

# Annual Report 2000 - 2001





we find it bound...b

a thousand invisible

# cords...to everythin

# ng in the universe

—John Muir

#### Dear Friends and Supporters,

Commitment to conservation of the redwood forest grows from people's connection to the land and their experiences of the forest's grandeur and inspiration. Like the roots that nourish a tree, Save-the-Redwoods League's members are intimately connected with and directly responsible for the League's ability to protect redwoods. Together, League members form an intricate network: one individual's support in spirit strengthens another member's support through contributions.

This year, the League has continued to promote the long-term health of the redwood forest by connecting isolated stands of ancient redwoods. Wildlife needs connections on land that allow movement and adaptation to the forces of change over time. Nature requires a landscape that can absorb cataclysmic events critical for ecological diversity and health.

#### Together League members form an

Because of their scale and complexity, many purchases of forestland require several years for completion. The League's accomplishments stem, in large part, from collaborations with other groups and public agencies. These partnerships leverage the League's investment and build a network supporting the redwood forest's permanent protection.

In 2000, the League welcomed over 5,000 new members. The engagement of our loyal members and partners continues to promote our success in saving redwoods. As the magnitude and complexity of our projects grow, your continuing contributions are essential.

Thank you,

Richard C. Otter Katherine Anderton

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President Secretary & Executive Director

#### Triumphs

During the last fiscal year, partnerships with public agencies and private non-profit groups played a critical role in the League securing protection of 1,815 acres of critical redwood, watershed, and habitat lands valued at over \$9.6 million. By applying the principles developed in the Master Plan for the Coast Redwood, the League targeted lands that contribute to the long-term health and diversity of redwoods. Three representative projects completed this year are:

In Sonoma County, a 28-acre stand of ancient redwoods, some more than 1,000 years old and 15 feet in diameter, stands on a ridge-top overlooking vineyards. The League joined a Sonoma-based non-profit group and state and county agencies to purchase the "Grove of Old Trees." Less than an hour's drive from the county seat, the property offers easy access for group visits and a rare opportunity to study redwood ecology in an area surrounded by intensive agriculture.

On a wildflower-carpeted ridge on the edge of Humboldt Redwoods State Park, League members joined the local community and representatives from Washington D.C. and Sacramento to celebrate completion of the first phase of the Corridor from the Redwoods to the Sea. This wildlife corridor stretches from the old-growth redwoods along the Eel River, through the old-growth Douglas-fir forest of the Mattole River watershed, to the longest unroaded coastline in the contiguous United States. This year, partnering with public agencies, private property owners, and private donors, the League added 1,075 acres.

At the foot of an ancient redwood, a Santa Cruz County supervisor and members of the local high school's watershed academy joined League members to symbolically transfer care for 410 acres to the County. As the county's largest park, it will provide pleasure and inspiration to the community and a future site for a residential outdoor school.

#### Dillonwood Grove

When given the opportunity in late 1999 to preserve the 1,540-acre Dillonwood Giant Sequoia Grove, the League enthusiastically embraced the challenge. Adjacent to the southern boundary of Sequoia National Park, Dillonwood Grove includes 70% of the remaining Giant Sequoia forest in private ownership. This healthy multi-aged second growth forest, anchored by old growth trees greater than 20 feet in diameter and over 2,000 years old, is the only existing forest of this type.

To include Dillonwood in the National Park required federal legislation. The League succeeded in forming alliances with Representative George Radanovich (R-CA) and Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA). With their assistance and after intensive efforts by the League, the park boundary was expanded to include Dillonwood on the last day of the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress.

#### Just as nature loves connections, working together strengthens

On a parallel track, Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) secured Congressional appropriation of \$5 million towards the purchase price of \$10.3 million. Enthusiastic support by the League's members, private foundations—including the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund—and an anonymous challenge grant has assured that we will raise the funds needed to complete Dillonwood's purchase.

# The Redwoods and Beyond

The spectacular ancient redwood forests of the north coast of California are known around the world. These forests, home to over half of all remaining ancient redwoods, are one component of a rich natural and cultural legacy that includes high mountains, cool clear salmon streams, a remote and rugged coastline, pastoral landscapes, and a variety of Native American and early Euro-American culture.

