

**ANNUAL REPORT 2018** 

**CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF SUCCESS** 

Save The Redwoods

Pursuing a Bold, New Vision

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Sam Hodder, President and CEO, left; and Justin Faggioli, Chair of the Board.

COVER A pristine creek runs through Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve. The League secured an agreement to acquire this 730acre ancient forest, the largest unprotected old-growth coast redwood forest left in the world. Learn more on page 6.

OPPOSITE PAGE The 1,640-year-old McApin Tree in Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve is the oldestknown coast redwood south of Mendocino County. Learn more on page 6.

#### Dear Friends of Save the Redwoods League,

For 100 years, our organization has been protecting and restoring the redwood forests and connecting people to their peace and beauty. We have protected 214,000 acres, saving treasured examples of our coast redwood and giant sequoia forests. We helped create and expand 66 redwood parks, forming the California state parks system and touching the lives of hundreds of millions of redwood park visitors across generations. And we have invested in scientific research, greatly enhancing our understanding of the natural world.

Our year-long Centennial celebration began in January 2018, the fourth quarter of the fiscal year covered in this annual report. The celebration was about more than looking back and admiring our legacy. It was about celebrating with you and community members who rallied with us—and who will rally again—to save California's iconic redwood forests. You make our work possible, and together, we can build hope and momentum for a new era of leadership to protect and heal our forests.

In our second century, we are committed to doing the extraordinary. We will dramatically accelerate the pace and scale of land conservation in the redwood forests; set entire landscapes of young recovering forests on a restoration trajectory to become the old-growth forests of tomorrow; and revitalize the redwood parks that will inspire the next generation with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the redwood forests.

This year, we took substantial steps toward achieving these goals, and we present them to you in this annual report.

Thank you for celebrating 100 years of redwoods conservation with us, and for your support in the years to come.

Gratefully,

Justin Faggioli Chair of the Board

Im Hode

Sam Hodder President and Chief Executive Officer

# The Impact of Your Support 2017-18 Achievements

Save the Redwoods League made great progress toward our mission of protecting and restoring the redwood forests and connecting people to their peace and beauty. From the coast redwood rainforest of Redwood National and State Parks near the Oregon border to the giant sequoia in the Sierra Nevada, this year included a broad and deep portfolio of conservation successes.

Through land transactions, we protected critical redwood forestland. We restored degraded redwood forests, bringing to bear the highest standards of restoration forestry and setting them on a path to become vibrant old-growth forests for our children's children. And we brought tens of thousands of new visitors to the forest, inspiring wonder and moments of joy in the parks that our predecessors helped to create. Your contributions to the Redwood Land Fund made these extraordinary conservation successes possible, allowing the League to seize opportunities in a complex and fastpaced real estate market, to actively engage in the stewardship and restoration of the forest, and to invest in the redwood parks that inspire and sustain us.

#### PROTECTED

#### 11,000 Acres of Mailliard Ranch

Purchased conservation easements for threequarters of ranch

#### **REACHED AGREEMENTS**

#### Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve + Red Hill

Completed negotiations, due diligence and fundraising needed to purchase old-growth groves

#### LAUNCHED

#### Redwood Genome Project

Began pioneering study to sequence the coast redwood and giant sequoia genomes

#### RESTORED

HIGHLIGHTS

2017-18

#### in Redwood National and State Parks

Thinned 500 acres to restore historically logged forests

#### COMPLETED

#### State of Redwoods Conservation Report and Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation

Groundbreaking report shows redwood ecosystems are facing significant challenges; our *Centennial Vision* shows how we can meet these challenges

#### CONNECTED

#### throughout California

16,000 students visited and learned about redwood forests



0

50

100 miles



# Protect

Protecting the ancient redwoods and the vibrant forest landscapes that sustain them The League kicked off its second century with a Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation that defines our commitment to finish what we started in 1918. We are working to double the protected forest reserve over the next 100 years, and ensure its health and beauty will endure for coming generations.

# AGREEMENT COMPLETED TO SAVE LARGEST PRIVATE ANCIENT COAST REDWOOD FOREST

Near the Sonoma coast lies 730 acres of pristine ancient coast redwood forest, a wonder that was unknown to the public until recently. Formerly known as McApin Ranch, Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve shelters the 1,640-year-old McApin Tree, the oldest-known coast redwood south of Mendocino County.

