I hope this letter finds you, your family, and friends healthy and hopeful. Here at EAC, our team has spent the last year adapting to, and embracing change. For the first time – in a very long time – we are joyful as our team has been able to start working together again at our new office in downtown Point Reyes Station.

As our team continues to focus on the environmental issues facing coastal Marin, we can’t help but reflect on the last five years, and the dramatic swing in the serious issues facing our communities due to the climate crisis.

We are in a climate emergency.

This year, we are experiencing a drought emergency on a scale that has not been this severe since the 1970s. A few years ago, severe storms and atmospheric rivers caused widespread flooding and storm surge impacts. And just last August, a tropical lightning storm ignited more than 300 wildfires throughout California – including the Phillip Burton Wilderness in Point Reyes National Seashore – that ravaged communities, destroyed habitat, and caused weeks of air pollution from the thick smoke that engulfed the entire state.

The climate crisis is here. Now is the time to act.

With your support, you can count on EAC to tackle the difficult and complex issues of the changing climate facing coastal Marin County. The climate crisis touches every aspect of our advocacy work, where we focus our efforts on the direct and indirect impacts of the climate crisis, and how our communities, public agencies, and elected officials are responding and adapting to it.

- Locally, we are engaged in the County of Marin’s climate action strategies and partnering to advance adaptation, mitigation, resilience, and education campaigns to address the crisis. We are actively partnering with community members and other nonprofits to advance public education and outreach, and you can count on us to advocate for protection of coastal resources.
- Regionally, we are engaged in the complicated nexus of climate adaptation and mitigation that informs how the state responds to the impacts including flooding, drought, fires, disease, and biodiversity loss. We advocate to advance nature-based solutions, which sequester carbon including blue carbon initiatives, regional planning efforts, wetland restoration and conservation, and preservation of 30% of our lands and waters by 2030.
- Nationally, we engage in critical legislative items with our national partners to advance ocean climate solutions, protect our public lands and national marine sanctuaries, and support the Biden administration’s push to conserve 30% of the land and waters of the United States by 2030.

However, we can’t do this without your support.

We work on the ground to engage in our local and regional responses to the climate crisis, and coordinate with partners to protect and sustain the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity of West Marin through a collaborative, science-based public process.

YOU are vital to making this work possible. Take a moment to join our member community, renew your annual support and/or make a special tax-deductible gift today to support our climate crisis engagement along coastal Marin County.

Learn More About Our Climate Crisis Strategies on the Back Page
Despite the pandemic – and our team working remotely for more than a year – we have doubled down on our efforts to address the climate crisis in several areas:

**Water is Life!** Our freshwater and marine systems provide essential life support services and must be prioritized, protected, and conserved. We are working to protect our coastal watersheds, safeguard our coast and ocean, and advance conservation strategies by advocating for policies, collecting water quality data, providing education, and forging relationships. In addition, we produced a public report, *Beneath the Surface: Groundwater, A Proactive Analysis Exploring California and Marin County Water Resilience in a Changing Climate* in March 2021 which takes a hard look at Marin County’s groundwater.

**Draw it Down!** The reduction of greenhouse gases is essential if we are going to successfully mitigate impacts of the climate crisis which will require a comprehensive change to systems. This includes supporting and advocating for the advancement of clean, renewable energy technologies and getting rid of single-use plastics. In 2020, EAC was able to stall future efforts by the oil and gas industry to drill off our shorelines with a Marin County ordinance, and we helped lift the voices of our local youth climate activists to draft a ban on single-use foodware that we expect to be passed in the coming months!

**Conserving Coastal Biodiversity!** Protecting habitat and the biodiversity it supports is essential to combating the climate crisis. Incremental habitat loss results in widespread biodiversity loss that is the result of human development. EAC actively engages in community land-use planning to advocate for sustainable communities to plan for a future that protects and conserves critical habitats and species. We are also collecting data through partnerships on intertidal species, and released a report on the decline of the western monarch butterfly population in Marin, which sparked a Marin-Sonoma working group to regionally support pollinators.

**Building Community Resilience!** It takes a village to cope with the impacts of fire, drought, flooding, public health, and environmental justice issues our communities face due to the climate crisis. Community partnerships and relationships are critical to advance response efforts and build trust to preserve our rural community values and provide essential services in times of need. For the past nine years we have worked with the Coastal Commission to update Marin County’s Local Coastal Plan, and continue to advocate for the Environmental Hazards chapter which will address the climate crisis. In addition, we have joined the NorCal Resilience Network and partner with Marin County’s Sustainability Team to address and advance community and coastal resiliency.

**Providing Public Education!** The issues of the climate crisis are complex, and we have identified a need to provide information on the latest science and impacts to our communities to inspire individual and collective action. Over the last year, we launched a series of educational webinars focused on *Our Coastal Climate*, which have inspired action on rising sea levels, emergent groundwater, water conservation, and preventing the decline of the western monarch butterfly in Marin County.

As a grassroots environmental organization that receives 70% of our funding from our member community, a special tax-deductible donation today will make a major impact on our critical work to combat the climate crisis in coastal Marin County.

In gratitude,

Morgan Patton | Executive Director

Thank you for your support and being a part of the EAC family. We are looking forward to connecting in person with our community for our Open House in Point Reyes Station on June 26th, and later this fall to celebrate our 50th Anniversary of protecting what you love in West Marin. I hope to see you at one or more of these events, and thank you in person for your commitment to our mission.