

REDWOODS

The Magazine of Save the Redwoods League

Autumn | Winter 2018

An Extraordinary Moment

*League's 100-Year
Vision for Healing
Our Forests*

Hidden Ancient Haven Saved

*Harold Richardson
Redwoods Reserve*

Red Hill

*Ancient Giant
Sequoia Forest
Protected Forever*

The Race to Restore

*Why and How to Regrow
Old-Growth Forests*

CENTENNIAL ISSUE
100

Save The Redwoods
LEAGUE

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Since 1918, Save the Redwoods League has protected and restored redwood forests and connected people with their peace and beauty so these wonders of the natural world flourish. Your donations help us purchase redwood forests and the surrounding lands needed to nurture them; regenerate logged forests so they become spectacular havens for future generations; study how to best protect and restore these global treasures; and introduce people to these magical places.

CENTENNIAL ISSUE

Save The Redwoods

L E A G U E ®

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STAND FOR
THE
REDWOODS
STAND FOR THE FUTURE

CELEBRATE WITH US

Photo © Jon Parmentier

COMMEMORATE OUR CENTENNIAL

The only reason we have the redwoods today is because 100 years ago people took a stand. Learn how you can celebrate the Centennial of Save the Redwoods League and its pioneering conservation achievements at fun events throughout California in 2018.

VISIT SaveTheRedwoods.org/2018Events

100 YEARS IS JUST THE BEGINNING
100



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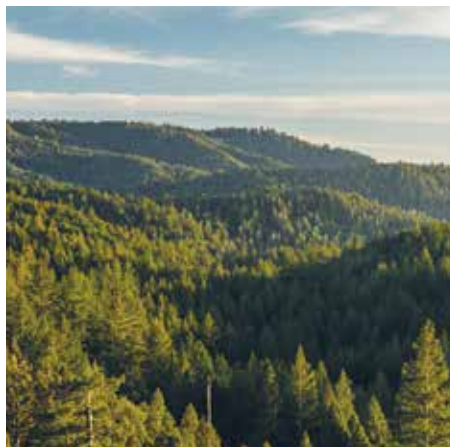
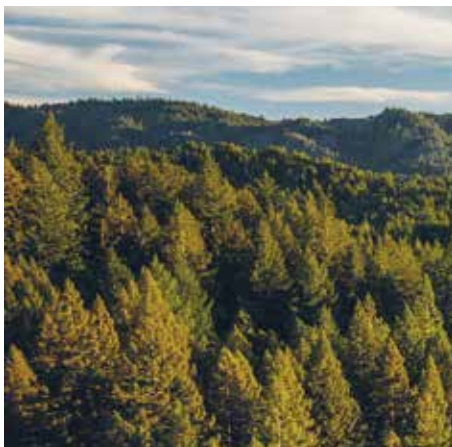


38 AN EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT

Redwood forests are facing some of their most significant, cumulative challenges yet. The League's *Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation* shows how we can meet these challenges, and heal and grow the old-growth forests for generations to come.

60 HIDDEN ANCIENT HAVEN SAVED

The League, donors, and a family protect Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve, which will become the first ancient redwood park created in a generation. For decades, the privately owned reserve was a natural wonder containing 352 acres of old-growth redwoods unknown to the public.



BELOW On the cover of this issue of *Redwoods* magazine, a hiker pauses among incredible ancient coast redwoods that Save the Redwoods League protected from destruction by helping to establish Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. In 2018, join us in celebrating this achievement and others of the League's 100-year legacy.

RIGHT The cover of *Redwoods* magazine Autumn/Winter 2017, the inaugural issue.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Redwoods Remind Us of Life's Wisdom

I was glad to get a copy of the autumn/winter [2017] edition of *Redwoods* magazine. The beautiful photography reminded me of my short and extensive trips through redwoods country over the decades, and the emotional power that these trees have when you see them up close. They remind us that the world into which we have been born is very old and filled with the wisdom of life. At the same moment that the great trees make us feel physically small and short-lived, they also elevate us by making us feel that we are part of something magnificent and fundamentally mysterious.

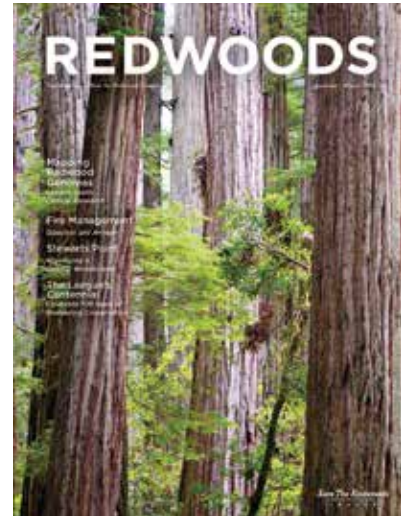
I would like to suggest several changes for your magazine.

First, please add more maps. Second, your articles blur the distinction between sequoias and redwoods. Please keep this clear. Third, it would be interesting to keep up with the work of Stephen Sillett and the ecosystem of the redwood tops.

Thanks for the great work you do. It gives a loft to life.

—Paul R. Fleischman

Editor's Note: Paul, we're so glad you like the inaugural issue of Redwoods. We're pleased to incorporate your



suggestions, including coverage of forest ecologist Stephen Sillett's role in our work to restore coast redwood and giant sequoia forests—see the story on page 84.

A Splendid Beginning

Congratulations to you and your staff for the excellent new [Autumn/Winter 2017] magazine. I found every article and photo of great interest. I'm already looking forward to the next issue. I wish I could jump into my car and slowly explore each and every redwood forest you are protecting. Thanks to all of you for the splendid new publication.

—Clare Wheeler-Sias

CONTRIBUTORS



Top row, from left

Shelana deSilva is the League's Director of Government Affairs and Public Funding. She has a strong record of helping national and statewide nonprofits lead campaigns and secure public funding.

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Bottom row, from left

Jerry Franklin, a League Councilor, is Professor Emeritus of Forest Ecosystems at the University of Washington. He is a world-leading authority on sustainable forest management.

Mike Shoys is a lifelong resident of the redwood range. A life of backpacking, hiking and other outdoor pursuits led him to become a passionate conservation photographer.

Madeleine Turner holds a degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz. When she isn't writing, she's reading or running under the redwoods.



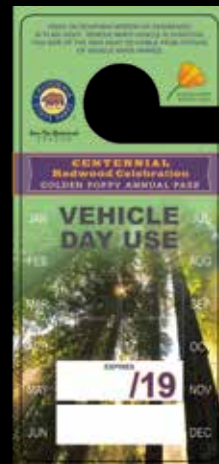
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Dear Save the Redwoods League Friends,

Welcome to this special edition of *Redwoods* during our extraordinary Centennial year. The California State Legislature recognized Save the Redwoods League for 100 years of protecting redwood forests, and the California State Senate resolved that 2018 is the Year of the Redwoods. In this edition, we celebrate our Centennial, our legacy of leadership, and the launch of our conservation vision for the future.

First and foremost, we describe our recently released *State of Redwoods Conservation Report*, detailing our assessment of the current condition of the coast redwood and giant sequoia forests and presenting the scientific underpinnings of our conservation plan for the future. We outline that plan, the *Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation*, including our bold objectives and strategies for our second century of redwoods conservation leadership.

You'll also read how this year we are taking substantial steps toward achieving goals in our Vision: the protection of two of the three largest unprotected old-growth groves remaining in the giant sequoia and coast redwood ranges. The 160-acre Red Hill property is one of the great natural gems of the Sierra Nevada, and the 730-acre Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve is the largest privately owned old-growth redwood forest in California. To protect either one would be extraordinary. To secure both in our Centennial year is a terrific conservation achievement.

Now is a moment of opportunity and optimism. We are poised to set in motion the regeneration of vibrant redwood forests of the scale and grandeur that once graced the California coast and the Sierra Nevada, and ensure they are protected forever and restored to grow old again. In so doing, we will untether the redwoods' unique ability to store carbon, provide critical habitat, and restore resilience in California's landscape. We will connect people to these forests through magnificent parks that inspire visitors from near and far with the power and beauty of nature, elevating the redwoods as a central element of our collective experience.

We invite you to join us at this historic moment.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Hodder".

Sam Hodder

President and Chief Executive Officer
Save the Redwoods League



Read Sam's blog at
[SaveTheRedwoods.org/SamsBlog](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/SamsBlog)

Connect with Sam on Twitter
[@SamH4Redwoods](https://twitter.com/SamH4Redwoods)



MARIPOSA GROVE OF GIANT SEQUOIAS, YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

A Grove of Enchantment

An Upgraded Gateway
and Restored Trail
Welcome Explorers

In what is now Humboldt Redwoods State Park, gigantic ancient coast redwoods stand tall above a lush, sun-dappled understory, creating scenery so magnificent that in 1917, it compelled three men to remove their hats and speak only in whispers. The forest's breathtaking majesty was so powerful that it inspired these men to establish Save the Redwoods League the following year to protect such places for future generations.

Starting with one grove of colossal redwoods in 1921, the League has protected nearly all of the park's 53,000 acres, an area almost twice the size of San Francisco. Today, this park protects the largest expanse of ancient redwoods on Earth.

More than 5,100 of the park's acres are protected thanks to a long relationship between the League and The Garden Club of America (GCA). The work started around 1930, when the organizations joined efforts to purchase 2,500 acres, now part of The Garden Club of America Grove. Along the 6-mile River Trail, visitors can experience the lush and hushed grove, its carpets of sorrel, and the wild and scenic Eel River. It wasn't always so. In 2003, a fire engulfed seven footbridges along the River Trail, rendering the route impassable. Landslides followed in 2006, and park budget cuts prevented California State Parks from rehabilitating areas. So in 2013, the League and the GCA joined forces to reopen the trail and restore access to the GCA grove for the public to enjoy. Thanks to generous GCA clubs and their members across the nation, the campaign raised \$430,000.

Improvements followed, including building three footbridges and retainer walls, clearing underbrush, and adding directional signs along the trail. Four more footbridges are planned. The campaign also provided funds for the new amenities now welcoming visitors at the grove's day-use area, including wheelchair-accessible picnic tables, parking, a rebuilt kiosk, and interpretive panels, all in time for last spring's visitors to step into wonderland.

"Establishing the GCA Grove was The Garden Club of America's first nationwide conservation effort," said Dede Petri, President of The Garden Club of America. "Now over 80 years later, we are delighted to continue our collaboration with Save the Redwoods League and pleased to have played a major role in reopening the River Trail for members and the public." —

—*Madeleine Turner*

THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA GROVE

BEST TIME TO VISIT

Most of the grove is across the Eel River from the day-use area. A seasonal bridge allows river crossings from approximately June 1 to September 30, when visiting is recommended. Call the park's visitor center at the number below to see if the bridge is open before your visit.

PARKING AND DAY-USE AREA

The area is off US Highway 101, 2.5 miles north of Myers Flat along scenic Avenue of the Giants Parkway (California State Route 254) in Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

RIVER TRAIL

The 6-mile River Trail runs through the grove on the west side of the Eel River.

LEARN MORE

Plan your trip to Humboldt Redwoods State Park using our new tool, [ExploreRedwoods.org](https://www.exploreRedwoods.org), or call the park's visitor center at 707-946-2263.



TOP RIGHT League President Sam Hodder, standing, center, welcomes members of The Garden Club of America to the improved day-use area of the Club's magnificent grove in Humboldt Redwoods State Park last spring. The organizations joined forces to upgrade the day-use area and reopen the fire-damaged River Trail through the grove for the public to enjoy.

RIGHT The League and The Garden Club of America dedicate The Garden Club of America Grove in 1934.

FACING PAGE The magical forest surrounding the upgraded day-use area of The Garden Club of America Grove.



LEAGUE PROJECT UPDATES IN BRIEF

More Magic to Explore

Expansion Buffers Magnificent
Sonoma Park of Ancient Giants

A spectacular stand of 2,000-year-old coast redwoods, the Grove of Old Trees is an oasis of ancient beauty overlooking a sea of vineyards and residential development. While its historical owners logged nearby forests, they chose to preserve this 33-acre treasure in Sonoma County. The grove stands as one of the few remaining redwood forests in the county, open to the public for free, thanks to generous donors at Save the Redwoods League and LandPaths, who protected the forest in 2000.

The League has expanded the park to 48 acres by purchasing a neighboring 15-acre property and deeding it to LandPaths, the grove's owner and manager. Containing old-growth coast redwoods, oak woodland, grassland, and a stretch of Coleman Valley Creek, this newly acquired property is a priority identified by the League's Vibrant Forests Plan. This state-of-the-art mapping tool is used to evaluate conditions of redwood forests and identify threats and conservation opportunities throughout the redwood range.

LandPaths plans to establish hiking trails on the new property with an eye toward a long-distance trail alongside a wildlife corridor. The organization also hopes to incorporate the property into its outdoor education programs.

The Grove of the Old Trees is perfect for picnicking, strolling, and dog walking along two loop trails that total 1 mile. Plan your trip by visiting ExploreRedwoods.org or calling LandPaths at 707-544-7284. 🌲

—Madeleine Turner

A new 15-acre property expands and buffers the Grove of Old Trees. The original grove (BELOW) is a lovely picnic spot.



Photos: this page, Save the Redwoods League; facing page, Mike Kahn, Portola and Castle Rock Foundation.

A New Place to Make Favorite Memories

Partners Rebuild Portola Ramada

Home of some of the tallest and most extraordinary trees in the Santa Cruz Mountains, Portola Redwoods State Park provides visitors with a much-needed escape from life in nearby Silicon Valley.

Many visitors' favorite meeting place was the old ramada, a wooden shelter with a roof and no walls. From 1943 until 2011, the structure served as a gathering place for campers, and as a venue for weddings and family reunions. The ramada was a special place with great sentimental value.

"On my first trip to Portola Redwoods in about 2006, we picnicked under the old ramada with relatives who were visiting from Connecticut," said Andy Vought, Secretary of the League's Board of Directors and a Director of the Portola and Castle Rock Foundation. "The weather was not the best, so we enjoyed the shelter."

In 2014, California State Parks made the hard decision to demolish the structure, which was deteriorating beyond repair.

Save the Redwoods League, Portola and Castle Rock Foundation, Peninsula Open Space Trust, California State Parks Foundation, and California State Parks recognized the ramada as a valuable amenity. Together, they raised funds to build a replacement. Construction was completed last year.

The new ramada stands in place of the original shelter, near the park's visitor center and the Point and Circle campgrounds. It's a reproduction of the original, which contained two rows of picnic tables.

Like the original structure, this new ramada will surely become a backdrop for countless good memories, as friends and loved ones gather to admire Portola's majestic coast redwoods. —

—Madeleine Turner

RIGHT Representatives of Save the Redwoods League, Portola and Castle Rock Foundation, Peninsula Open Space Trust, California State Parks Foundation, and California State Parks mark the grand opening of the ramada last year in Portola Redwoods State Park.

PORTOLA RAMADA

WHAT

In Portola Redwoods State Park, a reproduction of the beloved historical ramada, or picnic shelter, is open for use. The park is near Silicon Valley.

ENJOY

The ramada is available for drop-in picnicking. To reserve the ramada for a special event, please call 831-335-6324.

LEARN MORE

Plan your trip to Portola Redwoods State Park by visiting ExploreRedwoods.org.



**LEAGUE
PROJECT
UPDATES**
IN BRIEF

COMING IN 2019: Big Reveal in Big Sur

New Pfeiffer Falls Trail to Showcase Redwoods

Before 2008 wildfires destroyed the Pfeiffer Falls Trail in Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park, the path plunged into a redwood-shrouded canyon, crisscrossed a creek, and ended at the picturesque waterfall. The trail was once the park's most popular attraction.

Save the Redwoods League helped restore access to Pfeiffer Falls after the 2008 fires by reopening an alternate trail around the hillside, which takes hikers near redwoods, but not under them. After fires, floods, and landslides in Big Sur, the new Pfeiffer Falls Trail is expected to reopen in early 2019, thanks to our funding partners and lots of hard work.

As a silver lining, the new trail is an improvement compared to the pre-2008 route. Like the original, it runs through the canyon and under the redwoods, but hikers won't step into the creek. Instead, a 70-foot bridge will provide visitors with a safe and scenic way to cross the canyon. New interpretive panels will line the trail, educating hikers on a range of topics from redwoods and climate change, to the partnership between California State Parks and the US Forest Service, whose land abuts the park. —

—Madeleine Turner

RIGHT The California Conservation Corps is building the new Pfeiffer Falls Trail, a 1.6-mile, out-and-back route in Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park.





Secrets of a Fallen Icon

Study to Reveal History of ‘Tunnel Tree’

Save the Redwoods League, Humboldt State University, and California State Parks are collaborating to discover the life history of the ancient Pioneer Cabin Tree, the famous giant sequoia in Calaveras Big Trees State Park that fell during a 2017 winter storm.

In the late 1800s, private landowners drilled a hole through the tree to attract tourists. It worked. People came from all over to walk or drive through the tunnel that resembled a cabin. The tree stood about 205 feet tall, 19 feet wide, and it was about 2,000 years old.

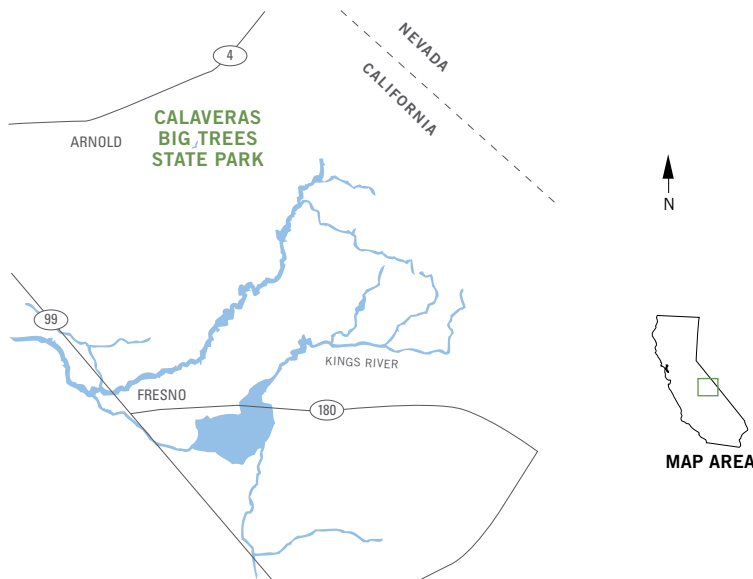
The League will prepare a cross section of the giant tree for Allyson Carroll, a Humboldt State University dendrochronologist who will study the rings.

“Studying the Pioneer Cabin Tree will reveal valuable information about drought, rainfall, historical fire intervals, and other climate changes over time

that will assist in the long-term and sustainable stewardship of these treasured giant sequoias,” said Heather Reith, Senior Environmental Scientist at the park.

“This iconic tree has one more story to tell, and it’s all about the dynamic environment that it has occupied throughout its long life,” said Paul Ringgold, the League’s Chief Program Officer. “With the last remaining giant sequoia living in small, scattered groves along California’s Sierra Nevada, it’s important for us to know as much as we can about their life history so we can better protect these ancient giants.”

After Carroll has collected and recorded all information, the cross section will remain in the park as part of an interpretive display that California State Parks and the League will design, and where its history can live on. 🌲



ABOVE, LEFT The Pioneer Cabin Tree attracts hikers before it fell in Calaveras Big Trees State Park.

ABOVE, RIGHT Workers cut a piece from the fallen giant for a researcher to study its rings. The park will feature the cross section in an interpretive display.

ASK AN EXPERT

Q: How is forest management changing in the 21st century?


How will those changes affect the redwood forests?

A: Forestry is changing dramatically. When I started out 65 years ago, foresters viewed forests primarily as collections of trees to be managed for timber production. Since then, our scientific understanding of forests—their structure, the work that they do, and their biological richness—has undergone a revolution. We have come to understand that forests are complex ecosystems that provide humankind with an array of critical services and goods. With this knowledge has come a societal expectation that forest management should restore and sustain that array of values, including clean air and water, wood products, wildlife habitat, and places to enjoy recreation.

RESTORING REDWOOD FORESTS

This change has direct relevance to the redwood region. Private landowners are more interested in collaborating with organizations to produce outcomes that include both economic and ecological values. In addition, our improved scientific understanding of forest ecosystems makes it possible to manage degraded lands in a way that contributes to their recovery. The redwood region is beautifully suited for restorative management. The productivity of the redwood forest is a great asset: It is possible to manage second-growth forests to restore and maintain their values and pay for that activity with wood harvested from overstocked areas.

