

LYNN WOOLSEY  
6TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0506

November 29, 2005

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0506  
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DISTRICT OFFICES:  
1101 COLLEGE AVENUE, SUITE 200  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404  
TELEPHONE: (707) 542-7182

NORTHGATE BUILDING  
1050 NORTHGATE DRIVE, SUITE 354  
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903  
TELEPHONE: (415) 507-9554

Mr. Richard Retecki  
Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Retecki:

I am writing to express my support for the proposal submitted by Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods. For twenty years, this non-profit organization has worked with State and local agencies to provide programs that promote education, preservation, and restoration of the Russian River area.

Stewards' proposal includes developing new programs for interpretive hikes for park visitors, an educational "Environmental Living Program" for students, service learning opportunities, and an expanded Citizen Action Team for trail and stewardship projects. It is my understanding that funding for this project will be used for program development, docent recruitment and training, and the additional equipment needed for this organization to continue carrying out its environmental mission.

I strongly support Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods and their past and future initiatives to preserve the Russian River watershed. This project will greatly benefit the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and I urge you to give this application your full and careful consideration. If you have any questions or comments, please contact my grants coordinator, Ed Sheffield, in my Santa Rosa office at (707) 542-7182.

Sincerely,



Lynn Woolsey  
Member of Congress

LW:esh

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SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT

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HOMES  
RURAL EDUCATION

November 29, 2005



Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Re: Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods

Dear Mr. Retecki:

I am writing in support of Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods application for funds from the California Coastal Conservancy for Willow Creek. The Stewards program has a twenty year history working in partnership with California State Parks in the Russian River area. They currently support fifteen different State Park volunteer and docent programs and plan to add 2-3 new programs during the coming year.

State Parks acquired 3,400 acres in the Willow Creek watershed and are depending on partnerships with nonprofit organizations and volunteers to provide public access to this natural resource. Stewards has worked with the Willow Creek watershed for the past five years and has attracted grant funded projects that have resulted in the creation of a Watershed Management Plan and Channel Feasibility Analysis.

Stewards is seeking \$60,000 to enhance the current docent program at Willow Creek and to develop docent-led programs for park visitors of all ages. New programs will include theme-based interpretive hikes for park visitors, an Environmental Living Program, service learning opportunities, and an expanded Citizen Action Team to increase public involvement in the watershed.

I support the efforts to develop Riverfront Regional Park and the current grant proposal before the Conservancy. Please keep me apprised of the progress of this application.

Sincerely,

  
WESLEY CHESBRO  
State Senator, Second District

WC: sf

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.



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COUNTY CLERK



MIKE REILLY  
SUPERVISOR FIFTH DISTRICT

mreilly@sonoma-county.org  
FAX: (707) 565-3392

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS  
CAROL MILLS  
DARCY MAJOR

November 23, 2005

California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, Ca. 94612-2530

Attention: Richard Retecki

Dear Richard,

I am writing to express my support for the Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods request for \$60,000 funding over the next four years.

Stewards has a twenty year history working in partnership with California State Parks in the Russian River area. They currently support fifteen different State Park volunteer and docent programs.

As you know, State Parks has acquired 3,400 acres in the Willow Creek watershed with limited funds going to operations and maintenance and no funds going to increase staffing levels. They are depending on partnerships with nonprofit organizations to provide public access on this new acquisition.

Stewards is coordinating their stewardship efforts with LandPaths, the nonprofit organization that is currently managing a public access permit program through a MOU with State Parks. Stewards is seeking funding to enhance their current docent programs that operate in the Willow Creek watershed and also to develop new docent-led programs for park visitors.

As County Supervisor for the Willow Creek area, I urge you to grant their request.

Sincerely,

Mike Reilly  
5<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
North Bay District  
P.O. Box 123  
25381 Steelhead Boulevard  
Duncans Mills, CA 95430

Ruth Coleman, Director

Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

November 23, 2005

Dear Richard,

California State Parks endorses the request from Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods (Stewards) for funding from the California State Coastal Conservancy in the amount of \$60,000.00 over the next four years.

This funding will be used for volunteer program development, docent recruitment/training and equipment and supplies. This grant will enable the Stewards and the Russian River Sector of the North Bay District to enhance our volunteer efforts in the newly acquired Willow Creek property. This will provide increased educational, interpretive and recreational opportunities in the Willow Creek watershed.

