On the cover: Pendersen Glacier in Alaska. Between the mid-1920s and 2005, the glacier retreated more than 2 kilometers (1.24 miles), and the lagoon filled with sediment.

Credits: Early photograph undated, unknown photographer, Kenai Fjords National Park. 2005 photograph by Bruce F. Molnia, USGS.
CONTENTS

Agenda .......................................................................................................... 4
Background ..................................................................................................... 7
Discussion Questions for Attendees ............................................................ 8
Biographies: Speakers, Panelists & Moderators ......................................... 10
AGENDA

8 a.m.  Registration

8:30 a.m.  Welcome
  Amber Mace, Associate Director, 
  UC Davis Policy Institute for Energy, 
  Environment and the Economy
  Ron Gastelum, Member, Board of 
  Trustees, The Nature Conservancy

  Morning kick off and MC: Louis Blumberg, 
  Director, California Climate Change Program, 
  The Nature Conservancy

8:50 a.m.  California’s Climate Policy Leadership and 
the Importance of Natural Resources
  Speakers
  Ken Alex, Senior Policy Advisor to 
  Gov. Jerry Brown and Director of the 
  Office of Planning and Research
  Chuck Bonham, Director, California 
  Department of Fish and Wildlife

9:20 a.m.  Climate Change and Nature: 
the Scientific Nexus
  Speaker
  Mark Schwartz, John Muir Institute 
  of the Environment – UC Davis

10:00 a.m. 15 minute break

10:15 a.m. Making It Real: Climate Action Case Studies
  Moderator
  Ashley Conrad-Saydah, Assistant Secretary for 
  Climate Policy, CA Environmental Protection 
  Agency

  Discussants
  Karen Gaffney, Sonoma County Agricultural 
  Preservation and Open Space District
  Kristal Davis Fadtke, Delta Conservancy
  Terry Collins, Collins Pine Company
  Joe Morris, Founder, Morris Grassfed Beef
  Misha Sarkovich, Sacramento 
  Municipal Utility District

12:00 p.m. Lunch and Keynote
  “Natural Systems and Climate Action 
in California, a Federal View”
  Davis Hayes, Deputy Secretary, 
  U.S. Department of the Interior
  David Nawi, Senior Advisor to the 
  Secretary for California and Nevada, 
  U.S. Department of Interior

  Afternoon kick off and MC: Amber Mace, 
  Associate Director, UC Davis Policy Institute 
  for Energy, Environment and the Economy
1:30 p.m. Leveraging Nature as a Climate Change Remedy: Opportunities and Needs

Session 1: Perspectives from advocates and implementers

Moderator
William Craven, Chief Consultant, Senate Natural Resources

Discussants
Kip Lipper, Chief Policy Advisor, Office of California Senate Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg
Ann Chan, Deputy Secretary for Climate Change and Energy, Natural Resources Agency
Louise Bedsworth, Senior Researcher, Office of Planning and Research
Mike McCoy, Executive Director, Strategic Growth Council
Michelle Passero, Senior Climate Policy Advisor, The Nature Conservancy
Josh Stark, State Policy Director, TransForm

2:45 p.m. Break

Session 2: Perspectives and responses from elected officials

Moderator
Greg Dalton, ClimateOne

Discussants
Assembly Member Mark Stone
State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson
State Senator Kevin de Leon
State Senator Ted Lieu

4:15 p.m. Closing Comments

Administration Climate Change Priorities and the Role of Natural Resources
Nancy McFadden, Executive Secretary for Legislation, Appointments, and Policy in the Office of the Governor

4:45 p.m. Summary of the day and closing

Amber Mace, Associate Director, UC Davis Policy Institute for Energy, Environment and the Economy
Louis Blumberg, Climate Program Director, The Nature Conservancy

5:15 p.m. Reception
Galleria Ballroom
BACKGROUND

The conservation and management of California’s natural resources have a direct impact on climate change and present significant greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction opportunities for state investment. Forests, wetlands, grasslands and agricultural lands, among other resources, are critical to California’s climate solutions, both short-term and long-term.