COLLABORATING WITH NATURE

We often think of the wood-products industry as primarily exploiting forests, but these days, when the goal of management is restoration, this industry can be a major ally by purchasing logs, for example, subsidizing some costs of restoration. Today, restoring a forest typically needs to be more than simply standing back and letting nature go its own way. By collaborating with nature through ecologically focused management, restoration can be accelerated and achieve more desirable outcomes. With our current understanding of forest ecosystems, we are well positioned to begin restoring those capacities that have been lost through past management. —

— Jerry Franklin

WHAT

Today's society expects our forests to be managed to provide wood products, as well as values such as clean air and water and places to enjoy recreation.

THE EXPERT

Jerry Franklin is a forest ecologist, Professor Emeritus of Forest Ecosystems at the University of Washington, and a Save the Redwoods League Councilor. A world-leading authority on sustainable forest management, Franklin has been working in Pacific Northwest forests for more than 60 years, and is known as “the father of new forestry.” He co-authored the new textbook, *Ecological Forest Management*.

LEARN MORE

Read the latest news about Redwoods Rising, the collaborative project including Save the Redwoods League, the National Park Service, and California State Parks that is expanding, connecting, and restoring redwood forest ecosystems in Redwood National and State Parks.

[SaveTheRedwoods.org/IntroRedwoodsRising](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/introredwoodsrising)



To restore previously logged forests (TOP PHOTO) in Redwood National and State Parks, the League and the parks are removing trees to open up growing space for the remaining trees. This practice allows the trees to recover full canopies, increase growth, and put the forest on a quicker path to old-growth form and function like the forest in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park (BOTTOM PHOTO).

Photos by Andrew Slack.

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT REDWOODS?

Send your questions to us!

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TRAVEL

Our recommendations for unforgettable times in coast redwood and giant sequoia parks

HOWLAND HILL ROAD, JEDEDIAH SMITH REDWOODS STATE PARK

Experiences of a Lifetime

Some of the world's greatest times in nature await you in the ancient redwood forests of California—magical realms of rare beauty. The tallest trees on Earth, coast redwoods, stand in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, along the state's northern coast. Some of these coast redwoods reach higher than a 35-story building. Inland, giant sequoia endure along the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada. They are the world's largest trees, many wider than a two-lane street. Sequoia National Park shelters the General Sherman, the most massive tree on the globe. Many trees of both species still growing today are more than 2,000 years old, and took root during the time of the Roman Empire.

No matter what you like to do outside, an unforgettable experience awaits you in California's redwood parks, including the four parks described here. Nothing compares to standing in the cathedral-like groves, next to trees whose beauty, age, and size are almost beyond belief. It's no wonder *Lonely Planet* named the redwood forests the nation's top destination in 2018.

We almost lost redwood and giant sequoia forests after the 1849 Gold Rush and the explosive demand for timber. Save the Redwoods League, founded in 1918, brought the forests back from the brink of extinction by buying and protecting ancient groves and helping to create and expand the following parks, among more than 60 others, for future generations to enjoy.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

We invite you to mark our Centennial by visiting these incredible places. These new, free League resources can help you.

ExploreRedwoods.org is a mobile-friendly tool for customizing your itineraries when visiting the parks in this story and more than 100 others. Discover your favorite redwood parks through activities such as hiking, fishing, bicycling, and traveling with wheelchairs or dogs.

The **Explore Coast Redwoods eguide at SaveTheRedwoods.org/ECRGuide**, features 24 amazing parks, and tips on what to do, when to go, what to bring, and where to stay.

FreeRedwoodsDays.org is the place to get your free pass to more than 40 California redwood state parks every second Saturday of each month throughout 2018.

JEDEDIAH SMITH REDWOODS STATE PARK

Lush, primeval wilderness along the Smith River

Jedediah Smith has 20 miles of trails that take hikers back millions of years, when vast forests of ancient redwoods covered much of western North America. The 0.6-mile Stout Grove Loop trail is home to gigantic redwoods. The 5.6-mile Boy Scout Trail showcases some of the world's best redwoods scenery. Jed Smith stands along the magnificent Smith River, known among anglers for robust runs of steelhead trout and salmon.

In the summer, the gin-clear water of the Smith River is ideal for swimming and snorkeling. Bicycles are permitted on all roadways and Little Bald Hills Trail. In the park's campsites, visitors can immerse themselves in one of the world's most beautiful and wild places.

707-465-7335



The League has protected all the park's 10,000 acres of glorious ancient redwoods, starting with the 1929 Stout Grove dedication.





Photo by Save the Redwoods League; facing page by Jon Parmentier.

PRAIRIE CREEK REDWOODS STATE PARK

Prehistoric land of gigantic trees and iconic wildlife

Starting near the visitor center, visitors can step into sublime scenery along Prairie Creek Trail on an hour-long hike that wends through groves of behemoth redwoods. The route is among Prairie Creek's 75 miles of breathtaking trails. In Fern Canyon, lush, fern-lined walls look so primeval that they're a setting for dinosaurs in the movie *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*.

A 0.7-mile walk through the canyon reveals waterfalls, sand dunes, and grazing elks. The park offers a number of self-guided interpretive walks, and multiday treks are possible. Mountain bikers enjoy the 19-mile Ossagon Trail through ancient redwood forest, through prairie and along the beach. The park also is known for its scenic drives. Staying overnight? Choose from cabins and a variety of campsites.

707-465-7335



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Save The Redwoods
LEAGUE®

Over the decades, the League has protected almost 17,000 acres in the park.

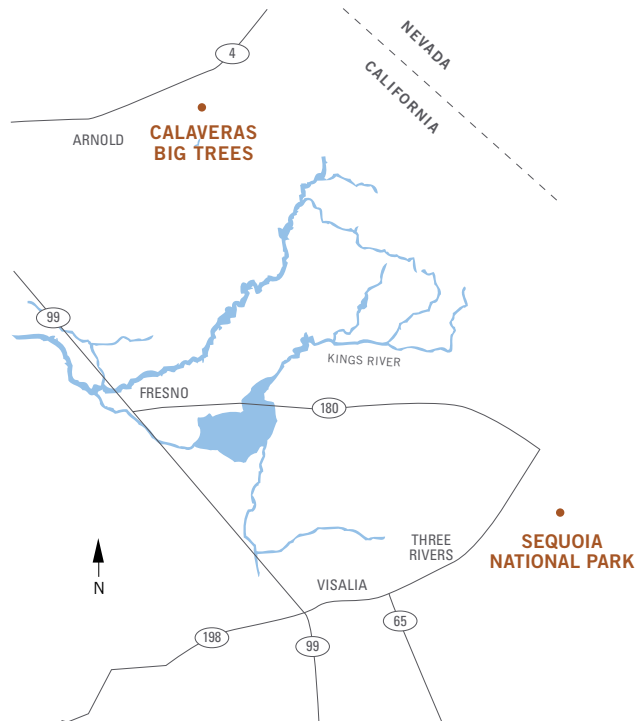


CALAVERAS BIG TREES STATE PARK

Spectacular giant sequoia in the rugged Sierra Nevada

As the story goes, in 1852 a hunter discovered this forest and spread the word about trees that were bigger than any he'd seen before. Today, in the Sierra Nevada, Calaveras Big Trees still surprises visitors with its spectacular giant sequoia. The 5-mile South Grove hiking trail passes the Agassiz Tree, one of the park's largest. More giants await wheelchair users along the 1.6-mile North Grove Trail. The trout fishing is good in the park's rivers, and Calaveras is rich in wildlife, from pileated woodpeckers, foxes, and porcupines, to bears and flying squirrels. Cabins and campsites are bases for feeling the forest's nighttime magic. Winter lovers can see the giants cloaked in white while cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

209-795-2334



The League helped establish this park in 1931, and has protected one-third of the park's 6,500 acres.





Photo: Michele and Tom Grimm/Alamy; facing page, age fotostock/Alamy.

SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

The biggest of the big trees

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks protect the world's most enormous trees. In Sequoia National Park's Giant Forest, visitors can follow a wheelchair-accessible trail to meet Earth's largest tree, the 36-foot-wide General Sherman giant sequoia. Hiking trails in the Giant Forest range from one- to two-hour hikes to half-days or longer. Birdwatchers flock here to seek 200 species of birds. Backpackers explore the superlative mountain wilderness on more than 850 miles of maintained trails. Exploration is even available underground on tours of the otherworldly Crystal Cave. In other interpretive programs, rangers lead moonlight walks, discuss bears and other mountain wildlife, and lead snowshoe hikes among the enormous red trees. Overnighters can choose from campgrounds, cabins, and comfortable lodges.

559-565-3341

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Save The Redwoods
LEAGUE®

The League has protected more than 2,200 acres in these parks, including Dillonwood Grove in Sequoia National Park. Gifts to the League from all 50 states made the grove's 2001 purchase possible.



RED HILL

A Giant Win for Conservation

ONE OF THE WORLD'S LAST PRIVATELY OWNED ANCIENT GIANT SEQUOIA FORESTS IS PROTECTED FOREVER

Red Hill shelters 110 ancient giant sequoia, by most assessments, the largest, oldest and most magnificent trees in the surrounding area of Giant Sequoia National Monument.

If the planet's magic is contained in water, as scientist Loren Eiseley maintains, it also must be said that the magic is contained in the primeval forest. And there are few places where that sylvan enchantment is stronger than Red Hill, a 160-acre property along the South Fork of the Tule River, where scores of ancient giant sequoia tower above the rugged Sierra Nevada.

To explore this extraordinary place is to walk back in time, all the way to the Cretaceous period. Dinosaurs once foraged in *Sequoiadendron* forests; at Red Hill, we find one of the last places on Earth to gaze upon "the original face of nature," as League founder John C. Merriam would say.

Giant sequoia are the largest trees on Earth, but they are relatively few in number, scattered in about 73 groves along the western slopes of California's Sierra Nevada. In total, they cover only about 48,000 acres, roughly the size of Cleveland, making every grove precious. In contrast to coast redwoods, which were easily accessible to the rapidly urbanizing communities of the San Francisco Bay Area, two-thirds of giant sequoia groves in the rural Sierra region were largely spared the magnitude of destructive, early logging. Most of the remaining giant sequoia groves have been protected as public parks and preserves.

About 1,200 acres of ancient giant sequoia remain in private hands, and their future protection is thus uncertain. And while the logging of any mature giant sequoia is unlikely today, the great trees, and the forests that surround and sustain them, remain vulnerable to development, wildfire, and climate change.

Faced with this fact, Save the Redwoods League has been working with willing landowners to ensure that the remaining ancient giant sequoia are protected. The League's purchase and protection of Red Hill is our most recent—and one of our most important—achievements toward that end. An inholding in Giant Sequoia National Monument and Sequoia National Forest, Red Hill was acquired by the League from Michael Nicholas last June. The property shelters a staggering 110 ancient giant sequoia. These giants, the pristine South Fork of the Tule River, and the contiguous forest of mixed conifers combine to create a citadel of tranquility, seemingly

a world and epoch away from the bustle and glitter of the Los Angeles basin, a four-hour drive southwest. This remote wonder is also critical habitat for a variety of imperiled species, including the Pacific fisher, the Sierra marten, the California spotted owl, the northern goshawk and the mountain yellow-legged frog. Red Hill also is considered prime territory for the re-establishment of California condor populations.

“The Red Hill purchase will eliminate a key inholding in Giant Sequoia National Monument,” said Teresa Benson, Sequoia National Forest Supervisor. “In the next few years, the US Forest Service hopes to acquire the property from Save the Redwoods League with support

“Save the Redwoods League shares a lot of my family’s same interests as far as protecting the land and ensuring this resource is going to carry on and be a treasure not only for this generation, but also for future generations. I feel like the League’s purchase is a real win-win situation for all of us. The trees that my mother, Isabelle Nicholas, protected will live on.”

Michael Nicholas, former owner of Red Hill

from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, allowing public access and agency scientists and staffers greater flexibility in managing for the protection and restoration of giant sequoia forests. The project will also reduce Forest Service costs associated with boundary management and oversight of Giant Sequoia National Monument.”

Thanks to a generous challenge to match all gifts, the League raised over \$4 million for the purchase and stewardship of Red Hill. The funds raised supported the \$3.3 million purchase price and the estimated \$700,000 for project costs and stewardship activities to enhance forest conditions and climate and fire resilience on the property. More than 3,100 League members from across the country contributed to the effort, along

with significant grants from individuals and local and regional foundations including The Joseph & Vera Long Foundation, Jerry Martin, The Summer Hill Foundation, the Ted Martin Legacy Fund at the Central Valley Community Foundation, The Conservation Alliance, and the Flora L. Thornton Foundation.

Before the League’s purchase, Red Hill had been in the Nicholas family since the 1970s. The family managed the undeveloped property with care, thinning trees to reduce wildfire risk and sustain the value of the property.

“Save the Redwoods League shares a lot of my family’s same interests as far as protecting the land and ensuring this resource is going to carry on and be a treasure not only for this generation, but also for future generations, said Nicholas. “I feel like the League’s purchase is a real win-win situation for all of us. The trees that my mother, Isabelle Nicholas, protected will live on.”

PUBLIC BENEFITS

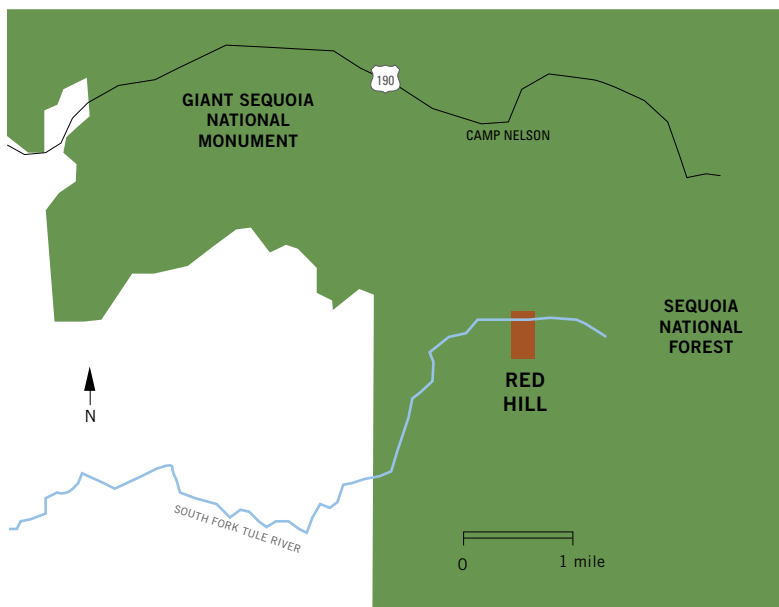
Red Hill’s protection will yield significant public benefits. After the League transfers the property, the Forest Service is expected to open the property to the public by 2021, complementing the outstanding experiences that are available in the surrounding area. Giant Sequoia National Monument showcases nearly half of the giant sequoia groves in the world, and offers unforgettable hiking, backpacking, fishing, horseback riding, rock climbing, scenic drives, nature photography, caving, birding, mountain biking, kayaking, rafting, and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

Benson said Red Hill’s inclusion in the monument will strengthen the ecological resilience of the entire region because of its mature giant sequoia and habitat for numerous imperiled species.

“The League and the US Forest Service have been long-time allies and partners, and we consider Red Hill one of our most important giant sequoia conservation efforts to date,” Benson said.

Red Hill is also a bulwark in the hydrological stability of the region. The South Fork Tule River watershed drains westward through the Tule River Indian Reservation, finally entering California’s San Joaquin Valley. It provides water for the tribe and numerous communities along its course, and ultimately to the people and hundreds of farms in the Central Valley. Ongoing development in the Tule River Basin threatens this critical water resource, making the protection of the Red Hill property especially important. Mature forests are both natural reservoirs and filters, providing clean water. Further, the Red Hill project helps the federal government meet responsibilities to the Tule River tribe through watershed protection programs.





MAP KEY

- Red Hill
- Protected Lands

A SITE FOR SCIENTIFIC STUDY

Red Hill also will function as a living laboratory for scientists studying the carbon sequestration potential of mature forests. Trees capture carbon from the air and store it as wood; forests are thus an essential tool for mitigating climate change. Unfortunately, drought and wildfire have ravaged Sierra Nevada forests, greatly reducing their potential as carbon sinks.

“More than 102 million trees—mostly pines—were killed in California by a combination of the recent drought, bark beetles, and fire suppression, which for decades has led to high tree density and intensified competition for water,” said Emily Burns, League Director of Science. “Eighty percent of the trees lost were in the Sierra Nevada. Research indicates that a critical solution to protect Sierra forests is to thin stands where tree density is unnaturally high and restore fire as a critical ecosystem process.”

Giant sequoia forests have faced pervasive fire suppression over the past century and suffer from the lack of frequent low-intensity fires that are necessary for reproduction. Before and after the transfer, the Red Hill project will help provide a model for progressive management of fuels (buildups of combustible vegetation) throughout Giant Sequoia National Monument, improving forest resistance to devastating wildfire. The project will also conform to the monument’s management plan, which emphasizes the consolidation of key inholdings and actions to promote recovery of the California spotted owl and other special-status plant and animal species.

WHAT

Save the Redwoods League purchased **Red Hill**, a spectacular property that contains the second-largest giant sequoia grove in private hands. The League will eventually transfer Red Hill to the US Forest Service for permanent protection as part of Giant Sequoia National Monument and Sequoia National Forest.

SIGNIFICANCE

Permanent Protection

The League’s purchase assures Red Hill’s permanent protection according to the long-term giant sequoia conservation plan under development by the US Forest Service and associated stakeholders.

Public Access

Thanks to the purchase, it’s estimated that the public will have access to the property’s 110 ancient giant sequoia and the South Fork of the Tule River by 2021.

Highest Conservation Priority

Red Hill’s 110 ancient giant sequoia, inholding status in Giant Sequoia National Monument, and location along the South Fork of the Tule River (part of one of the most important and imperiled watersheds in the southern Sierra) make its conservation a top priority. The grove is critical habitat for many imperiled species and is a critical connection to the monument and Sequoia National Forest.

LEARN MORE

See a video featuring spectacular Red Hill. SaveTheRedwoods.org/RedHillGrove





Finally, the protection of Red Hill brings Save the Redwoods League and allies one step closer toward the implementation of their vision for giant sequoia conservation: to protect the last remaining ancient giant sequoia and advance stewardship—including the strategic use of fuels management and prescribed fire—that will ensure the natural function of the ecosystem into the future.

“Red Hill is one of the great natural gems of the Sierra Nevada, and this purchase and ultimate transfer will ensure its protection forever,” said League President Sam Hodder. “We’re thankful to the many individuals and foundation partners who care passionately about redwoods and donated to help us protect this important grove. We also acknowledge the commitment of the Nicholas family for carefully managing this stunning forest. This is a project of tremendous significance, bringing us closer to fulfilling the League’s Centennial Vision of protecting the remaining viable old-growth giant sequoia and coast redwood forests. The future of giant sequoia depends on what we do now—and protecting Red Hill is a giant step in the right direction.” —

—Glen Martin

Red Hill shelters a staggering 110 ancient giant sequoia (LEFT) and provides critical habitat for a wide variety of rare, threatened and endangered species, including (BELOW, FROM LEFT) the Pacific fisher, northern goshawk and mountain yellow-legged frog.

FACING PAGE The South Fork of the Tule River rushes through Red Hill. The river is part of one of the most important and imperiled watersheds in the southern Sierra Nevada.





MOMENTOUS MILESTONES

Highlights of the League's first century in protecting and restoring redwood forests and connecting people with these natural wonders

California's coast redwood and giant sequoia forests are a true wonder of the world. Visitors to the redwoods are able to connect with a timeless, beautiful landscape unlike any other. But this irreplaceable treasure was nearly lost. With the 1849 Gold Rush came an explosive demand for lumber, and ancient redwood forests faced extinction. Enter Save the Redwoods League in 1918. Parcel by parcel, the League purchased and protected ancient groves and surrounding lands. In the 100 years since its founding, the League has protected more than 214,000 acres and helped create 66 parks and reserves. It has innovated science and technology

to accelerate the forests' healing; educated thousands of schoolchildren; and improved access and visitor experiences for millions of people.

Save the Redwoods League has a story of hope and resilience to tell. Our 100-year legacy shows that it is possible to stop the destruction of a natural treasure. Now, during our Centennial, we begin our second chapter in which we will show how it is possible to regenerate the redwood forest, and create a place that will clean the air, heal our spirits, and stand as a symbol of optimism.

THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARK SYSTEM

In the early 1920s, a League-led coalition pushed for legislation that would create a unified system to manage California's growing network of state parks. In 1927, state park system legislation in the form of three bills was signed into law. The bills provided for the creation of a state park commission to administer a unified system; a survey of potential park sites; and a vote on a bond issue to provide funds for parkland acquisitions. Voters approved the park bond by a 3-to-1 margin in 1928, and California's world-renowned state park system was born.

