



FIVE YEARS OF PROTECTING WILD PLACES AND WILDLIFE ALONG CALIFORNIA'S CENTRAL COAST

2004-2009 COMMUNITY REPORT

OUR STORY

Los Padres ForestWatch is the only nonprofit organization dedicated solely to protecting wildlife habitat and wilderness landscapes in the Los Padres National Forest. Founded in 2004, ForestWatch has safeguarded more than 88,000 acres of these public lands along California’s Central Coast, from the famed Big Sur coastline to the Santa Lucia Mountains and the Carrizo Plain, to the rugged backcountry of Santa Barbara and Ventura counties and beyond. We have also organized more than a dozen habitat restoration projects, improving the health of our region’s largest open spaces and the communities that depend on them.

In five short years, ForestWatch has become one of our region’s premier conservation forces, combining education, advocacy, and science skills with innovative strategy and field work. With a solid track record of success, we work tirelessly on behalf of our region’s wild forests, free-flowing rivers, untrammelled chaparral, and the creatures that inhabit these spectacular places.

Join us as we share our story...

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Dear Friends,

The great scientist and writer Aldo Leopold urged us to look beyond ourselves when he wrote, "A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."

As Leopold knew well, the world of scientific complexity, competing land uses, and shifting politics often makes it hard to see how things tend. Yet the truth of his land ethic remains—we are part of a community that includes plants and animals, streams and mountains, and the ecological systems that knit them all together.

I see Los Padres ForestWatch as a response to this ethical imperative. With a clear vision for the integrity, health and beauty of our public lands, LPFW works tirelessly to evaluate forest plans and environmental impact reports, to monitor proposals to extract and use resources, to educate, and to act in defense of the whole community through legal means and the work of volunteers.

With the support of all of us, Los Padres ForestWatch has made a quick transition from young upstart to stable force in regional environmental policy. I invite you to read about our history and our goals with a sense for how a good organization expresses values that ground a broad and diverse community. With your continued support, we move forward with optimism and passion for the places we share.

Brad Monsma, President

OUR REGION

- ADVOCACY
- RESTORATION
- OUTREACH

MONTEREY

BIG SUR

KING CITY

CAMBRIA

SAN LUIS OBISPO

SANTA MARIA

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

SANTA BARBARA

CARRIZO PLAIN

CUYAMA VALLEY

FRAZIER PARK

OJAI

VENTURA

THE BEGINNING: FROM BIG IDEAS TO BIG RESULTS

FILLING A VOID

Big results often come from the smallest beginnings. It was August 2004 and we were gathered around a picnic table, trading stories about the Los Padres National Forest. We all held a deep appreciation for the wildlife, rivers, and mountains of this spectacular area along California's central coast.

But we also shared a common concern that the Los Padres was not receiving the protection it deserved, and there was not a single organization focused on protecting it. With so much at stake, somebody had to serve as a voice for the forest and the communities that depend on it. Somebody had to demand that these wild places be preserved, that environmental laws be upheld, and that development be kept in check.

That somebody, we realized that day, was us. What our region needed was an organization focused solely on protecting the Los Padres National Forest, one that would know every canyon and mountaintop and could work hand in hand with local communities. "We needed to be local, we needed to be independent, we needed to be focused, and most importantly, we needed to be effective," recalls one of the founders of the organization. Just weeks later, the official papers creating Los Padres ForestWatch were filed with the Secretary of State. It was time to get to work.

KEEPING UP WITH DEMAND

Little did we know that just a short five years later we'd be where we are today, with two full-time staff, 800 members and 1,400 on-line supporters from throughout the region, plus a solid track record of success. Demand for our work continues to grow into every corner of the region, from Santa Barbara and Ventura to San Luis Obispo, Monterey, and Kern counties.

Our region has a long history of everyday people working to preserve the wilderness landscapes that surround our communities. Each time a dam, road, strip mine, or other massive development has been planned for our local backcountry, citizens have joined together to ensure that these magnificent lands remain wild and pristine. ForestWatch is here to continue their good work, tackling tough issues that no other organization does and proudly serving as one of our region's most effective conservation forces.

There's nothing quite like finding that special mountain, river bend, waterfall, grove of trees, beach, or canyon – a place you find yourself returning to again and again, a place you get to know so well that you can almost call it your own, a place that stands the test of time even when surrounded by change.

For me, that place is right here in our own backcountry, a place that holds great opportunity in these changing times. Opportunity to rediscover what's truly important in our daily lives – clean water, healthy communities, the great outdoors, a true sense of freedom. Opportunity to recognize and appreciate our diverse community of volunteers, supporters, and partners who have guided us every step of the way. Opportunity to celebrate our accomplishments while looking towards the future.



ForestWatch unites our communities under a common goal – keeping the wild in our region's wilderness and wildlife. We take risks, we dream big, and we tackle the tough issues with real-world solutions that are sometimes collaborative, sometimes hard-hitting,

but always effective. Imagine what we'll be able to accomplish over the next five years as opportunities continue to open around us to create lasting change.

