



**LAND OF
PYGMIES
AND GIANTS**
YOU PREVENTED
LOGGING AND
DEVELOPMENT IN
RARE FOREST



Our Mission: 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.

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Loma Mar Redwoods

COVER: Big River-Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods forest harbors some of the few remaining pockets of ancient giants on the Mendocino Coast, as well as a pygmy forest. You can help restore this place. *Learn more on page 4.*

THIS PAGE: Yosemite National Park's famous Grizzly Giant tree in Mariposa Grove is the world's 25th largest tree by volume. Your gifts are helping to restore the grove. *Learn more on page 10.*

The Bulletin newsletter is published for friends of Save the Redwoods League.



Dear Save the Redwoods League Friends,

Because of your generous contributions, I'm thrilled to report that **three extraordinary ancient forests are now protected.**

You helped Save the Redwoods League meet matching gift challenges to raise the funds needed by last December to protect the breathtaking Peters Creek Old-Growth Forest and Boulder Creek Forest. We're so grateful to you, the Sean Parker Foundation and the J.A. Woollam Foundation, both of which matched a major portion of your gifts. With your support, we have protected these treasured ancient forests in the Santa Cruz Mountains of the South San Francisco Bay Area. Now we can care for them.

The other forest you protected is the strange and wonderful Big River-Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods, home of a pygmy forest and giant ancient redwoods. *On page 4, you can learn more about this place and the promise it holds in the heart of the Mendocino Coast.*

While protecting unique redwood forests with your help, we also have been working to ensure the future of our redwood parks. The Parks Forward Commission recommended a fundamental transformation of our longtime partner, California State Parks. In these parks live most of the redwood forests that generations of League members have protected. With the Commission's recommendations and our emerging centennial vision, we plan to increase our investment in parks. We will continue to work shoulder to shoulder with the parks system to restore forests, upgrade park amenities and improve education and interpretation programs, introducing a new generation of visitors to the inspirational beauty of the redwood parks we have saved together.

Thank you for these recent successes that make the world a better place.

Sam Hodder President and CEO

YOU PREVENTED LOGGING AND DEVELOPMENT IN A RARE FOREST; NOW YOU CAN HELP RESTORE AND OPEN IT TO THE PUBLIC

As a resident of Caspar, California, League member Susan Juhl lives surrounded by historical treasures and natural wonders. Her small town sits atop cliffs sculpted by the wild blue Pacific, just north of the Victorian vacation village of Mendocino. Nearby are Jug Handle State Natural Reserve with its unusual combination of redwood forest, pygmy forest and bog; and Caspar Headlands State Beach, a popular place to watch migrating gray whales.

