

PG&E celebrates National Community Partner of the Year Award with Center for Land-Based Learning and Audubon California

Both partner organizations recognized for important, award-winning work restoring habitat at PG&E's property in Pleasant Creek in Yolo County

January 23, 2012 – PG&E is celebrating the [Wildlife Habitat Council's](#) Community Partner of the Year award co-won by [Audubon California's Landowner Stewardship Program](#) and the [Center for Land-Based Learning](#) with a presentation of the award to the two partner organizations at PG&E's property in Pleasant Creek in Yolo County on Wednesday, February 8. Along with PG&E employee volunteers, government representatives will be on hand to celebrate this important award with the two organizations.

The prestigious award was given out at the Wildlife Habitat Council's 23rd Annual Symposium in Baltimore on November 15, 2011, for restoring riparian (riverbank-dwelling), oak woodland and grassland habitat around an important tributary to Putah Creek, called the East Fork Dry Creek. The restoration is designed to stabilize the banks of East Fork Dry Creek to prevent erosion, improving the habitat for the area wildlife and plant species.

"This award is the result of a very rewarding process led by both our partner organizations," said Peter Beesley, senior environmental specialist with PG&E. "Working with two incredible organizations to create a positive impact to both the environment and future generations has been rewarding and proves what we can all do together."

Along with the presentation of the award, PG&E employees will be on hand between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. PT, working with Audubon and Center for Land-Based Learning representatives for an employee work day to help turn the site into a productive habitat planting native plants and monitoring owl boxes.

The site also serves as an outdoor classroom for local middle and high school students as part of a hands-on environmental educational program run by the Center for Land-Based Learning.

"Our goal is to use education to make a change for the better," Mary Kimball, the Executive Director of the Center for Land-Based Learning. "This award and the work we have all done together shows how strong partnerships can make a difference for generations to come."

In addition to restoring the vegetation on the site, Audubon California hopes to increase habitat available to various species found on the area, including more than 100 types of birds.

"We are very pleased for the recognition of this 10-year relationship during which we've brought students to a multitude of sites like this," Valerie Calegari, director of Audubon California's Landowner Stewardship Program. "Teaching them the practical skills of planting, irrigating, and cultivating habitat, as well as nurturing an appreciation of the wildlife it supports."

Each year, the Wildlife Habitat Council opens the floor to nominations for the prestigious Community Partner of the Year. The award goes to one organization or individual in recognition of a significant contribution and lasting impact on a corporate site's wildlife habitat enhancement program through hands-on environmental awareness and enhancement activities. Companies nominate local partners who help plan, implement and sustain their site's programs, which in itself is an honor.

About PG&E

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation (NYSE:PCG), is one of the largest combined natural gas and electric utilities in the United States. Based in San Francisco, with 20,000 employees, the company delivers some of the nation's cleanest energy to 15 million people in Northern and Central California. For more information, visit <http://www.pge.com/about/newsroom/>.

About Audubon California

Audubon California is building a better future for California by bringing people together to appreciate, enjoy and protect our spectacular outdoor treasures. With more than 50,000 members in California and an affiliated 48 local Audubon chapters, Audubon California is a field program of the National Audubon Society.

About the Center for Land-Based Learning

Our mission is to inspire and motivate people of all ages, especially youth, to promote a healthy interplay between agriculture, nature and society through their own actions and as leaders in their communities. The Center for Land-Based Learning envisions a world where there is meaningful appreciation and respect for our natural environment and for the land that produces our food and sustains our quality of life.

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