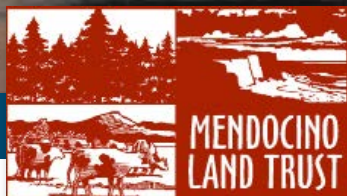


# Seaside Beach

Fall / Winter 2014

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



## A Special Place for the Whole Family

This time of year when the surf is roaring, the ocean breezes immediately refresh and inspire. Here, at Seaside Beach, families and friends celebrate the beauty of the ocean every day. What a lovely sense of community and conservation this place holds.

Peace of mind, rejuvenation and a brighter sense of the day are things nature has offered to so many of us throughout the years. Research now shows that bringing nature into our lives on a regular basis invites humility and bolsters psychological health.

There is something even more special about sharing places that you love with those you love. For many, the tradition of allowing dogs at Seaside Beach has provided a place to share our love of the ocean, the spectacular sea stacks and the misty mornings with our two-legged and four-legged family members.

As we enjoy the beauty and community of Seaside so to we appreciate the importance of the adjoining Ten Mile Dunes Natural Preserve, a part of MacKerricher State Park south of Ten Mile River.



photo courtesy of Marchelo Bresciani

We respect that the Ten Mile Dunes area is rich with rare plants and shorebirds including the endangered Western Snowy Plover. As a result, dogs are not permitted there, in order to provide safe nesting grounds and habitat.

In exchange for Seaside providing us with well-being as we gather outdoors with our friends and pets, our responsibility to provide well-being for nature in return is just as important. The proximity of Seaside, as a multi-use beach, and the Ten Mile preserve across the river, provides the opportunity to balance the need of our community to directly connect with the land and water with the need to conserve special places for wildlife.

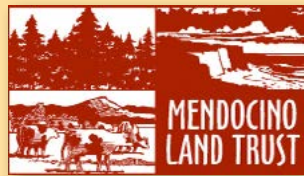


photo courtesy of the Audubon Society

The endangered Western Snowy Plover nests at Ten Mile beach, across the river from Seaside

Thanks to the Coastal Land Trust, and Executive Director Rixanne Wehren, for their years of ownership prior to transferring Seaside Beach and Meadow to the Mendocino Land Trust this fall. We look forward to sharing the beauty of the beach with you for years to come.





### Our Staff

Ann Cole  
*Executive Director*

Louisa Morris  
*Associate Director*

Doug Kern  
*Big River Program Manager*

Nicolet Houtz  
*Trails & Big River Stewardship Coordinator*

Megan Smithyman  
*Operations Manager*

Emily Merfeld  
*Paul Siegel Salmon Restoration Summer Intern*

### Board of Trustees

Barbara Weiss  
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Jeremy Isenberg  
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Chet Anderson

Terry Gross

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Richard Strom



photo courtesy of Barbara Weiss

## What a Great Way to See Noyo River Redwoods – By Skunk!

Are you looking for a great way to see beautiful, majestic, trees without a strenuous hike? Perhaps you have family or friends looking for accessible places to experience the out-of-doors? Noyo River Redwoods near Willits is a perfect place to go back in time on the Skunk Train as it zig-zags through the deep woods of the conservation area. In fact, it is the only way to see this rugged and remote property.

Thanks to our partnership with Save the Redwoods League, Mendocino Land Trust owns this beautiful preserve and manages it for habitat restoration and educational programs. It serves as one of the handful of properties in our county to hold remnants of our heritage old growth redwood forest, and it protects the drinking water source for the City of Fort Bragg.

This coming year, with support from our members, we will begin to host community programs to celebrate the wonder of these trees and offer people from all walks of life a way to experience, what for many, can be life changing: staring into the quiet tops of trees thousands of years old.

If you would like book a trip on the Skunk Train from Willits, contact (707) 964-6371. You may even be able to experience Train Singer, Greg Schindel, as he serenades you with every train song there is.



photo courtesy of Jeremy Isenberg

## When Owning the Land isn't Quite Enough...

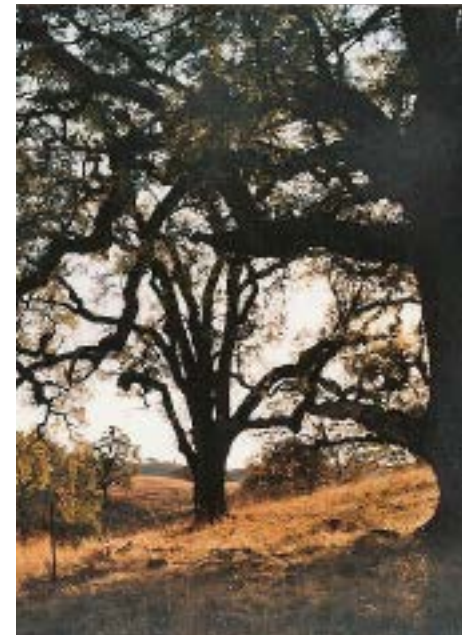
Diane\* was living in the Central Valley when she first saw her Mendocino county property just after a storm cleared. "You could see all the way to Mt. Shasta-- it was spectacular," said Diane, sitting in the house she eventually built on the property. Diane knew she was home, and was "never gonna leave."

