preserves the scenic, recreational and historic lands that we all cherish.

#### \$1,000,000 or More

California State Parks Northern Sierra Partnership Sierra Nevada Conservancy Truckee Tahoe Airport District Wildlife Conservation Board -California Department of Fish and Game

#### \$100,000 - \$999,999

California Department of Transportation - Environmental Enhancement and Mititgation Program **Emigrant Trails Greenway Trust** The Kevin & Sheri Marshall Charitable Martis Valley Settlement Morgan Family Foundation Tahoe Donner Association Town of Truckee United States Forest Service

#### \$25,000 - \$99,000

Emily & Lance Conn Crabb-Grasseschi Family Foundation Rod & Jonnie Jacobs Helene & Charles Linker - Jewish Community Federation The Martis Fund - Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation

#### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous

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Mr. & Mrs. Peter Golze - Sam and

Jennie Rovit Memorial Foundation



Near the summit of Mt. Lola, the epicenter of the Land Trust's work. Altogether nearly 17,000 acres in the Little Truckee River watershed will be protected.

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Negro Canyon from Donner Ridge, acquired by the Land Trust in 2006.



This year's snowpack should result in a bounty of wildflowers.

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Preserving open space in the greater Truckee Donner region is simply good business. The Land Trust would like to thank the following conservation-minded businesses and their customers and encourage you to give them your business.

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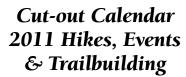
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## 2011 Member Hikes

The Land Trust staff and Board are pleased to offer another round of great hikes for our members. Most of our hikes explore lands the Land Trust has protected or is working to protect. Hurry and sign up by contacting K.V. at 530-582-4711 or kv@tdlandtrust.org. Sorry, no dogs.



May 26 - River Ranch Dinner (benefiting the Land Trust)

May 28 - Exploring Waddle Ranch Preserve Hike

June 4 - Truckee Day – Summit and Negro Canyons Clean Up

June 11 - Wildflowers at Sagehen Meadows Hike

June 25 - Matt Rusanoff Trail Dedication at Waddle Ranch Preserve

July 23 - Donner Lake Rim Trail Section Hike

July 30 - Sugar Bowl to Squaw Valley Hike

Aug 6 - Bluegrass Concert at Sugar Bowl (benefiting the Land Trust)

Aug 7 - Mt. Lola Hike

Sept 17-18 - Trails and Vistas Event - Spooner Lake

Oct 8 - Billy Mack and Summit Canyons Hike

#### Trailbuilding

Every Wednesday night starting June 15 through October 5, from 4 p.m. to dark. Sign up at: www.gooddirtyfun.org.

For groups of four or more who want to work on a weekend day, contact John at 530-582-4711 or john@tdlandtrust.org.

### Exploring Waddle Ranch Preserve Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>

Waddle Ranch Preserve, in the heart of the Martis Valley, is one of the Land Trust's proudest conservation victories. Join the Land Trust's Board member Janet Zipser Zipkin for a hike through this wildlife sanctuary of scenic meadows and lush, green forests. There is a lot of sun exposure on parts of this trail. Distance and difficulty: 6 miles roundtrip with moderate elevation gains; moderate. Limit: 20 people.

#### Wildflowers at Sagehen Meadows Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>

Explore meadows filled with colorful High Sierra wildflowers on this popular hike led by Board Member Janet Zipser Zipkin. We'll delight in many species of wildflowers as we hike to the spectacular Camas Lily fields. Hikers have in the past identified over 40 species of wildflowers (while being accompanied by butterflies and playful birds). The trail is gently rolling and family friendly. *Distance and difficulty: 5 miles roundtrip; easy. Limit: 20 people.* 

## Donner Lake Rim Trail - Castle Valley to the Donner Lake Interchange Saturday, July $23^{\rm rd}$

This hike, dubbed "The Executive Hike" traverses much of the built Rim Trail, beginning at 7,300 feet and ending at 6,500 feet. Board member Bill Goerke will lead hikers past ancient junipers, old-growth red firs, and fields of wildflowers while slowly descending. It also crosses rushing mountain streams and passes interesting glacial erratics and glacier-scoured slickrock. Although the route is mostly a descent, it is over 10 miles long in often-exposed country. *Distance and difficulty: 3-4 hours; moderate. Limit 20 people.* 

#### Sugar Bowl to Squaw Valley Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>

Led by the Land Trust's Executive Director Perry Norris, this classic and highly scenic hike follows the Pacific Crest Trail south from Sugar Bowl to Squaw Valley with a final steep descent through Shirley Canyon. This is a long and arduous hike but has stunning, 360-degree views and, with an early start, we can take our time to identify the plethora of wildflowers we'll see. A shuttle will be arranged from Squaw Valley to the start of the Mt. Judah Loop Trail. Distance and difficulty: 7 a.m. start; 17 miles with major elevation changes; very strenuous. Limit 20 people.

