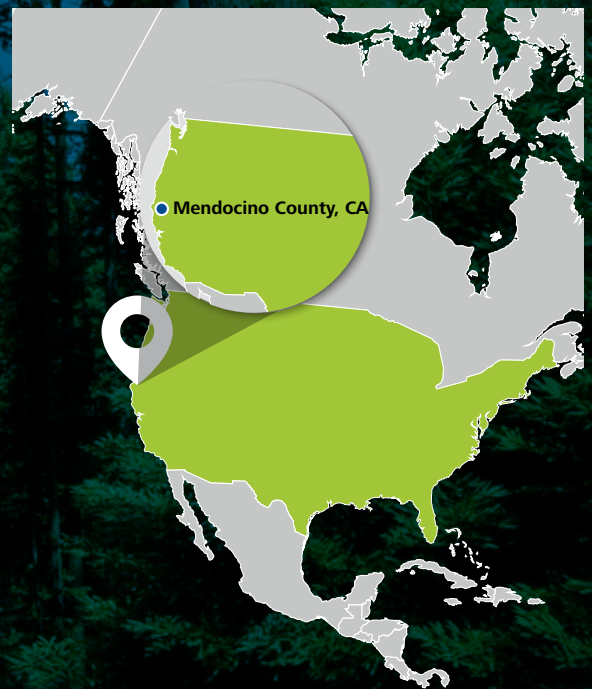




Garcia River Forest Protection USA

Protecting California's towering
redwood forests for generations to come



Along California's northern coast are the ancient redwood forests, home to the tallest trees on Earth, rich wildlife and stunning landscapes. However, decades of aggressive timber harvesting has depleted this landscape and battered the local economy. Now, a collaboration between a non-profit organization, private and public entities, and community stakeholders has established the first large non-profit owned working forest that will keep this remarkable forest standing and local economy supported for years to come. Storing more carbon per hectare than any other forest type, the pioneering Garcia River Forest project is of global significance, demonstrating that protecting our remaining forests can be economically viable.

The Context

The Garcia River Redwood Forest is the centerpiece of one of the largest river systems on California's North coast. Decades of aggressive timber harvesting has bruised the landscape and the economy — leaving depleted inventories of timber, a network of fragile roads on steep slopes of eroding soils, and miles of sediment-clogged rivers. Now there is pressure to convert the land into vineyards or second-home developments.

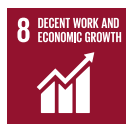
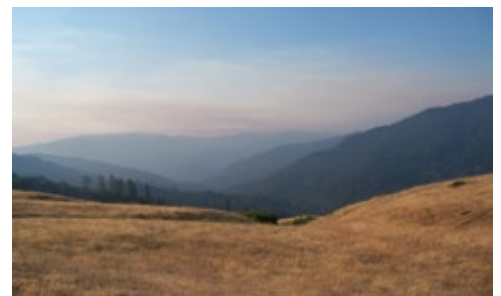
The Project

This pioneering project balances environmental restoration and stewardship with economic pressures of ownership and the desire to sustain the local timber economy, a longstanding lifeblood of the region. Keeping the land in production generates the revenue to support the environmental work and preserve jobs within the community. Initiatives address many aspects of the parks ecology: restoring salmon habitat is prioritised by placing large wood in streams and upgrading over 500 miles of roads to reduce the amount of sediment that ends up in the waterways.

The Benefits

The towering trees of the Garcia River Forest store carbon dioxide as they grow - in total more than 4 million tons of CO₂ is locked in the trees and vegetation, that's equivalent to removing over 856,000 passenger cars from the road for one year! The project protects the habitat of many threatened species including Coho salmon, Steelhead trout, the Northern spotted owl and at least 12 species of bats, including seven California Species of Concern. Bats are a valuable gauge for monitoring climate change and forest management impacts on redwood ecosystems because of their sensitivity to environmental stresses. The patient approach to forest management sends a clear message in California and across the world, that economic viability does not have to compromise environmental integrity.

The Garcia River project protects trees that can live up to 3,000 years - that's around the time of the ancient Greeks!



200+
jobs created

bolstering the local economy by improved land management and sustainable timber harvesting



Pioneering approach

to land conservation that balances environmental restoration and stewardship with sustainable economics



77,000+
tCO₂e

emissions stored annually



53
miles

of streams protected home to multiple fish species



9,600+
hectares

of ancient and globally significant forest protected



Improved habitat

for the coho salmon, steelhead trout, Northern spotted owl, Coastal tailed frog and many more rare wildlife

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

Official name: Garcia River Forest | **Registry link:** <https://thereserve2.apx.com/mymodule/reg/prjView.asp?id1=102> | **Registry ID:** CAR102 |

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