



2024 IMPACT REPORT



Sempervirens
Fund



Sempervirens— Always Green

2025 marks Sempervirens Fund's 125th anniversary. In 1900, a group of citizen activists banded together to form Sempervirens Club—now Sempervirens Fund—and committed to protecting and nurturing our coast redwoods so they would remain sempervirens, or always green.

As we reflect on our legacy and look forward to the future, we are forever thankful to our vast community of supporters for your unwavering commitment to protecting redwoods. Our community, like the redwoods we protect, endures.

PAST

**2 Million
Years Ago**

Coast redwoods flourished, covering 2 million acres from central California to southern Oregon

17th Century

Prior to their forced removal by missionaries, the Awaswas-speaking people had been living in the Santa Cruz Mountains for approximately 12,000 years

1849

With the start of the Gold Rush, redwoods were logged for lumber; today, 5% of coast redwoods remain

1900–1902

Sempervirens Fund was established and permanently protected six square miles of old-growth redwoods, creating Big Basin Redwoods State Park

1900–Present

Sempervirens has protected >18,000 acres to expand Big Basin

1957

Butano State Park opened

1968

Castle Rock State Park was created, with our help

1969

Work began on the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail; it opened in 1976

1991

We established Camp Hammer, our first conservation easement

2014

The organization partnered with the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band to protect 96 acres of coastal land

2014

The 8,500-acre CEMEX Redwoods property became San Vicente Redwoods

2017

Cotoni-Coast Dairies designated as a National Monument

2018

Sempervirens Fund and partners removed the invasive plant *Clematis vitalba* at San Vicente Redwoods

2019

The Robert C. Kirkwood entrance, built by Sempervirens Fund, opened at Castle Rock State Park

2020

The 86,500-acre CZU fire ravaged Big Basin State Park, San Vicente Redwoods, and 90% of land protected by Sempervirens Fund

2021

The Mill Creek Dam was removed, helping endangered coho salmon to return and thrive

2022

With The Y of San Francisco, we protected Camp Jones Gulch, home to some of the region's oldest redwood forests

2023

The Robert C. Kirkwood entrance and five more protected properties were added to Castle Rock State Park

PRESENT



In 2024, with your support, *Sempervirens* Fund

- Purchased Año Nuevo Vista, connecting protected habitat in Big Basin Redwoods and adjacent to Girl Scouts Camp Skylark Ranch
- Acquired two properties in the Saddle Mountain conservation area, which will safeguard the second-growth redwoods there
- Removed dilapidated, dangerous structures at Castle Rock Hollow
- Continued multi-year management of invasive species such as French broom and old man's beard, which can fuel wildfires
- Helped pass two major climate and wildfire resiliency measures: Measure Q and Prop 4 will create funds to support forest, water, and wildlife health
- Launched a Forest Fellowship program, with artist and illustrator Jane Kim as our inaugural fellow
- Debuted our trails prescription program, helping people see the health benefits of nature and find a trail that is best suited for their fitness level

FUTURE

To prepare for the next 125 years, and the 125 years after that, we have developed a comprehensive strategic plan that will guide our work. Throughout this impact report, you'll find details about the strategic plan, whose focus areas are:

- Protect at-risk redwood forests from destruction
- Restore and care for redwood forests to enhance climate resilience
- Reconnect people to redwoods
- Advance innovative conservation policies to extend our reach
- Build the necessary organizational capacity and culture

This work will require a lot from us, and we can't do it without your continued support. Thank you for recognizing the importance of redwoods—as a California icon, as climate change superheroes, as trees that inspire awe and wonder. You are as critical to our ecosystem as they are.

Together we are *Sempervirens*. Together we are always green.



Hon. Reuben
of the Panama
"One of the
the exposition
raised funds, v
from congress
gun our buildi
promised to be
movement pro
world; we hel
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but, with all t
California a he
travelers it wi





Mother Tree,
Calif. Redwood Park



In the (an attracter in the to trav so the comfort, the pres sition, tl bers get taking characte trees; n in bring nothing which will go further to develop the State of California than to preserve this great forest so near the cities of the Bay of San Francisco."

Alex P. Murgotten



To our coast redwoods community,



With a new administration in the White House and the extreme fires in Los Angeles, 2025 has already shown itself to be a year of tumult, with many unknowns on the horizon. But, there is one constant we can all look to for inspiration, hope, and resilience: redwoods, and our collective dedication to preserving them for generations to come.

This year marks Sempervirens Fund's 125th anniversary. Since 1900, thanks to the vision of photographer Andrew P. Hill and others who recognized the beauty and importance of redwoods, Sempervirens Fund—originally Sempervirens Club—has been dedicated to protecting and stewarding the forests of the Santa Cruz Mountains. Our work has ensured the long-term survival and prosperity of not just thousands of old-growth redwoods, but also the diverse wildlife who call the forest home, from the endangered marbled murrelet to the beloved banana slug.

