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## Party for the Protection of California's "Wild Side"

*Eastern Sierra Land Trust to host 7<sup>th</sup> annual Lands & Legacy Benefit Dinner and Concert*

With the help of members and partners, supporters and devoted friends, Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) has made a major impact on the future of California's "Wild Side," the rugged and remote Eastern Sierra. ESLT has protected vital wildlife habitat and working family farms; it has spearheaded restoration projects that will help native plants and animal species thrive for decades to come. It has launched educational programs aimed at inspiring a deep appreciation of this special landscape in local elementary school students. And it has built a foundation for a tradition of land conservation that will last for generations to come.

With more than 10,000 acres of critically-important land in the Eastern Sierra now protected forever, the ESLT community has some monumental accomplishments to celebrate – and, more importantly, a future to plan. In celebration of its recent successes and its good work in store, ESLT invites members and friends to come together the weekend of July 25<sup>th</sup> and raise their glasses at ESLT's 7<sup>th</sup> annual Lands & Legacy Celebration.

Since the organization's first benefit in 2009, Lands & Legacy has grown into ESLT's "Party of the Year," giving its supporters an opportunity to gather together and toast to their combined efforts to protect treasured Eastern Sierra lands. Uniting friends both old and new, Lands & Legacy celebrates ESLT's conservation successes and gives the community an occasion to dream big.

What's more, this year's Lands & Legacy Celebration will be bigger than ever. Back by popular demand, acclaimed musical talents Chris Webster and Nina Gerber will be returning to the Eastern Sierra to headline a special Benefit Concert for ESLT. As the lead singer for California's famed group *Mumbo Gumbo*, Chris Webster captivates audiences with her power and passion; and Nina Gerber's contributions to acoustic music have earned her a following as loyal as for the numerous high talents she has accompanied. Together, they're magic – and after putting on quite a show at last summer's Lands & Legacy, these two artful musicians are thrilled to support ESLT once again and wow the crowd with their unique blend of funky folk and bluesy-rock tunes.

The concert will take place on Saturday, July 25 following ESLT's annual Lands & Legacy Benefit Dinner. Co-hosted by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, the event will take place at the Mountain's stunning Parallax Restaurant from 5 – 9pm. This spectacular setting will provide panoramic sunset views and the perfect place to mingle in fine company and enjoy a delicious, locally-sourced dinner. The night will also feature a Paddle Raise, which allows guests to champion specific causes with donation opportunities that fund upcoming projects and programs.

In addition, all Lands & Legacy ticketholders are invited to join ESLT that same weekend for tours of two properties that are protected forever thanks to the dedicated

support of the ESLT community. Guests can choose to attend either the Conway Ranch Walking Tour (Friday, July 24 from 1-4pm) or the Green Creek Arboglyphs Tour (Sunday, July 26 from 9am – 1pm). For more information about these tours and the Lands & Legacy Celebration weekend, please visit [www.eslt.org](http://www.eslt.org) or call (760) 873-4554.

Tickets are limited, and are going fast! Anyone interested in attending the Lands & Legacy Celebration is strongly encouraged to visit ESLT's website prior to July 15<sup>th</sup> to reserve a seat.

*ESLT works with willing landowners to protect vital lands in the Eastern Sierra for their scenic, natural, recreational, historical, and watershed values. ESLT's goal is to preserve a healthy balance of land uses that can be sustained forever, ensuring both a strong local economy and environment. To learn more about their ongoing efforts to permanently protect the Eastern Sierra's wild and working lands, please visit [www.eslt.org](http://www.eslt.org).*

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Sample low-resolution image shown below (high-resolution version is attached to email). For additional pictures, please contact Marguerite Merritt at [marguerite@eslt.org](mailto:marguerite@eslt.org).



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