



Back on the Land!

In This Issue

Preserve Highlights

Bouverie Preserve
After the Flames

Four Decades of
Ecology Research

Better Outcomes for
Wildlife-Livestock
Conflicts

Member Events,
Hikes & Volunteering

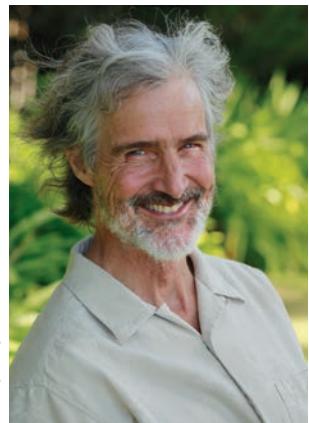
SPRING 2018

The Big Heart of Our Lead Scientist

"John Kelly made it clear that it was important to not only focus on one colony but have a more regional perspective.

There's a real focus [at ACR] on primary ecological questions that are relevant to other systems."

*-Katie Etienne,
former Research Coordinator
(from the San Francisco Chronicle)*



©Jocelyn Knight

In the following pages you'll read about ACR's outgoing Director of Conservation Science John Kelly, and his 31-year history of leadership. Under his direction our avian science program has grown from infancy to world-recognition, and established him as one of the leading experts in Heron and Egret biology. He served as a driving force in ACR's commitment to a science-based mission, paved the way for our expansion into other projects like mountain lion research and fire science, and upheld the highest standards in all of our land management decisions.



*John Petersen,
Executive Director*

What you won't get from the words on the page is the essence of what makes John special, the qualities that separate proficiency from prominence. It's a rare bird that excels in both head and heart. John's abilities as a scientist are well known and admired, with numerous papers published in peer-reviewed journals. It's clear that his science chops are impeccable. But it is his ability as an inspirational teacher, who embodies a love of all things natural, grounded in a foundation of scientific rigor, and combined with a sincerity that is palpable, that sets him apart from the rest. He is genuine, true and authentic. His excitement about his subjects, from caterpillars to condors, is infectious, and his legions of students share a richer life because of his gifts.

As someone wise once said; "You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf." Happy trails, my friend.

A handwritten signature of the name "John" in cursive script.



©Kim Carroll



In Your Community

MARTIN GRIFFIN PRESERVE

Forests & Freshwater Habitats Offer Visitors Seasonal Delights Through Summer and Fall

Summer at Martin Griffin Preserve is so alive! Swainson's Thrushes fluting in the trees. Coral root orchids puckering their flower-lips from the forest floor. And redwood duff perfuming the canyons as the warm sun burns the fog away.

Every Saturday, May through July, you can join ACR's nature guides as they share their enthusiasm and knowledge of Picher and Garden Club canyons.

Martin Griffin Preserve's summer season was once closely tied to its heronry. But since the herons left this nesting area in 2013, we've been enticing you to West Marin with its other charms.

This year, our nature guides' immersion programs feature new theme days, from Conifers of the Canyon to Nature Mindfulness. Our first-ever fall public season—

October 13, 20 and 27—will give you a chance to enjoy the stellar autumn weather and witness our plant and animal communities as they prepare for the darker months. ■



Check out all of our public program offerings at <https://egret.org/calendar>.



©Jocelyn Knight

BOUVERIE PRESERVE

Junipers to Photo-document Post-fire Recovery

ACR is partnering with Conservation Kids to provide a photography class for our junior naturalists, the Junipers. Wildlife photographer and Conservation Kids founder Daniel Dietrich will teach them how to capture meaningful shots.

Photography, a powerful conservation tool

Students will learn about iconic conservation photographs and how to use the professional camera they're loaned. A photographic safari will follow, to document Bouverie Preserve's post-fire regeneration.

Stay tuned! The Conservation Kids team will post the photographs on their website and you can support their efforts by purchasing an image or two. Proceeds benefit ACR and Conservation Kids. ■

Learn more about the work of Conservation Kids at <https://conservationkids.org>



MODINI MAYACAMAS PRESERVES

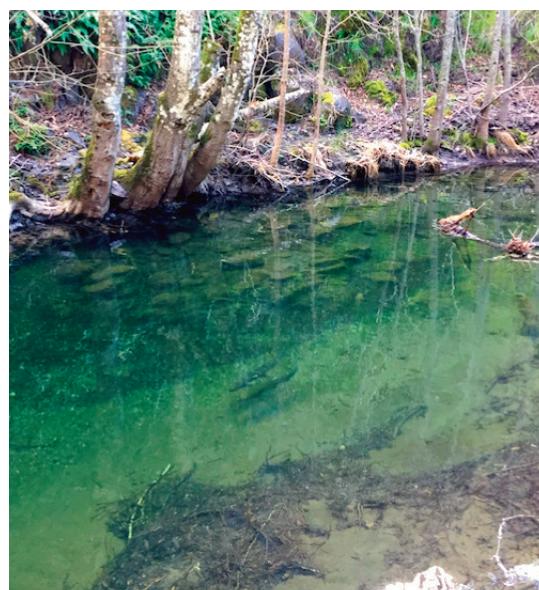
Steelhead Spotted in Maacama Creek Watershed

Land Steward Tomas Ruiz made a happy discovery—two adult steelhead in McDonnell Creek, an ecologically important tributary near Healdsburg. It was only his second spotting there of the endangered fish in seven years.

