

## PG&E'S LAND CONSERVATION COMMITMENT

- The Land Conservation Commitment resulted from a settlement agreement between PG&E and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), with support from a diverse group of agencies, industry groups, conservation organizations, and other interests.
- PG&E agreed to preserve approximately 140,000 acres of its watershed lands in the Sierra Nevada and Cascade mountains, and approximately 655 acres in the Carrizo Plains for the benefit of current and future generations of Californians.
- PG&E will either donate fee title or grant conservation easements to public agencies or qualified conservation organizations to permanently preserve and enhance these lands. A variety of beneficial public values will be taken into consideration, including the protection of natural habitat of wildlife, fish and plants; the preservation of open space; sustainable forestry; agricultural uses; outdoor recreation by the public; and historic values.
- Only properties not used for hydroelectric operations will be considered for donation in fee. Lands that contain hydroelectric operations will be conserved through conservation easements, but will continue to be owned by PG&E.
- Conservation easements on the watershed lands must allow for continued operation and maintenance of hydroelectric facilities and associated water delivery facilities, compliance with existing contracts and other agreements, and compliance with any FERC license, FERC license renewal, or other regulatory requirements.
- The Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council (Stewardship Council) is an independent nonprofit organization that acts as an advisory body to oversee development and implementation of a Land Conservation Plan (LCP). The LCP will recommend specific transactions (e.g., donation or conservation easements) and identify the beneficial public values to be preserved or enhanced on each parcel. The Stewardship Council receives \$10 million annually for 10 years from PG&E. The Stewardship Council's Board of Directors is comprised of eighteen members representing a diverse group of interests, including one spot occupied by PG&E.
- The LCP will include three volumes. Volumes I and II will provide detailed information about the lands and general management objectives to enhance the beneficial public values identified on the lands. Volume III will contain the details around specific real estate transactions and land management actions recommended to support implementation of the LCP. Volumes I and II are expected to be complete by late 2007. Volume III transactions will take place over a number of years beginning in early 2008.
- Public input and community involvement have been critical to the development of the LCP. The Stewardship Council has reached out to local stakeholders, community groups, and the general public to gather existing information about the watershed lands, as well as to obtain feedback on the proposed management objectives. Moving forward into Volume III transactions, the Stewardship Council will continue to seek significant input from stakeholders and others with specific interest in the future ownership and management of the lands.
- Also included in the program is the Youth Investment Initiative, which will provide opportunities for urban youth to visit the watershed lands and to make lasting investments and improvements in the social, physical, and environmental infrastructure of underserved communities.