



## *For Immediate Release*

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**Contact:** Carla Koop, [cakoop@gmail.com](mailto:cakoop@gmail.com)

San Rafael, CA. A new compilation of music inspired by water and watersheds has just been released by the Gallinas Watershed Council (GWC), an all-volunteer group that works to protect Gallinas Creek watershed and other Marin County watersheds. The CD, entitled *Watershed: Music Inspired by the Place that Connects Us*, is comprised of mostly original songs by twelve different artists and groups in styles ranging from folk to bluegrass to rock.

The CD is a fundraising project for the group. All proceeds from the album, which is being sold for \$15, benefit the group's education, outreach, and advocacy efforts for Marin County watersheds and, in particular, the Gallinas Creek watershed, which includes Terra Linda, Santa Venetia and the entire valley surrounding Gallinas Creek. The CD can be obtained by visiting the group's website, [www.gallinaswatershed.org](http://www.gallinaswatershed.org). All artists generously donated their songs to the compilation, and many others donated their time and expertise. The Mill Valley-based label Floating Records was a major supporter of the album. To produce the CD the group held a two-month crowdfunding campaign on Indiegogo, ultimately raising the needed funds from 66 contributors who gave amounts ranging from \$20 to \$100.

Featured on this unique album are well-known musicians Darol Anger & The Republic of Strings and Laurie Lewis & The Right Hands. The compilation includes both instrumental songs and tunes with vocals. The many talented local musicians in this collection include the Mill Valley-based Forest Sun and the Steep Ravine group, as well as Fiver Brown & The Good Sinners, a group that hails from Sausalito. The Gallinas Watershed Council is proud to feature two original songs from Kurt Huget, who lives in the Gallinas Creek watershed. While the theme is water, Don Zimmer of Floating Records says, "this fabulous collection of music will appeal to anyone who loves great music!"

This diverse collection of songs finds common ground in affirming the centrality of water in our lives, and the urgency of protecting healthy and vital watersheds. Some tunes, such as *Duck River* and the *Mouth of Dillon Creek* convey the movement and energy of a stream in the music itself, while others, such as *San Joaquin* and *Old Creek*, address the impacts of human activity and development on our valuable and often threatened waterways and wetlands. Other compositions, such as *Take Me Out on the Water* and *Walkin' River*, testify to the special place that creeks and rivers can hold in our lives as places of work, play, and spiritual replenishment. Finally, some artists offer water as a metaphor for important life experiences.

GWC volunteer and producer of the album, Carla Koop, says that "the group chose the title of the CD to reflect how the collection of songs speaks to and fosters the connections that nourish both our social 'ecology' and the watersheds that sustain us, wherever we live." She added that "with climate change and the very real changes it is bringing to our global ecosystem, strong, vital and caring human communities that model the very principles of watersheds offer our best hope for the future."

The Gallinas Watershed Council was recently honored by the Marin Conservation League with its 2014 Ted Wellman Water Award for the group's work producing this album and its many other activities and efforts to protect and preserve water resources in Marin County and the state.