This grant will also allow for new programs that will include theme-based interpretive programs for park visitors, an Environmental Living Program for grades 4 through 8, additional service learning opportunities for grades 4 through 12. It will also allow us the opportunity to expand our Citizen Action Team to accomplish trail and stewardship projects.

The North Bay District acquired the Willow Creek property without any increase in staffing or funding to support operations and maintenance. These functions are currently being supported by partnerships with nonprofit organizations to provide public access and education on this new acquisition.

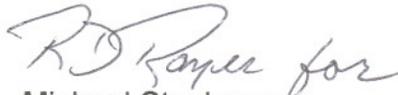
Stewards has a successful 20 year history in providing quality programming with California State Parks in the Russian River area. Stewards currently supports fifteen different volunteer/docent programs within the Russian River Sector. These programs comprise over 300 Volunteers within the Volunteer in Parks Program. These volunteers contribute over 10,000 hours annually, which equates to approximately \$170,000.00 of service to the Russian River sector. Stewards has an additional 3 new programs scheduled to begin this next calendar year.

Additionally, Stewards has a five year history working in the Willow Creek watershed and is coordinating their stewardship efforts with LandPaths, the nonprofit organization that is currently assisting the Russian River sector in managing a public access permit program to the Willow Creek property.

Several noteworthy projects have come to fruition with direct assistance and involvement from Stewards. Efforts through grant funded projects have produced a Watershed Management Plan and a Channel Feasibility Analysis for the Willow Creek property. The Citizen Action Team has been monitoring water quality at three different locations in Willow Creek for four years. In addition, the Watershed Education Program provides 10 educational and service learning projects per year for grade school students.

The North Bay District fully supports this grant request and looks forward to working with Stewards to design, create and implement many new and diverse volunteer programs in the Willow Creek property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. D. Royce for".

Michael Stephenson  
Superintendent (Interim)  
North Bay District



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## North Coast Region

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Alan C. Lloyd, PhD  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

Internet Address: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov>  
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California 95403  
Phone (707) 576-2220 • FAX (707) 523-0135



Arnold  
Schwarzenegger  
Governor

Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2430

November 28, 2005

Dear Mr. Retecki

The Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods (Stewards) is one of the most outstanding watershed groups in the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's area. This group has worked in the Russian River watershed in partnership with the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) for twenty years, and has built excellent volunteer and docent programs that educated over 5,000 students in 2005. The Stewards' education program provides learning projects for 5 to 10 classes per year, and volunteers and docents contribute about 10,000 hours per year to the Stewards' efforts.

Willow Creek is one of the last tributary streams entering the Russian River before it flows to the ocean. State Parks has recently acquired 3,400 acres of this watershed and, because of low funding levels, needs help providing public access stewardship. The Stewards have been working for five years in the Willow Creek watershed, over which time they have developed a management plan and a channel feasibility study, and have conducted four years of water quality monitoring. They are currently partnering with the nonprofit LandPaths to provide public access to the new acquisition, and LandPaths is working on a successful \$400,000 Prop 13 grant administered by the Regional Water Board to decommission 8 to 10 miles of road in the Willow Creek watershed. The Stewards would like to enhance their current docent program in the Willow Creek watershed and to develop new docent programs for park visitors of all ages. In addition, their new programs will include interpretive hikes, service learning for students, and other amenities.

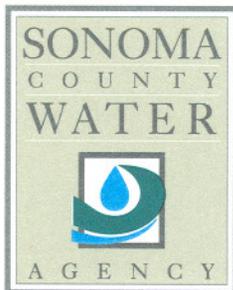
The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board supports the Stewards in all their efforts, but in particular, we support their grant application for the Willow Creek Docent Program, where funding will be used for program development, docent recruitment and training, equipment, and supplies. The Stewards' volunteers and docents contribute over \$170,000 per year in services to our parks, and this grant would provide a high quality docent program for this beautiful watershed.

Sincerely,

  
Janet M. Blake  
Watershed Coordinator  
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

California Environmental Protection Agency





File: wc/45-0-7 Russian River Watershed Prop 13 Grant Agreements –  
Stewards of Slavianka and Department of Parks & Rec  
(Restoration & Management of Willow Creek Watershed - A-2)  
TW# 01/02-91

November 21, 2005

Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR WILLOW CREEK DOCENT PROGRAM**

The Sonoma County Water Agency hereby indicates its support for the proposal by the Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods to enhance their current docent programs that operate in the Willow Creek watershed in western Sonoma County and to develop new docent-led programs for park visitors of all ages.