FACING PAGE Visitors in the 1920s stand among colossal giant sequoia in what is now Calaveras Big Trees State Park. In 1931 and 1954, with support from the League and the Calaveras Grove Association, the State of California park system acquired the North Grove and South Grove respectively.

BELOW The League dedicates the Bull Creek-Dyerville Forest as part of the California state parks system in 1931 after John D. Rockefeller Jr. contributed \$2 million toward the purchase of the land. One of the world's most spectacular places, the forest is part of Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

GIANT SEQUOIA GROVES

Throughout its history, the League has played a significant role in protecting the world's most massive tree species. An early victory came in 1931, when the League helped the state acquire the Calaveras North Grove. The larger South Grove, however, stayed in private hands and its purchase remained a League priority through the 1940s. The League and the Calaveras Grove Association launched a fundraising campaign bringing in thousands of donations, and in 1954, this tremendous effort resulted in the acquisition and transfer of the South Grove for Calaveras Big Trees State Park. A later achievement was the addition of the 1,540-acre Dillonwood Grove to Sequoia National Park. In 2000, League advocacy convinced Congress to approve the grove's inclusion in the park, but the \$10 million purchase price had to be met. The League raised the funds from supporters in all 50 states, and the magnificent Dillonwood sequoia were permanently protected as part of the park.



ROCKEFELLER FOREST AND HUMBOLDT REDWOODS STATE PARK

The League's founders believed that it was crucial to protect two spectacular old-growth forests in Humboldt County: Dyerville Flat and Bull Creek Flat, which founder Henry Fairfield Osborn described as the finest forest in the "whole history of creation." However, the forests' lumber company owner was more interested in logging the land than in selling it. In 1924, when logging began in Dyerville Flat, League leaders sprang into action, pressing the company to negotiate, while informing John D. Rockefeller Jr., a new friend of the League, of the situation. Rockefeller agreed to contribute \$2 million toward the purchase of the land. Thanks to the diplomacy of Executive Director Newton Drury and Rockefeller's generous gift, the League was able to purchase the property.

Dedicated as Bull Creek-Dyerville Forest, this breathtaking, 9,400-acre haven became Rockefeller Forest, the heart of Humboldt Redwoods State Park. The League's land purchases over the decades have protected nearly all of the park, which is about twice the size of San Francisco. Today, thanks to gifts from generations of our members, the park embraces the world's largest ancient redwood forest.



REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS

The conservation story of Redwood National and State Parks captures the essential nature of the League's work: strategic, visionary plans carried out through creativity, collaboration and determination. The League began protecting land here in the early 1920s, and has since safeguarded more than 55,000 acres through the acquisition and transfer of more than 140 properties to the complex. The League also campaigned vigorously for the creation of Redwood National Park, a vision realized in 1968. With its partners and supporters, the League helped to assemble and protect a vast redwood forest haven, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that safeguards the world's tallest trees. "Together," said League President and CEO Sam Hodder, "we created these parks that shelter nearly half of the world's remaining old-growth redwood forests—parks that inspire awe and wonder in the hearts of visitors like no other place on Earth."

ABOVE Dignitaries including Ronald Reagan (second from left), Richard and Pat Nixon (fifth and sixth from left), Lyndon Johnson (seventh from left) and Lady Bird Johnson (not visible) attend the 1969 dedication of Lady Bird Johnson Grove in Redwood National Park. The League advocated for the park's establishment, which was in 1968.

FACING PAGE A researcher of the League's Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative studies a giant sequoia in Sequoia National Park. In 2013, the League announced the Initiative's surprising findings. Among them: Ancient redwood forests store more carbon than any other type of forest.

REDWOODS AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE

With the 2009 launch of the Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative (RCCI), world-leading experts joined forces to intensively study the state of the redwood forests in a changing world. In 2013, the RCCI scientists announced their astonishing results. We learned that old-growth redwood forests store more carbon per acre than any other type of forest, confirming that they are a critical resource in our response to climate change; that tree-ring records reveal how historical climate events impacted redwoods' growth; and much more. Through this initiative, our understanding of the complexities of the forest and climate is growing by leaps and bounds, enabling us to better protect the redwoods into the future.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH GRANTS

Through its education and research grants programs, the League is inspiring the next generation of forest caretakers and enabling important scientific discoveries. Since 2000, the League has awarded more than 450 educational grants, introducing the wonders of the redwoods to 490,000 students. Meanwhile, research grant recipients are making remarkable discoveries about redwoods' genetics and ecology; the diversity of forest wildlife and rare species; how the forest heals from past damage; and much more.

This growing body of knowledge, resulting from more than 125 grants since 1997, helps us to protect and manage these precious places for future generations.



Photo by Anthony Ambrose.



The Pandhumsoporn family of Fremont, California, enjoys Big Basin Redwoods State Park on Redwoods Friday in 2017, when the League provided free passes to visit California's spectacular redwood state parks. Since 2015, more than 62,000 people have participated in the League's Free Redwoods Days, experiencing these parks for the first time or rekindling their love for them.

PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF THE MILL CREEK ADDITION

In 2002, Save the Redwoods League made its largest acquisition to date: the 25,000-acre Mill Creek Addition. Just upstream from the primeval forests of Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, Mill Creek has been thoroughly logged. Its young forest is dense, and sediment from eroding roads covers streambeds. Transferring the land to Redwood National and State Parks allowed landscape-scale restoration to begin. The League and our partners have made significant progress, thinning more than 4,000 acres of forest, retiring 69 miles of roads, removing 344 stream crossings, and installing 90 in-stream log structures—and this is just the beginning. Continued restoration through Redwoods Rising, our initiative with Redwood National and State Parks, will give future generations the opportunity to experience a forest that we can only imagine, and protect the ancient forest downstream.

FREE REDWOODS DAYS PROGRAMS

In 2015, Save the Redwoods League invited Californians to visit redwood state parks on Black Friday—for free! "Californians are so fortunate to have such spectacular state parks in our home state," said Sam Hodder, League President and CEO. "What better way to spend the day after Thanksgiving than walking among the giant ancient redwoods with friends and family?" In the past three years, these Free Redwoods Days have brought more than 62,000 people into our state parks, inspiring countless moments of awe. This year, to celebrate redwoods and our Centennial, the League is providing free admission to more than 40 redwood state parks on the second Saturday of each month. Get your free pass at FreeRedwoodsDays.org.

— Kelsey Piras

STAND FOR THE
REDWOODS
STAND FOR THE FUTURE

CHEERS

Photo © Max Forster

**CELEBRATE THE LEAGUE'S CENTENNIAL
BY ENJOYING A COOL GLASS
OF WATER OR LOCAL CRAFT BEER**

California redwood forests filter trillions of gallons of water—not only providing critical habitat and clean drinking water, but also the key ingredient in many of our state's iconic beverages. One of more than 100 reasons standing for the redwoods is standing for the future.

Learn more at StandForTheRedwoods.org

100 YEARS IS JUST THE BEGINNING



MOMENTOUS MILESTONES

KEY EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF REDWOODS AND SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE

The redwood forests are among the most important natural treasures in the world, home to biodiversity found nowhere else, able to slow climate change, and embodying rare beauty and balance that have been millions of years in the making.

We almost lost these forests after the Gold Rush and the explosive demand for timber.

Save the Redwoods League, founded 100 years ago in 1918, brought the forests back from the brink of extinction by buying and protecting ancient groves for future generations to experience.

Now, as we start our second century, the League is embarking on a Centennial Vision that will double the size of the protected redwood forests and restore the landscape to put young forests on the path to becoming magnificent old-growth stands.

Here is a look at pivotal events in the League's journey and the history of redwood forests.

- 1542** Spanish explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo's ships were met in the Santa Barbara Channel by Chumash sailors in redwood canoes.
- 1830** Water-powered mills were built in the San Francisco Bay area; the first power-operated commercial sawmill in California was built near Santa Rosa.
- 1847** Austrian botanist Stephen Endlicher recognized the coast redwoods as an entirely new genus and named it *Sequoia*.
- 1848** California Gold Rush began.
- 1849** Steam-powered sawmills were established in the San Antonio redwoods in the San Francisco Bay Area's East Bay Hills to increase production capacity.
- 1854** French botanist Joseph Decaisne recognized the Sierra "redwood" as another species of *Sequoia*.
- 1864** President Abraham Lincoln signed the Yosemite Grant Act of June 30, 1864, granting the "Yo-Semite Valley" and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove to the State of California.
- 1879** The Timber and Stone Act authorized the sale of federal land, including redwood forests, to private parties at \$2.50 per acre in 160-acre blocks; the Act was widely abused.
- 1885** California created the nation's first state Board of Forestry.
- 1891** The Forest Reserve Act was enacted, authorizing protection of national forests.
- 1900** Sempervirens Club (Sempervirens Fund) began protecting redwoods in the Santa Cruz Mountains.
- 1905** California passed a Forest Protection Act to regulate the logging industry and hired the nation's first state forester. At this time, 85-90 percent of the redwood forests remained unlogged.
- 1905** The United States Forest Service was established.
- 1908** President Theodore Roosevelt signed a proclamation to create Muir Woods National Monument, named in honor of naturalist John Muir.
- 1916** California Redwood Association, the only trade association concerned exclusively with the promotion of redwood products, was organized.
- 1916** President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Act, creating the National Park Service.
- 1917** Sonoma County purchased 320 acres of redwoods, which eventually became Armstrong Redwoods State Park in 1934.
- 1918** **Save the Redwoods League was founded.**
- 1921** With leadership from Save the Redwoods League, California approved the Redwoods Preservation Bill to acquire redwoods near the South Fork of the Eel River in what became Humboldt Redwoods State Park.
- 1927** Thanks to the League's leadership, new laws provided for the creation of California State Parks Commission to administer a unified parks system; a survey of potential park sites; and a vote on a bond issue to provide funds for parkland acquisitions.
- 1931** The League helped the State of California acquire the magnificent Calaveras North Grove of giant sequoia for Calaveras Big Trees State Park.
- 1938** The State Lands Act was passed, establishing a 10-year program of state park acquisition using revenue from oil royalties produced by tideland drilling.
- 1940** From the 1940s to the 1960s, timber owners were taxed on the amount of standing timber rather than sold logs, which encouraged logging.
- 1950** Forest industries certified the first redwood tree farm to encourage growing redwood timber as a continuous crop on privately owned, taxpaying forestland.
- 1969** Passage of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- 1970** The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) became law, requiring state and local agencies to identify significant environmental impacts of actions and to avoid or mitigate those impacts.

EXPLORE OUR INTERACTIVE TIMELINE

Learn more about the history of redwoods, the people, and events that helped spark a conservation movement and the League's 100 years of protecting redwood forests.

[SaveTheRedwoods.org/timeline](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/timeline)

With your help, Save the Redwoods League can build on its century of success and create the ancient forests of tomorrow. A new chapter for redwoods begins today. By standing for the redwoods, you stand for the future. Join us!

Learn more at StandForTheRedwoods.org.

STAND FOR THE REDWOODS

STAND FOR THE FUTURE

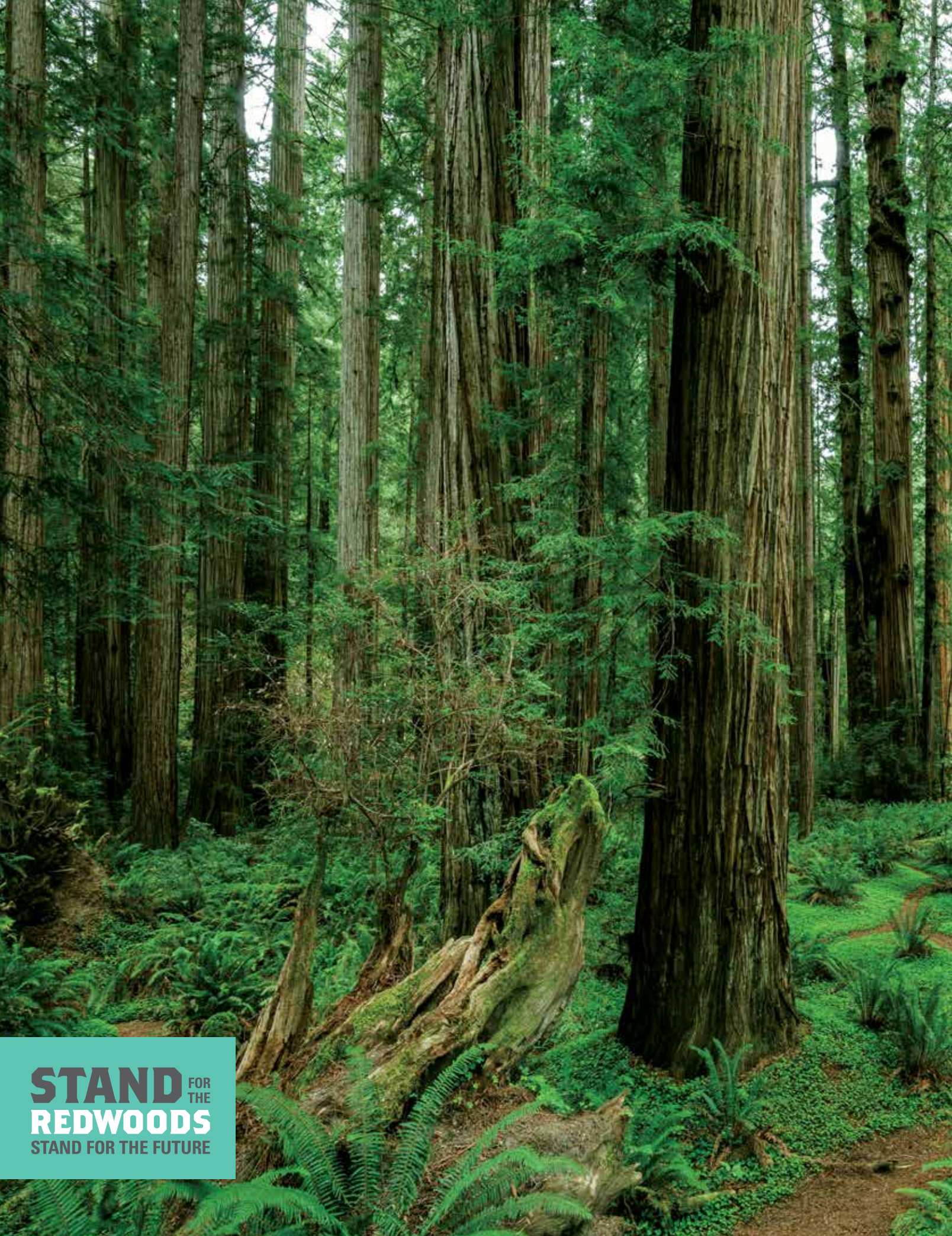
- 1973** The federal Endangered Species Act was signed, providing for conservation of endangered or threatened species and their ecosystems.
- 1974** The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practices Act, with new rules governing California forest practices, went into effect.
- 1978** President Jimmy Carter signed the Redwood National Park Expansion Act, increasing the park by 48,000 acres.
- 1990** The northern spotted owl, which inhabits old-growth forests, was listed as threatened by the US Fish & Wildlife Service.
- 1992** The marbled murrelet, which nests in old-growth forests, was listed as endangered by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife and as threatened by the US Fish & Wildlife Service.
- 1996** The northern spotted owl was listed as threatened by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife.
- 2000** League advocacy convinced the US Congress to approve the addition of the 1,540-acre Dillonwood Grove to Sequoia National Park.
- 2002** The League made its largest acquisition to date: the 25,000-acre Mill Creek Addition to Redwood National and State Parks.
- 2013** Scientists of the League's Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative announced that old-growth redwood forests store more carbon per acre than any other forest type.
- 2018** **Save the Redwoods League turns 100.**

100 YEARS IS JUST THE BEGINNING

Save The Redwoods
LEAGUE

ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECT REDWOOD PARKS

- 1890** Sequoia National Park
- 1890** Yosemite National Park
General Grant National Park
(INCORPORATED INTO KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK IN 1940)
- 1906** Big Basin Redwoods State Park
- 1909** Fort Ross State Historic Park
- 1919** Joaquin Miller Park
- 1921** Humboldt Redwoods State Park
- 1921** Standish-Hickey State Recreation Area
- 1922** Richardson Grove State Park
- 1923** Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
- 1925** Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park
- 1928** Mount Tamalpais State Park
- 1929** John B. Dewitt Redwoods State Natural Reserve
- 1930** Patrick's Point State Park
- 1931** Calaveras Big Trees State Park
- 1931** Humboldt Lagoons State Park
- 1932** Van Damme State Park
- 1933** Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park
- 1933** Russian Gulch State Park
- 1934** Armstrong Redwoods State Park
(RECLASSIFIED STATE NATURAL RESERVE IN 1964)
- 1934** Castle Rock State Park
- 1934** Kruse Rhododendron State Natural Reserve
- 1934** Sonoma Coast State Park
- 1939** Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park
- 1939** Redwood Regional Park
- 1940** Kings Canyon National Park
- 1943** Grizzly Creek Redwoods State Park
- 1944** Admiral William Standley State Recreation Area
- 1945** Mailliard Redwoods State Natural Reserve
- 1945** Portola Redwoods State Park
- 1946** Samuel P. Taylor State Park
- 1947** Montgomery Woods State Natural Reserve
- 1953** Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park
- 1955** Fort Humboldt State Historic Park
- 1956** Butano State Park
- 1958** Benbow State Recreation Area
- 1958** Hendy Woods State Park
- 1959** Jack London State Historic Park
- 1960** Bothe-Napa Valley State Park
- 1962** Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park
- 1963** Smithe Redwoods State Natural Reserve
- 1963** The Forest of Nisene Marks State Park
- 1964** Austin Creek State Recreation Area
- 1968** Andrew Molera State Park
- 1968** Salt Point State Park
- 1968** Redwood National Park
- 1972** Mendocino Headlands State Park
- 1974** Wilder Ranch State Park
- 1976** Jug Handle State Natural Reserve
- 1977** Mendocino Woodlands State Park
- 1979** Garrapata State Park
- 1982** Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area
- 1988** Navarro River Redwoods State Park
- 1994** Limekiln State Park
- 1999** Headwaters Forest Reserve



STAND FOR THE
REDWOODS
STAND FOR THE FUTURE



In 1929, Save the Redwoods League helped create the park now known as Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, starting with the spectacular Stout Memorial Grove, shown here.

Save The Redwoods
LEAGUE

A large, textured tree trunk in a forest, with ferns in the foreground.

AN EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT

THE LEAGUE'S *CENTENNIAL VISION* FOR REDWOODS CONSERVATION

On the Centennial of Save the Redwoods League, we present the first-ever *State of Redwoods Conservation Report*. This report describes how today, both coast redwoods and giant sequoia are facing some of their most significant, cumulative challenges yet. Our *Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation* shows how together, we can meet these challenges, and heal and regrow the old-growth forests for generations to come.



One hundred years is a brief, passing moment in the life of a redwood tree. In the life of a nonprofit organization, however, 100 years marks a major milestone.

In 2018, we celebrate the Centennial of Save the Redwoods League and a century of extraordinary accomplishments in protecting and restoring redwood forests and connecting people to their peace and beauty.

Since the organization's founding in 1918, the League—in close collaboration with donors, landowners, public agencies, conservation organizations, and other partners—has protected more than 214,000 acres of California's redwood forests.

In that time, we have created 66 redwood parks and reserves and inspired millions of transformational experiences for generations of visitors from around the world. We have educated thousands of schoolchildren about the ecological significance and resilience of coast redwoods and giant sequoia, invested in science-based forest restoration techniques, and advanced scientific discovery high in the forest canopy. And we have learned through this research that redwood forests store more carbon per acre than any other forest type in the world, confirming that they are a critical resource in our response to climate change.

In the wake of the 1849 Gold Rush and California's explosive demand for lumber, redwood forests that had flourished undisturbed along the North American West Coast for millions of years suddenly faced widespread destruction. In just a few generations, the world's only coast redwood forests were logged across all but 5 percent of their original range. In a matter of decades, we lost approximately 600,000 acres of redwood forest to land conversion, fragmenting the continuous ancient forests that once stretched 450 miles from Big Sur to just across Oregon's southern border. Similarly, giant sequoia on the west slopes of the Sierra Nevada—among the largest and oldest living species in the world—also suffered huge losses, with nearly a third slashed to the ground.

Today, despite the extraordinary conservation efforts of the past 100 years, the old-growth groves that remain are isolated islands surrounded by a sea of clear-cut forests struggling to regain their former stature. A century after the start of the movement to protect the redwoods, the forest reminds us that our work is just beginning.