#### Mt. Lola – the Highest Peak in Nevada County Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>

Mt. Lola is named after the famed dancer, actress and courtesan, Lola Montez, who lived for a time in nearby Grass Valley in 1853. Hikers will enjoy panoramic views of the Sierra Crest, the Sierra Buttes, the Sierra Valley, Perazzo Meadows and Independence Lake. Land Trust Board member Chris Fellows leads this inspiring hike where you can sign the summit register at 9,103 feet. *Distance and difficulty: 9 miles roundtrip; strenuous. Limit: 20 people.* 

### Billy Mack and Summit Canyons Saturday, October 8th

Join Board member Janet Zipser Zipkin and Stewardship Director John Svahn on this new hike that links our most recent acquisition with other Land Trust projects in the Donner Lake basin. Beginning with a stiff climb through Billy Mack Canyon to the Pacific Crest Trail, the route traverses the headwaters of Billy Mack Canyon and Summit Creeks while offering spectacular views of Donner Lake and Schallenberger Ridge. The route incorporates history as well as scenery as it passes China Wall, the world's first automobile underpass, and the Lincoln highway while descending into Summit Canyon. Distance and difficulty: 3-4 hours; moderate to strenuous. Limit: 15 people.

We look forward to seeing you on one of our amazing hikes!

## SAVE THE DATE

#### Dine at River Ranch and Help the Land Trust Thursday, May 26

Treat yourself to a night out and help the Land Trust protect lands! River Ranch Restaurant will donate 30 percent of your total food bill to the Land Trust with their generous "Dining for the Community" program. Make your reservations at least a day in advance, and be sure to tell the reservationist that you are dining for the Truckee Donner Land Trust. 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. River Ranch - Hwy 89 at Alpine Meadows Rd.

Reservations: 530-583-4264

#### Matt Rusanoff Trail Dedication at Waddle Ranch Preserve Saturday, June 25

Matt Rusanoff, former Land Trust Board member, was a vibrant, brilliant and passionate Truckee leader who passed away much too young. The main access trail at Waddle Ranch Preserve is named Matt's Trail in his honor. Friends and family of Matt will be formally dedicating the trail on June 25th, Matt's birthday.

#### Land Trust Benefit Concert at Sugar Bowl Saturday, August 6

proud to partner with

Sugar Bowl for what is

our good friends at

The Land Trust is

sure to be a memorable musical event this summer, Saturday, August 6th, with a portion of proceeds to benefit the Land Trust. Negotiations are currently underway with San Francisco music promoters to bring to Sugar Bowl a national touring act playing on an outside stage in the Village, just steps from the classic Lodge at Sugar Bowl. Stay tuned at www.sugarbowl. com and www.tdlandtrust.org for announcements on who will be headlining the show. While there are still a few artists in the running, one thing's for sure... this will be a musical event that you won't want to miss!



Bird watchers at Lake Ella (aka Dry Lake). The lake hosts an astonishing number of resident and migratory birds.

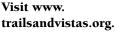
#### 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Trails and Vistas at Spooner Lake Saturday & Sunday, September 17-18

Trails and Vistas' audience will experience art in nature with sculpture, music, dance and poetry in a completely new and inspiring way during the hike at Spooner Lake, a well-loved hiking, equestrian, and mountain biking area at Lake Tahoe.

Volunteer opportunities available: e-mail info@trailsandvistas.org and include "Volunteer Tour Guide" in the subject line.

Trails and Vistas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that combines hiking with artistic expression. These distinctive art hikes are a collaborative effort led by Founder and Artistic Director Nancy Tieken Lopez and Co-Director Elizabeth Archer along with vital support from regional environment and arts nonprofits and volunteers. Collaborating partners include the Truckee Donner Land

Trust, InnerRhythms
Dance Theatre,
and the KidZone
Children's Museum.
This collaboration
strives to strengthen
participants'
commitment
to building
environmental
stewardship and
building a strong
community through
creative expression.





Chief Red Hawk. Photo: Jeff Engerbretson.



Volunteers from Patagonia removing the barbed wire fence running between Martis Creek Recreation Area and Waddle Ranch Preserve.

## DONOR PROFILE

Kevin and Sheri Marshall

Kevin and Sheri Marshall moved to Truckee in 1999, drawn by the majestic scenery and the unique qualities of the locals and visitors.

"The folks that live or visit here are nice, smart, well-educated, hard working and healthy", says Kevin.

The couple has two children, Beck and Kyla, and relishes getting outdoors together.

Kevin and his business partner, Duane Andrews, are

the leadership team at Clear Capital headquartered in Truckee, employing 270 locals, 25 in Roseville and others in their Dallas and Manhattan offices. The company provides valuation and analytics products for guidance towards confident financial decisions. It is an incredible story of business vision and acumen.

Steve Frisch, President of the Sierra Business Council, said of Clear Capital, "This a business that could be located anywhere but choose Truckee. It is a great example of the art of the possible and an economic model of how our community can prosper."

The Marshall's believe in protecting open space for future generations prompting them to make a generous gift helping the Land Trust acquire the recently protected Summit Canyon.

"It was gratifying to take the kids snowshoeing in Summit Canyon and watch them gain an understanding of how philanthropy can make the world better," Kevin said.



Sheri, Beck, Kyla and Kevin Marshall at their favorite picnic spot in Summit Canyon.

