

MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"The future of Marin will not be determined by a single election or executive order."



Reading the news, it is easy to feel discouraged. The challenges facing our environment are profound at a time when decades of environmental progress feel increasingly fragile.

But the future of Marin will not be determined by a single election or executive order. It will be shaped by thousands of decisions made over time in our cities and towns by people who care about their communities and are willing to take action.

That is what gives me hope, and that is why the work of Marin Conservation League is more important than ever.

For more than 90 years, MCL has brought science, policy, public participation, and long-term thinking to the issues facing Marin. Our committees remain the foundation of that work. They provide a forum where people can learn, ask difficult questions, and become effective advocates for the environmental future of our county.

This year also marked an important step forward for MCL itself. Under the leadership of Executive Director Rebecca Schwartz Lesberg and with the dedication of our staff we have continued to strengthen the organization, expand our reach, and modernize the way we connect with and support our community. Those investments will help ensure that MCL remains a strong and effective voice for conservation in Marin for years to come.

Thank you for your support and for being part of a community that continues to believe that progress is possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Swezy".

Mike Swezy



**2025
ANNUAL
REPORT**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

A Note from the Treasurer



The Statement of Activities summarizes MCL’s 2025 financial results for both the organization as a whole and each of its dedicated funds. These figures are drawn from MCL’s financial records and have not been audited.

MCL maintains three funds. The Unrestricted Fund supports day-to-day operations, advocacy, and education programs. The Temporarily Restricted Fund reflects resources entrusted to MCL for specific projects. The Board-Restricted Fund captures the activity of MCL’s Endowments: Legacy of the Land (LOL) and the Wood-Wilson Fund. In 2025, the LOL endowment contributed \$62,598 in support of MCL’s mission.

While the Unrestricted Fund experienced an operating loss this year due to higher-than-anticipated expenses, this was offset by strong investment performance, which increased the overall value of MCL’s

assets. At the same time, Temporarily Restricted Funds grew meaningfully, driven largely by contributions to the Sorich Park Area Residents Fund (SPAR), reflecting strong community engagement and support.

MCL’s long-term financial position was further strengthened in 2025. The Legacy of the Land Endowment saw significant growth due to favorable market conditions, and the Wood-Wilson Endowment was established, honoring two legacy donors and expanding MCL’s foundation for the future.

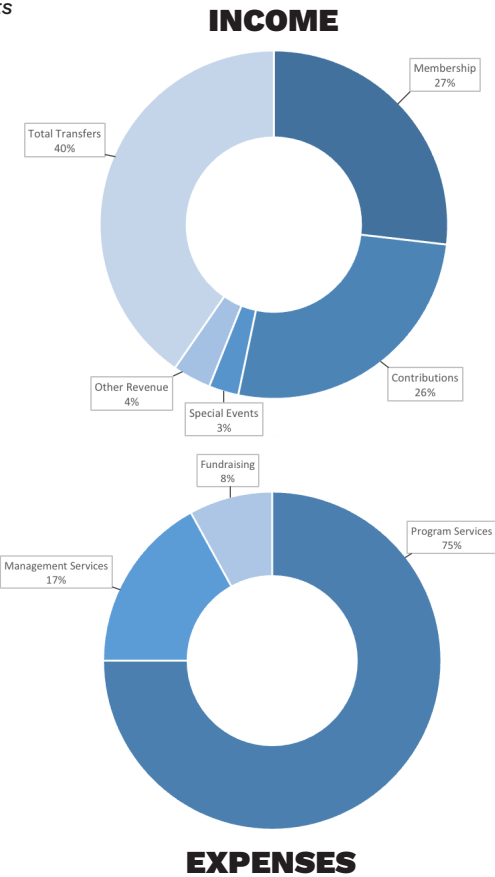
MCL extends its sincere thanks to all members and supporters for their continued commitment during a highly productive and impactful year.

Richard Jensen

Statement of Activities (Unaudited) January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

Prepared from MCL’s Financial Statements

OPERATIONS	Unrestricted (Operations)	Temporarily Restricted (Projects/Dedicated)	Board Restricted (Legacy of the Land & Wood-Wilson Endowments)	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Support				
Membership	\$94,716			\$94,716
Contributions	\$93,422	\$11,264	\$200,000	\$304,686
Special Events	\$9,768			\$9,768
Total Support	\$197,906	\$11,264	\$200,000	\$409,170
Revenue				
Interest & Dividend Income	\$12,592		\$31,733	\$44,325
Capital Gain Distributed			\$27,570	\$27,570
Grants Received	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Revenue	\$12,592	\$0	\$59,303	\$71,895
Transfers				
Legacy of the Land Support for Operation	\$62,598		(\$62,598)	
Operations Reserve Transfer	\$80,000			
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Total Transfers	\$142,598	\$0	(\$62,598)	
Total Support, Revenue & Transfers	\$353,096	\$11,264	\$196,705	\$561,065
EXPENSES				
Program Services	\$282,369			\$282,369
Management Services	\$64,004			\$64,004
Fundraising	\$30,119			\$30,119
Total Expenses	\$376,492	\$0	\$0	\$376,492
Results from Operations	(\$23,396)	\$11,264	\$196,705	\$184,573
Investment Gain, Realized & Unrealized	-\$54,011	-\$16,215	\$390,562	\$320,336
Change in Equity 2025	(\$77,407)	(\$4,951)	\$587,267	\$504,909
Total Equity, Year End 2024	\$500,255	\$42,190	\$2,977,436	\$3,519,881
Total Equity, Year End 2025	\$422,848	\$37,239	\$3,564,703	\$4,024,790