The Save-the-Redwoods League and the Bureau of Land Management convened a workshop of 17 land management and conservation groups, from federal and state agencies to non-profits, that work in the region. The objective was to better understand the diverse landscape, discuss ongoing land conservation efforts, and identify future conservation needs. Just as nature loves connections, working together strengthens long-term protection of the northern redwood region.

#### long-term protection of the northern redwood region.

Over the course of three daylong workshops, maps created from the League's Geographic Information System (GIS) facilitated the discussions. These maps helped identify connections between different areas and projects. The deepened understanding of the region has created new opportunities for collaboration and expanded our understanding of the landscape surrounding the redwood forest. Check our website this fall for further details and copies of the workshop report.

#### The Challenge Chead: Mill Creek

"By far the most important acquisition yet before the League is that of the Mill Creek-Smith River Redwoods," so wrote Newton B. Drury, the League's first Secretary, in a 1933 report to members and friends. Drury was referring to the pristine ancient redwood forest along Mill Creek and Smith River in Del Norte County.

Although the more spectacular areas were acquired for Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park in the 1930's, the upper two-thirds of the Mill Creek watershed remained in private ownership, vulnerable to logging. The League continued to advocate acquisition of the complete watershed to ensure survival of the primeval redwoods. Unfortunately, when Redwood National Park was established in 1968, upper Mill Creek was left out and logging commenced.

More than a generation later the League has the unique opportunity to acquire the entire watersheds of Mill Creek and Rock Creek, some 25,000 acres. While only 200 acres of ancient redwoods remain, the upper watersheds still contain 38 miles of

#### They stood in awe, certain they were in the most

critical salmon and trout tributaries to the Smith River, the only major undammed river system in California and a crown jewel of the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Conservation management of these watersheds will ensure survival of the downstream ancient redwoods, allow for recovery of the prolific Mill Creek spawning grounds, and protect habitat for 26 endangered species including the marbled murrelet, northern spotted owl, pacific fisher and bald eagle. Over the past year, the League has worked to craft a coalition of groups in support of the acquisition, including federal, state and local agencies, state legislatures and the local Board of Supervisors. The project has been enthusiastically endorsed by academics, local teachers, and non-profit groups including The Nature Conservancy, California Trout, Sierra Club, and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen, to name but a few.

Sixty-eight years after his address to the League, Drury's words still hold true—in the coming year the permanent protection of Mill Creek is our most important challenge. With assistance from our many partners and, most importantly, our membership, the redwoods of Mill Creek will be protected in perpetuity.

#### Roots of the League

The ancient redwood forests of California are a living reminder of the foresight, dedication and success of the League's founders and members over the last 83 years. In 1917, John C. Merriam, Madison Grant and Henry Fairfield Osborn journeyed north from San Francisco, through ever-widening forest destruction, until they reached Bull Creek flats on the Eel River. They stood in awe, certain they were in the most magnificent ancient forest known to man. Appalled to discover that not one redwood was protected for public enjoyment, they returned home determined to act.

#### magnificent ancient forest known to man.

Their commitment and passion led to the establishment of Save-the-Redwoods League in 1918, with the mission to rescue from destruction representative areas of primeval redwood forests, and to cooperate with state and national park services in establishing redwood parks. They resolved to tell the story of the redwoods' devastation nationwide, confident the public would contribute to the purchase of redwood forests at fair market value for their permanent protection and enjoyment. More than 83 years later the League's mission and strategy remain essentially unchanged.

#### Individual Donors

Our deepest thanks to all of our individual and institutional benefactors for their support and generosity during the year 2000. Your commitment to preserving redwood forests is invaluable.

These lists reflect gifts that were received between January 1st and January 14th, 2001. If your total giving in the calendar year 2000 was more than \$500 and your name does not appear in this list, we may not have a permission form on file for you. We will not publish any donor's name without his or her permission. If you would like your name included in future publications, please contact the League office.

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...and to all of our generous donors, too numerous to list here, who contributed more than 23,500 gifts in the year 2000, we could not continue to protect redwood forestlands without all of your support. Thank you!

