



REDWOOD COAST LAND CONSERVANCY

Dedicated to protection of open spaces and natural resources from the Navarro to the Russian rivers

RCLC ACTIVELY EXPLORES NEW PROJECTS

RCLC is exploring two projects which provide excellent opportunities for preserving bluffs and providing new public access trails between Anchor Bay and Schooner Gulch.

If successful, these projects would combine land acquisitions, land donations and trail easements to extend protection of the bluffs near Hearn Gulch Headlands and provide a beautiful bluff trail just south of Anchor Bay.

Through its public access projects, the Redwood Coast Land Conservancy has provided the only public access to bluffs and beaches between Gualala and Schooner Gulch. These new projects will set aside additional places of beauty along our local coast for both residents and visitors to enjoy.

RCLC has also started the process of identifying other significant scenic lands and wildlife habitat in our area and developing a plan to protect them through acquisitions and conservation easements.

RCLC relies on the support of our members and contributors to the RCLC Opportunity Fund to identify and preserve these special places. Member contributions are particularly important at this time since State funding is so uncertain. If you would like to contribute to the Opportunity Fund, please use the envelope enclosed in this newsletter.



Photos: Laurie Mueller

Redwood Coast Land Conservancy

Local residents devote their time and expertise to help RCLC protect our coast.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Laurie Mueller

Vice President: Charlie Murphy

Secretary: Lois Lutz

Treasurer: Bob Rutemoeller

Directors: Irene Leidner, Bill Wiemeyer

ADVISORS Randy Burke, Lori

Hubbart, Mary Sue Ittner, Ray Jackman,

Robert Juengling, Cindy Kennedy, Mike

Lane, Fred McElroy, Brian Regan, Rich

Schimbor, David Scholz, Harmony

Susalla and Jon Thompson

STAFF Louisa Morris

PROJECT MANAGERS

HEARN GULCH: David Scholz

GUALALA BLUFF TRAIL: Mary Sue Ittner

COOKS BEACH/BONHAM TRAIL: Irene Leidner

ST. ORRES: Irene Leidner

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Laurie Mueller

GRAPHIC DESIGN: Janet Windsor

WEBSITE EDITORS:

David and Charlotte Scholz

HISTORIAN: Betty Athens

RCLC is a member of the National Land Trust Alliance, California Council of Land Trusts, and the Redwood Coast Chamber of Commerce.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

After many years of planning, fundraising and hard work, RCLC's Hearn Gulch Headlands and Cooks Beach projects are essentially complete. Local residents and visitors to our coast can now enjoy bluff-top vistas and explore two beautiful beaches.

This winter, with the successful completion of these two projects in mind, the RCLC Board and key volunteers began examining next steps for our organization. At our annual meeting, we reaffirmed our commitment to continue RCLC's work to preserve our coastal lands. We realized that to reach our goals, we needed a program to encourage local landowners to consider conservation easements. We needed to identify conservation priorities. We needed to collaborate more closely with other regional organizations who had similar goals. For the longer term, we needed to move toward national accreditation standards for land trusts and we needed to strengthen our fundraising capability.

We recognized that we would accomplish these objectives much more effectively with a professional staff person who could improve our organizational capabilities, and we moved quickly to hire Louisa Morris, who is an excellent match for our organization's needs.

We also welcomed Charlie Murphy as our newest Board member and the return of Bill Wiemeyer to our Board. Both bring valuable experience and enthusiasm for our mission that will help us achieve our goals.

We are proud of what RCLC has accomplished as a small all-volunteer organization. With a part-time staff person in place, and with the continuing support of our contributors and volunteers, we are ready to engage in new projects that will preserve our coastal lands.



RCLC President Laurie Mueller

PLEASE WELCOME LOUISA MORRIS

RCLC HIRES PART-TIME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This spring, the RCLC Board decided to hire a part-time Executive Director to help the Redwood Coast Land Conservancy accomplish the long-term goals we have set for land conservation, land trust accreditation, and organizational development.