The League secured an agreement to purchase and permanently protect the property from harvesting, subdivision, and development. Named after the man who owned and managed the forest for decades, the reserve is one-third larger than the famous Muir Woods National Monument and contains 47 percent more oldgrowth redwoods.

In fiscal year 2017-18, the League completed work for an exchange of the 870-acre Stewarts Point property (permanently protected with a conservation easement) and a \$9.6 million payment for the 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 more than \$500,000 toward the purchase completed in fiscal year 2018-19.

Pending a final management plan, the League will create the first ancient redwood park in a generation, opening the reserve to the public.

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



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.

OPPOSITE PAGE The League negotiated an agreement to purchase and permanently protect Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve, which contains more than 1,450 old-growth redwood trees.

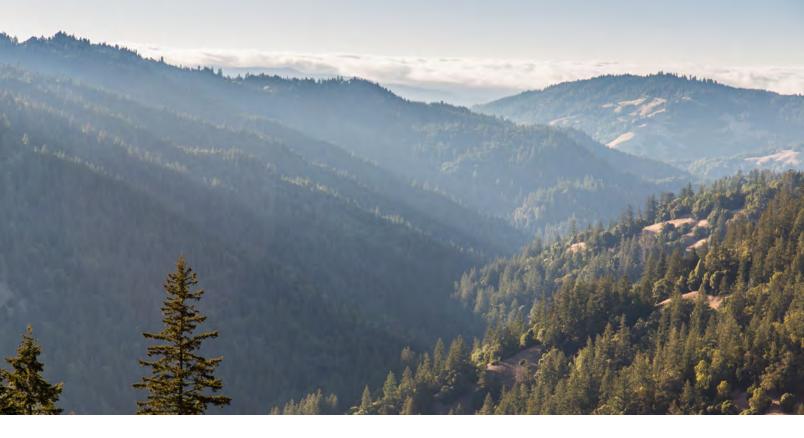
# AGREEMENT REACHED TO PURCHASE ONE OF LAST PRIVATE GIANT SEQUOIA FORESTS

Within the magnificent Giant Sequoia National Monument is the 160-acre Red Hill property, the second-largest giant sequoia grove in private hands. Red Hill contains 110 spectacular giant sequoia trees, some of the oldest, most massive and most spectacular trees in the world. The League completed work in fiscal year 2017-18 to purchase the forest, and acquired the property in June 2018. We intend to eventually transfer the property to the US Forest Service for permanent protection as part of the monument and Sequoia National Forest. In the meantime, we will be advancing forest stewardship and fuels reduction activities and considering linkages with nearby trail systems.

Thanks to a generous challenge to match all gifts, the League raised more than \$4 million for the purchase and stewardship of Red Hill. The funds raised supported the \$3.3 million purchase and the estimated \$700,000 for project costs and stewardship activities. More than 3,100 League members contributed to the effort, along with significant grants from individuals and 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.

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





## EASEMENTS SECURE MOST OF LARGEST FAMILY-OWNED REDWOOD FOREST

Thanks to our generous donors, California voters, the State of California Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB), and the California Natural Resources Agency, the League completed the first phase of our Mailliard Ranch project, purchasing conservation easements that protect 11,000 acres, or threequarters of this majestic property from development and subdivision. At 14,898 acres, Mailliard Ranch in southern Mendocino County is the largest family-owned redwood forest. Protection of the expansive ranch will secure the stability of the regional forest ecosystem.

Inspired by the challenge offered by Justin Faggioli and Sandra Donnell, League Board Chair and Councilor respectively, to match all new gifts up to \$250,000, donors closed the \$500,000 gap by the May 25, 2017, deadline.

The WCB granted the League \$4.75 million toward the purchase of the conservation easements for three-quarters of the ranch—the West and Middle portions. The California Natural Resources Agency's Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program awarded \$500,000 for the West portion.

We are seeking public funding to complete the final phase in Mailliard Ranch's protection by the end of 2019.

# EXPANSION BUFFERS MAGNIFICENT PARK OF ANCIENT GIANTS

A spectacular stand of centuries-old coast redwoods, the Grove of Old Trees is an oasis of ancient beauty surrounded by 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 League and LandPaths donors protected the forest in 2000.

