



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

EMSWCD recognizes that conservation and social justice are interconnected, yet we have much to learn about the history and implications of this relationship. We feel strongly that everyone deserves a healthy environment and should have a voice in shaping what that means for their community. However, historical exclusion and marginalization has meant that many communities have been denied the benefits of conservation, such as nearby parks and natural spaces. In addition, low income and communities of color have experienced significantly greater impacts from contaminated water and soils, polluted air, and impacts from the climate emergency. As a public and conservation organization, we have a responsibility to acknowledge and address these disparities.

EMSWCD is committed to making its organization and work more equitable. This is not only a moral imperative but providing opportunities and resources to a diverse array of constituents will also result in healthier land and water. By investing in efforts that foster diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), we hope to create more effective and enduring conservation benefits for all.

DRAFT