

Napa County Priority Conservation Areas

- 1. Bay And Ridge Trails** - The San Francisco Bay Area has two significant and complementary long-distance trails: the San Francisco Bay Trail hugs the shoreline and the Bay Area Ridge Trail runs along the ridgelines overlooking the Bay. These trails connect people and communities to each other, to parks and open space, to home, work and recreation, and to countless areas of cultural and historic interest. They also provide opportunities for solitude and passive and active recreation, which fosters healthy lifestyles. Furthermore, both trails increase transportation options and offer untold opportunities to observe, learn about, and care for the environment. Lastly, the bay and ridge trails offer economic benefits, such as increased tourism and increased property values. The regional trail alignments are not yet completed. Continued coordination with local and regional entities to close existing gaps is needed. Completion of these regional trails will continue to enhance the quality of life for Bay Area residents and offer an alternate means for people to enjoy the outdoors and get to various destinations within a network of connected, permanently-protected open space corridors and urban centers
- 2. Blue Oak Woodlands of the Lake District** - The Blue Oak Woodlands of the Lake District area encompasses lands in northeastern Napa County by Lake Berryessa. It is encompassed within the larger Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area, which extends five counties and is one of the largest remaining intact open space ecosystems in California. Blue oak woodlands are abundant in this area and provide important wildlife habitat. Preservation of lands in this area would help maintain the biological integrity of this area.
- 3. Bothe – Napa Valley State Park to Sugarloaf Ridge State Park** – The Bothe-Napa Valley State Park to Sugarloaf Ridge State Park area encompasses the thickly forested hills of the western side of the Napa Valley where the Mayacamas Mountain Range terminates. The fir and redwood forest canopy provide shading for several creeks year-round that drain the area to the Napa River. This area contains the only known stands of old-growth redwoods left in Napa County. Land conservation in this area provides opportunities to provide a landscape linkage between these two state parks, to protect species habitat, and for people to experience the redwood forests.
- 4. Interior Mountains – Moore Creek to Milliken Creek** – The Interior Mountains – Moore Creek to Milliken Creek area includes the lands in central Napa County, west of the county's urban centers. The area is a complex matrix of douglas fir, oak woodland, gray pine, and chaparral plant communities. Its proximity to the urban centers in Napa County provide opportunities for completing trail alignments that connect protected lands. Land conservation in this area would help to maintain the scenic backdrop to cities and maintain the rural character and habitat of this region, while enhancing recreational opportunities.

5. **Lake Curry – Suisun Creek Watershed** - The Lake Curry – Suisun Creek Watershed area is located east of the City of Napa towards the Napa County border with Solano County. The Lake Curry watershed is a relatively pristine area containing oak woodlands and grasslands and has been valued for its water supply. It has the potential to provide passive recreational opportunities if it is opened to the public. The Suisun Creek watershed has also provided steelhead habitat, but this function has been severely degraded at times when stream water flows are reduced from Lake Curry during critical periods for steelhead. Purchasing land in this area could continue to protect its integrity with the opportunity to support compatible recreational opportunities.
6. **Napa County Agricultural Lands and Watersheds** - The Napa County Agricultural Lands and Watersheds area encompasses the unincorporated agricultural and watershed lands of Napa County. Agriculture is the economic engine of the county and has driven support for conservation in Napa County. As a result, the county's landscape consists of agricultural lands and undeveloped watershed lands that contribute to the rural and scenic beauty of the county. The area is biologically diverse supporting a variety of flora and fauna and has the greatest density of oak woodlands in California. Continued conservation efforts in this area of Napa County will maintain the ecological and economic integrity of these lands.
7. **Napa Valley – Napa River Corridor** - The Napa Valley – Napa River Corridor area follows the lands along the Napa River, which runs from northwestern Napa County, northeast of the City of Calistoga, to the San Pablo Bay. The river drains the Napa Valley, which is a rich agricultural region famous for wine production. The Napa River plays an important role in connecting recreational trails, cities, and salt water and fresh water bodies for fish reproduction. Land conservation along the Napa River will protect the species dependant on these habitats and provide opportunities for recreation and restoration along this corridor.
8. **Palisades Mt. St. Helena – Angwin** - The Palisades – Mount Saint Helena to Angwin area is located in northwestern Napa County. The Palisades form the range of mountains between Mount Saint Helena and Angwin. The area provides habitat, water supply, outdoor recreation, and visual open space. It is an important landscape linkage to the Mayacamas Mountain range in adjacent Sonoma County. Land conservation in the area will maintain the ecological integrity of the area and continue to provide multiple benefits to area residents.
9. **Redwood and Dry Creek Watersheds** - The Redwood and Dry Creek Watersheds lie on the western slope of the Napa Valley. Redwood Creek and Dry Creek drain lands into the Napa River, and the habitat supports a variety of fish and wildlife species. The area contains redwoods forests that play an important role in the long term survival of this species, particularly considering the potential impacts of climate change, given the ability of Napa redwoods to tolerate higher temperatures. Land conservation in this area would support

continued efforts to protect redwood forests in Napa County, enhance educational and recreational opportunities, and protect watershed and habitat values.

10. Southern Mountains – Skyline Park to Newell Preserve - The Southern Mountains – Skyline Park to Newell Preserve area is located east of and between the City of Napa and the City of American Canyon in Napa County along the county’s southeastern border with Solano County. The area is valued for outdoor recreation, particularly given its proximity to three quarters of Napa County residents, visual open space, watershed lands, and habitat, such as rare grasslands, oak woodlands, and chaparral. Land conservation within this area would provide opportunities to connect existing open space lands and regional trail systems, while also preserving a mixture of habitat types for numerous species and watershed values.