



SLT and Partners to Build Spring Hill Trail

Great news! The Siskiyou Land Trust just signed a Memorandum of Understanding to move forward with planning for a new public trail proposed for the Spring Hill property that is owned by the Coca-Cola Bottling Plant. It would be an easy hike for all ages and a significant addition to the urban trails in Mt. Shasta. There are excellent views as you hike up the hill and at the top there is a panoramic view of all the mountains in this area. It would offer a great way to spend a few hours in an afternoon, and would likely be popular with summer visitors.

Completing the Spring Hill Trail will be a cooperative effort between the Siskiyou Land Trust, the Mt. Shasta Trail Association and the landowner Coca-Cola. Over the past year the two nonprofits have had a series of discussions with the management of the Bottling Plant about establishing a hiking trail on this property. Two weeks ago John Brennan (Siskiyou Land Trust President), Steve Horn (Siskiyou Land Trust Executive Director) and Joe Wirth (Mt. Shasta Trail Association President) met with Tim Fischbach (newly appointed Bottling Plant Manager) and signed the Memorandum of Understanding to proceed with the planning phase of the project.



Mt. Shasta Trail Assoc. President Joe Wirth
and SLT President John Brennan plan the Spring Hill Trail

The next steps are for the Land Trust and the Trail Association to develop a detailed design of the improvements needed to create a safe trail, to resolve issues of insurance and long-term trail management, and to submit our plan to Coca-Cola for consideration. Ultimately, we hope to connect the trail to the Mt. Shasta City Park across North Mt. Shasta Boulevard.

We'll be keeping you informed about this exciting new chance to enjoy our natural beauty, and SLT members can expect that we'll be calling on you to help "dig in" with some of the landscape clean-up, fencing and other improvements. We'll need your help to make this come true.

Sign Up for SLT E-News!

The Land Trust has overcome our technical gremlins and will revive the monthly e-newsletter starting June 1. With information on volunteering opportunities, SLT events and time-sensitive conservation news, this goes out to all of our members if we have your email address.

If you would like to receive this spam-free document, please let us know at slt-members@sbcglobal.net. And no, we won't be sharing your email address with anyone else.

THANKS SLT MEMBERS !!

Without your help we can't do our work

Dorian Aiello, Barbara Allen, Dr. Leslie Andrews, Marge Apperson, John Aviani, Nancy Bacon, Laurie Bagley, Bill & Willo Balfrey, Neva Barnett, Christina & Jason Benz, Steve Bollock, Randy & Donna Boyd, Susie Boyd, John & Susan Brennan, Todd Brotherton, Charlie Brown, Peg Cahill, Randy & Paula Cardoza, Kristen Carter, Doug Carter, Julie & Mike Cassidy, Tom Chandler, Yoj Chase, Rick & Linda Chitwood, Benita Clark, Neal Clark, Alan Cohn, Jane Cohn, Julian Colescott, Jeffrey & Sandra Collings, Dr. Chet & Trudy Collins, Dave Conkle, Christy Corzine, John Cunningham, Sal and Christine Cutrona, Bob Damschroeder, Nicholas Dennis, Richard & Jackie Derwingson, Deborah Desrochers, Cindy Diaz, Sean Doyle, Tim & Melissa Doyle, Nancy & Tom Driscoll, Scott Durbin, Pete & Bonnie Eddy, Sarah Elmore, Sharon & Robert Evanhoe, Harold Fantel, Melanie Findling, Lon & Liz Fitton, Robert & Donna Forrest, Mark & Margaret Foster, Rebecca Franco, Deborah Franzine, Beth & Dennis Freeman, Guy Fryer, Mark & Audra Gibson, Mona Gutierrez & Chris Marrone, Bob & Libby Hall, John & Lori Harch, Jim & Lynda Hardy, Nancy & Jerry Harmon, Joseph & Kathleen Heller, Bruce Hellman, Tom Hesseldenz & Syd Sloan, Belinda Higuera, John & Denise Hines, Stephanie Hoffman, Suren Holbeck, Richard & Karen Holmes, Ana Holub, Steve Horn, Amy Hoss & Curtis Knight, Thalys & Robert Hunt, Carol Jenkins, Katie Jessup, Dennis Johnson, Mona & Bruce Johnston, Lawrence Jordan, Paj Kane, Jim & Susan Kelly, Mark & Eleanor Kennedy, Diane Kirwin, Buzz & Jennifer Knight, Dea Knox, Kristin Kopplin, Bill & Mary Larson, Cindy & Terry Lawhon, Laraine Lewis, Henry Little, Richard Lucas, Francis Mangels, Terez Maniatis, Claudia Mansfield, Kenneth Maurer, Kerry & Eleanor Mauro, John & Chantel McDermott, Randy McDonald, Dennis & Sally McFall, Carol & Victor Medrano, Harold (Bud) Miller, Susan Miller, Jack Moore, John & Norma Moore, Stephen Morrell, Tom & Patty Morris, Alistair & Carol Mowat, Peter Mt. Shasta, Michael & Wendy Murray, Jean Nels, Terri Nevins & Walter Wright, Jerri & Craig Nielsen, Gary & Shari Nordell, Lori Oliver, Cori Ong, Dr. Jim Parker, Jennifer & Jim Pentrack, Jane Piereth, Rick Poore, Russ Porterfield, Neil & Stephanie Posson, Tuli & Keith Potts, Jane Prestegard, Joy & Barry Price, Daniel & Shieley Rice, Mary Roehrich, John & Linda Sue Runnels, Belinda & Gary Sanda, Michael & Susan Sartor, Nick & Pat Satariano, Jack & Lori Saunders, Chris & Nancy Schneider, Jan Schrag & David Vogt, Carl & Fai Schwarzenberg, Sandy Scofield, Dave & Pam Scott, Michael Semansky, Barbara & Tom Semple, Linda Siegel, Nathan & Sulena Sivananda, Mike & Jane Sojka, Kim Solga, Ronald & Janet Sortor, Sandy Spelliscy, Dale Stanley, Tim Stearns, Janet Stensaas, Jeff Stone & Kathy Pitts, Linda & Ronald Stremel, Nancy Swift, Lynn Teuscher, George & Bonnie Thomas, Jay & Eve Thompson, Jill Tillinghast, Tom & Yvonne Waite, Phil & Barbara Ward, M.J. Watts, Tom & Larie Wearing, Greg Weber, Denise Welch & Steve Brown, Tamar Wherrit, Brian & Katie White, Judith White, Roger & Carol Wilder, Marc Williams, Jeffrey & Danielle Winters, Joe & Michael Wirth, John Yoakley, Philip York, Michael Zanger, Dawut Zeleke.



