



WESTERN RIVERS CONSERVANCY

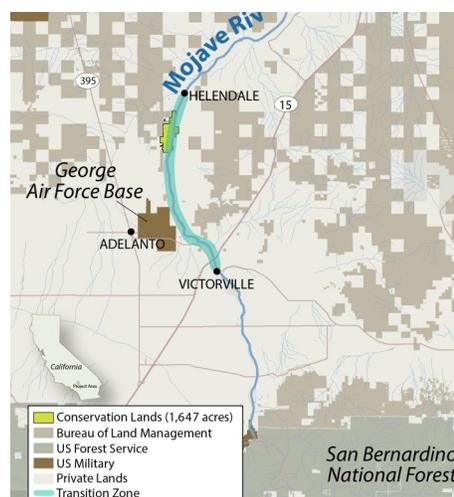
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Global Giving
Project Report Photos
December 2018

Mojave River, California: Protecting an Oasis on the Mojave River

We did it! In October 2018 Western Rivers Conservancy permanently protected a rare stretch of California's Mojave River as a haven for imperiled fish and wildlife. In October 2018, we conveyed the 1,647-acre ranch to our partner, the Mojave Desert Land Trust, which will now manage the property to ensure it forever remains a refuge for the region's diverse plants and wildlife. The California Wildlife Conservation Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service generously funded our transfer of the ranch to MDLT for permanent protection. The property we protected is called Palisades Ranch, and its stands of cottonwoods and willows, along with the presence of a perennially flowing river, make it one of the Mojave Desert's most important habitat areas for fish and wildlife. A true oasis, the property attracts 39 federally and state listed special-status wildlife species.

Krista Schlyer Photo



Methow Valley, Washington: Launching Our First Project in Washington's Methow Valley

At the heart of the spectacular Methow Valley is the Methow River, a critical salmon and steelhead stream fed by smaller tributaries that tumble from the North Cascade Mountains. The largest of these tributaries is the Chewuch River, where WRC has launched one of its newest conservation efforts. North of the town of Winthrop, WRC has purchased the historic 328-acre Wagner Ranch, which spans 1.6 miles of the Chewuch and abuts the 14,800-acre Methow Unit of Washington's Methow Wildlife Area. By purchasing the ranch and transferring it to the Yakama Nation, WRC will prevent hundreds of acres along this critical stretch of the Chewuch River from being subdivided and developed, the likely outcome if the ranch were left on the market. Our efforts will instead preserve the remote beauty of this historic ranch, while providing the Yakama the rare opportunity to restore a key stretch of the river where over a dozen different salmon habitat restoration opportunities have been identified.

Dr. Ellen Bishop Photo