Indeed, fourteen years after I first set foot in the Los Padres, change is abundant. But I still get that same good old feeling whenever I return to these magical lands – a feeling of hope, of opportunity, of wonder, of adventure. As I look out across these lands, pondering the approaching realities of parenthood, I wonder if my child will see the same pristine mountain streams, abundant wildlife, and untouched wilderness that I do, that we all do, today. If the past five years are any guide, I know we will be proud of what the next generation sees. And I know that we'll have you to thank for it.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeff".

Jeff Kuyper, Executive Director

GROWING A SOLID TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS

On the Los Padres National Forest, giant century-old trees rise up above the surrounding chaparral vegetation in a series of “sky islands” that provide important wildlife habitat and unique places for all of us to visit. The southernmost stands of coast redwoods are also found here, where the forest meets the sea along the Big Sur coast. From day one, ForestWatch has worked to protect our region’s wild forests from destructive logging practices and unwise wildfire policies.



One of our first victories came in 2005, when ForestWatch sounded the alarm on a proposal to remove large old-growth trees from several mountaintops

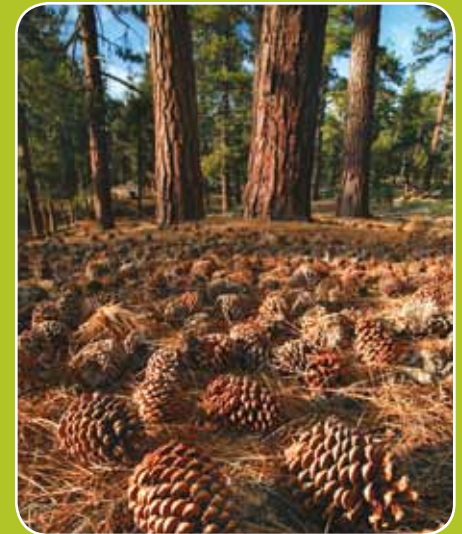
across the forest, including Figueroa Mountain, Frazier Mountain, Pine Mountain, Mount Pinos and Cerro Noroeste. Forest officials initially tried to fast-track these

projects, but ForestWatch convinced officials to prepare detailed environmental studies and adopt an alternative approach, protecting these towering, fire-resistant giants for future generations.

PROTECTING FORESTS

ForestWatch also secured a precedent-setting courtroom victory in 2008, protecting Grade Valley and Alamo Mountain in northern Ventura County from a salvage logging project. Our case, *Los Padres ForestWatch v. U.S. Forest Service*, allowed this area to heal from the effects of a recent wildfire without further damage caused by logging equipment, and was recognized as one of our region’s top five environmental achievements.

Also in 2008, ForestWatch protected hundreds more old-growth trees on Cerro Noroeste mountain. Endangered California condors regularly use these trees to stop over and rest during their long-distance flights across the forest, but these very trees were slated for removal. ForestWatch stepped in, demanding their protection, and these trees are still standing today.



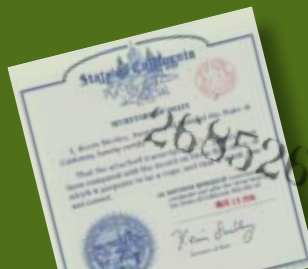
OVERVIEW

A brief history of the organization

AUGUST
2004

FOUNDING FORESTWATCH

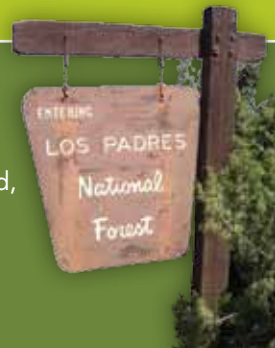
Local forest advocates meet and agree on the need for a local nonprofit organization focused on protecting our local backcountry. Incorporation papers are filed at the Secretary of State’s office, and ForestWatch becomes official.



APRIL
2005

EARLY SUPPORT

With early grants from Patagonia, Fund for Wild Nature, and the California Wildlands Grassroots Fund, ForestWatch shifts into high gear. Our early office is located inside the home of one of our initial directors.





The Los Padres is the only national forest in California where oil development occurs, often with disastrous consequences to wildlife and wilderness. More than two hundred oil wells dot the landscape here, along with a network of pipelines, roads, power lines, and other infrastructure. As the oil industry continues to push its old, dirty business into remote landscapes across the West, ForestWatch works to hold it accountable in our corner of the continent.

In 2005, officials approved a plan to dramatically expand oil development across more than 52,000 acres of the Los Padres National Forest and surrounding lands, threatening several wilderness areas, wildlife habitat, and scenic vistas

contacted ForestWatch for assistance after oil companies began knocking on their doors. We brought canyon residents together, telling the oil industry with a unified voice that drilling was not acceptable in the pristine canyon. Recently, we worked with southern Monterey County residents to protect 15,000 acres from being auctioned off to the oil industry.

