

2009/2010 DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The following represent selected program accomplishments by the District in FY 09-10:

Conservation Program

- Completed 8 conservation easement and fee title acquisitions
 - *Farms and Ranches (Crane Home Ranch, Quinlan, Smith Family Farm)*
 - *Greenbelts and Scenic Hillside (Danielli Ranch)*
 - *Water, Wildlife and Natural Areas (O'Brien, Riddell)*
 - *Recreation and Education (McCullough, Jenner Headlands)*
- Completed 4 Matching Grant projects (*Bayer Neighborhood Park and Gardens, Burbank Avenue Phase 1, Giorgi Park Phase 1, and Patterson Point*)
- Conducted Matching grant workshop and selected four new projects under the program
- Conservation Planning – Completed Mayacamas Mountains Connectivity Study, initiated Oak Woodlands Plan
- Conducted site assessments and property evaluations for potential conservation projects

Stewardship Program

- Opened Taylor Mountain for interim access through permit program
- Retained consultants, initiated Taylor Mountain Master Plan
- North Slope Sonoma Mountain Trail – Authority and Board approved expenditure and contracts; construction underway
- Laguna Trails – Authority and Board approved mitigation; construction expected late summer
- Healdsburg Ridge – permits pending; trail improvements expected fall
- Implemented terms of settlement agreement for Maria Hansen Trust (McCrea)
- Completed conveyance of land for Farmers Lane Extension with City of Santa Rosa
- Completed draft Management Plans for Saddle Mountain and Poff; completed road work on Plum Ranch Road (Saddle Mountain)
- Initiated Management Plan for Calabazas, executed yellow star thistle control
- Montini – Board adopted CEQA document and approved plan for implementation; resolution with City
- Finalized new AT&T lease on Sonoma Mountain Ranch (Walsh)
- Initiated Thatcher trail connection
- Completed monitoring reports, site assessments, and baselines; processed permitted use requests for conservation easements

Community Relations/Legislative Programs

- Expanded public outings program – increased program participation by 500% for approximately \$50k
- Initiated a State legislative platform for the District to identify priorities, that aligns with the County’s priorities and that positions the District on a statewide level for future funding opportunities
- Sponsored legislation – recently signed into law - for District and other open space districts to accept irrevocable offers
- Initiated Federal legislative program for the District to pursue federal funding opportunities and identify legislation pertinent to the District’s program
- Generated quarterly report and process to update the public on District projects and programs
- Developed outreach strategies for fee lands that resulted in good neighbor policy development for North Slope and a celebration to kick off trail construction, and a permit orientation program for Taylor Mountain

Program-wide

- Prepared long-term financial forecast model for District’s programs and long-term stewardship responsibilities; convened joint Advisory Committee/Open Space Authority workshop
- Pursued new and enhanced existing partnerships (e. g. agricultural community, RCDs, non-governmental organizations, etc.)
- Partnered on and submitted grant applications to support the District’s acquisition, stewardship and educational programs
- Strategic Initiatives –
 - Engaged with Regional Climate Protection Authority, North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative, Nature Conservancy, UC Berkeley and others on climate mitigation and adaptation, including funding development
 - Working with Sotoyome RCD, Sonoma County Water Agency and others on source watershed protection and sustainable water supply
 - Collaborated with Sonoma County and others on Food Systems Alliance, Health Action Network, and Walk/Ride/Roll to promote local agriculture, food production, and healthy communities
- Developed and employed administrative processes and procedures to promote tracking and efficiency for District programs