# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014



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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

The Audit Committee of Save the Redwoods League:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Save the Redwoods League (a nonprofit organization) (the "League"), which comprise the statements of financial position as of March 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Save the Redwoods League as of March 31, 2015 and 2014, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Burn Rilge Mkuye, Inc.

San Francisco, California June 30, 2015

# STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

March 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,824,263	\$ 4,955,566
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	834,097	848,618
Contributions, grants, and other receivable	4,746,400	3,171,658
Notes receivable	253,656	292,345
Deposits on land purchase	610,000	300,250
Other assets	429,347	417,239
Property and equipment, net	1,848,228	217,374
Beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts	3,879,637	2,503,670
Investments	68,236,334	72,927,626
Real estate held	35,297,380	32,483,880
Endowment fund	740,702	699,277
Total assets	\$ 119,700,044	\$ 118,817,503
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,124,627	\$ 754,852
Grants payable	φ 1,121,027	<b>3,125,000</b>
Notes payable	6,666,667	8,333,333
Total liabilities	7,791,294	12,213,185
Net assets:		
Unrestricted:		
Available for operations	1,713,076	11,392,210
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Board designated: Land and Conservation Easement Stewardship Fund	26,000,000	22,380,000
Park Enhancement Fund	28,000,000	21,869,000
Land and Conservation Easement Acquisition Opportunity Fund	10,000,000	10,000,000
Science and Education Fund	7,300,000	7,267,000
Operating Expense Reserve	10,800,000	9,004,000
Total unrestricted net assets	83,813,076	81,912,210
Temporarily restricted	27,684,866	24,282,300
Permanently restricted	410,808	409,808
Total net assets	111,908,750	106,604,318
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 119,700,044	\$ 118,817,503

# STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014

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	2015				2014				
		Temporarily	Perma	anently			Temporarily	Permanently	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Rest	ricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total
Operating activities (excluding land and conservation easement transactions)									
Revenue and public support:									
Contributions and grants	\$ 3,101,978	\$ 7,650,918	\$	1,000	\$ 10,753,896	\$ 3,412,062	\$ 1,305,777	\$ -	\$ 4,717,839
In-kind contributions	5,076	-		-	5,076	11,302	-	-	11,302
Change in value of beneficial interest in irrevocable trusts	-	20,716		-	20,716	-	109,224	-	109,224
Interest and dividends	1,590,837	53,972		-	1,644,809	2,090,558	186,110	-	2,276,668
Realized gain on sale of investments, net	3,802,447	-		-	3,802,447	1,962,448	-	-	1,962,448
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments, net	(1,577,293)	-		-	(1,577,293)	6,624,342	-	-	6,624,342
Interest from loans	-	9,721		-	9,721	-	11,047	-	11,047
Other income	42,555	-		-	42,555	109,963	-	-	109,963
Net assets released from restrictions	5,858,025	(5,858,025)		-		7,609,406	(7,609,406)		
Total revenue and public support	12,823,625	1,877,302		1,000	14,701,927	21,820,081	(5,997,248)		15,822,833
Expenses:									
Program services:									
Redwood land programs	4,659,638	-		-	4,659,638	3,501,342	-	-	3,501,342
Education and research grants	267,504	-		-	267,504	230,179	-	-	230,179
Redwood reforestation grants	99,000	-		-	99,000	-	-	-	-
Climate change research grants	574,689	-		-	574,689	258,428	-	-	258,428
Park support grants	409,215	-		-	409,215	165,000	-	-	165,000
Other grants	64,000			-	64,000	19,944			19,944
Total program services	6,074,046				6,074,046	4,174,893			4,174,893
Support services:									
General, administrative, and outreach	1,736,985	-		-	1,736,985	1,665,387	-	-	1,665,387
Fundraising	3,111,728			-	3,111,728	2,075,798			2,075,798
Total support services	4,848,713			-	4,848,713	3,741,185			3,741,185
Total expenses	10,922,759			-	10,922,759	7,916,078			7,916,078
Change in net assets related to activities (excluding									
land and conservation easement transactions)	1,900,866	1,877,302		1,000	3,779,168	13,904,003	(5,997,248)		7,906,755

# STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS, Continued

# For the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015			2014				
		Temporarily	Permanently			Temporarily	Permanently	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total
Land transactions and conservation easements								
Revenue and public support:								
Land transactions and conservation easements:								
Contributions restricted for land acquisitions and transfers:								
Contributions and grants	-	10,350,264	-	10,350,264	-	1,354,122	-	1,354,122
Grants from state and federal agencies		11,900,000		11,900,000				
Total contributions restricted for land transactions								
and conservation easements		22,250,264		22,250,264		1,354,122		1,354,122
Net assets released for land and easement acquisitions,								
transfers, and grant for land protection	20,725,000	(20,725,000)			625,000	(625,000)		
Expenses:								
Contributions of land to public agencies and other nonprofit								
organizations and conservation easements revalued:								
Conservation easement revalued	20,725,000	-	-	20,725,000	-	-	-	-
Less consideration received								
Contributions of land and conservation easements								
revalued	20,725,000		-	20,725,000				
Grant for land protection					625,000			625,000
Change in net assets related to land transactions								
and conservation easements revalued	-	1,525,264	-	1,525,264	-	729,122	-	729,122
Change in net assets related to activities (excluding land								
and conservation easement transactions (page 3)	1,900,866	1,877,302	1,000	3,779,168	13,904,003	(5,997,248)		7,906,755
Total change in net assets	1,900,866	3,402,566	1,000	5,304,432	13,904,003	(5,268,126)	-	8,635,877
Net assets, beginning of year	81,912,210	24,282,300	409,808	106,604,318	68,008,207	29,550,426	409,808	97,968,441
Net assets, end of year	\$ 83,813,076	\$ 27,684,866	\$ 410,808	\$111,908,750	\$ 81,912,210	\$ 24,282,300	\$ 409,808	\$106,604,318

# STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

For the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014

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	2015			2014				
	Program Services	General, Administrative, and Outreach	Fundraising	Total	Program Services	General, Administrative, and Outreach	Fundraising	Total
Salaries and benefits	\$ 1,699,326	\$ 846,320	\$ 1,364,536	\$ 3,910,182	\$ 1,658,517	\$ 837,483	\$ 1,003,720	\$ 3,499,720
Contributions of land, conservation								
easements revalued, and other grants	22,139,407	-	-	22,139,407	1,298,551	-	-	1,298,551
Other project costs	660,374	-	-	660,374	353,504	-	-	353,504
Consultants	541,537	-	-	541,537	240,281	-	-	240,281
Appraisals and environmental costs	417,611	-	-	417,611	364,362	-	-	364,362
Occupancy	325,804	185,841	286,003	797,648	168,770	92,539	123,609	384,918
Printing and publications	257,313	29,541	634,851	921,705	121,945	11,909	440,382	574,236
Interest	143,336	-	-	143,336	108,571	-	-	108,571
Services and fees	115,183	230,263	286,914	632,360	110,183	299,548	163,642	573,373
Payroll taxes	105,046	52,317	84,351	241,714	103,922	52,476	62,893	219,291
Advocacy	78,000	-	-	78,000	5,000	-	-	5,000
Depredation	67,124	37,949	58,924	163,997	21,890	12,002	15,993	49,885
Travel	57,941	19,335	31,503	108,779	62,009	25,189	36,551	123,749
Misœllaneous expenses	50,561	9,861	2,759	63,181	29,746	30,665	1,941	62,352
Conferences and meetings	43,985	42,213	56,171	142,369	53,657	43,430	43,078	140,165
Furniture and equipment	34,117	21,514	105,059	160,690	18,669	10,980	14,728	44,377
Insurance	18,520	10,470	16,258	45,248	18,867	10,345	13,785	42,997
Telephone	14,016	7,924	12,349	34,289	12,482	7,627	8,802	28,911
Supplies	13,394	7,054	8,009	28,457	15,822	6,206	8,224	30,252
Postage and shipping	10,614	24,221	17,510	52,345	9,616	21,297	18,527	49,440
Equipment rental and maintenance	5,115	5,888	4,490	15,493	7,094	6,743	51,844	65,681
Legal fees	722	11,207	165	12,094	16,435	5,774	268	22,477
Investment fees	-	135,712	-	135,712	-	137,153	-	137,153
Professional fundraising fees	-	-	134,447	134,447	-	-	52,986	52,986
Accounting fees	-	50,495	-	50,495	-	49,715	-	49,715
Other fundraising costs		8,860	7,429	16,289		4,306	14,825	19,131
Total	\$ 26,799,046	\$ 1,736,985	\$ 3,111,728	\$ 31,647,759	\$ 4,799,893	\$ 1,665,387	\$ 2,075,798	\$ 8,541,078

# STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

For the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Increase in net assets	\$ 5,304,432	\$ 8,635,877
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities:	" , , , ,	. , ,
Proceeds on sale of donated property	-	120,300
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	31,100	-
Depreciation	163,998	49,885
Contributions restricted for long-term purposes	(1,000)	-
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	(2,225,154)	(8,775,469)
Investment income for long-term purposes	(40,425)	(154,202)
Change in value of beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts	(20,716)	(109,224)
Contributions of beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts	(1,355,251)	(133,220)
Changes in:		
Restricted cash	14,521	14,172
Contributions, grants, and other receivable	(1,574,742)	2,309,197
Deposits on land purchase	(309,750)	(270,000)
Other assets	(12,108)	(267,071)
Donated property proceeds	-	(120,300)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	369,775	79,903
Grants payable	(3,125,000)	625,000
Additional cash provided by (used in) real estate held land activities:		
Proceeds on sale of land	-	125,300
Acquisition of redwood lands	(2,813,500)	(2,000,000)
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(5,593,820)	130,148
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of investments	(7,100,210)	(6,614,385)
Proceeds from maturities of investments	13,975,232	10,219,599
Proceeds from notes receivable	38,689	37,362
Purchase of property and equipment	(1,825,952)	(143,256)
Net cash provided by investing activities	5,087,759	3,499,320
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Permanently restricted contributions received	1,000	-
Investment income for long-term purposes	40,425	154,202
Payments on notes payable	(1,666,667)	(1,666,667)
Net cash used in financing activities	(1,625,242)	(1,512,465)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(2,131,303)	2,117,003
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	4,955,566	2,838,563
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 2,824,263	\$ 4,955,566
Supplemental disclosure:		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 133,019	\$ 108,614

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 1. Organization

Save the Redwoods League (the "League") has been protecting redwood lands for nearly 100 years. We are the only organization with the comprehensive approach needed to ensure that forests that take one thousand years to grow will be here for another thousand years.

- We **protect** redwoods by purchasing forests and acquiring conservation easements over surrounding lands and waterways needed to nurture them.
- We **restore** land that has been logged as well as surrounding lands that already protected redwood forests need to thrive.
- In an increasingly urbanized society that is often detached from the natural world, we **connect** people to the redwoods to promote the health benefits of spending time in nature and to inspire new generations to take care of our magical forests forever.

The transaction cycle in land conservation can 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 those lands until they are able to be transferred to a public agency or non-profit land trust for ongoing stewardship, public access and permanent protection.

Programmatic accomplishment is only recognized when the property is divested or a conservation easement is acquired and, therefore, program service expenses may vary significantly from one year to the next, without a commensurate reduction in support service costs. The League monitors all held conservation easements annually.

Protecting redwoods today is different and more challenging than at the time of our founding in 1918. Our work is making a real difference in protecting some of the most magical places on the planet.

#### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Basis of Presentation and Accounting

The financial statements of the League have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. To ensure observance of certain constraints and restrictions placed on the use of resources, the accounts of the League are maintained in accordance with the principles of net assets accounting. This is the procedure by which resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into net assets that are in accordance with specified activities or objectives.

Accordingly, all financial transactions have been recorded and reported by net asset groups as follows:

#### Unrestricted

These generally result from revenues generated by recognizing unrestricted contributions, interest from banks and notes receivable, net realized and unrealized gains or losses from investments (unless time-restricted) less expenses incurred in providing related services, raising contributions, and performing administrative functions. Unrestricted net assets include those resources that have been designated for special use by the Board of Directors.

Continued

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

#### Basis of Presentation and Accounting, continued

#### **Temporarily Restricted**

The League reports gifts of cash and other assets as temporarily restricted support if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a donor restriction is met, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statements of activities and changes in net assets as net assets released from restrictions.

## Permanently Restricted

These stipulate that resources be maintained permanently but permit the League to use or expend all of the income (or other economic benefits) derived from the donated assets.

## Measure of Operations

The League's measure of operations is its changes in net assets from operating activities, which includes all unrestricted and temporarily restricted operating revenues and expenses that are an integral part of its non-land acquisition and transfers programs and supporting activities. Unrestricted contributions and net assets released from donor restrictions to support its operating activities are also included. The measure of operations excludes contributions restricted for land acquisitions and conservation easements, grants specifically restricted for land acquisitions and conservation easements, expenses directly related to transfers of land and conservation easements, and gains and losses on the sale or revaluation of lands.

#### Interpretation of Relevant Law

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of the League has interpreted the State of California's enacted version of UPMIFA as requiring as a goal reasonable efforts to preserve the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the League classifies as permanently restricted net assets (1) the original value of gifts donated to the permanent endowment, (2) the original value of subsequent gifts donated to the permanent endowment in accordance with donor directions. The remaining portion of the donor-restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the League in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by California's enacted version of UPMIFA.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

## Spending Policy

In accordance with the State of California's enacted version of UPMIFA, the League considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- 1) The duration and preservation of the fund
- 2) The purposes of the League and the donor-restricted endowment fund
- 3) General economic conditions
- 4) The possible effect of inflation and deflation
- 5) The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- 6) Other resources of the League
- 7) The investment policies of the League

The League has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year an amount of no more than 3 percent of its endowment fund's average fair value over the prior 12 quarters through the calendar year-end preceding the fiscal year in which the distribution is planned. In establishing this policy, the League considered the long-term expected return on its endowment. Accordingly, over the long term, the League expects the current spending policy to allow its endowment to grow at an average of between 4 to 7 percent annually. This is consistent with the League's objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held in perpetuity or for a specified term as well as to provide additional real growth through new gifts and investment return. The endowment of the League is currently in a building stage and the Board believes that there is not a sufficient base with which to spend or appropriate from the endowment at this time. As a result, the League has appropriated zero percent for spending in 2015 and 2014.

