



REDWOOD COAST LAND CONSERVANCY

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

BREAKERS ACCESS TO GUALALA BLUFF TRAIL NOW OPEN

With much anticipation, the completely rebuilt southern public access to the Gualala Bluff Trail is now open. Located between Breakers Inn and the new Shoreline restaurant under construction, the inviting access hosts a large trail sign at the top of the stairs while the Pacific beyond beckons one to venture forth and to enjoy wildlife sightings along the lower Gualala River and its estuary.

RCLC appreciates the help of Nancy Cave of the Coastal Commission and Teresa Spade from Mendocino County Planning in getting the access to the trail re-opened. And RCLC is very pleased with the attractive design and execution of the new access.

Thanks go to local landowner Lena Humber, her son Erik Price, her property co-manager Rick Callahan, and legal counsel Velina Underwood. Rick was instrumental in facilitating meetings and expediting decisions and resolutions on behalf of the property owner. He kept RCLC apprised of construction dates and delays, and consulted with RCLC and Velina Underwood to be sure all parties were satisfied with the process. Erik Price's enthusiasm for the project was unflagging and his attention to detail welcome.

There is plenty of public parking just south of the restaurant, so put on your walking shoes and admire this latest improvement to your Gualala Bluff Trail!

Top: The new Gualala Bluff Trail sign posted at the top of the stairs marks the way to the trail access.

Middle: New trail access stairs have been built between Breakers Inn and the Shoreline restaurant.

Bottom: Breakers Inn managers Rick and Sue Callahan stand near the newly completed access to the Gualala Bluff Trail.



Photos: Nancy Trissel

Redwood Coast Land Conservancy

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

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MISSION

Redwood Coast Land Conservancy works to:

- preserve for future generations the natural environment and sustainable land use of coastal watersheds from the Navarro to the Russian rivers
- provide public access to scenic land
- educate the public regarding the value of our natural heritage.

We envision a protected and restored coast, from the Navarro to the Russian rivers, preserved for public enjoyment and appreciation of its natural beauty, abundant diversity of wildlife, and rich cultural history.

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

With the departure of Louisa Morris to pursue career opportunities closer to her home in Mendocino, Redwood Coast Land Conservancy determined to hire a new Executive Director to help RCLC achieve its goals. Since joining RCLC in early January, my learning curve has been steep but exciting. I have enjoyed job responsibilities as varied as looking for the rare and endangered Point Arena Mountain Beaver, writing grants for new trails projects, fostering relationships with other local non-profit organizations and walking potential easements and property acquisitions for land preservation or trail-building potential. Louisa Morris and RCLC's dedicated board have facilitated a smooth transition for me into my new role and I am deeply grateful for their continued support and enthusiasm.



Nancy Trissel

Louisa continues to work with us as a valued consultant on projects she initiated. This summer, RCLC is resuming its partnership begun last year with State Parks under a US Fish & Wildlife Service grant which continues local landowner outreach and surveys for the rare and endangered Behren's Silverspot Butterfly. Due to findings in Louisa's study of that area for the State Coastal Conservancy, RCLC is considering a potential acquisition in Point Arena that would be a critical link in the California Coastal Trail. More on these projects in the months ahead.

In addition to our cover story about the new trail access, there is other news to report regarding the Gualala Bluff Trail. The California Coastal Commission hearing of the Bower Wall appeal has been postponed yet again until at least September; please check the CCC website for updates to the location, dates and agenda at www.coastal.ca.gov.

Consistent with RCLC's vision for the future, two prominent local citizens, Linda Bell and Rob Alcott, have joined the RCLC Board of Directors. Please see page 3 for more about Rob and Linda.

With so many projects in progress, there are many ways you can support the work of RCLC. Volunteer opportunities range from monitoring trails, to revamping and maintaining the www.rc-lc.org website, to helping prepare RCLC for accreditation; or you can bring your own ideas for how to help further land conservation in our area. In this challenging financial climate, public funding has been greatly limited and is more competitive, so donations—of any size—make a big difference.

Your gift of time or money will help RCLC achieve the conservation goals we share. I hope you'll call or e-mail me with any questions, suggestions, to discuss volunteer opportunities, or just to introduce yourself.

Until next time,

Executive Director, RCLC

Nancy can be reached at (707) 884 9973 or ntrissel@gmail.com

TWO NEW MEMBERS JOIN THE RCLC BOARD

ROB ALCOTT

Moving with his wife Craven to the Mendonoma coast in 2006 marked a satisfying milestone in the life journey of Rob Alcott. Reared on Cape Cod, Rob completed his undergraduate education at University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His graduate degree from Florida State University led to employment as an Environmental Planner working in several threatened places in Florida. In 1989, Rob moved to Coloma, California with his wife and their son Jordan to become General Manager of the Eldorado Irrigation District. From 1996-2007, Rob was employed by East Bay Municipal Utility District, concluding his tenure as Director of Water and Natural Resources. Rob continues his water resource work as the Executive Officer of the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority, a partnership of nine water agencies and Counties.



Photo: Craven Alcott

Rob at home with friend Osa

Rob views being a contributing member of RCLC as his chance to play a meaningful role in conserving Mendonoma's special landscapes.

Rob joined the RCLC Board of Directors in June 2011. RCLC's mission of seeking out and working collaboratively with willing property owners to conserve some of this special place we call home is one that resonates with Rob. He has seen many once special places on Cape Cod, the Florida Keys and the Sierras lost to future generations because of insufficient action to conserve them.

