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Dear Friend of the Northcoast Environmental Center,

The year so far has been incredibly rewarding just as it has been wrought with many challenges. On the positive side, our environmental programs have involved and inspired over 500 area youth; we've worked with over 1,000 community members to clean up our waterways and coast; and we've stood together for healthy watersheds, intact ecosystems and climate action – with some major successes. ***All that was accomplished would not have been possible without your support and we thank you immensely for being right there with us!***

We are proud to work with so many committed individuals, businesses, and organizations here on the North Coast and beyond. Unfortunately, as you might know, we are currently facing some major issues and ***we need your help!*** *As you read through this letter, please consider **doubling down** your contribution this season to **double your impact in confronting these significant threats while working to build a more vibrant and ecologically connected future.***

☞ **Safeguarding Watersheds - Promoting Healthy Communities!** Destructive marijuana operations and other intensive land use activities are an increasing threat both on private and public lands throughout our region. Coupled with severe drought, our watersheds and wildlife are being pushed to a breaking point. What's more, marijuana industry groups are trying to push through local land use policy that would increase major impacts we see today. We will continue to work with organizations, agencies, and individuals to prevent ongoing threats to forests, waterways, wildlife and our human communities by **taking a stand against greed weed while promoting strategies to bring life back into balance after decades of neglect.** *We need your continued help to get there!*

☞ **Protecting Wilderness and Wild Rivers!** NEC board members, member organizations and other volunteers are working diligently with communities, tribes and our congressional leaders to craft and garner support for new federal legislation. The legislation could add approximately 300,000 acres of recognized Wilderness and add over 400 miles of waterways to the Wild & Scenic rivers program. The legislation could also provide opportunities for restoration, fire management and sustainable use for our working forests. *Your support will help restore and protect these important places for years to come!*

☞ **Engaging Youth Through Place-based Environmental Education!** Throughout the last year, the NEC's educational programs blossomed thanks to the Coastal Commission's Whale Tail grants program, enthusiastic teachers, and support from individuals like you. Through the NEC's Clean Beaches, Healthy Communities program, over 500 elementary school students throughout Humboldt County and surrounding areas learned about their connection to this special place and all of the other inhabitants of our region. *Your contribution will help keep North Coast youth informed and engaged in caring for our planet.*

☞ **Taking Action for Healthy Oceans and Trash-free Seas!** The North Coast network of **Marine Protected Areas** helps to serve as an ocean "savings account" into the future and completes the California network of MPAs. The NEC is dedicated to supporting these special places through advocacy, education and promotion. We also know how to roll up our sleeves (and pant-legs) to keep our beaches clean. After celebrating the 35th year of the NEC's **Adopt-A-Beach** and Coastal Cleanup program, and the 30th anniversary of our collaboration with the California Coastal Commission for **Coastal Cleanup Day**, we are gearing up for the next global day of action on **September 19**. *These efforts would not be possible without the generosity of our supporters.*

☞ **Activating North Coast Communities!** Nothing is more important to promoting change in our world than an informed and engaged populace:

Our long-standing environmental newspaper, **EcoNews**, continues to get the word out not only on the work the NEC engages in directly, but the indispensable efforts of our partner organizations throughout the bioregion. *Whether you prefer perusing print or reading online ([www.yournec.org](http://www.yournec.org)), we look forward to continuing to provide news on the ecological issues that matter most here on the North Coast.* You can also check out the NEC's column, **Your Week In Ocean**, on the popular Lost Coast Outpost ([www.lostcoastoutpost.com](http://www.lostcoastoutpost.com)).

As the longest running public affairs show on KHSU, the **EcoNews Report** delivers informative content over the airwaves and streaming online every week to bring listeners timely environmental news. *Tune in to the EcoNews Report every Thursday afternoon at 1:30pm on KHSU 90.5 FM!* The NEC has also expanded our radio and podcast presence to include KHUM 104.7 FM's long-running weekly **Coastal Currents** program. *Tune in each week at noon as our hosts dive into issues and events important to Humboldt's beaches, rivers, bay and waterways.*

☞ **Supporting Humboldt Baykeeper and NEC member organizations!** One of the NEC's central functions is to support our region's hard-working conservation groups. We are proud to work with our ten member and affiliate member groups who are at the forefront of environmental education, celebration and action! We are also proud to act as Humboldt Baykeeper's fiscal sponsor so they can continue to safeguard Humboldt Bay through citizen-science, advocacy, education, and enforcement of laws to fight pollution.

☞ **Providing Opportunities for the Next Generation of Environmental Leaders!** As part of our longstanding partnership with Humboldt State University, the NEC takes pride in being able to provide opportunities for students through both internships and work-study positions. Through our participation in HSU's work-study program, *each gift of \$1,000 will be worth at least \$3,000 in support of one of our dedicated work-study students for a semester.* The NEC also continues to sponsor various internship positions through HSU. Going into its fourth year, students work with our DC legislative analyst for a virtual "On the Hill" Washington experience of tracking important Congressional actions. *These young people are our future conservation leaders and your support means these opportunities will be able to continue.*

***Send in your contribution today to continue to protect and celebrate our treasured North Coast.*** On behalf of the board and staff of the NEC, we thank you in advance for your commitment to this special region and all its inhabitants.

For the forests, farms, rivers, and coast---



Dan Ehresman, *Executive Director*



Larry Glass, *NEC Board President*

*P.S. - Please consider doubling or even tripling what you would typically give to step up our collective work towards a healthier future for all of our region's inhabitants – human and wild!*