

AMERICAN RIVER CONSERVANCY

Partners for Habitat and Humans: Prioritizing Conservation in El Dorado County

Our Mission:

Through conservation, stewardship, and education, ARC works to ensure healthy ecosystems from the headwaters to the foothills of the American and Cosumnes River Watersheds.

ELENA DELACY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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What We Do

Watershed Conservation

Protect wildlife habitat, agricultural land, recreational spaces, and cultural resources through land purchases, donations, and conservation easements

Land Stewardship

Manage land and easements, implement habitat restoration and enhancement projects, trail building and maintenance, and site monitoring.

Environmental Education

Facilitate and Lead experiential, place-based learning that connects people with their environment.



Since 1989...

- Protected over 31,000 acres of important riparian, oak woodland, endangered species, and headwaters forest habitats
- Provided over 42 miles of recreational trails to the public in partnership with USFS, BLM and State Parks
- Delivered environmental education to over 36,000 people of all ages
- Restored, enhanced or improved over 2,500 acres of disturbed or damaged forests and habitats



Conservation Is...

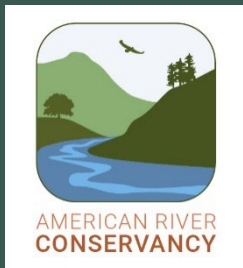
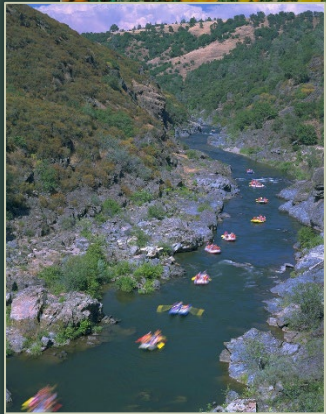
- Active, long-term commitment to protecting lands and waters to maintain ecosystem function and community benefits.
- Land **acquisition** (full fee and conservation easements) is a primary conservation tool.
- Successful conservation also requires long-term **stewardship** and active **management**.
- In ARC's work, conservation is focused on promoting **biodiversity and climate resilience**.



*In the end, we will protect
only what we love.
We will love only
what we understand.
We will understand only
what we are taught.
- Baba Dioum*

Legacy of Your Local Land Trust

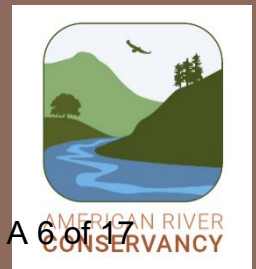
American River Conservancy
preserves rivers and land for life
- in perpetuity.



Conservation ∞ Stewardship ∞ Education 26-0487 A 5 of 17

Conservation Vision and Action Plan (CVAP) Update 2025/2026

- Engage all staff and Board
- Gather input from partners
- Build on existing CVAP and other plans
- Incorporate Indigenous partnerships, climate resilience, working lands
- Identify goals that are inspiring and aspirational—and also attainable and practical