COMMITTEE WORK

CLIMATE ACTION WORKING GROUP

In support of MCL's mission, MCL's Climate Action Working Group (CAWG) advocates for policies and programs that accelerate greenhouse gas reductions and address the impacts of climate change. The group's priorities include electrification, grid decarbonization, carbon removal, and public education.

Over the past year, MCL's CAWG has:

- » Advocated with its allies for greater transparency, accountability, and Board oversight at Marin Clean Energy (MCE).
- » Advocated that MCE end purchases of ineffective renewable energy and carbon free credits, increase long-term renewable energy contracts, and increase funding of community energy programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- » Supported efforts to accelerate building and transportation electrification at the local and regional level, working with other community organizations, public agencies and elected officials.
- » Hosted educational programs focused on innovative renewable energy technologies and policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- » Continued to act as a convener of community organizations focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

PARKS & OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

MCL's Parks and Open Space Committee (POSC) advocates for the protection and enhancement of native habitats, sensitive species, biodiversity, and ecological functions on both public lands and private open space lands throughout Marin County.

Over the past year, MCL's POSC committee has:

- » Engaged in planning new and ongoing projects on Marin County Parks and Open Space District Preserves.
- » Collaborated on ongoing update to Marin Water's 2005 Roads and Trails Management Plan and Program EIR.
- » Hosted discussions on federal, state, and local public lands' conservation initiatives in Marin, including One Tam, Redwood Renewal, State Parks, and Point Reyes National Seashore programs.
- » Advised on vegetation management strategies for fuel reduction, including forest health projects undertaken by Marin land management agencies.
- » Explored landscape-scale conservation initiatives, including the Golden Gate Biosphere Network.
- » Discussed the impacts of climate change on native habitats, wildlife populations, and the need for ecosystem resilience throughout Marin.
- » Continued to provide a forum for education and dialogue on stewardship of public lands and conservation of private open space landscapes.

LAND USE, TRANSPORTATION, & WATER COMMITTEE

MCL's Land Use, Transportation, and Water Committee (LUTW) tracks the activities of public agencies, monitors projects, and advocates to decision-makers on planning issues and projects of countywide significance. The committee works to ensure that environmental protection remains a priority in Marin's planning.

Over the past year, MCL's LUTW committee has:

- » Advocated for State Route 37's long-term sea level rise adaptation and causeway planning, and tracked local and regional adaptation efforts.
- » Hosted programs to identify conservation benefits in agricultural practices on private working lands as well as emerging challenges.
- » Teamed with CAWG to advocate support for the SMART sales tax extension to 2059.
- » Tracked and positioned on significant housing development projects and CEQA document review including the Seminary @ Strawberry mixed-use development.
- » Advocated for continuing conservation measures and monitored Marin's long-term water supply planning and emerging water resource issues.
- » Advocated for the preservation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other state legislation supporting environmental review.
- » Monitored environmental review and permitting activities related to the proposed Costco fueling station project in Novato.

EVENTS & PROGRAMS

MCL provides a variety of educational opportunities throughout the year on topics of broad interest to Marin residents. They include recurring Environmental Business Breakfasts, Walks into Conservation History, and other gatherings for our members.

Some of this year's programs included:

- » Maria Brown, Superintendent of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries, speaking on the ecological importance of California's national marine sanctuaries and the challenges climate change poses to marine ecosystems.
- » Presentations by Sustainable Conservation's Ashley Boren and Erica Lovejoy on collaborative approaches to conservation and habitat restoration, and by Regional Water Quality Control Board ecological engineer Christina Toms on the future of San Francisco Estuary wetlands and nature-based climate adaptation strategies.
- » A field tour of the Potter Valley Project examining the future of Eel River restoration, Russian River water supplies, and the proposed removal of two dams.
- » A Walk into Conservation History at Ring Mountain exploring the area's unique geology, ecology, cultural history, and conservation legacy.



Ring Mountain Overlooking Richardson Bay

THANK YOU 2025 SUPPORTERS!

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