“When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”

-Aldo Leopold
Dear Friends,

As we reflect on 2008, it is hard to ignore the troubling financial times that have affected the nation. Statewide, California's budget woes had a dire impact on more than 4,000 conservation and water projects, including several projects at Sequoia Riverlands Trust.

Despite the adversity of 2008, Sequoia Riverlands Trust is grateful for many successes. We would like to thank our supporters, both new and old, whose commitment to conservation enables our achievements.

Kaweah Oaks Preserve 25th anniversary: The event brought the community together last fall to embrace this special preserve. Generous donations from local businesses and individuals alike allowed Sequoia Riverlands Trust to commemorate the flagship preserve’s silver anniversary with a new caretaker’s quarters and gateway pavilion.

Farmland conservation: Sequoia Riverlands Trust has been making dynamic partnerships with a diversity of interested groups in Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern counties. We are working with the Kearney Field Station, a University of California research center, based outside of Parlier to conserve valuable agricultural land for research. And we are proud to be teaming up with both farmers and the United States Navy to conserve the agricultural perimeter surrounding the Lemoore Naval Air Station. Going forward in 2009, we expect to accomplish several agricultural easements representing all four counties, confirming SRT’s role as regional stewards of not only habitat, but also agricultural land and national food security.

Collaborations: Last year, Sequoia Riverlands Trust became one of four major players in a collaborative group committed to the health and vitality of the land, water, air and economy of the southern Sierra Nevada. Under the guidance of the Resources Law Group, we joined the Nature Conservancy, Sierra Business Council and the California Audubon Society to form the new Southern Sierra Partnership (SSP). The group’s mission is to work together to conserve large landscape-scale sections of the Southern Sierra. Members of the partnership protected over 10,000 acres in 2008.

Looking forward to 2009, we have many ambitious plans. One of our main goals is to open Dry Creek Preserve to the public. Public access will be modeled after Kaweah Oaks Preserve. The land at Dry Creek has a unique history and we believe it will be a valuable resource to the community for both group education and individual repose.

Another top priority of Sequoia Riverlands Trust in 2009 is to continue to serve as a hub for regional land conservation and collaboration. We look forward to extending our sphere of partnerships to further embrace businesses, cultural centers, and educational organizations to demonstrate the inextricable link between the land’s utility, its beauty, and its inhabits.

We cannot accomplish our goals alone. We must all continue inspiring and building our community coalition of land, water and air stewards. Thank you for your hard work and contributions in conserving the scenic, cultural and agricultural richness of our region.

Sincerely,

R. Scott Spear
President
Sequoia Riverlands Trust

Sequoia Riverlands Trust is a regional non-profit dedicated to conserving the natural and agricultural legacy of the southern Sierra Nevada and San Joaquin Valley. We partner with willing landowners to safeguard the beautiful open spaces, diverse habitats, unique species, precious water supply and productive farmland that define our special valley and adjoining foothills. Thanks to community support and generous funders, SRT holds conservation easements on 14 properties, totaling 2,654 protected acres, and we own and manage seven preserves, totaling 4,566 acres.

Kaweah Oaks Preserve (324 acres) - Just six miles east of Visalia, KOP is open to the public as a place for kids and adults to learn, play and daydream about the rich history of the landscape.

Blue Oak Ranch (1,147 acres) - Located just north of Springville, this preserve features rolling blue oak woodlands and links wildlife corridors to Giant Sequoia National Monument and Sequoia National Park.

James K. Herbert Wetland Prairie Preserve (725 acres) - This preserve, between Tulare and Lindsay, protects the greatest concentration of northern claypan vernal pool habitat in the San Joaquin Valley.

Dry Creek Preserve (152 acres) - This former gravel quarry, just northeast of Woodlake, is being restored to its natural state. SRT is working to open this preserve for public use soon.

Homer Ranch (1,819 acres) - Near Lemon Cove, Homer Ranch protects one of the largest sycamore alluvial woodlands in the world.

