

## In Memoriam

The Save-the-Redwoods League regrets to report the deaths of distinguished Councillors Margaret Wentworth Owings and Marjorie Bridge Farquhar.

Margaret Wentworth Owings joined the League's Council in 1954. She was already a distinguished conservationist, with special concern for the central California coast and its wildlife.

Margaret Owings came from a family with deep roots in the League. Her father, Frank W. Wentworth, served on the Council, as does her brother, William P. Wentworth, who served 25 years as Treasurer, and her nephew, our current Treasurer, Frank W. Wentworth.

Mrs. Owings was cofounder and first President of the Friends of the Sea Otter, and as cofounder of the Mountain Lion Preservation Foundation, she was instrumental in ending the bounty-hunting of mountain lions in California. She was a member of the California State Park Commission, and fought vigorously and successfully against attempts to widen the Redwood Highway in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. She was a trustee of Defenders of Wildlife, the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, and the Environmental Defense Fund.

The National Audubon Society awarded Mrs. Owings its medal in 1983 and in 1998 listed her as one of a hundred individuals who had done the most to shape the environmental movement. The U. S. Department of the Interior awarded her its Conservation Service Award.

Looking at the lives of League associates such as Margaret Owings and Marjorie Farquhar makes it clear why the Save-the-Redwoods League—its staff and donors—can stand so high and see so far. Simply put, we stand on the shoulders of giants.

### Watch for our Film!

The Save-the-Redwoods League is co-producing a film with Earthviews, "Realm of the Ancient Redwoods." It displays traditional and unusual views of all three redwoods: Coast Redwood, Giant Sequoia, and Dawn Redwood (filmed in China). The film includes documentation of a new tallest measured tree. Look for the film on television in the fall. We'll also notify you when it is released on video.

Marjorie Farquhar's life and family were also closely linked to the Save-the-Redwoods League.

Marjorie Farquhar joined the League's Council in 1974, and was elected to its Board of Directors in 1975. When she retired as a Director in 1991, she was awarded the title of Honorary Vice President in recognition of her work. Her husband, Francis P. Farquhar, preceded her on the Council and the Board of Directors, and her son, Peter Farquhar, is a current member of the Council.

Mrs. Farquhar also served on the California State Parks Commission. She and her husband were active members of the Sierra Club, both serving on its Board of Directors.

Francis and Marjorie Farquhar were mountain climbing enthusiasts, starting in the 1930s when rope techniques were still new. She was the first woman to climb the higher of the Cathedral Spires in Yosemite, and the first woman to climb the east

face of Mount Whitney, the highest peak in the continental United States. She was a professional photographer specializing in weddings and children's portraits, who traveled around the world for her photographic projects.



Trillium (*Trillium ovatum*) in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Photograph by Evan Johnson.

### Save-the-Redwoods League

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Save-the-Redwoods League is a California non-profit corporation organized under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

## Save-the-Redwoods League Spring Bulletin 1999

Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park.  
Photograph by Evan Johnson.

## Headwaters Forest Update

By now you've probably heard that the Headwaters deal was approved. An eleventh-hour—and 57th minute!—reprieve means that nearly 10,000 acres of old-growth redwoods and surrounding buffer forest will be spared from the ax.

In our last Bulletin, we expressed cautious optimism about the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Sustained Yield Plan (SYP) that Pacific Lumber Company was required to produce for its forestlands. As this Bulletin was going to press we wondered from day to day whether we would be reporting a successful agreement or a complete collapse.

Scientific comments on PL's original HCP were negative, addressing problems from the width and location of streamside no-cut zones to the very definition of "old-growth". After reviewing the comments in December, the Save-the-Redwoods League urged the federal and state agencies involved to address some of the scientists' concerns. Our support for the Headwaters acquisition plan has always depended upon an HCP and SYP on Pacific Lumber's remaining acreage that is consistent with sound science.

In December, Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-California), along with Secretary Babbitt successfully negotiated a revision of Pacific Lumber's HCP in accordance with scientific recommendations provided during the comment period. The new Governor of California, Gray Davis, added a contract that would retain the requirements of the HCP and SYP for the agreed-upon fifty years even if Pacific Lumber's two hundred thousand acres of redwood forest were transferred to a new owner. The Directors of Pacific Lumber and its parent company Maxxam met to discuss the possibility of shareholder lawsuits if they agreed to a level of logging that returned too little profit.

The final agreement was signed three minutes before the midnight March 1, 1999 deadline, when the \$250 million federal appropriation would have expired.

Pacific Lumber will receive \$480 million in federal and state money: \$380 million for the original Headwaters purchases; and \$100 million more from the State of California for the Grizzly Creek and Owl Creek Groves if successfully negotiated. In return, nearly 10,000 acres of old-growth redwoods and buffer lands will become public property. The Headwaters Grove area is already open to the public. Please take note: access is on foot only. There are no plans to develop this new reserve with campgrounds, roads, or even trails. (continued)

## Looking Toward the Future—New Acquisitions

In the past year the Save-the-Redwoods League purchased more than 1300 acres of redwood and watershed land for nearly eight million dollars. Notable acquisitions in 1998 include the Hartsook Inn property, featured in last Fall's Bulletin, a hundred-acre parcel at Humboldt Lagoons State Park which the League was able to buy for about a third of its market value due to the owner's generosity, a beautiful 88-acre parcel of old-growth redwood and a 40 acre inholding of second growth redwoods at Humboldt Redwoods State Park, and 550 acres at Butano State Park which was part of a larger purchase arranged by the Peninsula Open Space Trust.

