

STATE OF CALIFORNIA: MAILLIARD WORKING FOREST

The Mailliard Working Forest is the largest non-industrial, privately-held redwood forest in the United States. It has long been a top conservation priority for the State of California.

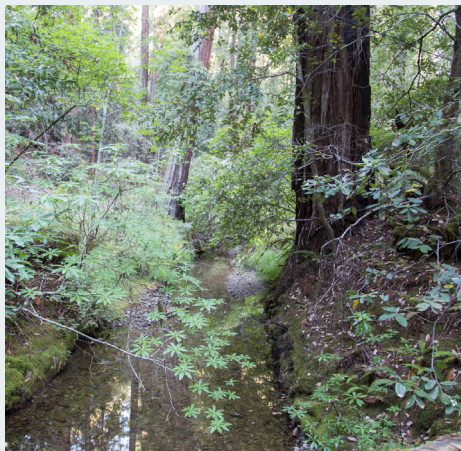
In 2018, the USDA Forest Service Forest Legacy Program (FLP) enabled the purchase of additional acres to complement other conservation easements (CE) that protect the forest for both environmental conservation and timber production.

The property was at considerable risk of conversion to non-forest uses, including vineyards, illegal marijuana production, and residential subdivision. The resulting forest fragmentation would have made forest management under a single management plan financially unfeasible, leading to an overstocked and unhealthy forest at high risk of wildfire. It would have also negatively impacted the watershed and reduced the economic value of the forest. Without protection, the property could be legally subdivided into 19 lots.



3,720 acres secured through the Forest Legacy Program, 83% of which is forested, to bring total land conserved to **15,000 acres**.

Conservation of the Mailliard Working Forest ties into numerous strategic initiatives. The State of California has set one of the most ambitious greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in North America. As old-growth redwoods store more carbon than any other tree, this project will be a significant asset to the state in achieving its goal by sequestering carbon. The project lands are also adjacent to other protected areas, including The Conservation Fund's Garcia River Forest, the Mailliard Redwoods State Natural Reserve, and designated Critical Coastal Areas.



According to the California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project, the Mailliard Working Forest supports 12 plant and eight animal species of special concern, including the northern spotted owl.

Environmental benefits of the project include the protection of endangered species, coast redwood habitat, and rapidly diminishing wetlands, a much-needed commodity in drought-stricken California.

Mendocino County ranks second in the state for timber value and fifth overall for timber production. This project ensures that 12,800 acres of working forest will continue to support the local resource-based economy.



Protects 28 miles of stream for Endangered Species Act-listed coho salmon and steelhead as well as the watersheds of both the Garcia and Navarro River headwaters.

"Safeguarding this landscape has been a decades-long priority for the League and our partners, and it is a huge conservation achievement all around,"

— **Sam Hodder, Save the Redwoods League President and CEO**

Keeping large forested lands in a single ownership encourages active management. Active management keeps forests healthy, supports local timber economies, and reduces future wildfire suppression costs.

341 animals, including **41 species of concern**, and **59 special status plant species** occur on the property.

These include: golden eagle, Black-tailed deer, and Townsend's big-eared bats.



In the case of the Mailliard Working Forest project, the CE secured by CAL FIRE and partners accomplishes all this in addition to the protection of numerous endangered species and one of the largest remaining old growth redwood forests in the world.

Reference:

<https://www.savetheredwoods.org/project/mailliard-ranch/facts/>

AT-A-GLANCE



Total contiguous protected lands: **82,000 acres**.



The project lands will support six local mills. Each mill employs **30 or more workers**.



Project ensures **12,800 acres** of working forest will continue to support the local resource-based economy.



Protects **10 endangered species**, including: tidewater goby, foothill yellow-legged frog, Sonoma tree vole, bald eagle, and northwestern pond turtle.



Mailliard Working Forest sequesters **802,000 metric tons** of carbon.



Supports **12 plant and eight animal species** of special concern, including the northern spotted owl.

Top L: Mailliard Forest. (Photo: John Birchard); Middle L: Mailliard Forest Creek. (Photo: John Birchard); Middle R: Mailliard Forest Old-Growth Redwood. (Photo: John Birchard)

For more information, visit
<https://www.fire.ca.gov/grants/forest-legacy/> and
<https://www.savetheredwoods.org/project/mailliard-ranch/>.