ACCOMPLISHMENTS





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COVER: Like this researcher, knowledge of the redwoods reached new heights through the League's Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative. You contributed to the Initiative's surprising discoveries, which will inform how we conserve redwood forests in a changing world. THIS PAGE: This Roosevelt elk and others are starting to reclaim the Orick Mill Site. Our members' gifts are helping to restore this gateway to Redwood National and State Parks.





Dear Save the Redwoods League Friends,

You have inspired us so much this year, our first year of leading the League. Our members' support made it possible for the League to advance its rangewide, science-driven plan to protect and restore redwood forests and connect people to them. This report showcases the highlights of our important work. As we reflect on these achievements, we are reminded that as we work to save the redwoods, the redwoods are saving us.

Over the last century, our work focused on protecting ancient redwoods by purchasing forestland and setting it aside as state parks, both for the sake of the forest and the health of our communities.

While our land conservation work is far from finished, it is now necessarily joined with other opportunities. We also must focus on helping our parks and protected lands do their work: letting healthy forests filter our streams, letting restored, rapidly growing forests capture carbon from our air, and letting the grandest cathedrals of nature inspire a new generation of visitors. This is the hard work of protecting our investment in these inspiring places by "activating" the parks we have created, restoring damaged forests, improving deteriorating park infrastructure and reintroducing these treasures to today's American public.

You should be proud of what we've accomplished together, and know that with your ongoing help, we will continue to make a difference for the future.

With gratitude,

Som Hodder

Melinda Thomas Chair of the Board

Sam Hodder President and Chief Executive Officer

THE DIFFERENCE YOUR GIFTS MADE: SELECT HIGHLIGHTS

Redwood forests face threats such as poorly planned development, global warming and damage from logging. The work described in this report helps counter these threats. Help make sure we are always ready to seize opportunities to protect and restore redwood forestland. Please donate to our Redwood Land Fund through our secure website, www. SaveTheRedwoods.org/Redwood LandFund, or mail your contribution. Thank you for your generous gifts.

THIS YEAR, YOU ...

- brought to the world the surprising discoveries of our Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative, which will inform how we protect and restore redwood forests amid rapid global warming
- protected and began to restore the
 Orick Mill Site, the 125-acre location
 of a former lumber mill next to
 Redwood National and State Parks (1)
- helped keep open and improve 3 redwoods state parks that faced closure and enhanced another park (3, 4, 6, 8)



PROGRESS MADE ...

- 1 ORICK MILL SITE
- 2 SHADY DELL
- 3 STANDISH-HICKEY STATE RECREATION AREA
- 4 HENDY WOODS STATE PARK
- 5 PETERS CREEK AND VAN KEMPEN OLD-GROWTH FORESTS
- 6 PORTOLA REDWOODS STATE PARK
- 7 SAN VICENTE REDWOODS
- 8 PFEIFFER BIG SUR STATE PARK

See pages 6–7 for more information on these projects.

YOU PROTECTED ...



ANCIENT GIANTS

You saved redwoods from threats including development.



CLEAN WATER

You protected streams that run through redwood forests, securing a vital resource.



WILDLIFE

You safeguarded places for threatened wildlife such as salmon.



SCENERY

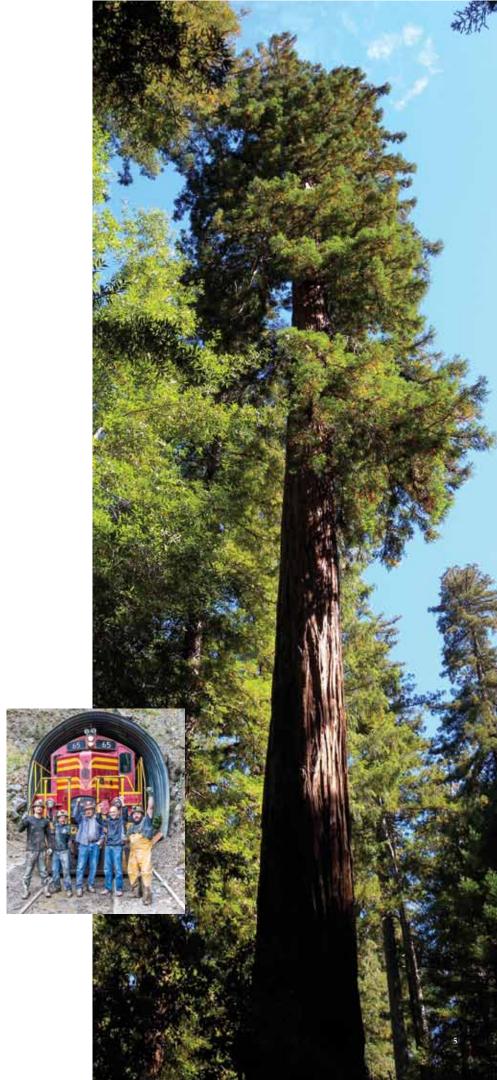
You preserved beautiful views that will inspire people for generations.