Lewis Hill Preserve (110 acres) - Located just north of Porterville, this preserve is home to the rare and beautiful striped adobe lily.
Financial Statement for 2008

Assets

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Operating Reserves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
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<td>Other Current Assets</td>
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<td>Endowments</td>
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<td>Fixed Assets</td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
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Liabilities & Equity

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<td>Equity</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</strong></td>
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Support & Revenue

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Expenses

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<td>Professional Fees</td>
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<td>Operating Expenses</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,079,493</strong></td>
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Sequoia Riverlands Trust (SRT) is a local, community-based, 501 (c)(3) non-profit dedicated to conserving the natural and agricultural legacy of the southern Sierra Nevada and San Joaquin Valley. A copy of the latest financial statement and registration filed with the Registry of Charitable Trusts may be obtained by contacting the SRT office. Contributions are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Grant Support

Alcoa Foundation
Bank of the Sierra: Sierra Grants Program
California Natural Resources Agency:
  - California Farmland Conservancy Program (Prop. 40 funds)
  - California River Parkways Grant Program (Prop. 50 funds)
  - Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program (Prop. 84 funds)
Recreational Equipment, Inc.
Resources Legacy Fund Foundation: Preserving Wild California Program
Southern California Edison
The Nature Conservancy
U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service: Farm Bill programs for rangeland and habitat improvements
U.S.D.I Fish & Wildlife Service Partners Program
U.S.D.I. Bureau of Reclamation: Central Valley Project Improvement Act
Habitat Restoration Program
Visalia Rotary Community Foundation

Valley Oak in the autumn sun, Kaweah Oaks Preserve
Special Thanks
Sequoia Riverlands Trust appreciates the support, guidance, talents and contributions from the following special volunteers, business supporters and friends who selflessly give to furthering conservation in the southern Sierra Nevada and San Joaquin Valley.

**Organizational Support**
- Kerry Arroces
- Thom Black
- George and Nancy Bravante
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**Naturalists**
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- John Greening*
- Ken Greenspan

**Grazing Lessees**
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- Joanne Hoyt
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- Robin Ryburn
- Jeff Thompson
- Stephen Toodle
- Katie Tucker
- Kay Woods

*Supported Sequoia Riverlands Trust in multiple categories

**‘Above and Beyond’ Recognition:**
- Susan Antenen (The Nature Conservancy), Jennifer Malone (KOP Basketweaving Demonstration), Alex Mas (The Nature Conservancy), Peggy McNutt (Resources Law Group), Gordon Nipp (Sierra Club), Elizabeth Palmer (Natural Resources Conservation Service), Jack Sahl (Southern California Edison), Chuck Tyson (California Farmland Conservancy Program)

**Agency & Non-Profit Partners**
Officials at the federal, state and local level help Sequoia Riverlands Trust achieve important conservation goals with their contribution of skill, expertise and time. Hats off to our talented partners:

- American Farmland Trust
- Audubon of California
- California Baskerweavers Association
- California Council of Land Trusts
- California Department of Conservation, Farmland Conservancy Program
- California Natural Resources Agency, River Parkways Grant Program
- California Natural Resources Agency, Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- California Natural Resources Agency, Stewardship Council
- California State Parks
- California State Senate: Roy Ashburn
- California Department of Transportation, Regional Blueprint Planning Program
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- City of Porterville
- City of Visalia
- College of the Sequoias
- Fresno County
- Fresno County League of Women Voters
- Great Valley Center
- Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District
- Kern County
- Kings County
- Kings River Conservancy
- ProYouth/HEART
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
- Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
- Sequoia Natural History Association
- Sierra Business Council
- Sierra Club
- Sierra Cascade Land Trust Council
- Sierra Nevada Alliance
- Southern Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Partners
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- The Nature Conservancy in California
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- Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners and Tulare Lake Basin Working Group
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- Tulare County Audubon Society
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Mary and Scott Barker
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**Native plant sale, Dry Creek Preserve**

---

*John Cremming © 2009*

*Agriculture, part of our region's stunning beauty*
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Therese and William Woodmansee
James Yates, MD
Jennifer and Martin Zeob

KOP 25th Anniversary: Executive Director, Snappi Madill, and board members prepare to cut the ribbon for the new gateway pavilion at KOP.

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Lagomarsino Group
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Visalia Rotary Community Foundation

Business Valley Oak Circle
($2,500+)
Bank of the Sierra

Business Land Conservators
($500+)
Donahue Sales, LLC
Mission Care Group

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($250+)
Cal Clark Farms
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George and Nancy Bravante
Kent Kaullfuss
Rita O’Brien
Scott Spear
Erica and Stephen Tootle
L.E. Cooke
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The success of Sequoia Riverlands Trust is built on the community’s commitment to conservation. Please consider a gift this spring to ensure that we continue making strides in land conservation and innovative stewardship year after year.

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