Demonstrating the dangers of drilling in the most tragic of ways, a large oil spill fouled three miles of mountain stream in 2007. ForestWatch was the only nonprofit organization reporting to the scene of the spill, and our investigation revealed that this was not an isolated incident – nearly a dozen spills had recently occurred

PREVENTING RUNAWAY OIL DEVELOPMENT



– all for less than a single day's supply of oil. ForestWatch immediately appealed this drilling plan, and when forest officials rejected our appeal, we filed a lawsuit in 2007. As a direct result of our advocacy efforts, there has been no new drilling on the Los Padres National Forest for four years...and counting.

Taking the concept of collaboration to new levels, ForestWatch unites with rural landowners to protect our forest – and their communities – from oil development. Joining with Cuyama Valley residents, we protected more than 10,000 acres from a controversial oil lease sale in 2006. That following year, Upper Lopez Canyon residents

in this same area. Our demands for the company to clean up its act eventually forced them to leave the forest for good.

The old truism that “oil and water don’t mix” applies just as well to endangered California condors, too. When a Texas oil company tried to drill two oil wells on the boundary of the Sespe Condor Sanctuary and the Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge, ForestWatch sprung into action, demanding rigorous environmental studies to ensure that nearby nesting sites were not disturbed. As a result, the plans were put on hold indefinitely.



OCTOBER
2005

EARLY VICTORY

After pressure from ForestWatch, officials agree to reevaluate plans to remove large old-growth trees across 7,350 acres of forested mountaintops.

SEPTEMBER
2006

LANDOWNERS UNITE

ForestWatch protects 10,000 acres from being leased to oil companies. The victory comes after protecting an additional 3,500 acres inside the Carrizo Plain National Monument from oil exploration and development, safeguarding habitat for the imperiled San Joaquin kit fox.



JANUARY
2007

AN ORDEAL IN OJAI

Our town meeting in Ojai mobilizes the community against proposals to send hundreds of gravel trucks through the nearby forest. More than 130 people attend, spawning the formation of the citizen-based Stop the Trucks Committee.

One of the world's premier biodiversity hotspots, the Los Padres National Forest contains a dizzying array of plants and animals that depend on these lands for survival. More than one hundred imperiled species call this place home – from the iconic and critically endangered California condor to the San Joaquin kit fox, Smith's blue butterfly, arroyo toad, California spotted owl, and rare species of jewelflower, lupine, buckwheat, and manzanita. Keeping these lands intact and undeveloped will give our region's wildlife the freedom to roam and exist.



In 2005, officials approved a new management plan for the Los Padres that eliminated many protections for wildlife habitat that had been in place for the last seventeen years. As part of a big-picture strategy, we filed a formal appeal and a series of lawsuits resulting in a tremendous legal

victory in 2009 that secured better protections for more than two dozen imperiled wildlife species and two million acres of habitat across the forest.

Our volunteer work projects are equally as effective. ForestWatch volunteers have removed more than one thousand pounds of "microtrash" from condor habitat, keeping the majestic birds and their young from ingesting deadly amounts of plastic bits, broken glass, bottle caps, and lead-tainted bullet shells. From mountain tops to river bottoms, our habitat restoration volunteers are the backbone of our organization. In 2008, our teams gathered data to prevent an infestation of invasive tamarisk plants along thirty miles of the Sisquoc River, one of the most pristine watersheds in all of California.

PROTECTING WILDLIFE

It's important to let our region's large, iconic wildlife species roam freely across this vast network of open spaces. In 2009, we protected a small population of black bears in San Luis Obispo County from a proposal that would have allowed up to fifty of these gentle giants to be killed each year, primarily in the Los Padres. In the wake of this victory, local newspapers and community leaders recognized ForestWatch for being at the forefront of this effort to protect our region's wildlife.



FEBRUARY
2007

BASECAMP FOUND

With a staff of one, ForestWatch opens its headquarters in Santa Barbara at the base of the Santa Ynez Mountains. The modest location serves as a centrally-located basecamp for all ForestWatch operations throughout the region.



MARCH
2007

CLEANING HOUSE

ForestWatch responds to a massive oil spill near Sespe Creek, launching an investigation and notifying the industry to clean up its act or face a lawsuit. The company sells off its operations and leaves Los Padres for good.



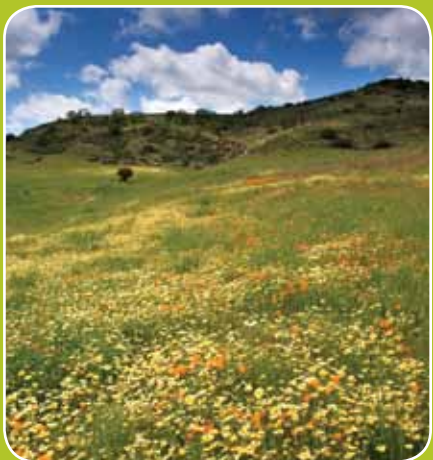
APRIL
2007

OIL & WILDERNESS DON'T MIX

On the heels of the oil spill, ForestWatch challenges a plan to expand drilling across 52,075 acres of the Los Padres National Forest, filing a lawsuit in federal court. The drilling plan would produce less than a day's supply of oil at great cost to wildlife and nearby wilderness areas.



