



From the Chair

When we first started fund raising for the Toro Coast Preserve, I was pretty shocked by the amount of money we needed. Yet now we have succeeded in funding both Phase 1 and Phase 2 to the tune of over \$10 million. Just Phase 3 to go. Thanks to all of you who helped, and to our partners the Land Conservancy of SLO and the Cayucos Land Conservancy. It will be a while yet before we can explore this open space on our own, but it's getting close!

You'll see a brief article here about my needing to step down as Board Chair which I have done since 2017. It's been fun, rewarding and sometimes challenging to be part of MBOSA, and I cherish the time and memories. For a little band of volunteers we've done a lot!

MBOSA will go on. If you don't feel up to the Chair position yet, bring other skills to the table, join the Board, help shape our future. You do have what it takes.

Glenn Silloway

Chair, Morro Bay Open Space Alliance

this issue

Save the Date
September 21, 2024

Goal Reached

Good News: Phase 2 of Toro Coast Preserve Almost Done!

Oso Flaco Field Trip

Needed: High Level Executive



SAVE THE DATE SEPTEMBER 21, 2024

By Faylla Chapman

The MBOSA Board is planning an afternoon picnic to celebrate the purchase of the Toro Creek Preserve Phase 2 and we would like you to join us. We are still in the planning phase, but right now we are looking at September 21, 12 noon to 3 pm at Del Mar Park. We will provide food, music (we hope) and companionship as well as information on the finalization of the purchase and what lies ahead. Please watch for the MBOSA newsletter in August for complete details and sign up to join in the celebration.

GOAL REACHED

By Dianne Bianco

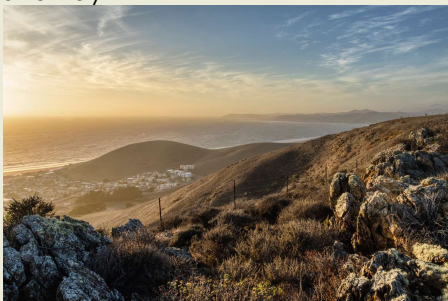
We did it! We asked you to help up raise the last \$500,000 needed to complete the purchase of Phase II of the Toro Coast Preserve and you did! We had 80 people contribute toward Morro Bay Open Space Alliance's fund raiser, with donations from \$15 to \$5000 and we thank you. Together with the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County and the Cayucos Land Conservancy we have reached our goal to secure that land for open space into perpetuity. This is a legacy that will be enjoyed for all future generations. It proves once again, that the people who live in or travel to the Central Coast value the rolling hills that surround our communities and want them to remain undeveloped forever. We should all be proud.

CONGRATS ON TCP!



Good News: Phase 2 of Toro Coast Preserve Almost Done!

By Glenn Silloway



Thanks to all of you who have contributed to the Toro Coast Preserve (TCP) conservation effort! You have helped us fulfill our mission to preserve open space.

With your contributions and contributions from our allied organizations as well, we have the funds we need to close on the Phase 2 portion. This is a huge achievement that I hope all of you are proud to be part of. It means that $\frac{2}{3}$ of the TCP project is effectively done.

Now we can move on to Phase 3, the final phase of the project, to acquire the Shore Plant, access road, and portions of the property where the old tank farm was. This will complete the acquisition needed for SLO County Parks to set up a publicly accessible park in perpetuity.

If there are any contributions in excess of what is needed to complete Phase 2, it will be held securely to be put toward Phase 3.

When will Phase 2 acquisition be done?

The plan was to close the Phase 2 portion of the project at the Wildlife Conservation Board meeting in August. All of the requirements for closing—including funds in hand—have been met by us, with the Land Conservancy of SLO County taking the lead. However, the WCB has had to move that action out a little, so the actual closing and acquisition of the property should happen in November.

When the final documents are signed, the actual owner will be SLO County Parks. This is a very good thing because it means the land will be under active, experienced management from the start, and we'll be one more step toward the park.



When will we be able to access Phase 2 land?

I know lots of you are eager to walk, bike or hike the land in Phase 2 along Alva Paul Creek. We do not know exactly when County Parks will be able to open the property to users, but their outright ownership of it means that it is a possibility that portions along the creek could be prepared for use before Phase 3 is completed. Whether County Parks decides to begin work on Phase 2 land early is unknown, but we will be watching it carefully and will let you know.

If there are opportunities for you to participate in the process, we will let you know about that, too.

Oso Flaco Field Trip

By Faylla Chapman

On June 12 several MBOSA members were treated to a tour of Oso Flaco Lake led by State Park volunteers Cheryl Powers and Sally Krenn. It's quite a drive to reach the lake but one that is worth it! Last season's rains produced major overgrowth of the plants in the area leading out to the lake and there were plenty of new ones in bloom to identify.



Introduction by Cheryl Powers

Once we reached the lake, we entered the boardwalk crossing the lake and saw many birds, ducks, raccoons and insects using the lake and surrounding area. Across the lake leading to the beach the habitat changed drastically to dune scrub and wildflowers in bloom.

When we reached the end of the boardwalk, we could see the beach and ocean and the surrounding dunes. One of the amazing views was of the area where the off-road area meets the protected area—bare vs natural habitat. The trip was a good one and those who attended all agreed that we learned a lot in a short amount of time. Thanks Cheryl and Sally!

Needed: High Level Executive

OK, really just need a local leader who is passionate about open space and has a little time to help MBOSA moving forward.

Our Board Chair Glenn Silloway has been doing the job so long his bald spot is starting to show. He needs to step back.

You would take the lead of an organization that has successfully raised funds for two open space projects; has a good and steady supporter base; and contributes to a better environment in an uplifting way. What we do is fun, to make it simple.

We have a good and stable Board. We need someone to help keep it on track. Is it you?

MEMBERSHIP FORM

You can join or [renew online](#), or tear off the form and mail it to us. Thank you!

new member renewing member NAME _____

\$25 Individual STREET _____

\$50 Family/household CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

\$100 Contributor or business PHONE _____

\$250 Advocate EMAIL _____

\$500 Patron (We promise not to share this with anyone)

\$1000 Steward (lifetime member after 3 years) Make checks payable to MBOSA

\$2500 Guardian of the Land (lifetime member) Mail to: Morro Bay Open Space Alliance PO Box 1029, Morro Bay,

CA 93443