



# Northcoast Environmental Center Est. 1971 - 50 Years!







In honor of the fourth birthday

Earthday (April 22,1970) and the birthdays of

John Muir (April 21, 1838)

John James Audubon (April 26,1785)

Northcoast Environmental

invites you to celebrate

earthdaybirthday

with a look at how far we have come since Earthday I and where we are going.

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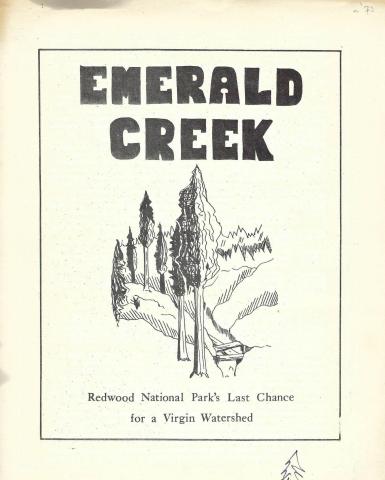
The mission of the Northcoast Environmental Center is to promote understanding of the relations between people and the biosphere and to conserve, protect, and celebrate terrestrial, aquatic, and marine ecosystems of northern California and southern Oregon. The Northcoast Environmental Center was founded in 1971, shortly after the original Earth Day. We are the oldest organization working on behalf of the environment behind the "redwood curtain."

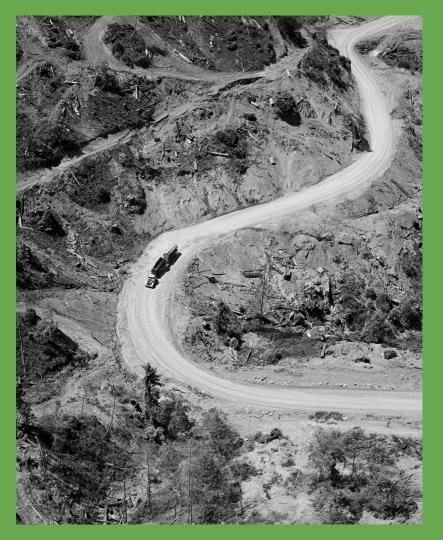
We have been proudly providing quality environmental journalism for decades through our monthly publication of EcoNews, and our weekly EcoNews Report radio show.

Since our beginning we have focused the combined efforts of local conservation groups and concerned people like you on environmental quality in northwestern California and southern Oregon. Half a century of effort and achievement has included:

 Spearheading a 48,000-acre expansion that more than doubled the size of Redwood National Park.











**Cite Freedom of Religion** 

# Consultants Say NO G-O Road

by Kim Olds-Olson

A report done at Forest Service request recommends that the unfinished Gasquet-Orleans (G-O) Road be left uncompleted because it would do inreparable harm to Indian sacred areas of the Siskiyou Mountains

The report adds fuel to the drive to halt completion of the last link of the proposed logging road, the 6.7-mile Chimney Rock section.

Prepared by the Theodoratus Cultural Research firm and finished in December, the report concludes that "any of the proposed Chimney Rock alternative routes one to nine will produce an irreparable impact on the spiritual and physical well-being of the adjacent Yurok. Karok and Tolowa communities."

The researchers, who were aided by a team of local Indians, also recommended that the sacred Blue Creek high country "remain environmentally pristine in every respect, the insure appropriate access and use by Native American (religious) practitioners.

"It is only by such actions that the beliefs and practices of these Native American cultures can be protected and granted the freedom of expression necessary for their survival." It said.

The report and recommendations will be considered by the Forest Service in making its decision on whether to complete the G-O Road. A decision is now expected in Sentember, a spokesperson said.

Almost three-quarters of the 166 people interviewed during fieldwork were against construction of the G-O Road. The depth of concern is illustrated in this quote from one person interviewd:

"If they can take this and make it into a nothing place, take our trees, fishing rights, if they take Doctor Rock, if they take it away, it's like taking my heart away from me."

The report is on file at the Indian Library at 923 Third 5t, Eureka, Patricia Tsewelnaldin, resources fibrarian there, said the study was very well done but doubted it would have much effect on the Forest Service decision-even though completion of the road would be a threat to Indian freedom of religion.

One report finding was that the Blue Creek drainage even now is in use for doctor training and medicine-making. Another was that many more significant archaeological sites exist there than previously suspected—of 147 sites, at least 115 qualify for protection under the law.

For more information on the G-O Road, contact the Siskiyou Mountains Resources Council through the NEC.

#### **AUGUST HOLIDAY**

The next ECONEWS will be a combined August-September issue, larger than usual and coming out around September 1.