RECREATION

You secured land that will be open to the public in the future, and you improved parks that are already open.

RIGHT: Our members supported the League's effort to help the Skunk Train reopen its collapsed tunnel. This project made it possible for the 50,000 forest lovers who annually ride the historical Skunk Train to once again enjoy seeing this majestic giant. INSET: Railroad workers celebrate the tunnel's reopening. Our Facebook fan Amber L. Cash Floyd was glad to hear about the reopening. "My family and I were lucky enough to ride this train during our vacation two years ago," she wrote. "It was quite a thrill personally, as I am both a lover of the giant trees and an avid photographer."









PROTECT

HISTORIC RESEARCH YIELDS HOPE

Study supports value of protecting ancient redwoods for carbon sequestration



Homer Hayward believed strongly in giving back to the community in which he lived and worked, and he devoted much of his time and prosperity to the future of those around him. Through their Nancy Eccles and Homer M. Hayward Family Foundation, the Haywards' generous League donations have helped bring our groundbreaking discoveries to the world of redwood science.

The Foundation generously provided support for our Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative (RCCI), in addition to sponsoring the Redwood Ecology and Climate Symposium, where we announced research findings that show how our ancient coast redwood and giant sequoia forests are faring as climate changes. The findings drew an unprecedented level of media coverage from around the world.

DISCOVERIES

One discovery by our leading scientists is that ancient redwood forests store at least three times more carbon above ground than any other type of forest. "The trees are sequestering carbon in their wood, which is incredibly resistant to rot," said Emily Burns, Director of Science.

Another finding is that because of environmental changes, some redwoods have grown more since the 1970s than they ever have. One hypothesis for the growth is that rising temperatures are lengthening the growing season. In the coast range, decreasing fog may provide the trees more access to sunlight. Another factor may be more carbon dioxide in the air.

"These results bolster our mission to protect redwoods because these trees are pulling incomparable amounts of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere, which helps combat global warming," Burns said.

The Initiative also produced the most comprehensive tree-ring record ever collected for coast redwoods and giant sequoias, allowing us to see how climate events such as droughts, fire and flooding have affected redwoods' growth across history.

Now, through stable isotope analysis, our scientists are uncovering the climate history recorded in redwood tree rings. Water sources leave a stable isotope imprint in the cellulose of wood produced annually. These analyses will help us learn more about how redwoods grew over the last millennia and how the climate changed.

Our RCCI team's canopy research techniques created the opportunity to make more discoveries. As part of the National Park Service and National Geographic BioBlitz and the first redwoods canopy survey at Muir Woods National Monument, our scientists found dozens of species of lichens, some of which were not thought to grow there.

NEW LESSONS

We've integrated the Initiative's findings into our new Redwoods and Climate Change High School Program. Students draw on our research data, making climate change tangible and relevant because they can see how environmental changes affect redwoods in their back yards.

The RCCI revealed that ancient redwood forests are doing well in the face of a changing climate, and indeed, through their remarkable capacity to capture carbon, they are playing a positive role in the effort to fight climate change. Future research will address how younger forests and associated plants and wildlife are responding to climate change to help direct our restoration and conservation investments to the greatest effect.



RESTORE

HEALING A FAMOUS WONDER

Together, we began to return a former lumber mill site to nature



George Sardina, MD, a dedicated League Councilor, said he supports redwood restoration projects like the Orick Mill Site effort so that future generations can experience the same joy he feels among redwoods — but in logged forests that were set on a path to recovery in his lifetime.

"To see redwoods is to feel awe from the power of nature," he said.

Dr. Sardina gave a significant gift to help us purchase this former site of an old-growth redwood lumber mill surrounded by ancient redwoods. He is also a member of the Redwood Legacy Circle, our thoughtful members who have named Save the Redwoods League in their wills or trusts.

