

TRUCKEE RIVER CURRENTS

SUMMER 2015

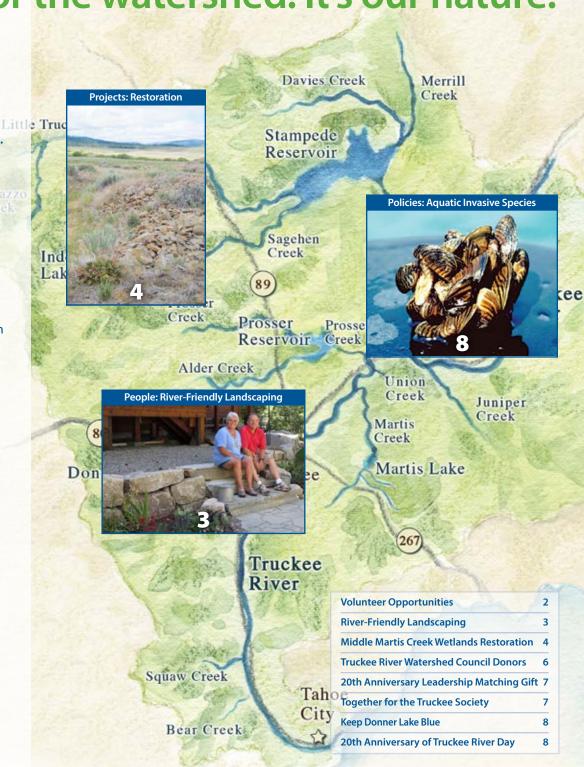
We work for the watershed. It's our nature.

We work for the watershed; she's truly our client. Everyone else—the bugs, beavers, birdwatchers and bicyclists (and you)—benefits. We're working for a better future. Ours. Yours. For generations to come. We find solutions that respect all viewpoints, from nature-lovers to land developers.

Projects. We spearhead largescale restoration projects to reverse historic land-use impact. Construction on the Middle Martis Creek Wetlands Restoration project begins this summer. Read more on page 4.

Policies. We influence emerging policies to mitigate present-day risk to our environmental future. Watercraft inspections have been mandatory for launching into Donner Lake since 2014. Users of local waterways are doing their part to stop the spread of aquatic invasive species. Read more on page 8.

People. We engage people from all age, interest and economic backgrounds to be part of the solution. Through River- Friendly Landscaping, significant water quality improvements are being made, one property at a time. Read more on page 3.





Phone: 530-550-8760 **Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 8568 Truckee, CA 96162

Street Address:

10418 Donner Pass Road, Suite B

Truckee, CA

info@truckeeriverwc.org www.truckeeriverwc.org

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Richard Anderson

Chair, Truckee River Basin Water Group

John Eaton

Vice Chair, Truckee River Basin Water Group

David Lass Chair, Projects and Assessments Committee

Robie Litchfield

Chair, Truckee River Day Steering Committee

Joanne Roubique

Chair, Watershed Issues Forum

Vice Chair, Projects and Assessments Committee

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Organizations are for identification purposes only

Jeff Brown

UC Berkeley, Sagehen Creek Field Station

Gayle Dana

Desert Research Institute

Marilyn Disbrow

John M. Eaton

Sierra Watershed Education Partnerships

Dave Giacomini, Treasurer

Sierra Mountain Mortgage

Jake Hudson, Chair

Holdrege & Kull

Michael Park, Vice Chair

Jody Poe, Secretary

Media Recruiters

Deb Ryan

Holdrege & Kull

Gail Stephens

Happily retired

Janet Zipkin

Phoenix Anthony

Conservation Assistant

Director of Land Use Compatibility **Beth Christman**

Director of Restoration Programs

Brenda Gilbert

Development Director

Jeannette Halderman

Program Manager

Michele Prestowitz Program Manager

Eben Swain

Lead Conservation Assistant

Lisa Wallace

Executive Director

Kathy Whitlow Office Manager

Printed in part with funding designated by grantors for community outreach.

All in. Are you?

Join us in taking back The Truckee River's meadows, creeks, streams and ponds. Home to the bugs, fish, birds and...humans.

Our work helps brings them all back—all with commitment from people like you.

You in?

