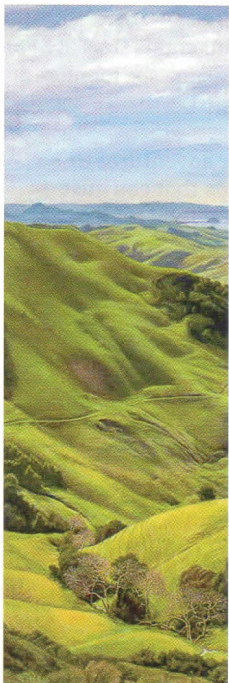


ART AND CONSERVATION

BY DENNIS CURRY



DURING MY 50 PLUS YEARS AS A PROFESSIONAL WILDLIFE and landscape artist, I have been pleased to have my works support and promote many conservation efforts and organizations internationally through such organizations as Friends of Conservation in East Africa and membership in Artists for Conservation Foundation based in Canada. Some of the national groups I have worked with are the Audubon Society, Rock Mountain Elk Foundation, and Ducks Unlimited.



Locally I am an active member of San Luis Outdoor Painters for the Environment, slopepainters.com. This group of professional artists creates artwork depicting the beauty and uniqueness of California's Central Coast. Working with local and national organizations, we use our art to draw public attention to these efforts and generate funds for preserving local lands for open space, wildlife, and ecologically respectful creation, ranching and farming.

Some of the organizations our group has partnered with are Los Padres Forrest Watch, Pacific Wildlife Care and most recently, The Land Conservancy of SLO County, lcslo.org. The Land Conservancy establishes voluntary land protection agreements with family farmers, ranchers and landowners known as conservation easements. They have permanently protected over 20,000 acres of land in SLO County with annual monitoring of these properties to ensure best practices for wildlife and people alike.

In 2017 the Land Conservancy launched a campaign to preserve over 5000 acres of

wildlife habitat and ranch land along the Highway 46 West Corridor. The SLOPE painters spent many months painting on locations along the highway as well as from some of the properties included for protection. This culminated in July with an exhibit and sale of over 30 paintings at Castoro Cellars Gallery and resulted in over \$4,000 donated for this campaign.

While there are many important issues facing us today I don't think any can be more important than maintaining the health of our planet and preserving the great variety of life and the habitats that support them and makes our world the incredibly rich place that it is. Magnifying the urgency in this is the growing population and the endless desire for resources and development.

Please visit me and my work at Studios on the Park, 1130 Pine St. in Paso Robles, StudiosOnThePark.org, or visit my website DennisCurry.com.