Several days later he returned and filmed a large steelhead swimming among rough-skinned newts. McDonnell Creek is the primary source of the eight-mile-long Maacama Creek, which flows through the Alexander Valley/Hwy. 128 corridor. It joins the Russian River about four miles east of Healdsburg.

The late Jim and Shirley Modini, who gave their 1,700 acre ranch to ACR in 2012, would have thrilled at this news! ■

Follow ACR's Facebook page for the latest news at <https://www.facebook.com/AudubonCanyonRanch>





1st
CLASS
BACK ON
THE
LAND!

BOUVERIE PRESERVE AFTER THE FLAMES

Back on the Land

by Claire Hutchins Seda, Weekend Program Coordinator and contributing writer

To start, we hauled around 200 dump truck-loads of debris from Bouverie Preserve, the remains of buildings burned during last year's Nuns fires.

Now scorched trees loom over empty building sites. Yet take a close look and you'll see post-fire Bouverie just as it should be—alive, resilient and moving forward.

Carpets of bulb plants like Fremont star lily (*Toxicoscordion fremontii*) and bear grass (*Xerophyllum tenax*, tellingly called fire lily), rarely seen in bloom here, are putting on a spring show. Manzanita burned to a nub have resprouted. Most of the charred oaks sport vibrant young leaves.

ACR is bouncing back

Bouverie Preserve's human communities—staff, volunteers, neighbors—are rebounding, too. Our programs are blossoming. We're working on the hopeful process of clean-up. And our volunteer community is growing and galvanized.

Dozens of Bouverie stewards, many joining the crew for the first time, plunged in as soon as possible to shore up trails, prevent erosion, plant bunchgrasses and make way for clean-up equipment.

The work is dirty—and emotional. It's a visual shock to arrive at the redwood circle, where four of the giants fell over.

A selection of post-fire wildlife sightings on the preserve include a bobcat trailing turkeys, a mountain lion in the pygmy forest, rough-skinned newt, Pacific-slope Flycatcher chicks.



Stewards recently prepped one of these stately fallen trees so students can understand the scale by walking the length of a redwood.

Getting ready for students

To prepare for the upcoming children's hiking season, stewards identified and removed hazards on 1.8 miles of trails. Thirty-one new docent graduates have joined our experienced volunteers and are leading students in a stellar nature immersion program on those trails. With sensitivity to many students who were affected by the fires, docents are teaching about fire ecology while using the preserve's post-fire landscape as a living laboratory.

Julia Clothier, ACR's education programs manager, is inspired by how fast volunteers re-engaged. She says, "We're grateful and overjoyed at the willingness and enthusiasm of the seasoned and new docents to roll with the changes."

Restoring research projects

Meanwhile, ACR researchers are rebounding too. Although the fire took the equipment for Living with Lions, our mountain lion research project, we're back in business. Thanks to generous donations of replacement gear, team leader Dr. Quinton Martins and his crew trapped three mountain lions in a single February weekend. None of the animals showed signs of distress or scars from the fire. One was a healthy cub, likely born after the fire.

With debris from the buildings now gone, we're entering the next phase of the clean-up—soil and water testing. And to maintain a presence and security on the preserve, we've purchased a tiny house where Resource Ecologist Jen Potts and her family will live.

Off-site offices, one adjacent to the preserve and a second in Kenwood, now support staff and volunteer work. We're also adding some on-preserve storage. The preserve remains closed to unguided visitors, as safety remains an issue.

You're making a difference

As always, ACR strives to be a thoughtful and engaged neighbor, to our human communities, as well as to the flora and fauna with which we share these lands. Now, more than ever, our work is critical. We're very grateful for the immense support we've received since the fire, and we hope you'll stay with us as we map out the long recovery ahead. ■

Check out the Bouvierie Wish List:

<https://egret.org/fire-related-wish-list-bouvierie-preserve>



Clockwise from top left: Some rituals remain: students make a wish before setting out on their adventure; showy sky lupine await hungry pollinators; wooden obelisks designed by David Bouvierie survived the fire and now preside over the cleared site where Gilman Hall once stood; our undeterred stewardship crew readying for the next challenge; an aerial scan of the preserve taken in late 2017 reveals the extent of the Nuns fire. The light-brown areas in the center of the image show where we conducted a controlled burn in May 2017.