## INDEPENDENCE LAKE UPDATE

Public input gathered during our first year managing Independence Lake is guiding the Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy's efforts to improve and enhance visitors' experience, starting with the opening of a new campground in 2011.

The new campsites will be accessed via a short walk from the parking area and will disperse along the ridge separating

the meadow from Independence Lake. Each site will have a picnic table and a bear-safe food storage locker. We have consulted with a specialist in maximizing accessibility to ensure that access for disabled visitors continues to expand.

In addition, this year staff will be planning Independence Lake's long-term improvements that include drive-in camping and new trails.

To ensure our actions reflect what people want at Independence Lake, the Land Trust, Truckee River Watershed Council, and The Nature Conservancy will be conducting a broad public input process this spring. We will be seeking suggestions on trails, camping, and boat access.



Independence Lake with Carpenter Ridge in the background. Carpenter Peak, acquired by the Land Trust in 2006, is regarded as one of the best backcountry ski descents in the Northern Sierra.

### Our New Logo

The Land Trust extends a high-five thanks to Matt Chappell for creating our new logo. Matt spent hours working with staff and Board to come up with a terrific design, one that better captures the alpine feel of our mountain home.

Matt lives in Truckee and manages an in-house design team for Tahoe Donner Association. He also freelances, working in photography, print design, websites, newsletters and branding, to name a few of his talents. View samples of his work at **www.chappawitz.com**.

## Webber Lake/Lacey Meadows Update

Clif Johnson, the owner of Webber Lake, tells a story of driving sheep decades ago from the family's ranch in Roseville to summer grazing land in Lacey Meadows. The journey would take 14 days, and 10 days on the downhill return.

The Johnson family, going back to Clif's father, William Henry Johnson, has proudly owned the Lacey Meadows property for over a century. Clif tells another story of his father buying Lacey Meadows sight unseen from Joseph Perazzo. "Joe knew good dirt." Clif said.

Clif and his lovely wife, Barbara, cannot remember exactly when they acquired Webber Lake: "Maybe in the 1940's."

The Land Trust is proud to be working with the Johnson's to permanently protect this amazing 3,000-acre property and the headwaters of the Little Truckee River.

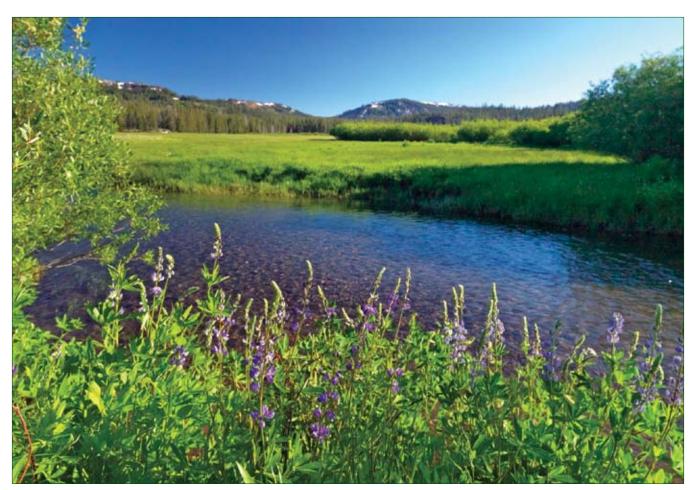
With its long-time partner, The Trust for Public Land, the Land Trust is now raising the necessary funds, public and private, to acquire the property this year.

The Johnson's even turned down more lucrative offers from buyers. "Our vision for our property and the Land Trust's vision are nearly perfectly aligned, "Barbara said.

"This is arguably one of the most important conservation efforts in the SierraNevada," states the Land Trust's President, Tom Van Berkem.

The Land Trust recently received a \$1 million grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and a \$1.5 million pledge from the Northern Sierra Partnership.

To augment public and foundation funding, the Land Trust is seeking to raise \$1.5 million from individuals and businesses. If you're interested in learning more about this important acquisition, please call our office at 530-582-4711.



Lacey Meadow is one of the finest examples of a sub-alpine meadow in the Northern Sierra. Photo: Elizabeth Carmel www. The Carmel Gallery.com.

The Truckee Donner Land Trust was founded in 1990 to preserve and protect scenic, historic and recreational lands with high natural resource values in the Truckee Donner region.

Tel. 530-582-4711 Fax 530-582-5528 info@tdlandtrust.org www.tdlandtrust.org

The Truckee Donner Land Trust is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations to the Land Trust may be tax-deductible under the Internal Revenue Service Code.

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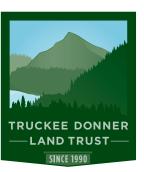
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#### **COVER PHOTO:**

Afternoon Thunder Storm in the Martis Valley. Altogether the Land Trust has protected 1,884 acres in the Martis Valley. Image © Elizabeth Carmel, and provided courtesy of The Carmel Gallery in Truckee. www.TheCarmelGallery.com

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> Make a secure donation right from our website: www.tdlandtrust.org



It is never too early to get them started with trail maintenance. Volunteers from REI working on the Beacon Loop Trail at Waddle Ranch Preserve.