To assess the critical challenges facing redwood forests, the League has released its first-ever *State of Redwoods Conservation Report*. The report details the forests' condition today and identifies pressing threats. In coast redwood forests, centuries of logging destroyed most of the old-growth forests; their recovery is slow on protected lands that need restoration, and is stunted on private lands where logging continues. In addition, land development—including the construction of subdivisions and expansion of agriculture—remains a risk to our rare and treasured coast redwood ecosystem. Two other major challenges to coast redwood and giant sequoia forests include climate change and too few beneficial, naturally occurring wildfires.

This suite of threats imperils forests on both public and private land across California. In addition to the extraordinary value of redwood and sequoia forests in sequestering carbon, they also are vitally important for filtering our water, providing resilient habitat for an array of species, and inspiring visitors from around the globe with their magnificence.

It is the combination of stressors across the redwood ecosystems that poses the greatest threat to sustaining coast redwood forests for future generations. A variety of conservation and restoration actions are required to protect the future health of the forest. The report makes it clear that we must focus on the need for significant,

PREVIOUS SPREAD A visitor enters a primeval scene in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. The League helped establish this park in 1923, saving its ancient redwoods from destruction. Now at the start of its second century, the League is setting the surrounding historically logged lands on the path to grow into marvelous forests like this one.



science-driven intervention and the restoration of coast redwood and giant sequoia ecosystems.

“This report is our wake-up call; a reminder of how critical a healthy, resilient redwood forest is to the future of California and beyond,” said League President Sam Hodder. “Our Centennial comes at an extraordinary moment. In response to the serious challenges facing our redwood forests that are documented in this report, we have both the opportunity and the responsibility to heal and regrow the old-growth forests of future generations.”

The comprehensive report, the culmination of years of research and on-the-ground work by League scientists and our partners, provides a contemporary analysis of the health and condition of the entire coast redwood and giant sequoia forest ecosystems. The report

assesses ecosystem health against four key conservation metrics: old-growth forest structure, the extent of protected forestland, the impact of land development on forest edges, and fire readiness.

The *State of Redwoods Conservation Report* describes how redwood forests play a key role during this period of accelerated climate change. These forests help to mitigate the impact of human-accelerated climate change by storing extraordinary volumes of carbon; they provide habitat for imperiled species; and they remain resilient in the face of change.

“Higher-than-expected growth in recent decades suggests that redwoods will persist and enable the redwood forest to be a critical climate refuge for species acutely threatened by climate change,” said Emily Burns, the League’s Director of Science.

WHAT IS THE STATE OF REDWOODS CONSERVATION REPORT?

The first report detailing some of the most significant, cumulative challenges facing California's coast redwood and giant sequoia forests



COAST REDWOOD AND GIANT SEQUOIA ECOSYSTEMS
require significant, science-driven intervention and restoration

PRESSING CHALLENGES

FORESTS HAVE BEEN DEGRADED BY:

- clear-cutting
- development
- climate change
- decades of fire exclusion

PLANS FOR MOST CRITICAL NEEDS

↓

ACQUISITION



Safeguard unprotected forests by purchasing land or securing conservation easements

↓

SCIENCE-BASED STRATEGIES



Restore 600,000+ acres of logged coast redwood forests

↓

REDUCE RISK OF SEVERE WILDFIRES



Remove buildups of combustible vegetation

- in 48,000 acres of giant sequoia forests
- in 1.4 million acres of young coast redwood forests

WHY ARE THESE RARE COAST REDWOOD AND GIANT SEQUOIA ECOSYSTEMS IMPORTANT?

Crucial in the fight against climate change



Inspire millions of visitors with their rare beauty

Store more carbon than any other type of forest



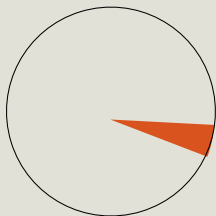
Provide habitat for imperiled species

Filter our water



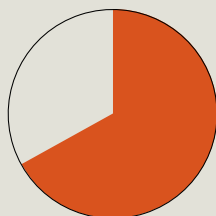
WHAT REMAINS OF THESE FORESTS?

COAST REDWOODS: 1.6 million acres



Ancient forests: 5%

GIANT SEQUOIA: 48,000 acres



Ancient forests: 67%

LEARN MORE:

SaveTheRedwoods.org/RedwoodsReport

A REMARKABLE RESTORATION OPPORTUNITY

Compared to forests of the past, today's coast redwood and giant sequoia forests are fragmented, smaller, and more stressed than ever throughout their range. Logging that began over a century ago harvested redwood forests on an industrial scale several times over. Forest regeneration after clear-cutting created unnaturally dense forests with high competition among trees for light and water, resulting in reduced genetic diversity and impairment of the forest's ability to store carbon or provide ample habitat for native species.

Giant sequoia grow in numerous isolated groves on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada as components of the region's mixed-conifer forest. Even though they were not subject to the same scale of logging or development compared to the coast redwoods, the impacts of forest management and fire exclusion are substantial. Sequoia need frequent low-intensity fires to suppress the growth of other woody species in the groves and encourage the establishment of young seedlings that can only sprout after fire. Decades of fire exclusion practices have made it increasingly difficult to conduct proactive burns. Because of this, other tree species, including white fir, have become densely established in sequoia groves, thus creating ideal conditions for severe fires that could actually threaten giant sequoia and the human communities found at the wildland-urban interface.

While 95 percent of the ancient coast redwood forest was lost, much of the remaining 5 percent has been saved, thanks to the more than 100 years of conservation efforts to protect the last of the old-growth forest from logging. Recent regulatory efforts have helped to enhance stream protection and encourage tree retention in some parts of the forest as industrial harvest of second-, third-, and fourth-growth redwoods continues.

Although the protected old-growth groves remain as islands of isolated forests surrounded by fragmented landscapes, there is today an extraordinary opportunity to improve coast redwood and giant sequoia forest ecosystems through accelerated, strategic land conservation and improved stewardship, as detailed in the League's report. To recover the ecosystems' multiple values and ensure resilience into the future, redwood forests need land conservation at the large, landscape scale, restoration forest management, and policies that support these activities.

An effective conservation and restoration strategy

for redwood forests requires a public understanding and prioritization of the extraordinary value of a

CENTENNIAL
Vision
for Redwoods

CONSERVATION



PROTECT

Protect the ancient redwoods and the vibrant forest landscapes that sustain them.

100-YEAR OBJECTIVES

- Double the size of coast redwood forests in parks and reserves to 800,000 acres.
- Protect the remaining old-growth forests.
- Secure the redwood forests' footprints and restore their ecological condition.

100-YEAR STRATEGIES

ACCELERATE REDWOOD FOREST CONSERVATION ON A LANDSCAPE SCALE

Our protected groves are islands, fragmented and disconnected from one another and their watersheds such that they are more like zoo exhibits of what the forest used to be rather than a healthy functioning ecosystem that delivers the full and extraordinary suite of values unique to the redwood forests. Still, the forests have a tremendous capacity to grow back, and we can help restore these vibrant, resilient landscapes by making bold investments in land conservation. We will seek to advance land acquisitions to substantially grow the parks and reserves through public and private conservation land transactions.

SECURE PROTECTION OF REMAINING OLD-GROWTH COAST REDWOOD AND GIANT SEQUOIA

Although most of the ancient redwood forests have either been protected by the League and our partners, or lost to the timber rush, there remain pockets of viable old-growth forests in the coast redwood and giant sequoia ranges that can provide ecological foundations for the regeneration of the forests. We will work to secure those forests and save them for future generations.

ADVANCE ECOLOGICAL FORESTRY CONSERVATION EASEMENTS ON WORKING FORESTS

Our commitment to the redwood forests goes beyond doubling the size of the reserves and accelerating their trajectory to old-growth forest form and function. We are also committed to ensuring that the rest of the redwood forest remains forest and exhibits the highest possible ecological conditions. Our strategy recognizes that for strategic areas within the coast redwood range, a sustainable commercial timber industry is a critical part of the redwood forests' future. To ensure that no more of the redwood forests are lost to development or other non-forest uses, we will work with timberland owners to acquire subdivision and development rights across large ownerships and elevate forest practices. Through conservation easements and other landowner agreements, we can help the forests regain their resilience and stature and keep the redwood forests' footprints from receding any further.

WHAT IS THE CENTENNIAL VISION?

PROTECT RESTORE CONNECT

Save the Redwoods League envisions vibrant redwood forests of the scale and grandeur that once graced the California coast and the Sierra Nevada, **protected** forever, **restored** to grow old again, and **connected** to people through a network of magnificent parks and protected areas that inspire all of us with the beauty and power of nature.



RESTORE

Restore young redwood forests so they become the old-growth forests for future generations.

100-YEAR OBJECTIVES

- Put half (800,000 acres) of the coast redwood forests on a trajectory toward old-growth forest form and function.
- Restore giant sequoia groves through fuels management, prescribed fire, and other tools that enhance ecosystem function.

100-YEAR STRATEGIES

LEVERAGE SCIENCE TO SET NEW STANDARDS FOR REDWOOD FOREST STEWARDSHIP

More than 160 years of aggressive timber harvesting across 2 million acres of the coast redwood forests have left deep scars on the land and suppressed its resilience and natural function. Our vision is to change that trajectory, build back that resilience and vibrancy, and grow the old-growth forests for future generations. As the standard bearer and lead convener of science and research in the redwood range, we will direct efforts to develop the most effective and appropriate techniques for healing the redwood forests.

IDENTIFY ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PRIORITIES ACROSS THE REDWOOD RANGE

With support and guidance from our state-of-the-art Vibrant Forests Plan, we will lead a collaborative effort to identify opportunities for the highest ecological returns at scale, seeking priority watersheds and forest landscapes to advance the regeneration of the redwood forests.

IMPLEMENT LANDSCAPE-SCALE RESTORATION PROJECTS TO ACCELERATE OLD-GROWTH FOREST CONDITIONS

Of the 1.6 million acres of coast redwood forest ecosystem remaining today on public and private land, 1.5 million acres (93 percent) have been logged at least once. Through our research in restoration techniques, we have seen firsthand how old-growth conditions in young, recovering forests can be accelerated through science-based restoration management that promotes tree growth and restores habitat and natural diversity. Having set standards and priorities, we will devote unprecedented public and private resources to treat redwood forests and begin to heal the damaged landscape we inherited.



CONNECT

Connect people to the peace and beauty of the California redwoods through a network of world-class parks and protected areas.

100-YEAR OBJECTIVES

- Substantially increase and diversify redwood park visitation to reflect the scale and diversity of California's population.
- Ensure an inspirational and transformative park experience for all who visit the redwoods.
- Make certain that redwood forests—their parks, ecological significance, conservation, and stewardship—are understood and embraced as critical elements of California's identity.

100-YEAR STRATEGIES

TRANSFORM PUBLIC ACCESS AND INTERPRETATION IN THE REDWOOD PARKS TO INSPIRE VISITATION AND ATTRACT NEW AUDIENCES

Much of the visitor-serving amenities in our redwood park system were designed and built during the Great Depression, when California's population was only 5 million and much different than it is today. The visiting public of the coming decades will be more urban, more diverse, and more numerous than our parks were designed to serve. Ninety years after Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. designed a redwood park plan that defined our park system for generations, it is time to reimagine how our redwood parks can inspire a new era of connecting the public to the beauty and inspiration of the outdoors. Now is our opportunity to open the doors of the redwood parks, draw a broader audience, and tell the story of how our redwood forests help sustain the world.

CREATE SIGNATURE REDWOOD DESTINATIONS IN SELECT GEOGRAPHIES

The redwood parks that we have helped to create bring 31 million visitors from around the world every year. The iconic allure and accessibility of California's redwood forests, combined with their extraordinary ecological value, climate resilience, and "restorability," create an unparalleled opportunity to inspire a deeper understanding of the world in which we live. We will work to provide exceptional facilities at heavily visited redwood parks, attracting diverse visitors, catalyzing a deeper understanding of redwood forests, and inspiring a new conservation ethic of forest stewardship and appreciation of the natural world.

STRATEGICALLY UPGRADE RECREATIONAL, EDUCATIONAL, AND INTERPRETIVE INFRASTRUCTURE IN EXISTING PARKS

We have worked for 100 years to protect redwood forests for their sake and for the value these protected landscapes convey to our communities. Because extraordinary redwood parks make our lives better and our communities stronger, it is critical that we invest in park infrastructure and programming to keep pace with the changing demographics of visitors. We will seek to increase and diversify visitation in redwood parks by lowering barriers, delivering transformational experiences, and immersing visitors in the beauty of the redwood forests.

RAISE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF REDWOOD FORESTS THROUGH MARKETING REDWOOD PARKS AND PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTERS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT REDWOOD-FOCUSED PROGRAMMING

With millions of annual visitors to the redwood parks, visitation is imbalanced. Certain parks are loved to death while others are substantially underutilized. Even as we pursue a deliberate and strategic investment in getting our parks ready for the visitors of the future, we will invest in raising awareness and lowering barriers to access. We will advance a deliberate, multifaceted awareness-building campaign to ensure that redwoods again become a central component of the California experience.

healthy, functioning redwood forest ecosystem. Carbon sequestration, climate resilience, healthy rivers, healthy salmon runs, migration corridors, and inspiring beauty are all critical values for our collective future, and values that the current management of the redwood forests is undermining. However, as we learn more about forest health, ecosystem dynamics, and the science behind restoration forestry, we have an opportunity to find a different and better balance for the forest.

The purpose of the *State of Redwoods Conservation Report* is to serve as a reference guide to the status of redwoods and giant sequoia today and present the key variables that matter most to their future health: overall age and condition of the forests, varied ownership

and protection of redwood and giant sequoia forests, and key stressors and environmental challenges. As governments, nonprofits, landowners, and community partners work to repair the damage done over the last centuries, this report will help all of us in the critical work of protecting what we have, rehabilitating what is damaged, and identifying critical areas and opportunities for future protection and restoration.

“By studying the entire coast redwood and giant sequoia forest ranges, across public and private lands, we are able to see what stressors are most critical to address,” said Burns. “With this new insight in hand, we can catalyze new conservation action to protect these remarkable wonders of the natural world.”



Today's most pressing threats to redwood forests include clear-cutting, land development, agriculture, climate change, and altered fire patterns.

KEY FINDINGS

The *State of Redwoods Conservation Report* shows that although coast redwood and giant sequoia forests share many threats, challenges also differ across their respective ranges.

OLD-GROWTH FOREST STRUCTURE

The current extent of old-growth forests in the coast redwood ecosystem is only 5 percent of the original 2.2 million-acre forest. Surrounding the remaining 113,000 acres of old-growth forests is 1.4 million acres of logged redwood forests, half of which is young and with an average trunk diameter of just 8 inches. The other half is of intermediate, "commercial" age, with much of it ready for harvest in the coming decade.

In giant sequoia groves, historical logging removed mature trees in at least 24 groves. Out of the 48,000 total acres of giant sequoia forests today, more than 11,000 acres were once heavily logged, and approximately 5,000 more acres were partially logged.

FIRE READINESS

About 90 percent of the coast redwood and giant sequoia ecosystems are burning moderately to significantly less frequently than before European settlement. With wildfire frequency predicted to increase because of climate change, and because of significant fuels accumulation in the forests today, both ecosystems are vulnerable to severe fire damage.

Few roads disrupt the forest in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park (LEFT), whereas industrial timberland is deeply divided by logging roads (MIDDLE), and suburban neighborhoods contain many residential roads (RIGHT).



PROTECTED FORESTS

Only 22 percent (345,000 acres) of the coast redwood ecosystem is highly protected from commercial logging, subdivision, and development. However, the vast majority of giant sequoia groves are held in public or tribal ownership, with only 1,200 acres privately owned today.

ADDITIONAL IMPACTS CAUSED BY HUMANS

Since the California Gold Rush in the 19th century, an estimated 27 percent (600,000 acres) of the original coast redwood forest ecosystem was lost when the forest was converted to non-forest uses such as development and agriculture. Nearly 40 percent of the remaining coast redwood forests is impacted by the “edge effect” of those non-forest uses, fragmented by roads, cities, and industrial development, and resulting in degraded habitat along the forests’ edges. In contrast, 16 percent of the giant sequoia ecosystem is affected by harmful forest-edge impacts. Roads are the primary type of infrastructure affecting the giant sequoia forests, followed by residential development.

A NEW VISION FOR OUR NEXT CENTURY

Today, at the start of the League’s second century, we will meet the challenges identified in the *State of Redwoods Conservation Report*. The League has a vision to set in motion the protection and restoration

of the redwood forests that will inspire future generations and restore resilience in these iconic California ecosystems.

The League’s new *Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation* includes 100-year goals, objectives, and strategies to address the findings of the *State of the Redwoods Conservation Report*, all to protect and restore these landscapes, and connect people to the redwoods in the decades to come.

“In a world increasingly defined by the deterioration of global natural treasures—receding glaciers, dammed and dying rivers, unprecedented rates of species extinction—the redwood forest has a story of hope and resilience to tell,” Hodder said.

Over the past 100 years, we have learned a great deal about how redwood forests function: how roads and clear-cuts jeopardize the health of our forests, how protected islands of redwoods remain vulnerable when surrounded by a sea of cutover lands, and how, by contrast, sustainable forest management practices can actually help redwood forests expand and thrive. At a time when we are struggling to find ways to mitigate the proliferation of carbon in the atmosphere, we have learned that California’s ancient redwood forests store more carbon per acre than any other forest type in the world. And as they clean our air and water, offering resilient habitat in a changing world, we know that redwood parks enrich our lives and make our communities stronger.



THE LEGACY OF LOGGING

Old-Growth Forest



7%

Mature Second-Growth



2%

Intermediate Second-Growth



41%

Young Second-Growth



50%



1.6 Million Acres Remaining

1.6 million acres of coast redwood forest | mostly composed of younger trees

600,000 Acres Lost

Harvested and converted



Old-growth redwood forests provide resilient refuges for diverse plant and animal life including (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) the wandering salamander, imperiled northern spotted owl, and Roosevelt elk.

Having saved much of what remains of the old-growth redwood forests, we now must turn our attention to the forests we have lost—the forests we can heal. We will devote our efforts to regrow the broader resilience and function of the redwood ecosystems and share their inspirational beauty through an extraordinary network of parks.

“What the forests require of us now,” Hodder said, “is that we accelerate our conservation efforts, that we restore their vitality and resilience, and that we inspire a new generation of visitors to be their stewards of the future.”

This ambitious effort will create vibrant, expansive old-growth redwood forests for the future. Our vision is built upon decades of land-based conservation work and deliberate, focused, scientific research. It asserts that our redwood forests need a “landscape,” or large-scale, strategy for sustainable, resilient, and effective conservation.

In advancing this vision, we assert that protecting the 5 percent of the original coast redwood forests is not the end of our conservation effort, but the starting point for the forests we will regrow together. We contend that to truly protect redwood forests and ensure their resilience for the future, we must double the acreage of forests in reserves over the next 100 years and ensure that no additional redwood forests are lost to subdivision or development.

We believe that young redwood forests currently struggling to recover from generations of clear-cutting can become the old-growth forests of the future with our active help, deliberate, science-based restoration treatments, and time and space to grow. In addition to doubling the size of redwood reserves over the next 100 years to grow the old-growth forests of the future, we believe that commercial forestry of high ecological standards can be a part of the solution, helping strategic areas of heavily impacted redwood forest regain their natural resilience and stature. And we believe that the people deserve a redwood park system that is as inspiring as the forests themselves.

Today, more than a million acres of redwood forests remain unprotected and managed primarily for commercial timber production. Although forest practices have improved over the decades, our protected forests are often surrounded by lands degraded by destructive past practices, turning them into islands lacking critical connections to surrounding landscapes. Furthermore, young redwood forests that surround these islands are struggling in a state of perpetual recovery as the rotating cycle of commercial harvests suppresses their natural tendency to thrive and grow into mature, healthy forests.

“In an era when we face loss of biodiversity and natural habitat at an unprecedented rate worldwide, the irrepressible resilience of the redwoods gives us hope,” Hodder said. “The redwood trees that once dominated the California coast—those ancient forests that were cut down to build our cities—are still there. We have the opportunity to reclaim these young, recovering forests, fulfill their potential to be a tremendous resource in mitigating climate change, and restore resilience into an ecosystem that has thrived since an earlier era of Earth.”