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THE FOLLOWING CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS PROVIDED GIFTS IN KIND:

ARUP—Consulting Engineers Brent Bishop—Videographer ESRI—Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

ESRI—Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software

Eric Jaffe—Government Affairs Consultant Steve Sillett—Canopy Biologist

THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTED MUCH OF THEIR EFFORTS AND TALENTS:

Rebecca Bozzelli Laura McKibbin Dan Pergiel

#### Legacy Circle

The Redwood Legacy Circle has been established to recognize those individuals who have chosen to make an enduring tribute to the protection of redwood forestlands. By including the League in their estate plans, Redwood Legacy Circle Members ensure that the ancient redwoods remain a vital part of our community—both today and tomorrow.

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#### Treasurer's Letter

Save-the-Redwoods League continues to be financially strong, thanks to the support of its growing membership, private nonprofit groups, and public agency partners. During the fiscal year ending March 31, 2001, the League's net assets grew from \$55.7 to \$62.0 million. Cash and investments increased by \$7.7 million to \$34.1 million, due to increased member contributions and investment income.

Save-the-Redwoods League will continue to leverage its financial resources to protect redwood forestlands for public enjoyment, to support conservation of California redwood forest areas, and to foster a better understanding of America's primeval forests.

With the help of its public and private non-profit partners, the League preserved 1,815 acres of critical redwood, watershed, and habitat lands during the fiscal year. In the coming year, we plan to dramatically expand our conservation efforts by raising funding for the League's largest redwood purchase ever—the 25,000 acre Mill Creek property.

The League's leadership and involvement in protecting California's redwoods is possible through the generosity of its members and partners. Thank you for helping achieve the mission of Save-the-Redwoods League!

Sincerely,

Www. Wentworth

Treasurer

The financial information as of and for the year ended March 31, 2001 has been derived from the League's 2001 financial statements, audited by Burr, Pilger & Mayer, independent auditors. The condensed financial information should be read in conjunction with the 2001 audited financial statements and related notes. Contact the League's office for copies of the complete audited statements.

## Statement of Financial Position Tharch 31, 2001

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March 31, 2001		FTCarch 31, 2001	
Cash and cash equivalents	7,217,705	Revenue and public support:	
Accounts receivable	63,135	Contributions:	
Contributions receivable	22,596	Donations	2,313,308
Investments	26,799,822	Grove donations	2,532,570
Notes receivable	682,780	General land	2,339,213
Real estate held	23,978,132	Reforestation and other contributions	131,646
Contributions receivable from irrevocable trusts	6,102,932	Income from investments	2,300,356
Office equipment, net	171,108	Grants from state and federal agencies	2,552,000
Other assets	197,006	Other (loss) income	(46,690)
Endowment cash	303,951		
Total assets:	65,539,166	Total revenue and public support	12,122,403
Liabilities:			
		Expenses:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	320,303	Program services:	
Contributions payable	508,006	Land deeded to State of California	35,800
Notes payable	2,493,325	Land deeded to County of Santa Cruz	2,400,000
Liability to beneficiaries	217,970	Redwood land program support	1,118,454
Total liabilities:	3,539,604	Contributions made-cooperative preservation funded	172,148
		Redwood reforestation grants	80,015
Net assets:		Other grants	86,769
		Research grants	89,470
Unrestricted	30,358,550	Total program services	3,982,656
Temporarily restricted	31,337,061		
Permanently restricted	303,951	Support services:	
Total net assets:	61,999,562	General and administrative	512,356
		Fund-raising	1,295,622
Total liabilities and net assets:	65,539,166	Total support services	1,807,978
		Total expenses	5,790,634
		Increase in net assets	6,331,769

Statement of Activities for the year ended

## Objectives

- · To rescue from destruction representative areas of our primeval forests
- · To co-operate with the California State Park Commission, the National Park Service, and other agencies, in establishing Redwood Parks and other parks and reservations
- · To purchase Redwood groves by private subscription

- To foster and encourage a better and more general understanding of the value of the primeval Redwood or Sequoia and other forests of America as natural objects of extraordinary interest to present and future generations
- · To support reforestation and conservation of our forest areas

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