



SONOMA  
ECOLOGY  
CENTER

# IMPACT REPORT 2023



Our mission  
is to work  
with our  
community  
to identify  
and lead  
actions that  
achieve and  
sustain  
ecological  
health in  
Sonoma  
Valley.

Sonoma Ecology Center works to address challenges related to water supply and quality, open space, rural character, biodiversity, energy, climate change, and a better quality of life for all.

Since 1990, we've worked to increase appreciation and stewardship of Sonoma Valley's natural heritage and create measurable benefits in areas of land, water, climate change and biodiversity.

We envision a future where people, land, water, and wildlife thrive.

Our work is done on the unceded lands of the Wappo, Pomo and Miwok peoples, who have stewarded this land for generations.

# We embrace and practice these values to achieve our vision.

## Education

Sharing science-based information equips people to make the best decisions for themselves and the earth. We provide education programs for youth, teens, and adults to support an informed and empowered community.

## Stewardship

Every action counts. Individual participation is essential to protect and restore our natural resources. We engage community members and other organizations as partners in our work.

## Collaboration

Most problems have common-ground solutions that can be discovered through open discussion and innovation. We strive to work with all stakeholders—including residents, government, agriculture, academia, and business—to help solve our community's complex problems.

## Ecological Foundations

We value ecosystems, and the biodiversity and human systems they support. We are inspired by the beauty of Sonoma Valley. We work to protect and restore native species and habitats of our region for future generations.

## Respond to Change

We are an alert and agile organization, recognizing and responding to the evolving opportunities and needs of Sonoma Valley and the world beyond.

## Sustainability

Economic vitality rests on a foundation of social well-being, which in turn rests on a foundation of ecological health. We seek multi-benefit solutions to the environmental, social, and economic challenges facing our community.

## Science

Watershed management actions should be informed by science and local empirical data. We conduct environmental monitoring to inform local and regional decisions. Adaptive management improves our effectiveness over time.

## Lead by Example

We learn from others, and create and share models, techniques, and tools that others can use.

Sonoma Garden Park	•	•	•
The Wedekind Family	•	•	•
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make it possible for everyone to  
enjoy and learn from Sonoma  
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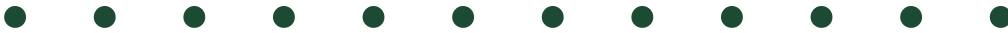
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*"Each of us makes a difference, helping Sonoma Valley be a 'maker space' of ideas and projects that help our community sustain what we love about this remarkable place, that in turn gives so much back."*

— Richard Dale, Sonoma Ecology Center,  
Executive Director

*From the* **Executive Director,** *Richard Dale*

Years ago, a city council member strode into our new office and declared that Sonoma needed to reconnect to agriculture, and that the very young Sonoma Ecology Center was just the organization to make this happen. He shared a compelling if eccentric vision, of home gardeners with pushcarts moving up and down the streets, selling fresh local produce in a singsong voice to passersby. “Strawberries!...” He also offered to finance the project. We asked him if he’d mind if we first asked what people wanted, and he agreed to help us do a survey.

What people wanted was a place to visit where food was grown, and where they could participate in that process. They also wanted a place to grow their own food.

Over the next 30 years, that simple vision evolved into Sonoma Garden Park, a magical six-acre farm, park, and community garden that touches nearly every student in Sonoma Valley with lessons about the food web and how we are connected to it. Lots of people are now involved, farming, gardening, and visiting, helping keep our life-sustaining connection to growing things strong.

Bob Cannard’s vision led to a magnificent outcome. Pauline Bond, the retired schoolteacher and farmer who donated her farm to the community that became this park, was equally far-sighted. Together, these visionaries who loved our community helped launch something very special for people of all ages that continues to develop and flourish.

This year’s Impact Report spotlights another longtime Sonoma family realizing a vision at Sonoma Garden Park. The Wedekinds helped create a new area at the Park that offers children hours of outdoor play time and connects them to nature and horticulture.

Sonoma Ecology Center helped these amazing people realize their visions to benefit our community, as it has many times over 33 years, facilitating inspired community members to make a difference, in large and small ways, whether helping to protect, manage, and restore nature, or to teach all ages about the significance of the living world that makes our lives possible.



Each of us makes a difference, helping Sonoma Valley be a “maker space” of ideas and projects that help our community sustain what we love about this remarkable place, that in turn gives so much back.

Thank you so much for joining us in this visionary work!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Dale'.

Richard Dale,  
Sonoma Ecology Center,  
Executive Director



# *Celebrating 30 years managing Sonoma Garden Park*

This year, we celebrated 30 years of managing Sonoma Garden Park, a 6.1 acre community garden and educational park located at 19996 7th St. East, Sonoma.