Louisa Morris brings a wealth of land conservation and trails experience to Redwood Coast Land Conservancy. A Stanford and UC-Berkeley graduate, Louisa has lived and worked on the Mendocino Coast since 1992. She was Mendocino County's Coastal Access Coordinator and the Land Stewardship and Coastal Access Program Manager at Mendocino Land Trust. She has led restoration and trail crews throughout the western U.S. and has worked on a variety of projects with many of the land trust nonprofits in Mendocino County.

Louisa says, "I am very excited about working with the talented and dedicated RCLC Board, Advisors and community volunteers to help conserve special coastal places for future generations to enjoy. We have the opportunity to make a real difference if we act now and work together."

COMPLETION OF THE GUALALA BLUFF TRAIL ON HOLD

RCLC trail volunteers are still waiting to finish work on the final segment of the Gualala Bluff Trail. The trail cannot be completed until the Coastal Commission rules on the property owner's application to build a 400-foot retention system along the bluff face behind Surf Super.

Since no hearing date has been set yet for the Commission staff to report its findings, it is unlikely that any construction can begin before this year's rainy season. This means that the trail will not be completed before next summer at the earliest.

Gualala Parking Plan Affected

The Gualala community has been working on plans to improve parking and traffic circulation. Their plans include designing better traffic patterns, putting in paths, and eliminating on-street parking along Highway One. The Surf Super, as one of the major traffic centers in downtown Gualala, is central to the proposed Community Action Plan (CAP), but property owner John Bower is awaiting the Coastal Commission decision on his permit application before he implements any of the CAP recommendations.

Some advocates for the CAP have suggested that RCLC

and Mr. Bower could work out an agreement about the wall system and placement of the trail. RCLC is as anxious as the rest of the community to have this matter resolved, but has no authority to make any decisions about Mr. Bower's application or the location of the trail easement and does not have any special influence with the Coastal Commission regarding their decision.

In the meantime, many local residents and visitors enjoy the ever-changing views along the Gualala River Estuary. Although the central section of the trail has not been completed, you can walk the full extent of the trail from Trink's to Bones.

Photo: Bob Rutemoeller



SHIRLEY EBERLY RETIRES AS RCLC BOARD MEMBER

The RCLC Board wishes to thank Shirley Eberly for her many years of service to RCLC and to our local community. Shirley joined the Board in 1993, shortly after the RCLC was founded, and played a major role in establishing our organization and in completing the first phase of the Gualala Bluff Trail. During her sixteen years on our Board, Shirley has served several terms as President and has helped RCLC achieve many of its goals. Shirley says she thinks it is time to retire "at least for a while" but assures us that we can call on her if needed.



IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS THAT COUNT...

by Irene Leidner, Cooks Beach Project Manager

Thanks to generous donations of both time and plants from Mary Sue Ittner and Lori Hubbart of the California Native Plant Society, approximately 15 tender hopefuls have been planted at the base of the Bonham Trail, some at the top of the lower bluff, others next to the steps down to the beach. Dwarf coyote, strawberry, poppy, gum



Photo: Irene Leidner



plants, bunch grass, one Douglas Iris, and one coast wallflower appear to be happy while still looking a little forlorn amongst the expanse they are expected to eventually cover.

This is a first step to see which plants thrive

best in this location with a minimum of watering and care. Watering and weeding will be essential this first season, but we hope that by next winter, they will be well-enough established to continue to grow and spread on their own.

Even though little has been done during the winter months on the trail itself, the beach continues to be popular with families, and especially children...



Photos: Russ Huber



...and the little stream is a delight to all.

Cooks Beach is located two miles north of Gualala, across from Glennen Drive. Turn off Highway One at Old Coast Highway and travel to the north end of the road. Follow Bonham Trail down to the Beach.



Photos: Irene Leidner



So Bonham Trail invites you to come and explore this little spot of paradise...

...and while we don't have a lifeguard, we do have those who monitor.

CHECK OUT THE WILDFLOWERS

The wildflowers on Hearn Gulch Headlands are in full display, invigorated by the late spring rains. What was once a rutted and eroded bluff top has been beautifully restored in a few short years, showing the resilience of nature when lands are protected. Many wildflowers, including the endangered morning glory and checkerbloom, have returned.