PRESERVING THE CARRIZO



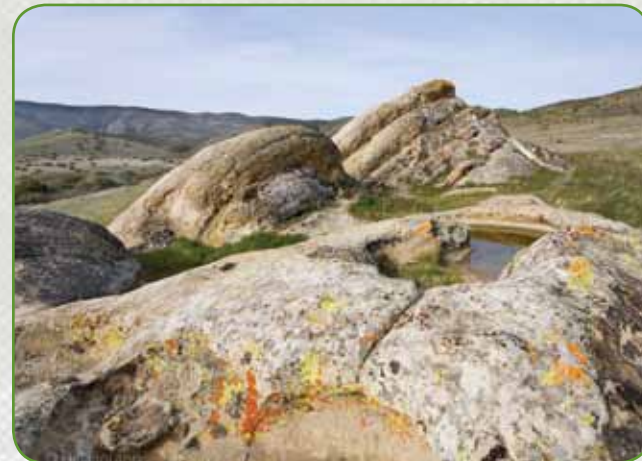
A vast expanse of golden grasslands and stark ridges lie alongside the Los Padres National Forest near the southeastern tip of San Luis Obispo County. Often referred to as "California's Serengeti," the Carrizo Plain is one of the last undeveloped remnants of this grassland ecosystem, harboring a diverse array of unique wildlife like pronghorn antelope, tule elk, San Joaquin kit foxes, leopard lizards, and condors. It was declared a National Monument in 2001 to honor the area's high biodiversity, sacred sites, unique geology, and sheer sense of solitude.

In 2005, an oil tycoon tried to sneak through plans to drill for oil inside the Monument boundaries. We demanded stringent environmental studies and his lease eventually expired, forever sparing 3,500 acres from development.

A short time later, an international oil conglomerate announced plans to explore for oil in the ecologically-sensitive valley floor of the Monument. ForestWatch convinced federal officials to require the highest level of environmental studies before allowing the exploration to proceed. The oil company retreated from its plans, for now.

ForestWatch has joined with other conservation organizations to lead the charge towards more stringent protections for the Carrizo. In 2009, officials released a

draft of the first-ever management plan for the area, incorporating some of our suggestions. Now, the fight continues to secure the strongest protections possible for this unique landscape.



MAY
2007

SURGE OF SUPPORT

Our membership swells to 500 in just two short years, making ForestWatch one of the fastest growing conservation organizations in the region.

JULY
2007

SUMMER CLEANING

Our first volunteer project is a success! Our team removes more than 150 pounds of small glass and plastic bits from a mountaintop visited by endangered condors.

SEPTEMBER
2007

UNITED IN VICTORY

Teaming up with rural landowners, we stop an oil company from purchasing mineral rights in ecologically sensitive Lopez Canyon dangerously close to the Santa Lucia Wilderness in SLO County.



The Los Padres National Forest is a special place for all of us to seek solitude and enjoy quiet recreation opportunities just minutes from the hustle and bustle of nearby cities and towns. Highway 33 is a National Forest Scenic Byway that takes travelers on a winding, two-land road through the heart of the Los Padres, bisecting some of the most spectacular and remote scenery in the region. When several new and expanded mines threatened to send hundreds of gravel trucks per day along this dangerous route, ForestWatch sprung into action to keep our forest from becoming an industrial trucking route.

In 2007, ForestWatch organized a town-hall meeting in Ojai, a quaint tourism-based community along Highway 33 at the base of the Los Padres National Forest. That meeting spawned the formation of the Committee to Stop the Trucks, catapulting local residents into action. With the community's support, ForestWatch convinced mine operators in Ventura County to prepare the highest level of environmental study before expanding their operations next to a national forest campground.

Just a short year later, our diligent work began to show big returns, stopping a proposed mine from sending as many as 138 gravel trucks per day through the heart of the Los Padres. This precedent-setting agreement convinced two other mines not to send any trucks through the forest, and today we continue the push to restore a sense of solitude to our backcountry.



DEFENDING SOLITUDE



MAY
2008

PRESERVING COMMUNITIES

ForestWatch and Ojai residents secure a ban on gravel truck traffic on Scenic Highway 33 from the Diamond Rock mine. The mine proposed to send as many as 138 truck trips per day through the heart of the forest.

JULY
2008

TOP ACHIEVEMENT

In a precedent-setting courtroom victory, ForestWatch protects more than 1,400 large-diameter trees from a salvage logging project, allowing the area to heal from the effects of wildfire. The win was later recognized as one of the top five conservation achievements in southern California.

AUGUST
2008

GIVE CONDORS A BREAK

Old-growth trees are spared from the chainsaw, allowing endangered condors to continue to use them as "rest stops" during long-distance flights across the wilderness.