Save the Redwoods 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 property is a critical buffer and offers the potential for additional public access to the grove. The League's dedicated members played a crucial role in this project, providing \$171,000 toward the \$240,000 purchase price. Generous LandPaths donors provided the balance.

LandPaths plans to establish hiking trails and conduct education programs on the new property.

The League completed the first phase of our Mailliard Ranch project, protecting three-quarters of the largest family-owned redwood forest from development and subdivision. Protecting the ranch will safeguard these precious forests, and abundant plant and animal habitat, as well as clean air and water.



# Restore

Restoring young redwood forests so they become the old-growth forests for future generations Since our founding in 1918, the League has been singularly focused on protecting ancient redwood forests. But what we have protected is not truly saved. The primeval forests today are surrounded by clear-cuts, development, and agriculture that fragment habitats, suppress biodiversity, and curtail carbon sequestration in the most effective carbon sink in the world. For the redwoods to thrive, we need to restore the landscape that surrounds the ancient groves, put young redwoods on the path to becoming magnificent old-growth stands, and use the latest science and technology to accelerate the healing of these once-great forests.



# NEW REPORT SHOWS SIGNIFICANT NEED FOR FOREST CONSERVATION

Years of League research culminated in the comprehensive and first *State of Redwoods Conservation Report*, showing that coast redwood and giant sequoia ecosystems require significant, science-driven intervention and restoration.

The needs stem from the impacts of clear-cutting, land development, climate change, and altered fire patterns, which threaten forests across public and private land. This report is intended to help governments, nonprofits, landowners, and community partners in protecting and restoring our forests. This work is critical for securing the world's superlative forests that help slow climate change, clean our water, and heal our spirits.

Learn more about the *State of Redwoods Conservation Report*: SaveTheRedwoods.org/ RedwoodsReport.



NEW VISION PRESENTS 100-YEAR GOALS

In conjunction with the State of Redwoods Conservation Report and the League's Centennial, we completed our Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation. The Vision includes 100-year goals, objectives, and strategies to address the findings of the State of Redwoods Conservation Report.

Among our objectives:

- Double the size of coast redwood forests in parks and reserves to 800,000 acres and put those forests on a trajectory toward old-growth forest form and function.
- · Protect the remaining old-growth forests.
- Restore giant sequoia groves.
- 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.

Learn more about the Centennial Vision for Redwoods Conservation: SaveTheRedwoods.org/vision.



To restore previously logged forests (TOP) 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, accelerate carbon sequestration, and put the forest on a shorter path to old-growth form and function like the forest in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park (BOTTOM).

OPPOSITE PAGE League scientists study the Fritz Wonder Plot near the town of Mendocino as part of the new phase of the Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative. The Initiative is researching the growth rates and carbon sequestration in young, recovering redwood forests and the effects of the warming climate on their recovery.

## VISIONARY REDWOODS RISING PROJECT ADVANCES LARGE-SCALE RESTORATION

Nearly half of the world's remaining primeval redwoods stand in Redwood National and State Parks. But large swaths of the parks were scarred by decades of logging, which left behind eroding roads, streams clogged with sediment, and spindly, young trees that hold neither the magic of an ancient forest nor its ecological strengths. In the next several years, Redwoods Rising, an ambitious project of the League, the National Park Service, and California State Parks, will restore 10,000 acres of forest to accelerate development of old-growth-forest characteristics. The project also will remove eight miles of abandoned logging roads. In fiscal year 2017-18, we made significant progress, thinning 500 acres of forest in the Mill Creek area. Ultimately, we will bring back the vast, ancient redwood forest that will inspire future generations with the beauty and power of nature. We thank the S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation for awarding Redwoods Rising \$1 million.

Learn more at RedwoodsRising.org.

