

REDWOODS RISING

REGAINING THE MAGNIFICENCE
OF THE COAST REDWOOD HEARTLAND



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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Grove Interpretive Trail in Richardson
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COVER: Ancient titans stand tall in Prairie Creek
Redwoods, part of Redwood National and State Parks.
Learn how we're bringing back giants through the
initiative called Redwoods Rising. *See page 4.*

THIS PAGE: An unnamed waterfall is among the delights on
the recently protected Twin Trees property, which buffers
the breathtaking ancient redwoods in Richardson Grove
State Park. *Learn more on page 10.*



Dear Save the Redwoods League Friends,

Although ancient redwood forests dominated our continent's west coast for over 20 million years, it took fewer than 150 years to cut down 95 percent of them. And while Save the Redwoods League and our partners have worked tirelessly to save what remains of these old-growth forests for the last 99 years, we are preparing for a new challenge toward that same mission of protecting the redwoods: restoring the forest we have lost.

Two projects covered in this *Bulletin* — Redwoods Rising, our collaborative effort to restore the young, recovering redwood forests in Redwood National and State Parks, and Stewarts Point — are significant steps toward growing the old-growth forests of the future. These efforts foreshadow our vision for our second century of conservation leadership to set thousands of acres of young redwood forest on an accelerated trajectory toward old-growth form and function, reclaiming the grandeur that once graced the California coast, providing resilient habitat for imperiled plants and animals, storing vast quantities of carbon, and creating new redwood parks to inspire future generations.

With the challenges facing our natural lands, including changing climate, changing land management, and changing political decisions, the caretakers of the redwood forest — the League, our members and our partners — are ready to step up to a new level of responsibility and set in motion the forests for our future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Hodder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sam" and last name "Hodder" clearly distinguishable.

Sam Hodder President and CEO

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An aerial photograph of a vast, dense forest. The canopy is a mix of dark green and lighter, yellowish-green, suggesting different tree species or perhaps some trees in bloom. Wisps of white mist or smoke are seen rising from various points across the forest floor, creating a layered, ethereal effect. The word "Restore" is written in a white, serif font in the upper left quadrant of the image.

Restore



REDWOODS RISING

Regaining the magnificence of the coast redwood heartland

Shown on this page, residual old-growth redwoods rise above a second-growth stand in Redwood National and State Parks. Once this was a single forest of giants stretching along the California coast.

We can bring the titans back.

“Of all the questions which can come before this nation ... there is none which compares in importance with the great central task of leaving this land even a better land for our descendants than it is for us.”

—Theodore Roosevelt

A Tale of Two Forests

Deep in Redwood National Park on Holter Ridge, two young redwood forests grow side by side.

In the first forest, redwood trees are large and spaced apart. Honey-colored sunlight filters through the canopy. Birdsong pierces the air. The forest floor supports a rich array of plants and animals. The air is sweet with the scent of lush vegetation.

In the second forest, the conifers are tightly packed. Sunlight barely penetrates. The trees are spindly, and the ground is covered with dead branches and needles. Here few birds forage or breed. The air is dank and still. There is a sense of the natural world gone awry.

The contrast represented by these two forests is stark. Yet before clear-cutting in the 1960s, they were a single healthy forest. Following logging, both tracts were replanted, and the young trees grew in densely. But in 1978, carefully chosen trees in the first forest were removed as part of a restoration, greatly increasing nutrients and sunlight for the remaining trees. Now this forest is on the track to health and magnificence.

At Save the Redwoods League, we hold the future of these forests in our hands. Through our new initiative, Redwoods Rising, we and Redwood National and State Parks are putting the redwood homeland back on the path to vibrance. Focusing our efforts in Redwood National and State Parks, we are linking the precious remaining groves of ancient trees by restoring the surrounding young forest. This is our chance to foster a forest of giants rising from the coast redwood's historical range.

Reclaiming the Redwood Forest

Redwood National and State Parks — Redwood National Park and Del Norte, Jedediah Smith and Prairie Creek Redwoods State Parks — protect nearly half of the world's remaining old-growth redwoods. The parks support all the life associated with the redwood forest, including imperiled salmon and northern spotted owls. These incomparable places also provide carbon storage, clean water, fresh air and inspiration.