The public lands along California's central coast are a community treasure owned by all of us. As an independent organization, ForestWatch is in a unique position to ensure that those who manage the land include the public in their decision-making process, comply with environmental protection laws, and at the end of the day, do what's best and what's right for the forest.

Since 2004, ForestWatch has tracked more than 120 development projects across the Los Padres and the Carrizo Plain. We've submitted formal comment letters on more than fifty of those projects, urging forest officials to maximize protection for wildlife and wilderness, suggesting alternative courses of action, and demanding strict adherence with our nation's environmental protection laws. By participating in the process from beginning to end, we work to ensure a successful outcome, serving as a voice for our region's wildlands.

precedents that extend far beyond our region. Using all legal tools available, ForestWatch works strategically and successfully to hold land management agencies to the highest standards, making these lands better places for us all.

Transparency lies at the heart of democracy, and in an effort to shed light on how our public lands are managed, ForestWatch requests and reviews public records from a wide variety of land agencies and provides this information directly to the public. We've filed more than forty formal requests for records under the Freedom of Information Act, allowing us to expose government waste, legal violations, and secret deals that harm our forest – and ultimately helping to improve the public's understanding in how our public lands are managed.

ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY



Often this collaborative approach works, but in those instances where we need to apply additional pressure, we file appeals through the formal administrative process. During the last five years we've filed thirteen formal appeals, setting the stage for us to eventually pursue legal remedies through the justice system. Our eight lawsuits over the past five years have achieved successful outcomes 88% of the time, often setting strong legal



NOVEMBER
2008

SEEK & DESTROY

Volunteers remove thousands of highly invasive tamarisk plants along a 30-mile stretch of the Sisquoc River. Data collected during the project convinces officials to eradicate tamarisk forest-wide.



APRIL
2009

FREEDOM TO ROAM

A proposal to allow trophy hunting of black bears in SLO County – primarily in the Los Padres – is stopped dead in its tracks. Local newspapers praise ForestWatch its leadership in uncovering the lack of science behind the proposal.

JUNE
2009

WILDLIFE PREVAILS

Responding to a lawsuit filed by ForestWatch and a coalition of conservation organizations, a federal judge orders officials to increase protections for more than two dozen imperiled wildlife species across the entire Los Padres.

BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

OJAI WILD

Each spring, ForestWatch supporters and friends from throughout the region gather at Diamond Hitch Camp for an afternoon of live bluegrass music, wagon rides and nature walks, delicious appetizers, local beer and wine – all followed by a legendary gourmet barbeque supper, a spirited live auction and presentation of the annual Wilderness Legacy Award. Our 2009 event was the largest ever, attracting more than two hundred supporters at this picturesque site near Thacher Creek along the foothills of the Los Padres National Forest.



WILD & SCENIC FILM FESTIVAL

Each October, ForestWatch hosts the Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival in San Luis Obispo as part of a 70-city tour around the country. This event – the largest film festival of its kind – brings together award-winning environmental and outdoor adventure films in a spirit of inspiration and education.



SALMON RUN

Each year, Patagonia hosts a 5k/3k run-walk at its headquarters along the Ventura River, attracting more than four hundred participants. This locally based, environmentally conscious outdoor clothing company donated all event proceeds to ForestWatch for two years straight, generating more than \$22,000 that went directly to our local forest protection efforts.



ART SHOW

The Oak Group is a collective of local artists who dedicate their work to the preservation of open spaces throughout the central coast. Their "Backcountry Majesty" exhibition featured more than eighty Los Padres landscapes at the Marcia Burt Studio in downtown Santa Barbara. The event raised more than \$10,000 for ForestWatch while showcasing artwork that encouraged and inspired the continued protection of these wild landscapes.

WILCO CONCERT

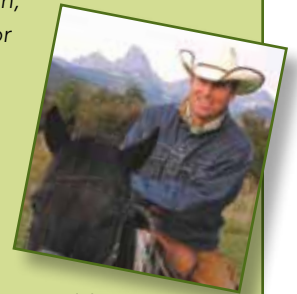
The Grammy-award winning rock band Wilco selected ForestWatch as the sole beneficiary of its performance at the Santa Barbara Bowl in August 2007, raising more than \$1,000 for the cause. Rock on, Wilco!

FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

Exciting and fun in their own right, these events set the stage for a series of membership events beginning in August 2009 designed to bring the community together and to rally support for our local forest protection efforts. Join us as we celebrate our accomplishments!

Michael Mulligan understands the value of our local wilderness – as Head of the Thacher School, he's lived and worked in the foothills of the Los Padres for two decades. "Every day we benefit from having hundreds of miles of wilderness out our back door to walk, camp, and ride our horses. It is a source of beauty, inspiration, and well being for all of us."