Three simple steps to volunteer with the TRWC

STEP 1 Sign up for our E-newsletter, Truckee River Currents.

STEP 2 Find a program you're interested in and RSVP to the staff member.

STEP 3 Mark your calendar and join us!

Become a Weed Warrior and help prevent and control invasive weeds in the Truckee River watershed. Call Jeannette at 530-550-8760 x6.

Adopt-A-Stream — it starts with the watershed and monitoring is a critical step!

Chemical, physical, and habitat monitoring happens four times a year, May through September. Training and equipment is provided. To join a team or adopt a stream, call Erin at 530-550-8760 x7.

Biological aquatic monitoring happens year round. Collection in the summer and identification in the winter. Call Beth at 530-550-8760 x1.

TRWC Ambassadors spread the word about our work. We're looking for individuals to help us invite others to a River Talk to learn more about our watershed. The River Talk is a one-hour virtual tour of a few of our projects. Call Brenda at 530-550-8760 x5.

River-Friendly Landscaping helps homeowners improve water quality by reducing sediment flowing from our yards into area creeks and streams. Call us today to get a free site evaluation to identify erosion sources on your property. To volunteer, call Erin at 530-550-8760 x7.



Adopt-A-Stream volunteer Reenie McMains measures canopy cover at Cold Creek.



Volunter Weed Warrior Trisha Ruby removes Musk Thistle along the Truckee River at a Weed Pull event.

Tomorrow's too late: Homeowners are protecting the watershed today.

AT A GLANCE RIVER**-**FRIENDI Site evaluations completed **Rebates issued Tons of sediment** reduced per year For more information, contact Erin at 530-550-8760 x7.

Tomorrow is too late. It's true.

The Truckee River's EPA Rating? Polluted.

Pollution in the form of sedimentation is the reason our Truckee River is listed as impaired by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Improvements on even one property can make a difference.

With no erosion control measures on your residential property, an average of one ton of soil may be lost per year, per lot. No matter where you live in the watershed, this sediment eventually finds its way into our area streams and the Truckee River; it's a major source of pollution.

Area homeowners are taking back the area's meadows, creeks, streams and ponds. Through River- Friendly Landscaping, significant water quality improvements are being made, one property at a time.

Get a free site evaluation to identify erosion sources on your property. A \$1,000 rebate is available to help off-set the cost of installing erosion control measures. Contact Erin at 530-550-8760 x7.

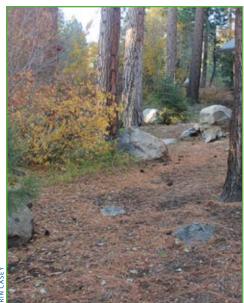
Funding for this project has been provided by donors of the Truckee River Watershed Council and through the State Water Resources Control Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Federal Non-point Source Pollution Control Program (Clean Water Act Section 319).



RFL participants Dot and Paul Ingels enjoy their River-Friendly backyard after completing work in 2013.

Before: Bare dirt on the sloping lot of this Tahoe Donner home necessitated steps to prevent erosion.

After: The homeowners have installed a permeable walkway, mulch, gravel, and vegetation to protect the previously bare soil. Water from the roof and uphill sources now stays on the property, soaking back into the ground.





Entering the Construction Phase: Middle



Restoration will reduce flood velocities, preventing further erosion near the Middle Martis Channel.

History

Prior to the construction of Highway 267 in the 1800s, Middle Martis Creek formed an alluvial fan, spreading among several channels in Martis Valley. When Highway 267 was constructed, the creek was confined to a single channel on the south side of the highway. The confinement of Middle Martis Creek to a single channel caused several significant problems including:

- Channel instability and erosion in the streams and meadows of the Martis Wildlife Area
- Degradation of 40-plus acres of meadow and wetland habitat
- Moderate flows overtop the channel and flow onto the highway
- Erosion of various access roads and trails in the area

Restoration

In collaboration with several partners, foundations and landowners, the Truckee River Watershed Council will begin construction on the Middle Martis Creek Wetlands Restoration project this summer. Our work will restore an appropriate portion of the flow to the north side of Highway 267, while maintaining sufficient flow on the south side to support existing wetlands and riparian areas.

THE LIFECYCLE OF A PROJECT

Project Scoping

The first step in a restoration project is to identify the problem, what might be causing it, and what might be some solutions.