Hearn Gulch is located just north of Iverson Road off Highway One. Look for the chains and bollards. You can take a trail out to the headlands or the trail down to the small pocket beach.



Photo: Leigh Mueller

Spring wildflowers carpet the Hearn Gulch Headlands.

Memorial and Commemorative Gifts

Many donors contribute gifts to RCLC in memory of friends, family members and colleagues or to honor significant events in people's lives. These gifts are used to enhance public enjoyment of our coastline and are a wonderful legacy for those who wish to preserve the beauty of our natural environment.

In Memory of

Ray and Florence Van de Water
from Mark, Judy, & Trevor Van de Water
Clare Wheeler & Roane Sias
Richard & Roberta Van de Water
Ken & Marian Brown

Florence Van de Water
from Margaret & Jack Thorburn

Doris Taylor
from Phil Taylor

Father Peter Farmer
from Beva Farmer

Pat Delaney
from Barbara Gomes

Nicole Phillips
from Massomeh Roberts

Carolyn McFall Mohr
from Peter Mohr

Mary Van Walterop
from Anne Hendricks

Howard W. Bell
from Dorothy Bell

Jack Hardy
from Sherri Hardy

Hollis Anne Knebel
from Jack & Linda Knebel

David Stry-Sheets
from Susan Stry-Sheets

In Honor of

Rosemarie Hocker
from Dave & Charlotte Scholz

Janann Strand
from Randy Burke

Mr. & Mrs. Leon Gross
from Claire McPherson

Bob Rutemoeller & Mary Sue Ittner
from Bob & Linda Ittner

Wayne & Jane Novak
from Aaron Weindling & Yvonne Novak

Jay McManigal
from Gloria McManigal

Gifts from June 2008 through May 2009

RCLC wishes to thank the following people and organizations for their contributions.

Allen, David & Lucienne
Anderson, George & Kathie
Anderson, Karl
Anderson, Ward & Betsy
Arkin, David
Athens, Betty
Bailey, Lillian & Patrick
Balch, Dick & Marilyn
Bechtel, Gillett & Betty
Bell, Dorothy
Biehler, Robert & Judith
Bray, Roz
Brown, Ken & Marian
Brugler, Steve & Gayle
Burke, Randy
Burns, Bill & Betty
Butler, Jill
Chaban, Joel & Pat
Chell, Steve & Carol
Cochrane, Thomas
Community Foundation of
Mendocino County
Cunningham, Jim & Diane
Custer, Evan
Dahlhoff, Eric & Leslie
Deits, Earle & Shirley
Donadio, David & Kristine
Duckham, Jeffrey
Elias, Peter & Mary Williams
Elliott, Dale & Christine
Mengarelli
Farmer, Beva
Faulkner, Jay
Flynn, Michael
Fong, Gareth
Gadol, Jeanne & Steve
Gandel, Betty
Gigy, Lynn, & Barb Tatum
Gold, Denny
Gomes, Barbara
Haas, George & Pat
Halley, Richard
Hanauer, Pete & Harriet
Hardy, Russ & Judy
Hardy, Sherri
Harris, JoAnn
Hartman, William T.
Hayflick, Ruth & Leonard
Hendricks, Ruth Anne
Herman, Carolyn Joy
Hichwa, Diane & Bryant
Hooper, Gale