Michael is also a longtime ForestWatch member, known to make surprise visits at Ojai Wild! as our guest auctioneer donning his trademark cowboy hat. When asked why he's such an ardent ForestWatch supporter, he says that it all comes down to one thing – "there is simply no other organization around with this specific mission of protecting the Los Padres wilderness for future generations" – a fact reinforced each time he visits his favorite spot along the Red Reef Trail and finds surprises like bear, deer, and mountain lion surviving and thriving in this wild landscape. "My horse and I always come back from these backcountry adventures more fit, refreshed, and better friends."



A VISION FOR OUR REGION'S FUTURE



We've worked hard to protect our region's wilderness landscapes while staying true to the ideals on which ForestWatch was founded five years ago – local, independent, focused, and effective. Our successful track record speaks for itself, but over time we realized that we need to take a much longer and more visionary look at our region if we were to maintain its wild character. As we look ahead, ForestWatch is embarking on several far-reaching projects that hold great promise for true change in the region.

PROTECTING RIVERS & STEELHEAD

The Los Padres National Forest once supported the largest runs of steelhead in all of southern California, but dams and development today keep these endangered fish from reaching their spawning areas in mountain streams. ForestWatch is working to return steelhead to the Sisquoc River and Piru Creek, ensuring adequate streamflows and restoring their habitat.

PRESERVING WILDERNESS LANDSCAPES

As California's second-largest national forest, the Los Padres contains most of our region's last remaining wild places. These lands are worthy of designation as Wilderness, an official term that forever preserves these landscapes for generations to come.



ForestWatch will work to protect the wilderness character of these areas for the benefit of wildlife, clean water, outdoor recreation, and local communities.

REIGNING IN OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

While ORVs are permitted in national forests on designated routes, renegade off-roaders who stray from these trails are running roughshod over public lands, leaving miles of scars that take decades to heal. ForestWatch is working to document these illegal user-created trails and will work to restore degraded areas.

RESTORING PUBLIC ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS

Across the region, the public is being blocked from hiking, biking, and equestrian trails that have been used for decades to access our public lands. Gates, signs, and urban sprawl have cut off historic access to some of the best trailheads and campgrounds in the forest. By researching historic records and collaborating with nearby communities and landowners, ForestWatch is working to restore the "public" in public lands.



CHANGING HOW WE LIVE WITH WILDFIRE

Eight of the states' twenty largest wildfires have occurred in the Los Padres, three in the last three years alone. Fire is a natural part of the chaparral ecosystem, but recent fires and climate change have prompted questions about how our communities can live more responsibly in this fire-prone ecosystem. As pressures mount to clear large swaths of vegetation from the forest, ForestWatch must work with residents, firefighters, and land managers to focus their limited resources on where they're most effective - close to homes, not deep in the wilderness.

A WORD FROM PATAGONIA®

For employees at Patagonia, the Los Padres is like our backyard – we spend our weekends and evenings hiking and climbing its hills and canyons. We gain inspiration from the thousands of acres of wilderness and from the flight of the condors as they soar towards recovery. We are grateful to Los Padres ForestWatch for the work you do, protecting this place that we love so much. And, we're glad to stand with you as you fight, day in and day out, to keep Los Padres wild.

Hans Cole
Environmental Grants Manager,
Patagonia, Inc.



YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT ALL HAPPEN

Over the last five years – from our very first member to our most recent – you, our friends and neighbors, have demonstrated an enduring commitment to our local forest protection work. Our achievements are your achievements, and we would like to thank you for your support. In addition, we would like to recognize the donors listed here who contributed gifts of \$50 or more in 2008. Thank you for your support of our work to protect our region's wild landscapes and wildlife!

Trustees of the Forest (\$1,000+)

Doug & Lee Buckmaster
Tom & Betty Budlong
Peter Castellanos
Sonia & Kevin Connors
Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation
Environment Now
Greg & Jennifer Frugoli,
Ecotones Landscape Design
Fund for Santa Barbara
Fund for Wild Nature
Harris Foundation
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Wilderness Guardians (\$500+)

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Rich Scholl & Ginny Turner
Mike Summers
Pat Veesart
Ed & Barbara Vernon
Bob & Katy Zappala

Backcountry Advocates (\$100+)

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Klaus Schumann
Louis Andaloro
Don Anderson & Nita Whaley
George Appel
Brooke & Everard Ashworth
Robert Auric & Anna Jacobs
Michael Avenali
Wayne Beckman
Susan Bee
George Berg
Thomas Bliss & Merrily Weiss
Cynthia Boche
Dave & Heide Boyden
Michael Brundage

Matt Buckmaster, Island
Seed & Feed
Sandy & George Buechley
Gary Bulla Flyfishing
Adventures
Brad & Beth Cardinale
Central Coast Vineyard Team
Tom & Fran Chadwick
Alice Chesley
Jim Childress
Darlene & Sam Chirman
Walter & Louise Choate
Claire Chouinard
Alan Coles
Kay & Kendall Conger
Polly Cooper & Ken Haggard,
San Luis Sustainability Group
Architects
Cornelia Corbett,
Infinite Playground
Kristin Cothern
Alasdair & Lauren Coyne,
Keep the Sespe Wild
Michael Crookston
Rev. Paul &
Margaret Danielson
B.D. & Liz Dautch
Nancy de L'Arbre
Nan Deal
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Dr. Diane Evans
Matthew & Marisa Fienup,
Earthworks Climbing School
Peter Ford
Laura Frank & Eric Wier
Judith Friend
Dennis Gagnon &
Luella Engelhart
Vince Gerwe