# HUNDREDS OF ACRES OF VULNERABLE REDWOODS PROTECTED FROM SEVERE WILDFIRES

Restoring our redwood and giant sequoia forests and protecting them from severe wildfires requires managing buildups of combustible vegetation, or fuels, that result from years of fire suppression. The work involves thinning dense stands of young trees and reducing accumulations of vegetation and woody debris on the forest floor, either through prescribed fire or mechanical methods. Such efforts help make redwood and giant sequoia groves less vulnerable to severe wildfires and also accelerate the development of old-growth forest characteristics in younger stands. We completed this restoration work on 273 acres of our properties at Beaver Creek near Calaveras Big Trees State Park, Shady Dell near Sinkyone Wilderness State Park, and Cape Vizcaino in Mendocino County, as well as work on conservation easements at San Vicente Redwoods in the Santa Cruz Mountains, and Stansberry Ranch in Humboldt County.



## SCIENTISTS START NEW PHASE OF GROUNDBREAKING CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH

As the leader of the Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative (RCCI), the League is sponsoring investigations into the growth rates, carbon sequestration, and effects of the warming climate on redwood forests, regularly surveying conditions in selected groves. Since its start in 2009, RCCI scientists have discovered that coast redwood and giant sequoia trees in old-growth forests are growing faster than they have in their lifetimes throughout the range, and that old-growth coast redwood forests contain more carbon aboveground than any other forest on Earth. This year, RCCI entered a new phase, studying growth rates and the response of coast redwoods and giant sequoia to climate change in 30 previously unstudied forests, including high coastal elevation sites, eastern sites outside of the fog belt, southern Sierra Nevada groves, and forests recovering from past timber practices. The work will allow us to identify where coast redwood trees have the highest potential to recover their stature quickly in logged forests and more accurately predict the future health of redwood forests throughout their native range.

## PIONEERING PROJECT BEGINS TO SEQUENCE REDWOOD GENOMES

Safeguarding the future of our coast redwood and giant sequoia forests will take more than advanced restoration management techniques such as road retirement, prescribed fire, tree thinning, and soil stabilization. It also demands protecting the genetic diversity of both species to ensure they can endure the rigors of a changing climate. To meet this challenge, the League, the University of California, Davis, and John Hopkins University launched the Redwood Genome Project to fully sequence the coast redwood and giant sequoia genomes - for the first time. This five-year effort will develop tools to assess genetic diversity and inform management plans to help these species thrive in the coming centuries. We thank Ralph Eschenbach and Carol Joy Provan for their generous lead gift to support the Redwood Genome Project.

Learn more about League genetic research at SaveTheRedwoods.org/genes.



Connecting people to the peace and beauty of the California redwoods through a network of world-class parks and protected areas Redwood forest visitors have the opportunity to connect with primeval beauty found nowhere else. We are creating inspirational and transformative experiences for all redwood park visitors and ensuring that these places and the redwood forests are understood and embraced as critical elements of California's identity.

# 19,000 VISITORS DISCOVER REDWOOD PARKS IN FREE-PASS EVENTS

For four years, we've provided free passes for the public to experience California's spectacular redwood state parks. The program is a great success, introducing people to the forest's wonders or rekindling their love for these places. The League sponsored free day-use passes to more than 40 California redwood state parks on Redwoods Friday, November 24, 2017, drawing 5,000 visitors. We expanded the program for our Centennial year, creating Free Second Saturdays. Starting in January 2018, we offered free day-use passes to the same parks on the second Saturday of each month, attracting nearly 14,000 visitors through March. We continued the Second Saturdays program through 2018.

# PROJECT PROTECTS AND INTERPRETS GIANTS IN RESTORED MARIPOSA GROVE

Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias in Yosemite National Park is a landmark for its 500 ancient trees and for its central role in the history of land conservation. In 1864, the trees' spectacular beauty inspired President Abraham Lincoln to protect the grove as the first scenic natural area our federal government protected for future generations. The grove reopened in 2018 after a four-year restoration, thanks in part to League expertise and our \$500,000 contribution. With the League's support, wetland habitat was restored to protect the ancient trees' access to water. A new walking trail protects the trees' root systems and surrounding creeks and wetlands. And now visitors enter the grove through a transformed transit hub and plaza featuring interpretive signs and information based on League science.



The League welcomed members of The Garden Club of America to the improved day-use area of the Club's magnificent grove in Humboldt Redwoods State Park in spring 2018. 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.