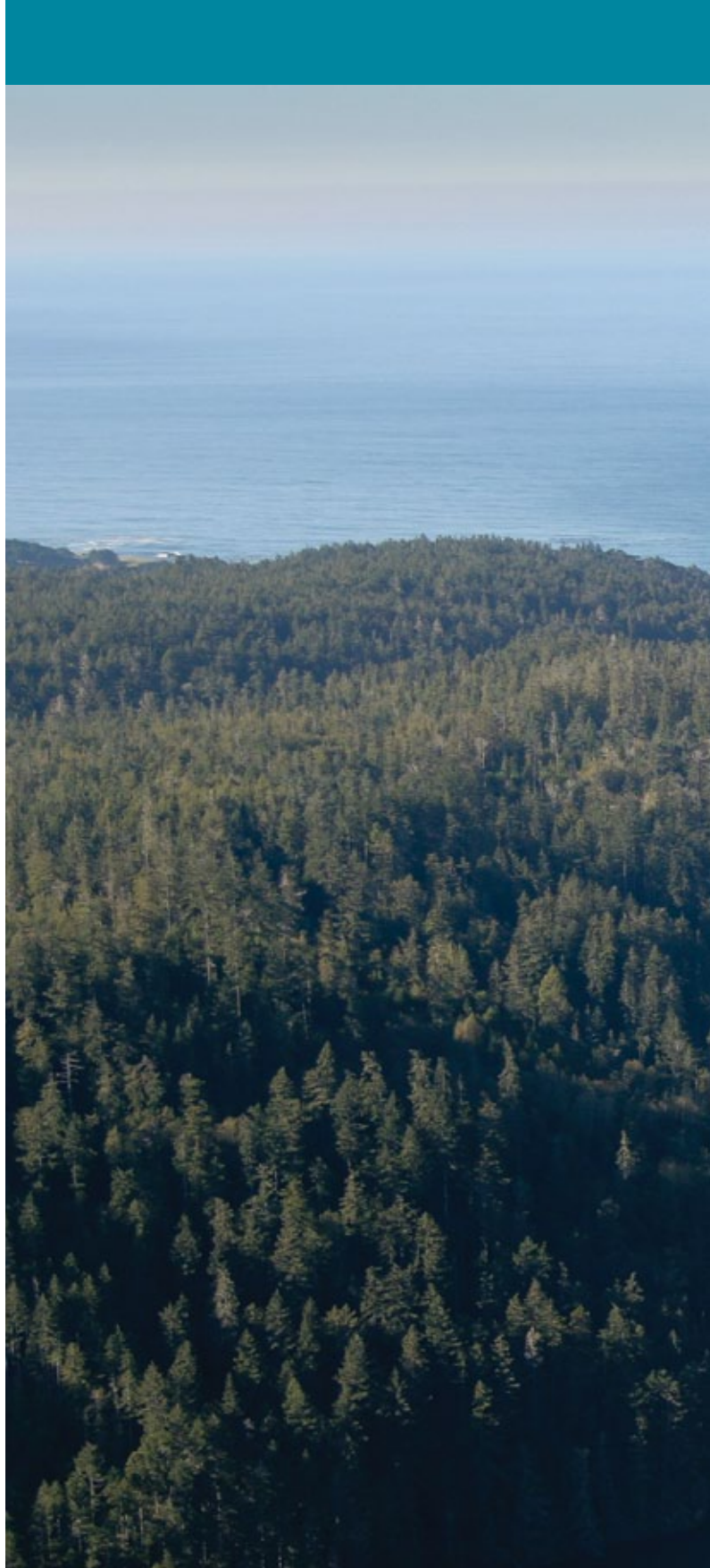
Earlier this year, Juhl seized the chance to protect more of her area's wonders. She and more than 6,200 League members pitched in to protect the 83-acre Big River-Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods from logging and development, enabling the League to purchase the \$1.4 million property by the March deadline.

Less than 1 mile from the Pacific and Mendocino village, the property is a rare example of two forest types in one magnificent location: a pygmy forest and an ancient redwood forest. This land also features a tributary of Big River, which runs to the ocean. Protecting this forest has been a League priority since the 1990s.

"This property has captured the public's imagination," said Sam Hodder, League President and Chief Executive Officer. "Our supporters love its strange, wonderful and rare pygmy forest and ancient redwood giants so close to Mendocino."

Juhl, host of a local radio show, said the League's purchase of the forest is wonderful. "This property means so much to me because these beautiful old-growth redwoods are right in our backyard," she said. "It's fantastic to pass by the ocean and smell the sea air, and to travel a few minutes and be in the beautiful redwood forest. Having one right here is special and very important."

Big River-Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods is pictured in the upper left, near the vacation destination of Mendocino village in the upper right. See more photos at SaveTheRedwoods.org/BRMOGR.



An aerial photograph showing a wide river flowing through a dense forest of tall trees. The river curves from the bottom left towards the top right, where it meets the ocean. A small town is visible on a peninsula in the distance. The sky is clear and blue.

Protect

Land of Pygmies and Giants

“Big River-Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods is very important because it contains one of the very few remaining pockets of old-growth redwoods on the Mendocino Coast.”

— Renée Pasquinelli, Senior Environmental Scientist,
California State Parks



THIS PAGE: Marked redwoods including this one would have been logged at Big-River Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods if it weren't for gifts from Susan Juhl and other caring League members. Read more about Juhl and her longtime commitment to the forest at SaveTheRedwoods.org/juhl.

RIGHT: Big-River Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods is in the heart of Mendocino Headlands State Park. This property offers an opportunity to open trails and river access that could enrich the experiences of people who visit the popular park.

An Unusual Wonderland

Thousands of years of pounding surf, fluctuating sea levels and rising tectonic plates formed marine terraces on Big River-Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods. On the topmost terrace is a dense pygmy forest of hemlock trees, bishop pine and Douglas fir, and dwarf flowering rhododendron, manzanita, azalea, Labrador tea and huckleberry — all stunted by the nutrient-deficient soil.

Farther down into the forest's V-shaped valleys, more magic is revealed: 13 acres of giant ancient redwoods that survived logging because they were too difficult to reach.

This forest also offers rich habitat for wildlife. The ancient redwoods are perfect locations for imperiled northern spotted owls and the endangered marbled murrelet, a seabird that nests on the platforms that giant branches provide.