"John [Kelly] instilled in so many of us a deep understanding of the important role conservation science plays in the protection of coastal bird habitats..."

- Amy Trainer, executive director 2010-2015,

Environmental Action Committee of West Marin

CONSERVATION SCIENCE

Four Decades of Influential Ecology Research

by Emiko Condeso, Ecologist/GIS Specialist

Top: Director of Conservation Science John Kelly and Avian Ecologist David Lumpkin set decoys for Great Egret GPS study, Grizzly Island Wildlife Area of Suisun Marsh.

Below: GIS Specialist Emiko Condeso guides a birding session on Tomales Bay for Conservation Science Intensive participants; Herons preparing a nest; Avian Ecologist Scott Jennings and decoy on a trapping session.

Facing page: Great Egrets and cormorants on an old dock near Cypress Grove Research Center.



Science has always been a critical component of ACR's mission. Research has guided our conservation efforts, stewardship of natural areas and nature education programs since our founding in 1962.

Beginning with the recognition of Bolinas Lagoon's importance to the iconic heronry at Picher Canyon, ACR's scientific work has grown in scope and geography.

The contribution of Helen Pratt

Early volunteer and visionary Helen Pratt set the tone for ACR's science-based thinking about nature. During her three decades of observation and data collection at the Martin Griffin Preserve, Helen published a string of landmark scientific investigations about the nesting activities of herons and egrets.

In the late '80s we established the Cypress Grove Research Center (CGRC) on Tomales Bay, formalizing ACR's commitment to conservation science. This disciplined approach informs the other cornerstones of our mission—education and land stewardship.

At that time, Tomales Bay was widely recognized as a unique estuary worthy of scientific study and conservation. But many aspects of its ecology, especially bird use, were relatively unknown.

John Kelly at the helm

When John Kelly joined ACR as director of conservation science in 1988, we began to fill those knowledge gaps. He initiated the first of several projects that would become ACR's long-term biological monitoring program.

His work also contributed to the establishment in 2002 of Tomales Bay as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention. Bolinas Lagoon was



designated a Ramsar site in 1998. We are proud and fortunate to steward two of only 38 Ramsar-listed sites in the U.S.

ACR has continually monitored Tomales and San Francisco bays and Bolinas Lagoon, to firmly establish our expertise in avian ecology and build a body of knowledge that directs decisions in land use and public policy.

These studies have spawned a multitude of publications, technical reports and presentations by ACR scientists, as well as our participation in many local and regional conservation issues.

ACR's expanding impact

In recent years, we've expanded our reach to include California's Northern Coast Ranges and the Central Valley. And to meet the demands, our world-class science staff now features avian ecologists, wildlife biologists, fire scientists and GIS (mapping) specialists. Together, they work on conservation issues that affect our own lives, finding science-based solutions that have real and lasting results. Beyond analyzing mountains of data collected for each of our projects, ACR staff devotes many hours in the field and among our community. You'll find them hacking through poison oak to collect specimens from a mountain lion kill, camping at the edge of marshland to study Great Egrets, and mentoring young women in conservation science.

Projects in progress

Our current projects, which also support conservation beyond ACR's borders, include:

- Heron and Egret Telemetry - investigates movement patterns, habitat use and foraging behaviors of Great Egrets, and the potential effects of climate change (*The Ardeid* 2017)
- Living with Lions - examines population size, habitat use patterns, and human-wildlife interactions as a means to protect mountain lions and guide the protection of wildlife corridors
- North Bay Heron and Egret Nest Monitoring - monitors the reproductive performance of herons and egrets at all known colony sites in the northern San Francisco Bay area
- Songbirds of the Central Mayacamas - measures the habitat relationships and status of songbirds in the central Mayacamas Mountains of northern Sonoma County
- Tomales Bay Shorebird Studies - tracks the long-term habitat use and population dynamics of wintering and migrating shorebirds in Tomales Bay
- Tomales Bay Waterbird Studies - investigates the population dynamics of wintering waterbirds in Tomales Bay over a span of decades. ■

See page 8 for dozens of ACR's contributions to conservation science in papers, journal articles and our own publication, *The Ardeid*. Our complete catalog is available at <https://egret.org/publications>



TOMALES BAY

Our Team at Cypress Grove Research Center

John Kelly, Director of Conservation Science - sets research agenda, designs/implements scientific investigations

Emiko Condeso, Ecologist/GIS Specialist - mapping, use of spatial data, manages biomonitoring

Scott Jennings, Avian Ecologist - lead investigator on Heron and Egret Telemetry Project, statistical modeling

David Lumpkin, Avian Ecologist - lead field ornithologist, data analyst, collaborates on heron and egret telemetry

Barbara Wechsberg, Admin. Assistant - manages research center administration and communications, supports field investigations

David Greene, Land Steward - facility maintenance and operations, contributes to restoration and monitoring, drives the research boat

Volunteer Field Observers - more than 125 bird enthusiasts contribute to our investigations and stewardship tasks every year

Staff bios are here: <https://egret.org/key-program-staff-bios>





WETLAND AND AVIAN RESEARCH

Local Inquiry, Global Impact

ACR scientists contribute to conservation efforts worldwide by presenting the results of our work in peer-reviewed scientific journals and in easily accessible electronic media. To ensure that our work helps to resolve real problems in regional conservation, we take a practical approach, prioritizing projects that will have real-world results. Conservation Science at ACR includes considerable effort to interpret the implications of our work to government agencies, planners, land managers, community organizations and the public.

