

Call for Applications to the Board of Directors

Position Specification

Would you like your legacy to include protecting redwood forest habitat forever? Do you believe in the importance of advancing equitable access to nature and outdoor recreation? Are you interested in volunteering with a group of creative, dynamic, and strategic Board members committed to conservation in the Santa Cruz mountains region? If so, we encourage you to apply to join the Sempervirens Fund Board of Directors.

Sempervirens Fund and Our Commitment to People and Equity

Sempervirens Fund is a non-profit land trust dedicated to protecting and permanently preserving redwood forests in the Santa Cruz mountains and promoting welcoming and inclusive access to parks and other public lands. Starting in 1900, leading to the establishment of Big Basin Redwoods State Park, Sempervirens Fund has permanently protected more than 36,000 acres of land through the acquisition of important conservation lands and the creation of conservation easements that limit development on forest lands owned by others. We manage, care for, and restore thousands of acres of redwood forest habitat, ensuring that the lands we protect will be healthy and thriving for generations to come. Redwoods are known to sequester incredible amounts of carbon and we take action to ensure these forests will be resilient in a changing climate. As we steward these protected lands, we work in collaboration with neighbors and regional partners to safeguard the health of forest habitats, waterways, fish and wildlife, and our communities. Much of the land we have protected has since become beloved state parks, including Big Basin Redwoods, Castle Rock, Butano, and Portola Redwoods State Parks. Our nearly 125-year strategic partnership with California State Parks continues today.

We believe the natural lands and waterways, as well as the communities of the Santa Cruz mountains, are at risk without healthy, resilient coast redwood forests. We also believe that all people should be able to access and enjoy these remarkable landscapes. We protect redwood forest habitat in the Amah Mutsun and Muwekma Ohlone Territories. We are committed to an organizational culture that is welcoming, inclusive, and reflective of the diverse communities with which we work. We recruit Board members who will bring considerations of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice to our work.

About the Board of Directors

The Sempervirens Fund governing Board not only takes on important oversight and evaluation responsibilities for the organization, but also advises on long-range strategy, helps navigate through challenging times and emerging opportunities, and advocates for protecting redwood forest habitat. Our Board members volunteer, working together to help realize tangible conservation gains in our region that also often have broader impact across the state.

We believe there are several leadership styles, skillsets, and life experiences that one might bring to serve as an effective Sempervirens Fund Board member. We seek Board members who are:

- Passionate about protecting the redwood forests of the Santa Cruz mountains.
- Committed to ensuring the redwoods are accessible and welcoming to all people.
- Enthusiastic about volunteering their time and expertise to support ambitious conservation goals.
- Engaged in their community and eager to make connections and introductions.
- Collaborative in their approach to working with fellow Board Members and Sempervirens Fund staff.
- Curious and bring a willingness to learn in their service as a Board Member.
- Strategic thinkers able to advise in times of growth, change, and challenge.

Interested in joining the Sempervirens Fund Board?

We would love to learn more about you and your passion for redwoods. We believe that having a diversity of life experiences, professional expertise, skills, perspectives, and leadership styles represented on our Board is essential and enhances the work we do together. You do not need to be a redwood expert to serve on the Board; the organization benefits from volunteer leaders who bring a wide variety of perspectives. Skillsets that we have found helpful include, but are not limited to:

- Finance/Accounting
- Marketing/Communications
- Public Policy
- Real Estate
- Organizational Development/Change Management

- Human Resources/People Management
- Legal
- Equity & Inclusion
- Ecology/Land Management
- Outdoor Education/Outdoor Recreation
- Fundraising

To learn more about the role and responsibilities of being a Sempervirens Fund Board member, click here.

To apply, please send your CV and a letter answering the questions below to opportunity@sempervirens.org with the subject line "[Your Name] – Board Member Application."

- What skills and life experiences would you bring to your role as a Sempervirens Fund Board member?
- Why are you passionate about protecting redwood forest habitat in the Santa Cruz mountains?