Anniversaries offer a perfect moment to reflect on the past while looking ahead to the future. That's why we've developed a comprehensive Strategic Plan to guide our work over the next six years—and beyond. In many ways, this plan is a return to our roots, the very ones planted by Andrew P. Hill and his fellow activists. While you might know us best as a land trust, acquiring redwood forest lands for the State Park system, we have evolved into a more expansive conservation organization working across the landscape to protect and steward these forests.

Thanks to your impact on our organization, we are accelerating our efforts to secure critical land acquisitions that will connect and expand redwood habitats and California state parks. We're employing innovative stewardship practices to restore the vitality of our redwood forests and reduce wildfire risks to them and our communities. We're continuing to develop ways to connect people with nature. And, we are working to advance public policies that will accelerate the scale and pace of forest conservation across the landscape.

We will continue to advocate for public funding that supports this important work for both the region and the state. In 2024, we successfully pushed for two key ballot measures—Proposition 4 and Measure Q—which will deliver critical funding to protect Californians from the impacts of climate change statewide and in Santa Cruz County. These measures would not have passed without the tireless efforts of our supporters, partners, and dedicated volunteers.

Let me close by thanking you. Whether you have been a supporter for five years, five weeks, or five minutes, we are deeply grateful for everything you do to champion these magnificent trees. We invite you to join us as we embark on the next 125 years, remembering the conservation foundation that has been laid for us and knowing that we can, and should, build upon it. Here's to a verdant future.

Sempervirens: always growing, always green, always alive.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara Barth". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. It is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Sara Barth, Executive Director

Dear Sempervirens supporters,



As we look back at 2024—and at the entire span of our 125 years of redwoods conservation—I am reminded that every step of the way, it is the enduring commitment of people like you that ensures we are protecting and caring for redwoods now and for generations to come.

Over the past year the entire Sempervirens Fund team has crafted a strategic plan, called Redwoods Forward, to guide the organization over the next six years and set the stage for the future beyond that. The planning work was immensely collaborative, and the Board has wholeheartedly endorsed it. We’re confident that the plan will enable new ways to make our forests more resilient, especially in the face of the growing challenges posed by climate change.

Your support for Sempervirens in 2024 has played a critical role in our work in 2024 and the work to come under our Redwoods Forward plan. During the past year we have made important advances in forest conservation, forest restoration, and policy, especially with the passage of Proposition 4 in California and Measure Q in Santa Cruz County. These advances reflect the new approaches and partnerships that we will pursue to accelerate protection of redwoods in the coming years.

Since 1900 our relationship to redwood forests has also improved the connections between people and nature. We will continue our work to ensure that we value and restore our state and regional parks for our families (and their families) to enjoy. We also plan to expand use of a model that we established—with your support—at YMCA’s Camp Jones Gulch. With this approach, Sempervirens can provide conservation protections and stewardship to more camps in the Santa Cruz Mountains, enabling more young campers to sleep under and study our cherished old-growth trees.

In this time of climate change, we know firsthand that large-scale restoration efforts to care for redwoods and reduce wildfire risk will have a lasting impact, helping to safeguard our future, as well as that of our forests.

We invite you to participate with us in the next stage of our conservation journey. Thank you for your commitment to Sempervirens Fund—and to *Redwoods Forward!*

With great appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Staple", written in a cursive style.

Peter Staple, Board President



2024 **IMPACT REPORT**

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Connecting Redwoods and People

Do you remember your first time in the redwoods and the sense of awe you felt? Sempervirens Fund was founded by local activists, who, struck by their towering presence of these iconic trees, knew why it was so critical to protect them. Over the decades, Sempervirens Fund has connected redwoods and people across the Santa Cruz Mountains—such as safeguarding a conservation easement at Camp Jones Gulch for YMCA campers to enjoy and learn from redwoods—and each connection can inspire future conservation efforts and motivate more supporters who care as much as you do.

As we look back to 2024 and off to the future, we always strive to strengthen partnerships with other public and private land agencies as well as local Indigenous tribes, pursue additional conservation easements such as Camp Jones Gulch, and create internship and fellowship opportunities with universities to share knowledge with the next generation of forest stewards. This work cannot happen without your continued support—thank you for helping us build bridges among the Santa Cruz Mountains, the people who live here, and the people who visit from afar to witness the greatest trees on earth.





The Healing Power of Nature

Redwoods heal. Not only are they climate champions—pulling carbon from the atmosphere and storing it in their trunks and roots—but study after study shows that time in a forest is beneficial for our mental and physical health.

Our wellness advisor, Dr. Suzanne Barlett Hackenmiller, has been a guest on our *Under the Redwoods* webinars several times, sharing the empirical evidence that links nature with our well-being. Spending time in the forest can decrease stress and blood pressure while increasing self-esteem, focus, and creativity.

In 2024, we collaborated with Dr. Hackenmiller to develop a unique trails prescription program (“Trails Rx”) to help locals and visitors alike

discover health-boosting hiking paths in the Santa Cruz Mountains appropriate for their fitness level. Trails range from an easy loop in the redwood groves of Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park to a more rugged, challenging experience at Castle Rock State Park.