#### Endowment Investment Policy - Return Objectives and Risk Parameters

The League has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Endowment assets include those assets of donor-restricted funds that the League must hold in perpetuity or for a donor-specified period(s) as well as board-designated endowment funds. Under this policy, as approved by the Board, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that is intended to produce results that approximate the price and yield results of the S&P 500 index while assuming a moderate level of investment risk. The League expects its endowment funds, over time, to provide an average rate of return of approximately 7 percent annually. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount (see Note 13).

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, the League relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The League targets a diversified asset allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity-based investments to achieve its long-term objectives within prudent risk constraints.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

#### Revenue Recognition

Contributions and grants are recognized when the donor makes a promise to give to the League that is, in substance, unconditional. Conditional promises to give are recognized only when the conditions on which they depend are substantially met and the promises become unconditional.

Contributions from estates and trusts that are a receivable at year end are reclassified to temporarily restricted contributions. In the event the receivable is received during the month after year end, it is recorded as an unrestricted contribution.

The League recognizes revenue from government sources at the time of the close of escrow for a land acquisition, or at the time of receipt of funds if for another programmatic purpose. Revenue from government sources is received in the form of state and federal grants.

Contributions related to estates and charitable remainder trusts are recognized when the League has obtained a copy of a court order, or all of the following documents: letter of notification as beneficiary; trust agreement or will; and an estimate and/or list of assets and valuation to be distributed. The League does not record an allowance on their contributions receivable because historically, the League has collected all receivables. A 7.5% contingency provision is deducted from the receivables to account for fluctuations in the values of assets and closing costs.

Unconditional promises to give due within one year are recorded at their net realizable value. Unconditional promises to give due in subsequent years are reported at the present value of their net realizable value, using the average rate the League is earning on its investments.

#### Donated Land

Donated land is recognized as support and is recorded at its estimated fair value as appraised by third-party consultants at the date of the donation.

#### Contributed Services and Goods

Contributed professional services are recognized as in-kind revenues at their estimated fair value if they require specialized skills that would need to be purchased if they were not donated. Contributed goods are recognized as in-kind revenues at their estimated fair value. For the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the League recognized in-kind services of \$1,527 and \$11,302, respectively, for legal and consulting services. For the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the League recognized in-kind goods of \$3,549 and \$0, respectively.

## Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and all highly-liquid investments (primarily commercial paper) with original maturities of three months or less at date of purchase.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

#### Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents

These funds are required to be held in separate bank accounts and are restricted for the purpose of monitoring easements to protect marbled murrelets, an endangered species of bird that nests in the ancient redwoods, restoration and also to cover administrative costs of monitoring these easements, and for grove maintenance.

## Investments

The League maintains liquidity sufficient to respond to conservation opportunities.

The League carries investments in marketable equity securities with readily determinable fair values and all investments in debt securities at their fair values. Investments received through gifts are recorded at estimated fair value at the date of receipt of donation. Gains or losses that result from market fluctuations are recognized in the period such fluctuations occur. For the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the League received \$251,184 and \$188,679 in donated stocks, respectively.

## Real Estate Held

Real estate held is recorded at cost, which approximates fair market value, if purchased, or estimated fair value at the date of the gift, if donated. Except as the result of a transaction, the carrying amount of real estate acquired in prior periods is revised only when current data indicates that a significant decrease in value has occurred. No such revaluations occurred during the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014.

Real estate held is valued by a certified general appraiser at the time of negotiation for its acquisition from the seller. It is valued at its original fair market value at the time of acquisition and, except in the rare circumstance that there is a significant diminution in value, it remains at that same value until such time as a new appraisal establishes its current fair market value at the time of disposition. It is not a goal of the League to profit from its land transactions.

The majority of the League's real estate held is intended to be transferred to governmental agencies, conservation partners or other appropriate alternate permanent stewards. Transfer of property may frequently be a lengthy process.

Transfer of the land is recognized at fair value of the land transferred on the date of transfer. A gain or loss on revaluation of land is recorded for the difference between the fair value upon reappraisal and the carrying amount of the land. A gain or loss on sale of land or easement is recorded for the difference between the fair value upon transfer date and carrying amount of the land. The League did not incur any such gain or loss in the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014. Temporarily restricted net assets are released from restriction based on the historical cost of the property.

## Property and Equipment

Property and equipment purchased is stated at cost and is capitalized if these expenditures exceed \$3,000. Assets acquired by contribution or bequest are stated at market value at the date of acquisition.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

#### Property and Equipment, continued

Depreciation is provided using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of three to seven years. Maintenance and repairs are charged to expense as incurred.