For example, California’s 2008 Scoping Plan to implement the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32) identifies a GHG target for forests – to maintain and increase the current carbon sequestration benefits of California’s forests.

As the state continues to implement and design new strategies to address climate change, there is opportunity to expand the role of natural resources as a solution to climate change. Doing so would not only help the state reduce GHG emissions, but also help communities become more resilient to the unavoidable impacts of climate change, by protecting air and water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and many other important benefits.

The day’s program will consist of a series of panel presentations featuring policy makers, educators, stakeholders/landowners, academics, and representatives from local governments. Our goal is to increase the knowledge and awareness of key decision makers, agency staff and other stakeholders in California about the important role of natural resource protection as a key component in reducing both greenhouse gases and the risks posed by a changing climate.
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR ATTENDEES

Making It Real: Climate Action Case Studies

What do climate change actions look like on the ground?

This panel will highlight a number of tangible and innovative case studies across California’s landscape that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions while also cleaning California’s air and water, supporting local jobs, building resilience to climate change, and many other benefits. Activities like these can be replicated across the state, in many different land types and scale, illustrating the broader opportunity for communities to address climate change through the conservation and stewardship of our resources.

Discussion Questions:

• How have you integrated considerations of climate change into your operations or work? How might that affect conditions on the land?

• What are the primary drivers/motivations for including conservation actions that address climate change in your management practices? Are there particular incentives?

• What are some of the obstacles you have overcome or continue to face in this regard? Are there technical or research hurdles?

• What existing policies are the most relevant to your efforts? Do you have suggestions about how they could be modified to be more useful? Do you have recommendations for new policies or incentives?

• Are you revising your plans and strategies in light of projected changes in the climate? If so, how and what changes has that produced or are you anticipating? If not, do you have plans to?

Leveraging Nature as a Climate Change Remedy: Opportunities and Needs: Perspective from advocates and implementers

This panel will discuss how we can effectively incorporate nature to address climate change on a practical level. The conversation will focus on policies opportunities and research and technical needs. It will build on the morning case studies panel and address policy opportunities arising from AB 32 cap and auction proceeds, implementation of SB 375 and the nexus of transportation, land use and climate action. Other issues the panel will address include research and GHG accounting needs and land use planning.

Discussion Questions:

• What are the opportunities within the AB 32 auction proceeds investment plan and other related climate policies to support nature as a mechanism to address climate change? What are information needs associated with these plans to assure we have a robust approach?

• What are some policies, planning processes and programs that address climate change by integrating agriculture and natural resources with transportation and land use? What are the biggest obstacles in implementing these programs to maximize climate benefits? How do we overcome them?

• How should the state address the need to reduce emissions and simultaneously build greater climate resilience and reduce risk from extreme events in its policies? Should we have an approach to climate change that is similar to the health-in-all-policies facilitated by the Strategic Growth Council?

• Besides the allocation of AB 32 auction proceeds, what new policies or funding might be available for natural resource protection activities to help the state meet its climate change goals?
Leveraging Nature as a Climate Change Remedy:
Perspective and responses from elected officials

This panel of distinguished state legislators will provide their perspectives about the political backdrop and realities of advancing climate policies in the state legislature, as well as their thoughts on the role of natural resource protection to address climate change. The group will explore public policy opportunities and strategies that would help the state meet its emission reduction goals and provide other benefits, including the reduction of climate risks to Californians.

Discussion Questions:

• How has the legislature addressed the intersection of natural resource conservation and climate change?

• What action might you recommend to raise the profile and understanding about the need to incorporate natural resources in climate policies? Where are the greatest opportunities? What are the biggest obstacles?

• How has the arrival of so many new members in the legislature since 2006 when AB 32 was passed affected the current discourse over climate change and the role of natural systems as a mechanism to address the problem?

• When the Public Goods Charge ended, the state lost its world-renowned climate change research program. What action can, should or may be taken in the legislature or in the administration to ensure that California decision makers and planners have the best, most up-to-date scientific to inform their plans and expenditures?

