

# Grassroots Advocacy in Action

The Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC) is a grassroots nonprofit organization working to protect and sustain the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity of coastal Marin since 1971.

We accomplish our work through advocacy, education, and engagement programs.

**Individuals, like you, support 70% of our work through generous tax-deductible contributions.**

Together, we unite people, place, science, and policy to save vital ecosystems, defend environmental laws, demand accountability from our leaders, and mobilize community members to preserve and protect coastal Marin.

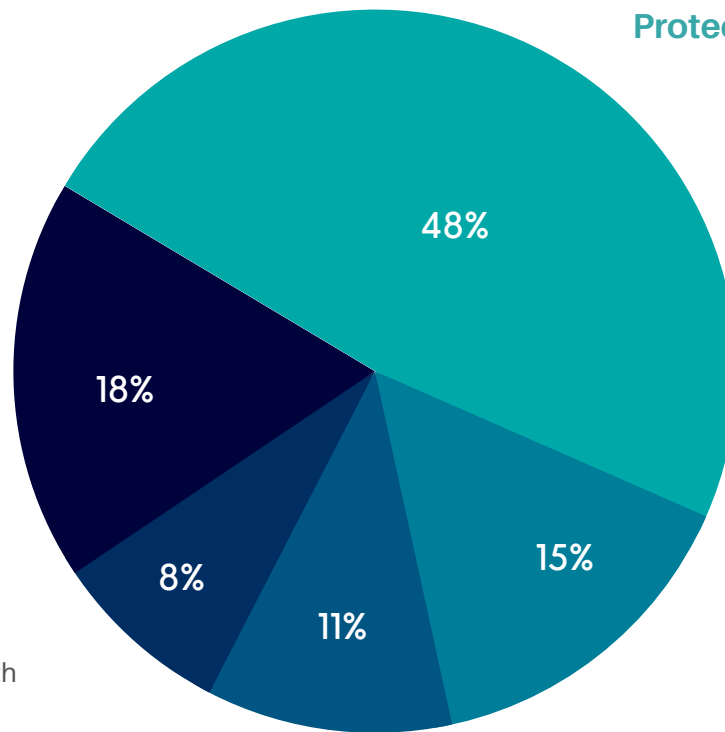
## What We Do

### Foster Environmental Education & Awareness

We deliver education programs that connect people and place, including our annual Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival and environmental office exhibits, which raise awareness and increase community engagement.

### Enrich Community Action & Appreciation

We connect with our community through action and appreciation with our annual Member Meeting and Environmental Awards, Piper on Ridge, and Winter Gathering events that strengthen our community ties and partnerships.



### Protecting Our Lands, Waters & Biodiversity

We protect public lands and coastal access, advocate for sustainable community development, safeguard our coast and ocean, reduce trash and toxins, and defend resilient watersheds in coastal Marin from harm and habitat loss.

### Safeguard Our Future

In the face of the climate crisis, we advocate to reduce carbon pollution and increase coastal resilience guided by science and with a lens on nature-based solutions.

### Empower Future Advocates

We create opportunities for the next generation to gain skills to defend the environment through our advocacy, policy, data, and science internship programs for high school, college, and graduate students. In addition, we provide outdoor awareness and educational field trips in Marin County Parks to help youth discover, observe, and track data in the field.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. - Margaret Mead



## Advocacy

- Engaged in the public process to push for stronger management measures for the Point Reyes National Seashore General Management Plan and Water Quality Strategy implementation, emphasizing the need for transparency and accountability.
- Upheld the California Coastal Act to preserve delicate ecosystems, ensure public access, protect scenic views, and maintain the integrity of water quality including lobbying in Sacramento.
- Led the effort to successfully adopt first-of-its-kind statewide aquaculture criteria or guidance for the siting of new leases, ensuring that the leases are in the public interest, and supported biodiversity protections like improving sustainability in fishing methods.
- Advocated with partners for increased legislative power and funding to help the state and the Bay Area become more climate resilient by requiring cities to submit shoreline resilience plans.

## Education

- Launched and managed the Cleaner California Coast Initiative, a collaboration between three counties (Marin, Sonoma, and Mendocino) with Leave No Trace to increase public stewardship and lessen coastal pollution through a coordinated messaging campaign focused on education, training, and actions to reduce litter and increase protection and stewardship of our coast including a successful waste audit Point Reyes Station.
- Expanded our internship program and launched the "Capstone Conversations" a community forum for summer interns to showcase their contributions. In total, we hosted four Legal & Policy, three Coastal Advocates, and four Communication interns bringing our total internships to 55 since 2015.
- Trained a cohort of 11 volunteers for our Duxbury Reef docent program, expanding our outreach to help protect sensitive rocky intertidal habitat and marine life.
- Provided four educational field trips to Duxbury Reef and Roy's Redwoods, serving 52 local youth and inspiring the next generation.

## Engagement

- Expanded our Litter Bugs Me roadside and coastal clean-up efforts to twice a year, and removed over 748 lbs. of trash and 133 lbs. of recycling from wildlife habitats and watersheds.
- Initiated pop-up educational displays on advocacy and the climate crisis, opening up fresh avenues for public engagement, and resulting in new partnerships, members, and opportunities to expand our mission.
- Trained 37 new Marin MPA Watch volunteers, expanding our collaborative community science program, which turned 10 this year.
- Held engaging and educational events including the Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival, Piper on the Ridge, and our Member Meeting, bringing our community together in the places we love.