The League has been working on a corridor of land between Humboldt Redwoods State Park and the King Range National Recreation Area, northeast of Sinkyone Wilderness State Park. We have negotiated an option to buy a large block of old-growth Douglas-fir forest, with funding made possible from several generous foundations and one anonymous private donor. We hope to negotiate a conservation easement

across the remaining land in the corridor that is not for sale. When this project is finished, it will save old-growth Douglas-fir that is now owned by a lumber company, and offer hikers a new route from the ocean to Humboldt Redwoods. Most important, it will connect two existing reserves and create a large and nearly contiguous protected area stretching from the coast to the Eel River.

Some League members have inquired about making a restricted gift for the purchase of land that is not necessarily redwood forest. We are considering creation of a specific restricted fund for watershed, wildlife corridor, and other buffer and protection zones, whether or not they contain redwoods. Donors who are particularly interested in ecosystem protection could give to this new restricted fund and know that their gifts would be entirely dedicated to land purchase. Our specific focus is redwood forests, but the League's objectives have always included rescuing primeval forests and supporting reforestation and conservation of all our forest areas.

**Save the Dates—** We're planning two Save-the-Redwoods League receptions again this year. Last year's were great fun and very well attended. We have no location yet, but the dates are set: in the Los Angeles area, the date is Thursday, October 28, 1999, and in the San Francisco Bay Area the date is Thursday, November 18, 1999. We look forward to meeting you, or seeing you again!

*(Headwaters continued)*

On the rest of Pacific Lumber's lands, logging of old-growth redwoods is now prohibited in most areas. Logging is forbidden in buffer zones along streams to protect the coho salmon (one of the hardest-fought points: there are thousands of miles of streams, and at one time the company claimed that more than half its land would be in buffer zones). Marbled murrelet and spotted owl habitat will also be protected.

The company will be able to log, under these restrictions, at a rate of 60% to 85% (depending on who is doing the estimate) of what it would have been allowed under the standard regulations of the California Forest Practices Act.

The Save-the-Redwoods League has stated that conscientious monitoring of the agreement is an absolute necessity. The Pacific Lumber Company's logging license was just reinstated after an extended period of suspension. Proper monitoring and enforcement by the government of the requirements of the HCP and SYP, and making management decisions that provide appropriate protection measures for the redwood forest in total is the essential step in restoring the public trust to this weary community.

## Memorial & Honor Groves

During the past two years the League has mapped new areas of five-acre memorial and honor groves in four parks: Butano State Park, Wilder Ranch State Park, Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, and Limekiln State Park. More than 800 groves have been established and protected in the California Redwood State and National Parks by the League, and more are being established every year. The newly mapped groves bring the number of available groves to more than seven hundred fifty, with the minimum donation to establish a grove currently at \$20,000.

The League has also mapped three new Honor Groves, in Humboldt Redwoods State Park, Wilder Ranch State Park, and Butano State Park, where donors can dedicate a single old-growth tree for a donation ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Please contact the League office if you would like information about honor and memorial gifts.

## Redwood News

• Save-the-Redwoods League is working closely with Professor Steven C. Sillett, of the California State University at Humboldt, on his research into the 'second forest floor'—the ecosystem rooted high in the canopy of old-growth redwoods. Here, hundreds of feet above the ground, plants and animals live in a self-contained world, watered by the fog dripping off the redwood leaflets and nourished by topsoil collected in the trees' branches. Dr. Sillett has developed expert climbing techniques that avoid damaging the trees and the fragile canopy ecosystem. He reports that it is a fantastic experience, seeing birds nesting, amphibians hunting insects, and flowers, shrubs, and even trees growing on limbs 300 feet in the air.

• Progress continues on the League's Master Plan for the Redwoods. The science report, created by Dr. Reed Noss and a team of more than 30 scientists, compiles data on the physical history and current health of the redwood ecoregion, and proposes formulas to restore portions of the ecosystem. The science report will also become a book, *The Redwood Forest: History, Ecology, and Conservation of the Coast Redwoods*. Island Press, a noted publisher of books on biological and environmental subjects, will release it this fall. The science report and book is only one part of the Master Plan. Other components include a survey of stakeholders in the redwood region, an analysis of current forest management practices, a computerized look at the most critical areas for efforts to preserve old-growth redwood and biological diversity, a roundtable discussion among redwood forest professionals, and recommendations for preservation measures.

• The League has contracted with Joseph H. Engbeck, Jr., to write a book about the history of the redwood preservation movement. Mr. Engbeck has been researching the subject for many years, and we look forward to a thoughtful study of this complex phenomenon. It will be released in the year 2000.

*We plan to present a lecture series in the San Francisco Bay Area later this year: there will be three lectures, one covering each of the subjects above: redwood canopy ecology, the science of redwoods, and the history of redwood conservation. We hope the lectures will also be broadcast on public radio for our members nationwide.*

In the background: "The Mystery of the Forest"  
Photograph by H. C. Tibbetts