• What is the role of local government in leveraging nature as a climate change remedy?
KEN ALEX

Ken Alex is a Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Jerry Brown and the Director of the Office of Planning and Research, focusing on energy, environment, and land use issues. As California moves towards a population of 50 million in a climate change constrained world, Ken and OPR work on issues and policies that protect and promote the State’s environment and economy. Before joining the Governor’s Office, Ken was the Senior Assistant Attorney General heading the environment section of the California Attorney General’s Office, and the co-head of the Office’s global warming unit. From 2000 to 2006, Ken led the California Attorney General’s energy task force, investigating price and supply issues related to California’s energy crisis. During his tenure at the Attorney General’s Office, Ken negotiated dozens of significant settlements, including agreements with San Bernardino County and ConocoPhillips for the first required reductions of greenhouse gas emissions in the country. California Lawyer named Ken an “Attorney of the Year” in 2004 for his work in energy law, and he received the ABA award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy in 2007 for global warming work. He has taught courses on environmental law and policy at Stanford, Hastings, and Golden Gate University. Ken is a graduate of Harvard Law School and holds a B.A. in political theory from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

LOUISE BEDSWORTH

Louise Bedsworth is a Senior Researcher at the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR). Prior to joining OPR, she was a Policy Fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California where she focused on climate action at the local level, adaptation to climate change, and transportation and air quality. She has also held positions at the Union of Concerned Scientists, Redefining Progress, and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis. Louise holds a BS in Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences from MIT and an MS in Environmental Engineering and a PhD in Energy and Resources from UC Berkeley.
LOUIS BLUMBERG
Louis is the Director of the Climate Change program for the Nature Conservancy’s California chapter. He leads a multidisciplinary team developing a comprehensive suite of nature-based solutions to climate change and including strategies to reduce emissions from forest loss and to help human and natural communities to adapt to its impacts. He has been directly involved in the development of climate policy in California for more than a decade. He joined the Nature Conservancy in 2004 and has been instrumental in promoting standards-based, public policy to create rigorous forest carbon credits in both the voluntary and emerging compliance carbon markets. He is also a member of the Nature’s Conservancy’s international climate change team working advance policy to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (known as REDD+) at the state and province level in tropical forest states with Conservancy colleagues in Mexico, Brazil and Indonesia. Prior to joining the Conservancy, Louis served as deputy director of external affairs for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. He holds an M.A. in urban planning and environmental policy from the University of California, Los Angeles and a B.A. from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

CHUCK BONHAM
Charlton “Chuck” Bonham was appointed as Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, effective September 6, 2011. Prior to his appointment as Director of Fish and Wildlife, he served in a number of roles for Trout Unlimited over ten years, including since 2004 as the organization’s California director. He was responsible for developing, managing, and implementing TU’s programs in California. These programs include the California Water Project, Sportsmen’s Conservation Project, and restoration and watershed projects in both northern and Southern California. In addition, he was a senior attorney for the organization. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Delta Conservancy, whose mission is to conserve, sustain and enhance the cultural, agricultural, recreational, wildlife and natural habitat resources of the River Delta region, as well as develop and promote sustainable protection, management and stewardship programs through research and education. He received his J.D. and Environmental and Natural Resources Law Certificate from the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College, in Portland, Oregon.
ANN CHAN
Ann C. Chan, deputy secretary for climate change and energy at the California Natural Resources Agency, is leading the effort to update the State Adaptation Strategy and also working on the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan. She was senior climate change specialist at the Wilderness Society from 2011 to 2012. She was director of the California program at the Center for Clean Air Policy from 2008 to 2011, assistant regional counsel at the United States Environmental Protection Agency from 2001 to 2006 and corporate associate at O’Melveny and Myers LLP from 1997 to 1999. She was a member of the board of directors of Carpe Diem West from 2010 to 2012. Ann earned a Juris Doctorate degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Stanford University. She also completed language studies at Beijing University.