At the dawn of our next century, we seek to increase the scale and impact of our conservation work—our longstanding mission of saving healthy, vibrant redwood forests demands it. By collaborating with landowners, local communities, public agencies, and our members and supporters, we can make transformative landscape-scale change that will:

- **Reassemble vibrant redwood forests** that connect groves with their surrounding environment through strategic land acquisitions and landowner agreements.
- **Accelerate the recovery of second-growth forests** with deliberate, science-based forest management, blurring the line between old and young stands so they eventually merge into the resilient and naturally functioning coast redwood range of the future.
- **Increase the sequestration of carbon** to mitigate climate change, and provide resilient refuges for diverse plant and animal life through the restoration of the coast redwood range.
- **Enhance recovering forests** by thinning unnaturally dense stands of trees to encourage growth of select redwoods; decommissioning old logging roads to protect streams and reconnect habitats; reducing fuel loads (accumulations of combustible vegetation) to enhance fire resilience; and reintroducing natural disturbance regimes (historical patterns of natural processes such as fire) to recreate natural systems and accelerate the transition to old-growth forest form and function.
- **Lead the reimagining of our redwood park system** to prepare for a new generation of visitors and future park stewards.
- **Leverage new investments in recreational, educational, and interpretive infrastructure and programming** in our protected redwood parks to connect people to the peace and beauty of redwoods through extraordinary experiences that inspire a lifetime of love and reverence for the natural world.
- **Collaborate with local communities** to develop and sustain restoration- and recreation-based economies created around the repair and management of recovering forests and the enhancement of park infrastructure.

Together with our supporters and partners, we will set in motion the reclamation of the ancient redwood range and nurture the new forests that will inspire future generations to continue this critical work.

At its core, our Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation

is about preserving these globally significant forests—and the transformative redwood moments they inspire—for generations to come. Redwood forests are among our most sacred places; where we go to renew our spirits and immerse ourselves in their silent beauty, find peace and comfort in their resilience, gain perspective and humble respect for their unfathomable longevity, and witness firsthand the irrepressible power of nature. To walk among these giants is to look upon the original face of nature and experience the incomparable majesty and beauty of the world's tallest and some of the largest living things.

Our first chapter, spanning the past 100 years, is filled with stories and accomplishments detailing how we stopped the destruction of these superlative forests and how we saved treasured examples of the wild and ancient groves that once dominated California's coast and mountains. Now, we begin our second chapter, safeguarding these ancient groves and healing the forests that surround and sustain them.

Together with our supporters and partners, we will set in motion the reclamation of the ancient redwood range and nurture the new forests that will inspire future generations to continue this critical work, all the while renewing our human connection to the natural world through these treasured redwood parklands. With your help, we can continue writing this future together and take the first essential steps toward creating the ancient forests of tomorrow. —

—Jerry Emory and other League staff

CENTENNIAL
Vision
for Redwoods
CONSERVATION

FOR COMPLETION BY 2024

With our members' and partners' generous support, we will make great strides toward realizing the League's Centennial Vision in the near future. Here are some of the many exciting projects in progress for completion in the next six years.



GOAL: **PROTECT**

Protect the ancient redwoods and the vibrant forest landscapes that sustain them.

**LANDSCAPE-SCALE CONSERVATION:
PURSUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR
CONSERVATION TRANSACTIONS
PROTECTING LARGE WATERSHEDS
IN STRATEGIC REDWOOD REGIONS.**

- Secure large protected land buffers around existing redwood reserves.
- Over decades, transition heavily impacted commercial forests to naturally functioning, climate-resilient redwood ecosystems through forest restoration management treatments.

**OLD-GROWTH PROTECTION: ACQUIRE
AND PROTECT REMAINING UNPROTECTED
OLD-GROWTH FORESTLAND.**

- Red Hill: 160-acre inholding in Giant Sequoia National Monument containing 110 ancient giant sequoia trees. It was one of the last remaining unprotected old-growth groves in the giant sequoia range. Learn about this acquisition on page 22.

- Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve (McApin Ranch): 730-acre property including the largest tree in Sonoma County and what was the largest unprotected old-growth forest left in California. Learn about this acquisition on page 60.

- Mailliard Ranch Old-Growth Reserve: Protect nearly 1,000 acres of old-growth redwoods and mixed conifer forest at the headwaters of the Garcia and Navarro rivers as reserves in a 15,000-acre easement.

**SECURE ECOLOGICALLY VIABLE REDWOOD
FOREST FOOTPRINTS: ACQUIRE CONSERVATION
EASEMENTS THAT PREVENT THE LOSS OF
REDWOOD FORESTLAND AND SECURE
ECOLOGICAL FOREST MANAGEMENT AT SCALE
OVER WORKING FORESTS.**

- Mailliard Ranch Working Forest Easement: Acquire a conservation easement that forever secures ecological forest management across the nearly 14,000 acres of sustainably managed working lands on the 15,000-acre ranch.



GOAL: **RESTORE**

Restore young redwood forests so they become the old-growth forests for future generations.

SET THE STANDARD: RESEARCH, ESTABLISH, AND DISSEMINATE BEST MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION PRACTICES FOR REGENERATING REDWOOD FOREST ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE AND VALUE.

- **Mapping the redwood genomes:** In this five-year initiative, sequence the coast redwood and giant sequoia genomes and develop tools to assess genetic diversity in redwood forests.
- **Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative (RCCI), Phase 3:** Study the effects of climate trends on second-growth forests' health. This phase follows the start of RCCI in 2009, when researchers established plots in old-growth forests throughout the redwood range. The plots serve as a baseline to study the effects of climate trends on the forests' health.
- **Research grants program:** Provide \$150,000 annually to nonprofit organizations, including universities and public agencies, to conduct research that deepens our understanding of how to protect and restore young redwood forests and accelerate their transition to old-growth form and function.

SET PRIORITIES: LEVERAGE SCIENCE AND PLANNING TO GUIDE RESTORATION INVESTMENTS TO WHERE THE GREATEST GOALS CAN BE REACHED ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LAND.

- **Vibrant Forests Plan (VFP):** Use the League's state-of-the-art, GIS-based conservation planning tool that provides accurate and dynamic evaluations of redwood forest conditions to better prioritize opportunities to protect and restore forests.

HEAL THE FOREST: IMPLEMENT AND MONITOR RESTORATION ACTIVITIES ON THE GROUND TO SET FORESTS ON A TRAJECTORY TOWARD OLD-GROWTH FOREST FORM AND FUNCTION.

- **Redwoods Rising:** With California State Parks and the National Park Service, restore and reconnect the 120,000 acres of redwood forest in Redwood National and State Parks, home to 45 percent of the remaining old-growth redwoods and half of the world's tallest trees.
- **San Vicente Redwoods:** With our partners, restore this 8,500-acre coast redwood forest that is a critical part of the Santa Cruz Mountains' ecosystem. This second-growth forest links 27,500 acres of contiguous protected forestland.



GOAL: **CONNECT**

Connect people to the peace and beauty of the California redwoods through a network of world-class parks and protected areas.

PROVIDE OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS LEADERSHIP TO ATTRACT VISITORS TO CALIFORNIA'S REDWOOD PARKS AND TO INSPIRE AND EDUCATE THESE AUDIENCES.

- **Explore Redwoods:** Provide programs and tools to give people more ways to interact with the redwood forest, no matter where they live.

WORK WITH PARTNERS TO DEVELOP, PROMOTE, AND IMPLEMENT BEST PRACTICES IN REDWOODS EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION PROGRAMMING, MATERIALS, AND EXHIBIT DESIGN AND CONTENT.

- More than 100 redwood parks
- Educational institutions
- Outdoor education organizations

CREATE EXTRAORDINARY VISITOR FACILITIES AT REDWOODS DESTINATIONS TO FACILITATE TRANSFORMATIONAL EXPERIENCES.

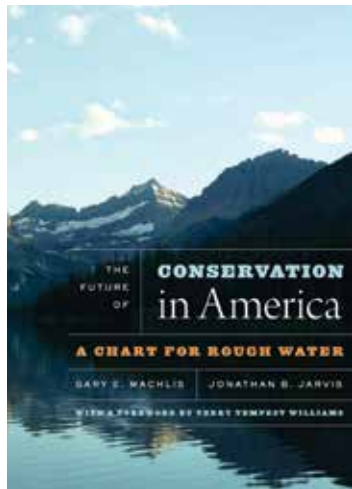
- Integrated educational and field experience facility and program for urban youths in San Francisco Bay Area's East Bay.

UPGRADE PARK INFRASTRUCTURE TO IMPROVE THE EXPERIENCE FOR VISITORS.

- **Big Basin Nature Museum & Research Center:** Help renovate and create interpretive displays in this historical building in Big Basin Redwoods State Park.

THE FUTURE OF CONSERVATION IN AMERICA— A CHART FOR ROUGH WATER

Gary E. Machlis and Jonathan B. Jarvis



Authors Gary Machlis and Jonathan Jarvis write that small books can have big aims. “Our goal is to provide a guide for how the conservation movement can effectively advance its agenda over the near- and long-term future.” *The Future of Conservation in America* is an excellent effort to do just that.

Machlis served as Jarvis’ science advisor while Jarvis was Director of the National Park Service from 2009 to 2017.

The authors write that it is time for a new and unified vision for conservation. They explain how we are experiencing a turning point at which climate change is forcing us to rethink how protected areas will be managed and what type of collaboration will be necessary to succeed in this unfolding new world.

One of their central concepts is strategic intention. Chapter four is the core of this guidebook where 14 strategies are succinctly explained for readers to contemplate and act on. Strategies range from “Integrate climate change into all conservation decisions and actions,” and “Protect, connect and grow the network of protected areas,” to “Connect all citizens to American nature.” These strategies are similar to the strategies in the League’s new *Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation*, described in this magazine on page 38.

While there is rough water ahead, the authors write that they “are confident in the future of conservation in America.” At 112 pages, this is a small book. But it is big on ideas, and the perfect mini-manual for those who care and are looking for guidance in these opaque times.

The Future of Conservation in America— A Chart for Rough Water

Gary E. Machlis and Jonathan B. Jarvis
with a foreword by Terry Tempest Williams

The University of
Chicago Press,
press.uchicago.edu

2018, 112 pages, \$14

BIG TREE HIKES OF SEQUOIA COUNTRY— A GUIDE TO THE GIANTS

Tyler Williams

Tyler Williams’ guidebook, *Big Tree Hikes of Sequoia Country—A Guide to the Giants*, is a simple and respectful paperback for exploring giant sequoia country. The author details 12 hikes, all situated in the southern Sierra Nevada, from Boole Tree Loop in the north to Trail of 100 Giants in the south. Hikes range from 0.2 miles to 5.5 miles, so we’re not talking rigorous backcountry outings. In fact, the author’s goal is for readers to quickly and easily access these magnificent trees.

Photos in *Sequoia Country* are mostly black-and-white, except for some color shots in the middle section. Each hike section begins with a general description, optimal season, round-trip distance, difficulty, and route surface. Simple maps are included, though I’d recommend bringing along something more detailed—as does the author. This is not a classic pocket guide, but at 5.5 inches by 8.5 inches, it’s easy to carry or stuff in a knapsack.

Tall Tall Tree by Anthony D. Fredericks is one of those books that kids ages 3 to 8 will enjoy over and over. At 9 inches by 11 inches, it's the perfect size to read as a family, or for a new reader to spread open and explore. Chad Wallace's dreamy and inviting artwork is a big part of the allure of discovering the creatures who live on, in, and around a tall redwood tree.

A letter from a northern spotted owl opens the book. From there, rhyming text accompanies the numbers 1 through 10. Each number introduces a species: an eagle, spotted owls, climbing salamanders, and many others. Wallace also worked in a few hidden critters—a ghostly hummingbird veiled in fog, a millipede mixing it up with a bevy of banana slugs, a resting marbled murrelet on a distant branch, and several more.

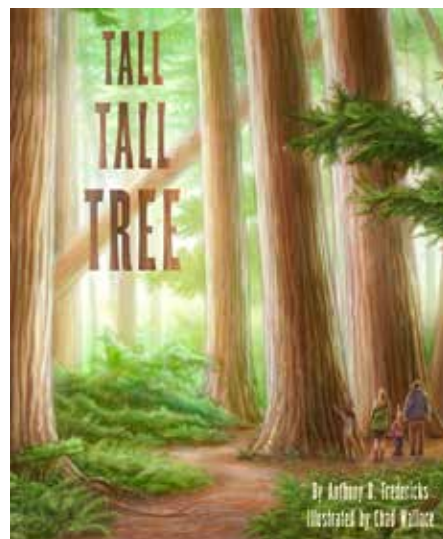
A clear yet subtle environmental message permeates the book. The basic premise is that through learning about redwoods and the redwood forest, you can help protect fragile ecosystems and all the animals and plants they support.

Sam Hodder, Save the Redwoods League President and CEO, said *Tall Tall Tree* is a tribute to the remarkable forests and wildlife that the League has helped to save. "This wonderfully illustrated book explores the beautiful and rarely seen world within the redwood forest, inspiring children and adults alike to discover and care for these tall, tall trees," he said.

An Explore More section ends the book, offering more facts about redwoods and animals, as well as related activities in science, technology, engineering, art, and math. If kids keep coming back to *Tall Tall Tree*, they will no doubt have many questions, and most of the answers can be found there.

TALL TALL TREE

Anthony D. Fredericks
with illustrations by Chad Wallace



Tall Tall Tree

Anthony D. Fredericks
with illustrations by Chad Wallace

Dawn Publications
dawnpub.com

2017, 32 pages,
\$16.95

The author describes six common trees of the sequoia forest, as well as two common plant species—manzanita and poison oak. Photos and descriptions are easy to follow, like mini guides within a guide for the layperson. Other educational sections cover biggest and oldest trees, the historical range of sequoia, preservation efforts, influential naturalist John Muir, fire and sequoia, and more.

Sequoia Country is a perfect companion to Williams' 2013 book, *Big Tree Hikes of the Redwood Coast*.

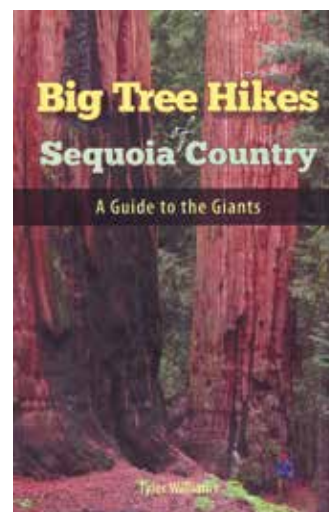
— All book reviews by Jerry Emory

Big Tree Hikes of Sequoia Country—A Guide to the Giants

Tyler Williams

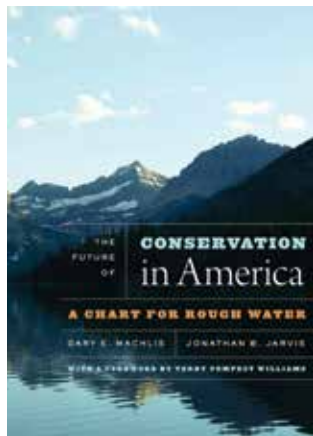
Funhog Press, www.funhogpress.com

2017, 87 pages, \$14.95



REDWOODS AS CATALYSTS FOR CHANGE

Save the Redwoods League sat down recently with Jonathan Jarvis, former National Park Service Director, to discuss the redwood forest and its next 100 years, as well as his new book, *The Future of Conservation in America —A Chart for Rough Water*.



BELOW Jonathan Jarvis

FACING PAGE Residual old-growth redwoods rise above a forest that was logged before the area became part of Redwood National and State Parks. The League is working with the parks to restore these forests. Jarvis says redwoods' iconic status can inspire future work on the larger landscape.



A CONSERVATION LEADER DISCUSSES NEW DIRECTIONS FOR PROTECTING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES IN TURBULENT TIMES

Save the Redwoods League (LEAGUE): What role did redwoods play in the history of the National Park Service and the conservation movement in the United States?

Jonathan Jarvis (JJ): If you include the giant sequoias in that discussion, redwoods are the origin species. Abraham Lincoln set aside the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias outside of Yosemite National Park during the Civil War. It was the first time in our nation's history that a scenic natural area was set aside for all people. It was the beginning.

Fast forward to the redwoods of Muir Woods National Monument. Philanthropist William Kent donated this redwood forest to the American people in 1907 as a private asset and converted it into a public asset.

LEAGUE: And in 1918, the ancient redwood forest inspired our founders to establish the League, helping to launch the nation's conservation movement.

JJ: Redwood trees are iconic. The sequoia is on the patch of the National Park Service. I like to say the Park Service preserves places, physical assets, and ideas. The redwoods embody all of those.

LEAGUE: In your book, you detail steps that individuals and organizations can take to ensure a viable and healthy future. What role can redwoods play in that future regarding education, connecting people to parks in general, and diversity issues?

JJ: All of the above. The redwood forests are often called the American cathedrals. They are places where people feel inspired. We know that these places have the ability to evoke an emotional response. The trick is to convert that power and emotional response into advocacy. Convert it into appreciation, into being at peace with your fellow man, or inspiration for young people to pursue a life in the field of natural resources. Redwoods can do all of those things.

The Millennial generation is the largest demographic cohort in the history of the nation. It is the most diverse. They will be in charge soon. I think we've got to think about them in a much more coherent and collective way.

The most effective process for introducing the next generation to parks and to careers in parks and protected areas is to have multiple experiences, or touch points, from young childhood to adulthood. Some of the research I've read says you need at least three touch points. I would say that would be the minimum. There have to be more. The trouble is most of them only get one touch, if that, and that's usually some sort of structured thing through the schools, like a fourth-grade field trip.



Is there a connection, a ladder of engagement for that child? How do we put that together—that ladder of engagement—so you're creating alumni of those experiences? There is the role of agencies and the nonprofit organizations. There's the role of educators. But there's also the need of access and availability of places nearby, because if you don't have a green space near your home, then you're probably not going to have that kind of experience. Redwoods can help make this happen.

LEAGUE: That's why the League provides redwood forest experiences for kids of all ages through our Education Program. What role can redwoods play in the future of science and restoration?

JJ: There are a couple of ways. One is that within any ecosystem there are umbrella species. They are species that if you take care of them, other components of the ecosystem will thrive. Redwoods are one of those species—the way the species collects fog, the way it activates the soil, and all the interactions that it has with the understory, its decay process. All of that is integral to that ecosystem. So, protection is key.

I'm also a big believer that if you give nature a chance, it does well. Obviously, we have accelerated a lot of our impacts on redwood forests, whether if it was from harvesting, or now with climate change. But restoration ecology is an emerging field, and Redwood National and State Parks have been a pioneer in understanding how to restore redwood forests and also how to work with companies that are still in the process of harvesting.

The League is pioneering new restoration techniques; certainly the understanding of the genome of the redwood is cutting-edge science about how you're going to select trees that can persist and thrive in a changing climate.

Redwoods have a major role in science, and the League is a science-driven organization. I think that's incredibly important. You can be an anchor in a large landscape. We need to look at our landscapes, and the book explores this as a much more integrated and collaborative approach. The redwoods, because of their iconic status, can be a cause. They can be an example of how to help drive that larger landscape work well into the next 100 years. —

LEARN MORE

Turn to page 38 to read about the vision for the League's second century of protecting, restoring, and connecting people to redwood forests.

[SaveTheRedwoods.org/vision](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/vision)

See a review of Jarvis' new book, *The Future of Conservation in America — A Chart for Rough Water*, on page 56.

ABOUT JONATHAN JARVIS

Jonathan Jarvis served the National Park Service for 40 years, including his tenure as director from 2009 to 2017. He led the service through its Centennial with a vision for a second century of park stewardship and engaging diverse communities through recreation, conservation, and historic site preservation programs.

Jarvis advised the League on our vision for our second century of protecting, restoring, and connecting people to the redwood forest.

Now he is the inaugural executive director of the Institute for Parks, People, and Biodiversity, established in 2017 at the University of California, Berkeley. The institute helps inform future policy and management directions for parks.



Pristine riparian habitat is one reason Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve has been a top conservation priority for the League.



HIDDEN ANCIENT HAVEN

SAVED

The League, donors, and a family protect
an extraordinary forest for the ages



HAROLD RICHARDSON REDWOODS RESERVE: MCAPIN TREE

Ancient redwoods can create a curious distortion of space and perception: The senses somehow reject the reality of a living thing so large, so charged with latent power. The 1,640-year-old McApin Tree is no exception to this rule.

Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve will become the first ancient redwood park created in a generation. For decades, the privately owned reserve was a natural wonder containing 352 acres of old-growth redwoods unknown to the public.

At roughly 239 feet in height and nearly 20 feet in diameter, it's the oldest-known coast redwood south of Mendocino County and the widest coast redwood south of Humboldt County. As tall as a 23-story building and as wide as a two-lane road, it fills the entire field of vision on approach, until it seems that the whole world is a vast curvilinear expanse of heavy, russet bark.

Moreover, it's clear that a lot of things are happening in the McApin Tree, that it's a node in a web of interconnected life, not an isolated natural phenomenon. On a recent visit to the tree organized by Save the Redwoods League, Todd McMahon, the Vice President of the environmental consulting firm NCRM Inc., bent over at the base of the tree and picked up a gray bolus of dried matter bristling with hair and small, splintered bones.

"Owl pellet," said McMahon. "He's living in this tree—probably a great horned owl. This is too big for a northern spotted owl or barred owl."

Jim Campbell-Spickler, a videographer and wildlife biologist, pointed out curious striations carved in the bark high up the McApin Tree's trunk. Those were essentially trails, Campbell-Spickler said, caused by the denizens inhabiting the great redwood's cavities and foliage.

"Those could be from ringtails (a raccoon relative) or flying squirrels," Campbell-Spickler said.

Indeed, the McApin Tree teems with associated life, from the birds and small mammals that forage and shelter along its length, to a unique ecosystem of plants, insects—even amphibians—supported in its upper canopy, to the dizzyingly complex communities of microorganisms, fungi, and invertebrates that enrich the soil around its roots. And yet, the McApin Tree is but one constituent of the thriving forest called Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve. Formerly known as McApin Ranch, this spectacular 730-acre property lies southeast of the Sonoma County seaside town of Gualala, California, and is about 2 ½ hours' drive from the Golden Gate Bridge.

WONDERLAND WILL OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

For decades, the privately owned reserve was unknown to the public. This forested tract is one-third larger than Muir Woods National Monument, containing 352 acres of old-growth redwoods—112 acres more than Muir Woods. Some of the trees

The McApin Tree is 1,640 years old, the oldest-known coast redwood south of Mendocino County. The diameter of the main trunk is nearly 20 feet, as wide as a two-lane road. It's the widest coast redwood south of Humboldt County.

exceed 300 feet in height, with the tallest measuring 322 feet—only 57 feet shorter than a coast redwood in Redwood National and State Parks confirmed as the world’s tallest tree. The League has purchased the reserve, ensuring its protection forever. Pending a final management plan, the property will be open for public visitation. This magical place will be the first ancient redwood park created in a generation.

“For the public, Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve is an old-growth forest akin to recently discovered, fully intact ancient dwellings in the middle of a modern city,” said League President Sam Hodder. “But for the League and other conservation groups, it has been a long-term conservation priority. It’s the largest complex redwood forest in private ownership, the largest previously unprotected old-growth stand in Sonoma County, and thanks to its previous owners, the Harold Richardson family, its condition is virtually unparalleled. It supports a high-quality redwood forest, superb riparian habitat along a tributary of the Gualala River’s Wheatfield Fork, and critical connectivity to other protected forests.”

The existence of the reserve is largely due to the guiding vision of the man for whom it is named. Harold Richardson, who died at the age of 96 in 2016, did not conform to the profile of a typical environmentalist. He worked in the woods his entire life, said his grandnephew, Dan Falk, felling trees well into his 90s. As a nonagenarian, Falk said, Harold Richardson didn’t crawl into the brush and slash to set chokers—the cables that are used to haul logs by a tractor—“but he’d still tell you how to do it.”

A HISTORY OF CONSERVATION

The land’s original owners, Mary Ann Dousman and James McApin (historically spelled “McCappin”), were among the first settlers in western Sonoma, with the couple claiming property along Tin Barn Road and King Ridge Road in 1858. McApin descendants sold the ranch to H. A. Richardson, Harold’s father, in 1918. At one time, the extended Richardson family owned as much as 50,000 acres along the rugged coast. Timber was an economic mainstay of the region, and generations of Richardsons paid the taxes and bills by logging and milling the redwoods on their lands. But an innate conservation ethic was central to the family’s traditions, and Harold was a particularly dedicated devotee to judicious resource management.

“He was known around here as a three-D logger,” said Falk. “In other words, a tree had to be dead, down or diseased before he’d take it.”

That went against local conventions, in that most of Harold’s neighboring landowners favored clear-cutting to harvest timber. Their rationale was simple, and from a business perspective, easily justified: Removing every tree from an area was more efficient and far more profitable than the fastidious selective harvesting the Richardsons favored. But Harold was never swayed by their arguments.

“He’d fly or drive over the land those guys were cutting, and he was very up front with his criticism,” Falk said. “He hated to see the land degraded. He always felt timber was worth more standing than cut, and he only harvested what he needed to keep the land in the family.”

Harold Richardson’s dedication to truly sustainable timber production is all the more impressive considering the financial pressures he and most other landowners in redwoods country were facing in the mid-20th century, McMahan said.

“Before 1977, timberland owners were taxed on their standing timber, not on the timber they cut annually,” McMahan said. “That put a tremendous burden on Harold, given his devotion to minimal harvests. The family lived frugally, and I don’t doubt there were times when it was tough to pay the taxes. He really backed up his beliefs with action.”

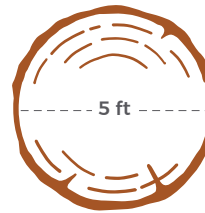
A WILD KINGDOM

The legacy of the family’s long-term commitment to forest conservation is eloquently expressed by the land itself. The reserve contains a complex forest of old-growth redwoods and Douglas-firs interspersed with vigorous, younger trees. As is typical for healthy, mature forests, the understory is relatively scant, save for shade-loving swordferns. Lush meadows thrive between the groves, bordered by gigantic bay laurel trees that perfume the air with the spicy, herbaceous scent of their leaves.

Wildlife is almost extravagantly abundant, from black-tailed deer, black bears, and mountain lions to a vast array of smaller mammals, amphibians, and migratory and resident birds. Any walk through these woods yields abundant evidence of their presence: deer tracks, the distant tapping of an acorn woodpecker, a ball of shredded fir needles wedged in the crevice of a redwood trunk—prepared by red tree voles for nesting material. This forest brims with life, from the most charismatic predator to the humblest invertebrate. Save the Redwoods scientists evaluated the property against the benchmarks of the League’s Vibrant Forests Plan, scoring it 99 out of 100 possible points. Protecting this extraordinary place is a key part of the League’s vision for the next 100 years, which is to protect and regrow

HAROLD RICHARDSON REDWOODS RESERVE

(formerly McApin Ranch)



More than **1,450** old-growth redwoods more than 5 feet in diameter

The League's **VIBRANT FORESTS PLAN** determined that the reserve is important to protect because of its large-scale, high-quality, old-growth redwood forest, riparian habitat, and proximity to other protected forests.



MUIR WOODS NATIONAL MONUMENT

554 acres total including 240 acres of old-growth redwoods



HAROLD RICHARDSON REDWOODS RESERVE

730 acres total including 352 acres of old-growth redwoods

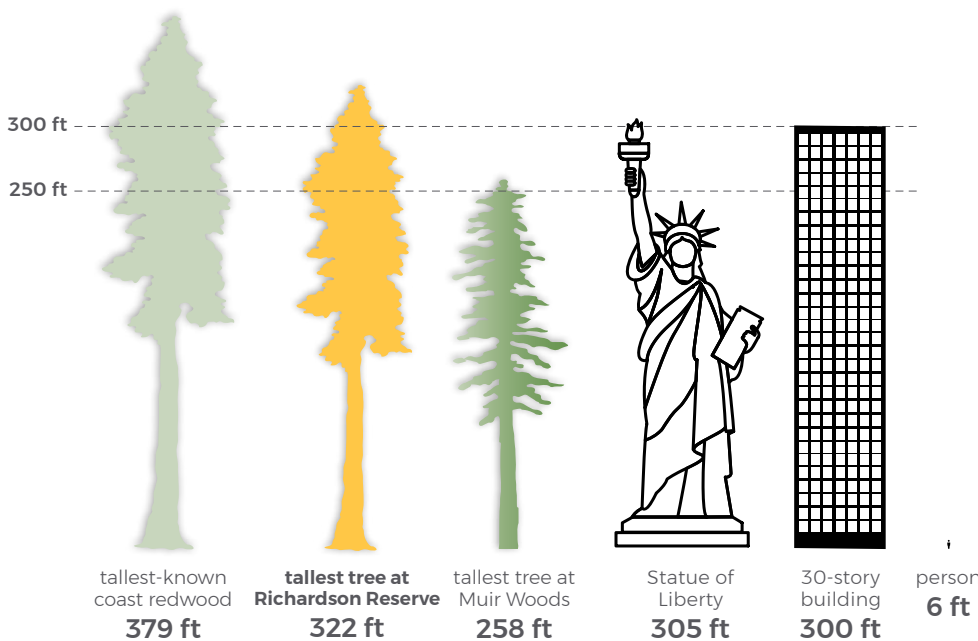
A third larger than Muir Woods and 47 percent more old-growth redwoods



Many of the trees have **goose pens** (big hollowed-out openings at the trees' bases caused by fires), as well as thick, gnarly bark. These and other features can sustain wildlife, including the imperiled northern spotted owl, the Townsend's big-eared bat, salamanders and the imperiled marbled murrelet.



More than 31 million people visit California's redwood parks each year; Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve will inspire visitors with the beauty and power of nature.



Will become the first old-growth redwood park in a generation, and the largest and the second privately owned park in Sonoma County accessible to the public for free.

Grove of Old Trees (48 acres) was established in 2000 and Limekiln State Park (716 acres) in 1994.

Contains 319 trees over 250 feet tall, with many trees over 300 feet tall

vibrant redwood forests of the scale and grandeur that once graced the California coast and the Sierra Nevada, and connect them to people through a network of magnificent parks and protected areas that inspire all of us with the beauty and power of nature. (Learn more about the League's Centennial Vision on page 38.)

PROTECTING THEIR HERITAGE

When Harold Richardson died in 2016, the family faced an estate tax so large that they had to consider selling off parts of the larger ranch surrounding the old-growth reserve, or aggressively harvesting more timber. Neither choice was tolerable, said Falk. The land was more than a livelihood, more than a place of residence; it was a part of the Richardsons' sense of self, of heritage, of place. It felt interwoven with their very DNA.

"I'm the fifth generation to work this ranch," Falk said. "When you have those kinds of roots, when you know almost every tree on your place, it's very hard to lose any of it."

"We looked over the League's 100-year management plan, and it pretty much tracks with our own goals. We believe they'll take good care of the land."

Dan Falk, a member of the family that owned Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve

So the family went with a third option: a conservation accord. The deal is complex, but it basically consists of a land swap. In 2010, Save the Redwoods League purchased the nearby 870-acre Stewarts Point property from another branch of the Richardson family. After permanently protecting Stewarts Point with conservation easements, including those for trail and tribal access, the League exchanged Stewarts Point for the reserve property. The agreement also included a \$9.6 million payment because the reserve was more expensive than Stewarts Point. In honor of the man who conserved this forest, the League agreed to name the place Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve. Major funding came from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, two anonymous donors, and The Mattson Family Foundation. League members also provided generous support, collectively giving more than \$500,000 toward the purchase.



TOP LEFT A Calypso orchid graces the forest floor.



BELOW LEFT Harold Richardson protected his family's ancient redwood forest while most of his neighboring landowners favored clear-cutting to harvest timber.

BELOW Dan Falk stands with one of the more than 1,450 old-growth redwoods at Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve. Falk is the grandnephew of the reserve's late owner, Harold Richardson.

FACING PAGE John Montague, League Board of Directors member, surveys the giant coast redwoods of Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve. This rare old-growth forest provides habitat for imperiled species including the northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, steelhead trout, and coho salmon.





“It’s a major change,” acknowledged Falk, “but our other options—selling off parts of the property, accelerating the cut or both—weren’t really acceptable to us. We looked over the League’s 100-year management plan, and it pretty much tracks with our own goals. We believe they’ll take good care of the land, and that it’ll remain in the condition that Harold wanted.”

Foremost among the League’s goals in acquiring the reserve is to protect the old-growth forest from future harvesting. While the Richardsons had chosen not to harvest the old-growth redwoods, they had every legal right to do so as long as they protected the streams and wildlife habitat required under state forest practice rules. The League’s acquisition also removes the potential threat of subdivision or development. Though it’s still rural—even wild—the Sonoma Coast faces long-term development pressures that could ultimately degrade the area’s stunning ecological and scenic values. Subdivision of large ranches into smaller

recreational properties is the major component of this threat. By protecting the reserve at its current size and configuration, the League’s acquisition assures the property’s ancient trees will be protected forever, along with the complex and extraordinarily rich ecosystems they secure.

Further, the acquisition allows the League the flexibility to eventually open this incomparable property to the public to explore and enjoy.

TOWARD A VISION

The purchase of the forest took years to negotiate, and is a prime example of the good work that can result when people of various backgrounds are united in their love of a place, said Catherine Elliott, the League’s Senior Manager of Land Protection.


“The Richardsons took great care of this special forest for 100 years, and the League wants to continue that

tradition,” Elliott said. “The challenge was finding a way to maintain that vision forever while ensuring the Richardsons could continue to live and work on their neighboring land for the next generation and beyond. We did that by establishing mutual respect and trust.”

Dan Falk’s mother, Lois Richardson Falk, acknowledged the family endured a “grieving process” over the agreement.

“It was sad to think we weren’t going to be the direct caretakers anymore,” she said. “My boys grew up here. We picked mushrooms and hunted here, rode our horses all over this land. But we came to terms with it. Dan’s still a forester and a rancher, and with his brother Leland, they will continue the Richardson family tradition of sustainable timber and ranching practices. So it appears that the Richardsons will be on the coast through the next generation. Working on conservation solutions isn’t always easy, but it’s clear they’re the way of the future.”

For Dan Falk, the agreement is a means of honoring Harold Richardson’s final wishes.

“He told us to keep this ranch in timber and cattle—no subdivisions, never any subdivisions,” said Falk. “Those were essentially his dying words. He didn’t feel that he was a landowner, really. He felt that he was a placeholder, a caretaker for a certain period. And I feel the same way. I’m here to safeguard this place for a certain portion of time, to keep it intact. And I think this agreement helps fulfill my obligation.” —

—Glen Martin

WHAT

Save the Redwoods League acquired **Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve**, permanently protecting the largest privately owned ancient redwood forest.

WHERE

Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve is a spectacular 730-acre property east of the Sonoma County seaside town of Gualala, California, and about 2 ½ hours’ drive from the Golden Gate Bridge.

SIGNIFICANCE

Public Access

The League will own and operate this property as a park. Park planning and completion will take three years.

Highest Conservation Priority




The reserve’s ancient redwood forest, riparian habitat and proximity to other protected forests make it the highest conservation priority in the coast redwood range to protect from harvesting, development, fragmentation and stream sedimentation.

LEARN MORE

See a video showing this amazing forest. SaveTheRedwoods.org/HRRR



MAP KEY

-  Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve
-  Protected Lands
-  Trees taller than 250 feet

MAP AREA





Give for Tomorrow

...and Today

Save The Redwoods
L E A G U E®

Sharon Rabichow

Director of Gift Planning

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MyRedwoodsLegacy.org

OUR LEGACY MATCH CHALLENGE:

Include the League in your estate plan (such as your will, trust or retirement plan), and generate a generous gift today.

Peggy Light, a Redwood Legacy Circle and League Board of Directors member, has offered to help us reach our Centennial year goal of 100 new Redwood Legacy members by matching each new Legacy Circle gift with an immediate gift of \$1,000, up to \$100,000.

Please contact us today to learn more about how you can help safeguard our global treasures for today and future generations.

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF SUCCESS

Dedicated supporters and new friends marked the Save the Redwoods League Centennial this year at these great events.



Sustaining Grandeur: The First 100 Years of Save the Redwoods League
The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley
April 20 through September 14, 2018

EXHIBIT OF ARCHIVES

LEFT Visitors learned about the League's pioneering role in conservation from the exhibit, *Sustaining Grandeur: The First 100 Years of Save the Redwoods League*. The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, featured the exhibit from April 20 through September 14.

BELOW Redwood Legacy Circle donors enjoyed the inaugural Annual Legacy Luncheon and a private viewing of this exhibit. From left: Michael Mecham, Robin Frazier, Peter Frazier, Daphne Wells, and Paul Werner.



SUSTAINING GRANDEUR SHOWCASED HISTORY

Filled with fascinating letters, photos, films, and other artifacts, the exhibit, *Sustaining Grandeur: The First 100 Years of Save the Redwoods League*, presented the League's first century of protecting California's ancient coast redwood and giant sequoia forests. The League and The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, organized the exhibit of elements from the League's archive at The Bancroft with support from the League and Friends of The Bancroft Library.

"The League's archive preserves the history of one of the earliest conservation groups in the United States," said Elaine Tennant, Director of The Bancroft Library. "The League holds a special place of pride in the environmental history of the West. Its story shows how environmental history and political history intersect in California in a way that has been repeated throughout the country."

Learn more about the League's history in an interactive timeline at [SaveTheRedwoods.org/timeline](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/timeline).

FESTIVAL BRINGS REDWOODS' MAGIC TO THOUSANDS

Lawrence Greywolf's reaction was like those of thousands of people who experienced moments of joy, wonder and appreciation at the League-sponsored Annual Earth Day Festival in San Francisco last April.

"Redwoods help us find balance," he said, admiring the mural-like photos of redwood forests at the League's new booth. "The energy is different. It changes how we approach things."

The festival, themed "Stand for the Redwoods, Stand for The Future," featured entertainment, food, art, and social justice organizations. In addition, the Redwoods Canopy Speakers' Tent offered interactive talks with organizations, including the League's staff, who unveiled the League's *State of Redwoods Conservation Report* and *Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation*.

Read about the report and Centennial Vision on page 38.



Earth Day San Francisco
 April 21, 2018
 Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco



EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

ABOVE Yvette Ramirez and her daughter learn about redwood forests from the League's new interactive booth at the Annual Earth Day Festival in San Francisco.

LEFT The League's forest photo booth made fun souvenirs for these attendees and many more at the Annual Earth Day Festival in San Francisco.

Photos: facing page, top: Peg Skorpinksi; below, Sharon Rabichow; this page, top: Paolo Vescia; below, Snap Yourself.



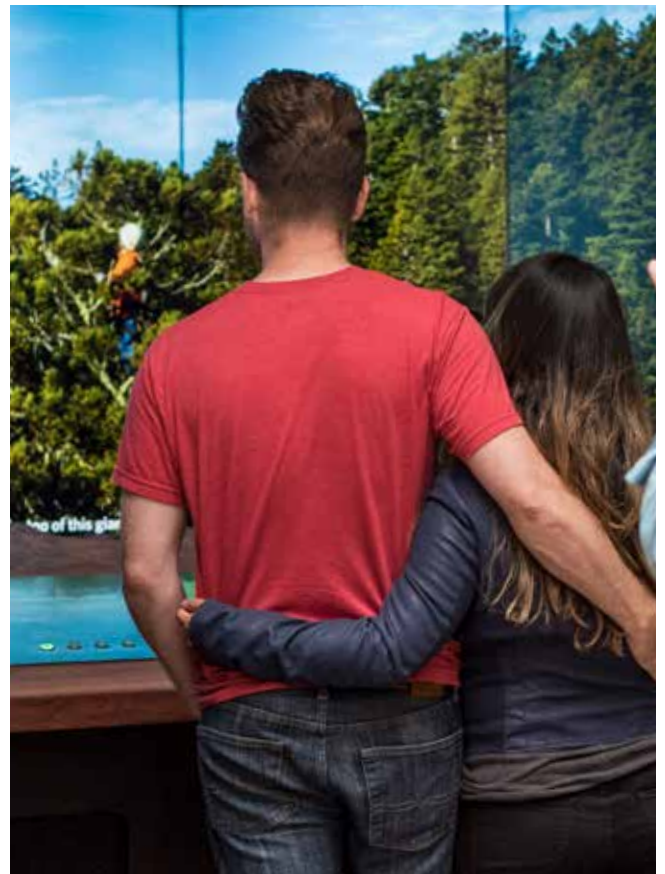
LEAGUE HELPS CREATE, UNVEIL CAL ACADEMY EXHIBIT

An exciting window into the remarkable coast redwood forests is now open at California Academy of Sciences' new *Giants of Land and Sea* exhibit in San Francisco, and the League helped bring the experience to life. The League greeted thousands of people in June at the Academy's NightLife event, when revelers got an early look at the exhibit. Save the Redwoods experts shared secrets of the forest's ecology to create part of the exhibit, including an immersive canopy-ascent video showing how League-sponsored researchers study redwood treetops. Meanwhile, our Tall Trees Sweepstakes winners Michael M. won music festival tickets; Anthony Y. won gear from REI; and Alyssa P. won sunglasses from Sunskis.

Learn more about the exhibit by calling California Academy of Sciences at 415-379-8000, or visiting calacademy.org.

Giants of Land and Sea Ongoing

California Academy of Sciences, 55 Music Concourse Dr., Golden Gate Park, San Francisco





Photos: this spread, top left: Rikki Ward, Orange Photography; all others, Fig & Olive Photography.



CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

ABOVE The League welcomed NightLife revelers to California Academy of Sciences' new *Giants of Land and Sea* exhibit in June. Save the Redwoods provided expertise for the exhibit's fascinating insights into giant redwoods.

LEFT The Fog Room offers visitors a chance to feel the mist that often cloaks coast redwood forests.

FACING PAGE, TOP Redwood Leadership Circle and Redwood Legacy Circle donors enjoyed a reception and a private viewing at our annual thank-you event.

FACING PAGE, BOTTOM Viewers watch League-sponsored researchers climb from the forest floor, braving incredible heights to study the redwood canopy.

A MAJOR LEAGUE PARTNERSHIP

Two organizations that celebrate the giants of the West Coast are marking milestones together. As a Lead Centennial Partner, the San Francisco Giants are spotlighting the 100th anniversary of Save the Redwoods League. In turn, the League is celebrating the baseball team's 60th anniversary in California. League members and fans joined the Giants for Giants celebration at AT&T Park for the San Francisco Giants' home game with the Texas Rangers on August 25. The Canopy Club, our premier circle of donors, enjoyed an exclusive pregame party on the Alaska Airlines Club Level as a very special thank-you. Katherine S. and Lindell A. won League gear and a bat and ball signed by San Francisco Giants players in our Giants for Giants Sweepstakes. The day also featured a great pregame ceremony on the field.

"What a monumental year for both of our organizations, when we celebrate significant anniversaries as members of the San Francisco community," said Larry Baer, President and Chief Executive Officer of the San Francisco Giants. "As a fourth-generation Californian, it makes me proud to be associated with Save the Redwoods League as they celebrate their 100 years of hard work and success. Redwoods are the original giants of the West Coast, and I'm thankful for the League's efforts to protect these amazing trees. This is truly a partnership of Giants!"



SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

ABOVE San Francisco Giants mascot Lou Seal and League President Sam Hodder star in a new video showing their visit to the redwoods. The video is playing this season at AT&T Park before select Giants games and at SaveTheRedwoods.org/LouSeal.



REDWOODS (AND RANGERS) RISING

ABOVE National Park Service and California State Parks staff jump for joy last April to celebrate the official launch of Redwoods Rising, a project with Save the Redwoods League to restore historically logged lands in Redwood National and State Parks. Learn more about this restoration project and others on page 84.

Giants for Giants Baseball Game

August 25, 2018
AT&T Park, San Francisco

Redwoods Rising Launch

April 27, 2018
Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, Orick

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE

The Once and Future Forest: California's Iconic Redwoods

With hundreds of photos and featuring new essays by Gary Ferguson, David Harris, Meg Lowman, Greg Sarris, and David Rains Wallace, *The Once and Future Forest* showcases both the grandeur of the redwood ecosystems that sustain California and the deep love they have engendered in scientists, writers, artists, and the general public.



THE ONCE AND FUTURE FOREST CALIFORNIA'S ICONIC REDWOODS

ISBN: 978-1-59714-444-5

Deluxe, slipcased limited edition

11" x 14.75" / 224 pages

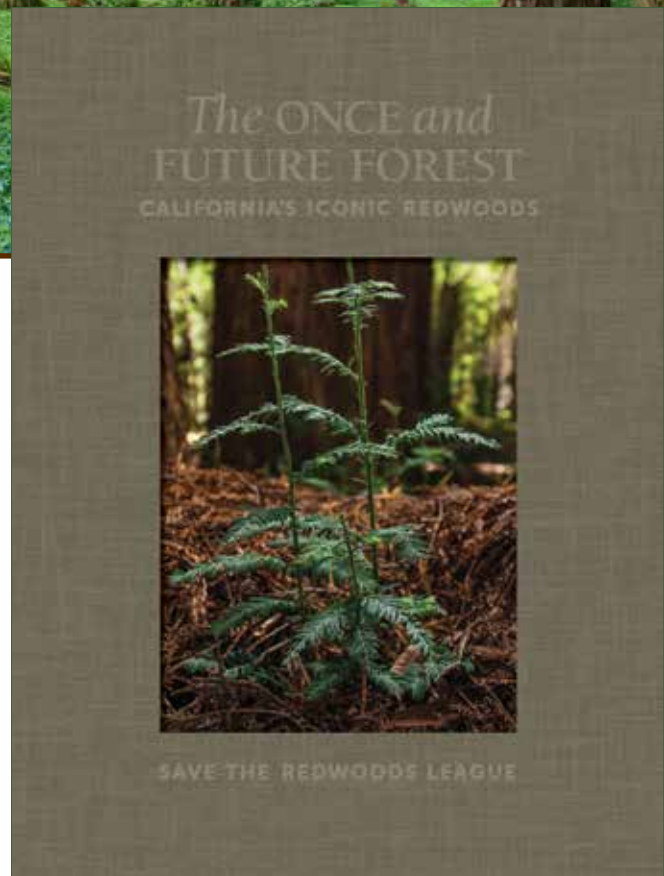
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October 2018

Co-published by Heyday
and Save the Redwoods League



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THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION CONTINUES JOIN US

Join Save the Redwoods League in marking 100 years of redwoods conservation leadership and the start of our second century to protect the world's greatest forests.

In collaboration with our partner organizations, we're giving back to our supporters with events and activities in California throughout 2018.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CENTENNIAL EVENTS

SaveTheRedwoods.org/100

Check out our social media channels



Sign up for our email updates:
SaveTheRedwoods.org/signup.



FREE SECOND SATURDAYS AT REDWOOD STATE PARKS

Redwood Parks throughout California

Oct. 13 | Nov. 10 | Dec. 8

Learn more, and download your free pass at FreeRedwoodsDays.org.

Join us at more than 40 redwood state parks and enjoy stunning scenery, exercise, and fresh air. Save the Redwoods League and California State Parks have teamed up to offer free vehicle day-use passes to mark the League's Centennial year and the organizations' long history of protecting coast redwood and giant sequoia forests together.

DONOR TRIPS TO HUMBOLDT REDWOODS STATE PARK

November 1-4 and November 8-11

Humboldt Redwoods State Park,
Humboldt County

Members of the Redwood Leadership Circle, Redwood Legacy Circle, and Canopy Club

We invite our most generous donors to join us on a journey back to the forest that inspired the League's founding in 1918, Humboldt Redwoods State Park. We will travel by motor coach from San Francisco to the historical Benbow Inn for a two- or three-night stay and two full days in the park to enjoy guided hikes or time on your own.

For more information, contact Jennifer Verhines at **415-820-5830, 888-836-0005 toll-free,** or jverhines@SaveTheRedwoods.org.

Giants of Land and Sea

California Academy of Sciences
55 Music Concourse Drive
Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Ongoing

Learn more, and buy tickets at
calacademy.org, or call 415-379-8000

GIANTS OF LAND AND SEA EXHIBIT

Save the Redwoods League helped bring this major new exhibit to life, sharing secrets of the forest's ecology. Explore the redwood forest canopy virtually through an immersive video featuring League-sponsored researchers. Enter the fog room to feel how this fixture of coastal climate bathes the redwoods during the summer, and learn about the essential connection between the forest and Pacific Ocean. Other highlights are an enormous trunk section from a fallen coast redwood, shown here, and insights into this tree's remarkable 800-year lifespan.

THIS PAGE Visitors learn from a display about a fallen 800-year-old coast redwood.

OPPOSITE PAGE League Centennial partners Latino Conservation Week and Hispanic Access Foundation enjoy a Free Second Saturday at Montgomery Woods State Natural Reserve.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WEEK OCTOBER 7-14, 2018 JOIN US

OCT 7 STAND FOR THE REDWOODS FESTIVAL IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY

Sunday, October 7, 2018, noon-4 p.m.

The League's Orick Mill Site property
545 Bald Hills Road, Orick

Free admission (food and drinks are available for purchase). Register in advance by contacting Pearl McLeod at **415-820-5856, 888-836-0005 toll-free**, or **pmcleod@SaveTheRedwoods.org**. Facebook fans may register at **RedwoodsFestival.org**.

Kicking off Centennial Celebration Week is this free festival at the gateway to Redwood National and State Parks, home of the world's tallest forest, where 45 percent of the remaining old-growth coast redwoods stand protected today. This family-friendly community event offers live music, children's activities, local food trucks, a beer garden sponsored by Sierra Nevada Brewery, a wine garden sponsored by Barefoot Cellars, and more. The festival is hosted by the League, Redwood National and State Parks, and the Redwood Parks Conservancy.

OCT 8-11

GIANT SEQUOIA PARKS ONLINE RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS (PORTS®)

K-12 Distance-Learning Program

Monday, October 8-Friday, October 11

Free. Learn more and schedule a program at **www.ports.parks.ca.gov**.

K-12 students may experience the giant sequoia groves at Calaveras Big Trees State Park and engage directly with League scientists and park professionals Oct. 8-11. The remainder of the videoconferencing program continues until June 2019, providing digital access to California State Parks.

OCT 9

OLD SURVIVOR FILM PREMIERE

Tuesday, October 9, 2018, 5:30-10 p.m.

Chabot Space & Science Center's Megadome Theater
10000 Skyline Boulevard, Oakland

Free admission. Request an invitation in advance at **SaveTheRedwoods.org/film**, or call **925-635-8155**.

See the world premiere of *Old Survivor*, a 20-minute documentary celebrating Oakland's redwood forests, and join a reception following its debut. The film highlights the only remaining old-growth coast redwood in the Oakland Hills and tells the story of the resilient, ecologically rich, and now-protected redwood parklands. The film features League staff members, City of Oakland Parks, and the East Bay Regional Park District. The debut event is hosted by film producer Oakland Trails.

OCT 10 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ANNUAL MEMBER EVENT

Wednesday, October 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
900 Exposition Blvd, Los Angeles

Free to all Los Angeles-area League members. Register by contacting Kate Berry at **888-836-0005 toll-free**, or **kberry@SaveTheRedwoods.org**.

Hear League President Sam Hodder talk about our next century of safeguarding redwood forests. Meet other passionate redwoods supporters, see the renowned African Mammal Hall, and experience a range of natural habitats.



OCT 11

STAND FOR THE REDWOODS, REACH FOR THE STARS

Thursday, October 11, 2018, 7-9 p.m.

Calaveras Big Trees Overlook
1170 East Highway 4, Arnold

Free. For further information,
call **209-795-1196**.

Come to stand for the redwoods—giant sequoia in this case—and reach for the stars! We will join our Centennial Partner, Calaveras Big Trees Association, for one of their popular stargazing nights. Docents will share information and tell stories as everyone gazes at the night sky. Two telescopes and astronomical binoculars will give you a closer look at the moon, planets, and deep-sky objects. A telescope webcam will show images on a 40-inch monitor in real time. This is one of the best night-sky viewing areas in the Sierra Nevada.

OCT 13

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION GALA

Saturday, October 13, 2018, 5 p.m.-1 a.m.

Union Square, Geary Street at Stockton Street; and
August Hall, 420 Mason Street, San Francisco

Prices vary. Get tickets at SaveTheRedwoods.org/Gala, or contact Luz Perez at **415-820-5833**, **888-836-0005 toll-free**, or Lperez@SaveTheRedwoods.org.

This spectacular evening will benefit the League's Education and Parks Support programs, which serve more than 7,500 schoolchildren and millions of redwood park visitors annually. Under a redwoods-inspired tent on Union Square, the celebration will include a magical cocktail party featuring illusionist JB Benn, an elegant sit-down dinner, and an auction. Last, at August Hall, a short stroll from Union Square, a musical performance will feature Bob Weir, Mickey Hart, and friends with special guest John Mayer.



OCT 14

STAND FOR THE REDWOODS FESTIVAL IN SAN FRANCISCO

Sunday, October 14, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Yerba Buena Gardens
750 Howard Street, San Francisco

Free admission (food and drinks
available for purchase)

Register in advance at **415-820-5856**,
888-836-0005 toll-free, or pmcleod@SaveTheRedwoods.org. Facebook fans may register at RedwoodsFestival.org.

The Stand for the Redwoods Festival in San Francisco is the capstone event of Centennial Celebration Week. Bring your friends and family to enjoy live music and other entertainment, activities provided by the League's lead Centennial partners, food, and a Sierra Nevada Brewery beer garden.

OCT 14

HUMBOLDT REDWOODS MARATHON, HALF MARATHON, OR 5K

Sunday, October 14, beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Humboldt Redwoods State Park, Humboldt County

Registration required in advance at
redwoodsmarathon.org. Prices vary.

Run through one of the nation's most scenic courses in the Humboldt Redwoods Marathon. You'll be surrounded by towering, ancient coast redwoods as you run along the Avenue of the Giants in Humboldt Redwoods State Park, which Save the Redwoods League created in 1921.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION GALA

JOIN US FOR THE PARTY OF THE CENTURY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 · UNION SQUARE, SAN FRANCISCO
A BENEFIT FOR SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE EDUCATION AND PARKS SUPPORT PROGRAMS

WITH MASTER OF CEREMONIES

LEE COWAN

NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT, *CBS SUNDAY MORNING*

AND PERFORMANCE BY

MICKEY HART, BOB WEIR AND FRIENDS WITH SPECIAL GUEST JOHN MAYER

DJ DANCE AFTER PARTY

Featuring DJ ZEBUEL

For tickets visit SaveTheRedwoods.org/gala

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STANDING FOR THE REDWOODS

COMMITMENTS AS OF JULY 31, 2018

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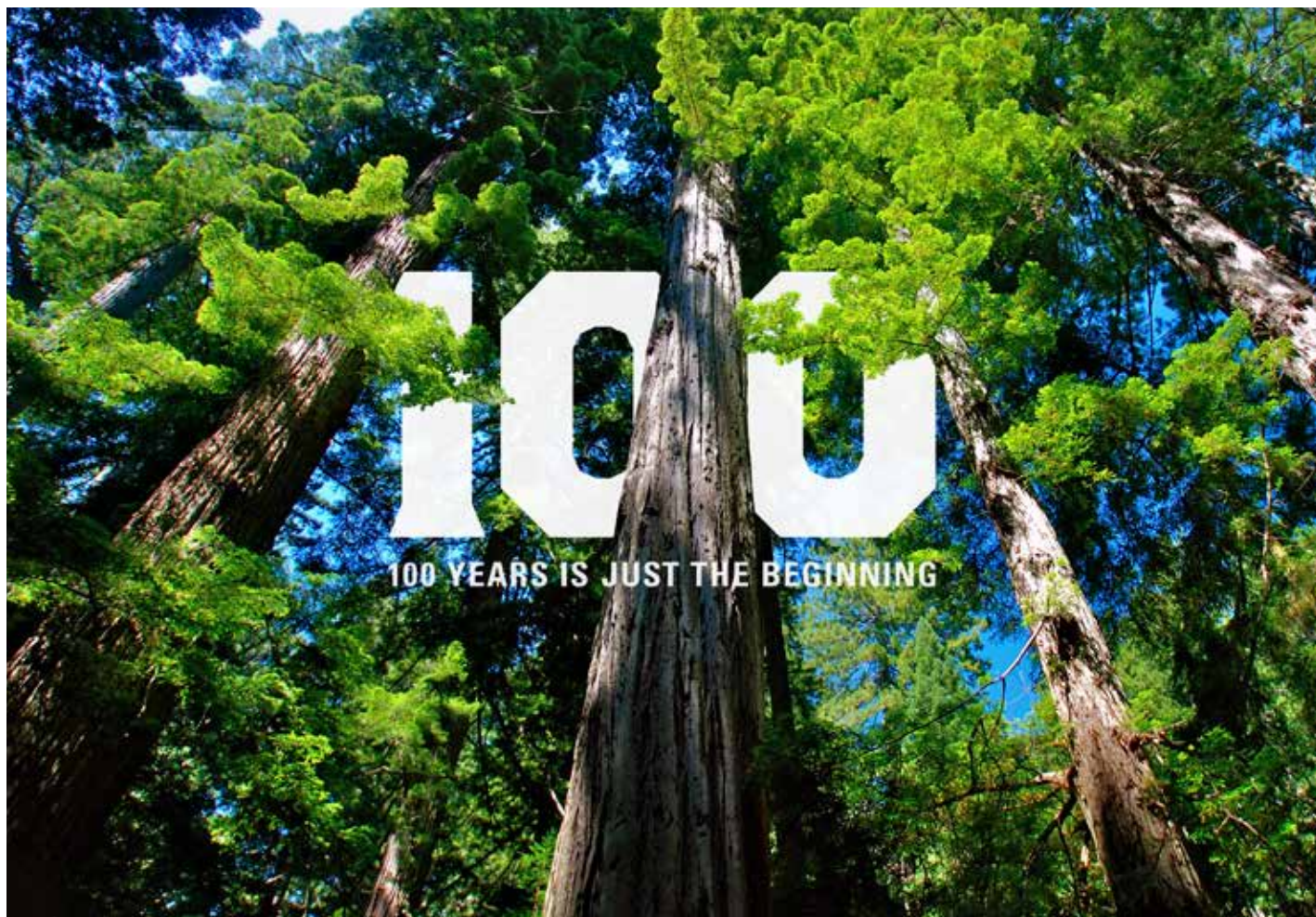
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2018 IS THE YEAR OF THE REDWOODS

CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE HONORS REDWOODS AND THE LEAGUE

From the towering redwood forests of the North Coast to the stunning groves of giant sequoia in the Sierra Nevada, California's state trees rank among the planet's most spectacular natural wonders. But their protection was never guaranteed, and is the result of the unflagging efforts undertaken by generations of conservationists.

Save the Redwoods League has led this effort, protecting more than 214,000 acres of redwood and giant sequoia forests and creating and expanding 66 redwood parks and reserves over the past century. Throughout all these efforts, an enduring partner has been California State Parks, the largest state lands management agency in the nation

and a dedicated advocate of resource conservation and public access.

As the League and State Parks celebrate 100 years of redwoods conservation, the California State Legislature honored the League's accomplishments with two resolutions this year. The California State Senate resolved that 2018 is the Year of the Redwoods, and the California State Assembly recognized Save the Redwoods League for 100 years of protecting redwood forests.

Save the Redwoods League thanks the Legislature for the honors as we renew our commitment to protecting and restoring these remarkable forests together. —

OFFICIAL RECOGNITION

The California State Senate declared 2018 the Year of the Redwoods with the passage of Senate Resolution 100.

The California State Assembly adopted House Resolution 96, which celebrates the League's 100th anniversary.

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THANK YOU CENTENNIAL PARTNERS + SPONSORS

Save the Redwoods League thanks our generous Centennial sponsors and partners for celebrating 100 years of protecting redwoods. Together we are sharing the story of California's redwood forests and building awareness of what it means to save redwoods for the next century.



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THE RACE TO RESTORE

We can bring back the redwood forests that store more carbon than any other forest type on Earth—places that epitomize resilience when we need it most—and raise the spirits of all who explore these cathedrals of nature.

Deep in the Big River watershed near the little coastal town of Mendocino is a stand of majestic redwoods, trees of great physical dimension and transcendent beauty. Dappled light filters down through their lofty canopies to a forest floor carpeted with western swordfern. The air is still and fragrant, perhaps broken on occasion by the resonant drumming of a pileated woodpecker or the flashing orange plumage of a varied thrush flitting between the massive, shaggy trunks. This stand embodies the ecological and spiritual essence of a grove of old-growth coast redwoods. They seem like witnesses to the eons.

But that semblance is an illusion. This is the Fritz Wonder Plot, and while the trees are old, they are by no means ancient when judged by the standard typically applied to redwoods. The area was logged in 1858, meaning few if any of the trees are older than 160 years. Some are more than 250 feet tall, and they all have the impressive girths and wide spacing associated with old-growth groves.

While the recovery of the Fritz plot from cutover wasteland to magnificent forest in fewer than

LEFT The Fritz Wonder Plot near the town of Mendocino was a cutover wasteland. After 160 years, it is now an enchanting forest. Robert Van Pelt, left, a forest ecology researcher, and Laura Lalemand, League Forest Ecologist, study the plot as part of the League's Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative.

two human lifetimes is inspiring, it also speaks to a larger issue: the potential future of the redwood forest as a whole. As Save the Redwoods League begins its second century, our scientists, staffers and volunteers are ramping up efforts on landscape-scale conservation and restoration, protecting and healing redwood forests that have been cut, sometimes repeatedly, and accelerating old-growth characteristics in young stands. The Fritz plot, along with a few other sites that contain older second-growth trees, are providing valuable information on ways to best accomplish that mission in an era of climate change.

“The Fritz plot is near the top of the trajectory on the growth and yield tables,” said Robert Van Pelt, a forest ecology researcher and Affiliate Assistant Professor at the University of Washington who specializes in the study of large trees. Van Pelt notes that other second-growth stands located on alluvial (or river-bottom) soils show similar growth trajectories.