Leasehold improvements are recorded at cost and amortized over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the terms of the applicable lease.

#### Notes Receivable

Notes receivable are carried at unpaid principal balances. Interest on loans is recognized over the term of the loan and is calculated using the simple-interest method on principal amounts outstanding. Management evaluates the collectability of notes receivable on an annual basis. In making that determination, management has evaluated historical loan loss experience, financial condition of the borrower and current economic conditions that lead to default. The allowance for loan losses is maintained at a level which, in management's judgment, is adequate to absorb credit losses inherent on the loans. As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, notes receivable are considered by management to be fully collectible and, accordingly, no allowance is considered necessary.

#### Beneficial Interest in Charitable Remainder Trusts

The League is the remainder beneficiary of various charitable remainder trusts. A charitable remainder trust provides for the payment of distributions to the grantor or other designated beneficiaries over the trust's term (usually the designated beneficiary's lifetime). At the end of the trust's term, the remaining assets are available for the League's use. The portion of the trust attributable to the future interest of the League is recorded in the statements of activities and changes in net assets as temporarily restricted contributions in the period the trust is established. Assets held in the charitable remainder trusts are recorded at fair market value as contributions receivable from irrevocable trusts. The present value of the estimated future payments is calculated using an assumed investment rate of return between 0% to 6%, a discount rate of 5%, and the applicable mortality tables. Due to annual payments being made to current beneficiaries from certain trusts over the trust's term, there is a slight possibility that the trust's assets will be exhausted before distribution to the League.

#### Grants Payable and Expense

Unconditional grants are recognized as grant expense and a liability when the grant agreement is signed. Those unconditional grants that are expected to be paid in less than one year are measured at net settlement value. Unconditional grants that are expected to be paid in more than one year are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows. Grant refunds are recorded as a reduction of grant expense at the time the League becomes aware the grant will be refunded. Grants made to other organizations for the purpose of land acquisitions are treated as land transactions in the statements of activities and changes in net assets. Grants made for other purposes are treated as program service expenses.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

## Easement Policy

Conservation easements are expensed as a program expense in the period they are purchased or donated to the League. For the year ended March 31, 2015, the League purchased one conservation easement for approximately \$23,225,000 of which \$11,900,000 were state grants, \$6,325,000 was a contribution from the seller, \$2,500,000 from a land trust partner, and \$2,500,000 was paid by the League. For the year ended March 31, 2014, there were no conservation easements purchased. The League did not receive donated conservation easements for the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014.

#### Functional Expense Allocations

Expenses such as depreciation, supplies, travel, personnel, and occupancy costs, are allocated among program services, general, administrative, and outreach, and fundraising classifications on the basis of time estimates, head counts, and other criteria determined by the League's management.

## Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts of the League's cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, interest receivable, contributions receivable, deposits on land purchase, accounts payable, accrued liabilities, and environmental remediation obligation approximate fair value due to the relatively short period to maturity for these instruments.

The carrying amounts of notes receivable and notes payable approximates fair value as of March 31, 2015 and 2014 because interest rates on these instruments approximate market interest rates.

#### Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The League classifies its financial assets and liabilities according to the following hierarchy, and maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value.

Level 1 – quoted prices in active markets for identical investments.

Level 2 – other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar instruments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)

*Level 3* – significant unobservable inputs (including the League's own assumptions in determining fair value instruments).

The valuation levels are not necessarily an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with the investments.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

#### Income Taxes

The Internal Revenue Service has determined that the League is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) in the Internal Revenue Code. However, income from activities not related to its tax-exempt purpose may be subject to taxation as unrelated business income. No provision has been made for income taxes in these financial statements.

The League follows the guidance for uncertain tax positions. Management has concluded there are no uncertain tax positions at March 31, 2015 and 2014. The League's federal and state returns for 2012 to 2014 are subject to examination.

## Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Reclassifications**

Certain accounts in the prior-year financial statements have been reclassified for comparative purposes to conform with the presentation in the current-year financial statements.