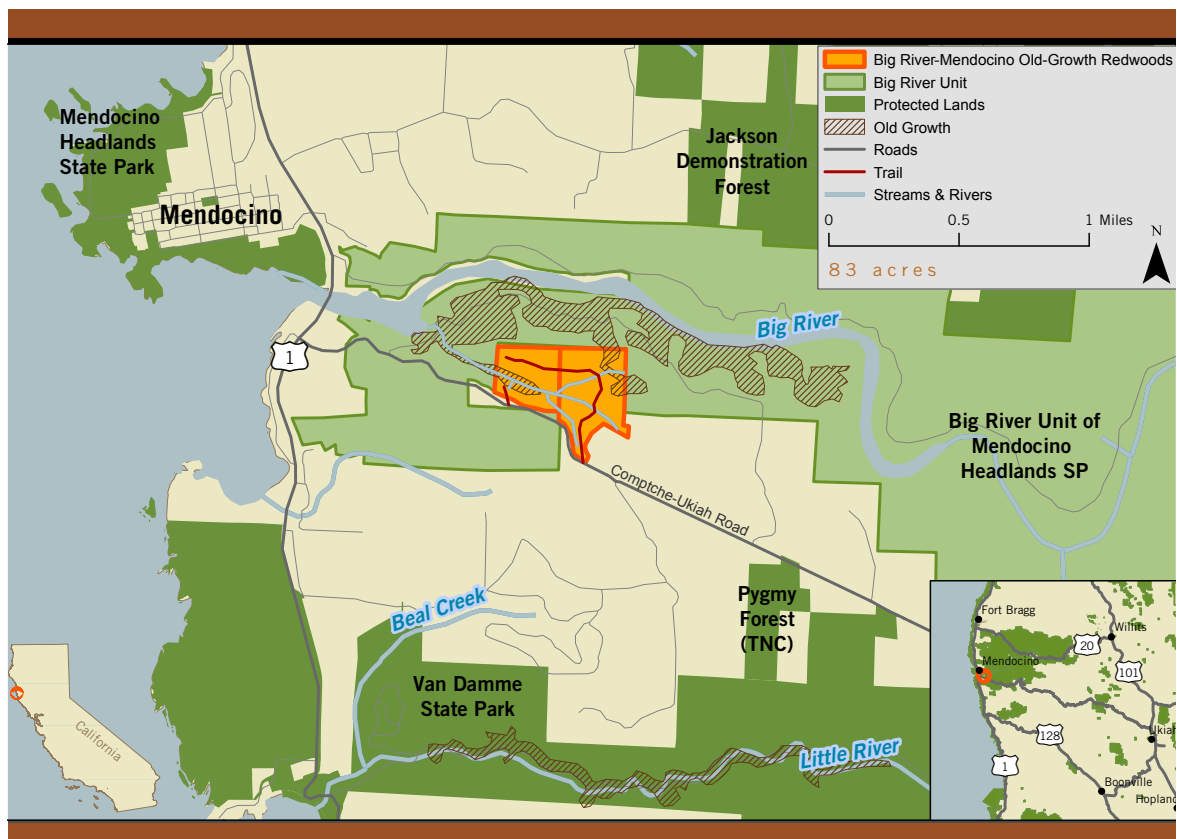
Urgent Restoration

Now that you've helped protect this forest, our immediate task is to repair two stream crossings. Past loggers piled dirt to build roads across streams. Under these crossings lie drainage pipes that threaten to fail during a big rain and dump catastrophic amounts of sediment into Big River just downstream, burying the spawning and rearing habitat of endangered coho salmon and imperiled steelhead trout. Big River is already federally listed as impaired due to excessive sediment from past logging in the surrounding area.

Conserving and restoring this forest may contribute to the recovery of Big River, said Jon Hendrix, Senior Environmental Scientist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Recreation Potential

Not only is Big River-Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods a fine home for animals, it is also surrounded by Mendocino Headlands State Park, one of California's most popular parks. This property offers an opportunity



to open trails and river access that could improve the experiences of the more than 1 million annual visitors who enjoy the park’s trails, rugged coastline and secluded beaches.

Mendocino Headlands and nearby Van Damme and Jug Handle state parks were protected and expanded by League members for everyone to enjoy. Like the work on these parks, the Big River-Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods project is part of the League’s plan to purchase, hold, restore and potentially open important properties to the public. As part of our emerging centennial vision, we intend to evaluate visitation, park support and public access throughout the redwood range and in particular on the Mendocino Coast.