Dr. Hackenmiller is an expert in *Shinrin-yoku*, or forest bathing, and has developed a guide to the practice, featuring prompts to help you see, smell, and listen to the redwood forest in new and restorative ways. While our trails prescription program invites you to move among the redwoods, Dr. Hackenmiller believes that by simply slowing down and being in nature—moving or not—we will have better health outcomes. Dr. Hackenmiller will continue to share her research and medical knowledge with our community.

Going forward, we will look for ways to make the redwood forest more accessible—this means securing and protecting land that can be enjoyed by everyone, and advocating for state park enhancements to support broad accessibility, from well-maintained trails to bus rides for those who don’t have a car to get to the parks.

Learn more about Trails Rx:

sempervirens.org/trails-rx

Learn to forest bathe:

sempervirens.org/forest-bathing

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Suzanne Barlett Hackenmiller, Sempervirens Fund’s Wellness Advisor

“Life moves very fast and can be enormously stressful. Time spent in nature—and ideally in redwood forests—can boost your overall health, lowering your stress and blood pressure. Sempervirens Fund’s Trails Rx program allows people of all fitness levels to experience the mental and physical benefits of nature, which is an essential component of healthful living.”



¡Vamos Outdoors!

In 2024, we were proud to partner with Latino Outdoors, an organization that seeks to inspire, connect, and engage Latino communities in the outdoors. The crew at Latino Outdoors embarked on our Trails Rx trails and reported back about the many benefits of being in the redwoods and the respite the forest offers. In “Healing Under Redwood Groves,” an essay by Verónica Silva-Miranda, we learned how the Redwood Loop at Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park can provide a wellness experience, no matter your ability:

“The redwood grove in the park has a beautiful accessible trail that is great for families with small children, elders, and people with mobility limitations. The trail has an interpretive walk, and people can learn more about the amazing redwood trees and why they are so important to our environment ... For me, having an accessible trail is important because of my limitations at the moment. My high blood pressure makes it hard for me to walk on trails with more than a 250-foot incline. I’m also learning to navigate an injury from a fall that has made my mobility limited, and I’m listening to my body when it needs to rest. I’m finding that slower movement has made me appreciate nature so much more.”

Our partnership with Latino Outdoors has generated this essay, several videos, and more for you to experience. In 2025 and beyond, we aim to connect redwoods to more people by strengthening our partnerships with other local and national like-minded groups. This will allow us to share the work that we do with their community and collaborate together to highlight everything that redwoods give us and the planet.

¡Vamos Outdoors!

With Latino Outdoors:

sempervirens.org/vamos-outdoors

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Christian La Mont,
Latino Outdoors

“Vamos Outdoors can mean many things. It can mean, literally, let’s go outdoors. It can mean let’s build community outdoors. And as we’ve learned through our partnership with the Sempervirens Fund, it can also mean growing our understanding of the physical and mental health benefits of being in nature, on the trails and in the forest, under the redwoods.”

Partnering with the Amah Mutsun

Indigenous peoples have stewarded these forests since long before the arrival of European settlers. Sempervirens Fund's restoration practices have benefited from the Awaswas-speaking peoples' long-established and living ecological knowledge and traditions. Valentin Lopez, chairman of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, has said that "True riches are not what's in your bank account but your relationships, and one of the most important is your relationship with Mother Earth." By learning from the Amah Mutsun and other Indigenous communities, we aim to strengthen our relationship with the land, water, insects, birds, trees, and air—they are our relatives.

The Amah Mutsun Tribal Band are among the caretakers of the Awaswas-speaking peoples' legacy on California's central coast. The Amah Mutsun Land Trust and its Stewardship Corps have worked on projects throughout the Santa Cruz Mountains for years, hosting ceremonial cultural burns and pursuing traditional ecological research. We are committed to supporting them in this work and involving them in our stewardship projects to better understand the forest and help the tribe reconnect with redwoods and the land more broadly.

2024 was the third year of salmonid monitoring at San Vicente Redwoods and Mill Creek, through a partnership with the Amah Mutsun Land Trust and aquatic ecologists Mike Podlech and Jim Robins. These surveys help us track the return of endangered coho salmon and steelhead trout, especially in the area where we removed a defunct dam in 2021. This past year, several healthy juvenile steelhead trout (known as "parr" or "smolts") were sighted, nearly the age where they would head to the ocean to become adults—an excellent sign for the creek's long-term health.

Since 2020, we have worked with the Amah Mutsun Land Trust on a shaded fuel break study, alongside UC Berkeley. This study is being done in San Vicente Redwoods, an area that burned in the 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Fire. The tested treatments will provide opportunities for us and our partners to study forest health following restoration.

Heading into 2025, we are already laying the plans for the future alongside the Amah Mutsun Land Trust and our partners. Along with UC Berkeley researchers, the tribal band, and Peninsula Open Space Trust, we are analyzing our studies to date and pursuing new research, which will include studying insects with the Kip Will Lab as well as eco-archaeological surveys.

We are proud to support the Amah Mutsun in their pursuit of traditional ecological knowledge and their commitment to carrying forth the legacy of the Awaswas-speaking peoples. And with their support we are enhancing strategies to safeguard the forest against catastrophic fire and other climate change-driven disasters, so that future generations can experience the wonder of the redwoods.