## 3. Cash and Cash Equivalents, and Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents

The League's cash and cash equivalents, and restricted cash and cash equivalents at March 31, are as follows:

	2015	2014
Money market fund Demand deposits Petty cash	\$ 2,193,076 630,937 250	\$ 3,398,382 1,556,934 250
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,824,263	\$ 4,955,566
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	\$ 834,097	\$ 848,618

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

# 4. Contributions, Grants, and Other Receivable

As of March 31, 2015, the League is a beneficiary for a total of twenty-eight estates and trusts. The contributions have no restricted purpose, but have been recorded as temporarily restricted net assets due to a time restriction. The entire balance of contributions, grants, and other receivable are expected to be due within one year. As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, the balance of contributions, grants, and other receivables was:

	2015	2014
Contributions receivable:		
Bequests, net of provision of \$435,413		
and \$196,000, respectively	\$ 4,373,225	\$ 2,892,013
Pledges	265,610	259,240
Total contributions receivable	4,638,835	3,151,253
Grants receivable:		
Acquisition for specifically identified		
redwood lands	5,000	10,000
Redwoods and Climate change initiative	102,500	
Total grants receivable	107,500	10,000
Other receivables	65	10,405
Total contributions, grants, and		
other receivables	<b>\$ 4,746,4</b> 00	\$ 3,171,658

Continued

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

# 5. Investments and Fair Value Measurements

The following table presents balances of assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

	As of March 31, 2015				
	Level 1	Level 2	Total		
Assets:					
Cash equivalents	\$ 3,027,173	\$ -	\$ 3,027,173		
Endowment fund:					
Endowment exchange - International					
Stock Fund	100,885	-	100,885		
Endowment exchange - Stock Fund	639,537		639,537		
Total endowment fund	740,422		740,422		
Investments:					
Money market fund held for investment					
purposes	2,667,856	-	2,667,856		
Fixed Income:					
Income Fund	27,815,126	-	27,815,126		
Corporate issues	1,305,002		1,305,002		
Total fixed income	29,120,128	-	29,120,128		
Equity Securities:					
Energy	2,413,459	-	2,413,459		
Materials	270,692	-	270,692		
Industrials	1,806,879	-	1,806,879		
Consumer discretionary	4,184,466	-	4,184,466		
Consumer staples	701,492	-	701,492		
Healthcare	5,127,846	-	5,127,846		
Financials	7,863,754	-	7,863,754		
Information technology	6,102,916	-	6,102,916		
Telecommunication services	69,300		69,300		
Total equity securities	28,540,804	-	28,540,804		
Mutual Funds:					
International Stock Fund	7,873,145	-	7,873,145		
Large Growth Fund	34,401		34,401		
Total investments	68,236,334		68,236,334		
Beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts		3,879,637	3,879,637		
Total	\$ 72,003,929	\$ 3,879,637	\$ 75,883,566		

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

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# 5. Investments and Fair Value Measurements, continued

	As of March 31, 2014				
	Level 1	Level 2	Total		
Assets:					
Cash equivalents	\$ 4,247,000	\$ -	\$ 4,247,000		
Endowment fund:					
Endowment exchange - International					
Stock Fund	99,416	-	99,416		
Endowment exchange - Stock Fund	599,525		599,525		
Total endowment fund	698,941		698,941		
Investments:					
Money market fund held for investment					
purposes	2,544,255	-	2,544,255		
Fixed Income:					
Income Fund	29,293,248	-	29,293,248		
Equity Securities:					
Energy	2,715,001	-	2,715,001		
Materials	857,963	-	857,963		
Industrials	2,397,538	-	2,397,538		
Consumer discretionary	4,685,059	-	4,685,059		
Consumer staples	629,700	-	629,700		
Healthcare	6,780,221	-	6,780,221		
Financials	7,939,060	-	7,939,060		
Information technology	7,120,523	-	7,120,523		
Telecommunication services	194,840		194,840		
Total equity securities	33,319,905	-	33,319,905		
Mutual Funds:					
International Stock Fund	7,640,618	-	7,640,618		
Large Growth Fund	129,600		129,600		
Total investments	72,927,626		72,927,626		
Beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts		2,503,670	2,503,670		
Total	\$ 77,873,567	\$ 2,503,670	\$ 80,377,237		

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 5. Investments and Fair Value Measurements, continued

Net investment gain at March 31, is comprised of the following:

	2015	2014
Dividends and interest	<b>\$ 1,644,809</b>	\$ 2,276,668
Realized gain on sale of investments, net	3,802,447	1,962,448
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments, net	(1,577,293)	6,624,342
Net gain from investments	\$ 3,869,963	\$ 10,863,458

Investment fees for the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 amounted to \$135,712 and \$137,153, respectively.

## 6. Property and Equipment

The League's property and equipment consist of the following at March 31:

	2015	2014
Office equipment	\$ 716,585	\$ 266,015
Leasehold improvements	1,408,665	113,614
Less accumulated depreciation and	2,125,250	379,629
amortization	(277,022)	(162,255)
	\$ 1,848,228	\$ 217,374

Depreciation expense for the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$163,998 and \$49,885, respectively. The increase in depreciation and amortization expense is a result of the League moving to a new office space.

