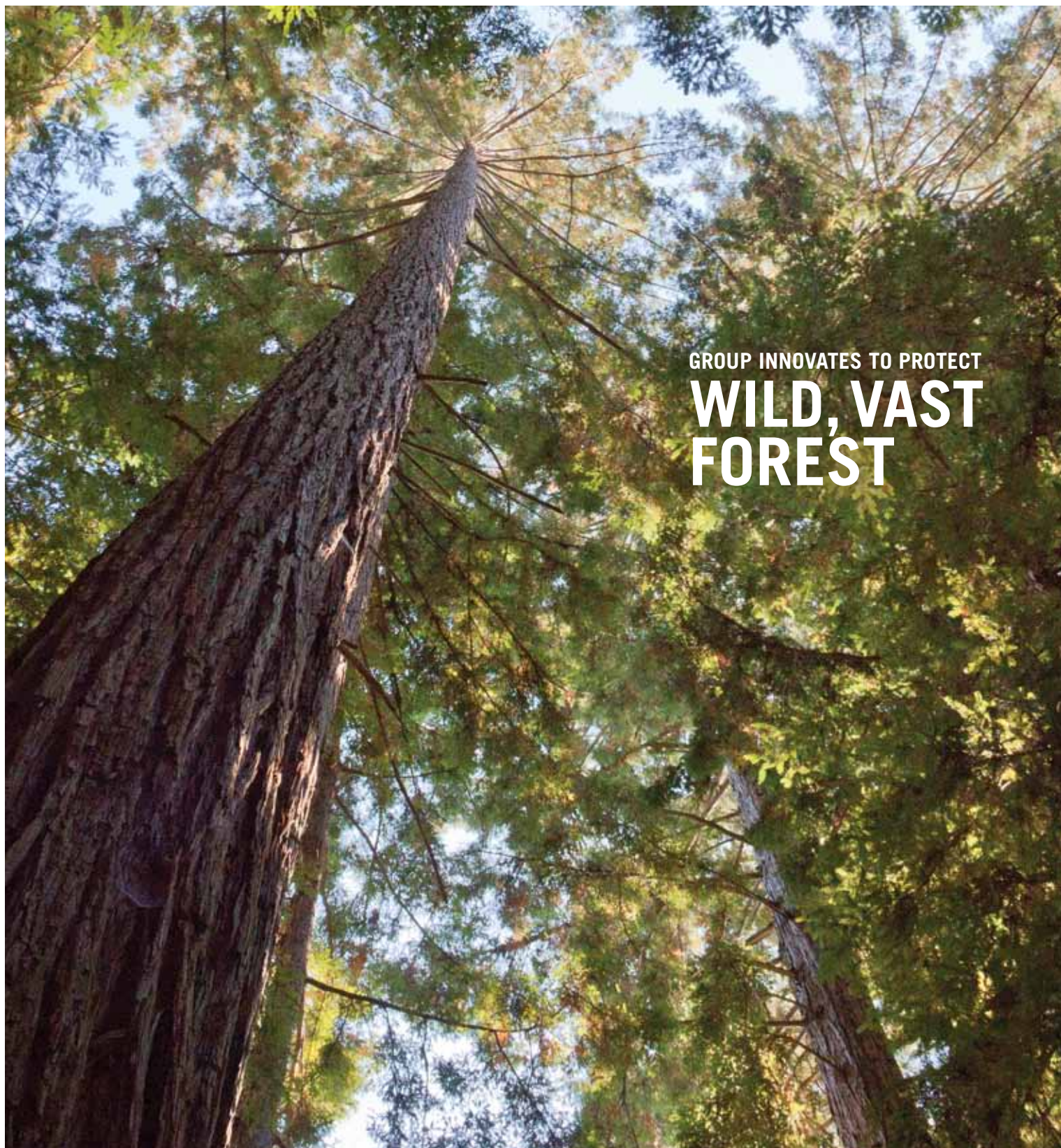




Save The Redwoods
LEAGUE®

Winter Bulletin '12



GROUP INNOVATES TO PROTECT
**WILD, VAST
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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Cover image: Redwoods rise high from the rugged landscape of CEMEX Redwoods in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Read more about our new project on page 4. Photo by Karl Kroeber.

Left image: Unique redwood branches shaped by coastal wind snake skyward on our new Shady Dell property. We need your help to restore this property's streams and forest, some of which have been damaged from logging. Learn more on page 9.