These selected papers and articles illustrate the breadth of ACR scientists' ongoing, regional and global influence on conservation.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Heron and egret nesting dynamics at intermediate spatial scales: recovery rates after major declines within wetland subregions (*in review*)

Avian habitat relationships in the central Mayacamas Mountains

A statewide assessment of heron and egret nesting habitat relationships in California

Double-crested Cormorant population dynamics in San Francisco Bay, 1985-2017

PUBLISHED CONTRIBUTIONS

Heron and egret ecology and conservation

Heron and egret nest density and nest survival indicators (published in *The State of the San Francisco Estuary*, 2015)

Rainfall effects on heron and egret nest abundance in the San Francisco Bay area (*Wetlands*, 2014)

Recommendations for managing Cattle Egret predation on Tricolored Blackbird colonies in Tulare County (Report to the Tricolored Blackbird Recovery Team, 2012)

The parental dilemma under variable predation pressure: adaptive variation in nest attendance by Great Egrets (*The Condor*, 2012)

Tidal marsh herons and egrets (published in *The State of the Birds, San Francisco Bay*, 2011)

Landscape influences on the quality of heron and egret colony sites (*Wetlands*, 2008)

Status, trends, and implications for the conservation of heron and egret nesting colonies in the San Francisco Bay area (*Waterbirds*, 2007)

Factors influencing nest predatory behaviors of Common Ravens in heronries (*The Condor*, 2005)

Annotated Atlas and Implications for the Conservation of Heron and Egret Nesting Colonies in the San Francisco Bay Area (published by Audubon Canyon Ranch, 2006)

The distribution, reproductive success, and habitat characteristics of heron and egret breeding colonies in the San Francisco Bay area (*Colonial Waterbirds*, 1993)

Clutch size, timing of laying, and reproductive success in a colony of Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets (*The Auk*, 1985)

Directions and timing of Great Blue Heron foraging flights from a California colony: implications for social facilitation of food finding (*Wilson Bulletin*, 1980)

Breeding biology of Great Blue Herons and Common Egrets in Central California (*The Condor*, 1970)

Shorebird ecology and conservation

Tidal marsh restoration stimulates the growth of winter shorebird populations in a temperate estuary (*Restoration Ecology*, 2017)

Effects of weather on daily body mass regulation in wintering Dunlin (*The Journal of Experimental Biology*, 2002)

Effects of feeding time constraints on body mass regulation and energy expenditure in wintering Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) (*Behavioral Ecology*, 2002)

Distribution and abundance of winter shorebirds on Tomales Bay, California: implications for conservation (*Western Birds*, 2001)

Hydrographic correlates of winter Dunlin abundance and distribution in a temperate estuary (*Waterbirds*, 2001)

The effects of aquaculture on habitat use by wintering shorebirds (*California Fish and Game*, 1996)

Waterbird Ecology and Conservation

Echoes of numerical dependence: responses of wintering waterbirds to Pacific herring spawns (*Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 2018)

Coastal California Waterbird Conservation Plan (contributing author; published by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2014)

A review of boating disturbance to waterbirds in California estuaries (ACR Technical Report, 2013)

Distribution, abundance, and implications for conservation of winter waterbirds on Tomales Bay, California (*Western Birds*, 1998)

Other science-based contributions to conservation

Tomales Bay Watershed Species of Local Interest: native and non-native species of conservation or management concern (A Report of The Tomales Bay Watershed Council, 2011)