# UPGRADED GATEWAY AND RESTORED TRAIL WELCOME EXPLORERS

In the heart of Humboldt Redwoods State Park, the largest expanse of ancient redwoods on Earth, more than 5,100 acres are protected thanks to a long relationship between the League and The Garden Club of America (GCA). A 2003 fire engulfed seven footbridges along the River Trail through the grove, rendering the route impassable. Park budget cuts prevented California State Parks from rehabilitating areas. So in 2013 the League and the GCA joined forces to reopen the trail. A GCA campaign provided the League with nearly \$400,000 for improvements, many of which were completed in spring 2018. Now hikers can enjoy the River Trail and its new footbridges. In addition, the improved day-use area welcomes visitors with wheelchair-accessible picnic tables, restrooms, and parking; a rebuilt kiosk; and interpretive panels. Additional footbridges will be installed by spring 2019.

> OPPOSITE PAGE A family enjoys Big Basin Redwoods State Park on Redwoods Friday, November 24, 2017, when the League sponsored free day-use passes to more than 40 California redwood state parks.





## REBUILDING A PLACE TO MAKE FAVORITE MEMORIES

With our partners, the League rebuilt a beloved historical ramada, a picnic shelter in Portola Redwoods State Park. The old ramada, which had deteriorated beyond repair, was a cherished place for campers, weddings, and family reunions. The new ramada will surely become a backdrop for good times as people gather to admire the park's majestic coast redwoods.

# RENOVATING A HISTORICAL NATURE CENTER TO SHOWCASE RESEARCH

Established in 1902, Big Basin Redwoods State Park includes the largest contiguous stand of ancient coast redwoods south of San Francisco. Recognizing Big Basin's historical and ecological importance, the League has raised \$230,000 toward a \$250,000 goal for the reconstruction of the park's historical nature center. The League is helping to shape the design and content of the Big Basin Nature Museum & Research Center, including an area dedicated to our scientific research. Completion of the center is expected in February 2020.



# PROJECT WILL REVEAL SECRETS OF A FALLEN ICON

The League, California State Parks, and Humboldt State University are collaborating to reveal the life history of the iconic Pioneer Cabin Tree that fell during a January 2017 storm in Calaveras Big Trees State Park. We prepared a cross-section of the 2,000-year-old "tunnel" tree for Allyson Carroll, the Humboldt State University scientist who will study the giant sequoia's rings. This study will provide valuable information about drought, rainfall, fire intervals, and other climate changes that will help in the long-term stewardship of giant sequoia. After the study, the cross-section will remain in the park as part of an interpretive display that California State Parks and the League will design.

# CLOSING IN ON FULL RECONSTRUCTION OF ICONIC PFEIFFER FALLS TRAIL

Located on the rugged Big Sur coast, Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park protects towering redwood stands along the beautiful Big Sur River gorge. Wildfires in 2008 cut off public access to this magnificent forest, forcing closure of the popular Pfeiffer Falls Trail. Since then, the League has been working to rebuild the trail. This year, crews completed the majority of the trail, steps, handrails, and retaining walls. We expect to complete the trail and interpretive signage by spring 2019. Capping this \$1 million effort will be the construction of a 70-footlong footbridge and a new viewing platform for the trail's eponymous waterfall.

ABOVE The Pioneer Cabin Tree before it fell, (TOP). Workers (BELOW) cut a piece from the fallen giant for a League researcher to study its rings. The park will feature the piece in an interpretive display.

RIGHT League-supported crews are working on steep terrain to rebuild the Pfeiffer Falls Trail, which is expected to open by spring 2019.

OPPOSITE PAGE Big Basin Redwoods State Park attracts 630,000 visitors annually. League expertise will help introduce them to the park's wonders in a renovated museum.





A section of a fallen coast redwood and tree-ring data are displayed at the California Academy of Sciences' new *Giants of Land and Sea* exhibit, which features the League's expertise.

# HEADWAY FOR HABITAT RESTORATION AND REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS VISITOR CENTER

Progress has been steady in advancing plans for habitat restoration work and construction of a world-class visitor center for Redwood National and State Parks on the League's Orick Mill Site. The League received more than \$1 million in multiyear awards from the California State Coastal Conservancy and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to restore habitat for imperiled salmon. Work progressed in design, planning, and permitting. And now that initial design phases are complete for the visitor center, the focus is on gaining environmental compliance permits and integrating restoration and construction plans. Pending a future fundraising effort, the completed center and site will feature a traditional Yurok village Brush Dance site, a fishviewing platform, a redwood canopy walkway, exterior exhibits and interpretive panels, and trails.