This will enable us to take stock, soothe frazzled nerves and mend typewriters.

By the way, volunteers are always welcome. No

 Allying with Indigenous tribes to stop the infamous G-O road, which would have desecrated sacred Indigenous high country.

https://goroad.omeka.net/

REAL POTATOS

for Tim McKay

The night after the judge said to his government you can't build your road Up there because it would obliterate the silence and drive off the last pliated woodpecker so that the Big Spirit could not come to the Yurok High Seat anymore, the indians invited us to a school gymnasium in Fureka where every June they honor the elders and the new graduates.

When they called the whites out on the shiney wooden floor to notice us for having wanted to stop the road to. I had to fight back my eyes because we'd all won something and I didn't want to bawl beofre people I did not yet know.

Instead of words though, the indians gave us each a sackful of potatos to take to our kitchens or plant in the back garden. I took the spuds home damp under my arm and when we ate them the next week, the tears of victory tasted real upor my plate, real as real potatos.

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• Launching the oldest rural recycling program in the United States.





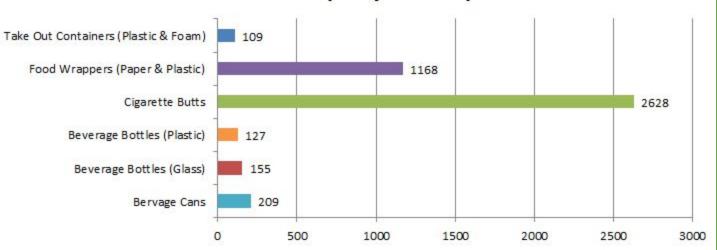


Vintage photos show state-of-the-art recycling a decade ago. In those pioneer days, crews had more time to stand around for photo opportunities -- and the ACRC vehicles could idle for the camera.

 Pioneering the international event, Coastal Cleanup Day, which attracts thousands of local volunteers annually.



#### Coastal Cleanup Day 2020 Top Finds





#### **Can The Trash**

It's time again for California Coastal Clean-Up day -- Saturday, September 20 -- when hundreds of volunteers try to get a handle on all the trash that has drifted up on the beach.

The quasi-scientific event, which kicks off a nation wide Coast Week, even attempts to estimate the weight and kinds of trash piling up. Its slogan this year is "Hit the Beach and Can the Trash."

The NEC is co-sponsoring this annual event, along with the Sierra Club, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Fish and Game, the California Coastal Commission and others.

In the tradition of the NEC's "Adopt-A-Beach" program, a "Beachkeepers'Data-Base" is being set up to track the garbage, who the beachkeepers are and how much debris they are able to motivate off the beach.

Have fun on the beach and help clean up our act. Get your family, friends, club or group involved in this second annual fun event -challenge another group or individual to equal or better your cleaning record!

If you would like to register for a particular beach or find out how to get the necessary trash bags, contact Dan Goswick, State Parks-Eureka, (707) 445-6547; Tim McKay, NEC, 822-6918; or Lucille Vinyard, Sierra Club, 677-

Elsewhere, call 800-RECYCAL for information about coordinators in your area.

- Protecting six local rivers: the Smith, Klamath, Trinity, Salmon, Van Duzen, and Eel in the national Wild & Scenic Rivers System.
- Being an original litigant in lawsuits to save two keystone species of the Pacific Northwest: the Spotted Owl and Coho Salmon.
- Reforming aquaculture in Humboldt Bay to end the slaughter of bat rays and protect vital eelgrass habitat.
- Adding 800,000 acres of wild forest land in the Klamath-Siskiyou mountains to the National Wilderness Preservation System.



Litigating to protect Klamath Basin Wildlife Refuges from being drained by irrigators.

### NEC (Northcoast Environmental Center) Organizations in North Coast Region

Friends of Trinity River

Friends of Del Norte

Alliance for a Paving Moratorium **GOATS: Group Organized Against Toxic Sprays** Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment **Headwaters-Oregon American Fisheries Society: Humboldt Chapter Humboldt Bay Watershed Advisory Committee Arcata Community Recycling Center Humboldt Bay Wildlife Refuge Audubon Society-Kalmiopsis Humboldt Baykeeper Audubon Society-Marble Mountain Humboldt Botanical Gardens Foundation Audubon Society-Redwood Region Humboldt Watershed Council California Native Plant Society Humboldt Wildlife Care Center** California Ocean Resources Management-CORM **Institute for Sustainable Forestry** California Sea Grant Marine Advisory-Humboldt County **Jefferson Sustainable Development Initiative** California Trout Land Trusts- NW California Californians for Alternatives to Toxics-CATS Mattole Restoration Council Clean Air Network Mill Creek Watershed Conservancy; Mattole **Darlingtonia Planning and Conservation League Redwood Alliance Earth First! Emerald Creek Committee Redwood Coast Watersheds Alliance Environmental Protection Information Center SAFE: Safe Alternatives for our Forest Environment** Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs Salmon River Restoration Council Fish Action Council Sanctuary Forest Friends of the Dunes Shasta Alliance for Resources and the Environment Sierra Club Friends of the Earth Friends of the Eel River Siskiyou Project Friends of the River- North Coast Chapter **Smith River Project** 