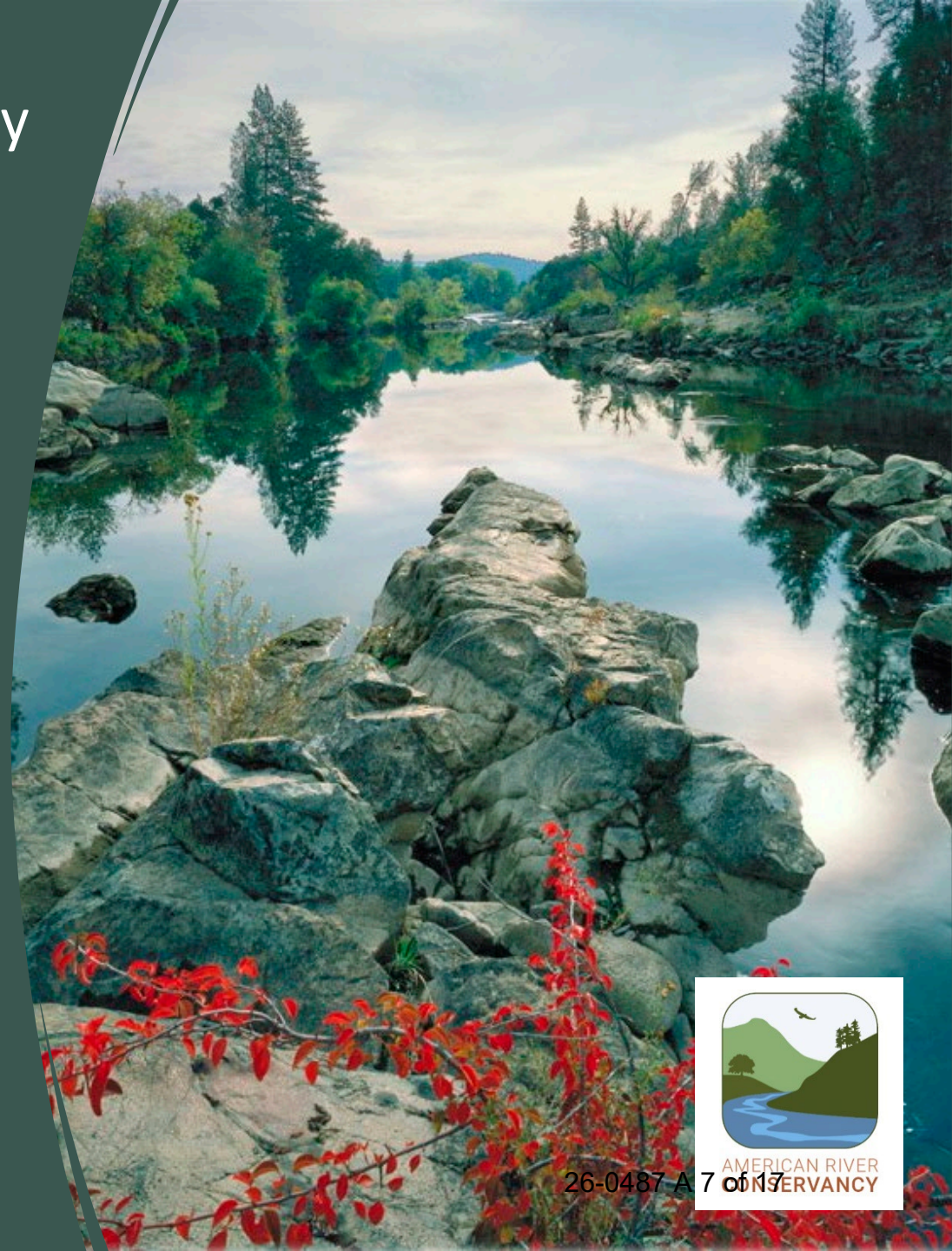


Pathway to 30x30 Strategy + EDC General Plan Consistency

3 key objectives in the Pathway:

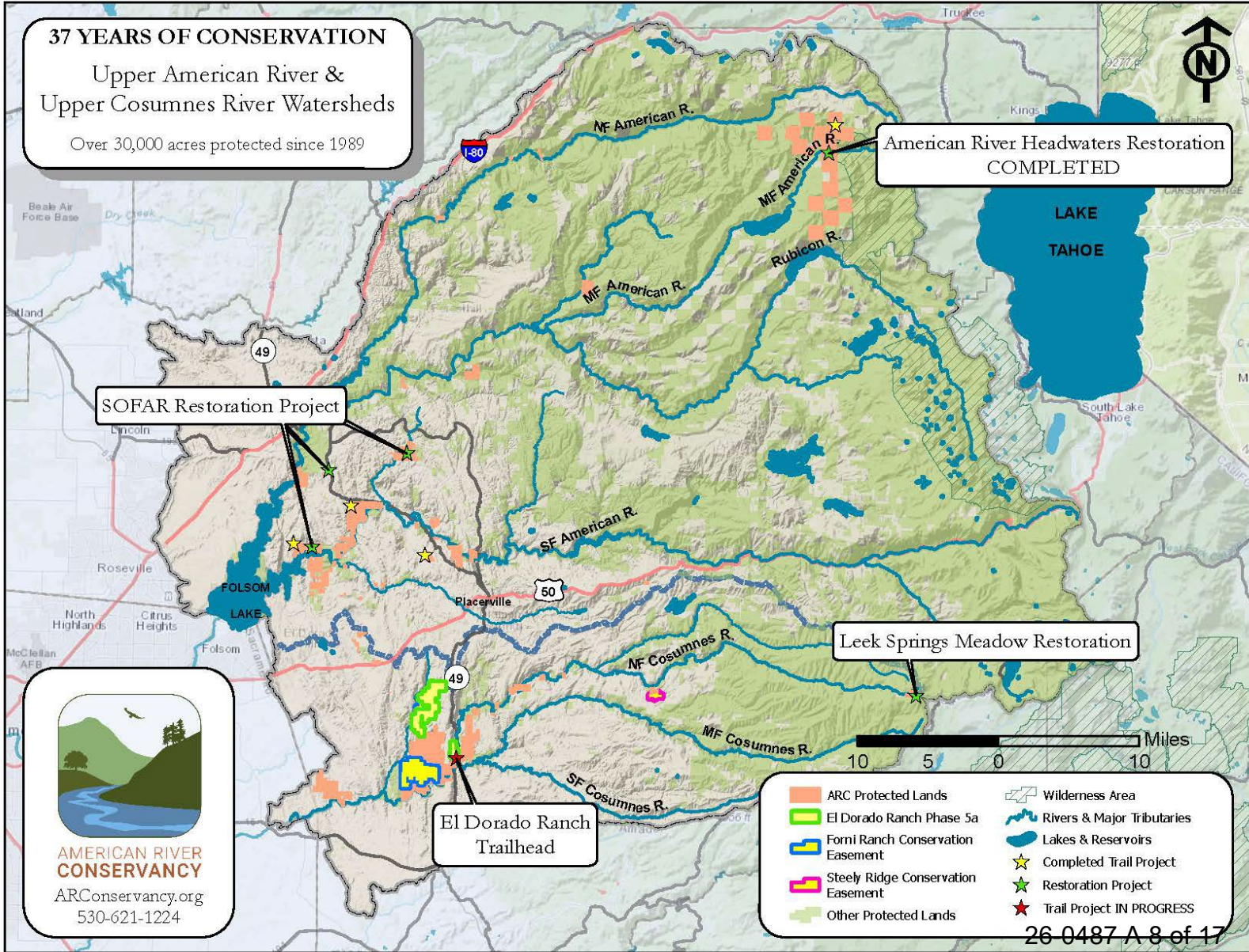
- (1) protect and restore biodiversity;
- (2) expand access to nature; and
- (3) mitigate and build resilience to climate change.

During project evaluation, ARC staff will also review relevant zoning and land use designation.



ARC Project Areas

37 YEARS OF CONSERVATION
 Upper American River &
 Upper Cosumnes River Watersheds
 Over 30,000 acres protected since 1989



El Dorado Ranch
 Trailhead

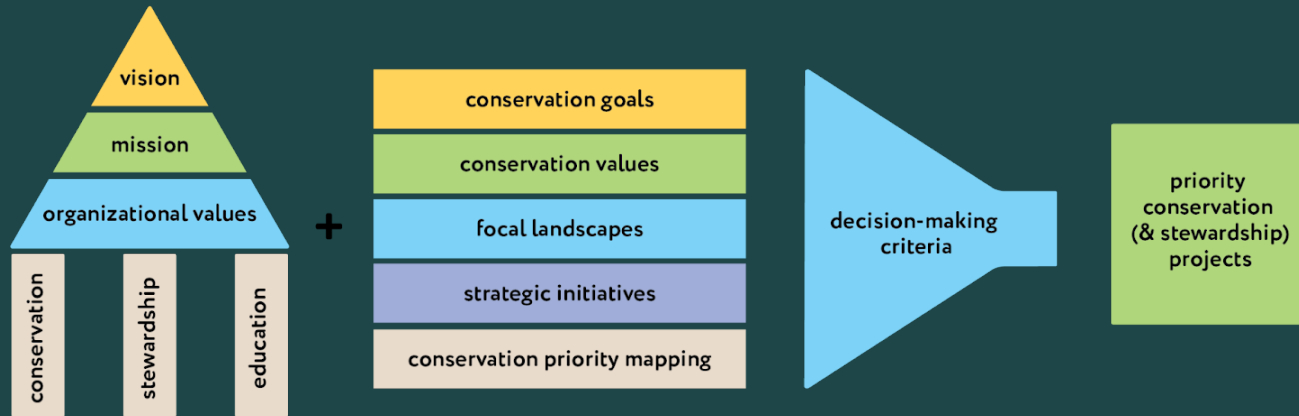
American River Headwaters Restoration
 COMPLETED

