

Dedicated to providing coastal access while protecting the natural beauty and character of the Humboldt County Coast from Little River to Big Lagoon.



## SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER & 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



*Participants at Pequeño Río, ¡Gran Aventura! which was a bilingual family fun kayaking and beach play day at the Little River.*

## Change and Growth

Alongside the winter blooming fetid adder's tongue, budding red alders, and northward passage of gray whales, we are slowing down to take a big breath of the spring breeze, reflect on the last year, and gear up for yet another season of change and growth. We spent quality time outside on the coast with many of you; some paddled a kayak for their first time on the foggy Little River Estuary at the Pequeño Río, ¡Gran Aventura! event, some were lucky enough to glimpse a young East Pacific red octopus under the Trinidad Pier, more still observed Black oystercatcher fledglings on the sea stacks offshore of Scenic Drive, and many contributed to the ever growing mounds of invasive English ivy at our stewardship work days.

There have been some big changes at the Land Trust. We welcomed Michelle Kunst as our new Executive Director, as well as two wonderful new team members. **With change, comes opportunity for growth.** We invite you to read onward to learn more about our two new staff members, review our annual report summarizing our 2021 accomplishments and future horizons, and learn about upcoming public walks and the many great ways to be involved in caring for the beautiful Trinidad Coast.

### Read on!

Change & Growth  
Spring & Summer Calendar  
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## Calendar of Events - Spring & Summer 2022

### Educational Opportunities

Space is limited and registration is required by emailing your contact information to [michelle@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org](mailto:michelle@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org). Follow our web calendar to stay up to date on happenings.

#### Layers of the Coastal Forest: Sunday, April 10th, 10:30-12pm

Join TCLT and naturalist Gabe Goff for a stroll along the forests of Elk Head. Coastal forests, like many forested ecosystems, are a layer cake of interactions; from the arrangement of trees to the stratification of mosses and ferns. We will look at the structure of the forest, species identification, and branch communities. It's all one big mosaic!

#### Observación de Aves Bilingüe: domingo, 22 de mayo, 9 a 11 am / Bilingual Birding: Sunday, May 22nd, 9 -11am

Únase con la naturalista Daisy Ambriz para una caminata bilingüe de observación de aves en español e inglés. Cubrirán los pájaros cantores del bosque las dunas mientras y pantaneras de la estuario del Parque Estatal Little River. También aprenderán sobre las aves playeras que utilizan nuestras playas. Este es un sendero moderado, plano, de 2 millas de largo. Es necesario registrarse enviando un correo electrónico con su nombre e información de contacto a [michelle@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org](mailto:michelle@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org) o envíe un mensaje de texto o llame a Daisy a 702-498-0935.

Join naturalist Daisy Ambriz for a birding walk led in both Spanish and English. She will be covering the songbirds of the dune forest as we walk along the Little River State Beach dunes and the marsh birds living in the Little River estuary. Daisy will also cover the natural history of our local endangered shorebird. This trail is a moderate, flat, 2 miles long trail.

#### Little River Trail Updates & CEQA Public Comment Zoom

##### Meeting: Date TBA

Join Redwood Community Action Agency and TCLT to learn about progress on the Little River Trail project, which will connect a gap in the California Coastal Trail by linking the Hammond Trail with Scenic Drive across the Little River. This will be an opportunity to learn how to submit your input on the project during the 30-day California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) public review period.

#### Snapshot Trinidad Coast Bioblitz & Guided Intertidal Exploration: Saturday, June 18th, 9-10:30am

Join tidepool enthusiast Michelle Kunst for an exploration of the colorful and diverse intertidal invertebrates and seaweeds on our north coast shoreline and contribute to a statewide community science project.

#### Explorando Juntos: La Costa Rocosa y Arenosa:

domingo, 17 de julio, 9 a 11 am/ Exploring Together:

#### The Rocky and Sandy Coast: Sunday, July 17th, 9-11am

¡Únase a Friends of the Dunes y Trinidad Coastal Land Trust donde la costa rocosa y arenosa se encuentran en Houda Point para una exploración bilingüe de los animales que viven en la arena y en las rocas! Esta será una caminata gratuita para todos. El sendero incluye una escalera empinada y caminar sobre arena plana. Vístase abrigado y use zapatos que puedan mojarse. Envíe un correo electrónico a [michelle@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org](mailto:michelle@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org) o envíe un mensaje de texto o llame a Daisy a 702-498-0935.