The parks embrace 40,000 acres of primeval redwood stands and 80,000 acres of forest that were once heavily harvested. These young forests need restoration, including the 25,000-acre Mill Creek forest. Immediately upstream of the spectacular primeval forests of Jedediah Smith,



Restore

most of the trees in Mill Creek are fewer than 30 years old. Before its protection, much of the Mill Creek watershed was seeded with Douglas-fir at densities reaching more than 10 times as many trees per acre than in ancient forests, dramatically altering the forest's health and species composition. Crumbling roads continue to dump sediment into the creek that is a major spawning stream for coho salmon and steelhead trout, substantially altering the water for the old-growth groves just downstream. While the League and our partners have made significant progress in restoring Mill Creek since we protected the property in 2002 — thinning more than 4,000 acres of forest, retiring 69 miles of roads, removing 344 stream crossings and installing 90 in-stream log structures — it is just the beginning.

With further restoration, the payoff for our investment will be immense. Redwoods Rising will coordinate, integrate and increase the pace, scale and effectiveness of existing efforts to bring back the vast and primeval redwood forest. We can restore the health of the parks' streams, and in Mill Creek, provide additional protection for the magnificent trees downstream in Jedediah Smith. Redwoods Rising also will restore other critical wildlife habitat, and create landscapes that will be resilient in the face of future climate change.

Our Vision for the New Century

As one of the nation's first conservation organizations with thousands of loyal supporters from throughout the country, Save the Redwoods League has protected more than 200,000 acres of forest forever. Through our efforts, Redwood National and State Parks contain the planet's greatest concentration of ancient redwoods, inspiring visitors from around the world. Together, we can reverse our inheritance of forest destruction and fragmentation. We can give future generations the opportunity to experience a forest

Before logging decades ago, what is now Redwood National and State Parks was covered by colossal coast redwoods like these on the parks' Foothill Trail. The League is working to set the parks' logged areas on the path to health and magnificence.



The map shows the location of our restoration efforts in the coast redwood heartland of Redwood National and State Parks.

that we can only imagine. And we can make Redwood National and State Parks a place where giants rise again.

"Our first priority must be our best places, where we have the most extensive stands of old trees," said Emily Burns, League Director of Science. "Redwood National and State Parks are our greatest remaining reservoirs of redwood forest biodiversity. Our goal is to expand the redwood forest from these core areas."

Thank You for Caring About Our Redwoods

Redwoods Rising was inspired by visionary gifts for the League's restoration work on the North Coast. Thanks to a \$500,000 matching gift offered by League Councilor John Scharffenberger at the end of 2016, League supporters have given over \$1 million in support of forest restoration in Redwood National and State Parks. "We have the tools and the will to restore the forest's grandeur, and as a community who loves these special places, we're well on our way," Scharffenberger said.

Community

Honoring a scientist and leader

Forest geneticist Dr. William Libby, a longtime volunteer leader for Save the Redwoods League, recalls the night in 1951 when he chose the path for his life's work. He was serving the US Forest Service as a firefighter in Idaho.

"My ranger asked me what I was planning to do with my life. I was enrolled in a forestry school and was having trouble deciding whether to go into genetics or continue in forestry. With one sentence, he focused my life; he said, 'Well, trees have genes, don't they?'"

Now living in Orinda, California, Professor Libby and his students went on to conduct pioneering research on the genetic architectures of the giant sequoia and coast redwood, which got him an invitation to join the Save the Redwoods League Board of Councilors in 1990. After 26 years of service, including nine years on the Board of Directors, he transitioned to the role of Honorary Councilor this year.

His League achievements include leading the committee that awards grants for scientific research, and serving as an advisor for the League's Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative. He recalls when the League purchased the logged Mill Creek forest in 2002, described in this *Bulletin* on pages 6 and 7.

"The Mill Creek purchase has been catalytic in moving the League's focus from saving remaining old-growth redwood and giant sequoia groves to being involved in the entire native ranges of those two species," Libby said. "Importantly, that now includes acquiring and managing appropriate areas of second-growth redwoods and sequoias to soon become additional old forests with large trees and, eventually, additional old-growth ecosystems."

League President Sam Hodder said Libby has served the League with distinction. "We're so grateful for Bill's exemplary service," Hodder said. "His influence will shape our efforts for years to come."



After 26 years of serving the League as a Councilor and Board of Directors member, forest geneticist Dr. William Libby, middle, transitioned to the role of Honorary Councilor this year. Congratulating and thanking him are Justin Faggioli, League Board of Directors Chair, left, and Sam Hodder, League President and CEO, right.

Read more about Libby at SaveTheRedwoods.org/BillLibby.

Conservation

Permanent Protection for Dramatic Forest

Imagine traveling back thousands of years to the League's Stewarts Point property, about a 2½-hour drive north of San Francisco. Starting inland, you would admire massive redwoods. Walking toward the sea, you would reach miles of rugged forest, then magnificent coastal bluffs. Here, you would witness the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians performing ceremonies.