LINDA BELL

Linda Bell joined the RCLC Board of Directors in May 2011. She has lived and worked in communities in Colorado and Utah where she gained wide experience managing public land acquisitions for open space, conservation easements, environmental remediation, community recreation, trails master plans and trail construction. She was most recently



Photo: Frank Bell

the assistant town manager in Mountain Village, Colorado, where she directed the recreation department in operating a multi-use trail network and winter Nordic skiing network, open space and wetlands mitigation, an ice rink, an ice climbing facility and a bouldering competition venue.

Linda completed both her undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. She has a master's degree in Public Administration and advanced post graduate work in Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Linda has served as a volunteer or city liaison to many conservation, preservation and recreation non-profits throughout the Rocky Mountain West. She and her spouse Frank Bell have lived on The Sea Ranch since April 2010. She is hopeful that her public sector experience with land acquisition, land preservation, trail network master plans and trail construction will prove helpful to the Redwood Coast Land Conservancy in their mission.

RECYCLING ADDS UP!

Mary Sue Ittner, who has been encouraging friends of RCLC to donate money collected through recycling, reports on the success of her efforts so far. Since 2003, contributions of bottles, cans or receipts from recycling have amounted to \$1551. Sources include many individuals, members of the Thursday Ramblers hiking group, Physical Gym, Four-Eyed Frog and from the highway clean-up done regularly by Kathie Anderson and Marilyn Alderson. Please consider donating your recyclables or their proceeds to RCLC. Every little bit is appreciated.

Memorial and Commemorative Gifts

Gifts to RCLC in memory of friends, family members and colleagues or to honor significant events in people's lives provide a wonderful legacy for those who wish to preserve the beauty of our natural environment

In Memory of

Ray and Florence Van de Water
Ken & Marian Brown
Richard & Roberta Van de Water

William Craig Whiteley
Rita Milhollin
Louisa Morris

Jessica & Thomas Cutler
Gary L Milhollin
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Sus & Harmony Susalla
Trudy Armer

Jim Lotter
Charles Bouril

Mary Sue Ittner & Bob Rutemoeller
Anne Hendricks

Jane & Wayne Novak
Yvonne Novak & Aaron Weindling

Gifts from June 2010 through June 2011

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

George & Kathie Anderson
Karl Anderson & Keith Jacobsen
Anonymous
David Arkin & Anni Tilt
Trudy Armer
Betty Athens
Britt Bailey & Melissa Gosland
Lillian & Patrick Bailey
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Linda Morley-Wells
Thomas White & Leslie Scalapino
Bob & Joan Whitney
Bill & Sandy Wiemeyer
Theresa & Pasteur Yuen
Norman Zucker

In Memory of Rosemarie Hocker



It is with great sadness that the RCLC Board of Directors notes the passing of Rosemarie Hocker, who served for many years as a Board member of the Redwood Coast Land Conservancy. Rose served as Board President during RCLC's formative years and helped establish many of RCLC's successful conservation projects and activities.

As part of her legacy, she helped found the Gualala River Watershed Council, which honored her and her late husband Robert for their founding

role by naming the Hocker Salmon Crossing Bridge after them in late 2009. Rose also served as an active volunteer for many other community organizations. Her positive attitude and enthusiastic sense of community spirit will be missed by us all.

YOUR LOCAL LAND TRUST AT WORK

With the help of our many contributors and volunteers, the Redwood Coast Land Conservancy is working to preserve our local coastal environment and to provide public access to local beaches, bluffs and trails enjoyed by thousands of residents and visitors each year.



Photo: Leigh Mueller

Gualala Bluff Trail: RCLC was originally formed in 1992 to develop the spectacular scenic easement along the Gualala Bluff.

Photo: Leigh Mueller



Photo: Irene Ledner

Cooks Beach: In 2009, RCLC completed the Bonham Trail to Cooks Beach public access project. Work to develop a memorial public access project will start later this year on a beautiful bluff property just north of Anchor Bay.



Hearn Gulch: RCLC and the State Coastal Conservancy are exploring the possibility of extending a trail along the bluffs from Hearn Gulch to Schooner Gulch. Donations to RCLC's Opportunity Fund are reserved to help acquire easements and outright purchases of coastal land as they become available.

RCLC CONTINUES PROGRAM TO PROTECT BUTTERFLY

Now that summer is here, RCLC is resuming its outreach project to identify and help preserve habitat for a local federally-listed endangered species, the Behren's Silverspot Butterfly.

Preserving habitat for the butterfly is critical to its survival, and RCLC will continue to partner with landowners who wish to help with this effort.

Over the next few months, RCLC will be talking with landowners in the local coastal area from Point Arena to The Sea Ranch, which is prime habitat for the Behren's Silverspot Butterfly. These butterflies inhabit coastal terrace prairies that contain two basic habitat requirements: early blue violets (*Viola adunca*), its larval food plant, and nectar plants

for adults. The aim of RCLC's efforts is to preserve sufficient habitat to allow the population of this species to recover and possibly be removed from the Endangered Species list.

Property owners who have existing

populations or suitable habitat for this species can benefit in many ways by participating in this voluntary program. Funds for the landowner outreach and surveys are provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

There are potential financial incentives to landowners for partnering with RCLC and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on this project. For more information, please contact Louisa Morris at (707) 937-6217 or Nancy Trissel at (707) 884-9973.

Photo: Asa Spade



Behren's Silverspots have distinctive wing patterns with prominent silver spots on the underwing.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR NEWSLETTER LABEL

The number to the left of your name indicates the date of your most recent contribution to RCLC. An "11" means that your last gift was during this year. If there is a "09" or "10" (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 enclosed 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

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