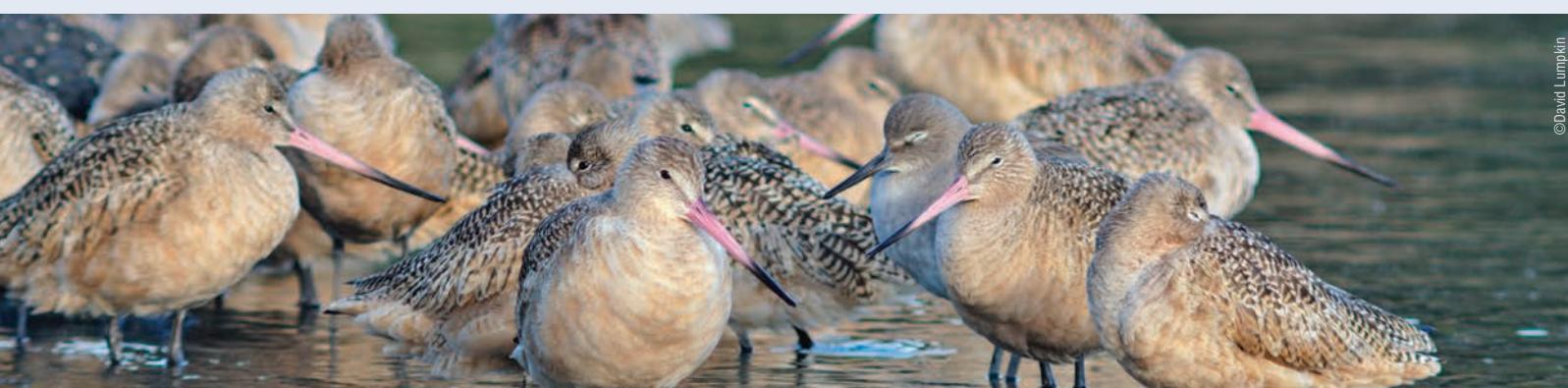
Documented occurrences of bird species on Tomales Bay, California, prior to January 2003, and a protocol for future bird species inventories (Report to the Point Reyes National Seashore, 2003)

The Southern Pacific Shorebird Conservation Plan (contributing partner; published by PRBO [Point Blue] Conservation Science, 2003)

The Tomales Bay Watershed Stewardship Plan (coauthor, Tomales Bay Watershed Council, 2003)

Lead contributions for the establishment of Tomales Bay as a Wetland of International Importance (*The [Ramsar] Convention on Wetlands of International Importance*, 2002)

A scientific review of the ecological impacts of motorized personal watercraft on birds and other wildlife. (White paper submitted to the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, 1997)



A FOCUS ON PHILANTHROPY

In Time of Need, ACR Community Provides

by Marie Fox, Donor Engagement Officer



Land Steward Jared Jacobs puts the newly donated utility vehicle to task.

The significance of the ACR mission came into sharp focus last October. As the Nuns fire burned the staff homes, offices, classrooms and storage sheds of Bouverie Preserve, it reminded us of the importance of living in balance with nature.

Resident wildlife taught us resilience as it navigated burned landscapes. Bright green post-fire native grasses and bulbs gave us hope, as they poked through charred underbrush.

Opportunity in the midst of loss

Like everyone living through the aftermath of the fires, we are still cleaning up, working our way through insurance assessments, and starting to think about rebuilding Bouverie Preserve facilities.

We have a unique opportunity to create buildings that can better support our programs and enhance the services we provide. Our new facilities will be built in harmony with nature, incorporate the latest in fire-safe technology and serve as an example of responsible living in the wildland-urban interface.

As we move forward, we will stand on your shoulders of support. The truth is nature is resilient. And, thanks to our committed community, so are we. ■



"The generous response has catapulted the project forward again. Now we can monitor the impacts of the fires on mountain lions, the apex predator in this environment."

- Quinton Martins, Principal Investigator, Living with Lions

The power of community

The ACR community stepped forward with amazing generosity within hours after the first embers flew, and we are forever grateful for your caring support. Your generosity was expressed in so many ways and served as balm to those who were impacted.

By year end, you raised us up with a 58% increase in dollars donated compared to the same time last year. These donations help us recoup what was lost and maintain the ongoing excellence of our programs. Again, we can't thank you enough.

ACR Membership

Audubon Canyon Ranch members, supporters and corporate sponsors *think globally and act locally* through ACR's land preservation, nature education and conservation science programs. **Thank you!** Together we protect wildlands in Marin, Sonoma and Lake counties and inspire the next generation of nature lovers.

Membership benefits:

- you make immediate and enduring impact on regional conservation initiatives
- bi-annual editions of the ACR *Bulletin*
- complimentary copy of *The Ardeid*, our journal of conservation science and stewardship
- invitations to exclusive members-only events
- member's discount on ACR public programs
- 10% discount in our bookstore and more

For more information, contact Development Manager Jen Newman at 415.868.9244 ext. 119. Not a member? Become one today at www.egret.org/membership.



Celebrate the nature-loving mother, father or graduate in your life with a gift of ACR membership! They'll enjoy coveted membership benefits, plus a complimentary one-year subscription to Bay Nature magazine.

