

## Stewardship Through Education, LLC, Story

In 2004, Stewardship Through Education, LLC (STE), was established to promote youth stewardship of local watersheds by using the watershed as a classroom. With the mantra “No Child Left Inside”, STE’s program creates a bridge between local schools, youth, and community partners, through a strong collaborative working relationship.

In 2005, STE was adopted as a project by the Central Sierra Resource, Conservation and Development Council (CSRC&D), a 501c3, to service the Council’s five- county Area of Calaveras, Amador, Tuolumne, Alpine, and Northern Mono.

### Calaveras and Amador County Partners:

East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD)  
Calaveras County Water District (CCWD)  
Calaveras Public Utility District (CPUD)  
Amador Water Agency (AWA)  
Jackson Valley Irrigation District (JVID)  
Alpine Water District  
Bureau of Land Management  
California Ag in the Classroom (Farm Bureau)  
California Department of Fish and Game  
California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC)  
Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Central Sierra Resource Conservation and Development (CSRC & D) – NRCS-  
Calaveras County Office of Education (CCOE)  
Calaveras Unified School District (CUSD)  
Amador County Unified School District (ACUSD)  
Amador Resource Conservation District (RCD)  
Calaveras Fish and Game Commission  
SPI  
US Forest Service

### Tuolumne County Partners:

US Forest Service,  
SPI  
Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD)  
National Audubon Society  
California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC)  
Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Central Sierra Resource Conservation and Development (CSRC&D)-NRCS  
Tuolumne Resource Conservation District (RCD)  
Tuolumne County Office of Education  
California Department of Fish and Game

In 2006, with a grant from the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA), a 300+ page activity guide, *Circle and Cycles, A Guide to the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed* was published with 30 field trip sites in both Calaveras and Amador Counties. **2007- Present**, the UMRWA has continued to fund the annual implementation of the Guide.

In 2009, STE received a grant from Sierra Nevada Conservancy to continue the implementation of the *Circles and Cycles Guide to the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed* through Watershed Alive! Days and restoration assessment, as well as, to produce *Circles and Cycles -A Guide to the Tuolumne County Watersheds*, for teachers and students in Tuolumne County. STE staff is presently editing and compiling new lessons; orienteering, working landscapes, gold mining, hydroelectricity, and Winter Wildland which will be made available on the STE website in 2012.

In 2010-12, **STE- Tuolumne**, identified 20 field trip sites and have field tested lessons in the snow, on campuses, New Melones and Riverside Day Use Area in partnership with the USFS and the USBR. STE-Tuolumne has also developed 10 kits: Winter Wildland, 2-Way Bug Viewers, Orienteering, Nature Journals, Animal Tracks, Fish Printing, Animal Habitats, Hydroelectricity, One Square Yard, and The Story of the Rock. The **STE Lending Library** ([www.steonline.org](http://www.steonline.org)) makes all kits and materials available upon request to classroom teachers of private and public schools as part of their field trip preparation and education of local watersheds in a five county area. **STE-Calaveras-Amador Watershed Alive! Days** have been successful in bringing over 2000 students to one location for a watershed experience. Through the **Salmon and Trout Go To School Program** (F&G), led by STE, 700+ students have participated in the 2011-12 school year.