



Biologically important rangeland and oak woodlands in the Central Valley and Foothills region face extreme development threats.

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Restoring Wetlands, Conserving Woodlands

In California's Central Valley and Foothills region, ALC is working with local land trusts and agency partners to protect riparian areas, rangeland, oak woodlands, recreation areas, and diverse, species-rich ecosystems facing some of the most extreme development and population growth pressures in the country.

TULARE BASIN

Over a century ago, the Tulare Basin was drained to make room for irrigated crops. The rivers creating the Basin were dammed, destroying habitat along the Pacific flyway and forever altering a landscape rich in natural resources. In recent years, the Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and local hunting clubs have been actively protecting lands in the Basin. ALC is currently working with its partners to restore Atwell Island (some 7,000 acres) to its natural state. ALC is providing additional capacity in the region to work with willing landowners to conserve more land. Current efforts include protecting three properties on Atwell Island and restoring them for the benefit of wildlife.

ALC projects in Mariposa and Shasta Counties will conserve 10,000 acres of oak woodlands and habitat for anadromous fish.

OAK WOODLANDS AND RANGELAND

The Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area (BRBNA) is a composite of public and private lands stretching from Interstate 80 in Solano County north through the Blue Ridge Mountains to Lake and Colusa Counties. ALC is working with state and federal agencies and non-profit partners to secure conservation easements on working ranches that will maintain the open space, wildlife habitat, and historical values of the region. ALC has protected more than 16,000 acres from development in the BRBNA and is currently pursuing protection of another working ranch.

In Mariposa and Shasta Counties ALC is working with the California Rangeland Trust to purchase two conservation easements that will conserve 10,000 acres of oak woodlands. The Shasta County property contains habitat for anadromous fish in the Cow Creek watershed; the Mariposa property includes important oak woodland habitat for deer, doves, quail, raptors, and rodents. ALC is collaborating with several state agencies on the project, which should be completed in early 2009.