*Continued...*

Join Friends of the Dunes and Trinidad Coastal Land Trust where rocky and sandy shorelines meet at Houda Point for a bilingual exploration of animals that live in sand and on rocks! This will be a free walk for all. The trail includes a steep stairway and walking on flat sand. Dress warmly and wear shoes that can get wet.

#### Geology of Trinidad: Sunday, August 14th, 10-12pm

Join geologist and oceanographer Danny O'shea for an impressive journey through the geologic time of the rocky Trinidad shore.



*Participants on a Geology of Trinidad free public walk.*

### Spring & Summer Stewardship Events

Our amazing volunteers help restore natural habitat and promote biodiversity by removing invasive plant species from our coastline, and helping to maintain safe and reliable public trails for surfers, dog-walkers, and beach enthusiasts alike. Registration is required by emailing [Zoe@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org](mailto:Zoe@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org).

#### Houda Point and Luffenholtz Beach Stair Repair Saturday, April 2, 9:30-12pm

Winter and spring storms lead to inevitable erosion to our trail system and we need volunteer power to restore access.

#### Earth Day Sunset Stewardship at the Little River Friday, April 22nd, 5-7:30pm

This is a special collaboration with Business Sponsor Mother Earth Engineering. To celebrate Earth Day, we will be removing invasive Cape ivy from the future trailhead of the Little River Trail.

#### Baker Beach Stair Repair & Invasive Removal Saturday, May 7th, 9:30-12pm

The Baker Beach stairs are in great need of maintenance to stabilize the cable steps touching down to the beach.

#### American Hiking Society Volunteer Crew Visit June 6th-10th

This amazing crew of volunteers is set to demolish the existing steps at Tepona Point and rebuild with crib steps. Reach out to us if you are interested in assisting!

#### Trinidad Coastal Ambassador Re-fresher Training

Date TBD. This training is for anyone who has participated in volunteer training with TCLT and would like a refresher. Ambassadors are fundamental to our public education program!

## On the Horizon

There are more exciting endeavors on the horizon for the Land Trust. Currently, we are entering into the planning process for a **new strategic chapter**, an incredibly exciting opportunity to reevaluate what our concept of coastal access really means, take an assessment on which communities we are serving well and who we need to include, and brainstorm as a community as to how our aspirations will be achieved in reality. We are learning the immense value and importance of including stakeholders in the budding stage of a planning process and letting input guide our direction. We will also be seeking to learn how TCLT can better support the endeavors of our community partners. This spring and summer, the Land Trust board and staff will identify stakeholders relevant to our work, participate in conversations to gather input, listen to stakeholders' needs and aspirations, and ask how we can better support and serve the community and the land. These inputs will then be used to create goals and plans for actions. While this is a great opportunity for growth, it is also a great responsibility for the TCLT to hold ourselves accountable. We welcome input from those reading this on the vision you see for our organization, our community, and the Trinidad coast.



*Coastal silk tassel planted at the Trinidad Lighthouse Stewardship Workday in collaboration with the Bureau of Land Management.*



*Volunteers working hard to stabilize the steps at our annual Houda Point Stewardship Workday.*

Looking forward, we are on track to complete the planning stage for **public access improvements at Tepona Point and Luffenholtz Beach** supported by the Wildlife Conservation Board and informed by community input. Improvements will include a reconfigured and safer parking area, a portable restroom, an ADA accessible ocean vista, interpretive displays, picnic area, and native plant gardens. These improvements paired with our **Houda Point public access project**, will further increase the accessibility of our coastline by offering ADA compliant ocean vistas and recreational areas. Additionally, our planning is intended to improve public safety and increase educational opportunities. With the collaboration of many project partners, including Redwood Community Action Agency, Cal Trans, and SHN, we are continuing to move forward with planning for the **Little River Trail**, which will close a key gap in the California Coastal Trail by linking the Hammond Trail with Scenic Drive.