Inventory and Analysis

Field surveys take place, historic and aerial photos are collected, hydrologic modeling is conducted, and historic and pre-historic sites are identified. The data are analyzed to understand root causes and constraints.

Design

From the analysis, detailed plans for completing the project are developed.

Permits

Working with the local, state and federal agencies, we complete environmental reviews, such as CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) and NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) and obtain permits needed to begin work.

Construction

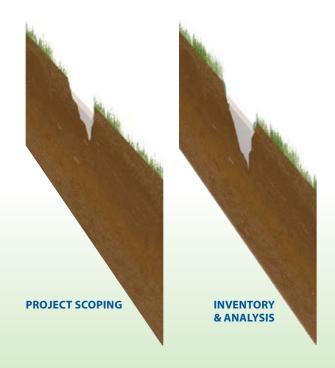
In this phase, the restoration work is implemented according to the project design and permits.

Monitoring

Monitoring helps us understand compliance with the design and effectiveness of the restoration actions.

Establishment

The restoration work is completed to the point where ongoing protection such as fencing is no longer needed, revegetation and other success criteria have been met, and the site is allowed to develop naturally.



Martis Creek Wetlands Restoration

Construction begins in 2015

Implementation of the project will be split into two seasons with construction beginning in 2015. When completed, the project will achieve significant watershed benefits including:

- Restoration of historic wetlands on the north side of Hwy 267
- Improvement in water quality through reduction of sedimentation
- Preservation of existing wetlands and riparian areas south of Hwy 267
- Elimination of erosion across the Waddle Ranch access road
- Protection of existing infrastructure and reduction of maintenance of Hwy 267, Sawmill Flat Road, and the Northstar golf course

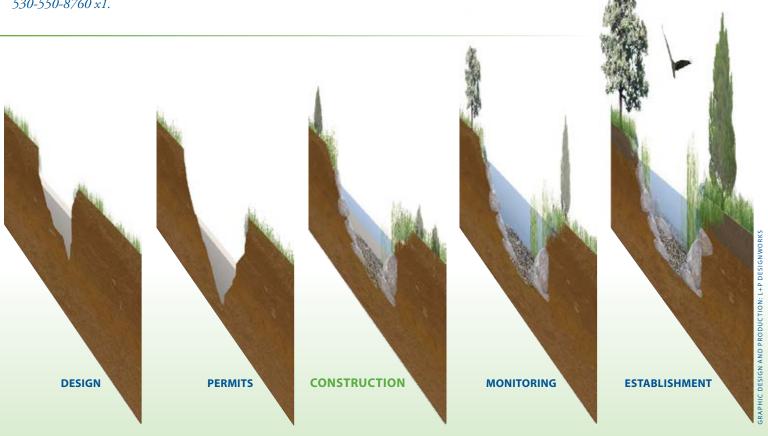
The Watershed Council is the lead in coordinating the project and our partners. Project partners are Caltrans, Northstar at Tahoe, Northstar Community Services District, Truckee Donner Land Trust, Truckee Tahoe Airport District, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Funding for this project comes from the donors of the Truckee River Watershed Council, The Martis Fund, Northstar California, Northstar Community Service District, Overall Family Foundation, Truckee Tahoe Airport District, the Truckee River Fund, Placer County, and the State of California via Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.



Fill was placed in the channel during reservoir construction, causing downstream erosion. The fill will be removed to prevent future erosion.

For more information on this project or others, contact Beth at 530-550-8760 x1.



Donors to the Truckee River Watershed Council

We thank the following donors who made contributions since July 2014. They provide resources to find solutions to protect, enhance and restore the Truckee River watershed. Together we are making a difference. (Please see page 7 for pledges to the Together for the Truckee Society.)