California State Parks recently acquired 3,400 acres in the Willow Creek watershed, with limited funds going to operations and maintenance and no funds going to increase staffing levels. This means partnerships with other nonprofit organizations are necessary to provide public access stewardship on this newly acquired addition.

Stewards has a five year history working in the Willow Creek watershed. Efforts through grant funded projects, including a Proposition 13 pass-through grant administered by the Sonoma County Water Agency, have produced a Watershed Management Plan and Channel Feasibility Analysis. Their Citizen Action Team now has four years worth of water quality monitoring data from three different locations in the watershed. In addition, their Watershed Education Program provides education and service learning projects for 5-10 classes each year.

Stewards is currently requesting \$60,000 over four years from the California Coastal Conservancy to support their Willow Creek Docent Program. Funding will be used for program development, docent recruitment and training, and equipment and supplies.

New programs will include theme-based interpretive hikes for park visitors, a two-day Environmental Living Program for grades 4 through 8, additional service learning opportunities for grades 4 through 12, and an expanded Citizen Action Team with the skills to accomplish trail and stewardship projects. Mounted assistance units, both equestrian and mountain bike, are also planned for the future. Stewards is coordinating their stewardship efforts with LandPaths, the nonprofit organization that is currently managing a public access permit program through a Memorandum of Understanding with California State Parks.

Please call me at (707) 526-5370 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Randy D. Poole  
General Manager/Chief Engineer

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NOV 23 2005

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

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**CALIFORNIA  
STATE PARKS  
FOUNDATION**

*The Voice for* November 21, 2005  
*California's*  
*State Parks*

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Richard Retecki  
Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Retecki,

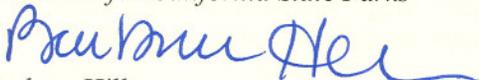
We are writing to express our strong support for the *Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods'* (*Stewards*) education and outreach programs planned for the Willow Creek watershed in Sonoma County. New programs such as theme-based interpretive hikes for park visitors, a two-day Environmental Living Program for grades 4 through 8, additional service-learning opportunities for grades 4 through 12, an expanded Citizen Action Team focused on trail and stewardship projects and, expanded docent-led programs for park visitors of all ages will continue to increase public awareness of this beautiful wildlife habitat.

*Stewards* has more than a twenty year history working in partnership with the California State Parks in the Russian River area. They currently support fifteen different State Park volunteer and docent programs and plan to add additional programs in the coming year. In 2005, the State Parks acquired 3,400 acres in the Willow Creek watershed with a limited budget for operations and maintenance and, no funds for increasing staffing levels. They will be entirely dependent on partnerships with non-profit organizations such as *Stewards* to provide public access stewardship in this new acquisition.

In addition to developing interpretive programs for children and adults, *Stewards* has been an important public advocate for the Willow Creek watershed. Efforts through grant-funded projects have produced a Watershed Management Plan and Channel Feasibility Analysis. Their Citizen Action Team now has four years worth of water quality monitoring data sampled from separate locations in the watershed.

As a long-time partner with *Stewards* in working to improve and enhance the California State Park system, we enthusiastically endorse their new Willow Creek education and outreach programs and encourage your support of this vital work.

**California State Parks Foundation**  
*The Voice for California State Parks*

  
Barbara Hill  
Vice President



*Saving the California coast...one step at a time*

825 Gravenstein Hwy. North, # 8, Sebastopol, CA 95472 • (707) 829-6689 • (800) 550-6854 • FAX (707) 829-0326 • www.coastwalk.org

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*and Development*

November 18, 2005

Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Coastal Conservancy Board,

Coastwalk fully supports the work of the Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods and we encourage a grant in the amount of \$60,000 to be used for docent work and stewardship of the new State Park Willow Creek acquisition. The Stewards have a proven track record in support of our local parks and they will use the grant effectively.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "RN", written over the typed name of Richard Nichols.