It all started when Pauline Bond, a local schoolteacher, gave the land to the City of Sonoma in 1977, with the agreement that it remain a public park.

In 1993, Sonoma Ecology Center entered into an agreement with the City of Sonoma to take over regular operation of the park's 6.1 acres, and began to grow it from a bare lot to its current lush grounds of orchards, gardens, and public gathering places.

It is thanks to our donors and volunteers that it is now a vibrant hub for community activities and environmental education, with demonstration gardens, a weekly Harvest Market, 41 community

garden plots, regular volunteer workdays, field trips, Science Camps, and a variety of amenities for visitors to enjoy, including a Native Plant Nursery, orchard, greenhouse, chicken coop, and a now, the Children's Play Area.

To celebrate our 30th anniversary with Sonoma Garden Park, we added the Children's Play Area, which features a variety of engaging and interactive play structures, including a climbing wall, slide, and swings—all made from natural materials.

Children's Play Area was made possible by the generous donation of the Wedekind Family and dedication of volunteer Mark Gonzalves, who donated his time and expertise to design and build the play area.

This newest addition to Sonoma Garden Park illustrates the tremendous benefits that can come from philanthropy, volunteers, and nonprofits working together.





Featuring

# The Wedekind Family,

and their legacy of love, community, and giving  
in Sonoma Valley by Community Foundation Sonoma County



*We thank the Community Foundation Sonoma County for sharing this story about the Wedekind family, the donors behind the Children's Play Area at Sonoma Garden Park.*

In the heart of Sonoma Valley, the Wedekind family's legacy of love, community, and philanthropy continues to blossom.

When Frank Wedekind Jr. moved to Sonoma with his family in 1920, he was just four years old. Then, Sonoma Valley was sparsely populated and full of dairies, orchards, small vineyards, and farmland. Frank Jr. grew up working in his father's orchard and discovered a love and talent for horticulture.

In the early 1940s, Frank met his wife Lorraine at the Boyes Hot Springs Bathhouse. She grew up in San Francisco, and she loved spending her summers visiting her grandmother in Verano. The couple fell in love and married in 1942, shortly before Frank was drafted to serve in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II.

After the war, Frank and Lorraine moved into the Wedekind family home in Sonoma and quickly established themselves in the community. To help grow their orchard business, Lorraine and Frank opened a seasonal fruit stand, which would grow into a year-round business.

In 1956, Frank's love of horticulture led him to open a nursery, the Wedekind's Garden Center, which thrived for over 35 years. Because of Frank's passion for education, he developed a series of annual weekend lectures on various horticultural topics and practices, including pruning and grafting.

Their days were filled with the demands of running a nursery and raising three daughters, Joanne, Francine, and Janet, who grew up working in the garden center.

"We three girls did a lot of watering," shares Janet Wedekind. "We carried sacks of manure or plants

out to people's cars," explains Joanne Wedekind Stumpf. She adds, "there was no slow season in the nursery business."

Looking back, Joanne and Janet treasure their childhood memories of Sonoma Valley. Frank was instrumental in creating a rose bush named "Sonoma", and he participated in the planting of a large bed of Sonoma roses in front of City Hall.

After retiring from the nursery, Lorraine channeled her boundless energy into volunteering at the historic Toscano Hotel, where she served as a docent. She also worked in the gift store at the Sonoma Barracks. For years Lorraine drove cancer patients to treatments in Santa Rosa and even spearheaded the hospice tree lighting fundraiser that continues to take place in the Sonoma Plaza during the Christmas season.

Today, the Wedekind sisters, including Francine now deceased, are honored to carry on their parents' legacy of giving back to the community they loved. Through their fund with Community Foundation Sonoma County, they funded the Children's Play Area at Sonoma Garden Park. as a tribute to their parents and the values they instilled in them.

"It was important for us to create something that combined the things our parents loved," says Joanne. "Our father absolutely loved nature, farming, and agriculture, and our mother loved music and children, so this project of helping to build the Children's Play Area was a perfect fit."

Janet adds, "Our parents taught us the importance of community, and we wanted to honor their memory by providing a space where families can come together and enjoy themselves."

The Wedekind family's story is a testament to the power of love, community, and a strong sense of place.



For our *Community,*

*we make it possible for everyone to enjoy and learn from Sonoma Valley's open spaces.*

**180,000**

*people visited the open spaces we steward*

in the past year, including Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, Sonoma Garden Park, and Van Hoosear Wildflower Preserve. We introduced a \$5 Sugarloaf Ridge State Park annual passes to those with limited incomes.