\$5,000+

Koons Family Fund Overall Family Foundation Tahoe Oral Surgery and Implant Center

\$1,000 - \$2,500

Mark Brown Christine and Neal Douglas Carol and Dick Fowler Suzanne and Scott Montgomery Leslie and Andy Price Mary E. Reilley and James Krieg Joanne Roubique Suzanne and Harry Smith Wiesner Nature Endowment Fund

\$500 - \$999

Richard Anderson Law Offices of Thomas S. Archer Chris Beckstead and Richard Chew Gina and John Biondi Susan and Scott Bower Ann Burchill and Dennis Kundsin Nancy and Henry DeNero Kathy Englar John Franzia Brenda Gilbert Barbara Green Lauri and Bob Heath Jane and Ron Jenny IK Architecture Dorine and Steve Kohn Catherine Krauss Sally Lyon Margaret Paine Patty and Bob Schifferle SCO Planning & Engineering Inc. Suzanne and Harry Smith Lynne and Ken Weakley Helen Wolfe Lisa and Doug Wright

\$100 - \$499

Alisa and Luca Adriani Ann and Bruce Ajari **Andregg Geomatics** Kaitlin Backlund and Ron Hunter Jon Baiocchi Kenneth Ball Gina and Kern Barta Judie and Bill Beaty Kathy and Don Beaty Bob Bell **Anne Birdsong** Jerry Blackwill Dagny and John Borcich Patti and Gary Boxeth Linda Brown Anne Marie and Jack Bruner Diane and Duane Brunson Andrew Buckley and Scott Helle Coralie and Joe Burgess Susan Burt Pat Callahan **Barb and Rod Carpenter** Carmen Carr Brooke Chabot and David Shaw

Colleen and Art Chapman

Matthew Cohen Collinson & LaChance, Attorneys at Law Sandy and Tom Combs Wanda and Jeff Cotton **Paul Cushing** Barbara and Ed Czerwinski Dairy Queen Carole and Dwight Davenport Warren Davis Patty and John Dean Paige Derdowski and Kelley Carroll **Discount Window Coverings** Sharon and Mike Dixon Seana Doherty and Perry Norris Kathy and John Echols Paméla and John Eisele Elder Group Tahoe Real Estate Mayumi Elegado and Jose Marie Cremer Karyn and John Ellis Merle and Michael Fajans Jennifer and Dan Ferguson Philip Forsberg Valerie Forte Chiara and Ron Gajar Gary Davis Group Jeff Glazner Glow Salon Sara and Bill Goerke Jeann and Norm Green Marcia and Charles Growdon Mavis and Randy Guber Jae Gustafson Jeneine and Curtis Gustafson Catherine and Jason Hansford Laura and Ed Heneveld Kathy and Larry Heywood Randy Hill Katie and Michael Holley Beth and Richard Howard Celia Howe **Judy Howes** Dot and Paul Ingels and Family

Nancy and Jerry Ives Jacinto Mortgage Group Jennifer Jennings and Michael Bledsoe Karen and Tom Johns **Kayley Jones** Sally Jones Karen Justesen Kelly Biological Consulting Sandy Korth Elizabeth and David Lass Susan Levitsky Lorna and Paul Leyton Bonnie Lind

Beence and John Loomis Judy Mayorga Ann McBride and Mike Dunsford **Brady McClintock** Susann and Greg McDougall McEnany Planning and Landscape Architecture Lynn and Donald McKechnie Susan Mix and Dean McKay Missy Mohler Laura and Guy Mohun

Meredith and Charles Moore

Linda and Peter Morris

Mackenzie Morris Barbara and Eddie Mozen Lois and Frank Noonan Hideko Numayama and James Manley Stacy and Ian Olsen Sara and Ted Owens **Dennis Pagones** Marti and Michael Park Patagonia Paula Polley Copywriting JoAnn Peca and Jim Casper Jackie and Dallas Phillips Jim Plehn Shellie Poplin Michele and Chummy Prestowitz Steven Riess Suzanne and Jerry Riessen

Ursula and John Riina Nikki and Brendan Riley **Elaine and Eric Ring** Judi and Ned Roberts Jennifer and Bill Rock Laura and Mike Ryan Nicole and Eric Sachse Carla Sammis Carol and John Schaake Stefan Schuster

Alison Schwedner Sidney and John Scott Nancy and Mark Servis Katie and John Shaffer Sherrin Fielder CPA APC Kate Sproul and Michael Paparian Lydia and Jim Stang

Carla Stokes Fred Stoner Kathy and Andrew Strain

Molly Stuart and Tony Hardy Sustainable Community Advocates Sophia and Larry Svelund Lucetta Swift TahoeStaff