“We have the chance to restore the redwood forest and enrich visitors’ experiences at Mendocino Headlands State Park with your help,” Hodder said.

You can continue to make a difference by donating today to restore Big River-Mendocino Old-Growth Redwoods and replenish the Redwood Land Fund so we can protect other forests in the future. Please give through our secure website at [SaveTheRedwoods.org/RedwoodLandFund](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/RedwoodLandFund), call us at (888) 836-0005, or return the attached envelope. Thank you.

Volunteer to Help Redwoods State Parks

Volunteer for California State Parks as a docent, caretaker or patroller, or choose from many other roles. Call (916) 653-9069 or email vipp@parks.ca.gov, and leave your name and address to receive applications and information about each of the parks.

Community

Grove
Dream
Now Real



Ted Schriefer Jr. and his sister Charlotte are shown in Navarro River Redwoods State Park, where he dedicated a grove.

Ted Schriefer Jr. recalls his visit to Redwood National Park in the 1970s. So moving was his experience that he joined Save the Redwoods League in 1978. He later named the organization as a beneficiary in his trust and recently created a charitable gift annuity that not only supports the League, but also provides him income for the rest of his life.

The El Cajon, California, resident, a retired middle school teacher, is passionate about protecting redwoods. He knew a grove dedication would make a major impact on the League's work to safeguard and restore redwood forests and help people enjoy them. That's partly why he dedicated the Schriefer Family Redwood Grove in 2014. Another reason was to honor his family.

"I thought about dedicating a grove through the League ever since I read about it in the '70s. It was a dream that I never thought would happen," he said. "Then my sister passed a couple of years ago, and that made me want to do it now."

Schriefer dedicated a serene grove in Navarro River Redwoods State Park because he loves streams and the park's tranquil, remote character.

"It felt good to dedicate my grove now rather than after my death. This way I can enjoy it" Schriefer said.

"It's amazing to know that a place like this beautiful grove is dedicated to my family, and that my gift will do so much to protect the forests I love."

Honor Your Loved Ones While You Protect the Forest

You can dedicate a special place in the forest to friends, family or an organization by contacting Megan Ferreira Derhammer, Senior Major Gifts Officer, at (415) 362-2352 or mferreira@SaveTheRedwoods.org. If you would like to learn more about naming the League in your will or trust, please visit MyRedwoodsLegacy.org.

Conservation

Giant Sequoias Within Reach



In the Sierra Nevada, southeast of Three Rivers, stands a kingdom of ancient giant sequoias, flowing springs and rare plants and animals. This is Case Mountain, a place whose natural treasures have earned it special designation from the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

Nestled at the foot of the mountain sits the Santa Teresita Youth Conference Center, where every spring and fall hundreds of sixth-grade students are immersed in science and nature education. The students spend several days here learning about subjects such as birds, insects, geology, astronomy and plants.

You may recall from our fundraising campaign that the 60-acre property called Craig Ranch lies between the youth center and the magical sequoia grove, hindering public access to the forest. Your generous gifts are to allow Save the Redwoods League, in partnership with Sequoia Riverlands Trust and the BLM, to buy this \$300,000 portion of Craig Ranch by the end of this summer. After the purchase, the League is to transfer the property directly to the BLM, which manages the surrounding 18,530-acre forest.

The BLM will work on the plan to open the property to the students from Santa Teresita, as well as hikers, mountain bikers, anglers, equestrians and other visitors.

“We are eager to explore the many ways our young people can experience the trees, water, plants and the other parts of the natural environment through the adjacent BLM land,” said Vince Olea, Director of Santa Teresita Youth Conference Center.

Your gifts are helping to enrich the lives of young students who will experience the wonder of the sequoias, many for the first time.

Thanks to your gifts, students, hikers and other visitors will have easier access to the majestic ancient trees of Case Mountain. This forest is at location E on page 11.

Partnering to Restore Historic Mariposa Grove

The giant sequoias of Mariposa Grove in Yosemite National Park are so ancient, huge and magnificent that they inspired President Abraham Lincoln in 1864 to protect them for the benefit of future generations.

Decades of human activity have taken their toll, and this national treasure is under stress.

Beginning in summer 2015, Mariposa Grove will close to the public as it undergoes a major restoration project. The League is partnering with Yosemite National Park and the Yosemite Conservancy to help restore natural processes and study the health of the giant sequoias.

The project will restore the natural flow of water in the grove, conserving the trees' access to this critical

resource that is under threat from an increasingly dry climate. League researchers will assess and monitor the trees' health during the restoration.