TERRY COLLINS
Collins Pine Company is a family-owned business and I am part of the fourth generation in the lumber and timber business. My father, Truman W. Collins, set up the Collins Almanor Forest in Plumas and Tehama Counties on a sustainable basis back in 1941, and in 1993, this forest was one of the first to be environmentally certified according to the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council. I live in Chester, California, and have been interested in the role of forests in mitigating climate change since the mid-1990s.

ASHLEY CONRAD-SAYDAH
Ashley Conrad-Saydah was appointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in April 2012 to serve as Assistant Secretary for Climate Policy at the California Environmental Protection Agency. Prior to joining Cal/EPA, Ashley served as California’s Renewable Energy Program Manager for the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management. In that position, Ashley helped to establish and advance key state-federal partnerships, engaged stakeholders in determining the best places for utility-scale solar, wind and transmission development and drafted and instituted national monitoring and mitigation policies for renewable energy development on public lands. Ashley began her tenure with the BLM as a Presidential Management Fellow, completing a half-year detail with the U.S. Department of Energy. From 2001 to 2006, Ashley managed Careers in Science, a work-based youth development program at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. Ashley received her bachelor’s degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Princeton University and her master’s degree in Environmental Science and Management from the Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at the University of California – Santa Barbara, where she was a Doris Duke Conservation Fellow.
WILLIAM CRAVEN
William Craven is currently the chief consultant of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee. The committee is chaired by Senator Fran Pavley, D-Agoura Hills, co-author of AB 32, California’s leading climate change legislation. The Natural Resources and Water Committee has jurisdiction over legislation pertaining to water, forestry, wildlife, hunting and fishing, public lands, coastal protection, ocean policy, state parks, mining, harbors, and other key California resources.

GREG DALTON
Greg Dalton is host and founder of Climate One, the sustainability initiative of The Commonwealth Club of California. Climate One engages leaders from business, government and civil society in reason-based discussions of energy, economy and environment. Greg founded Climate One at The Commonwealth Club in 2007 after traveling to the Russian Arctic on a global warming symposium with climate scientists and journalists. Greg created and hosts Climate One’s monthly television show carried on KRCB public TV 22 on Comcast and DirecTV. Greg previously served for six years as The Commonwealth Club’s COO, expanding its content distribution through deals with media partners such as XM Satellite Radio, ABC 7 TV, Fora.tv and Cumulus Radio. He came to The Commonwealth Club after a career as a journalist. He holds a master’s degree in international affairs from Columbia University and a B.A. in politics from Occidental College. Greg speaks rusty Mandarin and kitchen Cantonese.

KEVIN DE LEÓN
State Senator Kevin de León represents California’s 22nd District which includes the Cities of Los Angeles, Alhambra, Maywood, San Marino, South Pasadena, Vernon and parts of unincorporated Los Angeles County. Kevin is an environmental advocate who champions efforts to increase efficiency and greener energy. He firmly believes that clean air, clean water and access to open space should not be determined by the zip code someone resides in but rather that is a right for all people. He authored legislation inserted into an omnibus measure that creates hundreds of millions of dollars for alternative fuel research and development. He has been recognized as Legislator of the Year by the Planning and Conservation League, Green California, Friends of the River and the Coalition for Clean Air. He grew up in the San Diego barrio of Logan Heights. He was the first in his family to graduate from high school. He attended UC Santa Barbara and graduated from Pitzer College at the Claremont Colleges with Honors. He is a Rodel Fellow at the Aspen Institute and a Guest Lecturer at the University of Southern California.
KRISTAL DAVIS FADTKE
Kristal Davis Fadlke is a Staff Environmental Scientist with the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy. In this position she coordinates with state, federal, and local stakeholders to implement Delta-related programs in areas including ecosystem restoration, habitat conservation, water quality, and climate change. Prior to joining the Conservancy, she worked in the private sector developing and implementing large-scale water quality monitoring and groundwater basin management programs and researched surface and groundwater contamination issues. She holds a Master of Science in Soil and Water Sciences and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences from the University of California, Riverside.