Mary Alice and William Thauvette Thomas Stokes Construction Kristi and Chris Thompson Colombe and Blake Tresan Truckee River Associates Truckee River Winery Brita Tryggvi and Art Takaki Liz and Matt Tucker

Judy and Tim Tweedie Cathy and David Valle Barb and Dwight Walker Margaret Ann and Ken Wallace Meredith Watson and Louis Raso

Mary Lou and Gene Welch Bill Wendin **Andy Wertheim**

Wildscape Engineering Services Colleen and Paul Wilford in memory of Marjorie McCown

Nancy Wilkins Karen Williams and Frank Pisciotta Susan Williams

Doug Wright Louise and Jan Zabriskie

Marty and Brad Woods

Up to \$99

Anonymous Malaika Bishop Stephanie Bright JK Brittain and Robert Toliver Hedi Burkhart in honor of McCoy Hudson Stacy and Christian Caldwell J.P. Ćlark, Jr. Suzie Cordero Coronado Construction

Teresa Crimmens and Michael Hunter Merritt E. Cutten

Gayle Dana Pamela and Dan Dickerman in honor of Jacob Dickerman

Sharon and Jack Ekin Dave Ferrari William Fitch Food Feedback

Martha Frantz Carol Fromson Jim Gaither Connie and Skip Gast Pat and Bill Gibbons-Johnson Kathe and Rich Gresham

Lenise Guimaraes Peggy Headley Rebecca Hibit and Karl Pape Lynn Hori

Ellie and Donald Hvatt James Johnson Sara and Greg Jones Brigitte and Ken Kaneda Pamela and Lewis Lambert Carol and Paco Lindsay

Carol Meagher and Spin Shaffer Barbara and Gerald Meral Lynn and Bill Newhall **Alice and Norm Nicholls** Alexis Ollar

Barbara Osborn E. Lamar Parker Joy and Jim Phoenix Pam Raynak and Hal Dawson Aimee Řetzler Will Richardson

Catherine Schnurrenberger Heather and John Segale

Karen Sessler, Fred Zabell and Sam Zabell Isaac Silverman Suzanne Sullivan Heather and John Svahn

Sarah Trebilcock Peter Werbel Kathy and Glenn Whitlow Jacqui Zink

In-kind

Catherine Howard Photography Cedar House Sport Hotel **Ed Lupyak** Epic Promise Northstar California Jane Lufkin Laura Stoll Design REI, Reno Ritz-Carlton Lake Tahoe Scott Shots Photography Susan Levitsky Truckee River Winery



All in!

Twentieth Anniversary Leadership Matching Gift

We're proud to announce a special Leadership Matching Gift in celebration of our 20th Anniversary. Many thanks to our contributors for their commitment and dedication.

Bella Vista Foundation Elizabeth and John Eaton Colleen and David Haig Joan and Russ Jones **Koons Family Fund Lahontan Community Foundation** Lahontan Golf Club Breck Overall of Overall Tahoe Real Estate

Leslie and Andy Price **Bonnie and Keith Riley** Sonja and Dan Martin of Tahoe **Oral Surgery and Implant Center Tahoe Truckee Flyfishers** Teichert/Stonebridge Properties

Make a pledge today of \$1,000 or more a year for the next 5 years and...

Your donation will be matched dollar for dollar!

Call Erin at 530-550-8760 x7 to learn more.

Donors are listed in alphabetical order.



The donors below pledged a minimum of \$1,000 a year for five years toward the long-term sustainablity of the Truckee River Watershed Council. They're members of the Together for the Truckee Society. We deeply appreciate their confidence in our restoration and protection projects.

Protect the Watershed – \$10,000 a year for 5 years

Epic Promise Northstar California Gail and Rick Stephens

Tahoe Mountain Resorts Environmental Fund

The Martis Fund

Cathy and Tom Van Berkem

Protect the River – \$5,000 a year for 5 years

San Francisco Fly Casting Club

Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows

Sierra Mountain Mortgage

Restore a Stream - \$1,000 a year for 5 years

Anonymous Balance Hydrologics, Inc.