With the generous support of community member Bob Battagin, we plan to welcome the American Hiking Society volunteer crew back to Trinidad this June to replace the dilapidated wooden steps at Tepona Point with crib steps. These stairs are in poor condition, and replacing them is a key step in improving public access infrastructure along our coastline. We are continuing conversations and exploring potential routes forward with tribal partners and Green Diamond Resource Company to protect public access via a trail easement to the culturally important **Strawberry Rock area**. As always, we are continuing the educational and stewardship events that connect our community to the coast. From guided walks to trail workdays, these events are the core of our organization and how connect with each other. We sincerely look forward to spending time with you out on the coast!

## Join us in welcoming TCLT's new staff!

We are proud to welcome Jody and Zoe onto our team. They both demonstrate a contagious passion for coastal landscapes and a true vision for their positions and the organization.

### Zoe Ziegler, Coastal Stewardship Coordinator



Zoe grew up in Humboldt and along the Trinidad Coast and is honored to give back to the place that helped shape her stewardship ethic and love for the outdoors. She graduated from UC Berkeley with a BA in Environmental Biology and is now pursuing her career in sustainable management of natural and working lands.

Since leaving home, she has worked on multiple organic farms, in environmental education, and is gaining experience in fisheries research and management. Now, she brings her passion for uniting communities and nature back to her work with the Trinidad Coastal Land Trust through stewardship of land trust properties, volunteer coordination, and public engagement. When she is not in Trinidad, she is working at DeepSeeded Community Farm or playing in the oceans, forests, and rivers of Northern Humboldt.

### Jody Smith, Administrative Manager



Jody grew up on Florida's southeast coast, where she developed a deep love and respect for the ocean. She earned her BA in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Cruz. Jody is currently a graduate student at Cal Poly Humboldt in the Environment & Community program, earning her MA. Her

thesis focuses on Indigenous perspective on Kelp forest decline and restoration in Humboldt and Del Norte County. She is passionate about ocean and climate solutions and believes that successful coastal management and climate solutions must be designed alongside historically marginalized groups to create coastal community resilience in the face of climate change. She is excited to be working for an organization focused on giving back to the community and creating inclusive outdoor spaces. She enjoys tide pooling, creating seaweed art, and playing with her dogs at the beach during her spare time.

## Thank you Stacie!

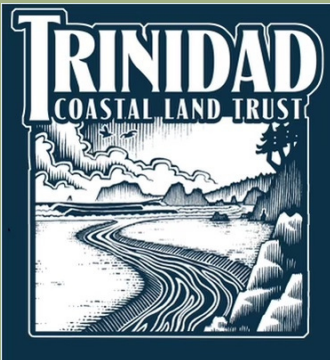


Alongside this change, we owe a great deal of gratitude to our outgoing Office Manager, Stacie Marshall for her immaculate contributions to the background happenings of TCLT. Thank you!

## Get Involved!

There are many great ways to support our work:

- Consider becoming a **Sustaining Monthly Member** to provide stable support for the places you love.
- Offer a **one time donation** whenever you are able to.
- Become a **Business Partner** and show the community that you value coastal stewardship and education.
- Sign up as a **Stewardship volunteer**.
- Support and share our happenings on **social media**.
- Purchase a **T-shirt, hoodie, or hat** coming soon in new colors and designs!



[trinidadcoastallandtrust.org](http://trinidadcoastallandtrust.org)

## Leave a Lasting Legacy

Are you a property owner in the Trinidad area and consider yourself a caretaker of land? You have many options for ensuring habitat protection in perpetuity on the land you love. You can consider working with the Land Trust to create a conservation easement or you can leave a lasting legacy, or a **Planned Gift**, by making a donation of property, estate, stocks or funds to TCLT, which will extend your dedication to conservation of the Trinidad coastline benefiting future generations of both people and the more-than-human world. Visit our website, under *Get Involved*, or call us at (707) 677-2501 to learn more about our Planned Giving program and how you can leave your legacy.