Dear Save the Redwoods League Friends,

I love California's state parks. They are my vocation and a special place for my family – in fact, my two sons learnt to walk in state parks. Today, because of the State of California's budget crisis, we face the first indefinite closures of parks in our park system's history. When I ask you, our members, about what Save the Redwoods League should do to help parks, you say you want us to try new approaches. One new solution relates to a new state law allowing nonprofit groups to help run parks that might close otherwise. We will work with these local groups and soon announce other new ways we will help.

Another new conservation approach is underway. I invite you to read on page 4 about the first project of the Living Landscape Initiative, which we introduced in the last *Bulletin*. This project, conserving the immense CEMEX Redwoods property, includes the goals of protecting old redwoods and providing clean air and water, homes for wildlife and recreation.

On page 9, you'll learn about our purchase of the Shady Dell property, home of the magical grove of candelabra-shaped redwoods. Because California State Parks cannot afford to accept this land now, we will take care of Shady Dell for the foreseeable future until we can transfer it to a permanent steward.

Whatever the challenge, our focus at the League remains the same – ensuring that California's extraordinary redwood groves are protected and made accessible to the public.

A handwritten signature in brown ink, which appears to read "Ruskin K. Hartley".

Ruskin K. Hartley Executive Director



Protection

Group Innovates
to Protect Wild,
Vast Forest

“With the purchase of CEMEX Redwoods, the Living Landscape Initiative is living up to its great promise. It’s an innovative, exciting collaboration that will deliver great conservation results in and around Silicon Valley for years to come.”

— Steve McCormick, President, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation



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CEMEX Redwoods Property: A Retreat for People, Wildlife

Less than an hour from the hustle of California's Silicon Valley is a huge, thick redwood forest rolling over the rugged Santa Cruz Mountains, a perch for viewing the sweeping Pacific Ocean nearby. Redwoods' tops reach out of sight. The ground is spongy with its carpet of rusty leaves. Sweet earth and bay laurel scent the cool air. Lush growth in steep canyons muffles sound, except for the scolding cries of Steller's jays and the rush of creeks as they tumble over their rocky beds. You feel at peace here. Places like this are so special that they are worth saving forever.

Unless we protect CEMEX Redwoods, the property may be subdivided and developed. The good news is that the conservation effort has started through the Living Landscape Initiative (LLI), launched last year by Save the Redwoods League and other conservation groups: Land Trust of Santa Cruz County,

Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), Sempervirens Fund and The Nature Conservancy.

A New Conservation Approach

Protecting the redwoods is different than when the League was founded nearly 100 years ago. With the State of California's finances stretched and some state parks closing, the League cannot rely on its historical way of turning land over to California State Parks for permanent protection. We need new approaches to achieve our goals.

The LLI groups share a vision of giving the communities near CEMEX Redwoods — now and in the future — an environment that provides a high quality of life through clean air and water, landscape preservation, wildlife habitat protection, recreation and economic vibrancy.

"The sale of CEMEX Redwoods is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work on a huge property," said POST President Walter Moore. "And the only way we're able to do that is by uniting the groups that can handle the project's complexity and pull together the funding."

The LLI's plan for CEMEX Redwoods meets important conservation needs by allowing permanent protection of the features we all value — hundreds of old redwoods and Douglas-firs, homes for endangered animals, clean streams and eventual recreational opportunities — while also accommodating important economic needs such as local jobs and tax revenue. In addition to preserving and restoring forest, the plan will permit responsible harvesting that will leave enough trees intact for the forest community to remain healthy.

The Initiative's five groups are collaborating to conserve CEMEX Redwoods. In the first phase, POST and Sempervirens Fund bought the \$30 million property last December. Next, the League and Land Trust of Santa Cruz County will pay to acquire a conservation agreement to permanently protect the old redwoods, wildlife habitat, streams and recreation while banning development and allowing limited harvesting. A third phase may be the transfer of the property to a private buyer with protection ensured by the permanent conservation agreement. >

Dense coast redwood forest blankets the CEMEX Redwoods property, which the League and partners in the Living Landscape Initiative need your help to conserve. This 8,500-acre landscape is eight times the size of San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Protection



Photo by Karl Kroeber

“One of the really exciting things about this project is that we will demonstrate compatibility of a sustainable working forest with the protection of old-growth redwood forests, sensitive habitats, improvements in the waterways, and even recreation,” said Terry Corwin, Executive Director of the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County. “This is a model for the future.”

