



*Solving problems where  
people and nature intersect*

## **ESTHER FELDMAN, *President***

### **Over \$3 Billion for Parks, Mountains, Beaches, Rivers, Habitat Restoration & Clean Water**

Esther Feldman has pioneered innovative environmental initiatives for over 25 years, earning a reputation for being one of California's most visionary conservation leaders. She is known for fearlessly bucking prevailing views of how to approach environmental problems by integrating an unusual range of technical, financial, community, political and policy expertise in her work.

Esther combines vision with both pragmatism and persistence, and has a track record of moving solutions from start to finish, as demonstrated by the more than \$3 billion in new public funding for conservation that she has established both in L.A. County and throughout California and the United States.

Today, Esther is focused on creating solutions that lead to permanent environmental changes to benefit generations to come. She founded Community Conservation Solutions (CCS) to create a home for her special brand of problem solving, and is working on new ways to solve the persistent water problems plaguing the Western United States by approaching water quality and water supply as an intertwined issue through CCS' Green Solution Program.

We are very fortunate that Esther is unafraid of choosing daunting challenges in the same way that she is drawn to the high alpine peaks she loves to climb. We expect to see Esther climbing those peaks—both real and metaphorical—for years to come.

***“An ounce of action is worth a ton of theory.”***

—RALPH WALDO EMERSON



**Combining imagination,  
pragmatism and the  
detailed execution needed  
to “get the job done”**

*“California’s incomparable  
natural heritage is richer—  
and protected forever  
for our children and  
grandchildren—because  
of Esther Feldman’s vision,  
leadership and dedication.”*

**STATE SENATOR FRAN PAVLEY**  
CHAIR, SENATE WATER AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES COMMITTEE



# ESTHER FELDMAN'S KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



## 1988 **CA Prop. 70: Parks and Wildlife Act Planning & Conservation League**

**Need:** Legislature fails to act  
**Solution:** Helps write, organize and win citizen-driven statewide parks initiative



## 1991 **Writes new state law**

**Need:** New public finance method for L.A. County parks and open space  
**Solution:** Gets new state law passed so L.A. County can create Prop. A



## 1996 **Child of Prop. A L.A. County Safe Parks Act \$317 million**

**Need:** More \$\$ for parks in L.A. County  
**Solution:** Once wasn't enough. Writes and leads countywide coalition effort with 800 supporters to create more funds for parks, beaches, mountains, trails and open space in L.A. County

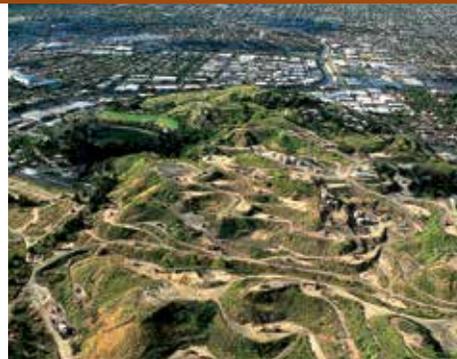


Photo: Craig Collins

## 1999 **Launches Baldwin Hills Park in Urban L.A.**

**Need:** Transform 2 square miles of oil fields in heart of park-starved urban L.A.  
**Action:** Raises \$1 million, holds 200 community meetings, creates Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan  
**Today:** Baldwin Hills Park is in full swing, Baldwin Hills Conservancy in place and \$80 million public investment

## 2001 **Protects Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook: Best view in urban L.A.**

**Need:** Stop development already underway at Baldwin Hills' critical hilltop view site  
**Solution:** Gets Culver City to stop development and Governor Davis to earmark \$30 million so Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook can be acquired by the American Lands Conservancy, L.A. County and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy



1997-2000  
**Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission**

1998  
**Founds Community Conservation Solutions**

1992 **Prop A:**  
**L.A. County Safe Parks Act**  
**\$540 million**

**Need:** \$\$ for parks, mountains and open space in L.A. County

**Solution:** Conceives of, writes, and directs countywide funding measure for parks, mountains, beaches, trails, senior and youth centers, gang prevention and tree-planting



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1994 **Acquires first**  
**L.A. River park:**  
**Elysian Valley Gateway Park**

**Need:** Parks along L.A. River

**Solution:** Acquires first L.A. River park in Elysian Valley and launches Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's L.A. River Program

**Today:** Over \$100 million spent to create 500 acres of new parks and habitat along the L.A. River



1994 **Starts Trust for Public**  
**Land's L.A. Field Office and**  
**Creates National Conservation**  
**Public Finance Program**

**Action:** Acquires new L.A. River parks; helps create \$2 billion in conservation funding in five states

**Today:** TPL's program has created \$35 billion for new land conservation with 428 ballot measures in 33 states



2008–2012 **Creates Green**  
**Solutions to Pollution: Water**  
**Quality & Water Supplies**

**Need:** “Smart” green solutions to solve water pollution and water supply problems

**Action:** Develops innovative strategy to naturally capture, clean and recycle urban/stormwater runoff, using digital technology to prioritize lands already in public ownership and create new “smart” parks, habitat and open space



Photo: Psomas

[www.conservationsolutions.org](http://www.conservationsolutions.org)





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