Gifts like Dr. Sardina's will allow us to seize restoration opportunities like the one at the Orick Mill Site. The 2013 purchase of this property is a major accomplishment in our 91-year history of protecting what is now Redwood National and State Parks, home to 45 percent of the world's magnificent old-growth redwood forest and the tallest trees in the world. Here, League members have protected more than 51,000 acres (almost twice the size of San Francisco) for the public to enjoy.

WILD REALM

The Orick Mill Site in California's rugged northwestern corner lies at the southern gateway into Redwood National and State Parks. The area is the kingdom of mighty Roosevelt elk, black bears, bobcats and mountain lions, as well as threatened northern spotted owls, marbled murrelets and coho salmon.

Connecting important habitat between the two largest and most magnificent of the parks' ancient

groves, the site's location at the confluence of Prairie Creek and Redwood Creek also offers critical habitat for threatened salmonids.

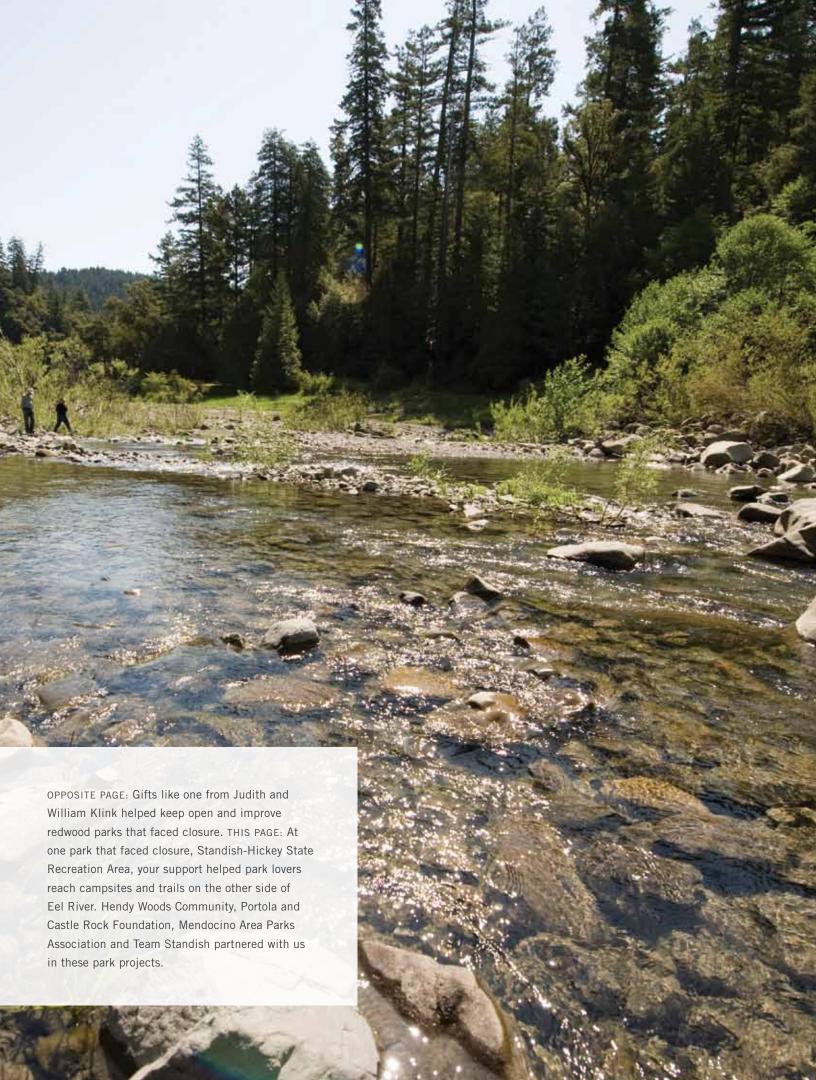
We have been waiting for decades to restore the site's meadows, creeks and wetlands. Already, we have made great progress by beginning to remove bamboo and other invasive species with the help of our partners, the US National Park Service and California Conservation Corps. Wildlife is already returning to their former haunt — we've seen elk browsing, and we've found ample evidence that bears and mountain lions feel welcome again.

GATEWAY FOR THE FUTURE

We also completed studies of flood risks, potable water and onsite wastewater treatment and disposal, which determined that the site can accommodate appropriately scaled, ecologically sensitive development. Now we are considering amenities such as a welcome center; a hub for guided activities and recreational gear rental; trailheads reconnecting the parks; and a Native American cultural center that can help create a gateway experience in the parks.