SOFAR Restoration Project

Leek Springs Meadow Restoration

- ARC Protected Lands
- El Dorado Ranch Phase 5a
- Forni Ranch Conservation Easement
- Steely Ridge Conservation Easement
- Other Protected Lands
- Wilderness Area
- Rivers & Major Tributaries
- Lakes & Reservoirs
- Completed Trail Project
- Restoration Project
- Trail Project IN PROGRESS

Our Strategic Approach to Conservation



| WHAT: Conservation Values | WHERE: Focal Landscapes | HOW: Conservation Tools |
|---|---|---|
| Biodiversity & Habitat Climate Resilience Connections with Nature Indigenous Connections | River Corridors Oak Woodlands Headwaters Working Lands | Acquisition (fee and easements) Stewardship Partnerships |



Watershed Conservation
Benefits us all!

Protect and Maintain:

- Clean air and water
- Wildlife habitat connectivity
- Endangered species
- Recreational spaces, trails
- Open space/greenbelts
- Agricultural land
- Cultural and Historic resources
- Inherent beauty
because...It's our home!



Conservation Partners

Landowners

State and Federal Agency funders

Local Community of Supporters

Tribal Partners

Other NGOs

Fee Title Vs. Conservation Easement



El Dorado Ranch



- 4,182 acres protected
- Another 2,997 acres to protect (7,179 total)
- New trail and trailhead currently being planned
- working cattle ranch

- Important Oak woodland habitat
- Cosumnes River frontage
- Wild Chinook Salmon
- EDC's first Wildlife Area



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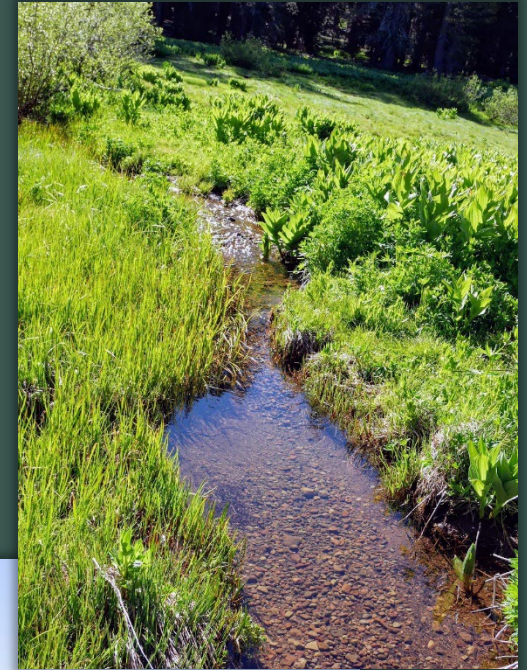
Stewardship: The Hard Work of Forever

- Waste removal
- Stream and meadow restoration
- Fuels reduction and forest management
- Trail-building and maintenance
- Monitoring
- Road repair



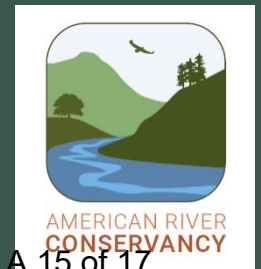
Leek Springs Meadow

- Protected by ARC and CDFW in 2001
- Managed by CDFW
- ARC working with partners to restore meadow habitat
- Headwaters of NF Cosumnes River
- Meadows important to watershed function

