



**Excellence • Trust • Permanence**



**Working with you to conserve the land, while there's still time**

Spring 2017

## trust

*noun* 1 a : firm belief in the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something.  
b : confidence placed in a person making them the nominal owner of property to be held or used for the benefit of others.

*"A big congratulations to all who have worked for so many years to make the Mendocino Land Trust vibrant, effective, and successful. You have accomplished much to be proud of!"*

~ Luana Alika

*"The excellent reputation of the Mendocino Land Trust has inspired many inland property owners to permanently preserve oak woodlands, land for agriculture production, working forest and rangelands. They trust the MLT's outstanding work and accomplishments throughout its 40-year history to protect these lands for the generations to come."*

~ Supervisor Carre Brown

*"With a conservation easement, Mendocino Land Trust helped me realize my goal of letting these precious acres continue to recover. They will never be logged again."*

~ Shirley Freriks

*"Mendocino Land Trust's work will have lasting and positive impacts on the coast for years to come."*

~ Congressman Jared Huffman

*"Mendocino Land Trust, in its 40<sup>th</sup> year, has opened more coastal access sites than any other land conservation organization in the state. MLT has experienced staff and an excellent reputation of providing public access to the beautiful Mendocino coast."*

~ Assembly Member Jim Wood

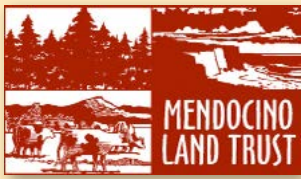
*"Congratulations to the Mendocino Land Trust! Your ongoing partnership with the Jackson Demonstration State Forest over the past 7 years has been instrumental in increasing salmonid spawning habitat, reducing soil erosion, and removing barriers to fish passage within our coastal streams. Thank you for continuing to be an essential partner in our stream restoration projects."*

~ Pam Linstedt, Deputy Chief CalFire

*"We are very blessed to have an organization like the Mendocino Land Trust that protects our coast and forests and provides access to all to enjoy them."*

~ Jeanne Coleman, Education Director of the Mendocino Outdoor Science School

**We will be your land trust. Always.**



# Mendocino Land Trust Achieves National Accreditation!

## What does this mean?

### Our Staff

Ann Cole  
*Executive Director*

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*Director of Conservation*

Nicolet Houtz  
*Conservation Project Manager*

Megan Smithyman  
*Communications Manager*

Garrett Linck  
*Conservation Project Coordinator*

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### A Note from the Executive Director

Accreditation means that the Land Trust underwent a comprehensive, independent review to ensure that we are able to demonstrate distinction in ethical conduct, sound financial management, responsible governance and lasting stewardship. I'm proud to say that this achievement reflects strong organizational commitment and operational excellence.

Accreditation assures our donors, our partners and the public that we are trusted to permanently protect our preserves and make them an even better place for our residents, our visitors and their families. It will offer a sense of trust to anyone considering investing in our work. The Land Trust is an even stronger organization for having gone through the rigorous process.

Achieving national recognition is an honor for Mendocino County. I give my thanks to our terrific board of directors for embracing this process and to you, for your enduring support along the way.

## Sustain Mendocino Land Trust's future with a Green Legacy Gift



Does Mendocino Land Trust's commitment to protect our special landscapes appeal to your values and sense of place? If so, please join others who have made a specific bequest by naming Mendocino Land Trust in their will. A legacy gift will help sustain the Land Trust's mission after you are gone. Commit to a legacy gift and become a member of our Green Legacy Circle. We will honor you with invitations to special events and mention you in our Annual Report.

## Volunteer Spotlight on a Conservation Champion



If you are familiar with Hare Creek Beach, then you know the amazing transformation that has taken place over the last six years. It took dedicated effort and hundreds of hours of work to make this trail a reality and none of it would be possible without the dedication of a handful of tireless volunteers like Lenny Noack.

Lenny is a self-proclaimed country girl whose heart thrives in nature. "I have a simple focus," she says. "The only agenda is weeds. The only battle is one between myself and Scotch broom, or Himalayan blackberry. The nettles and brambles sometimes fight back, but the results are rewarding."

While many groups and organizations have helped restore Hare Creek Beach over the years, it is only through the efforts of steadfast volunteers, like Lenny, that we can maintain the transformation. Lenny hopes that sharing her story "might inspire someone to come join the Hare Creek crew, be it once or often. We meet on the trail the second Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon, weather permitting. Do come join us!"



Before



After





## Anchor Teens Lend a Hand

Starting the week off with a community service learning project has been giving our local students a great reason to go to school. Every Monday morning, Tim Anderson, a teacher at Fort Bragg High School and instructor with the Anchor Academy, has been getting kids outside to work with the Mendocino Land Trust at Hare Creek Beach, Belinda Point, Seaside Beach and Big River.

Tim, who also teaches math, has been with the Anchor Academy program since it started seven years ago. For some teens, he says, school is a more stable environment than their home situation, so starting the week with an outdoor service activity is a good transition back into to the school week, and they benefit from a lot of one-on-one attention.



Mendocino Land Trust is thrilled to be offering our preserves as a place of re-engagement and inspiration for our local youth, and we are benefitting greatly from their work. From cleaning up the beaches to pulling invasive weeds and even trail maintenance, they are playing an important role and learning about stewardship and responsibility.

“It’s a good way to wake up on a Monday,” says student Wyatt Lawranson, holding a milk crate of beach trash he had just collected. “We always do trash pickup first ... and it makes you think twice now before throwing something down.”

The Anchor Academy is an alternative school within the Fort Bragg High School, and service learning provides a viable alternative to the traditional classroom setting.



“When we are out in the community we see what is actually going on out there. I’m really against littering now, and I even call my friends on it,” says Brandon Lugar. The service learning also gives the kids a chance to see what some kinds of work might eventually be like. “I can’t see myself working in an office – this gives me the chance to work outside and enjoy it,” adds Luis Rocha.

There are several Anchor Academy groups helping out in our community. Some go to the Mendocino Land Trust; others work with the Fort Bragg Food Bank, the Mendocino Coast Humane Society or elementary and middle schools to serve as teaching assistants. Instructor Katrina Tichinin oversees the other types of service learning and has been involved in the Anchor Academy since its inception. The program is available to high school sophomore, junior and senior students, and enrolls about 15-20 students from each grade.



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## Join us for a Stewardship Day!

**Hare Creek Beach**  
 Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday from 10am-12pm  
 All ages welcome, dress to get dirty and bring work gloves. Tools and water provided. Meet in the College of the Redwoods parking lot.

**Navarro Point**  
 Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday from 10am-12pm  
 All ages welcome, dress to get dirty and bring work gloves and a snack. Meet at the Navarro Point parking lot.

If you would like to join us, please give Nikki a call at **(707) 962-0470**

Many Thanks to our Business Sponsors:

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