Letter from the President

Spring greetings to all you great community folks who so generously support our work. What have we done with your help?

At Sisson Meadow, we've installed parking space along the Castle Street alley for use by visitors, and our volunteers have worked to maintain and upgrade the property so all can enjoy it.

We conducted a bird-watching trip up to the Klamath Wildlife Refuge, and guided hikes to Southgate Meadow on Mt. Shasta and to Stafford Lakes, for the enjoyment of Land Trust members and the community. Volunteers led those excursions.

We've spent a lot of time sitting around the kitchen tables of farming families in the Scott River and Shasta River valleys, talking about how to keep agriculture as a vital part of the future of Siskiyou County. Large ranches provide critical wildlife habitat, as well as providing a beautiful landscape that we all enjoy every day. Member contributions make this possible.

In partnership with the Mt. Shasta Trail Association we've worked out an agreement with the Coca Cola Bottling Company, and with your help we'll build a trail up Spring Hill that is sure to be a big hit with visitors.

We work hard to preserve agricultural, forest and wildlands. Plain and simple, volunteer efforts make these successes possible -- they just wouldn't occur without financial and physical support from our community. The land trust Board is committed to generating continuing benefits which repay our members and show our respect and appreciation for all you do.

—JB

SLT Proposes First County Agricultural Easement

The Siskiyou Land Trust has agreed with Scott Valley ranchers to protect 5,500 acres of rangeland and cultivated agriculture along the Scott River near Etna. The Plank and Whipple families manage several adjacent ranches. These families are protective of the natural landscape in their current farming practices, and they believe in Siskiyou County for long-term agricultural productivity. The Land Trust and the landowners are working together to bulwark these working farms through a conservation easement that would avoid future subdivision of the properties or conversion of them to nonagricultural uses.



Rancher Keith Whipple describes his working farmland

The Land Trust is seeking financial assistance from public and private sources for the purchase of these conservation easements. The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors has voted to support these efforts, indicative of a broad consensus on the importance of these open space lands to the future of the County.

The conservation easement will protect productive rangeland and cropland, provide “back country” wildlife habitat for bears, mountain lions, elk and deer herds, and will maintain the historical scenic views of the Scott River farmlands and the hills that frame them. The Plank and Whipple ranches take in more than 1½ miles of the Scott River, a crucial part of the Klamath River system that is home to the endangered coho salmon, and agricultural practices here are respectful of the riparian habitat.

This project would be the first conservation easement to protect working farmlands in Siskiyou County. The Land Trust Board regards this as a very significant (and exciting!) breakthrough for conservation planning and resource protection. Stay tuned for updates on our success in completing this project!



More Volunteers Needed for Sisson Meadow Spring Cleaning

What can you do to help the local environment? Tired of working around the house? Come out to Sisson Meadow! We'll be having a bit of exercise in the sun as we recover from winter and get the park ready for the visitors who will be joining us soon.

On **Saturday, May 30, from 9:00 to noon**, you're invited to join Land Trust volunteers who will be making Sisson Meadow a bit cleaner, brighter and more friendly to native plants and wildlife. With the coming of Spring, it's time to return to the fight against noxious invasive plants around the pond, and to do some native plantings, repair the boardwalk, prune the bushes, etc. Bring your gloves, hats and sunscreen - - we'll provide water and tools.

Meet at the old barn site - - for more information please call 926-2259.

The Friends of Sisson Meadow, the volunteer stewards of the park and all-around irreplaceable resource to the Land Trust, will also be asking if you'd like to be involved in "keeping an eye" on the property. The community's year-around attention to the property, to report concerns before they become problems, is very important to us.



Susie Boyd and Steve Horn
show off some of the "old growth"
Scotch broom removed from Sisson
Meadow by SLT volunteers

Printed on recycled paper.

SLT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday 5/12 - 5:30 @ Mt. Shasta Community Building
629 Alder Street, Mt. Shasta - Come for Food, Drinks, and Land Trust News!

Siskiyou Land Trust
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Our Mission

The Siskiyou Land Trust is dedicated to long-term stewardship of agricultural, forest and wildlands in Siskiyou County by working with willing landowners, agencies and organizations.

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