At CEMEX Redwoods, the property is large enough to accomplish a variety of goals, from securing old redwoods to harvesting some of the younger redwoods and other tree species.

“We have the chance to protect this wild landscape and ensure that it’s managed well for the future,” said Ruskin K. Hartley, League Executive Director. “This is a remarkable resource for us all, and with your help, we will take care of this place for us all to enjoy forever,” he said.

Area’s Beauty Inspires Support

Today, it takes a community of caretakers to protect redwood forests: scientists, land managers, volunteers and donors. Supporting this vision, the Resources Legacy Fund is generously contributing to the CEMEX Redwoods project with funds from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

Also motivated by the Initiative’s goals, Pam and Allen Rozelle, who live in the heart of LLI territory in Santa Cruz, gave a generous charitable gift annuity to each of the Initiative’s five organizations. >

The CEMEX Redwoods property looks and feels wild.

Volunteer to Help State Parks near CEMEX Redwoods and Elsewhere

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.



“We appreciate the redwoods that we see, and we appreciate the idea that there are other redwoods out there that are worth protecting,” Pam said.

In addition to their sense of satisfaction from supporting the forest, she said, their gift provides them with reliable income and a tax deduction.

Join the Rozelles: With your help, CEMEX Redwoods can become a model for how we protect and nurture the redwoods for generations to come. And one day, this forest will be an even more inspiring and magical place for all of us to enjoy.

The CEMEX Redwoods property practically links Big Basin and Henry Cowell Redwoods State Parks, creating a larger protected area that will make the forest stronger.



Photo by Glenn Bartley

CEMEX Redwoods’ large redwoods and Douglas-firs could become a home for the threatened seabird, the marbled murrelet, which nests in neighboring Big Basin Redwoods State Park. CEMEX Redwoods harbors other imperiled animals, including coho salmon and mountain lions.

Learn More about CEMEX Redwoods, Donate Now

See a video and slideshow about CEMEX Redwoods, and donate today through our secure website at [SaveTheRedwoods.org/CEMEXRedwoods](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/CEMEXRedwoods). You also may call (888) 836-0005, or mail a check in the enclosed envelope. Thank you.

Community

4 Decades of Support In Many Ways

Retired alfalfa farmer Richard Van Alstyne said helping to protect redwoods and the land that nurtures them is one of the most important endeavors for preserving nature's life support systems. This longtime Save the Redwoods League member came to feel this way after reading about and experiencing the redwood forest's wonder.

His admiration for redwoods runs in the family. He, his late wife, Florence, and his brother, William, dedicated two Van Alstyne groves at Navarro River Redwoods State Park. Before that, Richard's father established the Van Alstyne grove through the League at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park.

Van Alstyne said his father, a distinguished author and professor of US history and international relations, would have been a prime candidate for a League story.

"To the contrary," said Van Alstyne with his typical humility, "I was very late maturing, assuming it finally happened (which many deny), and gravitated naturally to manual labor."

"Walking among the redwoods has to be one of life's most inspiring experiences."

– League Member Richard Van Alstyne



Richard Van Alstyne, a League member since 1965, helps pull invasive weeds during a League volunteer event. In addition to his other generous support, he named the League in his will.

Now a resident of Fort Bragg, California, Van Alstyne and Florence ran their small farm just north of Yuba City, California, where they raised two sons.

After retirement 20 years ago, Van Alstyne volunteered for the League and other organizations that benefited from his experience. The redwood forest still invigorates his spirit.

"Walking among the redwoods has to be one of life's most inspiring experiences," he said.

Prepare to experience the wonder of the redwoods yourself by first visiting the parks on our interactive map, now featuring seven more parks! Visit SaveTheRedwoods.org/maps.

Conservation

Protected,
Thanks to
Our Members



Photo by Paolo Vesceia

Our purchase of the Shady Dell property protects old redwoods shaped by coast winds and salty air, salmon streams and a mile of wild, remote Lost Coast beach. The property is at location 1 on the map on page 11.

Shady Dell Purchased! Your Help Still Needed

PROPERTY 1

We still need your help to protect the 957-acre Shady Dell property containing a mysterious old redwood forest, crucial habitat for coastal species and a mile of the remote Lost Coast.

