

Conservancy Endorses Rangelands Policy

Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) has joined the list of organizations that have signed the California Rangeland Resolution.

The resolution, which has the signatures of more than 100 agencies, governments and associations, points up the significance of ranchers as stewards of natural habitat in the statewide effort to preserve habitat, especially for endangered species.

Laura Mercier, associate director of TVC, said, "The organization likes working with everyone, including researchers and agencies. It's about benefitting wildlife and plant management."

"TVC has an interest in the working landscape, and knows the benefits of planned management," said Mercier.

The declared goal of the resolution is to "collaboratively work together to protect and enhance the rangeland landscape that encircles California's Central Valley and includes adjacent grasslands and oak woodlands."

Karen Sweet, retired Alameda County Resource and Conservation District executive director,

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was helping to circulate the rangeland statement. However, the coalition of signers grew so fast after one year, that she and others stopped the recruiting effort, because it was hard to keep up with the demand.

Among signers are the City of Livermore, Alameda and Contra Costa counties' boards of supervisors, and the two counties' Resource Conservation Districts.