



## Portola and Castle Rock Foundation

*Inspiring the Protection of Castle Rock and Portola Redwoods State Parks Through Quality Educational Experiences and Infrastructure Improvements*

### Fall 2019 Newsletter

#### Thank you

Portola and Castle Rock Foundation is grateful to all of our donors, members and volunteers. With your support we are able to help fund important Parks projects at Castle Rock and Portola Redwoods State Parks. Thank you for your continued support.

#### Scouts Help Revitalize Partridge Farm

*Article and pictures provided by Board Director and Volunteer, Eric Schmidt.*

On Sunday, September 29 under sunny skies, a group of ten scouts and four adults worked to improve the area around the Partridge Farm Interpretive shelter at Castle Rock State Park.



In 2019 Boy Scouting transitioned to Scouting and began enrolling troops of young women. These girls have the same requirements for becoming an Eagle Scout, and many of them enrolled with limited time to get everything done. One for the requirements to become a Life scout is to do three hours of Conservation

Community Service. With that in mind Sarah Mester organized a day of service for Los Altos Troop 201 along with some boys from Troop 37.

Their goal was to enhance the beauty and restore some history around the interpretive shelter.

There are twelve apple and pear trees at Partridge Farm that have been neglected for many decades. During the winter they were trimmed and pruned.

The scouts divided into two groups. The older scouts pruned, cut and dug-out undergrowth around the trees. The younger group dragged and wheelbarrowed clippings and debris to a clearing. After three hours they had cleaned out deadwood on four trees and cleared undergrowth on three more, setting the stage for



healthier growth next year. We anticipate their efforts will result in a nice crop of apples and pears in 2020 for both animal and human visitors to enjoy.

## Membership



*Help us do great things!*

*Become a member of Portola Castle Rock Foundation today and we will provide you with free detailed hiking maps of both Portola Redwoods and Castle Rock State parks. Other Membership benefits include a 20% discount at Portola Redwoods Visitor Center Store and an invitation to our annual membership and volunteer appreciation event.*

*Learn more: [portolaandcastlerockfound.org/become-a-member/](http://portolaandcastlerockfound.org/become-a-member/)*

## Make a Difference Today with Your Donation

Portola and Castle Rock Foundation uses donations from supporters like you to sponsor local State Park programs and events, including volunteer and docent training. We also make improvements at the Parks, such as the recent replacement of the roof at the Castle Rock Interpretive Shelter and the restoration of the Danny Hanavan trail. Donate today at [PortolaAndCastleRockFoundation.org](http://PortolaAndCastleRockFoundation.org).

## Iverson Trail Project at Portola Redwoods State Park

A section of the Iverson Trail, below Tiptoe Falls, has extensive erosion and an unsafe walking condition. The stream channel has redirected itself and is running down the trail, forcing hikers to create alternative routes to avoid the stream channel. The Santa Cruz District Trail Crew and Trail Center Volunteers are working this fall and winter to realign the trail, including constructing two sections of interlocking steps to allow hikers to quickly climb out of drainage areas. New trail signs will also be added to guide hikers at the new trail intersections.

## Trail Bridges Replacements Planned for Castle Rock State Park

Three bridges in Castle Rock are slated for replacement. Two of the bridges are located on the Saratoga Gap Trail and one is located on the Loghry Woods Trail. Parks is also planning to repair a bench at Bridge-B1 on the Saratoga Gap Trail. Work is expected to begin soon with completion by the end of Spring 2020.

## Portola Redwoods Visitor Center Entrance Improvements

As part of the PCRFF effort to make the visitors' entrance more engaging and welcoming, a new bike rack will be installed near the firewood shed. The bike rack will hold up to nine bicycles. Installation is planned by the end of 2019.

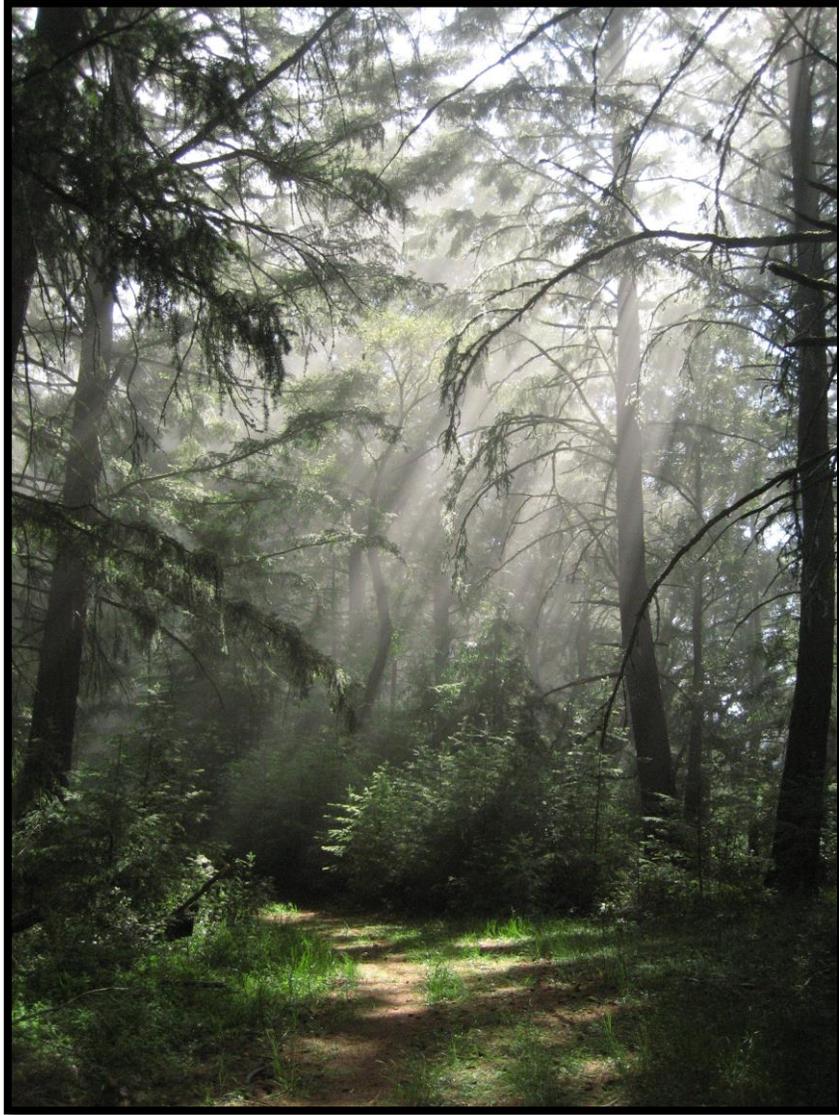
## Shop and Support Portola and Castle Rock Foundation



Did you know that when you shop at [smile.amazon.com/ch/94-3151586](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-3151586), AmazonSmile donates to Portola and Castle Rock Foundation? Thank you for your support.

## Opt Outside

PCRF volunteers will be leading hikes in both Parks as we embrace the Opt Outside option to Black Friday shopping. Join us on a hike on Friday November 29, 2019.



## Make a Difference Today by Joining the PCRF Board of Directors

We are actively seeking additional volunteer directors to help us accomplish great things for Portola Redwoods and Castle Rock State Parks. Contact us at [Nominations@PortolaAndCastleRockFound.org](mailto:Nominations@PortolaAndCastleRockFound.org) to learn more. Our next meeting is December 7, 2019.

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