Today, Stewarts Point is home to a young, 700-acre redwood forest. As the first step to protect this majestic landscape from potential subdivision and extensive logging, the League purchased this property in 2010 for \$11.25 million. Recently Stewarts Point took another step forward on its preservation and restoration journey with the League's transfer of a conservation easement to the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District. This agreement permanently protects the coastal bluffs, the redwood forest and a 1.7-mile stretch of the South Fork

Gualala River. In addition, a new agreement will grant the Kashia permanent access to the coastal bluffs for ceremonial use.

In 2019, the public will be able to enjoy Stewarts Point on a nearly 1-mile extension of the California Coastal Trail, to be developed by Sonoma County Regional Parks. We thank our partners, including the District, the Kashia, the California State Coastal Conservancy, the California Wildlife Conservation Board and Sonoma County Regional Parks for bringing a new phase of life to this property. The League also thanks the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation for their generous grant, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation for an important loan to assist with the original purchase of the property, and you, our members.

*See more photos, two videos, a map, and read more about this special place at **SaveTheRedwoods.org/StewartsPoint**.*



Martina Morgan, Vice Chairwoman of the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians, looks out on the bluff at Stewarts Point to which the Kashia will have permanent access for ceremonial use. The access is part of an agreement with the League, which owns Stewarts Point. Other League agreements with partners permanently protect the property's redwoods and a stretch of river.

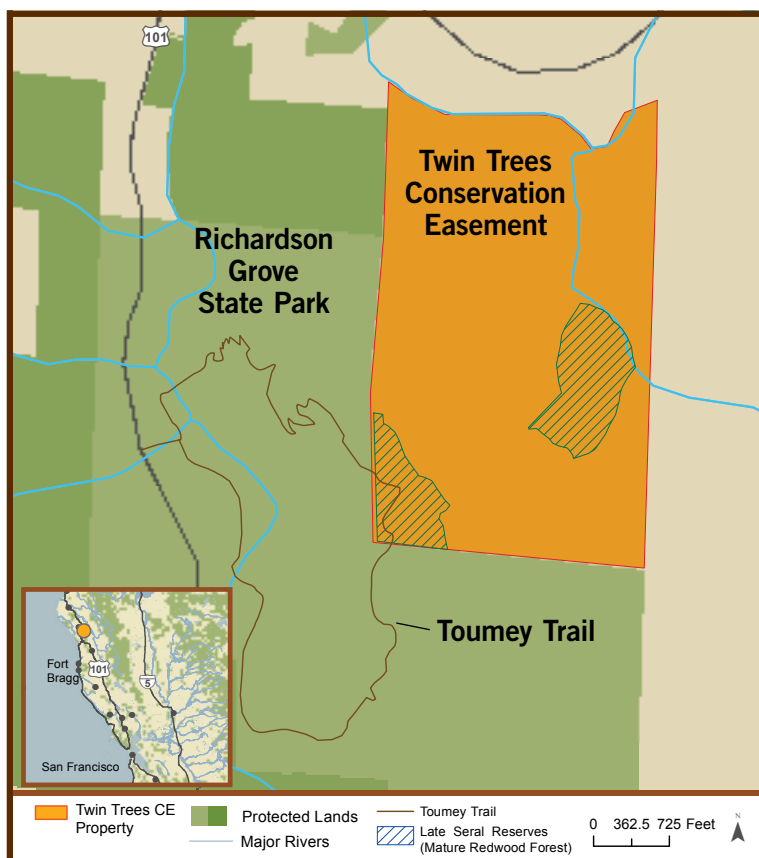
Project Buffers Glorious, Ancient Richardson Grove

A walk among the 300-foot-tall ancient giants in Richardson Grove State Park is a sensory journey back in time. A four-hour drive north of San Francisco, this wonderland of moss-speckled coast redwoods suspends you in bygone years when forests were undisturbed.

To protect this jewel of a park from potential threats on a neighboring property called Twin Trees, Save the Redwoods League recently purchased a conservation easement from land owner Lost Coast Forestlands. The easement agreement allows Lost Coast to continue to own and sustainably manage the property while forever prohibiting other land uses such as unsustainable logging, subdivision and development.

This project was funded by a public grant from the California Natural Resources Agency's Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program. "We supported the Twin Trees conservation easement because it protects more than 255 acres of redwood forestland and river habitat, which provide many benefits such as reduction of greenhouse gas emissions," said Grant Administrator Melissa Jones.

The League's working relationships with timberland owners throughout the redwood range are critical. As forest managers for the vast landscape of young recovering forests that separate the protected old-growth forests, their stewardship and pursuit of sustainable forestry practices is an essential ingredient in the success of the League's vision.