Dieter & Cynthia Goetze
Lydia Golden &
Brock Bernstein
Linda & Frank Granat
Cassandra Grant
Neil Greenleaves
Christy Hamari
Dorothea Harrington
Neil & Ann Havlik
Karina Kansky & Larry Hogan
Phyllis & David Johnston
Ernest Jones
Brandt & Sandra Kehoe
Kalon & Karen Kelley
Matthew Kelly
Sally & Brent Kitson
Dan & Joan Kuypers
Norman & Mo Livermore
Bruce Livingstone
Pam Maines & Ian Rhodes
Bob Maloy
Steven & Jan Howell Marx
Kate McCurdy
Marc McGinnes &
Seyburn Zorthian
Eric Michielssen,
Clark Valley Farm
Spence & Millie Mitchell
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We have made every effort to acknowledge our donors. If we have omitted or listed any name incorrectly, we sincerely apologize. Kindly contact Diane Devine at ForestWatch at (805) 617-4610 or diane@LPFW.org if you have any questions, corrections or want more information about how you can contribute.

MEMBERSHIP & SUPPORT: FIVE-YEAR REPORT

MEMBERSHIP BY REGION

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY — **323**

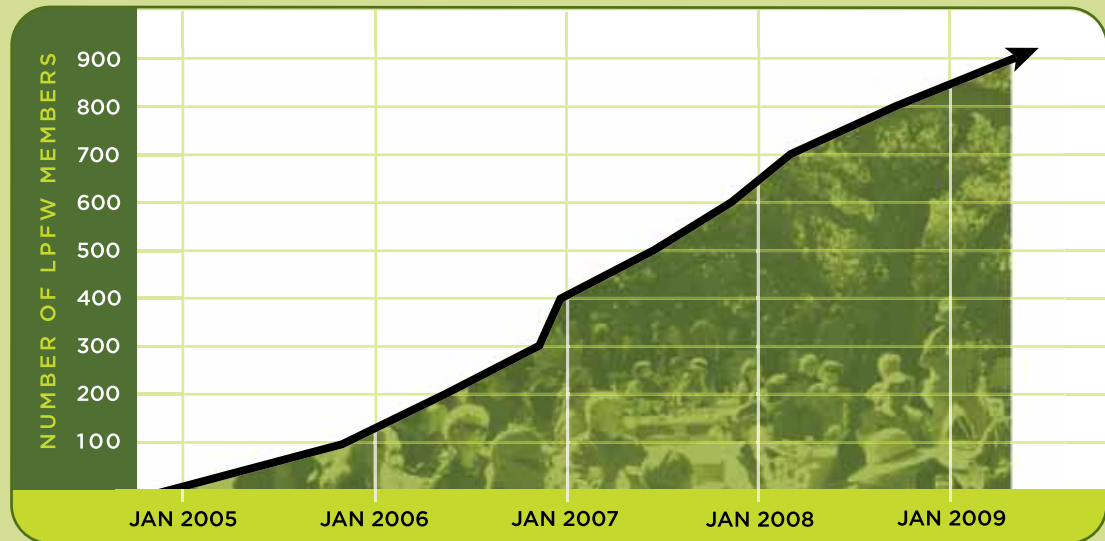
VENTURA COUNTY — **303**

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY — **118**

MONTEREY & KERN COUNTY — **43**

OTHER CALIFORNIA — **89**

OTHER NATIONWIDE — **29**



FIVE YEARS OF SUPPORT

2004: \$2,950

2005: \$31,566

2006: \$77,679

2007: \$127,294

2008: \$138,873

2008 FINANCIAL REPORT

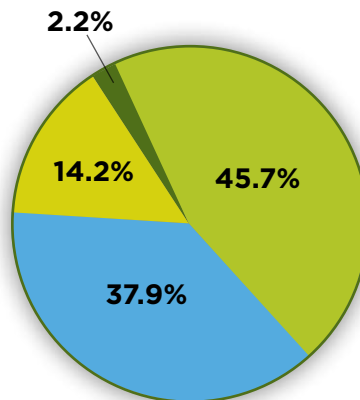
SUPPORT RAISED - \$138,873.37

MEMBERSHIPS
& DONATIONS - **45.7%**

FOUNDATION GRANTS - **37.9%**

SPECIAL EVENTS - **14.2%**

MISCELLANEOUS - **2.2%**

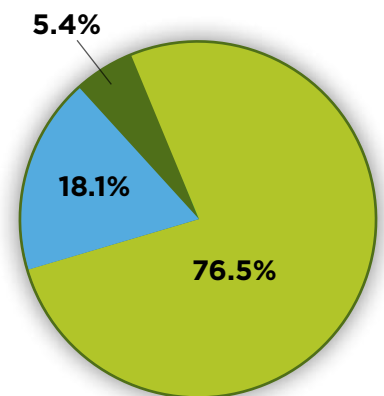


**OPERATING
EXPENSES - \$137,198.47**

PROGRAMS, SERVICES
& ADVOCACY - **76.5%**

PROGRAM SUPPORT
& ADMINISTRATION - **18.1%**

FUNDRAISING - **5.4%**



OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the backbone of our organization. Many are weekend warriors, battling against invasive plants, conducting field monitoring and surveys, or leading hikes. Others can be found doing all sorts of work, from helping out with special events to executive tasks in the office. Cheers to our volunteers!

Mary Looby

A wilderness aficionado who enjoys seeking adventure "in the middle of nowhere," Mary has joined us on just about every volunteer outing we've offered, from picking up microtrash to setting up for our Ojai Wild! event and the Salmon Run. She first joined ForestWatch back in 2006 hoping to learn more about the Los Padres and connect with the land. "Spending time in wild places has always been important to me, and the Los Padres is my closest wilderness," says the Wisconsin native who works at Patagonia headquarters in Ventura. "I believe I have a responsibility to help protect and preserve the places I value."



Tom Budlong

Having explored the rivers and ridgelines of the southern Los Padres for more than forty years, Tom knows these lands better than most. He was drawn to the Los Padres while searching for fabled Native American pictographs, and has been coming back ever since. He knows the important role that ForestWatch plays, and is proud to join ForestWatch on various work projects out in the field. "Every public land management agency needs an



independent minder. The Los Padres was without one for a long long time until ForestWatch stepped in and filled the void. Their presence has become invaluable."