KAREN GAFFNEY
Karen Gaffney is the Conservation Planning Program Manager at the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District. Karen is committed to working with a broad cross section of the community on innovative conservation initiatives. A graduate of UC Berkeley, she has a Master's degree in biology from Sonoma State University. Karen serves on the Department of Conservation Statewide Watershed Advisory Committee, the Board of Conservation Corps North Bay, is a Switzer Environmental Leadership Fellow, is the past president of the Society for Ecological Restoration, California Chapter, and has served on the board of directors of the international Watershed Management Council. She is an instructor at the Santa Rosa Junior College, where she teaches watershed ecology and restoration. She has published peer reviewed papers on riparian corridors and invasive species, and is the principal author of several guides to ecological restoration, including the riparian restoration section of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Stream Habitat Restoration Manual.

RON GASTELUM
Ron Gastelum retired in 2004 as CEO of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 18 million residents and is the nation’s largest water wholesaler. Since then, he has helped form a new southern California energy supply company and a new water supply company specializing in water conservation. Ron is an attorney with 25 years’ experience in public, corporate, and environmental matters. He is a member of the boards of the Southern California Water Committee, Energy Choice, Inc., and the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. He holds a B.A. in economics and political science from Whittier College and a J.D. from U.C.L.A.
DAVID J. HAYES
David J. Hayes was confirmed as Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior on May 20, 2009 by unanimous vote of the United States Senate. He is a key leader in implementing the Secretary’s priorities for the Department, including promoting conservation initiatives such as the President’s America’s Great Outdoors agenda; encouraging renewable energy development on our public lands and offshore resources; developing conventional energy resources safely and responsibly; fulfilling our trust responsibilities to American Indians and Alaskan Natives; managing our nation’s water supplies sustainably; and other matters relating to Interior’s mission to conserve our nation’s natural and cultural resources. He previously served as the Deputy Secretary and counselor to the Secretary of the Interior in the Clinton Administration. He worked for many years in the private sector where he chaired the Environment, Land and Resources Department at Latham and Watkins, an international law firm. He is a former chairman of the Board of the Environmental Law Institute; he was a consulting professor at Stanford University’s Woods Institute for the Environment; he served as a Senior Fellow for the World Wildlife Fund, and was the Vice-Chair of the Board of American Rivers. David has written and lectured widely in the environmental and natural resources field. He graduated summa cum laude from the University of Notre Dame and received his J.D. from Stanford University, where he was an editor of the Stanford Law Review.

HANNAH-BETH JACKSON
Hannah-Beth Jackson is an educator, former State Assemblymember, and former Deputy District Attorney. She was elected to represent the 35th Assembly District, encompassing large portions of Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, from 1998 to 2004. Hannah-Beth also co-founded two non-profit organizations, has served as policy-maker in residence at UC Santa Barbara and currently serves as adjunct professor at Antioch University. During the six years she served in the California Legislature, Hannah-Beth was an effective advocate for improving public education, increasing public safety, improving access to health care, promoting job growth in green industries and others, protecting the environment and protecting the privacy and rights of consumers. Hannah-Beth served as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Coastal Protection. Jackson was named “Environmental Hero” by the California League of Conservation Voters for her unwavering protection of our natural resources and public health. Californians Against Waste named her legislator of the year after the passage of her bills to do with pesticide use and the recycling of electronic-waste. Hannah-Beth also earned other awards including “Guardian of the Coast” by Vote the Coast.
TED LIEU
Looking for a better life and opportunity for their children, Ted Lieu’s family immigrated to the United States when Ted was three years old. With the support of hard-working parents and a country that provided limitless opportunity, Ted would go on to attend Stanford for his undergraduate degrees in Computer Science and Political Science, and then Georgetown University, where he received his law degree magna cum laude after serving as Editor-in-Chief of the law review. Ted also received four American Jurisprudence Awards. While serving three terms in the Legislature, Ted was a leader in standing up to Wall Street’s excesses, reforming the subprime mortgage industry, increasing green buildings, reducing global warming, protecting public safety, and preventing domestic violence. Ted has repeatedly stood up to powerful interests on behalf of consumers, crime victims, seniors, children, and those without a voice.

