



# Save-the-Redwoods League

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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:*

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## **SAVE-THE-REDWOODS LEAGUE ACQUIRES 39-ACRE BROUSSARD PROPERTY TO PROTECT FRESH WATER LAGOON AND ADJACENT LAND**

*Land acquisition will help consolidate protected lands; preserve scenic watershed of Freshwater Lagoon, redwood forest and endangered fish species*

**SAN FRANCISCO** (January 7, 2008) – Save-the-Redwoods League today announced the purchase of the 39-acre Broussard property near Freshwater Lagoon in Humboldt County. Facilitated by a \$275,000 grant from the California Coastal Conservancy, as well as private donations, the \$550,000 acquisition will protect the Freshwater Lagoon and adjacent land by preventing development.

As part of the scenic Highway 101 corridor, the Broussard property has been prized as a site for residential development, yet unstable soil creates strong risk of erosion into the lagoon that would threaten endangered coho salmon and steelhead. The property is also home to second growth redwood forest interspersed with alder trees. The land acquisition will preserve the watershed lands of the Freshwater Lagoon and provide needed protection for the redwood forest and endangered fish species.

“This purchase is very important for Save-the-Redwoods League. It’s part of our mission to guarantee that the redwood forests, and the lands they stand on, are not only protected but enjoyed,” said Ruskin Hartley, Executive Director of the League. “We’re excited that this acquisition will help ensure the protection of the Freshwater Lagoon downslope, as well as endangered coho salmon and steelhead.”

Save-the-Redwoods League’s purchase consolidates protected natural land in California. The Broussard property borders Humboldt Lagoons State Park and Redwood National Park. The acquisition is part of the League’s Master Plan for the Coast Redwoods. The Master Plan sets strategies in three areas: securing protection of viable parks and preserves, protecting ancient redwood forests that remain under private ownership and connecting the forest landscape.

"Anyone who has visited the Humboldt Lagoons near Orick knows they are uniquely beautiful and among the most outstanding attractions on California's North Coast," said Sam Schuchat, executive officer of the State Coastal Conservancy. "The Broussard purchase is an important step in conserving the natural character of this magnificent area and ensuring that it will continue to attract visitors for generations to come."

### **About Save-the-Redwoods League**

Celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008, Save-the-Redwoods League is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving ancient forests so that all generations can experience the inspiration and majesty of these towering giants. In 1850, there were nearly 2 million acres of ancient coast redwood forests in California. Today, less than 5 percent remain. Since its founding in 1918, the League has completed the purchase of more than 170,000 acres of land. For more information, visit [www.savetheredwoods.org](http://www.savetheredwoods.org).

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