"Richardson Grove is an island of old-growth redwoods in a sea of younger, formerly industrial forest," said League President Sam Hodder. "This project ensures that the forest abutting the treasured grove will remain, and that Twin Trees is managed according to the highest ecological standards."

Read more about Twin Trees and see photos at [SaveTheRedwoods.org/TwinTrees](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/twintrees).

With a conservation easement, the League forever protected a young redwood forest. Called Twin Trees, the forest borders the ancient redwoods of Richardson Grove State Park, pictured on page 18. Twin Trees' late seral reserves will be managed to accelerate the development of old-growth redwood forest conditions. The Toumey Trail in Richardson Grove runs through a corner of Twin Trees.

CURRENT PROJECTS

HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 **REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS***
Planning new visitor center, trails, restoration
- 2 **HEADWATERS FOREST RESERVE, WESTFALL RANCH**
Restoring, buffering forest; planning trails
- 3 **TWIN TREES***
Protected forest buffering Richardson Grove State Park
- 4 **MAILLIARD RANCH**
Protecting vast forest, rivers
- 5 **STEWARTS POINT**
Permanently protected redwood forest, river, bluffs
- 6 **BEAVER CREEK AT CALAVERAS BIG TREES**
Working with partners to prevent catastrophic wildfires

Redwoods State Parks

IMPROVEMENTS

- A **HUMBOLDT**
Restoring trail, upgrading day-use area
- B **PORTOLA**
Rebuilding popular ramada
- C **PFEIFFER BIG SUR**
Restoring trails, installed interpretive signage

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/Bulletin](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/Bulletin). Alternatively, you may use the enclosed envelope. Thank you for your thoughtful gifts.



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



A Roosevelt elk surveys his domain in Redwood National and State Parks. Your support is helping to protect and restore his habitat.

Ways You Can Help

GIVE

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.

SUPPORT THE REDWOOD FOREST

Your tax-deductible contribution supports the work of Save the Redwoods League to protect and restore California's iconic coast redwood forest and the giant sequoia groves of the Sierra Nevada. To make a gift, visit our secure website, SaveTheRedwoods.org/Bulletin, mail the enclosed form, or call us at **888-836-0005**.

Renew your membership with an annual gift of \$25 or more.

The collective support of more than 18,500 members makes the protection and restoration of the redwoods possible. Our members' impact is described in this *Bulletin*. Your continued support is vital to the future of the redwood forest.

Make an additional gift in support of our work this year.

Members who increase their support not only have a greater impact for the redwoods, but also enjoy additional member opportunities throughout the year, including invitations to redwood hikes and events.

Become an Evergreen member with a monthly gift of \$10 or more.

Make each month matter for the redwoods by giving a monthly gift with your credit card. It's an easy way to have a significant impact, and it allows the League to plan for the immediate future.

Connect

Stand
with
Giants

BE A GUARDIAN OF THE REDWOOD FOREST

Save the Redwoods League was created by a visionary group of early conservationists who put a stop to unrestrained logging of ancient trees. Today, their legacy lives on among our members — people like you.

Just as redwoods grow in circles, we are nurturing a close community of people with a common stake in protecting our shared natural resources. Your generosity has a direct impact on the League's ability to protect and restore the redwood forest. We invite you to make a gift to Save the Redwoods League today.



Membership: \$25, \$50, \$100

Enjoy our enewsletter *Redwood Matters*, our upcoming biannual *Redwoods* magazine, and project updates.

Membership: \$250, \$500

Receive all of the above plus our yearly redwoods calendar, and attend events in the redwoods!



Canopy Club: \$10,000 or more

Join our premier circle of donors who make annual gifts of \$10,000 or more. Enjoy all of the opportunities of the Redwood Leadership Circle, plus invitations to private special events, and prominent recognition in League publications. For more information, please call Georgia Young at 415-820-5849.



Redwood Leadership Circle: \$1,000–\$9,999

Join our leading circle of donors who make annual gifts of \$1,000 or more. Enjoy invitations to our annual member event, private hikes, project tours with our program team, and recognition in our annual report. For more information, please call Jennifer Verhines at 415-820-5830.



Legacy Circle: The Redwood Legacy Circle honors those visionary individuals who have provided for the League in their wills and estate plans. Members are invited to the annual Legacy Circle Luncheon and many other donor events throughout the year. They also are recognized in the League's publications. For more information, please call Sharon Rabichow at 415-820-5828.