# SHAPING A MAJOR EXHIBIT AT CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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's staff helped with the exhibit planning, design, and scientific content of this interactive redwoods experience that includes an immersive video of the coast redwood canopy. The video features League-sponsored researchers giving a sneak-peek into their fascinating studies of the redwood treetops. In addition, an enormous trunk section from a fallen coast redwood is on display with tree ring data interpreted by League researcher Allyson Carroll, enabling visitors to learn about this tree's remarkable 800-year lifespan.

Learn more about the ongoing exhibit at calacademy.org.

# DELVING INTO OUR ARCHIVES FOR AN EXHIBITION ON THE LEAGUE'S FIRST CENTURY

The League and The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, finished organizing fascinating letters, photos, films, and other artifacts for the library's exhibit, *Sustaining Grandeur: The First 100 Years of Save the Redwoods League*. The exhibit, which ran from April to mid-September 2018, presented the League's first century of protecting California's ancient coast redwood and giant sequoia forests, thanks to support from the League and Friends of The Bancroft Library.

# EDUCATION PROGRAMS BRING 16,000 STUDENTS TO FORESTS

Through our hands-on education programs, we provide redwood forest experiences to youths in the San Francisco Bay Area throughout their K-12 educational career. Our Explore Your Watershed, Redwood Phenology, and Redwoods and Climate Change programs brought more than 1,480 students to the forest.

Throughout California, our education grants provided free field trips to the redwood forests for 14,500 underserved students in classes from kindergarten through college.

We also launched the North Coast Redwoods Education Program for students in Del Norte and Humboldt counties. This project will create a comprehensive curriculum for teachers to use in their junior high and high school classrooms and will provide a free field trip for 10 classes to the redwoods. Students from San Francisco Bay Area cities visit redwood forests through our Redwoods and Climate Change High School Program to document biodiversity and collect other data.



## **CAPTURING MEDIA SPOTLIGHTS WORLDWIDE**

The significance of the League's work draws attention from far and wide because coast redwoods and giant sequoia are treasures that belong to the world. International, national, regional, and local media published 1,428 positive stories about our work reaching more than 670 million readers and unique website visitors combined. Highlights include a story about our redwood genome research on the front page of *The Washington Post*. Lonely Planet, the renowned publisher of travel guides, named the coast redwood range the #1 U.S. travel destination for 2018, promoting our new Explore Redwoods program and Free Second Saturdays in Redwood State Parks.

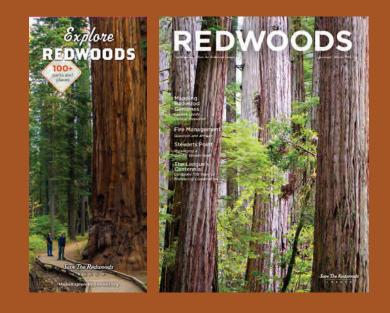
## PARTNERS AND SPONSORS JOIN CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

More than 100 partners and sponsors celebrated the League's Centennial year, demonstrating a commitment to redwood and giant sequoia conservation that is broad and deep, cutting across all social and political boundaries. The 13 lead partners included the National Park Service, San Francisco Giants, Lonely Planet, and California State Parks. Our Presenting Sponsor was the Nancy Eccles and Homer M. Hayward Family Foundation, and our Supporting Sponsor was Oracle. We're deeply grateful for support from all our partners and sponsors.

# NEW MEDIA AND PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS HELP PEOPLE ENJOY PARKS

A number of projects helped the public enjoy and learn about magnificent redwood parks in California and Oregon. More than 1,000 people signed up to use ExploreRedwoods.org, our new, free, mobile-friendly website. The site allows users to discover and plan trips to more than 100 coast redwood and giant sequoia parks through their favorite activities. We promoted the website by distributing 150,000 new *Explore Redwoods* brochures, which are popular at parks, visitor centers, and public sites in California and Oregon.

Building on our long-standing relationship with California State Parks, we collaborated on media to teach park visitors about redwoods' natural history and our partnership in establishing redwood parks. Together, we produced brochures, interpretive panels, and posters.



