



# 2022 IMPACT REPORT

## REDWOOD PARKS CONSERVANCY

[WWW.REDWOODPARKSCONSERVANCY.ORG](http://WWW.REDWOODPARKSCONSERVANCY.ORG)

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Dear Members and Supporters,*

*The mission of our organization is to foster understanding, enjoyment, and stewardship by providing support to our partner agencies — the National Park Service, California State Parks, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service, — who are entrusted with the care of northern California's breathtaking public lands.*

*With your help, we provide funding and support to our partner agencies for important conservation and education efforts that ensure the sustainability of our forests, mountains, and coastal ecosystems for their irreplaceable intrinsic value and for the benefit of the public for generations to come. We work side by side with our partner agencies, foundations, individual donors, and community members to implement important conservation and education projects. A key part of advancing our mission is creating awareness, through communications such as this Impact Report, of the needs of the parks while sharing the beneficial results that Redwood Parks Conservancy (RPC) have achieved with our partners and supporters.*

*With many moving parts and interactions, it is inspiring to see the dedication, commitment, flexibility, and teamwork of all the staff, board, donors, park agency personnel, and volunteers whose collective commitment makes RPC's accomplishments possible. The success of our mission depends on the time and effort invested in collaboration, building relationships, anticipating needs, fostering trust, and contributing to positive visitor experiences. We are honored to be entrusted with this role and could not do it without your support. The redwood forest has never been under as much pressure as it is today, and with your help we will continue to roll up our sleeves to sustain and grow RPC's contribution to the conservation, restoration, and public access efforts so vital to the stewardship of our priceless north coast ecosystems.*

*With much gratitude,*

*Matthew Marshall*  
*Chairperson of the Board, Redwood Parks Conservancy*





## EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### CANDLELIGHT WALK

On December 3rd and 4th, 2022, the 33rd annual Candlelight Walk event was held in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, with a virtual walk held on the 17th. In partnership with California State Parks and the National Park Service, participants gathered at the Prairie Creek visitor center and then participated in an illuminated night walk among the redwoods. This was the first in-person event held in two years, and it was a great success. Just under \$50,000 was raised between registration, the online auction, and sponsorships. In fact, 2022 saw a record number of sponsors; 42 individuals and businesses donated to support Northwest California's public lands. RPC was also grateful to our many volunteers who helped put on this year's event.



RAISED OVER  
**\$56,000**  
AT OUR ANNUAL  
FUNDRAISING  
EVENTS

### RUN IN THE REDWOODS

RPC hosted the 9th annual Run in the Redwoods 5k on Saturday, October 1, 2022. We had a record number of sponsors, with 15 businesses and individuals donating to the cause. RPC was able to raise \$7,600 in sponsorship money. 83 people participated in person this year, and 74 people participated in the event via a virtual run. Runners received commemorative shirts as part of their participation. Many community members volunteered to help out with this event, and their efforts in setting up, marking times, handing out ribbons, and assisting with snacks and beverages was greatly appreciated.



## OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

### LIFEGUARDS

Through the Measure Z funding received in 2022, two additional lifeguards were hired to help patrol the beaches and increase water safety awareness in Humboldt County. The new lifeguards allow more time to be spent on public outreach and school visits to educate individuals who recreate on the beaches. With increased contact with the public and at the schools, these lifeguards are preventing tragedies before they can happen. In the event of an emergency, they are also available for rescues, first aid, CPR, or other emergency medical interventions.



Lifeguard Dillon Cleavenger summed up the effectiveness of the program this way:

*"This week, I walked the beach at Big Lagoon and noticed a family of four little kids and two parents. I immediately went over to talk to them about Big Lagoon and asked if they knew how dangerous this beach was. I found out they had come from Minnesota and had no idea how dangerous the ocean was that day (very dangerous). They had planned to go boogie boarding without wetsuits and I very quickly persuaded them not to do that. I believe that even though we were just having a simple talk, that these types of contacts absolutely save lives."*





In 2022, the collaborative efforts of California State Parks, the National Park Service, the Tolowa Dee-Ni' Nation, Save the Redwoods League, and Redwood Parks Conservancy unveiled a new trail in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, part of Redwood National and State Parks. This new trail, called the Grove of Titans, was the result of years of planning and effort from all agencies and organizations involved.

To provide continual care for the Grove of Titans, a volunteer group called the Titaneers was created to educate visitors and monitor the trail. In 2022, 31 volunteers donated over 1,900 hours, encouraging visitors to tread lightly in the forest so that these ancient trees will continue to thrive.