**A**  
*deepening connection*

between Sonoma Ecology Center with the Mishewal Wappo tribe at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park was fostered. We hosted the pilot program of Right Relations, a program co-created by Redbud Resource Group and TOGETHER Bay Area to build capacity for alliances with local Native American tribes. We also integrated tribal knowledge into Sugarloaf Ridge State Park programming and education through Desirae Harp, Event and Education Assistant, and Wappo tribe member.

**1,300**

*youth educated*

during the 2022-23 school year. Through our K-6 Watershed Education Program, Summer Science Camps, and paid EnviroLeader program, our educators provided hands-on science education in classrooms, Sonoma Garden Park, and Sugarloaf Ridge State Park at no cost to schools. Thanks to the Sonoma Valley Education Foundation and donors, we offered 80 scholarships to Science Camps.

**261**

*Latinx family members*

enjoyed hiking, camping, and workshops in Spanish at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. At least 74 participants were first-time visitors, an increase from last year thanks to scaled up outreach for our Senderos Naturales program, led by Alma Shaw, Bilingual Events Coordinator, who was recognized by Los Cien for her significant contribution to the Latinx community.

# Community Highlight



*26 community leaders worked together to make Sonoma Valley a more affordable place to live.*

As leaders of the Sonoma Valley Collaborative, the broadest cross-sector coalition in Sonoma Valley, we set a goal to create a more sustainable community by making Sonoma Valley a place where its people can afford to live.

We are proud to have helped pass the most pro-housing Housing Element in the history of the City of Sonoma. We won 21 of the 26 housing affordability policies we advocated for, in many cases writing the policies that the City of Sonoma adopted word-for-word. Now it will be easier to preserve and build the missing-middle and affordable, below-market-rate housing needed to make our community sustainable within City limits. The City of Sonoma is now the only city in Sonoma County to have adopted renter protection policies.

This could only happen with the unprecedented united voice of the Sonoma Valley Collaborative—environment, economy, and equity working together for a sustainable future—and with the support of our donors, with special thanks to Simon and Kimberly Blattner, and grants from the Sonoma Valley Catalyst Fund and Gerbode Foundation.





For healthy *Land,* we work with our community to protect and steward Sonoma Valley's public parks and open spaces.

5,326

*acres stewarded*

throughout Sonoma Valley, including 4,985 at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, 167 at Van Hoosear Wildflower Preserve, 165 at Sonoma Overlook Trail and Montini Open Space Preserve, 6.1 acres at Sonoma Garden Park, and 3 at Nathanson Creek Preserve.

478

*days*

Sugarloaf Ridge State Park stayed open to the public between January 1, 2022 and April 30, 2023, despite multiple storms that damaged trails and park infrastructure, and closed down other parks in the region for prolonged periods. It was thanks to our donors, members and the hard work of our incredible staff and volunteers that Sugarloaf Ridge State Park could recover with only 8 days of closure.

17,441

*volunteer hours*

spent stewarding the public lands we manage. 185 volunteers at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park contributed 15,557 hours to the park, welcoming in the public, guiding hikes, and improving trail conditions after the numerous storms, which damaged every trail. 81 volunteers grew native plants, harvested produce, and cultivated demonstration gardens at Sonoma Garden Park. Five Montini volunteers spent 78 hours maintaining the trails at the Montini Open Space Preserve.

160

*native trees*

were planted on a property bordering Sugarloaf State Park. The newly planted trees will help to restore the burned landscape of the Mayacama Mountains. Our Restoration Crew also cared for 100 native tree seedlings planted at the Sonoma Developmental Center.

# Land Highlight

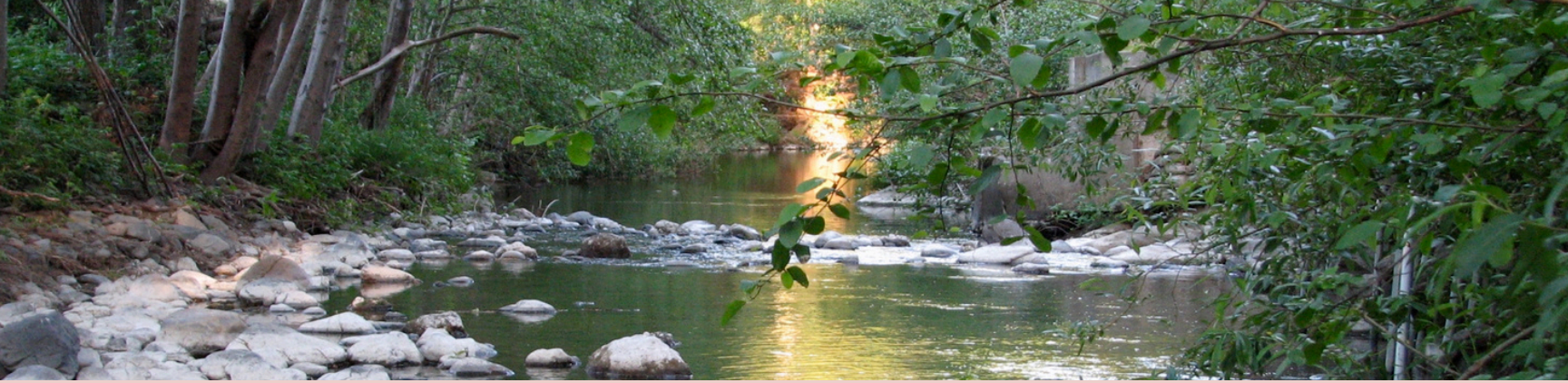
*Sonoma Ecology Center awarded 2022 Park Partner of the Year for innovative and inclusive programming at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park.*

