



Save-the-Redwoods League

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SAVE-THE-REDWOODS LEAGUE ANNOUNCES EDUCATION GRANT RECIPIENTS IN NORTHERN AND CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

*League awards more than \$140,000 to 30 schools and organizations
to expand redwood education opportunities*

SAN FRANCISCO (October 26, 2007) – Save-the-Redwoods League, the only non-profit organization dedicated to protecting ancient redwood forests throughout their natural range, today announced its 2007 education grant recipients. The League awarded more than \$140,000 to a total of 30 schools, restoration and ecology programs, park interpretive associations and nonprofit organizations located in northern and central California. These education grants expand opportunities for children and adults from diverse backgrounds to study and experience redwood forests by funding redwood educational programs, both in and out of the classroom.

“Since 2000, the Save-the-Redwoods League’s education grants program has made it possible for thousands of California students to visit the redwood forests firsthand,” said Ruskin Hartley, Executive Director of Save-the-Redwoods League. “These visits have helped students develop their knowledge of and love for these fragile ecosystems. By creating meaningful opportunities to experience redwood forests, the League’s education grants program helps inspire young people to participate in the future stewardship of our redwood forests and the environment at large.”

This year, Save-the-Redwoods League challenged schools and organizations to leverage emerging technologies and develop innovative approaches to sharing redwood resources.

Muir Woods National Monument secured the largest education grant of 2007, with Save-the-Redwoods League awarding \$17,720 in funding for its Into the Redwood Forest and Questing programs. Into the Redwood Forest is a curriculum-based educational program that allows students, grades 3-5, to cooperatively explore plant and animal communities and their interdependence within the forest at Muir Woods National Monument. Questing is a place-based program which helps students and park visitors explore and understand the natural setting by following a series of clues during a “quest” through Muir Woods. Save-the-Redwoods League funding will allow Muir Woods National Monument to host quests for inner city and lower-income students who may not otherwise have access to the park.

The Save-the-Redwoods League education grant program creates opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds to connect with distant redwood forests. The League awarded \$3,000 to Exploring New Horizons Outdoor Schools in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties to fund the Environmental Education for Underserved Students program, which provides financial support to underserved Northern California students to attend outdoor school. A League grant to the Boys & Girls Club of San Francisco will support a redwood habitat education program for underserved campers at Camp Mendocino.

2007 Save-the-Redwoods League Grant Recipients (listed by county)

Contra Costa

- Richmond Children's Foundation/Richmond College Prep received \$1,800 for the *Redwoods In Our Backyard* project, in which first and second graders study the history and ecology of Muir Woods (including a field trip) and grow their own redwood trees.
- UC Berkeley, University Herbarium received \$11,000 to support publication costs for a collected work of redwood publications, with companion English and Chinese translations.

Del Norte

- North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association received a two-part grant totaling \$3,475 to produce a redwood canopy poster for educational and interpretive purposes and to support fall salmon spawning field trips and spring redwood ecology field seminars at Mill Creek.
- Student Conservation Association received \$3,000 for its *Yurok Conservation Crew in the Redwoods* program, which engages low-income high school students from the Yurok Tribe in volunteer conservation service to improve and protect redwood habitat.

Humboldt

- Dow's Prairie School received \$2,100 to fund a week-long trip for fifth graders to Wolf Creek Education Center at Redwood National and State Parks.
- Eagle Prairie Elementary School received \$1,393 to fund a 2-3 night trip for elementary school students to Wolf Creek Education Center at Redwood National and State Parks.
- Fortuna Middle School received \$2,000 to fund a three-day trip to Wolf Creek Education Center in Redwood National and State Parks that allows 90 middle school students to learn about redwood ecology.
- Humboldt County Office of Education received \$4,000 for the Redwood Environmental Education Fair, a two-day event that gives students the opportunity to learn about the environment and gives teachers the chance to become familiar with community resources.
- Ink People, Inc. received \$3,000 for its *Old-Growth Redwoods are Alive!* program, which engages fourth and fifth grade students in science field classrooms and encourages them to express the aesthetic value of their knowledge of old-growth redwood ecology.
- Mattole Restoration Council received \$3,000 for the *Mattole Forest Stewardship Project*, which provides K-12 students with hands-on experience in native seed collection, native plant propagation and restoration in the Mattole watershed to inspire stewardship of redwood ecosystems.

- South Fork High School received \$4,000 for the *Field Biology and Ongoing Redwoods Education Project*, which supports field studies in Stephen's Grove, student-driven redwood lessons for elementary students, purchase of field equipment and field trips to local redwood parks.