The Grove of Titans is located within the old growth redwood forest, and this area was experiencing significant damage from visitors venturing off trail to find the giant trees. The collaboration among the agencies who care for these lands made possible the new trail design, the elevated boardwalk to keep visitor impact at a minimum, and the new interpretive signs. These signs are an important feature, as they both educate visitors on caring for the forest today and tell the story of the Tolowa Dee-Ni' people's Indigenous history here.

Trail crews spent more than 23,000 hours removing old social trails, constructing the new trail, and building the elevated walkway. These crews carried in much of the construction materials by hand so as not to disturb the sensitive ecosystem.



**TITANEER**  
REDWOOD NATIONAL & STATE PARKS

## GROVE OF TITANS AND THE TITANEERS



## CONDOR REINTRODUCTION

In May 2022, after many years of research, collaboration, and planning, four condors were released from the Condor Release and Management Facility in Redwood National Park. Condors are an important part of Yurok tribal culture, and releasing them back into their ancestral home on the northwest coast of California has been a project many years in the making. In 2022, RPC was able to donate \$38,315 in funds to help with the condor project. Absent for over a century, the reintroduction of the condor has a great significance for this area.

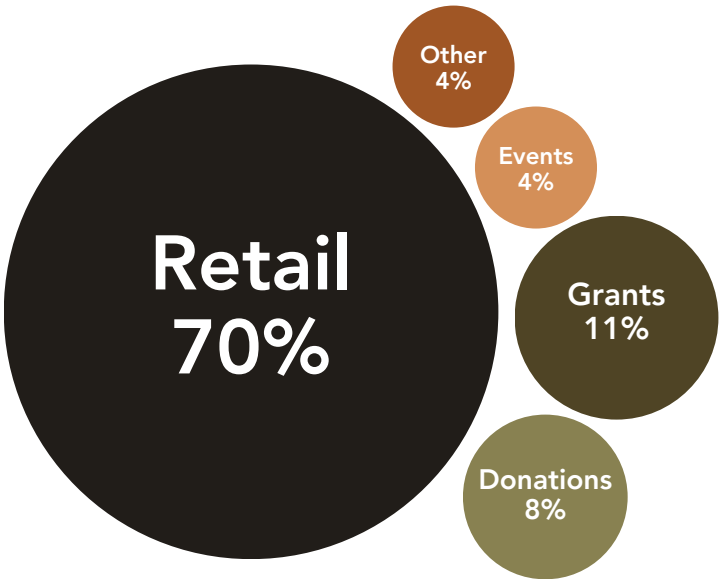
The condor has been an endangered species since the 1970s. In the 1980s, only 22 birds remained. Those birds were captured and studied in hopes of preventing the extinction of the entire species. Efforts to breed the birds in captivity were successful, and eventually condors were being released into the wild to soar the skies once more. Bringing condors back to the Pacific Northwest will help restore natural and cultural balance in this area.



According to Yurok tradition, Prey-go-neesh (California condor) was one of the first animals created and is considered one of the most powerful creatures in Yurok cosmology. Reintroducing the condor will help reestablish and maintain many Yurok cultural traditions and practices.



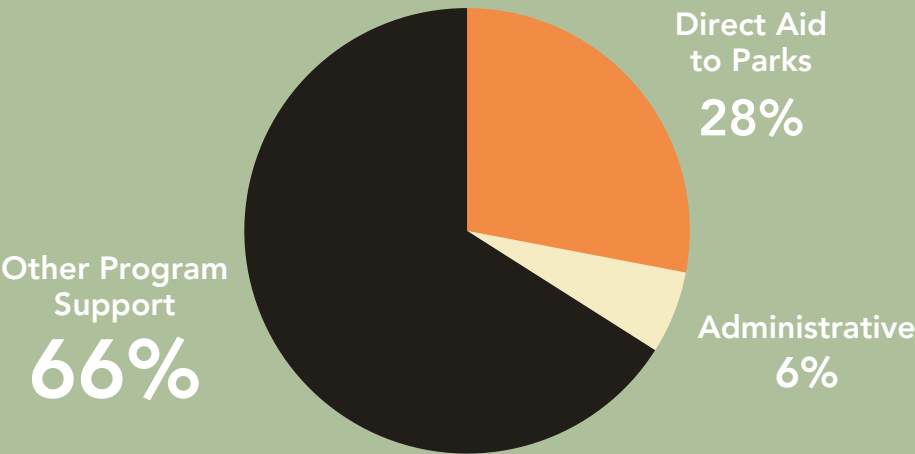
# FINANCIAL INCOME



\$1,420,526

In addition to seeing its biggest sales year yet, over \$13,000 was donated though register round-up.

# FINANCIAL IMPACT



\$1,455,597

94% of funds in 2022 were used in support of our public lands and programs