Hubert, Ed & Faye
Ingersoll, Marji
Inouye, William & Mary
Ittner, Bob
Ittner, Mary Sue & Bob
Rutemoeller
Jackson, Jeanne & Richard
Jacob, Elaine
Jordan, Dave & P.T. Nunn
Jordan, Jim & Joan
Kadarauch, Mary & Bob
Keir, Linda
Kennedy, Cindy & Richard
Kirkwood, Robert
Klopper, Brent & Tish Miller
Knarr, Richard & Judy
Knaster, Mirka
Knebel, Jack & Linda
Kosso, Gene & Lee
Lane, Mike & Donna
Lawson, Elaine
Lease, Bob & Sue
Leidner, Irene & Bill Davy
Lewis, Richard
Likins, Jack & Paige
Long, Alex & Anne
Lotter, Jim / Serenisea
Lutz, Alyssa & Mark Thomas
Lutz, Harry & Lois
Lutz, Jennifer & Michael
Moelter
Massara, Kathy & Dennis
Mattson, Pete & Patty
McDaid, Tarran
McManigal, Gloria
McPherson, Claire
Meyer, Diane
Mitchell, Moya
Mohr, Peter
Morris, Louisa
Morse, Bryan & Tara Burkhardt
Murphy, Charlie & Kathleen
Sandidge
Nickodem, Sharon
Novak, Yvonne & Aaron
Weindling
Ortiz, Eugenia
Osteraas, David & Evelyn
Osterland, Bill & Jeanne
Ours, Jake & Nicole
Owings, J. Randall
Perez, Tony & Linda

Perkins, Fionna & Richard
Petersen, John & Jackie
Porter, Dorothy
Pratt, Jeff & Barbara
Reimuller, Peter
Rhyne, Mary
Roberts, Massomeh J.
Sanyal, Subir & Mary Elizabeth
Scherer, Richard & Dorothy
Scholz, Dave & Charlotte
Seale, Ted & Cora Lee
Shanower, James & Karen
Shriver, Howard
Sidell, Peter & Mary Kay
Simmonds, Doug
Skidmore, Richard
Sleight, Roger
Sloane, Beverly
Smith, Harper & Scott
Smith, Lois Ann
State Coastal Conservancy
Strachan, Jim & Bridgit
Strand, Janann
Suh, Carolyn
Suhr, Jim & Mary
Sundstrom, Robert & Roberta
Susalla, Harmony & Sus
Susalla, Nell
Taylor, Gail
Taylor, Phil
Teale, Mardi & Jim
Thomas, Lillian
Thompson, Beverley
Thompson, Kenneth & Ellen
Thorburn, Margaret & Jack
Thursday Ramblers
Tracy, Karen
Tyrnauer, Francesca & Herb
Van de Water, Mark & Judy &
Trevor
Van de Water, Richard &
Roberta
Vasavada, RC & Tina
Wells, Walter &
Linda Morley-Wells
Werner, Max & Julie / ARFF
Wheeler, Clare & Roane Sias
Whitney, Joan & Bob
Widner, Art
Wittig, Eric & JoAnn
Wright, Dan & Doug Donnon
Yuen, Theresa & Pasteur



Photographer Richard Skidmore stands by his photo of a mother and baby harbor seal, which received the 2008 RCLC Environmental Art Award at Art in the Redwoods. Each year RCLC sponsors the Environmental Art Award for the entry that best depicts our coastal environment.

RCLC PROFILE—AN INTERVIEW WITH RAY JACKMAN

Photo: Mary Sue Itner

Let's go back in time. Tell us about yourself. Were there early influences that led you or put you on the path toward land trusts?

My early influences included rural living on an island in Puget Sound, where my father worked as a prison guard, and later, summers working on my grandparents' farm. My two brothers and I had the run of Mc Neil Island's forests, beaches and farm. The farm work was hard work, but satisfying. I grew up with an appreciation of nature and love of open spaces.

What about your professional background and training?

After an enlistment in the Marine Corps, I attended forestry school at Washington State University and graduate school at Oregon State University, earning a masters degree in forestry. I worked as a forester for the California Department of Forestry on two state forests and as a service forest advisor. I also worked in administration and retired as Assistant Regional Chief of Resource Management for the coast region. Looking back to the "good old days," I think the forest advisor job was the most satisfying work and sparked my interest in Land Trusts. I always preferred being out in the woods or meeting landowners to sitting at a desk or in meetings.