#### 7. Notes Receivable

The League has two promissory notes. The promissory notes are from one donor who made a \$500,000 matching grant for the redwoods and climate change initiative in fiscal year 2010. During fiscal year March 31, 2013, the League was able to fulfill the entire matching grant. Each promissory note is payable in 40 quarterly payments and bears an interest rate equivalent to the Wall Street Journal prime rate at the date of the issuance of the promissory note. The rates for the promissory notes were 3.69% and 3.46%, respectively.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 7. Notes Receivable, continued

The anticipated principal repayments to the League on notes receivable are scheduled to be as follows:

For the fiscal years ending March 31:	
2016	\$ 40,062
2017	41,196
2018	42,658
2019	44,173
2020	 85,567
	\$ 253,656

## 8. Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities

At March 31, accounts payable and accrued liabilities consisted of the following:

	2015		2014		
Accounts payable	\$	407,102	\$	331,501	
Deferred compensation		126,050		131,750	
Accrued vacation		205,246		182,395	
Deferred rent		224,724		26,325	
Accrued interest		88,744		78,426	
Other accrued liabilities		72,761		4,455	
Total accrued liabilities	\$	1,124,627	\$	754,852	

## 9. Grants Payable

During the year ended March 31, 2013, the League entered into collaboration with other conservation organizations in an effort to create and maintain a sustainable redwood landscape in the heart of coastal California. This collaboration is designed to leverage the expertise of each organization to achieve their common goals within the collaboration. As of March 31, 2015, there were no grants payable outstanding for this or other projects. As of March 31, 2014, the total grants payable balance for this project was \$3,125,000.

#### 10. Notes Payable

The League has an unsecured note payable to an independent third party of \$5,000,000. The funds were used to acquire redwood land property for future divestment to an unidentified third party. The League shall repay all amounts due, including unpaid accrued interest and principal, on or before the date which shall be the earlier to occur of the following: (a) sale of property to the identified party or (b) the fourth anniversary of the note payable closing date, June 2015. The note bears an interest rate of 2%. Accrued interest as of March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$75,000. During fiscal year 2013, the League entered into two unsecured notes payable in connection with a land and easement purchase in San Mateo County. Interest rates range from 0.25% to 2% with the notes maturing on November 1, 2015. Future minimum payment for the year ending March 31, 2016 is \$6,666,667.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 11. Board Designated Funds

The League's Board of Directors approved five Board-designated funds. Board designations of unrestricted net assets were as follows at March 31:

	2015	2014
Land and Conservation Easement		
Stewardship Fund	\$ 26,000,000	\$ 22,380,000
Park Enhancement Fund	28,000,000	21,869,000
Land and Conservation Easement		
Acquisition Opportunity Fund	10,000,000	10,000,000
Science and Education Fund	7,300,000	7,267,000
Operating Expense Reserve	10,800,000	9,004,000
Total Board Designated Funds	\$ 82,100,000	\$ 70,520,000

## 12. Temporarily Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets are available for the following purposes or periods:

	2015	2014
Time restricted Program activities	\$ 2,708,538 24,976,328	\$ 17,600 24,264,700
Total temporarily restricted net assets	\$ 27,684,866	\$ 24,282,300

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the purpose or time restrictions specified by donors as follows:

	2015	2014
Time restriction	\$ 2,708,539	\$ 17,600
Purposes restriction accomplished:		
Conservation easement revaluation	20,725,000	-
Redwood land program support	2,144,293	7,103,555
Grants	1,005,193	1,123,551
	23,874,486	8,227,106
Net (gain) loss on sale of land		(10,300)
	\$ 26,583,025	\$ 8,234,406

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

# 13. Permanently Restricted Net Assets

Net assets were permanently restricted for future operations of the League.

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund for the fiscal year ended March 31, are as follows:

	2015								
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total					
Donor-restricted endowment funds	\$	\$ 329,894	\$ 410,808	\$ 740,702					
Total funds	\$ -	\$ 329,894	\$ 410,808	\$ 740,702					
		20	14						
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total					
Donor-restricted endowment funds	\$	\$ 289,469	\$ 409,808	\$ 699,277					
Total funds	\$ -	\$ 289,469	\$ 409,808	\$ 699,277					

Changes in endowment net assets for the fiscal years ended March 31, is as follows:

	2015							
	Temporarily Unrestricted Restricted		1 5 5		5	5		
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$	-	\$	289,469	\$	409,808	\$	699,277
Investment return:								
Investment income		-		24,905		-		24,905
Net unrealized appreciation		-		15,520		-		15,520
Total investment return		-		40,425		-		40,425
Contributions		-				1,000		1,000
Endowment net assets, end of year	\$	-	\$	329,894	\$	410,808	\$	740,702

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

# 13. Permanently Restricted Net Assets, continued

	2014							
	Unrestricted		Temporarily Restricted		Permanently Restricted			Total
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$	-	\$	135,267	\$	409,808	\$	545,075
Investment return:								
Investment income		-		10,773		-		10,773
Net unrealized appreciation		-		143,429		-		143,429
Total investment return		-		154,202		-		154,202
Contributions		_						
Endowment net assets, end of year	\$	-	\$	289,469	\$	409,808	\$	699,277