When the grove reopens in 2017, visitors' experiences will be vastly improved along with the forest's condition. Amenities will include a transit hub; more shuttle service, parking and visitor information; new trails; and better access for people with disabilities. The League will take the lessons we learn from our research to teach visitors about the grove.

This restoration will help the forest to thrive for years to come, and offer an experience that captures the significance of this special place.



You're Healing Headwaters Forest Reserve

Protecting the redwood forest isn't just about preservation — it's also about restoration. Save the Redwoods League helps restore habitat for wildlife that depends on ancient forests. With your gifts, we also speed development of tomorrow's beautiful old-growth groves. These groves will help mitigate the impact of climate-changing greenhouse gases, and they'll provide clean water for people and imperiled animals.

Your generous donations have recently enabled progress toward these goals in the US Bureau of Land Management's 7,472-acre Headwaters Forest Reserve near Eureka, California. Of the Reserve's total acreage, 3,088 acres are covered by amazing ancient redwoods. The remaining 4,384 acres were extensively logged.

Visit SaveTheRedwoods.org/headwaters to see a video, story and photos showing how your gifts are helping to decommission former logging roads, plant redwoods and remove invasive plants.

One day, restored areas at Headwaters Forest will resemble ancient groves like this one at the reserve.

The Impact of Your Support

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- A HEADWATERS FOREST RESERVE***
Forest restoration
- B BIG RIVER-MENDOCINO OLD-GROWTH REDWOODS***
83 acres purchased
- C HENDY WOODS STATE PARK**
Day-use area improved
- D PETERS CREEK AND BOULDER CREEK FORESTS**
145 acres and 214 acres permanently protected
- E CRAIG RANCH***
60 acres to be transferred to BLM

Redwoods State Parks

IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY

- E MILL CREEK IN DEL NORTE COAST RSP**
- F HUMBOLDT**
- G PORTOLA**

This protected land
SAFEGUARDS ...



CLEAN WATER



WILDLIFE



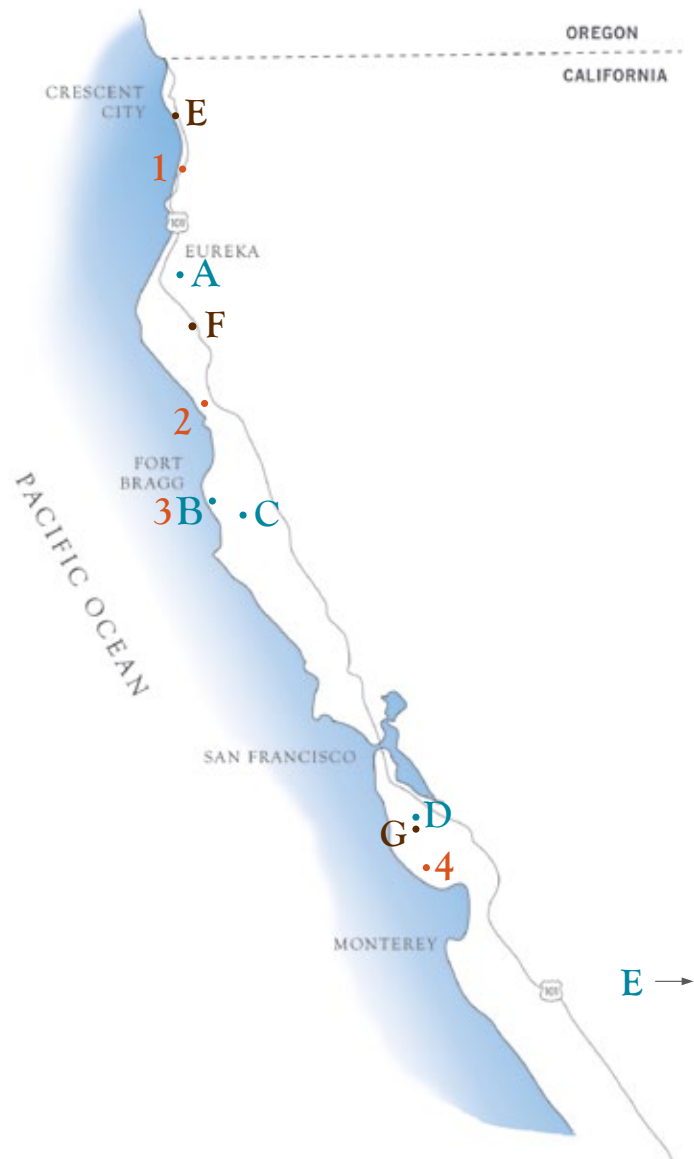
RECREATION



SCENERY



CO₂ STORAGE



YOU CAN SAVE THE WONDER OF THESE FORESTLANDS

Your help is crucial for protecting and restoring redwood forests and connecting current and future generations to these magical places. Please donate through our secure website at [SaveTheRedwoods.org/RedwoodLandFund](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/RedwoodLandFund). Alternatively, you may use the attached envelope. Thank you for your thoughtful gifts.