Our goal is to introduce more people to the world-famous beauty of Redwood National and State Parks and showcase the site's restoration in progress. Working with our partner organizations and the community, we can reconnect the surrounding ancient redwood groves, restore prime wildlife habitat, and potentially create a welcoming destination for visitors.

"This project gives us the chance to bring land and people back together," said Jeff Denny, National Park Service Ranger.



KEEPING DELIGHT WITHIN REACH

You helped sustain and improve parks that faced closure



Dedicated League members Judith and William Klink feel that old-growth redwood forests are an international treasure.

"The few parcels that now remain after the destruction of most of the redwoods provide an opportunity to experience sacred places, where human beings have the chance to see a side of nature whose grandeur can't be matched or recreated." Bill said.

So when the couple learned that Portola Redwoods State Park faced closure because of the California State Parks budget crisis, they made a generous donation to the League by dedicating a grove there. The grove dedication gift from the Klinks and gifts from others helped the League and other organizations contribute funds to keep Portola open.

Gifts from others also supported Hendy Woods and Standish-Hickey, two other beautiful state redwood parks that faced closure. Such donations helped protect our investment in these parks and improved experiences for visitors. In addition, the contributions helped parks gain more than \$1 million from the State Parks and Recreation Fund, as well as matching funds from California Assembly Bill 1478 for essential operating expenses and infrastructure projects.

HAPPIER CAMPERS

At Portola, we constructed a new camp host site not only to make camping more enjoyable, but also to help the park generate income. New camp host Liz Elliott greets campers from the entrance to the camping area. She's also on hand to answer questions and help in emergencies. Next, our plans include replacing the deteriorating picnic shelter, a favorite Portola spot for events like weddings and reunions.

A BRIDGE AT LAST

At Standish-Hickey, thanks to a League grant, California State Parks reinstalled a seasonal bridge across the Eel River, restoring visitor access for the first time in three years to 61 stunning redwoods campsites. The bridge allows access to the Standish Tree, a giant estimated to be 1,200 years old; dayuse parking; miles of forest trails; and a path to the sandy shores of a sparkling swimming hole. We also upgraded the deteriorating water system.

OPEN FOR INSPIRATION

League contributions also kept Hendy Woods open, continuing to offer visitors the experience of camping and hiking among its gigantic 1,000-year-old redwoods. Next, the League, California State Parks and Hendy Woods Community will improve Hendy's day-use area with features accessible to people with disabilities, including new picnic shelters, grills, interpretive signage, a restroom building, drinking fountains, parking area and a resurfaced all-access trail.

Improvements like these are sure to help make fond memories that last a lifetime.



"My father introduced me to both the outward beauty and the inner complexity of the redwood forest. It was there I first felt that awe-inspiring aspect of the redwoods themselves."

- C. Blake T. Williams, Councilor

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^{*}Board of Directors (nine directors)



5 Ways You Can Help Protect Redwoods

DONATE

to Save the Redwoods League.

INCLUDE

a gift in your will for Save the Redwoods League.

TALK

to your friends about the League's work.

VISIT

the redwood forest with your friends and family.

EXPLORE

volunteer opportunities in redwood parks.

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT SAVETHEREDWOODS.ORG, OR CALL US AT (888) 836-0005.

EDUCATION

You made it possible for Save the Redwoods League to connect people to the redwood forest, where they can be inspired and strengthened by peace and beauty.



Our Education Program helps to create life-changing experiences in the redwoods for the next generation of forest stewards by teaching them about redwood forests, why they matter and what needs to be done to protect them. We awarded \$102,300 in grants to 25 organizations, including schools, nonprofits and parks, serving 4,500 youths statewide.

TOMORROW'S STEWARDS LEARN FROM OUR LATEST DISCOVERIES

Our members' generous contributions support new ways of connecting youths to the redwoods. League staff members taught students about the forest during the Golden Gate National Parks BioBlitz, in which participants inventoried plant and animal species that live in Muir Woods National Monument. The students contributed to the League's citizen science project, Redwood Watch, which tracks the distribution of redwood forest plants and animals and contributes to the League's climate change research. Students also learned from the first-ever redwood canopy survey at Muir Woods, conducted by scientists of the League's Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative (RCCI). The Initiative explores past, present and future impacts of climate change on redwood forests.

Through the new Redwoods and Climate Change High School Program, nearly 200 Oakland high school students visited the forest, thanks in part to a grant from Oracle. The program brings urban youths into redwood forests to conduct scientific research using methods of the RCCI.