# Annual Report 2021



## Letter from the Executive Director,

After serving as the Education Assistant and then Programs and Project Manager, I am tremendously honored to have the support and trust of our Board of Directors and staff team to transition into directing this special organization. I am humbled, and committed to being the best leader I can for our mission and the community we serve. I owe great gratitude to Carol Vander Meer, who is still serving as a Project Manager, and who has been a wellspring of support and encouragement. I owe a great deal of thanks to Ben Morehead as well, TCLT's first Executive Director and currently serving as a Project Manager, for being an eager advisor and providing the long term vision for the land. I'm also appreciative of our Board of Directors, who offer a diverse range of experiences, skills, and support. I am privileged to have been immersed in coastal ecosystems since my childhood, and I cannot be happier to carry my passions for the intersection of human and ocean communities forward with TCLT.

We believe that access to awe-inspiring experiences at the coast, in which one is immersed in the fog, breeze, and more-than-human life around us, follows with a sense of commitment to the protection of places. In the last year, we wrapped up an **environmental education project** supported by the Coastal Commissions Whale Tail grant program. In an effort to expand on our mission of providing public access to the coast, we offered several bilingual outings, which would not have been possible without the passionate support of volunteer naturalists. In partnership with the Bureau of Land Management and the Seabird Protection Network, we trained sixteen new **Community Scientists** to gather important data on the seabird species using the off-shore rocks for breeding and nesting, which will be used to help inform marine wildlife management. We offered numerous **free public education** walks focused on topics varying from the tiny world of lichens and bryophytes, intertidal ecology, nature journaling, geology of Trinidad and more. It brings us great joy to be able to nurture a sense of wonder and stewardship towards the coastline alongside our community.

Our conservation achievements and goals are always growing, and we are thrilled to have completed the **Ruprecht Ranch conservation easement** last year to protect twenty acres of lush coastal forest along Martin Creek. Additionally, we are currently close to completing a rural residential conservation easement with Jim and Virginia Waters, which

would create a contiguous piece of protected habitat with the Ruprecht easement and connect a seasonal tributary to Martin Creek. We owe a very large **thank you to Jim and Virginia** for their support of this project, their deep love of the land, and commitment to the more-than-human world.

*"We support and encourage the TCLT in its efforts to protect land. We hope that our donation to the Land Trust may encourage and perhaps enable other small landowners to arrange similar easements. As the world faces the intense threat of development, every tiny patch of wild or semi-wild habitat becomes increasingly essential and valuable." - Jim and Virginia Waters*

Furthermore, thanks to support from the California State Coastal Conservancy and contributions from our community, **public access improvements are nearing completion at Houda Point**; including an ADA accessible parking spot, a paved pathway, picnic tables, benches, bike racks, and an educational kiosk. Thanks to native plant donations from Samara Restoration and the hard work of two Cal Poly Humboldt Ecological Restoration capstone students groups, we are making great strides to revegetate the highly eroded **Tepona Point** with native plants.

This year we welcomed a total of 133 volunteers to monthly **Stewardship Workdays** for a total of 332 volunteer hours. These amazingly enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers removed approximately 7,700 pounds of invasive species and restored six trail segments. We also hosted an American Hiking Society crew who worked with smiles on their faces to complete a much needed renovation of the **Trinidad State Beach trail system** alongside State Parks staff.

We are sincerely grateful for the support we've received from our community in the last year. These dedicated groups range from agency funders to community partners, new and veteran donors and members, volunteers, ambassadors, and public walk participants. **We would appreciate your ongoing contributions of membership, donations, volunteer time, and even just kind words, all of which are foundational to us reaching our goals.**

Cheers!

Michelle Pualani Kunst



# Financial Report: January 1-December 31, 2021

## Current Assets

Checking/Savings	\$291,151
Investments	\$212,630
Land Holdings	\$2,639,161
Accounts Receivable	\$4,558
Other Assets	\$3,948
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$3,151,448</b>

