

Paul Kephart Executive Director

Renowned biologist, restoration ecologist and expert designer of living architectural systems, Paul Kephart is sought after for his skill as an innovator and pioneer in the fields of environmental planning and ecological design. Paul has developed his profound understanding of natural processes over the course of almost thirty years of diverse ecological work including: ecological design, horticulture, botanical surveying, biological assessment, watershed management, mitigation, land stewardship and resource management planning. Paul understands the land, he understands people and he knows the processes and agencies required to accomplish projects at any scale. Paul applies ecological principles to architecture and design by integrating mechanical, plumbing, and energy systems with site and structure.

Paul has authored resource management plans for both public and private sector clients. In addition, he has developed programs that assist in the recovery of protected animal and wildlife species. Examples of large-scale land use projects in California include Crissy Field's Native Grass Increase Program at Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco, the Irvine Company Native Grass Establishment Management Plan at

Turtle Ridge in Orange County and the Natural Resource Management Plan for Coyote Lake County Park in Santa Clara, California.

Considered one of the top native horticultural experts in Western North America, Paul is recognized for his knowledge and design of large-scale wetland, native grassland, high altitude desert and diverse coastal habitat restoration projects. As an expert consultant or licensed contractor, Paul is frequently called upon to assist with plant specifications, construction methods, and monitoring protocols.

Paul has applied his ecological design training on noteworthy large-scale architectural icons: Gap Headquarters, pioneering large-scale living roof in Mediterranean climate; California Academy of Sciences, incorporating a living roof designed for biodiversity; Croton Water Treatment Plant, slated to be the largest continuous living roof in North America; Museum of Northern Arizona, designed for science and cultural interpretation; Council District 9 City Hall, living roof as public park targeting urban renewal. Paul has developed the expertise and relationships needed for successful completion of even the most complex projects.

Rana Creek's headquarters and nursery operations are located on a 14,000-acre ranch in Carmel Valley. Since founding Rana Creek Habitat Restoration in 1996, Paul has developed and overseen the

profitable range and pasture land management program for the ranch. His land use plan is designed to simultaneously accomplish native grassland restoration of the property and prepare the land for long term legal stewardship. Please arrange for a visit if you are in the area.

Professional History

Executive Director of Rana Creek
Carmel Valley, California

- Lead Design Consultant for Living Architecture
- Lead Land Use Consultant for Environmental Planning
- Certified Professional Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) - #2570
- Accredited Green Roof Professional

Founder/Director of Elkhorn Ranch
Moss Landing, California

Areas of Expertise

Biologist: Over twenty years of comprehensive consulting experience pertaining to botanical survey, biological assessment, project mitigation, land stewardship programs, and land management planning

Design and implementation: Specializing in the design of living roofs, living walls, integrated water



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management systems, native plant gardens, native grass meadows, golf courses, landscape and restoration installations

Range science, agronomy, and horticulture: Expertise in range and pasture management.

Research: Classification, collection, and propagation of grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees for end use applications.

Speaking/Teaching Engagements

Stuttgart International Green Roof Congress Keynote Speaker 2009

San Francisco Institute of Architecture Professional Series, ongoing

- Eco-Design/Green Roofs and Vegetative Building Systems

Greenbuild 2005-08

- Trends in Living Architecture, Integrated Water Systems

West Coast Green 2006-09

- Trends in Living Architecture, Integrated Water Systems

Eco-Wave 2005 Keynote Speaker

- Design for Biodiversity

Green Roofs For Healthy Cities, ongoing

- Instructor for Green Roof Symposium Seminars

City College of San Francisco 2005 Biology Lecture Series

- "The Living Roof Project" and

"Sustainable Buildings"

USGBC of Northern California Keynote Speaker, ongoing

Oakland Green Roof Market Development Symposium Keynote Speaker 2006

- Green Roof Habitat and Biodiversity

Awards and Publications

New York City Public Design Commission's "Excellence in Design" Award

- Croton Water Treatment Plant

City College of San Francisco Seminar Series "Living Roofs and Sustainable Building" 2006

Monterey County Weekly 2006

- Rooftops Come Alive

Coastal Gardener TV Series 2005

- Living Roof Ecosystems

The Oakland Tribune 2005

- Up on the Roof – Gardens Get Off the Ground

San Francisco Chronicle Magazine 2004

- Urban Planning – Up on the Roof

The American Society of Landscape Architects 2003

- Wetland Mitigation at the Santa Lucia Preserve, Carmel, California

Professional Affiliations

California Native Plant Society member 1982 - present

California Native Grass Association founding member 1983 - present

Society for Ecological Restoration member 1986 - present

Peninsula Open Space Trust Steering Committee member 1997

Society of Environmental Professionals member in good standing

United States Green Building Council member in good standing