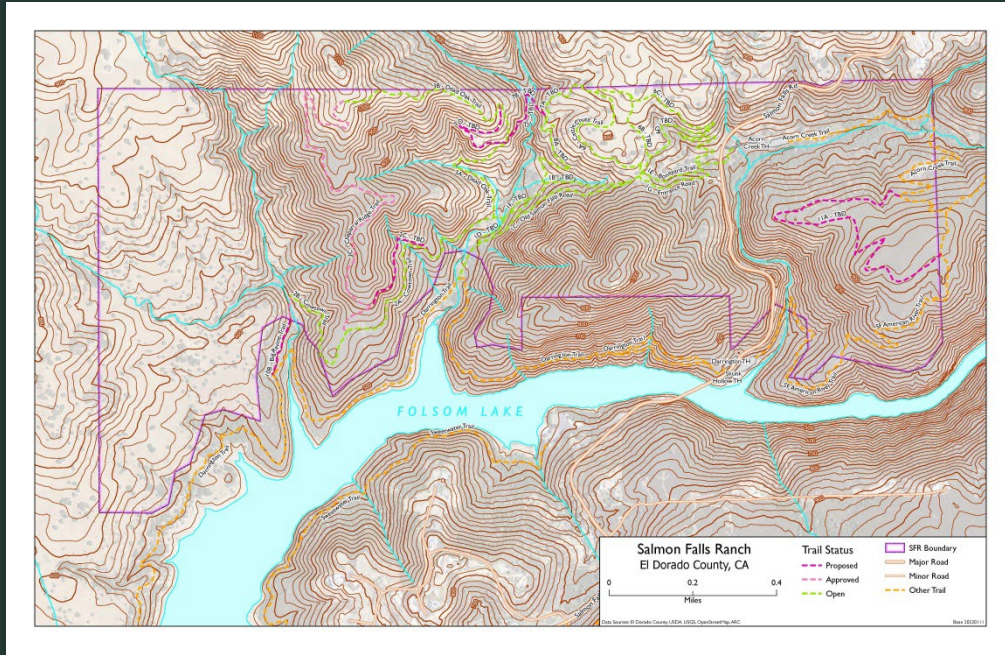


Recreational Trails and Open Spaces

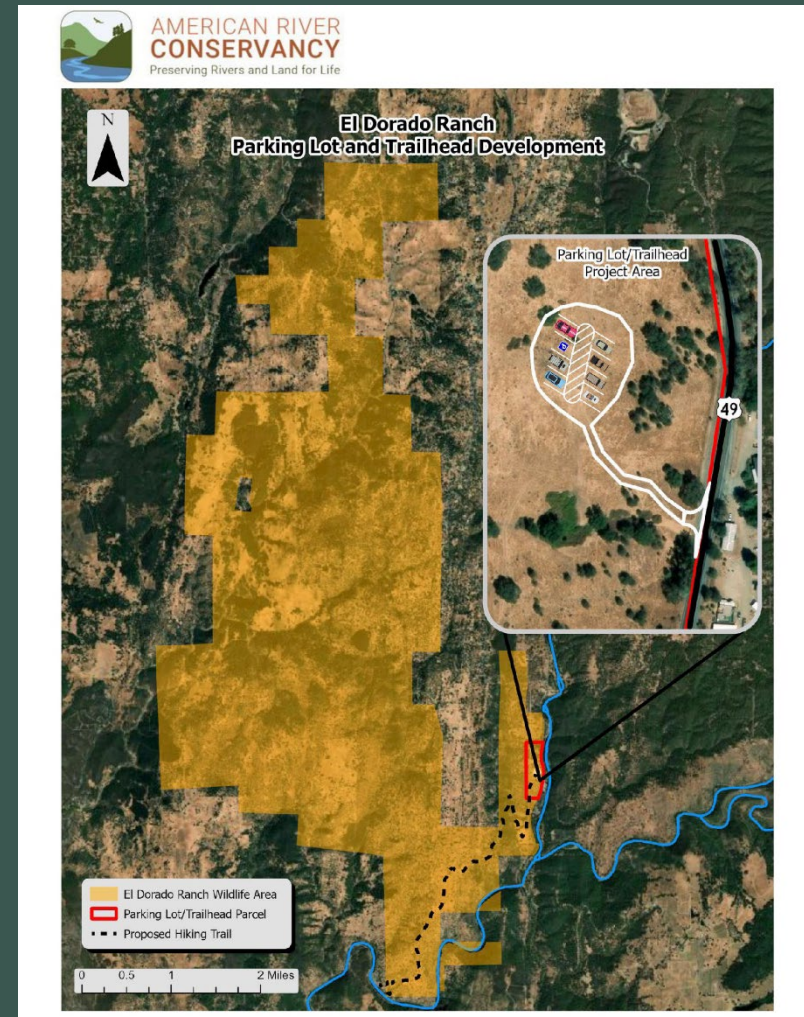
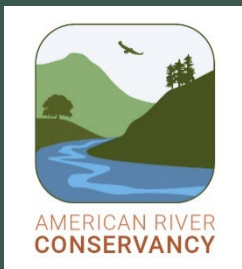
- Promote healthy communities
- Maintain connected habitat
- Increase tourism
- Enhance surrounding property value
- Necessary for physical and mental health



Public Access/Trails



Salmon Falls/Acorn Creek Trails



El Dorado Ranch Wildlife Area: Trailhead - Cosumnes River Trail

Thank You!
Questions?



AMERICAN RIVER
CONSERVANCY