Leave a Long-Lasting Legacy

Because you value the redwoods for their beauty, tranquility and the essential role they play in your life, we invite you to affirm that commitment by including Save the Redwoods League in your will or trust. In doing so, you will have an impact that lasts forever. Since our founding in 1918, Save the Redwoods League has pursued a long-term vision to protect and restore redwood forests. Legacy gifts allow us to extend that vision into the future, ensuring that our magnificent forests are protected for generations to come — for your loved ones and for all those who follow.

There are many ways a legacy gift can maximize your philanthropic objectives:

Gifts Through Your Will or Trust

You can take care of your loved ones and provide for the future of the redwoods by including Save the Redwoods League in your will or trust with either a percentage amount, specific dollar amount, or a portion or all of the residual of your estate.

Jim and Diane Larson are members of the League's Redwood Legacy Circle, which honors those visionary individuals who have provided for the League in their estate plans.

"Our legacy gift to Save the Redwoods League will help ensure our treasured redwood forests will continue to be acquired, protected and restored for future generations," the Larsons said.

Charitable Gift Annuity or Charitable Remainder Trust

You can make a gift to Save the Redwoods League while supplementing your income with an annuity or trust that pays income during your life or a period of years.

Beneficiary Designations

You can very easily change the beneficiary designation on your IRA, 401K, life insurance policy or bank account to Save the Redwoods League.

For more information, visit our website, MyRedwoodsLegacy.org, call us at 888-836-0005, extension 828, or email Sharon Rabichow, Director of Gift Planning, at srabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org.



Onto the Trail

Richardson Grove State Park
Garberville, California

The view of ancient giants is sure to lift hearts on the Grove Interpretive Trail, also known as the Grove Nature Trail. The grove borders the Twin Trees property, recently protected by the League and described on page 10.

Learn what to see and do at Richardson Grove by visiting SaveTheRedwoods.org/maps.







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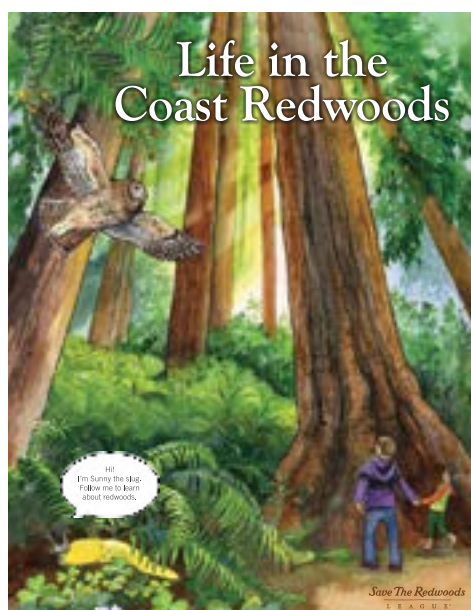
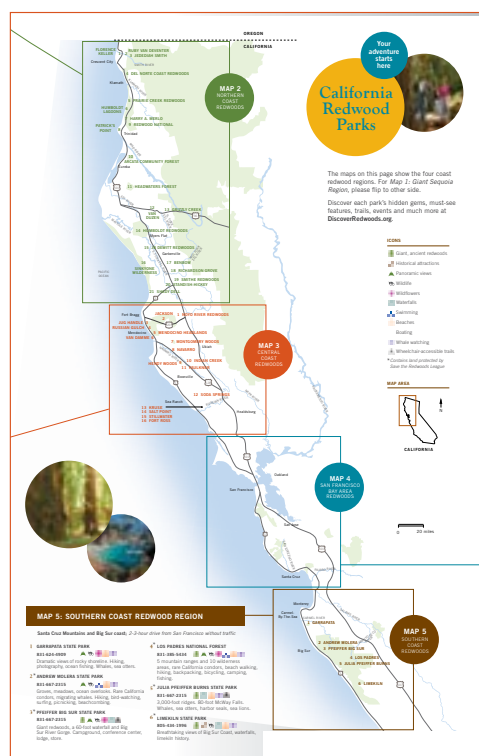
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Find Your Activities in 93 Redwood Parks!

Plan your summer trips today by ordering your **free** Discover California Redwood Parks brochure! You'll see 93 coast redwood and giant sequoia parks and what to do there. Order your brochure by emailing membership@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or call 888-836-0005. In addition, now you can search our Discover Redwood Parks Interactive Map by 17 activities and features: Visit **SaveTheRedwoods.org/maps**.



New Booklets for Kids!

With our new, **free** coast redwoods and giant sequoia booklets, you can teach the children in your life about the plants, animals and people of the redwood forest from past to present.

Get yours in English or Spanish as a download at **SaveTheRedwoods.org/booklets**, or order paper copies in bulk by calling 888-836-0005 or emailing education@SaveTheRedwoods.org.