## 14. Employee Benefit Plans

Effective on October 1, 2002, the League established a defined contribution retirement plan (401(k) Plan) under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. The 401(k) Plan covers all eligible employees of the League and provides for voluntary salary deferrals up to certain amounts. The League may elect to make various types of matching contributions as prescribed under the 401(k) Plan agreement. Annually, the Board approves a safe harbor contribution and an employer matching contribution, which were 3% and 5%, respectively, for the current year. The total expense related to the 401(k) Plan was \$240,121 and \$202,309 for the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

## 15. Joint Costs

For the years ending March 31, 2015 and 2014, the League incurred joint costs of \$76,060 and \$77,229, respectively, for informational materials and activities that included fundraising appeals. For the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the League allocated \$5,427 and \$6,172 to general and administrative expense, \$14,241 and \$16,665 to fundraising expense, and \$56,392 and \$54,392, respectively, to program expense.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

#### 16. Commitments and Contingencies

In December 2014, the League's lease for its office location expired. In February 2014, the League signed a 10-year lease with two 5-year renewal options for the new office space with an early occupancy date of September 2014. Monthly rent for new office lease is approximately \$57,300 with annual increases of approximately 3%. Minimum future rental payments under the new lease are summarized as follows:

	 Cash		Expense		Deferral
March 31:	 _				
2016	\$ 687,569	\$	746,260	\$	(58,691)
2017	692,726		746,260		(53,534)
2018	713,508		746,260		(32,752)
2019	734,913		746,260		(11,347)
2020	756,960		746,260		10,700
Thereafter	 3,915,088		3,544,737		370,351
	\$ 7,500,764	\$	7,276,037	\$	224,727

Rent expense for the years ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$655,403 and \$296,872, respectively. Deferred rent as of March 31, 2015 and 2014 was \$224,724 and \$26,325, respectively.

## 17. Concentration of Credit Risk

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The League maintains cash and cash equivalents with two well established and widely used financial institutions which have a sound reputation, which are regularly monitored by management. As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, the League was in excess of the federal depository insurance limit.

#### Investments

The League's credit risk is inherent principally in its investments. As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, investments were comprised of money market funds, fixed income and equity securities. The investments are maintained with three well established and widely used financial institutions which have a sound reputation. Credit risk is limited by diversifying the League's investments among a variety of high-quality issuers, and the composition and maturities are regularly monitored by management. Investments are secured up to a limit set by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC"). As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, the League held investments in excess of the SIPC insurance limits.

#### Real Estate Held

The League holds a total of twenty-two properties as of March 31, 2015 in various counties: Tuolumne, Mariposa, Del Norte, Monterey, Mendocino, Napa, Humboldt, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Sonoma. Of these properties, 39%, 32%, and 15% of real estate held is held in Mendocino, Sonoma, and San Mateo Counties, respectively, at March 31, 2015.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2015 and 2014

## 17. Concentration of Credit Risk, continued

#### Real Estate Held, continued

As of March 31, 2014, the League held a total of nineteen properties with 39%, 37%, and 15% of real estate being held in Mendocino, Sonoma and San Mateo Counties, respectively.

#### Revenue and Receivables

The League's revenue is derived from individual contributions and bequests from throughout North America, state and federal grants, and investment income. For the year ended March 31, 2015, there were no donors who accounted for 10% or more of revenue from contributions and bequests. For the year ended March 31, 2014, two donors comprised 22% of the revenue from contributions and bequests.

As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, two irrevocable trusts comprised 65% and one irrevocable trust comprised 51% of the beneficial interest in charitable remainder trusts, respectively.

As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, three donors comprised 54% and four donors comprised 74% of the contributions receivable balance, respectively.

As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, one grant comprised 93% and one grant comprised 100% of the grants receivable balance, respectively.

As of March 31, 2015 and 2014, one individual comprised 100% of the notes receivable balance, and was unsecured.

#### 18. Subsequent Events

The League has evaluated events occurred during the period subsequent to March 31, 2015 through June 30, 2015, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. The following events were considered to be of importance to the users of financial statements:

On June 18, 2015, the League completed the sale of 1,687 shares of donated publicly traded stock from an estate. Due to the infrequent trading activity of the stock, the League had estimated contribution revenue of \$202,440 for the year ended March 31, 2015. The shares were sold at a price of \$130 per share for a total consideration of \$219,310.

As of June 29, 2015, the property discussed in Note 10 was not sold; thus, the note payable associated with it matured. As such, on June 29, 2015, the League paid the amount of note payable including any unpaid accrued interest, a total of \$5,100,000, in full; \$5,075,000 being accrued up to March 31, 2015 with \$25,000 of interest for the period up to June 29, 2015.