# LEADERSHIP GARNERS SUPPORT FOR GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT

Because we believe coast redwood and giant sequoia conservation is a nonpartisan issue that unites all people, the League was at the forefront of opposition to proposals by the US Department of the Interior to reduce America's national monuments. We thank our community for responding to our call for public comments on what Giant Sequoia National Monument means to them. Comments from League supporters were counted among a record-breaking 2.8 million submitted to Regulations.gov. The review of monuments threatens protections for 27 incredible places, including Giant Sequoia. Two national monuments, Bear Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante, collectively have been reduced by two million acres since the December 2017 announcement, the greatest reduction in protections for public lands in US history. The League will be as active and committed to defending Giant Sequoia as we were in helping to create it years ago. The new *Explore Redwoods* brochure (LEFT) invites people to discover and plan trips to more than 100 coast redwood and giant sequoia parks through their favorite activities, and promotes the ExploreRedwoods.org website.

We launched print and online versions of *Redwoods* magazine (RIGHT) to elevate the national dialogue about redwoods and their conservation through in-depth articles that explore the forest in a broader environmental context. The League garnered support for the California Proposition 68 bond, which voters passed. Prop 68 funds will support the League's work on the pictured Harold Richardson Redwoods Reserve.

#### INAUGURAL *REDWOODS* MAGAZINE PUBLISHED

We launched print and online versions of *Redwoods* magazine to elevate the national dialogue about redwoods and their conservation through in-depth articles that explore the forest in a broader environmental context. The first issue features our Redwood Genome Project, Centennial year observances, prescribed fire as a restoration strategy, and much more. Distributed to our members, partners, visitor bureaus, and other stakeholders, *Redwoods* will include stories of how we are realizing our vision for our next century.

Read *Redwoods* at SaveTheRedwoods.org/Redwoods.

# LEAGUE LEADS IN CAMPAIGN TO PASS CRITICAL STATE CONSERVATION BOND

Continuing a long tradition of advocating for parks-oriented ballot measures, the League worked throughout fiscal year 2017-18 to position a California state bond measure for the June 2018 ballot. Thanks to the efforts of the League and our allies, Proposition 68 passed by large voter margins to fund water, parks, and natural resources projects. With Prop 68 passed, Save the Redwoods will be able to improve redwood parks and reserves, making them more accessible and more resilient to a changing climate. The League and our partners will be able to access funds from Prop 68 for land conservation, forest restoration and stewardship, and park improvements in redwood forests.



# Council

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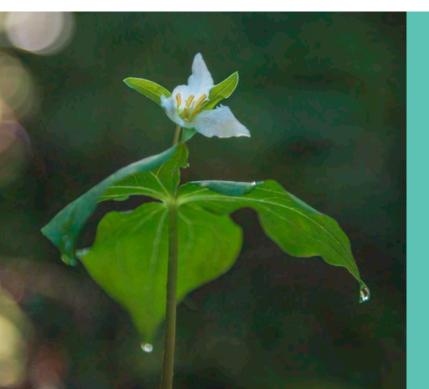
# **Officers**

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\*Board of Directors (13 directors)





**100 YEARS IS JUST THE BEGINNING** 

Save The Redwoods



# HOW YOU CAN STAND FOR THE REDWOODS

# SPEAK UP

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

SaveTheRedwoods.org/ advocacy

# SHARE

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

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# VISIT

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

ExploreRedwoods.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

# Finances

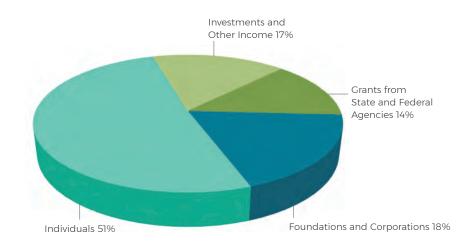
The Impact of Your Support 2017-18

Thanks to more than 18,300 members and volunteers, Save the Redwoods League achieved a number of significant accomplishments in our mission to protect and restore redwood forests and connect people from California and throughout the world to their peace and beauty.

