



## **Accomplishments Summary**

### **Organizational Development:**

- Established a Conservation Trust for the Kings River, 1999
- Maintains a core of dedicated executive board members who work to protect the Kings River environment and the rural culture and assist landowners in protecting their land from loss due to development.
- Became a 501c3 Non-Profit Organization
- Is viable to hold agricultural land easements
- Employed necessary legal services to create a formal conservation easement agreement template as well as represent the Trust's Interests and to assist landowners with the establishment of conservation easements
- Maintains necessary accreditation, insurance, and non-profit organization status in order to hold easements including official recognition through membership in the California Council of Land Trusts.
- Has sought and been awarded grants for conservation projects and for community outreach and planning activities.
- Operates on donations of concerned citizens through membership contributions and fundraiser events.

### **Worked to Direct Fresno County Land Use Planning**

- In 2012, partnered with a coalition of conservation organizations to draft recommendations to Fresno County for mitigation of agriculture land lost due to gravel mining
- Has actively opposed development that is detrimental to the Kings River Area while encouraging mitigation and land stewardship which would allow for sustainable health of the environment and community
- Strives to teach youth and adults about the historical, biological, and social value of the Kings River
- Promote protection of farms and ranches as well as native habitat along the Kings River

### **Served To Inform and Unite Local Residents**

- Assists other organizations achieve their conservation goals including the Blossom Trail Corridor Group, Friends of Jesse Morrow Mountain, Choinumne Native Americans, and the Friends of the Kings River. El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust has entered into cooperative agreements with the Fresno Madera Resource Conservation District, Kings River Conservancy, and Sequoia Riverlands Trust for various cooperative projects

- Initiated a horseback ride along the Kings River on the Reedley College Campus as a membership event, 1999
- Initiated historical recognition of significant cultural events and sites including the T. L. Reed Palm Tree 2000, The Naming of the Kings, 2000
- Held the Reed Palm Tree dedication as monument to the original Reed Ranch established in 1884, 2000
- Public forum at Kelly's Beach with guest speakers Vernon Conrad (Fresno County Supervisor), and the Western Rivers Program Director for Trust for Public Land, 2000
- The Vision for the Kings River Forum with representation from the Great Valley Center and the California Department of Fish and Game, Kings River Water District, and Fresno County Planning Commission, 2001
- Organized a Your Town Workshop for Kings River Greenway Planning and to discuss Rural Tourism and Scenic Preservation Strategies, 2003
- Honored the life of Bob Frisch by dedicating the fourth annual Poker Ride to his memory and by renaming the event, "The Bob Frisch Memorial Ride", 2003
- Employed GreenInfo Network through a Great Valley Center LEGACI Grant to begin mapping key features of the Kings River area, 2003
- Established a stone monument at the site of the Poole's Ferry River Crossing, 2003
- Hosted a three-day Your Town Workshop to encourage regional solidarity in conservation planning, 2003
- Coordinated a Kings River Clean-up from Reedley Beach to Adams Avenue, 2004
- Sponsored "Walks Along the River" with environmental interpretation by Reedley College Forestry Program students, 2004
- Launched a "Thousand Friends of the Kings River" program to provide community a means of contributing to conservation activities of El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust, 2004
- Continued to hold annual Bob Frisch Memorial Horse Rides
- El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust was Awarded a \$5,000 Grant from the National Park Foundation and Tom's of Maine to build low-water crossing on Wahtoke Creek
- Established a Website for El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust, [www.elrioreyestrust.org](http://www.elrioreyestrust.org), 2004
- Sponsored an educational "Day With the Kings" and a joint partner with Kings Canyon Unified School District, 2004
- Partnered with Kelly's Beach to organize the "Kings River Cleanup Day", 2004
- Participated in the "Reedley Parkway Tree Planting", 2004
- Brought public interest to the proposed aggregate mines near the Kings River, 2004
- Jointly sponsored with The Fresno native Plant Society the "China Creek Nature Walk", 2005
- Coordinated with local land owners, Kriebels and Smeds Family Farm, to remove tires from the river and recycle them through a Fresno County program, 2005
- Partnered with The Kings River Conservation District, Reedley College, and the City of Reedley to hold the "Kings River Discovery Bicentennial Celebration, 2005
- Promoted the newly-formed Kings River Conservancy organization and the established Sequoia Riverlands Trust, 2005

- Intensified efforts to assist the public to be aware of aggregate mining environmental impacts, 2006

El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust has engaged in continuing effort to guide Fresno County toward wise land use planning. This has been prominent among the activities of the board of directors since 2005 and to the present time.

It is important that El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust continue to pursue the task of protecting the Kings River. And, it must have public support in order to accomplish this task. The organization encourages everyone who shares a desire to ensure the sustainability of the Kings River as a natural resource to learn more about El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust, and to support its current and continuing efforts in this endeavor.