## Liabilities

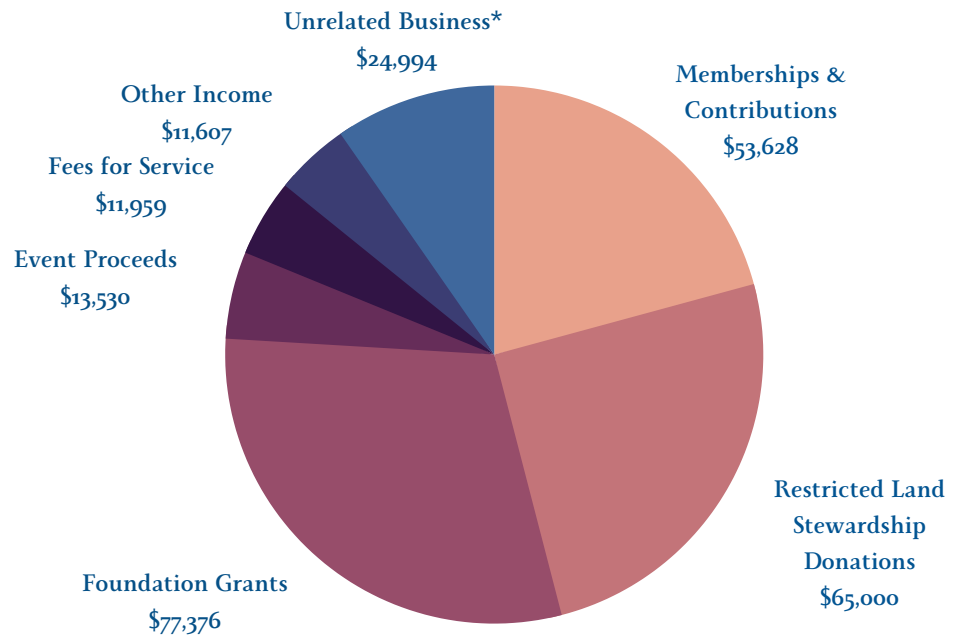
Accounts Payable	\$5,353
Long-term Liability <sup>2</sup>	\$136,067
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$141,420</b>

## Net Assets

Restricted Net Assets	\$2,301,502
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$503,573
Increase in Net Assets	\$114,886
Unrealized Investment Gain	\$90,067
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$3,010,028</b>

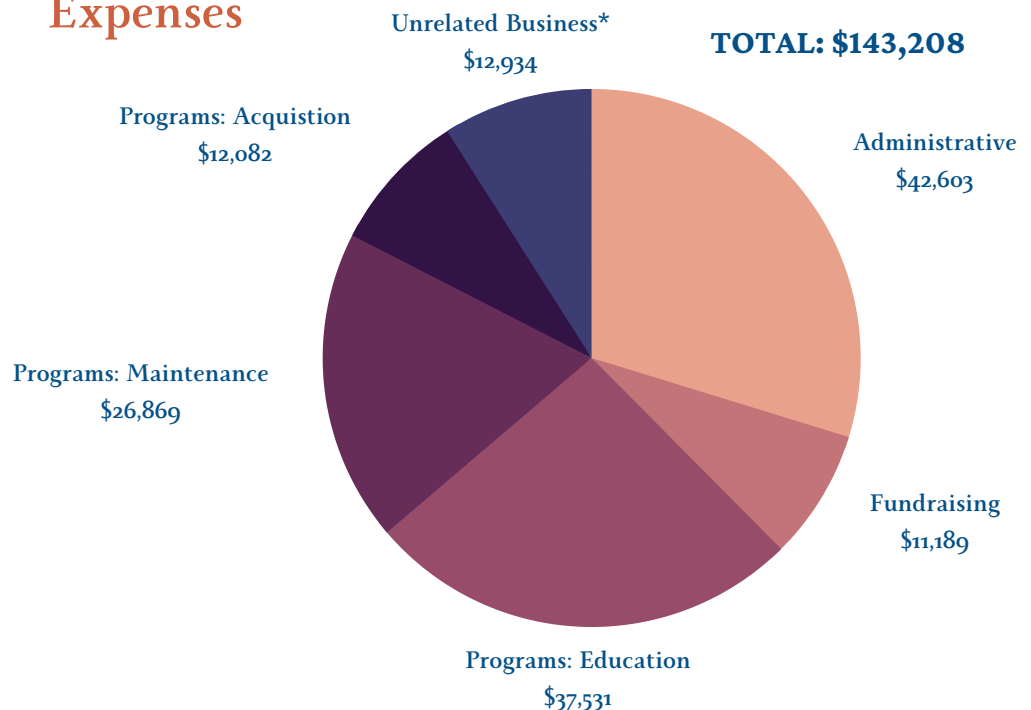
## Revenue & Support

**TOTAL: \$258,094**



## Expenses

**TOTAL: \$143,208**



TCLT is dedicated to providing coastal access while protecting the natural beauty of the Humboldt County Coast from Little River to Big Lagoon.