Diane enjoys quiet and the peace of solitude, knowing she will not be disturbed, other than to enjoy a pack of coyotes who howl regularly, twice a night, or to listen to the birds from her deck in the morning.

Diane owns the property with several friends. One day, after many decades, they realized that they wanted the property to stay the way it is as a simple homestead. Diane has no children of her own, but her land partners do. They wondered how they could maintain their homesteader's vision of a quiet, simple place off the grid, where joy can be shared with a community away from it all. How could they ensure this when they wouldn't always be the ones in charge?

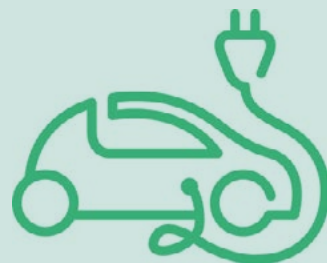
The answer was to conserve the property so when the next generation comes of age they will be able to carry forth the same vision. Diane said that the Mendocino Land Trust helped them to meet that goal. She smiles as she reflects how, "We now sleep a bit better knowing that if any one of us, or our heirs need to sell their share, there will never be development, subdivision or commercial enterprise on the property -- just a bit of wildness, a place that will forever be home."

\*Name changed to respect privacy



## The Mendocino Electric Byway: A Clean Future for the Coast

We are working with California State Parks on an exciting new project to bring electric vehicle charging stations to you. Soon, you will be able to charge your ride while enjoying a beautiful hike or picnic on the beach at one of our 10 participating state parks. Building the infrastructure to reduce fossil fuels is an important step in keeping our air and water free of pollutants. With your help, we will all be on the road to a cleaner, and more sustainable future.



- MacKerricher State Park
- Hendy Woods State Park
- Van Damme State Park
- Russian Gulch State Park
- Manchester State Park
- Greenwood State Beach
- Caspar Headlands State Beach
- Mendocino Headlands State Park
- Westport Union Landing State Beach
- Point Cabrillo Light Station State Historic Park

### Would you like to learn about how to conserve your land?

We'd be happy to talk with you confidentially about how you can protect your farm or ranch, natural areas, or family homestead.

Each project is carefully tailored to your individual goals and the conservation features of the land. You may also appreciate the possible income and estate tax benefits.

To find out more, please call Ann or Louisa at (707) 962-0470.

### Breaking news... coming straight to you!

Would you like regular project updates, tips on conservation efforts, and the latest news from Mendocino Land Trust? Sign up for our free monthly e-News at:

[www.MendocinoLandTrust.org](http://www.MendocinoLandTrust.org)  
or e-mail [admin@mendocinolandtrust.org](mailto:admin@mendocinolandtrust.org)

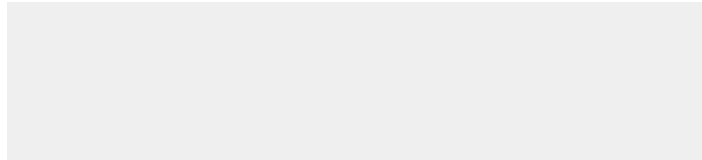
Find out about a variety of projects and news related to habitat restoration, community work, land conservation, our water, and clean air.





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## You're Invited to Celebrate the Land...



### Want to see our Big River Salmon Restoration Work?

#### Wednesday, November 12th from 10am-12pm

Join our Big River Program Manager, Doug Kern, as he takes us to Big River to see the recently completed Nelson Gulch Fish Passage project. Specifically designed to allow passage of Coho salmon, the newly opened waters have already seen juvenile fish, river otters, and sea lions! If you would like to join us, or if you have any questions about our salmon restoration work, please give Doug a call at (707) 962-0470.



### Join us for a Stewardship Day

#### Big River

Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> 10am-12pm

All ages welcome, dress to get dirty and bring work gloves. Tools and water provided. Meet in the Big River parking lot on the east side of the bridge.

#### Seaside Beach

Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm

Join us for a day morning on the beach! All ages welcome, dress to get dirty and bring work gloves. Meet in the Seaside Beach parking lot.

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