**Trinity River Task Force** 

**7ero Waste Humboldt** 









## WE SUPPORT THE - PAW & FIN CONSERVATION ACT -

Thank you Representative Huffman for everything you do to protect endangered species!











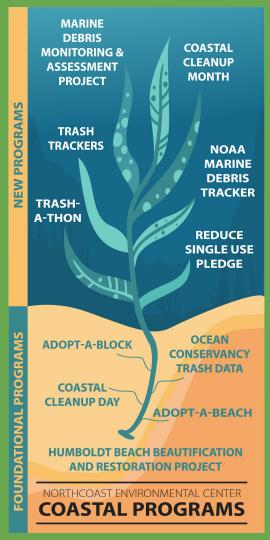


## **EcoNews**

- 4,000 copies monthly
- Bi-monthly to monthly
  - -2019: 6 issues
  - -2020: 9 issues
  - -2021: 11 issues
- Increased distribution
- Featuring more diverse voices & social justice
- Seeking grant funding for Spanish translation







## **Coastal Programs**

- Trash Trackers
- Adopt-A-Block
- Adopt-A-Beach
- Coastal Cleanup Month
- Trash-a-thon
- Marine Debris Monitoring & Assessment Project







## **Reduce Single-Use**

The Reduce Single Use Pledge asks restaurants to only provide single-use foodware upon customer request.

#### Reduce Single-Use Pledge:

"I, (Business Name), pledge to reduce the amount of single-use foodware distributed by this establishment such as: forks, spoons, knives, straws, napkins, bags, condiment containers, and more. I will do this by only providing single-use foodware items to customers upon their request instead of providing them by default. I will be part of the solution to reduce the amount of single-use foodware that winds up in our landfill, rivers, and oceans."

#### Help Spread the Word:

Visit www.yournec.org/pledge to find a letter template and flyers you can send to your favorite local restaurant asking them to sign the pledge.



## REDUCE Environmental SINGLE-USE



**HUMBOLDT RESTAURANTS:** 

**SAVE MONEY AND THE PLANET** 

SINGLE-USE ONLY BY REQUEST.

SIGN THE PLEDGE

YOURNEC.ORG/PLEDGE









## **Butt In: Cigarette Litter Prevention**

Did you know that cigarette butts are the most littered item in Humboldt County and the world? Our new program is working to fight this problem by partnering with local businesses to increase access to cigarette receptacles which have been proven to promote responsible waste disposal.





## ACTIVATE

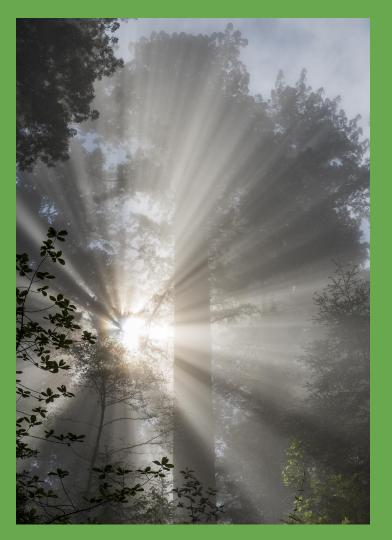
COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP

Every 3rd Wednesday 12:30 PM | Zoom Meeting

Letter Writing | E-Mail Blasts | Phone Banking | Petition Signing

yournec.org/activate

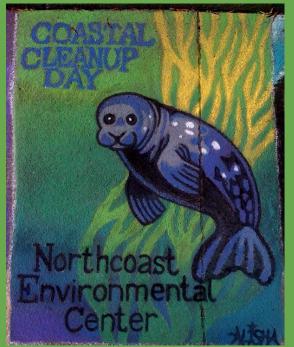




## The Future...













#### Reusable Bottle Drive

This year the NEC collected over 60 reusable water bottles for the RAVEN Project at-risk youth program.

Thank you to all the wonderful community members who donated!





RAVEN PROJECT'S YOUTH EDUCATOR