PROJECTS THAT STILL NEED YOUR HELP

- 1 ORICK MILL**
- 2 SHADY DELL**
- 3 BIG RIVER-MENDOCINO OLD-GROWTH REDWOODS**
- 4 SAN VICENTE REDWOODS**

* Described in this newsletter. Learn more about these projects and others at [SaveTheRedwoods.org](https://www.savetheredwoods.org).

Education

You, forest
transform
kids' lives



These children experienced the redwood forest for the first time, thanks to you. RIGHT: The endangered Indian pipe flower.

In the forest of Sam McDonald County Park in Loma Mar, California, a group of young students navigates the trails on an afternoon hike. Most of these students are experiencing the redwood forest for the first time. Step by step, the kids grow comfortable in this strange new environment.

This transformative experience is expertly guided by educators from Vida Verde Nature Education, a San Mateo County, California, organization supported by the Save the Redwoods League Education Grants Program and members like you. Vida Verde brings 750 fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders from low-income, urban backgrounds on three-day, overnight environmental camping trips packed with outdoor activities.

At the beginning of their trip, the students are introduced to the outdoors through the nature hike in the redwoods. For many, it is their first time away from city streets. Through exploration and culturally relevant lessons about the history, ecology and special habitats of the redwood forest, the students get to know and love redwoods and the outdoors.

These experiences are the first and vital steps toward developing an awareness of environmental issues and becoming stewards of the redwoods. They spark an interest in nature that can grow into a lifelong love for the outdoors. Christian, a fifth-grader from East Palo Alto, California, said of the redwood forest hike: "It was the best time of my life."

Your gifts have helped the League bring more than 69,000 children like these to redwood forests since 1999. Learn more at [SaveTheRedwoods.org/education](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/education).



5 Ways You Can Help

DONATE

to Save the Redwoods League.

INCLUDE

a gift in your will or trust 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.

THE MANY WAYS TO GIVE TO THE REDWOODS

Your gifts support the work of Save the Redwoods League to protect the forests for current and future generations! For more information or to donate, visit our secure site, SaveTheRedwoods.org/give, or call us at (888) 836-0005.

Renew Your Membership with an annual gift of \$25 or more. The collective support of more than 17,000 members made possible everything you've seen in this *Bulletin*. Your continued membership is vital to protecting and restoring the forests.

Join the Evergreen Society with a monthly gift of \$10 or more. Make each month matter for the redwoods. Your gift is an important commitment to the forest and gives us the stability to plan for the future.

Dedicate a Grove, \$35,000–\$1 million. Your extraordinary investments in our work can be recognized by dedicating an honorary portion of redwood forest.

Join the Redwood Leadership Society with an annual gift of \$1,000 or more. Become part of a community of the League's most dedicated supporters, and play an instrumental role in protecting and restoring forests. In recognition of your generosity, you will receive exclusive benefits including invitations to events, recognition in the annual report, a beautiful calendar, and other offerings.

Dedicate an Honor Tree, \$2,500–\$25,000. Select and name an individual mature redwood tree in honor of someone or something you love.

Onto the Trail

*San Mateo County Memorial Park
Loma Mar, California*

Loma Mar Redwoods is now part of this park, thanks to your donations. This 174-acre forest is ready for you to walk its wide, welcoming trails. Learn more at SaveTheRedwoods.org/LomaMar.





Save The Redwoods

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If you must print this electronic version, please help conserve our forests by reusing paper or choosing recycled, chlorine-free paper made from postconsumer waste.

YOU CLOSED THE GAP TO PROTECT 2 FORESTS

Thanks to your gifts, Save the Redwoods League raised the funds needed by last December to protect the breathtaking Peters Creek Old-Growth Forest (pictured) and Boulder Creek Forest. Peters Creek Forest offers rare opportunities for you and your family to dedicate a grove in honor or memory of someone or something you love. Please call us at (888) 836-0005 or visit SaveTheRedwoods.org/dedicate to learn more about grove dedication.



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