Choose your gift level at <https://egret.org/membership>



LIVING WITH LIONS

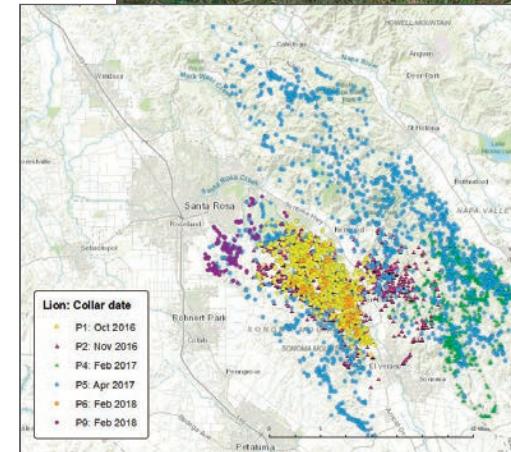
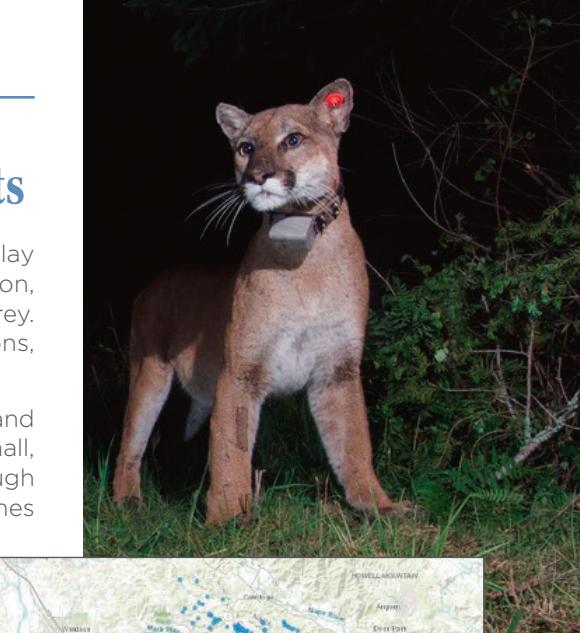
Better Outcomes for Wildlife-Livestock Conflicts

In California, mountain lions are at the top of the food chain, and as such, play critical roles in the maintenance and functioning of their ecosystems. In our region, for example, mountain lions have a direct impact on deer, their preferred prey. Disruptions in mountain lion populations can affect deer behavior and populations, causing various impacts in the system.

Mountain lions themselves live a fragile existence as more of us choose to live and play in wild places. Although human and lion confrontations have been infinitely small, protecting pets and livestock from being attacked remains a challenge. Although livestock form a small percentage of their diet, lions are opportunists when it comes to attacking unsecured pets or stock. Such conflict may result in a depredation permit issued to have the mountain lion killed. Unfortunately, killing a resident lion may have broad implications often not considered by the landowner. For example, killing a territorial male may increase the number of lions in a given space, as animals from outlying areas try to claim the territory. We also know that killing the offending lion won't solve the underlying problem, which is keeping one's animals safe.

Recently, ACR's Living with Lions team negotiated a better outcome for one of our collared lions, leading to protection of both livestock and mountain lions. P5, the resident male in the southern Mayacamas Mountains, was targeted with a depredation permit after he killed livestock in the Sonoma Mountain area. The property manager agreed to meet with Dr. Quinton Martins and after learning the importance of mountain lions in the ecosystem—and the story of this particular lion—the rancher spared P5's life. Now, coupled with our research, Living with Lions is partnering with landowners and managers to implement the best methods to deter mountain lions from preying on pets and livestock. ■

Follow updates for Living with Lions in Quinton's blog "Doc Martins Caterwaul" at <https://egret.org/living-with-lions>



GPS points for all collared mountain lions through March 2018. The extent of P5's range (blue dots) leads us to believe he is the 'resident male' living among several females and juvenile offspring.

The ACR Board and Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Judy Prokupek
President
Anne Montgomery
First Vice President
Joan Turner
Secretary
Bill Richardson
Treasurer

Directors

Amy Blackstone
André Brewster
William Bridges
Phillip Carlsen
John Epperson
Bryant Hichwa
R. DeWitt 'Kyle' Kirwan
Nancy Lilly
Michael Magatelli
Joe Mueller

Ivan Obolensky Rebecca 'Beki' Simon Jude Stalker Mark Tarpey-Schwend Barbara Winter Carol Lynn Wood

ACR ADVISORS
Tom Baty
Gordon Bennett
Sam Dakin
Tony Gilbert

Joyce Griffin Jim Horan Andy Lafrenz Ron Mallory Valerie Merrin Leslie R. Perry Stephen Smith Gerry Snedaker Betsy Stafford April Starke Slakey Francis Toldi

Patrick Woodworth

FOUNDER
L. Martin Griffin, M.D.
Emeritus Director

EMERITUS DIRECTORS

Deborah Ablin
Nancy Barbour
Len Blumin
Patti Blumin

Roberta Downey Binny Fischer Leslie Flint Robert Hahn Jack Harper Dan Murphy George Peyton, Jr.