Greg Frugoli

As owner of a landscape design business that specializes in native plants and water-wise landscaping, Greg is firmly grounded in our region and that's exactly what drew him to ForestWatch. "I support the idea of a local, science-based advocacy group made up of local people who know and use the Los Padres." He's been a San Luis Obispo County resident for seventeen years, exploring wilderness areas from the Ventana to Machesna Mountain and the Sespe. From habitat restoration to tending bar at our Ojai Wild! event, Greg covers the spectrum of our volunteer activities. "If you care about our local public lands and the wildlife that inhabit them, then supporting ForestWatch is a perfect match."



Carol Gravelle

A freelance graphic designer from Camarillo, Carol is the creative genius behind ForestWatch, masterfully designing our reports, our logo, our letterhead – all without charging us a single dime. Carol has lived in the region for 27 years and is keenly



aware of our stewardship role. "If we don't protect the delicate ecosystems in our backcountry, they will be forever changed, species will disappear, and we will all have lost something truly irreplaceable." Carol is honored to devote her talents to such a worthy cause. "ForestWatch gets results! It invites hands-on volunteers to help keep our region's wild lands unspoiled and has an impressive record of legal victories." Volunteers like Carol make it all possible.

Bob Westwick

A Santa Barbara native who has been camping and backpacking in our local backcountry his entire life, Bob became an ardent ForestWatch supporter the second he discovered us. "This organization works to preserve lands that have been near and dear to me ever since I was a child," says Bob, who regularly lends a hand on our habitat restoration projects. "I think anyone and everyone who cares about wilderness and the benefits these places provide should volunteer to preserve and protect this invaluable and irreplaceable asset. You meet fascinating people while having fun and learning about new areas to explore."



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Tessa Barnhardt, Conservation & GIS
Lindsey Sarquilla, Conservation Intern



Los Padres ForestWatch
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Santa Barbara, CA 93102

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Visit us on the web at www.LPFW.org

Report Design: Carol Gravelle Graphic Design

Photography:

Cover: Jon Iverson/HikingInBigSur.com

P2: Cartography by Nadine Martins

P3: Boon Hughey

P4: Cesar T. Sanchez (Conifer forest); Greg Hirson
(Redwood forest); Ray Ford (Riparian forest);
Ronald Williams (Fairy lantern)

P5: Jeff Hobbs (Condor)

P6: Jason Jones (Arroyo toad); Nobert Rosing,
National Geographic (Bear and cub); Dale Hameister
(Smith's blue butterfly)

P7: Charlene Burge Photography (Elk); Michael Hansen,
Windwalker Images (Wildflowers); Bill Bouton (Pronghorn,
Rocks, Pool); William B. Dewey Photography (background)

P8: Joel Robinson (Waterfall); Lori Shiraishi (Climber);
Steve Berardi (Hummingbird)

P10: Mary Looby (Ojai Wild!); Jim Little (Runners)

P11: Jon Iverson/HikingInBigSur.com

P14: Greg Cope, naturefocused.com (background)

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Today I have grown taller from walking with the trees.

—Karle Wilson Baker