Learn more about indigenous stewardship: sempervirens.org/indigenous-stewardship



Protecting Land: Our History and What's to Come

Between fires, logging, development, and climate change, redwoods are no strangers to serious threats. While these magnificent trees are extremely resilient, they are not impervious to human-made destruction. With your generous support, we are able to secure redwood forest lands and safeguard their future.

A Legacy of Conservation

Over 125 years, Sempervirens Fund has—thanks to tireless environmentalists like you—protected more than 36,000 acres of redwood forests in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Over this time, we have helped to establish two regional and three state parks, including Castle Rock State Park, Big Basin Redwoods State Park, and Portola Redwoods State Park. The Santa Cruz Mountains, in addition to being home to coast redwoods, is rich in biodiversity, home to a great number of rare and endangered species, such as the marbled murrelet, coho salmon, the peregrine falcon, and the iconic puma. Wildlife depends on expansive, connected green spaces, which is why this work is so critical.

Protecting redwoods is at the heart of our mission. The trees' survival relies on expanding the protected lands and watersheds that they support and that ensure they can grow and endure.

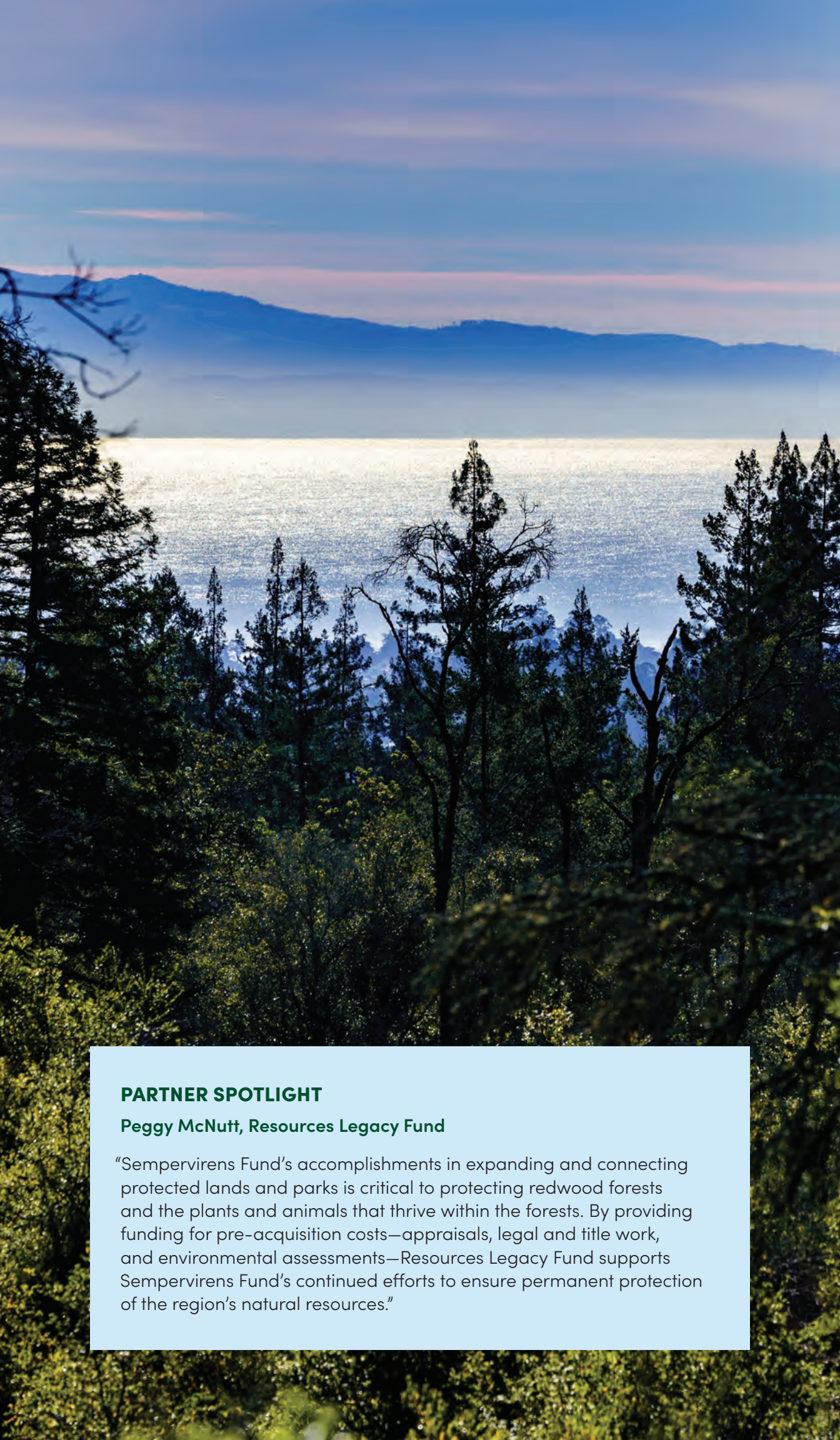
Connecting Green Spaces

In 2024, Sempervirens Fund purchased, protected, and secured several new properties, including Año Nuevo Vista and an expansion of Big Basin's Saddle Mountain conservation area. Año Nuevo Vista features 41 acres of varying habitat types, including rare maritime chaparral. It is home to "the chalks," an area with white sandy soil that is home to rare plants that are unable to grow



anywhere else, such as the Ohlone manzanita. It is also home to one of only five stands of Monterey pine trees in the world. Año Nuevo Vista sits between Año Nuevo State Park, Big Basin Redwoods State Park, and Butano State Park.