“On the other hand, we’re finding that old second-growth trees in the Arcata Community Forest [adjacent to Humboldt State University] don’t grow as big as fast,” Van Pelt said. “Water appears to be the limiting factor. Where redwoods are concerned, alluvial soils are optimum.”

EXPANSION OF A PIONEERING STUDY

Of course, more data is needed as the League and partners mobilize for ambitious restoration initiatives. Professor Stephen Sillett, the Kenneth L. Fisher Chair of Redwood Forest Ecology at Humboldt State University, is leading that quest. Sillett has conducted groundbreaking research on redwood forest canopies, and developed the climbing techniques that made such challenging work possible. Now, with funding from the League, he is heading Phase 3 of the Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative (RCCI), a three-year project to measure coast redwoods in 30 locations across the species’ range, including the Fritz Wonder Plot.

Such measurements are critical in the formulation of restoration goals for young forests, Sillett said. By analyzing the dimensions, tree ring records and other factors in both young and ancient trees, researchers hope to answer several critical questions: Are growth trends generally congruent for redwoods across their entire range, or do they vary? How does drought affect redwoods in different locales? Can growth trends be accelerated with restoration interventions? What are the rates of carbon sequestration for trees of varying ages and locales, and the types and dimensions of wildlife habitat provided by forests of varying age? And

how will such information affect restoration strategies, particularly in the southern and eastern portions of the redwood range, where the stresses of climate change are apt to be especially acute?

“This project is going to help us determine what’s possible [for restoration],” Sillett said.

Sillett and his team are concentrating a good deal of effort on obtaining reliable cross dating data for trees across the redwood range. He wants to be assured that a specific growth ring identified with a certain year corresponds to the same year in rings from neighboring trees and, ultimately, from tree rings across *Sequoia sempervirens*’ native range.

WHY RESTORE REDWOOD FORESTS?

RARE TREASURE

California’s coast redwood and giant sequoia forests are home to the tallest and largest trees on the planet. These forests store more carbon than any other forest type in the world, and play an outsized role in slowing climate change. They support rare life found nowhere else. And visitors to the redwoods have the opportunity to connect with a landscape unlike any other.

NOT TRULY SAVED

Explosive demand for lumber devastated what were once vast, ancient redwood forests. Just 5 percent of the original coast redwood range remains. Save the Redwoods League and its partners have protected the most magnificent primeval groves, but today those groves are islands surrounded by a sea of very young redwood forests and a tangled web of logging roads and development.

VISION

In 2018, Save the Redwoods League celebrates a century of protecting, restoring and connecting people to magnificent redwood forests. The League is embarking on a Centennial Vision that will accelerate the pace and scale of conservation, doubling the size of the protected redwood reserves over the next 100 years and putting that expanded reserve landscape on a restoration trajectory to become the old-growth forests of future generations.

“We want to be able to look at a tree ring, confirm the year it was produced, note its width [which indicates growth rate], and scale that information across the landscape,” Sillett said. “That will allow us to create a time series for long-term performance. Then we could confirm, for example, that 1924 was a drought year in the west and less wood was produced.”

Obtaining reliable cross dating data isn't easy. Redwood tree rings become smaller with age, Sillett said, sometimes shrinking to submillimeter dimensions. They don't grow at the same rates in a given tree. Moreover, rings sometimes go missing.

“There can be hundreds of missing rings on a tree that's thousands of years old,” Sillett said, “and the problem is magnified if you take cores from lower down on the tree, where there can be a lot of distortion in the trunk. So we have to climb and take multiple core samples at different heights.”

The ultimate goal of the research is to develop equations that can accurately project growth rates under various scenarios for different parts of the redwood range.

“Our concern is forest development,” Sillett said, “so our equations will help us figure out which management techniques might be best suited for specific areas. The

THE PATH TO SPLENDOR



BEFORE THINNING



In logged-over landscapes like this one, spindly coast redwood and Douglas-fir trees grow in too densely, competing for light, water and nutrients. To restore such forests, select trees are removed to reduce competition.



AFTER THINNING



Select trees have been removed to set the forest on a shorter path to regain old-growth conditions. Both stands shown here are in Redwood National and State Parks.



HOW TO RESTORE REDWOOD FORESTS' MAGIC

Save the Redwoods League and partners apply evolving techniques to put historically cutover redwood forests on the path to old-growth structure and complexity.

THINNING

Removing select, young trees in an overstocked stand to reduce competition for light, water and nutrients and accelerate growth of dominant trees.

REDUCING FUELS

Removing buildups of combustible vegetation to reduce the threat of severe wildfire.

REMOVING STREAM CROSSINGS

Eliminating failing culverts and other structures.

INSTALLING IN-STREAM LOG STRUCTURES

Adding woody structures to create cooler pools for imperiled salmon to rest and hide from predators. Structures replace naturally accumulated woody debris historically removed by logging operations.

DECOMMISSIONING FORMER LOGGING ROADS

Restoring the forests' contours and covering the area with woody debris and mulch to promote vegetation growth.

equations will help us determine likely outcomes over time, and help managers plan for climate change.”

Those techniques would vary from site to site, Sillett said. For example, coastal fog is rare at the eastern edge of the redwood range. This means that conditions are drier; trees grow with less vigor and are more vulnerable to catastrophic wildfire than redwoods farther west. Such sites may benefit from fuel-reduction programs to minimize fire risk. RCCI's data could also be used to identify sites where redwoods are likely to thrive during a changing climate, justifying major restoration efforts.

VISIONARY RESTORATION IN PROGRESS

Indeed, ambitious restoration programs already are in play. Foremost among them is Redwoods Rising, a Redwood National and State Parks (RNSP) effort involving the League, the National Park Service and California State Parks. Redwood National and State Parks, which include Jedediah Smith, Del Norte Coast, and Prairie Creek Redwoods State Parks and Redwood National Park, are the living heart of the coast redwood forests; 45 percent of the world's remaining old-growth redwoods and most of the world's tallest trees grow within its borders.

But the park complex also contains large tracts of land that were once clear-cut. Eroding roads crisscross these logged-over landscapes, discharging large quantities of sediment and burying the rocky streambeds that imperiled salmon need to spawn. Invasive plants flourish, and the stands of dense, spindly young trees that have sprouted with the removal of the ancient forest are vulnerable to catastrophic wildfire. These young stands require thinning, the removal of select, smaller trees to reduce competition for light, water and nutrients that will put the forest on the path to develop into an old-growth wonderland and contribute to the diversity and health of the ecosystem.

Through the Redwoods Rising initiative, the League and government partners will apply these techniques that have been and are being developed in the lab and in the field. This work builds on the League and California State Parks' restoration accomplishments: Together, they have thinned more than 4,000 acres of forest, retired 69 miles of roads, removed 344 stream crossings, and installed 90 in-stream log structures since protecting the Mill Creek Addition of RNSP in 2002. But work here is only beginning.

“In the next two years, we plan to finalize our strategy, restore 3,000 acres of redwood habitat, remove or repair four miles of eroding roads to improve water quality and critical fish habitat, and complete the plans for the greater Prairie Creek watershed and Del Norte

Coast Redwoods State Park,” said Sam Hodder, League President and CEO. “Redwoods Rising is a springboard. We're taking the lessons learned here and applying them to other redwood project areas beyond RNSP's boundaries. This is how we will accelerate the healing of our greatest forests and restore their capacity to store carbon, re-establish resiliency in California's landscape, and expand the treasured redwood parks that inspire the world.”

“Our concern is forest development, so our equations will help us figure out which management techniques might be best suited for specific areas. The equations will help us determine likely outcomes over time, and help managers plan for climate change.”

*Professor Stephen Sillett, Kenneth L. Fisher
Chair of Redwood Forest Ecology at Humboldt State
University, and a researcher of the League's Redwoods
and Climate Change Initiative*

The lessons learned in RNSP are being applied in San Vicente Redwoods, a critical part of the Santa Cruz Mountains' ecosystem, where swaths were clear-cut more than a century ago. The League recently began thinning select trees there to accelerate the growth of the remaining redwoods.

Ultimately, by taking these and other bold restoration steps today, we can return redwood forests to the scale and beauty that existed long ago, ensure they are protected forever, and connect them to people through magnificent parks that lift hearts of visitors from near and far. —

—Glen Martin

LEFT One forest restoration practice is the retirement of former logging roads. After the League and partners complete work, forest vegetation reclaims the former area of the roadbed, as shown here in Redwood National Park.

STAND FOR THE REDWOODS

STAND FOR THE FUTURE



HOW YOU CAN STAND FOR THE REDWOODS

SPEAK UP

Learn about measures you can support with your vote and voice.

[SaveTheRedwoods.org/advocacy](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/advocacy)

SHARE

Tell your family and friends about redwood forests and Save the Redwoods League. Join our social media communities.



VISIT

Introduce your friends and family to more than 100 coast redwood and giant sequoia parks by using our new trip-planning tool.

[ExploreRedwoods.org](https://www.exploretheredwoods.org)

DONATE

Renew your membership; give monthly; make an honor or memorial gift; leave a gift in your will; donate your car; dedicate a grove or tree; or give stocks.

[SaveTheRedwoods.org/WaysToGive](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/WaysToGive)

Save The Redwoods

L E A G U E®



NEW PROPOSITION BOLSTERS LEAGUE PARKS AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORK

California voters made history last summer by approving a funding measure to enable more access to and improve parks, protect our water, fight climate change, and address the threat of severe wildfires. With the passage of Proposition 68, the Clean Water and Safe Parks Act of 2018, Save the Redwoods League will advance many of our Centennial projects. These projects are part of our Centennial Vision to accelerate our protection and restoration of redwood forests and connect people to these magical places.

Our bond-supported work includes improvements in trails, interpretive resources, and other amenities at redwood state parks; Redwoods Rising, the pioneering, large-scale forest restoration project; and the purchase of property and conservation easements to protect old-growth forests. We also will be able to protect the redwood forests from the threats of severe wildfire, as well as development and conversion to other non-forest uses.

Save the Redwoods League is grateful to California voters for passing Proposition 68 so that our state's beautiful coast redwood and giant sequoia forests can be protected and enjoyed for generations to come.

ABOVE Proposition 68 funds will support the League's work on Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve, shown here. See the related story on page 60.

MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION TO BENEFIT FOREST RESTORATION

A little-known element of a marijuana-related funding measure is expected to support the League's efforts to restore our beloved redwood parks. California voters in 2016 passed the Adult Use of Marijuana Act, legalizing recreational marijuana in the state, and establishing sales and cultivation taxes. The act includes support for restoration of forested watersheds and eventually stewardship of public lands most adversely impacted by illegal cannabis cultivation.

Studies have shown that forest resources, water quality and supplies, and the habitat of special-status species have been significantly harmed by unregulated cultivation. The act provides a regulatory framework for recreational cannabis cultivation and sales, as well as licenses for growing, distributing, and selling. In addition, the act reinforces laws that restrict pesticide use and measures that prevent water diversions. The law also will help fund restoration of habitats damaged by illegal cultivation, and help pay for work in state parks to prevent future damage from unregulated cultivation.

FUNDING MEASURE FOR OAKLAND'S REDWOOD PARKS ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

A measure supporting fire safety and popular redwood parks of the San Francisco Bay Area will be on the November ballot. Originally passed in 2004, Measure CC is set to expire, and voters in Oakland, Berkeley, Richmond, Alameda, San Pablo, El Cerrito, Albany, Emeryville, and Piedmont will vote on its extension. The measure provides local funding for park infrastructure, maintenance, safety, and services. Each year, the East Bay Regional Park District spends more than \$1.6 million on fire hazard reduction, much of it thanks to Measure CC. The Park District's redwood parks, mere minutes from the Bay Area's most densely populated cities, include Redwood Regional Park, Roberts Regional Recreation Area and Anthony Chabot Regional Park. The Measure CC renewal includes significant funding for potential joint projects with Save the Redwoods League, including forest restoration, trail and park access enhancement, and interpretation projects in the Park District's redwood parks.

We urge voters to support this important measure that would expand the League's partnership with the primary urban redwood park agency in California.

—*Shelana deSilva*

To learn more about these measures and how you can support redwoods, visit [SaveTheRedwoods.org/advocacy](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/advocacy).

ONE FOR THE BOOKS

Inaugural Reading the Redwoods contest introduces kids in 34 states to the wonder of our ancient forests

Imagine a world where more kids learned a deep love and respect for natural wonders such as our magnificent redwoods. Those kids grow into adults who protect and care for our precious forests. In turn, they introduce their kids to the magic of the redwoods, helping to ensure these giants are protected forever.

Save the Redwoods League set this process in motion with the inaugural Reading the Redwoods contest last spring.

Nearly 900 children from 34 states took part in the national contest, the first of its kind to encourage reading about these iconic American treasures. Participants read books, completed other activities, and told us what they learned, growing a love for nature, forests, and especially redwoods.

To all who participated, thank you. And to the prizewinners, congratulations! Reading is its own reward, but this contest also included exciting prizes, including a trip to the old-growth redwoods, a handsome bike, and gear for enjoying the great outdoors. —

—T. A. Barron



WHAT

As part of the Save the Redwoods League Centennial celebration in 2018, the Reading the Redwoods contest encouraged children nationwide to explore the magic of the redwoods through books, stories, and activities.

WHO

T. A. Barron is the contest's ambassador, a member of the Save the Redwoods League Council, and author of more than 30 novels, children's books, and nonfiction nature books.

LEARN MORE

Save the Redwoods League thanks our generous Reading the Redwoods sponsors and partners.

For more information, go to [SaveTheRedwoods.org/RTR](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/RTR).

“My daughter learned more about redwood trees and spoke about it to her class. It was nice to do this with her. It was not a school requirement. We could just learn together for the sake of learning.”

Reading the Redwoods participant

READING THE REDWOODS

And the winners are ...

GRAND PRIZE

Diego, Emilio, and Elianna from California will enjoy a three-day stay and activities in redwoods country, thanks to the Eureka-Humboldt Visitors Bureau.

FIRST PRIZE

Justin from Wisconsin will explore the trails with a Riprock 24 children's bike generously donated by Specialized.

WEEKLY PRIZEWINNERS

Eight winners received backpacks from REI, Z Bars from Clif Bar, and books by award-winning authors.







FOREST IN THE SUBWAY

Save the Redwoods League is bringing the beauty of the redwood forest to thousands of commuters at San Francisco's Montgomery Street train station from mid-September through October 15, 2018. Part of the League's Centennial celebration, images of the coast redwood forest cover the walls, floor, and ceiling of a 180-foot tunnel accessible on Sansome Street just north of Sutter Street in the Financial District. The tunnel features the photography of Max Forster, Paolo Vescia, Jim Campbell-Spickler, and Will Goldenberg. Robert Van Pelt created the tunnel floor photomosaic, shown here, using 300 photographs of native plants and animals, listed below. We invite you to look for them when you visit the tunnel.

ANIMALS

- Two Pacific giant salamanders
- Two rough-skinned newts
- One wandering salamander
- One Pacific tree frog
- Seven banana slugs
- Five yellow-spotted millipedes
- Two tiger swallowtail butterflies
- One callippe fritillary
- One Luna moth
- Two woodland ground beetles

PLANTS

Ferns

- Western swordfern
- Maidenhair fern
- Spreading wood fern
- Deer fern

Monocots

- Western trillium
- False lily of the valley
- Hooker's fairy bells
- Giant wakerobin

Dicots

- Redwood sorrel
- Western wild ginger
- Redwood violet
- False azalea
- Salal
- Inside-out flower

Trees

- Cascara
- Tanoak

A COOL, CREAMY DESSERT INSPIRED BY THE FOREST

Verrine of Thyme-Infused Gelato with Green Waffles, Sweet Herb Oil, and Elderflower Cream

Verrine: Savory or sweet food served in a small glass, typically in France.

Servings: 12-14

Active Preparation Time: 2 hours

Total Preparation Time: 8 hours



Josip Martinovic, Executive Chef at McCalls Catering & Events in San Francisco, shares his exquisite dessert featured at the Save the Redwoods League Centennial Celebration Gala. The lush forest of Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park inspired the chef's creation.

step 1

THYME-INFUSED GELATO

Make at least 8 hours before serving

- 2 cups whole milk
- 1 tbsp. lemon thyme, chopped
- 5 yolks of large, free-range eggs
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- 1 cup heavy cream

In a medium saucepan, bring milk and thyme to a gentle boil, cover, and remove from heat. Steep for 30 minutes, then strain through a fine mesh strainer.

Combine egg yolks and sugar using an electric mixer. Beat at medium-high speed for 3 to 5 minutes until very thick and pale yellow. After the milk has steeped, return it to a boil. Add half the milk to egg-yolk mixture and whisk until blended. Stir egg yolk-milk mixture into remaining milk and cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until mixture is thick enough to coat a spoon.

Remove from heat and immediately stir in cream. Pass mixture through a strainer into a medium bowl set over an ice bath to chill. Then freeze in an ice-cream maker according to manufacturer's instructions. Place in the freezer in a plastic container.

step 2

GREEN WAFFLE

- 2 eggs, free-range
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup milk
- $\frac{2}{3}$ cup all-purpose flour
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. spirulina powder
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. spinach juice
Juice $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of spinach or purchase at grocery.
- 4 tbsp. unsalted butter, melted

In a mixing bowl, whisk eggs and sugar until incorporated. Add remaining ingredients except butter. Stir until it has the consistency of batter.

Pour butter evenly on top of a full sheet tray lined with parchment paper. Spread the batter to 1/8-inch thick. Bake for 15 minutes at 300 degrees, or until dry and crispy.

Cool and break into half-dollar-size pieces.

*step 3***SWEET HERB OIL**

1 bunch Italian parsley

1 bunch dill

4 oz. olive oil

½ tsp. lemon zest

Place all ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth. Let sit for 3 hours. Oil will rise to top. Skim oil from the top with a ladle.

*step 4***TOASTED BUCKWHEAT**

1 cup buckwheat

1 tbsp. honey

1 tsp. apple cider vinegar

In a sauté pan, toast buckwheat over medium-high heat until lightly darkened. Remove from heat and add honey and apple cider vinegar; mix.

*step 5***ELDERFLOWER CREAM**

Make within 10 minutes of serving.

4 egg yolks

4 tbsp. superfine sugar

4 tbsp. elderflower syrup

2 tbsp. lemon juice

Combine all ingredients in a glass or stainless-steel bowl. Place over a low-simmering double boiler. Whisk for 5 to 7 minutes until mixture gets light and foamy. Take off heat.

to serve

Scoop 3 oz. of gelato into a 6-oz. mason jar or glass. Place one waffle piece on an angle. Spoon in an ounce of elderflower cream. Top with toasted buckwheat. Drizzle sweet herb oil. Serve.


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YOUR REDWOODS STORY

SHARE WHY YOU STAND FOR THE REDWOODS

#Stand4Redwoods

Save the Redwoods League is 100 years old in 2018! We invite you to share why you stand for the redwoods, as well as your dreams for the forest's next 100 years. Your contributions could appear in upcoming issues of this magazine.

HOW TO SEND US YOUR STORY:

- Post your thoughts and images on Instagram, Facebook, and/or Twitter with the tag **#Stand4Redwoods**.
- Email notes and photos to **Redwoods@SaveTheRedwoods.org**.
- Mail your story to our address that you can find on the back cover. We cannot return items, so please send a copy we can keep.

Here's what our members and fans have to say.

WHY I STAND FOR THE REDWOODS

The coast redwoods and giant sequoia are quintessentially American and attract awestruck visitors from around the nation and the world. They are the West Coast Statues of Liberty. Thank you for serving as the custodian of an important piece of our American quilt.

—Bob Haas

I am always humbled by their majestic beauty!

—Karen Edgar

They are older than most living things on this planet! They date back to the ages of the dinosaurs, and there is an intelligence about them.

—Chris Schlaman

They're only found in limited areas along the US west coast, and they inspire me and fill me with peace.

—Julie Hope

They are majestic and the tallest trees on Earth. There's nothing like the cathedral-like feeling of standing alone among the giant trees.

—Carl Chavez

A visit to the forest is a humbling, rejuvenating experience. It is a trip into our history, present and future, and I'm always discovering new things even though I've been visiting them often for 15 years.

—Lara Martin



SHARE YOUR STORY You can share your redwoods story by taking your photo with our #Stand4Redwoods sign. Download the sign at SaveTheRedwoods.org/sign. Post your photo on Instagram, Facebook, and/or Twitter with a caption about why you are taking a stand to protect the redwoods. Be sure to use the hashtag #Stand4Redwoods.

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100 YEARS IS JUST THE BEGINNING

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CENTENNIAL ISSUE