Alison Bermant

Anne and George Birdsong

Mary and Chip Brown

Cabona's

Georgine Casella

Betsy Cole

Theresa and Richard Crocker Fund

Nancy Cushing Ellen and Joffa Dale

Marilyn and Steve Disbrow

Vicki and Jim Duffy

Kathleen Eagan and Jim Duffy

Elizabeth and John Eaton

Joann Ellero and Andrew Pasternak

& Kathleen Halat and John Hillstrom

Euzent Family Trust

FiftyFifty Brewing Company

Karolyn and Dick Gander

Nancy and Max Gisko

Colleen and David Haig

Pam and Tom Hobday

Julia and Scott Hover-Smoot

Greg Hovorka

Hydro Restoration

Interior Design by Julie Johnson-Holland

Glennis and John Jones

Jones Corda Construction

Joan and Russ Jones

Melissa Kaime

Susan and Steve Kitson

Koons Family Fund

Lisa and Michael Krueger

Barb and Ed Larson

Carol and Bill Leimbach

Margaret Lewicki and Ernie Grossman

Robie and Dean Litchfield

Janet and David Lowell

Sharon and Ken Machado

Martis Camp Community Association

Christney and Bill McGlashan

Don McLaughlin

Mountain Hardware and Sports

NSM Construction

Lauren OBrien and Steven Poncelet

Daphne Palmer and Laurence Heifetz

Marti and Michael Park

Leslie and Andy Price

Bonnie and Keith Riley Kathryn and John Rohlf

Joanne Roubique

Chris Ryman

Carol and Michael Sabarese

Sue Sage

Lauren Schaake and Jake Hudson

Sue and John Sorensen

Jody and Bill Sterling

Sarah Swan and Eric Brown

Tahoe Oral Surgery and Implant Center

Tahoe Truckee Flyfishers

Teichert/Stonebridge Properties

Truckee River Winery

Truckee-Tahoe Lumber Co.

Lisa Wallace and Family

Ward-Young Architecture & Planning

Trinkie Watson

Kathy and David Welch Fund

Gisela and Ron Zech

Janet and Charles Zipkin Lahontan Golf Club







Keep Donner Lake blue.

Often in the shadow of iconic Lake Tahoe, Donner Lake and other local waterways outside the basin have finally gotten the recognition and support that they deserve. To protect the resiliency of our natural resources while supporting the vibrancy of our local community, watercraft inspections have been mandatory for launching into Donner Lake since 2014. The Truckee River Watershed Council and stakeholders saw the need to initiate a community wide approach to stop the spread of aquatic invasive species such as the quagga mussel, New Zealand mudsnail and Eurasion watermilfoil and recreational users of local waterways are doing their part! The collaborative process encompasses watercraft inspections (both mandatory and selfinspections), early detection monitoring, education and outreach.

Together, we can address the detrimental effects that invasive species can have on an aquatic ecosystem. The introduction and establishment of invasive species can alter natural ecosystem function, displace native species, increase pollutants such as algal blooms, damage boat propellers, and cause economic losses for the community (Timothy J. Caldwell and Dr. Sudeep Chandra, 2012).

Thank you to the donors of the Truckee River Watershed Council.

For more information on aquatic invasive species, please call Erin at 530-550-8760 x7 or visit the Tahoe Resource Conservation District's website at tahoercd.org/truckee-aquatic-invasive-species-program.



Truckee River Day

was born when Alice Berg, Jim Plehn and Sarah Trebilcock organized the "first annual" in 1996. When 300 hundred people showed up, the founders realized they had touched a passion with locals and visitors alike. Every October since, 400 to 600 volunteers have worked at 10 to 12 restoration sites each year.

The projects achieve tangible results, inspiring long-time community members to stay involved and recruit new community members to participate. Hundreds of projects have been over the past 20 years from Squaw Creek to Donner Creek to Gray Creek to Perazzo Meadows.

Join us in taking back our meadows, creeks, streams and ponds. Home to the bugs, fish, birds and... humans. Our work helps bring them all back—all with commitment from people like you.

You in?

Thank you to the donors of the Truckee River Watershed Council, Northstar California and EpicPromise, Tahoe Oral Surgery and Implant Center, and the Truckee Donner Chamber of Commerce for support of Truckee River Day.

For more information on Truckee River Day, visit truckeeriverwc.org or call Beth at 530-550-8760 x1.

Sunday, October 18, 2015

A day of river, meadow, and wetland restoration Registration required: truckeeriverwc.org