Sonoma Ecology Center was awarded Park Partner of the Year at the 2022 California League of Park Associations conference. This biannual award recognizes the leading non-profit partner with State Parks in California. We were recognized for our innovative and inclusive programming, including our Limited Mobility and Senderos Naturales events at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park.

Our Limited Mobility programming was launched in February 2022 with monthly nature "Slow Journey's" outings designed for people using wheelchairs or who need a flat, smooth surface to traverse a trail. The outings travel along our half-mile ADA Creekside Nature Trail with a focus on birding, wildflowers, and more. We received a \$15,000 grant from the National Environmental Education Foundation to do an accessibility audit of the park, which yielded over 75 improvements, including redoing our trail descriptions to better describe trail conditions so visitors can determine if they can use a trail, and added benches along the meadow trail.

Through our Spanish language Senderos Naturales program, many of the students and families who live within 15 miles of Sugarloaf Ridge State Park who have never visited it have their first experiences at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. The program addresses barriers to accessing the park by lowering entry cost and providing Spanish language events and culturally relevant outreach.





For a healthy *Watershed*, we strive to create viable conditions for steelhead and other sensitive aquatic species.

**\$3M**

*in grant funds*

put towards studying and monitoring local watersheds and planning for multi-year restoration projects to reduce erosion and sediment and improve habitat for salmonids and other critical species. If you have water that is clean and abundant enough to support steelhead and other sensitive aquatic species, you generally have a watershed healthy and biodiverse enough to support a vibrant and thriving human community.

**570**

*trees, shrubs, forbs, and grasses*

that were grown in our Native Plant Nursery were planted by our Restoration Crew along the Nathanson Creek and Rogers Creek corridors to stabilize eroding stream banks, provide shade to cool streamflow, and enhance the beauty of the Sonoma Creek Watershed.

**4**

*watersheds improved*

by our Research and Restoration teams, who monitor rainfall, streamflow, water temperature, and other factors in the Sonoma Watershed to promote and implement management practices to better steward local species and natural resources. We applied what we learned from studying sources of water quality impairment in the Sonoma Watershed to the Petaluma Watershed, and removed invasive species in the Napa and Russian River Watersheds.

**100's**

*of pounds of trash and debris*

were removed from Nathanson Creek Preserve during 2 community creek cleanup days for California Coastal Creek Cleanup and Zero Waste Week.

# Water Highlight

## *20,000 gallon rainwater harvest system installed at Flowery Elementary School*

In December 2022, we completed a rainwater harvesting system at Flowery Elementary School that serves as a demonstration project for other schools. We installed four 5,000 gallon tanks to the roof catchments of Flowery classroom buildings 5.6 and 5.7. Collectively, these tanks can hold up to 20,000 gallons of water at any given time.

With this system, rainwater that falls on the roofs of two portable classroom buildings is collected in four 5,000 gallon water tanks for the school's educational garden use, rather than becoming stormwater runoff. This system will allow the school to conserve water in the rainy season to use for the dry season, thereby relieving some pressure from our local water district and serving as a demonstration to elementary school students of water conservation in practice.

Thank you to the California State Department of Water Resources and the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, who made this project possible.





For rich *Biodiversity,*

*we protect and restore native species and habitats of our region for future generations.*

14

*organizations and agencies*

in Sonoma, Napa, and Marin Counties worked together through the North Bay Bear Collaborative, led by Meghan Walla-Murphy and our Sugarloaf Ridge State Park and Research staff, to keep the growing black bear population in the area wild and safe. Together, we continue to conduct scat surveys to determine the bear population and diet, public outreach to education, and work on infrastructure hardening.

4,000

*native plants*

were propagated at our Native Plant Nursery at Sonoma Garden Park for restoration and landscaping projects. We launched a weekly Native Plant Sale to make these native plants accessible to the public.

555

*landscape professionals and homeowners*

attended 14 Resilient Landscapes workshops, gaining practical information on fire-smart, water-wise and wildlife-friendly landscaping. The Resilient Landscapes Coalition held 12 site tours and launched a new website sharing this beneficial information.