At Big Basin's Saddle Mountain, two newly protected properties add to a nearly 200-acre conservation area. Saddle Mountain conservation will be critical to support California State Parks' creation of a new entrance, which will improve access to the entire park for all visitors. The proposed entrance and facilities will include a welcome center and day-use parking placed farther away from the old-growth redwoods to better protect their health.



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

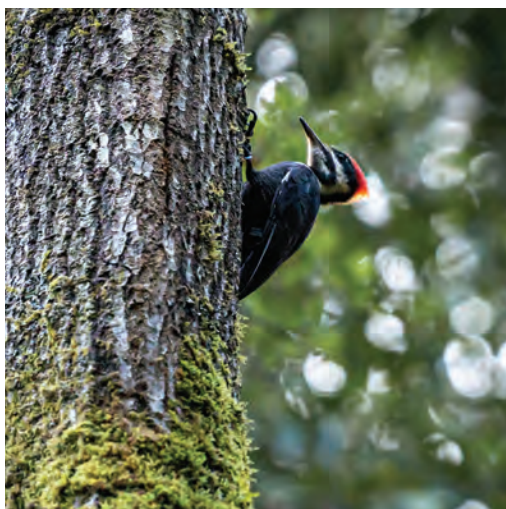
Peggy McNutt, Resources Legacy Fund

“Sempervirens Fund’s accomplishments in expanding and connecting protected lands and parks is critical to protecting redwood forests and the plants and animals that thrive within the forests. By providing funding for pre-acquisition costs—appraisals, legal and title work, and environmental assessments—Resources Legacy Fund supports Sempervirens Fund’s continued efforts to ensure permanent protection of the region’s natural resources.”



At the end of 2023 we also protected Isabel Upani through a donated conservation easement. The donors, who wish to remain anonymous, sought to safeguard 120 acres of land—and dozens of old-growth redwoods—in the Upper Zayante River watershed from development, subdivision, and commercial timber harvest. The area’s upland redwood vegetation supports rare species such as the San Francisco Dusky-footed woodrat, the pileated woodpecker, and the Santa Cruz black salamander.

Isabel Upani’s land and creek feed into one of the most vital water sources in the Santa Cruz Mountains:



the San Lorenzo River. This river flows downstream to the town of Felton and provides critical habitat for coho salmon and steelhead trout.

The region’s watersheds play an integral role in the redwood forest ecosystem. Redwood trees condense fog into moisture with their leaves, filter and slow water flow with their roots to prevent flooding, and shade creeks and rivers with their towering canopies, protecting them from the harsh sun. Protecting Isabel Upani means protecting a rich—but at-risk—ecosystem.

For Generations to Come

For redwoods to thrive, thousands of acres vital to the species must be protected. We are accelerating the conservation of redwoods and their ecosystems, and advancing our stewardship and restoration strategies to meet the ever-increasing threat of climate change. We are committed to supporting the statewide goal of 30x30—to conserve 30 percent of California’s lands and coastal waters by 2030. To do this, we aim to protect 7,000 acres of redwoods, including 10 percent of the last 1,000 acres of vulnerable old-growth redwoods in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Join us.

WE'RE STRONGER WITH VOLUNTEERS

In 2024, Sempervirens Fund hired its first-ever Community Engagement Manager, Robbie Brown, to help us expand our volunteer program. The program offers a chance for locals to connect with one another while collectively strengthening efforts to restore and protect the coast redwood forests of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

There are a number of volunteer opportunities, ranging from community engagement to leading hiking excursions to office support. Special group volunteer experiences can also be arranged for schools, corporations, community groups, and more.

Whether you are a donor, a volunteer, or both, you are making a meaningful difference for our critically important redwood forests.



Learn more about Sempervirens Fund's volunteer program: sempervirens.org/support/volunteer

Wherever you are, you can also take action for the redwoods: sempervirens.org/action-center

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Robbie Brown, Community Engagement Mgr. at Sempervirens Fund

"Our volunteers are deeply committed to protecting and restoring our iconic coast redwoods, and their dedication is evident in the many ways they support Sempervirens Fund—whether it's through hands-on restoration work, community outreach, or leading hikes. As we continue to grow the program, we aim to inspire more individuals in the region to join our community of passionate individuals working together to give back to the mountains that have given so much to all of us."

