

# Wright Property

## A *BIG VALLEY WETLANDS PROJECT*



### **The Wright Property: the next critical step for the Lake County Land Trust's *Big Valley Wetlands Project***

#### **Project Goals and Guiding Philosophy**

- **The Lake County Land Trust's *Big Valley Wetlands Project* seeks to protect the largest remaining area of unprotected wetland/riparian and upland habitats adjacent to Clear Lake.** The project includes the Clear Lake shoreline and uplands from Clear Lake State Park, west to Lakeport. This area consists of high value habitats: pristine lakeshore vegetation along with mature oaks and other trees required by a variety of wildlife species.
- **The Wright Property, 200 acres located in West Lakeport, is the largest acquisition for this project so far.** Its near-shore and upland habitats with tules, mature Valley Oaks and cottonwood trees provide the important nesting and feeding areas for a variety of water and land species including Western and Clark's Grebes, American White Pelicans, Double-crested Cormorants, Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks, Prairie Falcon, Golden-crowned Sparrow, California Quail, wild turkeys, fox, coyote and many others. Tules that line much of the shoreline provide a filtration system important to the water quality of Clear Lake. The property's value (natural, ecological, educational, scenic) is of great **importance to the people of Lake County and the State of California.**
- **The Lake County Land Trust (LCLT) will steward the property, developing a management plan** that will include public access opportunities consistent with the ultimate goal of the project which is to protect the natural values of the land and shoreline.

#### **Mission**

The Lake County Land Trust protects land and water resources of important value on behalf of present and future generations. We work to sustain our county's environmental, scenic, cultural, and historical integrity.

#### **Project Vision**

The *Big Valley Wetlands Project* is an ambitious plan of the LCLT to protect, either through conservation easements or fee title purchase, the significant portions of wetland and upland habitat in the Big Valley Area of Clear Lake.

#### **How you can help**

**Tax Deductible Donations**

**Multi Year Pledges**

**Planned Estate Gifts**



## Overview and History of the *Big Valley Wetlands Project*:

- In 2007 the LCLT developed a Land Conservation Priority Plan starting with public workshops. The workshops, attended by state and local land use and natural resources experts, identified and ranked unique areas/ecosystems in Lake County, California in order to prioritize our conservation efforts.
- The workshops identified the Clear Lake shoreline between Clear Lake State Park and south Lakeport as the highest conservation priority as agreed on by both LCLT and local citizens and land use experts. The LCLT updated the plan in 2017, using the same technique of public workshops and land use experts - the Big Valley Wetlands Project remained the top concern. Based on this, The LCLT made its No. 1 priority the *Big Valley Wetlands Project*.
- In 2016 the LCLT was successful in purchasing the 30 acre Melo wetland property. With a grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB), the Melo property on Clipper Lane in the Big Valley near Kelseyville was successfully acquired and became the keystone of the Big Valley Wetlands project.
- The Wright Property, a 200 acre ranch south of Lakeport, came to the attention of the LCLT in early 2018. An option agreement was signed with the owners in December of 2018. The Regional Office of the Department of Fish and Wildlife has expressed its full support of this project and recommended the WCB provide a grant to LCLT to purchase the property. LCLT has begun a fundraising campaign to raise \$120,000 in grant matching funds for the total price of the property, currently estimated at \$775,000.

## Fundraising Campaign

- The goal is to raise \$120,000 including matching funds.
- The LCLT is seeking gifts of \$1,000 or more. We are asking community leaders and individuals who embrace our mission to protect and preserve Lake County land with a unique value to our community.  
Bernie and Lynne Butcher have generously offered to match gifts on a 50 percent basis up to \$40,000.

## Sponsorship Recognition

- \$1,000 and up:** Acknowledgment in press releases, LCLT publications and on our website. Recognition on a plaque at Rodman Preserve Office.
- \$5,000 and up:** All of the above, plus listing on a donor display area at the Wright property.
- \$10,000 and up:** All of the above, plus a donor's plaque on a trail sign, bench, or viewing area (donor's choice) at the Wright property.

*Please consider making a donation of \$1,000 or more*

*For additional information or to discuss your contribution please contact Melissa Kinsel at (707) 262-0707 or at [outreach@lakecountylantrust.org](mailto:outreach@lakecountylantrust.org)*

*Donations can be mailed to: P.O. Box 1017, Lakeport CA 95453. You can also donate by visiting [www.lakecountylantrust.org](http://www.lakecountylantrust.org). Click on "Help Preserve the Wright Property".*

*The Lake County Land Trust is a charitable nonprofit. All donations are tax deductible. Our federal Tax ID No. is 68-0332712.*