136,000

*critter cam photos*

were captured by our Critter Cam Crews and Community Science Program, with over 40 cameras at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. 25 volunteers spent 1,200 hours hiking thousands of miles and analyzing the photos, and are currently analyzing this data for insights into animal behavior and wildlife corridors. Sugarloaf Ridge State Park now has one of the most data-rich animal camera programs in the State with 275,000 images and 51,000 animal photos collected over the past five years.



# Biodiversity Highlight

*Faline Howard helped restore monarch butterfly habitat with 1,700 narrow-leaf milkweed plants.*

Sonoma Ecology Center was honored to support Faline Howard, SEC Earthling Club member and Girl Scout, in her efforts to help the endangered monarch butterfly. Her initiative to develop habitat for the endangered monarch butterflies and improve wildlife throughout Sonoma County led Faline to propagate and distribute 1,700 narrow-leaf plants. She did outreach and education to the general public, schools, wineries, and golf courses, getting her seedlings planted in numerous key locations throughout Sonoma County.

Howard germinated and grew 1,200 native narrow-leaf milkweed plants from seeds at home and another 500 at the Sonoma Garden Park Native Plant Nursery, which became a hub for the distribution of the plants to the public.

For these efforts Howard was honored by City of Sonoma's former Mayor Jack Ding and received the 2023 Youth Volunteer of the Year Award.





To address *Climate,*

*we believe an informed, engaged community can better adapt to climate change.*

**167**

*people learned to make biochar*

directly in the field using flame cap kilns to conduct cleaner open burns using the conservation burn technique. These trainings took place in Sonoma, Napa, Mendocino, and San Bernardino counties.

**\$2.4M**

*in grants secured*

in two grants for Sonoma Ecology Center to lead two landscape design teams planning greening actions at four Santa Rosa and eight Pittsburg elementary schools. Plans co-developed by Sonoma Ecology Center in collaboration with Bay Tree Design, Gates Landscape Design, DC Architects, A Plus Tree, and other partners will include greening actions such as planting shade trees, creating outdoor classrooms or natural play areas to replace sections of blacktop, devising new climate-related school curricula, and installing rainwater capture systems.

**480**

*acres*

of Eucalyptus trees are being thinned and utilized for the creation of biochar using a Tigercat Carbonator in fuels reduction projects in Chabot Regional Park. Managed by Earth Foundries, Inc., with assistance from Sonoma Ecology Center, the biochar produced is being used for field trials at local dairy and poultry farms as well as for a compost field trial at the Napa Recycling and Compost facility in American Canyon, and will also be used to benefit parks within the East Bay Regional Park District.

**100's**

*of people*

were educated on the benefits of biochar, including carbon sequestration, enhancement of soil nutrition, and water retention. We collaborated with our strategic partners to educate local farmers, foresters, vineyard managers, government officials, and other stakeholders on the advantages of this carbon-negative material.

# Climate Highlight

*Almost 200 acres throughout the Sonoma Creek, Russian River, and Napa River watersheds helped to recover from fire damage.*

For the past several years, the focus of our Restoration Program has been post-fire recovery. The scope of the fire damage is so extensive that it is easy to become discouraged, but natural processes aided by the small but important projects implemented by the Sonoma Ecology Center crew are slowly healing the scars.

At this time, many landowners and public land managers still face the daunting challenges of forests of fire-killed trees that will fall within the next few years, decaying root networks that will destabilize steep hillslopes, and explosive growth of invasive and flammable exotic plants. Parcel by parcel, our Restoration Program is addressing these challenges, reducing the risks for future fires and ecologically restoring the burnt landscape.



We thank our  
donors, funders,  
and volunteers for  
making possible  
these impacts in  
the areas of  
*Community,*  
*Land,*  
*Water,*  
*Biodiversity,*  
*and Climate.*

*Our*  
**Donors** *for the 2022 calendar year*

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Mark and Jerrilynn Moorhead  
David Morell  
Morgan Stanley  
Byron Jones and Julie Morrison  
Cynthia Morrow  
Steve Mullen and Inga Aksamit

## N

Shigeo Nakatani  
Alan Nathan and Sedra Shapiro  
James and Gwen Neary  
Anonymous  
Ken and Karin Niehoff  
Jack and Hope Nisson  
Tadashi and Deborah Nitasaka  
Eric Norrbom  
Christine Nota  
Gregory Nowell