Richard Nichols  
Executive Director

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NOV 21 2005

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

SONOMA COAST ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Post Office Box 123 • Duncans Mills, CA 95430

Brenda Adelman

November 29, 2005

Philip Barlow

Scott Barrow

Sabrina Braham

Kate Fenton

David Kenly

Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Richard:

Kathie Lowrey, Chair

Julie Marlowe

Don Martin

Darrell Sukovitzten

Elinor Twohy

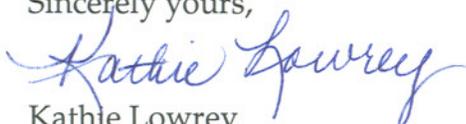
Carol Vellutini

It is with pleasure that the Sonoma Coast Advisory Committee (SCAC) to State Parks recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy approve funding for the Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods' (Stewards) to enhance and expand their valuable docent and stewardship programs in the Willow Creek watershed over the next four years. Stewards' volunteer and docent programs have contributed enormously to the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of Sonoma Coast State Beach since 1985, a 20-year record of achievement. They have worked in the Willow Creek watershed for five years and have succeeded in developing a watershed management plan, in conducting a channel feasibility analysis, in coordinating stewardship efforts with LandPaths and others, in training and equipping volunteer water quality monitors (the Citizen Action Team), and in providing education and service learning experiences for schools.

Our understanding is that Stewards is requesting \$60,000 over four years for program development, docent recruitment and training, and equipment and supplies. Stewards' proposed work includes expanding and improving their current docent programs in Willow Creek and developing new docent-led experiences for park visitors of all ages. New programs will include theme-based interpretive hikes for park visitors, a two-day Environmental Living Program for grades 4 through 8, additional service learning opportunities for grades 4 through 12, and an expanded Citizen Action Team with the skills to accomplish trail and stewardship projects.

Thank you for your interest in Stewards' work. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. I can be reached during business hours at 707-874-0102, ext. 34.

Sincerely yours,



Kathie Lowrey  
Chair



PRUNUSKE CHATHAM, INC.

November 28, 2005

Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Richard:

I am writing to express my whole-hearted support of the proposal submitted by Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods for strengthening their docent and stewardship programs in the Willow Creek watershed.

For the past five years, Stewards has been a highly effective force in the Willow Creek watershed. They convened a Technical Advisory Committee with all major landowners as well as scientists and agency representatives to oversee the production of the Willow Creek Watershed Management Plan and Channel Feasibility Analysis. Throughout changes and great uncertainty in land ownership and management, they have maintained a steady education program that brings local students into the watershed and provides learning projects for five to ten classes each year. Their citizen monitors have collected four years worth of sound and useful water quality data.

With the recent transfer of 3,400 acres in the upper Willow Creek Watershed to the Sonoma Coast State Beach, Stewards' work is more important than ever. While State Parks received no additional funding for staffing to support the new acquisition, Sonoma County residents and others are chomping at the bit to explore their new park area. Stewards' proposal will help visitors of all ages learn how to use the Willow Creek watershed in ways that protect and even restore its natural resources. The expanded activities of the Citizen Action Team will give volunteers opportunities to do hands-on stewardship work, the environmental education programs will continue to build the bond between children and their wild landscape, and the interpretive hikes will fill a great need for ongoing education.

Given Stewards' proven track record, the proposed projects will efficiently accomplish a tremendous amount of education and citizen involvement—the real work needed to keep the Willow Creek watershed healthy far into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liza Prunuske', written over a horizontal line.

Liza Prunuske  
Principal



1 December 2005

Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

**RE: Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods Willow Creek Docent and Stewardship Grant**

Dear Richard:

Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods is currently requesting funding from the California Coastal Conservancy in the amount of \$60,000 over the next four years to enhance and expand their docent and stewardship programs in the new Willow Creek watershed acquisition. Stewards are seeking funding to enhance their current docent programs that operate in the Willow Creek watershed and also to develop new docent-led programs for park visitors of all ages.

State Parks has acquired 3,400 acres in the Willow Creek watershed with limited funds going to operations and maintenance and no funds going to increase staffing levels. They are depending on partnerships with nonprofit organizations and funding from agencies such as the Conservancy to provide public access stewardship on this new acquisition.

Trout Unlimited (TU), our 150,000 members nationwide and 350 local members ask that the conservancy fund this project. TU's mission to conserve, protect and restore salmon and trout and their watersheds relies heavily on public participation, community outreach and education, exactly what Stewards is working hard to accomplish. TU professionals and volunteers have been active in the Willow Creek watershed over the years implementing on-the-ground work to reduce sediment impacts, and working with Stewards and others to develop a watershed plan for this important salmonid stream.

