



## Celebrating Champions & Increasing Momentum

Dear Doris,

Several of our projects are taking shape and we are energized by their respective progress! Below are updates on our regenerative meat project, various other important announcements, and links to our latest podcast with Jacob Katz, Senior Scientist at California Trout, discussing how rice farmers are a solution to a major endangered species problem (see links below).



## Deepening Relationships with our State Legislators

As the food movement continues to build its relationships with our state legislators, we hope we can all work together to use our collective knowledge to find intervention points to improve the many complex components of the California food system.

For the last 10 years, the **2022 Food & Farm Scorecard** has been tracking the voting records of California state legislators on key food and farming policies. Each year, two legislators are chosen to receive food champion awards. ROC started publishing the scorecard in 2013; in 2018, the California Food & Farm Network (CFFN) took over managing it. We celebrated the 2022 food champions and the release of the scorecard on February 22nd at Mulvaney's B&L in Sacramento.

**Congratulations to the 2022 Food Champions:**  
**Assemblymembers Buffy Wicks and Steve Bennett**



Thank you for supporting food and farm related policies that will help transform the California food system!

## 2022 Food & Farm Scorecard

The scorecard tracks the voting records of California state legislators on key food and farming policies.

## Our Regenerative Meat Project Continues

We continue to hold meetings in various counties across Northern California for **our project** to transform regional meat supply chains and processing capacities with the goal to improve resilience, social equity and rural economic health.

Below are images of our recent meetings in Eureka (Humboldt county), Woodland (Napa, Solano, Yolo counties) and at Stemple Creek Ranch in Tomales (Marin/Sonoma counties). Two more convenings are planned, one in Tuolumne/Calaveras and another in Placer/Yuba counties, as well as Zoom meetings for folks who weren't able to attend in person. We are knitting a network of producers, processors, buyers and policymakers who have the capacity to create new markets that benefit farmers and ranchers delivering high quality meat and ecosystem services to our state. We will keep you posted!



Ranchers and UC Davis team pose in



Humboldt ranchers gather for the



Ranchers from Yolo and Solano county met in Woodland at the UCCE office for an in-person meeting on February 28th.



Ranchers engaging in post-meeting conversations in Woodland at the UCCE office.



On March 1st, we held the Marin/Sonoma meeting at Stemple Creek Ranch in Tomales, West Marin. A shoutout to the Poncia family for hosting us!



Digesting the presentation over coffee at the beautiful barn at Stemple Creek Ranch.

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## Flipping The Table Podcast with Jacob Katz, California Trout:

### Flexible Farmers are a Solution to Major Endangered Species Problems

Jacob Katz, senior scientist for the nonprofit **California Trout**, describes how flexible farmers are a solution to major endangered species problems.

California has declared that species diversity is a major environmental goal. After 150 years of intensive agriculture, achieving that goal is a challenge. But there is a great example underway on the Sacramento River where endangered salmon are being saved by proactive





rice farmers. **The Nigiri Project** reveals an approach that has implications for crop and livestock operations across the state and the nation. **Click on your favorite streaming service to hear the conversation with Jacob Katz!**



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## Please Sign on to Support the Strengthening Local Processing Act!



Please join NSAC and other individuals, farmers and ranchers, plant owners/operators, and organizations in endorsing this bill! Resilient local and regional food systems depend on the infrastructure that helps get fresh food to families - including sustainably raised livestock.

[Sign on Here](#)

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Since 1990, the Bioneers Conference has served as a trellis on which this visionary movement of movements has grown and grown together around authentic “solve-the-whole problem” solutions. As we roll into our 34th annual conference, the big wheels of massive change are turning.

Bioneers is about a revolution from the heart of nature and the human heart. Never has it been more vital that we come together around the council fire to share what we’ve learned, link arms, fill our hearts and vision, and align ourselves to prevail for the long haul.

We invite you to join us at **Bioneers 2023**, where we’ll join forces with the Bioneers community of leadership in this time when we’re all called upon to be leaders.

*For a 20% off discount please use this code **RootsofChange20***

[Register Here](#)

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## The Unaddressed Crisis in Agriculture

Blog post by Michael Dimock, E.D., Roots of Change

Neither the media nor policymakers are sufficiently focused on an existential crisis in American agriculture. Farmers and ranchers are an endangered species. As we do for wolves, salmon and whales, we need policies and programs to ensure farmers and ranchers do not die out. With a new Farm Bill on the horizon we must demand changes in agriculture policy. The seeds of change are in place, but they need our tending.



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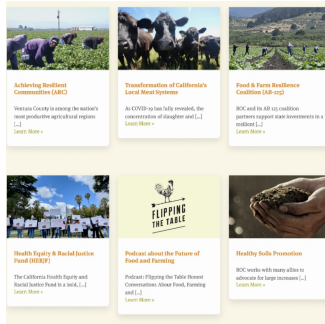
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Doris Meier  
Editor of the *PULSE*  
*Roots of Change*

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## Current Projects



## 2022 Policy Work



## Podcast



Roots of Change is a program of the [Public Health Institute](#)

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