## O

Anonymous  
Mike and Cory O'Donnell  
Joan Osterman

## P

Domenic and Birgitta Paino  
Peter and Cecilia Parkinson  
Leighton Parks  
Lou Patterson  
Kenneth Pennington  
Lewis Perdue  
Thomas and Jamel Perkins  
Patrick and Nan Perrott  
James Perry  
Roger Peters  
and Stephanie Moulton-Peters  
Alexander and Ann Peters  
Mark Peterson  
Ewing and Bonney Philbin  
Steven and Linda Pickell  
Will and Anna Pier  
Valerie Pierce and Michael Stortz  
James Piper  
Anonymous  
Marcus and Rebecca Porrino  
The Presentation School  
Laurie Proctor  
Susan Pryfogle  
Charles Purdom and Ned Pudom  
Donald and James Pyskaty

## Q

Sonoma Qigongers  
Alta Quackenbush  
Bette Quinn

## R

Lynn Ravazzini  
Susan Reed Clark  
Christopher Reiger  
and Elizabeth Cedars  
Edward and Roberta Remedios  
Elizabeth Renold  
Daniel Roberts  
Dave and Nancy Roche  
Linda Rockstroh  
Orlando Rodriguez  
Gregory and Linda Rose  
Steven and Colleen Rose  
Thomas and Michele Rouse  
Joshua Rymer  
Donald Ryndak

## S

Tracy Salcedo  
David Sandfier  
Toby Sandison  
Sally Sands  
Diana Sanson and Ben Compton  
Cynthia Scarborough  
Craig and Jessica Schorr  
Michael Schramm  
Andrew Schreiber  
Richard and Amy Schuh  
Michael and Mary Schuh  
Lynda Schulte  
Kathleen Schultz  
Jean Schulz  
Bryan and Patricia Sesser  
John Seymour  
Linda Shak  
Michael and Janet Shane  
Lynn Sherard Stuhr  
Suzanne Shimek and Dorit Yaffe  
Ann Elizabeth Shippey  
Jennifer Shipston  
Claudia Sims  
Karen Sinell  
K Skizewski

Anonymous  
Twink Smith  
Marc Snyder and Mariluisa Betta  
Mark and Maurine Solomonson  
Sonoma Syrup Company  
Anne Sperber  
Arwen Spicer  
Charles Levine  
and Elisa Stancil Levine  
April Starke  
Chris and Sheri Starr  
Timothy and Kathy Statton  
Kat Stephens  
Diana and Hugh Stevenson  
Kenneth Stokes  
and Dana Simpson-Stokes  
Stephanie Storms  
Carol Stoye  
Gordon Strachan  
Shirley Sulpizio  
Peter and Diane Swanhuysen

## T

Toby and Diane Taylor  
Lauren Taylor  
Jim and Elinor Taylor  
Joseph and Eileen Tenn  
Bald Mountain Ranch  
Anonymous  
Janet Tonkin  
Cynthia and Russell Toran  
Ryan and Kristin Tracey  
Craig Tracy  
Mary Elizabeth Tudor  
Katherine Twain

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Veri Wealth Partners  
Charles and Pamela Vetrano  
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Ellen Wagner and Anne Derryberry  
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George and Judy Weiner  
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Frank Windes  
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Michael and Lee Anne Yaeger  
William Blackford and Eva Yearsley  
Alison Young

## Z

Jane Zimmerman  
Charles and Janet Zipkin



## *In Honor of...*

**Judith R Armstrong**  
Christopher and Judith Armstrong

**Raymond Baltar**  
Lin Barrett

**Josh Breinlinger**  
Ashley and Josh Breinlinger

**Richard Busse**  
Lynn Ravazzini

**Darlene Cole aka 'Grandma Honey'**  
Mark and Jerrilynn Moorhead

**Joanna Devrais**  
Patrick and Nan Perrott

**Mick Dunwoody**  
Lynette Caron

**Sarah Elbert**  
Melissa Jones

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**Cindy Lindh**  
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Margaret Kaplan

**Tony Passantino**  
Amy Ingram

**John Roney and Alma Shaw**  
Carolyn Greene

**Roberta Shippey**  
Ann Elizabeth Shippey

**Jacquelyn Steuer**  
Elizabeth and Robert Griego

**Team Sugarloaf**  
Leah Herman

## *In Memory of...*

**Ted Brattstrom**  
Susan Gere

**Anne Halsted**  
Isabel Wade

**Charles Haseltine**  
K Skizewski

**Veda Lewis**  
Kathy Aanestad

**Robert (Bob) Raffo**  
Cat Ackerly  
Kristin Bastoni Frazee  
Douglas Douglas  
Connie Farr  
Arlene Hyatt  
Kelly Mackura

**David Shippey**  
Ann Elizabeth Shippey

**Bill Spicer**  
Arwen Spicer

**Martin Stoye**  
Carol Stoye

**Alice Webb**  
Michael Kummer  
and Gretchen Webb-Kummer

*Our*  
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*for the 2022 calendar year*