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Dilip Pillaipakam, Volunteer

"Volunteering for Sempervirens at the Roaring Camp Railroad has been an incredibly rewarding experience for both my daughter and me. For the past three years, we've had the privilege of serving as interpretive guides, sharing our passion for the magnificent coastal redwoods with visitors from around the world. It's truly inspiring to witness the wonder and appreciation that grows in people as they learn about these ancient giants, thanks to the unique educational opportunity provided by Sempervirens. We're so grateful to be a part of this effort to preserve and protect these precious forests for future generations."

Stewardship at Sempervirens: A Return to Nature

Of all the things that redwoods must overcome to survive—floods, fires, bugs, rot—humans have caused the greatest damage. Since European settlement, humans have logged redwood forests in favor of development and profit. There have also been significant changes to the ecosystem through the introduction of non-native species and the diverting of watersheds. Since our founding, we have launched numerous protection and stewardship efforts to combat the effects of this development, and thanks to you, we are able to care for more than 12,000 acres of protected land.

Native Plant Management

As settlers landed in the Santa Cruz Mountains region, they brought invasive plants such as French, Scotch, and Italian broom with them. Without pests and pathogens of their homeland to keep their populations in check, these plants can quickly overtake a forest. Some invasives, such as old man's beard (*Clematis vitalba*), cover the forest ground and can strangle redwoods. These plants are also less fire-resilient and can even contribute to dangerous, explosive wildfires.

Supporters like you helped us launch major invasive plant removal projects in 2024. At Lompico Headwaters, we have begun to eradicate the presence of invasive periwinkle (*Vinca major*) and French broom, and have completed one acre of removal, just above Lompico creek. This work will help the forest—and our communities—become more fire-resilient as the increasing threat of climate change looms.

Sempervirens Fund donors preserved the very important property of Cotoni-Coast Ridge in 2018, which sits next to San Vicente Redwoods. Its 106 acres are home to second-growth redwoods and a mix of native coastal plants, including rapidly disappearing coastal grasslands. These grasslands are critical: they help to absorb



carbon, reduce the impacts of climate change, and provide an open area for animals of the redwoods—such as great horned owls and northern harriers—to hunt. To help the grasses thrive again, our Stewardship team has been carefully removing coyote brush from the area and will continue this work into 2025. By protecting Cotoni-Coast Ridge, you helped to connect a 17,500-acre landscape that runs from San Vicente Redwoods to the Cotoni-Coast Dairies Unit of the California Coastal National Monument and Cal Poly's Swanton Pacific Ranch—creating a large natural compound that serves as a safe haven for nature and species that require lots of space, such as mountain lions and badgers.

See our Stewardship team in action at Cotoni-Coast Ridge:
sempervirens.org/cotoni-coast-ridge



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Douglas Brown, Ph.D., VP, Portola and Castle Rock Foundation

“Sempervirens Fund has long been a champion of our Santa Cruz Mountains wilderness. Identifying, providing stewardship, and procuring private land and then bringing them into the State Park System. They were responsible for the expansion of Castle Rock into the popular park it is today. We are particularly proud to be assisting them in preparing the recently purchased Castle Rock Hollow to add to that park.”

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

David Cowman, Director of Land Stewardship at Sempervirens Fund

“Protecting redwood forests requires adaptability in the face of ever-changing conditions. Sometimes, this means focusing on the grasslands, oak woodlands, and shrublands that support these forests; other times, it means strengthening the forest’s own resilience to an uncertain climate future. We take a holistic approach to stewardship, ready to adapt to new science, respond to evolving challenges, and apply tried-and-true methods from the past.”

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

**Brian Woodward,
University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources**

“Forest stewardship actions taken by Sempervirens Fund today serve as a vision for a resilient future. Their science-guided approach—bolstered by active research and monitoring that supports adaptive management—ensures that some of the region’s most important forest systems are protected, sustainably managed, and well-prepared to face future environmental challenges.”

Restoration Forestry

In 2024, with your support—along with forestry team Hamey Woods and our partners Save the Redwoods League and Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST)—we deepened forest restoration efforts at San Vicente Redwoods in direct response to the growing threat of wildfires.

This work involves several key components. At times, it means identifying a tree with the potential to become an old-growth and thinning the surrounding forest to provide it with more space to thrive. This process involves removing nearby trees, then burning this biomass to reduce wildfire fuel, which helps return nutrients to the soil.

Restoration forestry also involves creating fuel breaks by removing fast-burning trees and plants to reduce wildfire intensity. This process also opens up space in the forest, providing fire crews with safer areas to work.

Regular, controlled burns are also essential. Fire, when prescribed and managed, can prevent spontaneous fires from growing out of control. Controlled burns can reduce invasive species, promote native plant growth, and clear away brush and smaller trees that can fuel fast-moving flames.

Learn about the long-term impacts of restoration forestry:
[**sempervirens.org/restoration-forestry**](https://sempervirens.org/restoration-forestry)



Research and Knowledge Sharing

We will continue to open our protected properties to research and study, so we can better understand the biodiversity of this region and how best to support it. In 2025, alongside UC Berkeley and the Amah Mutsun Land Trust, we will track the insect diversity at San Vicente Redwoods and study the tree canopies, post-fire, on the property.

