Introduction

Formed in 2014, the Tehama Conservation Fund (TCF) is the non-profit organization associated with the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCD). The two organizations share the same board of directors and work together to promote conservation in Tehama County. The specific purposes of TCF are (1) to provide assistance to organizations, public agencies, and private entities involved in the conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage and (2) to facilitate collaborative planning efforts of such organizations, public agencies, and private entities. The public benefit conferred is the protection and enhancement of valuable public resources.

This inaugural annual report actually covers the activities of the organization since its inception. The attached financial statements show details of each project and its income and expenses for the 16-17 fiscal year, along with the balance sheet for the organization for the fiscal year.
Pollinator Habitat

Friday, June 30, 2017 9 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Thursday, July 6, 2017 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The TCF presented a two part Milkweed/Monarch/Migration lesson to the Antelope SERRF program on June 30th and July 6th. The lesson plans were developed with insight from Debbie Chakarun, a local ecology education volunteer. The students participated in interactive PowerPoint presentations, artwork, games, and planting nearly 20 milkweed plugs in their school garden.

Carbon Farm Plan

The TCF was awarded $12,000 from Patagonia to implement Carbon on the Range, a Carbon Farm Plan for a Tehama County rancher. A rancher recruiting campaign, rancher selection criteria, and a selection committee were developed. The Selection Committee members comprised of the NRCS, Point Blue Conservation Science, and the RCDTC, chose one rancher that was the best fit for the program, Larry Galper.

We accepted Carbon Farm Plan applications from agricultural producers from May 9th – June 5th and received 8 applications for the program.

Grant Dates: February 2017 – October 2017
Wild & Scenic® Film Festival (WSFF)

Saturday, November 1, 2014
Saturday, November 14, 2015
Saturday, November 12, 2016
Saturday, November 11, 2017

As a third year host, the TCF is bringing the event to Red Bluff for a fourth consecutive year to build upon the inaugural 2014 On-Tour event hosted by the Sacramento River Discovery Center and TCF affiliate, the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County (RCDTC).

The WSFF offers a platform to strengthen partnerships and engage people from outside our current partnerships for an evening of passive, non-confrontational education. We hope that our audience will be inspired by the stunning cinematography, compelling stories, and different perspectives presented through film to reconsider their own beliefs and behavior as well as plans to meet current challenges and those of the future. As WSFF lead, the TCF ensures the following tasks are completed:

1. Administer the 2017 SYRCL’s WSFF grant;
2. Coordinate WSFF sponsorship requests and grant funding proposals as well as pursue sponsorships and apply for grant funding;
3. Coordinate WSFF promotion, financial record keeping including sponsor and donation tracking and ticket sales, pre-event organization, and hosting of the event;
4. Promote the WSFF through print and social media as well as radio announcement(s);
5. Provide ongoing communication with SRDC about financial progress; and
6. Provide SRDC with the percentage of profits reflective of the amount of sponsorship donations obtained by the SRCD for the WSFF.
TCF facilitated an interactive evening for citizens, organizations, and agencies regarding the Sacramento River corridor in Tehama County. The evening included a brief natural history presentation of the Sacramento River, current and planned riparian restoration projects in Tehama County as well as information on how citizens can join the effort. Bob Madgic, local author of The Sacramento: A Transcendent River presented a film based on his book, Watching the River Run.

A second Conservation Conversation featuring native plant landscaping was to be held Saturday, June 25, 2016. Staff reduction ultimately tabled the second event.

Grant Applications

Cabela’s Outdoor Fund
Submitted August 8, 2017      Award Notice: Fall 2017
Funding Request: $50,577.30 for OSSA sponsorship and supportive funds to implement the program.

The TCF will develop and implement the Outdoor Sport Stewardship Academy (OSSA), a 5 day fun-filled overnight youth camp. Through hunting, fishing, and outdoor skill development, the camp will kick-start a positive relationship between the campers and the Great Outdoors. This program is largely based on the successful Kid’s Outdoor Sport Camp (KOSC), however, the TCF will enhance conservation principles lessons and include a capstone hands-on restoration project on public lands. In addition, the TCF will target junior high students in Tehama County that would not otherwise be able to attend the camp due to financial constraints.
Ongoing Outreach

Field to Fork Dinner Tehama County. Hosted by the Tehama Community Food Alliance
Sunday, September 10, 2017 5 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Bianchi Orchards

The TCF will be providing an educational plug during the Dinner to foster a connection between stewardship, producers, and consumers. Most of the food presented during the event is from local producers that have implemented conservation practices to some degree. Showcasing producers as land stewards that meet their own needs while optimizing natural assets that occur on their property is of value. Natural assets or ecosystem services (pollination, soil formation, flood control, carbon storage, habitat, aesthetics, etc.) that occur on these working lands is worth highlighting.