"Our goal is to make climate change tangible and relevant by showing students how environmental changes affect a local resource," said Deborah Zierten, League Education and Interpretation Manager. "The program also encourages teachers to teach locally focused science using scientifically sound data."

"Until this class, I never knew that trees could help with carbon storage. We learned how to measure how much carbon they store based on how big they are. I actually enjoyed it."

 Ronye Cooper, an Oakland, California, student in the League's new Redwoods and Climate Change High School Program

"The unanticipated creativity that nature displays is beautiful and heartwarming."

— Research Grantee Peter H. Kerr

Your support connected future redwoods champions to the forest. THIS PAGE: League staff members taught students about the forest during the Golden Gate National Parks BioBlitz, in which participants inventoried plant and animal species that live in Muir Woods National Monument. OPPOSITE PAGE: Research grantee Peter H. Kerr found two new species of fungus gnats in the giant seguoia forest. *Azana frizzelli* is shown.





RESEARCH

Your gifts provided more than \$526,000 in research grants to fund projects that will contribute to scientific knowledge of coast redwood and giant sequoia forests.



Save the Redwoods League studies redwood forests and surrounding land and waterways to understand how to best protect them. We share what we learn about redwoods through our education and research programs so that everyone has the opportunity to study and be amazed by this unique forest.

Your gifts provided more than \$526,000 in research grants to fund projects that will contribute to scientific knowledge of coast redwood and giant sequoia forests.

A GIANT LEAP FORWARD IN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF REDWOOD FORESTS

Scientists of the Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative synthesized findings from four years of data gathering and shared the information through a symposium and extensive news media coverage. Results included discoveries from the most comprehensive tree-ring record for coast redwoods and giant sequoias, developed from core samples from 16 plots. The tree-ring record allows us to see how events such as droughts, fires and flooding have affected redwoods' growth. Other Initiative findings:

- Coast redwoods' and giant sequoias' rate of growth has increased in the last 50 years.
- California summers have warmed, but precipitation has remained highly variable and not decreased over recent decades.
- The oldest known coast redwood is 2,520 years old!

Learn more on page 9 and at **SaveTheRedwoods**. org/rcci.

NEW LINKS IN THE FOOD CHAIN OF THE GIANT SEQUOIA FOREST

Discovering and classifying new species of life on Earth may seem like the musty quest of scientists who lived centuries ago. Yet the race is still on, even in well-known places like Calaveras Big Trees State Park in the foothills of California's Sierra Nevada.

The League supported the discovery of two new species of fungus gnats through a grant to entomologist Peter H. Kerr, who recently found the insects near the base of some of the park's giant sequoias.

About as small as the tip of a pencil, fungus gnats play a big role in the forest. Populations of different species peak in different seasons, Kerr said, providing a year-round feast for bats, birds, spiders, salamanders and other animals. They don't bite or otherwise bother humans.

Fungus gnat larvae are found on worm-infested mushrooms. While they may not look appetizing in a mushroom, the intricacy of adults' wings, antennae and other structures are "exquisite" under a microscope, Kerr said.

Once you start noticing such details, the forest comes alive. "You see things you aren't expecting to see," Kerr said. "The unanticipated creativity that nature displays is beautiful and heartwarming."

Save the Redwoods League enjoyed another very successful year of conservation, stewardship, research, education and support for parks.

- The League acquired and protected 125 acres of redwood forestlands and associated landscapes valued at \$2 million at the gateway to Redwood National Park
- · Monitored 27 conservation easements
- Collaborated with two other land conservation organizations to create
 a comprehensive management plan for 8,532 acres, including the
 largest unprotected redwood forest in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The
 League expects to acquire a conservation easement over this property
 in fiscal year 2014–15
- Awarded \$1.3 million in grants for land protection, park support, reforestation, climate change research, education and other projects

The League dedicated considerable resources to support California State Parks through its difficult transition.

Total revenue was \$17.2 million (including \$1.4 million for land transactions), while total expenses were \$8.5 million, resulting in an increase in net assets of \$8.6 million. This increase in the net assets was principally due to the unrealized gains on investments held during the fiscal year. The League ended the year with net assets of \$107 million.

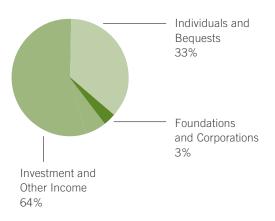
The League instituted a number of Board of Directors-designated funds to explicitly demonstrate and provide for the organization's long-term commitments, such as the management and stewardship of held lands and conservation easements, as well as funding for vital League programs, such as parks support, science research and education.

