



KINGS RIVER LAND TRUST



OUR PURPOSE

Kings River Land Trust is where conservation meets commitment. We work hand-in-hand with landowners — those diligent farmers, ranchers, and riparian managers whose stewardship fuels our community. Our goal? To conserve the landscapes that yield not only bountiful harvests but also secure a resilient ecosystem for generations to come.

WHAT WE DO

We help landowners place permanent conservation easements on their property so they continue to operate, protecting their families and livelihoods and the health of our local communities.

HOW WE OPERATE

Founded in 1999, our organization is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to supporting landowners in protecting the region's invaluable working and natural landscapes. We provide advocacy, tools, and guidance to help them achieve their conservation goals. Additionally, we offer events, educational programs, and resources for the public to learn about and contribute to these efforts.

We are governed by a board of directors that have deep agricultural roots and natural resource experience throughout the Central Valley. The directors are all residents or allies of the Kings River area who understand and appreciate the long-term benefits and challenges of maintaining the Kings River in a manner that supports its thriving agricultural and natural resources. The board of directors works alongside our staff and committees to support our programs and initiatives. Our Advisory Council includes industry leaders who provide expert opinions and help us collect diverse perspectives.





OUR STRATEGY

We are committed to transparency and integrity, working closely with landowners to balance conservation with their needs, while acknowledging the importance of community growth and change. We work with county, state, and federal agencies, foundations, landowners, developers, community organizations, and like-minded individuals to fulfill our mission.

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS: A PARTNERSHIP FOR THE LAND

Conservation easements are the cornerstone of the Kings River Land Trust's mission. They are flexible, yet legally binding agreements that ensure the longevity of land use, respecting the landowner's rights while considering conservation values – such as local food, jobs, wildlife habitat, and clean air and water.

Such agreements not only maintain the land's richness for future generations but also open doors to potential tax advantages for those stewarding them today. They allow landowners to continue to own, use, and profit from their land, while still retaining the right to sell it or pass it on to heirs. When a landowner donates or sells a conservation easement to a land trust, they only give up some of the rights associated with the land. For example, one might give up the right to build additional structures, while retaining the right to grow crops. Future owners will also be bound by the easement's terms. The land trust is responsible for making sure the easement's terms are followed and does so on an annual basis.

Kings River Land Trust focuses on two primary easements: agricultural, to keep farms and ranches productive and safe from development, and natural habitat, to maintain areas for their ecological benefits, or a combination of these two types. By emphasizing the protection of prime farmland and crucial habitats, the Trust aligns with the truest land dynamic of our community, ensuring these treasured resources can sustain generations to come.

OUR VISION IN ACTION

We envision a future where the land continues to serve and be served – where our children will know the abundance of well-tended fields and clear, flowing rivers. By ensuring the land stays in expert landowner hands, we're not just conserving soil, but sustaining a way of life that benefits everyone.

OUR SERVICE AREA

Kings River Land Trust's service area is the King River Watershed: Roughly bounded in the east by the Sierra foothills, in the north by Dog Creek and Highway 180, in the west by the Fresno Slough and the north Fork of the Kings River, and in the south, east from Stratford to Yettem.

CONNECT & CONTRIBUTE

Your role is crucial. Whether you're considering a conservation easement or seeking ways to support the conservation of this region, every action you take helps cultivate a stronger, more vibrant valley.

GET INVOLVED

Volunteer : Attend an event, join a committee

Donate : Become a member by making a one-time or recurring gift

Convey a Conservation Easement: Are you a landowner? We are here to help you learn if conservation easements are the right tool for you. Give us a call or email us!

GET IN TOUCH

Luke Hoekstra, Executive Director

P: 916-804-4487

E: luke.h@kingsriverlandtrust.org

www.kingsriverlandtrust.org



MORE INFORMATION

For a deeper dive into our work or to share this information, scan the QR code for our website and this brochure in digital form.