Paul Ruby
Sue Stoddard

STAFF

John Petersen, Executive Director

Finance & Philanthropy

Hugh Robertson, Director of Finance & Operations
Naomi Sultana Young, Director of Philanthropy
Wendy Coy, Communications Manager
Marie Fox, Donor Engagement Officer
Jennifer Newman, Development Manager
Erika Obedzinski, Development & Communications Assistant
Gary Schick, Controller

Education, Conservation Science, and Stewardship

Gwen Heistand, Director of Education / Preserve Biologist, MGP
John Kelly, Ph.D., Director of Conservation Science
Jeanne Wirk, Director of Stewardship / Preserve Biologist, BP
Julianne Bradbury, Resource Ecologist, MMP
Julia Clothier, Education Programs Manager, BP
Emiko Condeso, Ecologist / GIS Specialist, CGRC
Michelle Cooper, Preserve Biologist & Manager, MMP
David Greene, Land Steward, CGRC
Kurt Heffernon, Land Steward, BP

Alex Heitner, Mountain Lion Research Associate, BP
Jared Jacobs, Land Steward, BP

Scott Jennings, Avian Ecologist, CGRC
David Lumpkin, Avian Ecologist, CGRC
Claire Hutzler Seda, Weekend Program Coordinator, MGP
Quinton Martins, Ph.D., Wildlife Ecologist, BP
Jennifer Potts, Resource Ecologist, BP
Tomas Ruiz, Land Steward, MMP
David Self, Education Specialist, MMP
Eileen Shanahan, Education Program Coordinator, MGP
Steve Trivelpiece, Land Steward, MGP

Administration

Yvonne Pierce, Executive Administrator, Preserve Manager, MGP
Leslie Melandy, Receptionist / Office Assistant, MGP
Maria Figueira, Custodian, BP
Nancy Trbovich, Preserve Manager, BP
Barbara Wechsberg, Admin. Assistant, CGRC

*Martin Griffin Preserve (MGP)
Bouverie Preserve (BP)
Cypress Grove Research Center (CGRC)
Modini Mayacamas Preserves (MMP)*

ACR Events, Opportunities & Training, Spring – Summer 2018

GET OUTDOORS!

Bouverie Preserve

Join us for a range of natural history and ethnobotany guided hikes.

Registration required for all events: www.egret.org/calendar

Suggested donation: \$20 per person

Guided Nature Walk

Saturday ~ May 19, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Twilight Hike

Friday ~ June 1, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Modini Mayacamas Preserves

Orientation to Modini Mayacamas Preserves + Optional Hike

*Required for independent hiking access.

Saturday ~ May 12

Saturday ~ June 9

Saturday ~ July 14

Saturday ~ August 11

Biodiversity Bioblitz

Saturday ~ May 5

Saturday ~ June 2

Saturday ~ July 7

Saturday ~ August 4

Wildlife Camera Walk With Ginny Fifield

Sunday ~ May 6

Sunday ~ July 8

Wildflower Photography Friday

Friday ~ May 18

Friday ~ June 15

Birds and Botany

Saturday ~ May 19

Wildflower Tour of the Mayacamas

Friday ~ May 25

Geology of the Mayacamas

Saturday ~ May 26

Pollinators and Their Flowers

Saturday ~ June 16

Dragonflies with Sandra Hunt-von Arb

Saturday ~ July 21

Sunrise with Sunflowers

Friday ~ July 27

Saturday ~ August 18

Fire, Flowers, Forage and People Shaping the Modini Mayacamas

Saturday ~ July 28

Reading the Landscape

Saturday ~ August 25

Early Morning on the Foss Trail

Friday ~ August 31

GET OUTDOORS!

Martin Griffin Preserve

Open for Exploration

Saturdays ~ May 5 – July 28, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Suggested donation: \$20 per person

Enjoy 1,000 acres of wildlands and watershed overlooking the Bolinas Lagoon. During spring and summer the Martin Griffin Preserve is open Saturdays for self-guided hiking, picnicking, pond exploration and more! ACR nature guides are on hand to facilitate a deeper understanding of the flora and fauna of this West Marin gem. Complete your experience with a visit to our nature bookstore.

Little Folkies Music and Nature Exploration

Saturday ~ May 5,

Little Folkies Music: 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Nature Exploration: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Registration required: www.egret.org/calendar

\$20 adult / \$15 ACR-Member / free for children under age 18

Conservation Talk: Owls

Saturday ~ June 30, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Guest speaker: Joe Mueller

Registration required: www.egret.org/calendar

Suggested donation: \$20 per person



GET INVOLVED!

Martin Griffin Preserve

Docent Orientation & Recruitment Hike

Saturdays ~ May 12, June 23, July 21, August 18

Wednesdays ~ May 30, August 1

10:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.

An ACR docent is someone with an abiding love of nature and a desire to share that appreciation and enthusiasm with children aged 9 to 11. Over the course of 23 Wednesdays beginning in September, docents receive exceptional coursework in the natural history of Northern California's diverse ecosystems as well as training in the dynamics of working with children in these natural settings.