#### **REVENUE BY CATEGORY** 2017-18

#### **TOTAL REVENUE** \$40,394,219

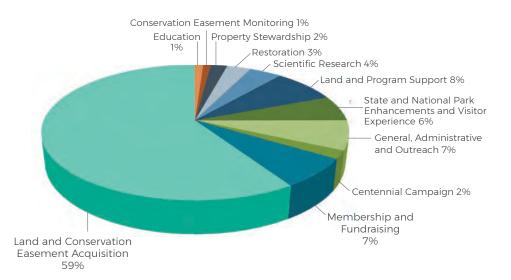
The League's revenue for the fiscal year was \$40.4 million. The League continues to receive significant support through gifts from individuals, foundations, and corporations for our work. The revenueby-category chart excludes unrealized gains and losses.



#### EXPENSES BY CATEGORY 2017-18

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$36,496,727

Expenses reflect the work of the League throughout the year in acquiring and stewarding land and conservation easements; conducting scientific research; providing outreach and education programs; and enhancing state and national parks and the visitor experience.



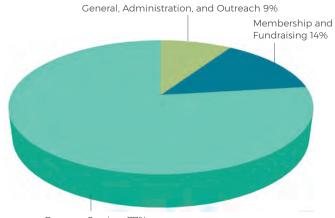
#### EXPENSE RATIO 5-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE

As is common in land conservation, the transaction cycle of purchasing, holding, and transferring land for Save the Redwoods League often requires several years for completion. While land and forests are protected from the moment the League acquires them, the League often remains a steward of those lands until they can be transferred to a public agency or nonprofit land trust for ongoing stewardship, public access, and permanent protection. The program expense is recognized only when a property is transferred to its permanent steward, or when a conservation easement is acquired. Since land divestments and conservation easement acquisitions are episodic and markedly affect the League's expense ratio from year to year, we believe a five-year rolling average is a more meaningful depiction of our program expense ratio.

#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2018

REVENUE AND PUBLIC SUPPORT			
Contributions and grants Grants from state and federal agencies Interest and dividends Realized gain on sale of investments (net) Unrealized gain (loss) on investments (net) Interest from loans Other income Total revenue and public support	\$ 29,820,083 5,809,664 1,726,938 5,139,817 (2,249,658) 5,455 141,920 <b>\$ 40,394,219</b>		
EXPENSES			
PROGRAM SERVICES			
Conservation easement acquisition Land deeded to other agencies Redwood land programs Education and research grants Redwood reforestation grants Climate change research grants Park support grants Other grants <b>Total program services</b>	\$ 21,300,000 240,000 7,344,144 711,237 89,800 225,071 308,766 350,089 <b>\$ 30,569,107</b>		
SUPPORT SERVICES General, administrative and outreach Fundraising	\$ 2,489,439 3,438,181		
Total support services	5,927,620		
Total expenses	36,496,727		
Change in net assets	3,897,492		
Net assets, beginning of year	120,845,997		
Net assets, end of year	\$ 124,743,489		



Program Services 77%

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

MARCH 31, 2018

#### ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents Restricted cash and cash equivalents Contributions, grants, pledges and other receivables, net	\$	16,119,065 37,438 8,580,974
Notes receivable		129,153
Deposits for land transactions		275,000
Other assets		823,739 1,200,000
Property and equipment, net Beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts		5,057,526
Investments		63,924,813
Real estate held		30,162,880
Endowment fund		984,515
Total assets	\$	127,295,103
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	Ś	1,451,614
Notes payable		1,100,000
Total liabilities	\$	2,551,614
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	\$	4,191,330
Board designated		83,000,000
Total unrestricted net assets	\$	87,191,330
Temporarily restricted	\$	37,141,351
Permanently restricted	_	410,808
Total net assets	_	124,743,489
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	127,295,103

Our net assets empower the League to purchase and protect threatened redwood forestland in a complex and fast-paced real estate market, enabling us to seize opportunities to buy, hold, restore, and transfer properties for permanent protection.





**100 YEARS IS JUST THE BEGINNING** 



At the dawn of our second century, we are embarking on a Centennial Vision to double the size of the protected redwood forest reserves, put young forests on the path to become magnificent old-growth forests, and connect people to the redwoods through a network of magnificent parks and protected areas that inspire all of us with the beauty and power of nature.

For more information about the League's broad range of work, please visit SaveTheRedwoods.org.

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