

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

HUMBOLDT COUNTY and THE REDWOOD PARKS CONSERVANCY

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between Humboldt County (HC) and the Redwood Parks Conservancy (RPC).

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to foster cooperation between HC and RPC for three purposes: (1) providing information to HC of potential funding opportunities for programs in Humboldt County, the application process and documentation required; (2) furthering training and experience for RPC participants (youth, adults, disabled and veterans, men and women) for future HC or other public land management employment; and (3) furthering the understanding and appreciation of natural and cultural resources through the involvement of youth, adults, disabled and veterans in the care and enhancement of public resources.

This MOU strengthens the partnership between HC and RPC. The MOU supports the long-standing efforts of HC to provide opportunities for public service, workforce development, youth, adults, disabled and veteran development and training, and the participation of young people, adults, disabled and veterans in accomplishing conservation-related work.

II. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL INTERESTS AND BENEFITS

HC is a county management agency. HC is charged with sustaining the health and productivity of public lands in the county for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. HC performs a wide variety of functions in managing public lands in the county, including inventorying resources, preparing land-use plans and assessing environmental impacts, inspecting and enforcing use and permits, designing and constructing facilities, and restoring habitats. HC has four mission areas: resource protection, resource use, recreation, and serving communities.

RPC is a community development and conservation nonprofit established to foster understanding, enjoyment and stewardship of our public lands through educational outreach, visitor services and support of our partners entrusted with the care of public lands along California's north coast.

HC benefits as RPC can cost-effectively complete critical conservation projects on HC lands including hazardous fire fuels reduction, invasive species removal, trail maintenance and construction, and other conservation and community development projects that enhance safety, community development and improve visitor and recreation experiences. RPC benefits with training, experience, and potential employment opportunities provided by HC for the participants enrolled in its programs. The public benefits by the participants in RPC completing critical projects in HC that meet the community development, recreation and health and safety needs of citizens of

HC and visitors.

III. AUTHORITY

This MOU is entered into under the following authority:

IV. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. The Humboldt County will:

- a. Inform HC department heads and staff of this MOU and request their participation in its implementation.
- b. Encourage HC department heads and staff to work together with RPC staff and participants to prepare grant applications and complete funded projects that are a priority for HC;
- c. Identify and refer potential projects to RPC members for consideration and fundraising; and
- d. Participate in RPC's annual Forum.

2. RPC will:

- a. Inform RPC staff and members of this MOU and disseminate copies of it;
- b. Develop and support youth, adults, disable and veterans programs of public benefit in cooperation with the HC to expose participants to public service while furthering their understanding and appreciation of the County's natural and cultural resources;
- c. Recruit and provide service opportunities to economically, racially, and geographically diverse population, including those who are unemployed or homeless;
- d. Make HC staff aware of and familiar with the expertise of participants and have opportunities for partnering; and
- e. Provide RPC members with information on employment and training opportunities with HC and other potential employers.

3. The Humboldt County and RPC agree that both parties will:

- a. As opportunities present themselves, explore educational programs about work projects and resource management at project sites to increase RPC members' knowledge of community and environmental problems, natural and cultural resources and HC, state, and local stewardship of public lands and resources;
- b. Identify and jointly explore funding opportunities for leveraging resources for project implementation; and
- c. Identify and jointly explore opportunities for RPC member graduates to move into employment or further education related to natural and cultural resource conservation with HC.

V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The HC and RPC agree that:

- A. Nothing in this agreement may be construed to obligate the Humboldt County, to any current or future expenditure of resources in advance of the availability of appropriations or grant approvals. Any endeavor involving an agreement for reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this MOU will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures, including those for Government procurement and printing. Such endeavors or agreements will be outlined in separate agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority.
- B. Nothing in this MOU will be construed as affecting the authorities of the participants or as binding beyond their respective authorities or to require any of the participants to obligate or expend funds.
- C. Nothing in this agreement may be interpreted to imply that HC endorses any product, service, or policy of RPC. RPC will not take any action or make any statement that suggests or implies such endorsement.
- D. Any information furnished to HC under this instrument is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552).
- E. This MOU in no way restricts HC or RPC from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other public or private agencies, organizations, or individuals.
- F. During the performance of this agreement, all parties will abide by the terms on nondiscrimination and will not discriminate against any person because of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability.
- G. Nothing herein is intended to conflict with the current HC or RPC directives. If any term of this agreement is deemed inconsistent with those directives, then the portions of this agreement that are inconsistent shall be null and void; but the remaining terms and conditions will remain in full force and effect.
- H. This MOU becomes effective upon signature by HC and RPC and, unless terminated, shall be in force for five years from the date of the last signature, at which time this MOU shall automatically terminate unless renewed by all parties hereto. Any party to this MOU reserves the right to withdraw from this agreement, or any part thereof, at any time upon 30 days prior written notice to the other party hereto (at the addresses set forth above or as otherwise indicated).
- I. Modifications within the scope of the instrument shall be made by mutual consent of the parties hereto, by the issuance of a written modification, signed and dated by the parties, prior to any changes being performed.
- J. The principal contacts for this instrument are as follows:

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last written date below.

Date: _____

Steve Madrone, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Redwood Parks Conservancy