KIP LIPPER
Kip Lipper is Chief Policy Advisor, Energy, Natural Resources, and Environment, Office of the CA Senate Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg. He has drafted legislation on a broad array of environmental policies, including the California Clean Air Act, the California Safe Drinking Water Act, the California Beverage Container Recycling Act, and the California Integrated Waste Management Act. He also has worked on state budget issues affecting energy, environmental, and resources agencies of California state government. He was the lead Senate staffer on the drafting of AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, as well as on companion legislation establishing the nation’s first greenhouse gas emission performance standard for energy generation (SB 1368–Perata). He has been deeply involved in the implementation of GHG laws passed and enacted by the CA Legislature. He has published papers on a range of environmental issues. He has been a guest lecturer on environmental and energy legislation at the Stanford University Law School, Boalt Hall (UC Berkeley) Law School, King Hall (UC Davis) Law School, Loyola Law School (Los Angeles), and at California State University, Sacramento.

AMBER MACE
Amber Mace is associate director of the UC Davis Policy Institute for Energy, Environment and the Economy. Amber combines a strong scientific background with deep knowledge of cabinet-level policy gained as the executive director of the California Ocean Protection Council and assistant secretary for coastal matters at the California Natural Resources Agency. Previously, she served in the dual roles of science advisor to the OPC and executive director of the Ocean Science Trust, a non-profit whose mission is to provide objective, high-quality science to decision makers. She learned firsthand about the challenges of public policy-making at the federal level as a Knauss Fellow in the U.S. Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, and at the state level as a California Sea Grant state fellow at the California Natural Resources Agency. Amber was recognized as a Coastal Hero by Sunset magazine in 2011 and her California coastal research experience includes piloting a submersible with the Sustainable Seas Expedition. She earned a BA in geography from UC Berkeley and a PhD in ecology from UC Davis and Bodega Marine Laboratory.
NANCY MCFADDEN
Nancy McFadden is the Executive Secretary for Legislation, Appointments, and Policy in the Office of the Governor. Prior to this appointment, she was the Senior Vice President and Senior Advisor to the Chairman and CEO of PG&E Corporation. Before joining PG&E, she spent nearly two decades as a key legal, political, and policy advisor at both the federal and state levels. In California, she served as senior advisor to Governor Gray Davis. A senior member of the Clinton Administration for eight years, she served as deputy chief of staff to Vice President Al Gore, General Counsel for the U.S. Department of Transportation and Deputy Associate Attorney General. She started her career practicing law with the firm of O’Melveny and Myers, during which time she was named “One of the 40 Best Lawyers Under 40” by Washingtonian magazine. Nancy is a Bay Area native, and has a JD from the University of Virginia and a bachelor’s degree from San Jose State University.

JOE MORRIS
Born and raised in San Francisco, Joe is the fifth generation of his family to steward land and cattle in California. Joe has worked on buckaroo crews in Nevada and California, as a lay missioner, community organizer and social worker with the Catholic Church in Latin America, and has taught high school in Washington, D.C. Joe and his wife, Julie, have two children, Sarah and Jack. T.O. Cattle Company leases five ranches, and, since 1993, has marketed Morris Grassfed Beef™ directly to families in the San Francisco Bay Area and Central Coast. As results of their management decisions TOCC is a profitable ecosystem based business whose lands are improving and whose connections with people are improving the community’s ability to work together. Joe has guided over a thousand people across his ranches and has spoken numerous times on the topics of holistic management and rangeland health. He was awarded the Clarence Burch award for leadership and stewardship by the Quivira Coalition in 2012.