Marin

- Muir Woods National Monument received \$17,720 to fund the *Into the Redwood Forest* and *Questing* programs. *Into the Redwood Forest* is a curriculum-based educational program that allows students, grades 3-5, to explore plant and animal communities and their interdependence within the forest at Muir Woods National Monument. *Questing* is a place-based program which helps students and park visitors explore and understand the natural setting by following a series of clues during a “quest” in Muir Woods.
- YMCA Point Bonita received \$3,000 to support the participation of underserved students in the camp's Redwood Ecology program and engage students in forest stewardship.
- Salmon Protection and Watershed Network received \$3,000 to support *Salmon Grow on Trees!* school and public programs that connect salmon spawning to redwood forest ecosystems.

Mendocino

- Boys & Girls Club of San Francisco received \$3,000 to support a redwood habitat education program for disadvantaged campers at Camp Mendocino.
- Mendocino Woodlands Camp Association received \$3,000 for scholarship funds that will allow fourth through eighth grade students to attend the Association’s five-day Residential Outdoor Science School.

San Francisco

- Gateway High School (San Francisco and Marin Counties) received \$1,000 for their Muir Woods Outdoor Classroom Trip. Students will complete an outdoor classroom unit specifically designed for the trip and create a redwoods presentation to be shared with the entire student body.

Sonoma

- LandPaths received \$5,000 to develop and pilot a high school level redwood ecology-based curriculum at Riverfront Park.
- Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods received \$5,000 for the *Russian River State Park Docent Recruitment and Training Project*, which aims to recruit and train additional docents to fill unmet needs of school program through new outreach and marketing strategies, as well as enhanced training opportunities.
- Sonoma Ecology Center received \$4,000 for the *Bilingual Community Redwood Walks Project*, which supports Spanish and English Language community outings in Jack London State Historic Park focused on redwood ecology.
- Salmon Creek School received \$3,000 for the *Redwood Forest Stewardship through Fire Risk Reduction* program, whereby children learn and implement strategies for reducing fire risk in redwood forests and, in turn, teach community members about best forest stewardship practices.

Calaveras and San Joaquin

- Center for Land-Based Learning received \$3,000 to allow high school students to study redwood ecology at the *San Joaquin FARMS Leadership Program*.
- Foothill Horizons Outdoor School received \$3,000 to support the *Giant Sequoia Field Trip and Ecology Lesson* program. As a part of a week-long residential experience at Foothill Horizons Outdoor School, sixth graders will spend an afternoon among the Giant Sequoias at Calaveras Big Trees State Park.

Mariposa

- Green Meadows Outdoor School received \$2,950 to support construction of a 30' x 40' outdoor teaching shelter to allow students to study redwoods during inclement weather.
- The Yosemite Fund received \$15,000 to fund Phase I of a five-year plan to produce 11 wayside interpretive exhibits in the Mariposa Grove of Yosemite National Park.

Santa Clara

- Exploring New Horizons Outdoor Schools (Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties) received \$3,000 for its *Environmental Education for Underserved Students* (EEUS) program, which provides financial support to disadvantaged Northern California students to attend outdoor school.

Santa Cruz

- Mission Springs Camp and Conference Center received \$2,792 to support development of interpretive trail signs at Mission Springs Camp.

Stanislaus

- Empire Elementary School (Stanislaus, San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties) received \$2,635 to develop a *Learning Through Redwoods* curriculum. Students participate in a field trip to Big Basin Redwoods State Park and plant redwoods on their campus as part of an integrated approach to learning about the unique role of redwoods in California's history.

Yolo

- Beamer Park Elementary School (Yolo and Santa Cruz counties) received \$3,000 to fund a week-long trip for sixth graders to Sempervirens Outdoor School, where students will learn about conserving redwood forests.

Tulare

- Sequoia Natural History Association received \$3,000 for the *Sequoia National Park WildLink* program, which facilitates multi-day expeditions in the giant sequoias where students gather data using GLOBE protocols.

Since 2000, Save-the-Redwoods League has awarded more than 140 grants totaling more than a half a million to teachers, schools and educational organizations across California. The Save-the-Redwoods League will invite education grant applications starting in June 2008. Please visit www.savetheredwoods.org for more information and to download an application.

Save-the-Redwoods League is dedicated to protecting ancient redwood forests so that all generations can experience the majesty of these towering giants. In 1850, there were nearly two million acres of ancient

coast redwood forests in California. Today, less than five percent remain. Since its founding in 1918, the League has protected more than 177,000 acres of land and played a vital role in the establishment of 39 redwood parks and reserves. For more information, visit www.savetheredwoods.org or call 415-362-2352.

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