With San Jose State University, we will employ multi-source remote sensing

to assess the efficacy of fuel reduction treatments on areas that have burned in wildfires—this will boost our efforts to support ecological recovery and resilience, and provide data for future models to test.

As a Sempervirens Fund donor, you are helping us adapt our stewardship practices to meet the challenges of today—such as climate change—while preparing the forest to become more resilient to any future threats.



MEET OUR INAUGURAL FOREST FELLOW: JANE KIM

This past year, with your support, we launched a new Forest Fellowship program. Sempervirens Fund is inviting artists and other creatives to reflect on and draw inspiration from the redwoods alongside us and share their insights and their practice with our community.

Our inaugural fellow, Jane Kim, is a visual artist, science illustrator, and the founder of Ink Dwell studio, based in Half Moon Bay. Prior to her fellowship, Kim created illustrations to pair with a series of reports centered on the intersection of climate change and coast redwoods. Now Kim is

exploring redwoods with experts and creating new art centered on tree ring prints from the cut rounds of old-growth redwoods.

Launching a forest fellowship is a natural step for Sempervirens Fund—artists have always been a part of our history. One of our founders—A. P. Hill—was a photographer, and many other artists, such as Ansel Adams and poet Carrie Stevens Walter, were moved by redwoods and featured them in their works.

See more of Jane Kim's work:
sempervirens.org/forest-fellow

YOUR IMPACT

ACRES
PROTECTED

51



**ACRES OF FUEL
REDUCTION**

289

**BURN PILES
CONSTRUCTED**

500

**ACRES OF NON-NATIVE
SPECIES REMOVAL**

47

**TONS OF
BIOMASS PROCESSED**

4,205

**CONTINUED
RESEARCH EFFORTS**

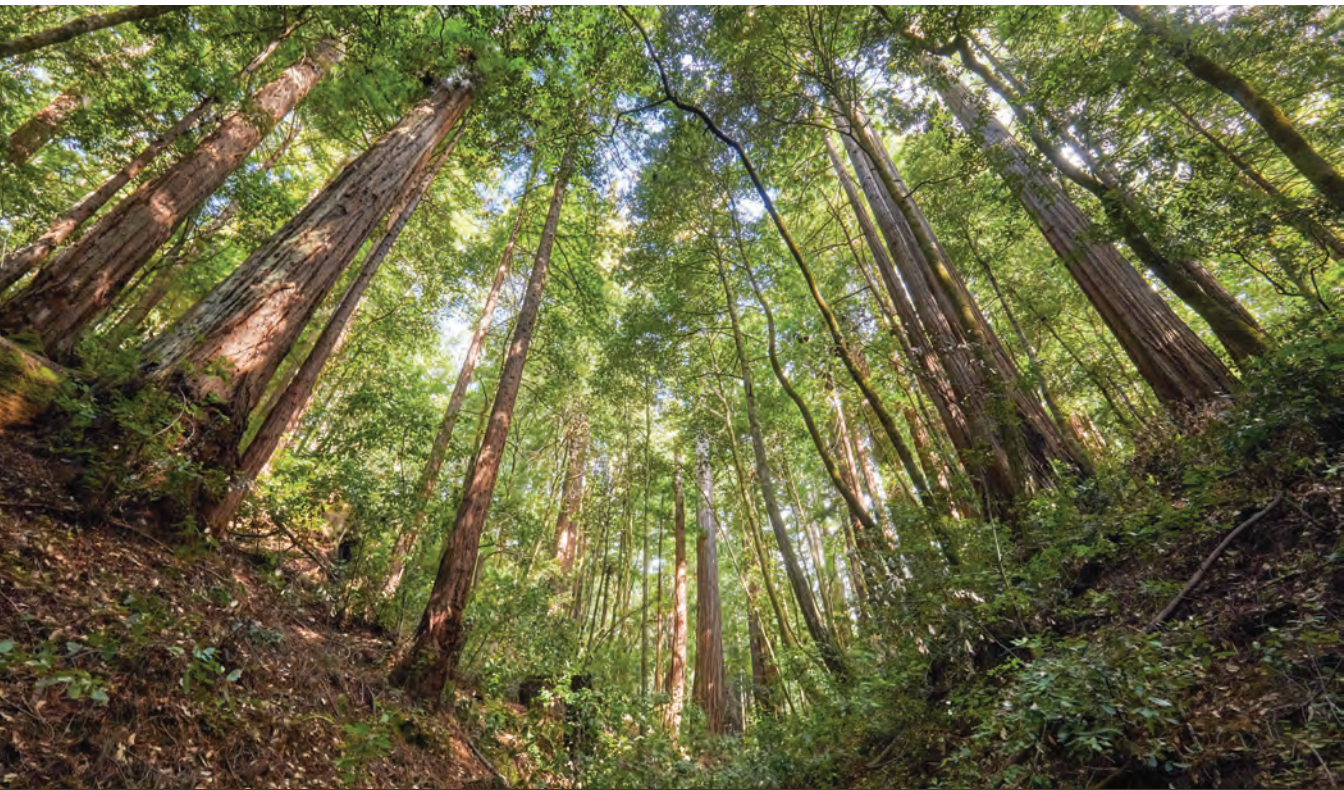
13

**FRAGMENTED ACRES
NOW LINKED**

500

You Keep Redwoods Growing

Redwoods support each other. When a redwood sprout emerges from an existing tree’s roots, the new tree pulls nutrients from the “parent” tree. These trees spread out in a circle—known as a fairy ring. Your support safeguards our old-growth redwoods, which nourish the next generation of trees. You are an integral part of this magical fairy ring, enabling us to restore these forests and deepen our understanding of California’s iconic redwoods. Thank you so much.