Because this property is so important to safeguard, Save the Redwoods League purchased it last fall using reserve funds. Thank you for helping us protect this property's rare treasures before the opportunity was lost.

The cost to acquire, restore and steward Shady Dell is \$6 million. An anonymous donor and the Hind Foundation each matched \$150,000 in private donations to help us complete the funding. We have \$398,000 left to raise.

This amazing parcel is part of the 50,000-acre Usal Redwood Forest, north of Fort Bragg and adjacent to Sinkyone Wilderness State Park.

The land we purchased harbors wildlife such as salmon, black

bears, Roosevelt elk and mountain lions.

We are assessing and prioritizing stewardship and management needs of the property's streams and forest, some of which have been damaged by logging. The League will own, steward and manage Shady Dell for the foreseeable future until we can transfer it to a permanent steward.

Get the latest news and make a fast, secure donation by visiting [SaveTheRedwoods.org/ShadyDell](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/ShadyDell), or send your gift in the attached envelope.



We provided the funding and helped transfer The Cedars property to the Bureau of Land Management. The Cedars protects water that nurtures redwood land. Read about its rare landscape below.

Protected, Thanks to Our Members *(continued)*

PROPERTIES 1-5

Save the Redwoods League protected these properties according to priorities in our science-based Master Plan. We buy inholdings (privately held land surrounded by public land) to ensure more redwood parkland is protected from threats such as development. Our other priorities include protecting old redwood forests and waterways that nurture them. We also buy land that connects protected areas to allow forest plants and animals to migrate and exchange genes with larger populations. The larger gene pool makes the forest stronger. Learn more about these properties at SaveTheRedwoods.org.

2 HUMBOLDT REDWOODS STATE PARK — ½ ACRE

The park gained more protection after the League purchased this property for future donation to California State Parks. We have protected almost all of this park's 53,000 acres in 303 transactions.

Highlights: We purchased this inholding along the famous Avenue of the Giants to preserve the scenic qualities in this area of the Avenue. In addition, this purchase helps protect the neighboring Rocky Glen Creek, which drains into the South Fork Eel River. This river flows north through the ancient redwood forest in the park. The property

contains oaks, grassland and a few young redwoods.

Value: \$50,000

3 THE CEDARS AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN — 500 ACRES

This unusual property enhances the connection between inland and coastal redwood forest and protects water that sustains these giants. We helped transfer this land to the Bureau of Land Management.

Highlights: In remote northwestern Sonoma County, The Cedars enhances the connection between the redwoods in Austin Creek State Recreational Area and Armstrong

Redwoods State Natural Reserve and the coast's Salt Point State Park, Stewarts Point and other properties. Water from the property's creeks flows into Austin Creek, then the Russian River and the Gualala River. The rare, Mars-like landscape of rocky soil and canyons was formed when Earth's mantle, normally miles beneath the surface, pushed through the crust. Eight plant species not found anywhere else on Earth grow here because they have adapted to The Cedars' serpentine soil (serpentine is California's state rock). We extend our thanks to the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and >

Event Honors Naturalist, History of Big Sur Parcel

PROPERTY 4

A celebration last September commemorated the League's protection of the land once owned by Jeff Norman (pictured), a noted historian and naturalist in Big Sur.

The celebration featured the unveiling of a plaque marking the history of 20 acres that we recently purchased from his estate and restored in 2010. Upslope from old-growth redwood forest, the ridgetop property is bordered by Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park and Los Padres National Forest.

Norman had previously sold 40 adjacent acres to the League, which we transferred to California State Parks in 1989.

He bought the 20-acre property in 1981 and lived there until his death in 2007. The land is to be transferred to Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park for permanent protection.

"Save the Redwoods League became true partners to us in creating a meaningful legacy to commemorate Jeff Norman's life and to share the wonder of his home," said Kathy MacKenzie, administrator for Norman's estate.

Before Norman lived on his home's site, homesteaders in the 1930s built a cabin, barn and cellar and named the land Alta Vista. The buildings burned in a 2008 forest fire. Now the plaque lies on the homestead's foundation.



the California State Coastal Conservancy for funding this project. We also thank Sonoma Land Trust for their ongoing work in this area.

Value: \$600,000

5 GIANT SEQUOIA NATIONAL MONUMENT, SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST — 60 ACRES

Giant sequoias and a river gained more protection after the League purchased this inholding, which was one of the few remaining sizable privately owned properties in the Black Mountain Grove.