CalFire  
California Department of Fish & Wildlife  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
California State Parks Foundation  
California State Water Board  
California Wildlife Conservation Board  
City of Sonoma  
Coastal Conservancy  
Community Foundation of Sonoma County  
County of Sonoma - Board of Supervisors  
Gaia Fund  
Jack London Yacht Club  
Joseph & Vera Long Foundation  
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Marin Community Foundation  
Mary A. Crocker Trust  
Napa County Regional Park & Open Space  
National Environmental Education Foundation  
Nature Defense Fund  
NonProfits United  
Permit Sonoma  
Saba Foundation  
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Waste District  
San Francisco Estuary Partnership—Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement Program  
San Luis Obispo County  
Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District  
Sonoma County Water Agency  
Sonoma County Water Agency  
Sonoma Valley Catalyst Fund  
Sonoma Valley Education Foundation  
Sonoma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Speedway Children's Charities  
Sprouts Healthy Communities Foundation  
US Fish & Wildlife

*A special thank you to our*

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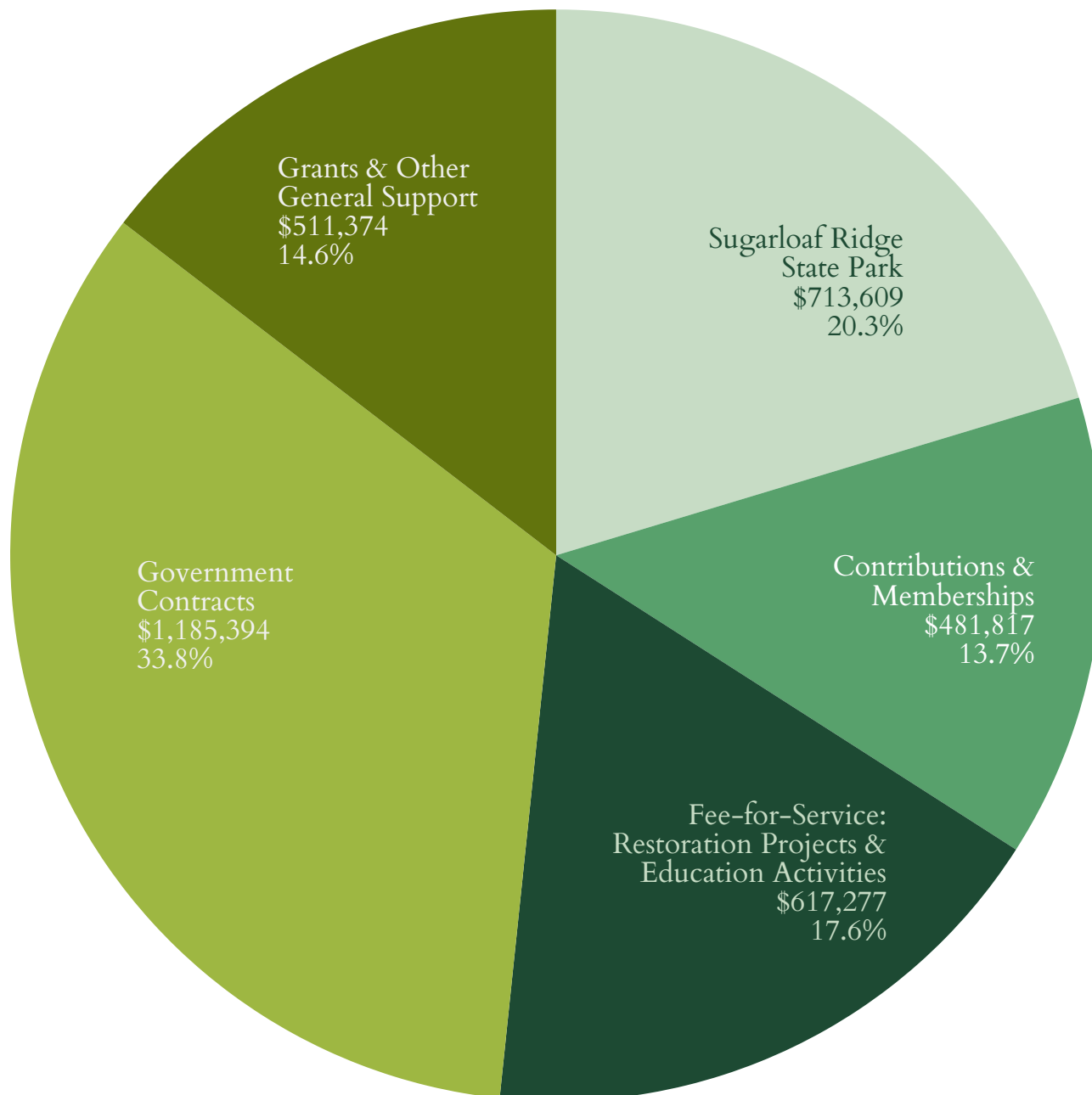
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Our  
*Revenue Highlights*  
for the 2022 calendar year