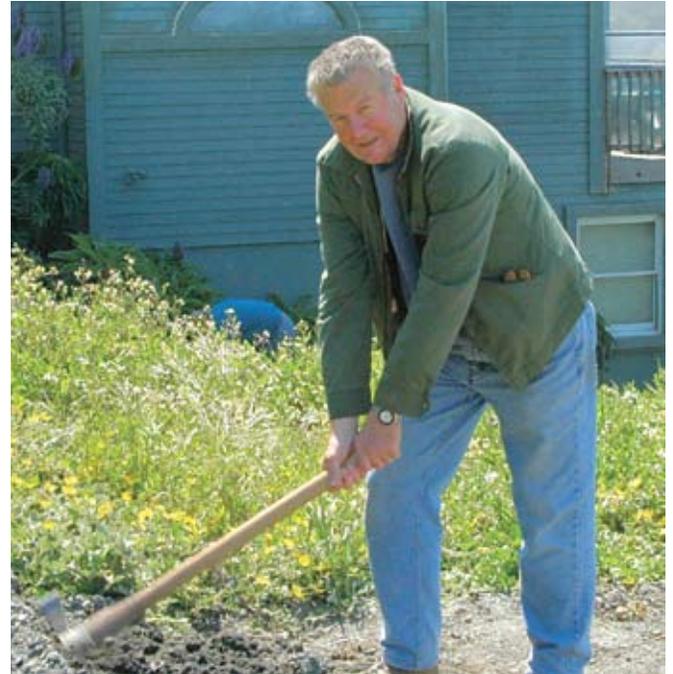
Tell us about living here on the Redwood Coast. How long have you lived here? How does your life style here compare or contrast with other places you have lived? What makes a special difference and why?

I retired in 1991 and my wife, Colleen, and I moved to the coast in 1993. So we have lived on the coast for sixteen years. Right away we joined Hikes for Health and Posh Squash, chaired the TSR VFD picnic, and I became involved with the Sea Ranch Trails Committee, Gualala Arts Center building project, and Del Mar school restoration.

Later, I led a group of volunteers in laying out and putting in the trails at Gualala Arts. I think trail work is the perfect recreation for me. It's also a place to find good, hardworking friends.

What are some of the things you do or have done for the Redwood Coast Land Conservancy? How did you become interested in RCLC?

I met Ray Van de Water on hikes and was impressed by his vision. I have gone out with RCLC board members to look at potential land trust properties and offered forestry advice. After completing the trails at Gualala Arts, I welcomed the opportunity to begin work on the RCLC Bluff Trail II project, and many of the Arts Center crew of volunteers came along as well. The diverse group of volunteers have provided valuable labor, knowledge and skills to RCLC projects, all with fun and good humor.



Ray Jackman breaking up shale for the Gualala Bluff Trail.

What special places do you enjoy here on the coast?

I enjoy exploring the state and county parks as well as the Sea Ranch area. It is gratifying that people are now able to enjoy the beautiful places made accessible by RCLC, especially Gualala Bluff Trail, Cooks Beach and Hearn Gulch. I get pleasure and satisfaction from sharing these places with friends and visitors.

Why do you support the work of RCLC? How would you encourage others to participate in the work of the conservancy?

Landowners can dedicate their property protected for future generations. Individuals can contribute time or money, and everyone benefits.

Anything else you would like to share?

I am really looking forward to the time when we can go back to work and finish the Gualala Bluff Trail.

VIEW OF HEARN GULCH



IN THIS ISSUE

RCLC Explores New Projects... page 1
New RCLC Staff page 2
Gualala Bluff Trail page 3
Cooks Beach Photos page 4
Hearn Gulch Wildflowers page 5
RCLC Contributors page 6
RCLC PROFILE—Ray Jackman .. page 7

PLEASE CHECK YOUR NEWSLETTER LABEL

The number to the left of your name indicates the date of your most recent contribution to RCLC . An “09” means that your last gift was during this year. If there is or an “07” or “08” (or no number) to the left of your name, please consider making a gift to support the work of the RCLC. A contribution form is printed on the return envelope in this issue.



REDWOOD COAST
LAND CONSERVANCY

P.O. Box 1511, Gualala, CA 95445-1511
(707) 884-4426 • email: rclc@mcn.org
website: www.rc-lc.org

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
GUALALA, CA 95445
PERMIT NO. 60

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED