

Napa County



THE SAUER VINEYARD, CERTIFIED THROUGH THE NAPA GREEN PROGRAM

The rural beauty of Napa County has been attracting visitors for well over 100 years, never more so than today. Many are drawn by the legendary wine but all are quickly awed by the spectacular landscape of carefully tended vineyards framed by rugged mountains. This is an area where farming and nature coexist well and where people can enjoy the best that both worlds have to offer.

POPULATION: >140,000

SIZE: 478,951 acres (land only)

PROTECTED LANDS: 145,804 acres

CONSERVANCY PROJECTS: 45

CONSERVANCY FUNDING: >\$18 million

The County's residents have demonstrated their commitment to protecting its rural character through their support for farmland preservation, and its vineyard owners have long been on the forefront of farming in ways friendly to the natural environment. An ever-growing network of parks and trails provides ample opportunities for residents and visitors to hike, bike, and enjoy the outdoors. Chinook salmon and steelhead trout are once again reaching historic spawning and rearing sites as barriers to migration are removed from the Napa River and its tributaries, and a wide array of birds, fish, and other wildlife are thriving in newly restored wetlands along San Pablo Bay.

The Coastal Conservancy has worked with the people of Napa County for more than 30 years to sustain the area's quality of life. We will continue that work to

- provide outdoor recreational opportunities for a growing population and millions of annual visitors, and
- restore and improve the health of waterways, streams, marshes, and wildlands.

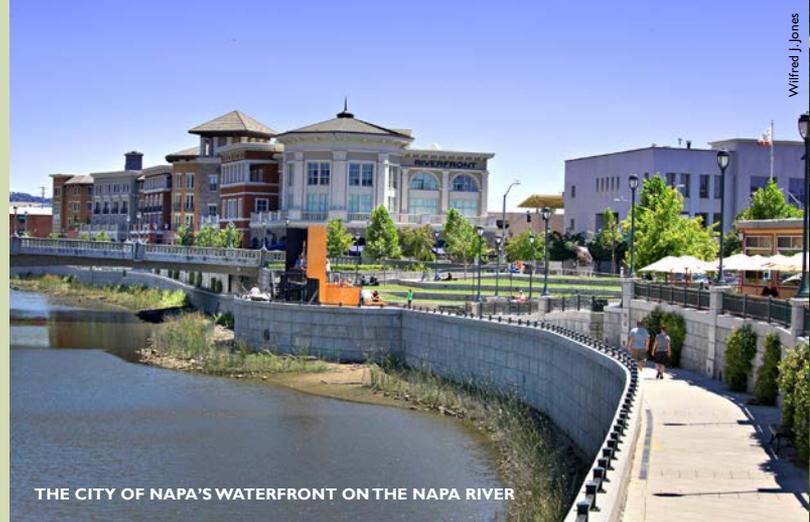
Parks & Scenic Lands

Working with local communities, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies, the Conservancy has helped purchase and protect more than 29,000 acres of the County's scenic natural lands. Most of the protected properties are open or slated to be opened for public use, while some have been dedicated to conservation and environmental research. Conservancy-assisted purchases include:

- The State's acquisition of thousands of acres of **Napa Marsh** near San Pablo Bay for restoration to wetlands.
- More than 430 acres on the **Napa River** below the City of Napa that have been incorporated into the County's flood-protection program.
- The 673-acre **Moore Creek Park** near Lake Hennessey, opened by the County in 2013, which offers miles of trails that wind through rugged woodlands and grasslands teeming with wildlife.
- The **Wildlake and Duff ranches**, containing 4,000 acres just east of Calistoga, whose purchase by the Land Trust of Napa County protected several miles of hills extending southward from Robert Louis Stevenson State Park.
- Acquisition of interests in more than 120 acres of the **Smith-Madrone** property on the west side of Napa Valley to ensure the protection of wildlife habitat and the conservation of working vineyards.
- An additional 720 acres added to University of California Natural Reserve System properties in the **Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area**.
- The addition of the 12,575-acre Lauffs Ranch to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's **Knoxville Wildlife Area** north of Lake Berryessa, more than doubling its size.



THE ALL-AMERICAN CANAL AT NAPA SONOMA MARSH



THE CITY OF NAPA'S WATERFRONT ON THE NAPA RIVER

Trails & Recreation

One of the Conservancy's primary objectives is to provide people with opportunities for outdoor recreation. In Napa County the Conservancy's work has included extending regional trail systems, improving recreation around Lake Berryessa, and helping the City of Napa reconnect to its riverfront in the 1990s.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY TRAIL

- The Conservancy supported planning for over 11 miles of Bay Trail along the **Napa River** from south of American Canyon to Napa's John F. Kennedy Memorial Park and is helping to fund construction of almost one mile of the trail on the south side of Napa.
- New bicycle lanes on Imola Avenue's **Maxwell Bridge** greatly improved safety for bicyclists crossing the Napa River.
- Bicycle lanes constructed along two miles of **Cuttings Wharf Road** provide a safe route for cyclists along a popular corridor leading to the site of the Conservancy's first project in the County—the 1981 installation of the **Cuttings Wharf Fishing Pier**.

BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL

- The Conservancy supported planning for extending the Ridge Trail across the Napa and Solano County borders in the **Jameson Canyon** area and helped build 1.6 miles of the **Napa Solano Ridge Trail** on **Tuteur Ranch** and the adjacent **Skyline Wilderness Park**.



VOLUNTEERS AT THE ENTRYWAY TO MOORE CREEK PARK



ZINFANDEL LANE BRIDGE RETROFITTED FOR FISH PASSAGE



DUFF RANCH



STUDENTS AT THE NAPA RIVER ECOLOGICAL RESERVE



KNOXVILLE WILDLIFE AREA



CUTTINGS WHARF FISHING PIER

Trails & Recreation *continued*

- The Conservancy funded planning for more than three miles of the Ridge Trail on the 2,200-acre **Lake Milliken** watershed lands, 15 minutes northeast of downtown Napa.
- The Conservancy helped the City of American Canyon acquire the 640-acre **Newell Open Space Preserve** and funded the Napa County Land Trust's purchase of an easement on the adjacent **Creston Station Ranch** to provide opportunities for Ridge Trail extensions.

LAKE BERRYESSA

- The Conservancy has funded planning and design of the 150-mile **Lake Berryessa Shoreline Trail**, a key component of the effort to expand opportunities for public recreation around the lake.
- The Conservancy is helping to fund the County's first outdoor environmental education camp, **Camp Berryessa**, being built on the site of a former Boy Scout camp on the lakes' Putah Creek arm.

Natural Lands Restoration

The Conservancy has long been a partner in restoring and improving the wetlands, waterways, and floodplains of Napa County to benefit wildlife, augment flood protection, and preserve farmland. Projects that have benefitted from Conservancy support include:

- The **Napa Sonoma Marsh Restoration Project**, through which 4,800 acres have been restored to tidal wetlands and ponds managed for waterfowl and shorebirds.
- The **Rutherford Reach Restoration Project** along 4½ miles of the Napa River's main stem, a cooperative effort of government agencies and neighboring vineyard owners.
- Retrofit of the historic **Zinfandel Lane Bridge** near St. Helena, which removed a barrier that prevented salmon and steelhead from reaching about 90 miles of historic spawning and rearing habitat.
- **Flood protection** for the City of Napa and downstream areas using "living river" principles that protect wildlife habitats and enable recreational opportunities.
- Restoration of historic wetlands in the City of Napa's **John F. Kennedy Memorial Park** and installation of adjacent amenities for visitors.
- Development of the **Napa Green** land certification program, a voluntary program for grape growers to adopt sustainable farming practices friendly to fish and other wildlife.
- Assistance to landowners in the **Eticuera Creek** watershed at the north end of Lake Berryessa for the removal of invasive plants that have lowered land values and reduced habitats for wildlife.

"The Bay Area Conservancy Program is a unique enterprise, blending local knowledge and energy with State resources. This partnership has been essential to nearly every successful land and water conservation project in Napa County over the past 15 years."

John Woodbury, General Manager
Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District



THE PUTAH CREEK ARM OF LAKE BERRYESSA VIEWED FROM UC'S STEBBINS COLD CANYON RESERVE

The Coastal Conservancy is a State agency, established in 1976, that protects and improves natural lands and waterways, helps people get to and enjoy coastal areas, and sustains local economies along California's coast. The Conservancy works along the entire length of the coast, within the watersheds of rivers and streams that extend inland from the coast, and throughout the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. The Conservancy is non-regulatory and achieves its goals by joining forces with local communities, nonprofit organizations, other government agencies, businesses, and private landowners.

CONSERVANCY PROJECTS :

- Protect, restore, and improve natural areas and wildlife habitat
- Help people get to and enjoy the outdoors by building hiking and biking trails, acquiring and improving parks and beaches, and creating campgrounds and hostels
- Keep our waterways clean and healthy for people and wildlife
- Help communities revitalize their waterfronts
- Support floodwater management and integrate flood-control projects into the life of a community
- Conserve commercial fisheries, working farmland, and forests.

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