The transaction cycle in land conservation may require several years for completion because of its complexity. The League may hold land (reflected as real estate held) for many years before transferring it to a public agency or nonprofit land trust. These lands and forests are protected at the time of purchase, and the League remains a steward of the lands until they can be transferred to a public agency or nonprofit land trust for ongoing stewardship, public access and permanent protection. A significant program expense is recognized when a property is transferred to its permanent steward for an amount lower than its market value. These divestments are episodic and consequently may affect the League's program expense ratio markedly from year to year.

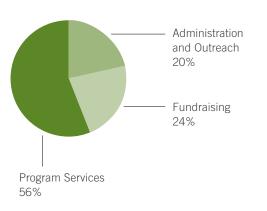
The League's healthy financial condition has uniquely allowed it to accomplish its work in fulfilling its mission, and this is thanks to the support of all of you.



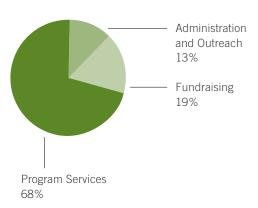
REVENUE BY CATEGORY 2013-14



EXPENSE RATIO 2013-14



EXPENSE RATIO 5-Year Rolling Average



STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014

NON-LAND TRANSACTIONS

REVENUE AND PUBLIC SUPPORT

Contributions:

Donations	\$ 3,426,978
Program contributions	780,453
Reforestation, restoration, research and other contributions	510,408
In-kind contributions	11,302
Change in value of beneficial interest in irrevocable trusts	109,224
Income from investments (incl. realized and unrealized gains)	10,863,458
Interest from loans	11,047
Other income	109,963
Total revenue and public support	\$15.822.833

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES

Redwood land program support

Education and research grants	230,179
Climate change research grants	258,482
Park support grants	165,000
Other grants	19,944
Total program services	\$ 4,174,893
SUPPORT SERVICES	

\$ 3,501,342

General and administrative	\$ 1,665,387
Fundraising	2,075,798
Total support services	3,741,185
Total expenses	7,916,078
Change in net assets related to non-land transactions	\$ 7,906,755

LAND TRANSACTIONS

REVENUE AND PUBLIC SUPPORT

Contributions restricted for land and easement

acquisitions and transfers	
Private support	\$ 1,354,122
Total contributions restricted for land and easement acquisitions and transfers	\$ 1,354,122
EXPENSES	
Grant for land protection	\$ 625,000
Change in net assets related to land transactions	729,122
Change in net assets related to non-land transactions (total from left column)	7,906,755
Total change in net assets	8,635,877
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 97,968,441
Net assets, end of year	\$106,604,318

The financial information as of and for the year ended March 31, 2014, has been derived from the League's 2014 financial statements.

The condensed financial information should be read in conjunction with the 2014 audited financial statements and related notes.

Contact the League's office for copies of the complete audited annual financial statements or visit <code>SaveTheRedwoods.org/financials</code>.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

MARCH 31, 2014

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,955,566
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	848,618
Contributions receivable	3,151,253
Grants receivable	10,000
Other receivable	10,405
Investments	72,927,626
Real estate held	32,483,880
Beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts	2,503,670
Property and equipment, net	217,373
Notes receivable	292,345
Deposits on land purchase	300,250
Other assets	417,240
Endowment fund	699,277
Total assets	\$118,817,503

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES

LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$	331,501
Accrued liabilities		423,351
Grants payable		3,125,000
Notes payable		8,333,333
Total liabilities	12,213,185	
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted:		
Available for operations	\$ 1	1,392,210
Board designated:		
Land and Conservation Easement Stewardship Fund	2	2,380,000
Park Enhancement Fund	2	1,869,000
Land and Conservation Easement Acquisition Opportunity Fund	1	0,000,000
Science and Education Fund		7,267,000
Operating Expense Reserve		9,004,000
Total unrestricted net assets	8	1,912,210
Temporarily restricted	2	4,282,300
Permanently restricted		409,808
Total net assets	_10	6,604,318
Total liabilities and net assets	\$11	8,817,503



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WALK AMONG GIANTS™

Save the Redwoods League protects and restores redwood forests and connects people with their peace and beauty so these wonders of the natural world flourish. Please join us.



Our members' gifts protected the gateway to Redwood National and State Parks, home of the imperiled northern spotted owl. Learn more on page 11.