*Our*  
*Statement of Financial Position*  
*for the 2022 calendar year*

	<u>12/31/2022</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 402,554
Accounts & contributions receivable	781,187
Inventory	<u>15,967</u>
Total current assets	1,199,708
Deposits	15,000
Property and equipment, net	<u>153,957</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,368,665</u>
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	\$ 274,058
Accrued vacation pay	50,819
Deferred revenue	2,804
Grant advance	<u>9,783</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	337,464
Net Assets	
Without donor restrictions	648,442
With donor restrictions	<u>382,759</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>1,031,201</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,368,665</u>

Our  
*Statement of Activities*  
 for the 2022 calendar year

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	2022 Total
SUPPORT & REVENUE			
Support			
Program service contracts	\$ 1,185,394	\$ -	\$ 1,185,394
Contributions	472,704	9,113	481,817
Grants	-	444,722	444,722
Net assets released from restriction	382,998	(382,998)	-
Total support	2,041,096	70,837	2,111,933
Revenue			
Fees for restoration, education & related services	617,277	-	617,277
Park entrance, camping & related fees	649,430	-	649,430
Sales of merchandise	118,342	-	118,342
Cost of goods sold	(54,163)	-	(54,163)
Other income	66,646	6	66,652
Total revenue	1,397,532	6	1,397,538
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	3,438,628	70,843	3,509,471
EXPENSES			
Program services	2,561,227	-	2,561,227
Management and general	558,553	-	558,553
Fundraising	308,850	-	308,850
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,428,630	-	3,428,630
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	9,998	70,843	80,841
NET ASSETS, Beginning of Year	638,444	311,916	950,360
NET ASSETS, End of Year	\$ 648,442	\$ 382,759	\$ 1,031,201

# Our Staff

HANNAH ACLUFI  
Native Plant Nursery Manager

DANNY ANGEL  
Sugarloaf Campground Lead

RAYMOND BALTAR  
Biochar Project Manager

CELINA BRIGGS  
Human Resources Manager  
IT

STEVE CARARA  
Sonoma Garden Park Manager

LAUREN CLAUSSEN  
Restoration Program Manager

CAITLIN CORNWALL  
Senior Project Manager  
Sonoma Valley Collaborative  
Project Director

RICHARD DALE  
Executive Director

JONNY EHLERS  
Education Project Manager

FRANCIS GANTOS  
Sugarloaf Ridge State Park,  
Operations and Maintenance Lead

DESIRAE HARP  
Sugarloaf Ridge State Park,  
Event and Education Assistant

WENDY HAYES  
Research Project Manager

MANUEL HERNANDEZ  
Restoration Project Manager  
ISA Certified Arborist

BARRY HILL  
Senior Project Coordinator

JACK HINES  
GIS Specialist

AMANDA HUBBARD  
Grants Coordinator

KIM JONES  
Development Specialist  
Sonoma Valley Collaborative  
Coordinator

ALEX KASTE  
Restoration Technician

STEVEN LEE  
Senior Scientist and Research  
Program Manager

MAYA LUONG  
Marketing and  
Communications Specialist

JULIA MEGNA  
Education Project Manager

KURTIS MCINTYRE  
Restoration Technician

MATTIE MILLER  
Staff Accountant

IVANA NEDELCEV  
Bilingual Volunteer Coordinator

TONY PASSANTINO  
Education Program Manager

CALI PEARCE  
Volunteer Engagement Specialist

JOHN RONEY  
Sugarloaf Ridge State Park,  
Park Manager

CAMILLE SANCHEZ  
Educator

BOB SCHNEIDER  
Design and Implementation  
Project Manager

ERIC SCHOOLS  
Land Management Planner

ALMA SHAW  
Sugarloaf Ridge State Park,  
Bilingual Program Director

TIFFANY WING  
Associate Director

WOODY WOODBURY  
Sugarloaf Ridge State Park Campground  
Administrative Lead

Sonoma Ecology Center  
is a 501(c)3 organization  
Federal ID #94-3136500

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info@sonomaecologycenter.org

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Eldridge, CA 95431

Websites  
[www.sonomaecologycenter.org](http://www.sonomaecologycenter.org)

[www.sugarloafpark.org](http://www.sugarloafpark.org)  
[www.sonomavalleycollaborative.org](http://www.sonomavalleycollaborative.org)  
[www.sonomavalleyvolunteers.org](http://www.sonomavalleyvolunteers.org)  
[www.beingwithbears.org](http://www.beingwithbears.org)  
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