

# YOLO LAND TRUST 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

The Yolo Land Trust is devoted to one simple and vital mission, to conserve farmland in Yolo County. We have a track record of success built upon collaboration, respectful partnerships and land preservation expertise that allow us to create solutions that benefit both the land and the landowner. **Since 1988, the Yolo Land Trust has preserved more than 11,000 acres as farmland forever.**



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## Acquisition of Agricultural Conservation Easement

We added one new agricultural conservation easement to our conservation portfolio in 2018. The Haag Walnut Orchard, located in Esparto, is YLT's 65th easement property. Thanks to the efforts of the owners, Jim and Claire Haag, and the Yolo Land Trust, the farm will remain in agriculture permanently.

Funding for the conservation easement project was provided by a grant from the State of California Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) Program. SALC is a California Strategic Growth Council program administered by the Department of Conservation. Additional grant funding was provided by Yolo County, the John and Eunice Davidson Fund, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company. The Haags also made a significant contribution to the Yolo Land Trust to complete the transaction.

The Haag Walnut Orchard will remain privately owned and on the County tax rolls. No further public investment will be required to keep the land in productive agriculture or for the annual monitoring by the Yolo Land Trust.

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## Monitoring Existing Conservation Portfolio

One of our fundamental annual tasks is monitoring our conservation portfolio. Conservation Associate Jessica Grant, visits each of our 64 easement properties to note the farming activities. With an iPad in hand, Grant walks around the farm to confirm all the easement terms are being followed. Several growers accompanied her on the 2018 visits to describe changes to their farm or to highlight a particular feature. We are very grateful to our conservation landowners for their commitment to farmland preservation.

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## Elkhorn Microbes

In the summer of 2018, the Yolo Land Trust hosted scientists from the South San Francisco-based microbiome company, Second Genome, to gather diverse environmental samples, such as agricultural and natural soils, river water, and various plant species. These samples are being evaluated for the presence of microbes that can contribute to plant health, with the potential of being included in farmers' future agricultural practices. We wish Second Genome much success in their endeavor to contribute to the toolbox of methods that will benefit farmers and agriculture.

# Highlights

## 70

In 2018 we protected 70 acres of Yolo County farmland

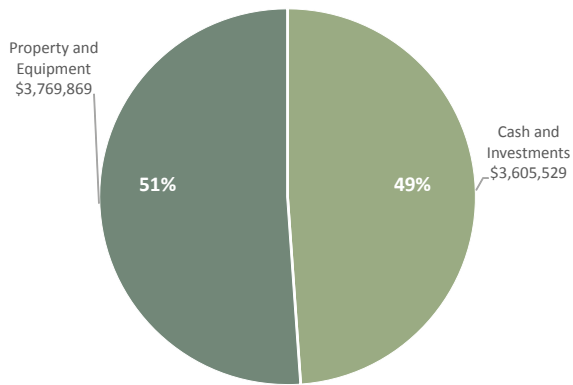
## Most Profitable

A Day In The Country  
in Event History

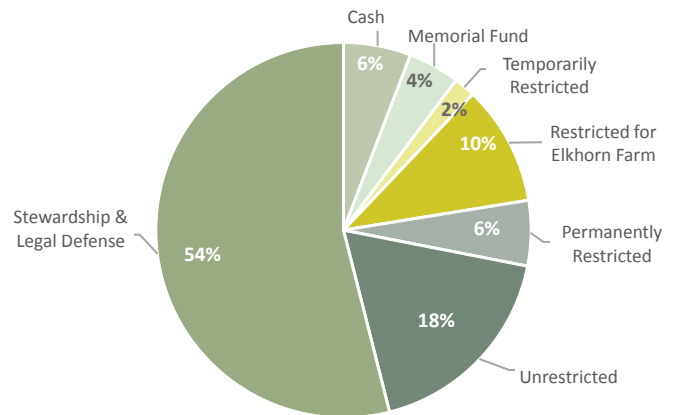
## \$16,000+

Received in donations from  
Qualified IRA Distributions

## Financials



Total Assests: \$7,375,398



Liquid Assets: \$3,605,529

## Celebrating 30 Years

December 2018 marked 30 years since the Yolo Land Trust was incorporated as a nonprofit. Throughout our thirty-year history, one fact has remained constant. The work of the Land Trust has always been committed to the protection of farmland in Yolo County. We are a community-based organization that grew up here and has stayed here to watch over our farmland and protect it forever. The Land Trust has never wavered from the vision of the founding board of directors. As stated in our Articles of Incorporation, the Yolo Land Trust's work is for the "benefit of the citizens of the County of Yolo."

In 2019, the Yolo Land Trust will launch a communications and outreach campaign to celebrate our 30 years of work. The campaign will include an updated Yolo Land Trust brand and a more modern website featuring beautiful photographs and videos of Yolo County farmland. Additionally, we will add signs on some of our easement properties to alert community members and visitors to the importance of conserving farmland forever.

We are proud of the accomplishments of the Yolo Land Trust over the past 30 years and look forward to working to ensure that we are around for another 30, 50, and 100 so that agriculture remains a mainstay of Yolo County for generations to come.

## Support the Yolo Land Trust!

California has lost one million acres of irreplaceable farmland and rangeland since 1990. In Yolo County we want our prime soil to grow food and keep our local ag economy strong. **Act now to help the Yolo Land Trust continue its vital work by:**

- Attending our annual community event, A Day in the Country, September 8, 2019 at River Garden Farms in Knights Landing.
- Creating a lasting legacy by naming the Yolo Land Trust as a beneficiary in your will or trust.
- Donating appreciated stocks or making a qualified charitable distribution to the Yolo Land Trust.