Funding the Stewards project will continue their successful Willow Creek program. TU appreciates your support of this project and we will continue to play an active role in the restoration and stewardship of the Willow Creek watershed with Stewards and other watershed stakeholders. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Dickerson  
Project Manager, North Coast Coho Project

cc: Michelle Luna, Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods  
Kent MacIntosh, Trout Unlimited Redwood Empire Chapter  
Chuck Bonham, Trout Unlimited California Director

**TROUT UNLIMITED:** America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation Organization  
California Office: 1120 College Ave., Santa Rosa CA 95404  
(707) 543-5877 [www.tucalifornia.org](http://www.tucalifornia.org)

Mr. Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

November 20, 2005  
Sebastopol, California

Dear Mr. Retecki:

My wife and I are Volunteer Docents with the Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods.

With the recent acquisition of the 3400-acre Willow Creek watershed by California State Parks, a remarkable new area will be available to the public. However, with limited funds for operation and maintenance, and with no additional staff, volunteer help will be invaluable in order to fully support this new area.

The Stewards will be asking for a grant from the California Coastal Conservancy to help continue the Willow Creek efforts. We sincerely believe this will be monies well spent and hope that you will support the Stewards.

The Stewards have been active participants in Willow Creek for over five years. A Watershed Management Plan and Channel Feasibility Analysis were Steward's projects. Four years of water quality monitoring data were obtained through the Citizen Action Team. Five to ten classes a year are served by the education and service learning projects. Over 5,000 school children have been supported by Steward Programs in 2005.

Future programs will include interpretive hikes for park visitors, and expanding the Citizen Action Team for additional projects. A two-day Environmental Living Program for grades 4 through 8 is planned, as well as additional programs for grades 4 through 12. Mounted "Assistance Units" are planned for future implementation. Funds will be assigned to enhance and update current docent programs and develop new, specific docent-led programs for all park visitors of all ages.

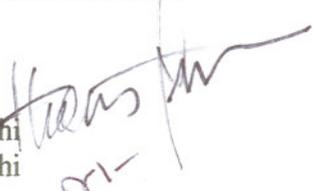
The Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods is coordinating efforts with LandPaths, the nonprofit organization responsible for public access permits in coordination with California State Parks.

The 300+ volunteer members of the Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods currently support fifteen different California State Park volunteer and docent programs, and contribute over 10,000 volunteer hours every year. We believe they provide welcome support to the California State Parks system.

We are pleased to be members.

Thank you.

Thomas Fujiyoshi  
Marilyn Fujiyoshi



Handwritten signature of Thomas Fujiyoshi, with the initials "TF" written below it.

**NORMA L. JELLISON  
PO BOX 1636  
BODEGA BAY CA 94923  
(707) 875-3799 phone/fax**

---

November 25, 2005

Richard Retecki, Project Manager  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Richard:

I am a long time member of Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods (Stewards), formerly Stewards of Slavianka, serving as a Whale Watch and Seal Watch Docent on the Sonoma Coast. I am writing in support of the Stewards application for a Coastal Conservancy Grant for ongoing programs in support of the Willow Creek Watershed.

Stewards is currently requesting \$60,000 over four years from the California Coastal Conservancy to support our Willow Creek Docent Program. Funding will be used for program development, docent recruitment and training, and equipment and supplies.

As I am sure you are aware, Stewards has a five-year history working in the Willow Creek watershed. Previous grant funded projects produced a Watershed Management Plan and a Channel Feasibility Analysis. The Stewards Citizen Action Team has compiled four years of water quality monitoring data from three different locations in the Willow Creek watershed. In addition, our Watershed Education Program provides education and service learning projects for 5-10 classes a year. We are now seeking to build on this track record and move to the next level of stewardship in the Willow Creek watershed.

While State Parks recently acquired 3,400 acres in the Willow Creek watershed, it has limited funds for ongoing operations and maintenance. It has no funds to increase staffing levels to manage and interpret in this new acquisition. State Parks is, therefore, depending on partnerships with nonprofit organizations to provide public access and stewardship efforts for this new acquisition.

Stewards will continue to coordinate our stewardship efforts with LandPaths, the nonprofit organization that is currently managing a public access permit program through a Memorandum Of Understanding with State Parks. Stewards is seeking funding to enhance our current docent programs that operate in the Willow Creek watershed and to develop new docent-led programs for park visitors of all ages. New programs will include:

- theme-based interpretive hikes for park visitors,
- a two-day Environmental Living Program for grades 4 through 8,