<sup>2</sup> Mortgage on Trinidad Art Gallery.

\*Revenue & expenses associated with Trinidad Art Gallery.

## Thank you to everyone who makes our work possible!

### Staff

#### Michelle Kunst

Executive Director

#### Ben Morehead

Senior Project Manager

#### Carol Vander Meer

Special Project Manager

#### Jody Smith

Administrative Manager

#### Zoe Ziegler

Coastal Stewardship  
Coordinator

Christie Lampro  
Christopher Manville  
Christopher Slay  
Claire Perricelli  
Claudia Murray  
Claudia Myers  
Dale Preston  
Dana Boudreau  
Daniel & Sara Frost  
Daniel Chandler  
Daniel O'Shea  
Danny Sokolsky  
Darus Trutna  
David Adams  
Debby Storre  
Debra King  
Deserie Janousek  
Diane & Peter Cohan  
Dianne Rosser  
Dick & Rose Kidder  
Dick Bruce & Lois  
Harrington  
Dominique D'usseau  
Don & Kit Morris  
Don Allen  
Donald Blue  
Doug & Linda Mortenson  
Doug & Nancy Jager  
Douglas & Tamara  
Hutchinson  
Edith Smith  
Edward L. & Joan  
Nilsen Fund  
Elaine Weinreb  
Elliott Levin  
Ellsworth Hilligoss  
Emerson Kanawi  
Eric Almquist  
Eric Duff  
Eric Flamholtz &  
Yvonne Randle  
Erika Wright  
Erin Rowe  
Faith Mason &  
Ann Elsbach  
Gabriella Aragon  
Gael Duffy-Hill  
Genia Garibaldi  
Geoffrey Proust  
Gerald O. & Susan  
Hansen Family Fund  
Gloria Speigle  
Gordon Schatz  
Greg Gaiera  
Gurudarshan Khalsa  
Hal & Margot Genger  
Herman A. Iverson  
Memorial Fund  
Jacey Spies

Jack & Jan West  
Jack & Kay Mannix  
Jahnan Derso  
James Holmes &  
Kathleen Kolodny  
James Webb  
James Zoelick  
Jason Johnson  
Jasper Oshun  
Jean Brichetto  
Jeanne McFarland  
Jeannie Smalley  
Jeff Abram  
Jeff Stanley  
Jen Mishkin-Krause  
Jennifer Hubbert  
Jennifer Savage  
Jenny Hutchinson  
Jeremy Chapman  
Jim & Joan Baker  
Jim & Susan Popenoe  
Jim & Susan Stephenson  
Jim & Virginia Waters  
Joan Barman  
Joan Levy  
John & Amy Black  
John & Anne Davis  
John & Carol Wiebe  
John & Nancy  
Bridenbaugh  
John Graves  
John Sniado  
Johnette Woods  
Jonathan Speaker  
Joyce Collins  
Joyce Hinrichs  
Julie Fulkerson  
Lynn Evans  
Julie Weeder  
Kate Green  
Kathie Kelly  
Kathryn Johnson  
Ken Miller  
Kevin Arndt  
Kim Thorpe  
Kirsten Trump  
Kurt Schmidt  
Lance Halve  
Larella Moore  
Larry & Donna Ulrich  
Larry & Gail Ward  
Laura Morrisson  
Laurel Osborn  
Lawrence Williams &  
Susan Whitney  
Lee & Chris House  
Leisyka Parrott  
Linda & Jim Adams  
Linda Mortenson

Lori Breyer  
Lori Kamber-Chester  
Lucia Boyer  
Lynda Ruth  
Malcom Stevens  
Marcia Thorndike  
Marek Reavis  
Margaret Kellermann  
Maria Barlett  
Marilyn Sterling  
Mario Quiros  
Mark Pringle  
Marna Powell  
Martha Walden  
Mary Kine  
Matt Beard  
Matthew & Stacie  
Marshall  
Matthew Green  
Matthew Hinton  
Max Mendle  
Maya Conrad  
Melody Hamilton  
Michael Derda &  
Jennifer Monsarrat  
Michael H Morris  
Mike & Cherie Ware  
Mindy Hiley  
Mitch Ward &  
Gail Saunders  
Nancy Diamond  
Nancy Howes  
Noelle Poulsen  
Norman & Carolyn Bell  
Nova Love  
Paloma Rollings  
Pamela Lawrence  
Pat Crosby & Robert  
Miranda  
Patricia Schwartz  
Patrick Kertz  
Patrick Owen  
Patty & Keith Stearns  
Paul & Kay Schulz  
Penne O'Gara  
Ray & Sherry Manka  
Rees Huges  
Richard & Margie  
Kieselhorst  
Richard Johnson  
Rick St. Charles &  
Lisa Monet  
Riley Quarles  
Robert Fischer &  
Louise Minor  
Robin Hamlin  
Ron Johnson  
Ruby Head

Samuel & Angela  
Lundeen  
Sarah Corliss  
Sarah Lauderdale  
Sarah Pickington  
Scott & Jennifer Tebon  
Scott Baker  
Sharyl Kinnear-Ferris  
Sherri Provolt  
Silla & Nicholas Taylor  
Spring Garrett  
Stacey Kett  
Stacy Becker  
Steen & Tami Trump  
Stephen Duscha &  
Wanda Lee Greves  
Sunny Simmons  
Susan Haplin  
Tamara Trump  
Ted Pease &  
Brenda Cooper  
Terry Bean  
Thomas Smythe  
Tisa Jewell  
Tom Conlon  
Tom Sandberg &  
Tom Mitchell  
Troy Hedland  
Victoria Mayes  
Willard Hunter  
William Pinnix  
Yvonne Everett  
Zack Stanton

### Board of Directors

#### Richard Johnson,

Vice President

#### Andrew Hagen, Treasurer

#### Don Allan, Secretary

#### Jenny Hutchinson

#### Matthew Marshall

#### Shirley Laos

#### Michelle Forys

#### Sherri Provolt

#### Deserie Donae

#### Jennifer Savage

#### Aiko Michot

### 2021 Members & Donors

Aaron Tempelaere  
Adriana Smeloff  
Adrienne Crew  
Al Macy  
Aldaron Laird  
Alex Grant  
Ann Anderson  
Ann Lindsay  
Annette Holland  
Barbara Snell  
Barbara Snell  
Ben & Ananda Morehead  
Ben Fairless &  
Wendy Rowan  
Ben Morehead  
Benjamin Ebert  
Beth Bray  
Bethy Icard  
Bob Battagin  
Bob Felter  
Bonnie Mesinger  
Bonnie Olive  
Brenda Harper  
Brett Shuler  
Carol & Steven  
Vander Meer  
Carrie Payton Dahlberg  
Charles Earl  
Charlotte Hayes  
Cheryl Kelly

### Agencies, Foundations, & Businesses

Bureau of Land Management  
California Coastal Commission  
Conservation Lands  
Foundation  
Conservation Partners  
Footprint Foundation  
Forbes & Associates -  
Sarah Corliss  
Humboldt Area Foundation  
Mother Earth Engineering  
North Coast Regional  
Land Trust  
Redwood Community  
Action Agency  
State Coastal Conservancy  
Samara Restoration  
Wildlife Conservation Board

**A major thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who have dedicated their invaluable time.**

*Please let us know if we missed you!*

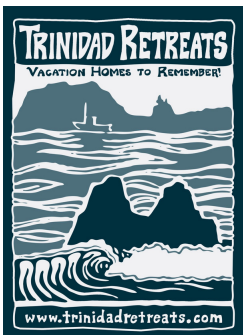


**P.O. Box 457**

**Trinidad, CA 95570**

**Return Service Requested**

## THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS!



### Join our Business Partner Program

We invite you to help support our important work by joining our Business Partner Program. Our recognition opportunities let the community know your business supports protecting our coast while providing opportunities for people to be inspired by this area's amazing beaches, trails, and vista points. The TCLT board, small staff, and many dedicated volunteers work hard to maintain access and upgrades of scenic trails and vista points, offer educational opportunities, and care for the most beautiful landscapes along Trinidad coast. Be a part of making sure that these coastal treasures continue to be a source of inspiration for generations to come. **Learn more under *Get Involved* on our website.**