YOUR DECADES OF GENEROSITY

- DONORS SINCE 1968 31
- DONORS SINCE 1983 917
- DONORS SINCE 1993 979
- DONORS SINCE 2003 675
- DONORS SINCE 2013 3,121
- DONORS SINCE 2023 4,022**



DONOR SPOTLIGHT

JEAN-MARC BLANCHARD (3 YEARS SUPPORTING)

"The majesty of the redwoods has touched me from when I was a Boy Scout until now. I see them touch the sky and I am awed. I walk among them and I am humbled. I learn about them and I am amazed. At a time when they are threatened by humans and climate change, I am honored to contribute to their survival, spread, and sharing through Sempervirens Fund. How joyous it is to do something so simple that can protect them; preserve the regional environment, watersheds, and wildlife; and keep a treasure for generations to come."

DORIS SQUERI (5 YEARS SUPPORTING)

"The local forests have been a special place to me since I was a little girl, from camping at Big Basin and New Brighton State Park. I have camped, hiked, hunted, and fished in most of the western US. But no place is as special to me as the redwood forests. They are where I go on Sundays to feel closer to God, and where I go the rest of the week to clear my mind and replenish my spirit. It is where I go with my family to feel joy and peace, and where I find gratitude. Although I have been to Mt. Madonna hundreds of times over the last 26 years, every time it is different, and every time it feels new."

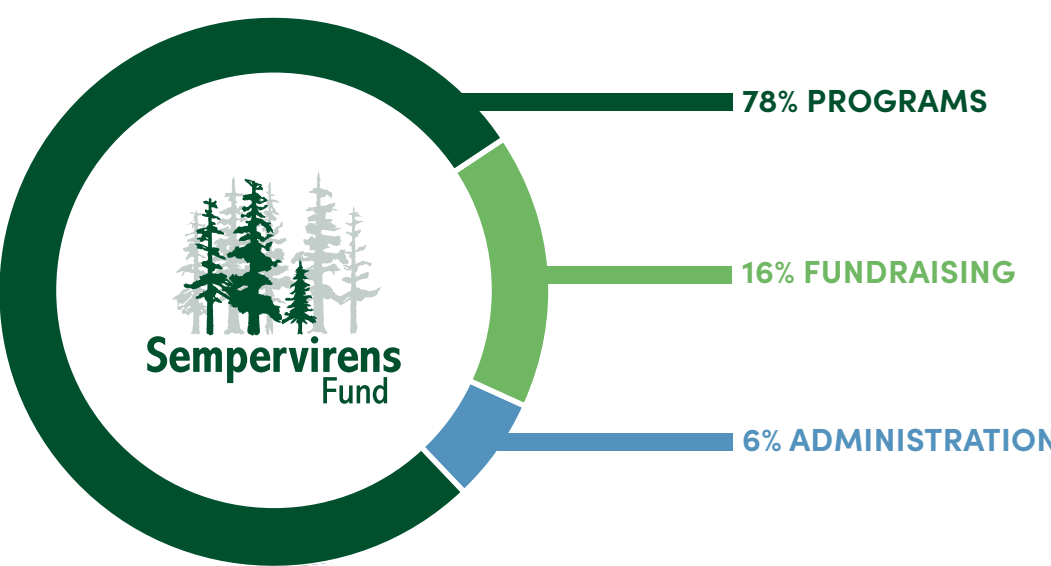
DAN HAFEMAN (35 YEARS SUPPORTING)

"Upon moving to Santa Clara Valley in 1972 from the high plains in western Nebraska (where trees don't grow), I discovered the majestic giants of Big Basin State Park. The story of Sempervirens Fund's founding, which saved these giants—just in time—from aggressive lumberjacks, motivated me to continue the work of protecting redwood forests. While the span of my entire life is just a moment in the life of an old-growth redwood, I want it to be a generous moment. I look forward to the day when Portola State Park and Big Basin are connected to a larger redwood wilderness, inspiring all who visit."



Financial Statement

Your support is hard at work. Seventy eight cents of every dollar goes directly to programs designed to protect and steward redwood forests in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Thank you!



As a land trust, it is difficult to accurately measure our program efficiency by looking at a single year. Land transactions can take more than five years to finalize, resulting in a significant difference in program expenses from year to year. We, along with many local land trusts, believe a five-year rolling average is the most meaningful way to look at our financial performance.

sempervirens.org/financial-statement



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* *retired 2023*
** *joined 2024*
*** *passed away in 2024*



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