Highlights: This parcel features many younger giant sequoias. Spectacular ancient giant sequoias abound in the surrounding public land. An unnamed creek that drains into the Middle Fork Tule River stretches across the property, making its acquisition a priority to protect clean water and wildlife habitat. The League plans to help return the land to its natural state by removing a cabin. Then we will transfer the property to the US Forest Service, which manages Giant Sequoia National Monument.

Value: \$300,000

Research

Tanoak Death Prevents Regrowth



Thanks to our members, Save the Redwoods League awards research grants to advance understanding of redwood forests. This research helps determine what the forest needs to thrive and how damaged forests may be restored.

In a 2008 project, researchers examined the relationship between the redwood forest and tanoak death.

Tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*) grows in coastal forests in Oregon and California. Compared with the majestic redwood, it's scruffy and small. But this humble hardwood plays an important role in the redwood forest. Its medium-height trees

add a second canopy to the complex architecture of an old-growth redwood forest, creating more niches for diverse species. And its nutritious acorns feed bears, deer, rodents and birds.

For now, tanoak is still abundant. But where redwood forests show signs of the emerging disease called "sudden oak death," the species has been decimated. Kevin L. O'Hara, University of California, Berkeley, silviculture professor and PhD candidate Ben Ramage are studying what happens to redwood forests in places where tanoaks have disappeared.

O'Hara and Ramage documented numerous

Tanoaks are important wildlife food sources in redwood forests. After a tanoak stand dies, researchers found that trees will not regrow.

changes caused by tanoak's demise—among them more sunlight, deadwood and plant species on the forest floor. The study's most important finding, however, had to do with the forests' inability to regenerate trees of any kind.

"If a tanoak clump dies and it leaves an opening in the forest, we're not seeing any new trees come into that opening," O'Hara said.

In proposed follow-up work, O'Hara and Ramage want to examine the roles of other tree species that grow in or near the redwood forest. A tree such as the madrone provides food for wildlife but is not susceptible to sudden oak death. Could such a tree take the tanoak's place if sudden oak death wipes out tanoaks? By planting several promising species in experimental plots, O'Hara and Ramage hope to find out.



5 Ways You Can Help Protect Redwoods

DONATE

to Save the Redwoods League.

PLAN

a gift in your will for Save the Redwoods League.

TALK

to your friends about the League's work.

VISIT

the redwood forest with your friends and family.

EXPLORE

volunteer opportunities in redwood parks.

To learn more, visit SaveTheRedwoods.org/help, or call us at (888) 836-0005.

The Many Ways to Give to the Redwoods

Gifts of any amount support the work of Save the Redwoods League to protect the forests we all love! For more information or to donate, visit our secure site, SaveTheRedwoods.org/give, or call us at (888) 836-0005.

Gift Membership to the League, \$25. Your recipient will receive the biannual League *Bulletin* and invitations to members-only events.

Plant a Seedling, \$50. Have a seedling planted in a California redwood park in honor of an individual or organization or in memory of a loved one.

Dedicate an Honor Tree, \$1,000–\$15,000. Select and dedicate a redwood in one of our honor groves.

Sponsor an Acre to protect Shady Dell, \$2,000 and up. We need stewardship funds for this property containing a mysterious old redwood forest, crucial habitat for coastal species and a mile of the remote Lost Coast.

Dedicate a Grove in honor or memory of a loved one: \$25,000–\$1 million. Mark important occasions such as births, weddings and anniversaries with these unique, timeless and tangible gifts.





Onto the Trail

*The Coastal Trail, Last Chance section,
Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park*

Previously on the 2011 closure list because of state budget cuts, this park harboring spectacular ancient giants will be kept open through a trial agreement between the National Park Service and California State Parks (CSP). The League has been working closely with CSP to restore the surrounding land and streams for imperiled salmon in this park's Mill Creek forest.



Save The Redwoods

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The snow plant (*Sarcodes sanguinea*) emerges in giant sequoia forests in early spring, sometimes poking through the snow.

Our Interactive Maps Now Feature 36 Parks

Our maps of the redwood regions include seven new redwood park profiles: Visit SaveTheRedwoods.org/maps, then lace up your boots! See our photo contest entries and winners at SaveTheRedwoods.org/contest. View our K-12 art contest entries and winners at SaveTheRedwoods.org/artcontest.