Join us for an orientation program beginning with a brief overview of the training program and ending with an hour-long hike on the trail. Seasoned Martin Griffin Preserve docents will lead the hikes and be available to answer questions.

Training begins in September.

Modini Mayacamas Preserves

Habitat Protection & Restoration Stewards

2nd and 4th Thursdays ~ 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Modini Mayacamas Preserves stewards provide essential hands-on assistance to our land management team, including trail maintenance, invasive plant removal, native plant propagation and other special projects. Come learn more about the Preserves by getting your hands dirty!

Contact Resource Ecologist Julianne Bradbury at julianne.bradbury@egret.org or 707.433.1217

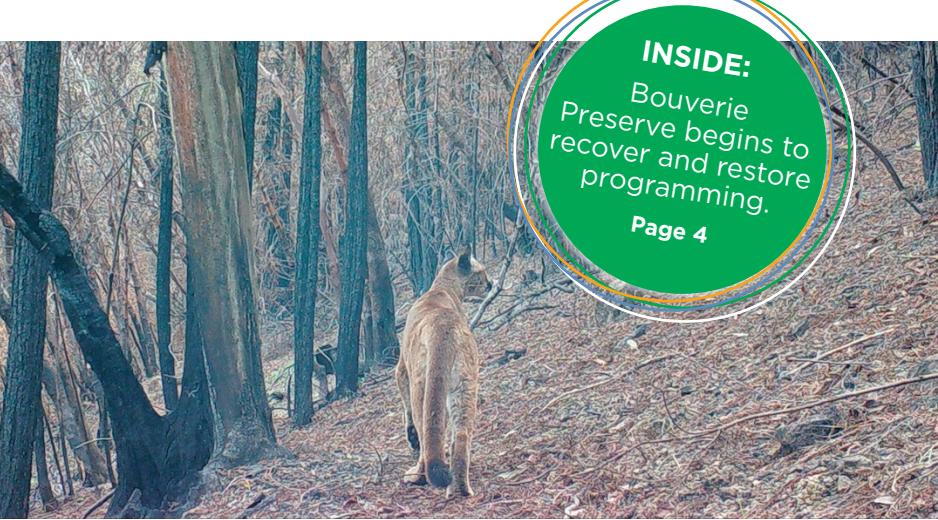
AUDUBON CANYON RANCH



Audubon Canyon Ranch
4900 Shoreline Highway 1
Stinson Beach, CA 94970
415.868.9244 | www.egret.org | acr@egret.org

ACR protects our natural and human communities through land preservation, nature education and conservation science.

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN RAFAEL, CA
PERMIT NO. 2



INSIDE:
Bouverie
Preserve begins to
recover and restore
programming.
Page 4

UC Berkeley to partner with ACR on mountain lion research

ACR's Living with Lions project has formed a new partnership with Dr. Justin Brashares and the Brashares Lab of UC Berkeley. Collaborating with one of the top research groups and universities in conservation science will allow us to enrich our unique skill sets.

This joint operation expands our study area to include the UC Hopland Research and Extension Center in Mendocino County, site of the Lab's deer behavior and collaring program. We're excited about opportunities to broaden our knowledge of the regional lion population, research effective mitigating measures to protect livestock against predators, as well as conduct groundbreaking research on mountain lion foraging behavior.

Flip to page 10 for Living with Lions project update.

Don't miss these ACR signature events!

May 5: Clerin Zumwalt Legacy Circle Luncheon. *By invitation only.*
Cypress Grove Research Center

May 13: Mother's Day Picnic. A benefit for ACR and Marin Audubon Society. Tickets available through May 12 at www.marinaudubon.org

September 8: Annual ACR Appreciation Picnic
By invitation only. Martin Griffin Preserve

Learn more about ACR Signature Events at www.egret.org/calendar

Visit Us

Bouverie Preserve
Woodlands in the Valley of the Moon
Martin Griffin Preserve
Sweeping coastal views in West Marin
Modini Mayacamas Preserves
Wilderness in the Mayacamas Mountains
ACR Conservation Center
Garden and gallery near the Healdsburg Plaza

By appointment only

Cypress Grove Research Center
Call 415.663.8203 to schedule



Students and docents commence the evening portion of our overnight program, held at Martin Griffin Preserve, Stinson Beach.

The ACR Bulletin is published twice yearly as a benefit to our members, supporters and volunteers.

Managing Editor Wendy Coy
Edited by Bonnie Ayers Namkung
Printed by Alphagraphics Marin

Printed locally with vegetable oil-based inks, using 100% post-consumer waste fiber. Unless otherwise indicated, photos are property of ACR. If you'd like to opt out of the snail mail version, contact Leslie Melandy by phone, 415.868.9244 ext. 110, or email leslie.melandy@egret.org.