MIKE MCCOY
Mike McCoy is a land use and natural resources planner focused on achieving more collaborative, participatory integrated public planning through connecting scientific, technical, educational, social and governmental resources. He has over 35 years of experience implementing innovative concepts and programs within California that emphasize the role of sustainable planning at the local, regional and state levels. Mike was a leader in the development of three startup organizations at UC Davis: Founding Co-Director of the University Extension Land Use and Natural Resources program; Founding Co-director of the Information Center for the Environment founded in 1995; and Founding Director of the Urban Land Use and Transportation Center (ULTRANS) at the Institute of Transportation Studies, started in 2008.
MICHELLE PASSERO
Michelle Passero is the Senior Climate Policy Advisor for The Nature Conservancy, California Chapter. She has over fifteen years of experience working in land conservation and environmental law and policy in the non-profit and for-profit sectors. Currently, she is leading TNC’s policy efforts to establish a comprehensive role for forests and natural systems as part of California’s landmark global warming law, The Global Warming Solutions Act. She has published several articles regarding legal issues associated with emerging greenhouse gas emissions trading markets and carbon rights. Michelle holds an LL.M. in Sustainable International Development from the University of Washington and a J.D. from the University of San Francisco.

MISHA SARKOVICH
Misha Sarkovich is Program Manager, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). His current responsibilities include managing District’s energy efficiency programs, such as the Home Performance, Cool Roof, Shade Tree, and Multifamily. Past responsibilities include performing financial impact and process evaluations for the District’s energy efficiency and demand side management programs, load research, statistical and cost-effectiveness analysis, and market research to support development of new energy products and services. Misha earned a Ph.D. in Economics from Florida State University, Tallahassee and BA & MA in Economics from California State University, Sacramento (1980 & 1979).

MARK SCHWARTZ
Mark Schwartz, professor of environmental science and policy, was appointed director of the John Muir Institute of the Environment at UC Davis in 2009. He is a plant ecologist with diverse conservation interests. His main research projects include assessing patterns in the geographic and taxonomic distribution of rare plants in the US and Canada, predicting the effect of habitat fragmentation on distribution shift potentials of trees under global warming scenarios, and monitoring rare plants and population viability analysis. He has ongoing long-term monitoring projects on mapped forest plot community dynamics (1986-present) and the population dynamics of the endangered tree Torreya taxifolia (1989-present), both in northern Florida. His future research will focus on population persistence of rare plants in California urban areas; interactions among native herbivores, fire and livestock on forest stand structure in Tanzanian miombo; and dynamic modeling of mutualisms within the context of economic models.
JOSh StARK
Josh advocates for TransForm’s statewide goals at the Capitol and through building coalitions with our many allies. Before coming to TransForm, Josh represented a number of nonprofit environmental and environmental justice organizations at the state and federal levels, including the National Parks Conservation Association. He helped build diverse alliances at the state level and in the Central Valley, and represented organizations through Spanish language media. Before taking on policy work Josh worked in agriculture, education, park management and outdoor guiding. Josh and his family live in West Sacramento, where they enjoy the Delta river life-paddling, fishing, hunting and camping. And, though he enjoys his two-mile walk to work, he can’t wait for the trolley service to start. Josh received his BA in Social Science in 1998 and his teaching credential in 2000, both from California State University at Sacramento.

MArK StOnE
Mark Stone was elected in November 2012 to represent California’s 29th Assembly District, which includes the Monterey Bay and a portion of the City of San Jose. Mark was elected twice to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors and in 2008 received support across the political spectrum in one of the Central Coast’s more politically diverse districts. While a county supervisor, he worked on issues including health care, education, youth and the environment and led an overhaul of the Santa Cruz County child welfare system, allowing disenfranchised youth of Santa Cruz County to truly have a voice. As an environmental champion at the local level he lead the effort banning plastic bags and creating a Commission on the Environment, and such, has helped Santa Cruz County earn its reputation as an environmentally conscious county. On top of his duties as a County Supervisor, he served the entire Central Coast on the California Coastal Commission since August 2009 and was elected Vice-Chair in June 2011. During his time on the California Coastal Commission, he earned the reputation as a principled leader who protects the cherished California coastline for generations to come.