

# Siskiyou Land Trust

Board of Directors  
Call for Nominations



## The Opportunity

Do you care deeply about conserving the natural and working lands of Siskiyou County? Do you want to make a contribution that will help preserve our precious landscapes for generations to come? Are you passionate about preserving habitat that will allow our wildlife and native plants to flourish? Do you want to make a meaningful connection to your community as part of an exceptional team?



We're looking to add up to 4 new members to our current board of 8 as we build organizational capacity, reach for ambitious conservation goals, and secure our role as a leading innovator in permanent, collaborative land conservation. Join our dedicated, engaged board as we guide the Siskiyou Land Trust into an exciting future.

# Our Work and History

## **What We Have Accomplished.**

Through visionary leadership we have moved from an all-volunteer, small-scale organization to a major player in California conservation. Today we have 37,000 acres under permanent protection, 25,000 acres in pending transactions and 50,000 acres in the pipeline across three major watersheds. It is our goal to have over 100,000 acres permanently protected by 2030 and we believe that's only the beginning of what we can do,

## **How We Do Our Conservation Work**

- Siskiyou Land Trust is a nonprofit organization which owns legal interests in property in order to protect it. The most common form of ownership is a conservation easement although we also buy and own property outright.
- A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement between a landowner who wants to permanently protect their land and Siskiyou Land Trust. It's a recorded, binding agreement that runs forever and protects the land by permanently limiting some uses (primarily development) that would compromise its natural features.
- The conservation easement allows landowners to own, use, or sell their land, and to leave it to their heirs but future owners are always bound by the terms of the conservation easement. Each easement is unique and is specifically designed to protect the conservation values of each property. An easement need not require public access.



## The Role of the Board



The Siskiyou Land Trust Board is critical to the organization's success as it provides leadership, professional guidance, practical perspective, and strategic vision. The Board is deeply collaborative and membership offers meaningful, enriching relationships as well as sense of personal satisfaction and accomplishment.

## What We are Looking For

A deep commitment to conservation is a prerequisite for serving on the Siskiyou Land Trust board of directors. We actively recruit leaders with diverse talents and strong community connections who expect to contribute in a meaningful way to the work of a cohesive and effective governing body.

Specifically, we are looking for these qualities:

- **Leadership.** Board members who are prepared to step up and contribute enthusiastically in critical leadership roles throughout the organization.
- **Relationships.** Individuals with deep roots in the communities we serve, and a willingness to connect us to their personal and professional networks.
- **Resources.** Community members with resources to invest in support of conservation. We need members with *time* to actively engage and lead the organization (in some cases significant commitments of time will be necessary). We need members with *financial capacity* or interest to lead our resource development efforts to fuel great conservation.
- **Skills/Experience.** Specific experience and/or knowledge in one or more of the following areas is a current priority for board recruitment: forestry management, fundraising, media/public relations, human resources, and public policy. We recognize, however, that there are many other combinations of skills and attributes that are valuable to the organization and are committed to evaluating the whole “package” brought to the table by each board member.



# Board Member Responsibilities



Board members are expected to have or do the following:

- A demonstrated **interest in conservation** of the irreplaceable places of far Northern California.
- **Be informed** of the organization's mission, services, policies, and programs.
- The ability to **guide** the organization **strategically and sustainably**.
- A willingness to **participate** in board **fundraising activities**.
- Represent and facilitate a **connection with** a key aspect or segment of the population of the **communities we serve**.
- Regularly **attend board meetings** and review agenda and supporting materials prior to the meetings.
- **Participate on a committee**, including Executive, Board Development, Finance, Fund Development, or Land Acquisition Committee.
- A willingness to expand one's knowledge and effectiveness through **orientation and training**.
- A willingness to **represent** the organization to the community, **build strategic relationships**, and actively **encourage support** for the land trust.
- **Adhere to** conflict of interest and confidentiality **policies** of the organization.

## Time Commitment


We ask our board members to commit to a multi-year term of three years with the option of renewing for additional terms. Board service varies from month-to-month, and some board members will commit more time than others. Generally speaking, on any given month, board members can expect to invest:

**3-4 hours** Board meetings/prep (*12 times per year, plus extended retreat and annual meeting*)

**2-3 hours** Committee meetings/prep (*monthly to quarterly, depending on committee*)


**1-3 hours** Special requests (*based on availability*)

**2-6 hours** Community outreach, engagement (*based on availability*)



As a matter of law, a board member must meet certain standards of conduct in carrying out his or her responsibilities to the organization. A board member has the duty to exercise reasonable care in their stewardship of the organization, act in the best interests of the organization and never to use information obtained as a board member for personal gain and, be faithful to the organization's mission.

## How to Apply



If you have an interest in applying to join the Siskiyou Land Trust Board of Directors, please visit this link. [Application](#)  
**The priority application deadline is April 30, 2024.**

If you have any questions about the application or selection process, please contact Board President, Wendy Whitson at [wendywhitson123@gmail.com](mailto:wendywhitson123@gmail.com).

For a list of current board members and biographical information, please visit [www.siskiyoulandtrust.org](http://www.siskiyoulandtrust.org).

