

NEWSLETTER OF COASTWALK Saving the California Coast One Step at a Time Summer 2004

## Is the Coastal Trail Imperiled?

The wonderful California Coastal Trail - it's the public trail we all fervently want to see finished, and want to hike so as to experience firsthand its beauty, animals and plants, history, people and places. But is it imperiled as a place to inspire and nurture us, by the human impacts on both land and sea?

The answer, sadly, is yes.

Two new reports confirm what many have known for years. The Pew Oceans Commission, comprised of scientists, fishermen, conservationists, elected leaders, and business leaders (funded by the charitable non-profit Pew Foundation) and the U.S. Oceans Commission, made up of business and military leaders appointed by the Bush Administration, reached the same conclusions: that the nation must take immediate action to avert the continuing decline of ocean wildlife and collapse of ecosystems.

## Inside:

Changes at Coastwalk . . . . 2 What's the Big Deal about the big Hearst Ranch CCT Snapshot: History of the Hearst Ranch . . . . . . . 3 Tides & Trails: Victories for coastal

## The Year in **Accomplishments**

You know how it seems sometimes that accomplishments happen at a snail's pace, and that nothing is really getting done? Well, at least I sometimes feel that way. I made a list of highlights from the past Coastwalk year to help me see what Coastwalk volunteers, members and staff really did what your donations helped us to accomplish - and here it is, off the top of my head. I think it's pretty impressive. - Linda Hanes, Board President

Made history and raised CCT awareness: September 22, 2003 - Coastal Trail Expedition '03 (CTE 03) members finished a 1,196-mile walk down the coast of California. Countless newspaper articles, TV and radio spots and magazine articles featuring Coastwalk and highlighting the California Coastal Trail (CCT) came out of that hike.

**Lengthened the CCT:** We worked with local trail advocates and state park personnel to lay out trail routes in Sonoma County, LA Harbor/San Pedro area, Mendocino and San Luis Obispo counties.

Millions of Californians hear the Coastwalk message: Coastwalk and our mission were featured in a half hour

segment on Huell Howser's PBS show, which airs on various PBS TV stations statewide, and will be re-run for a few years. Coastal trails accessible to all: We created a new website, featuring interactive maps that show the CCT route and descriptions of hikes as well as a daily journal from the CTE 03. This website is one of three we maintain..

advocates ..... 7

## Coastwalk Is...

#### THE COASTWALK MISSION:

- Complete the California Coastal Trail (CCT) - a continuous trail along the entire California coastline.
- Protect the scenic and natural environment of the coast while providing public access.
- Educate the public about the CCT and coastal protection, and
- Coordinate with government, community and trail organizations to promote the CCT, protect public access and encourage coastal protection.

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## New Digs After three years in a small office in

After three years in a small office in downtown Sebastopol, Sonoma County, Coastwalk has moved to some new digs. Also in Sebastopol, the new office has space to accommodate our expanded staff (we're now five employees plus several volunteers) and numerous projects. Our new address is:

825 Gravenstein Hwy. North, Suite 8, Sebastopol, CA 95472

If you're ever in the area, stop by!

## New Staff at Coastwalk

I am pleased to introduce our three new, energetic staff members: Sasha, Rob, and Leila. We will work as a team to improve all aspects of Coastwalk. For many years, our organization was administered by volunteers, and then by myself. As Coastwalk has grown so has the need for the energy of additional staff to accomplish our goals. We are grateful for our partnership with the State Coastal Conservancy. It has helped us to make this needed expansion.

We will increase our efforts to promote the CCT, educate more people through summer Coastwalks, and continue to find funding for our efforts. As Executive Director, I will do more work with other non-profits, agencies and officials to ensure that the Coastal Trail is completed, and work for legislation which protects our valuable shoreline.

Without volunteers, members and walkers, Coastwalk would not exist. You are needed now more than ever and we thank each one of you for your continued support.

- Richard Nichols



#### SASHA ROSE SCHAIBLE Director of Operations and Development

I have always been passionate about the environment. It may have started when I was just a baby: my mother carried me on her back while she helped clean up the 1971 San Francisco Bay oil spill.

I feel fortunate to have lived near the

California coast for the past ten years. I visit the ocean often to find clarity and renewal and want to preserve this beautiful place for future generations.

I started working in non-profit management seven years ago, at Community Vocational Enterprise, a San Francisco organization that provides vocational rehabilitation. In 1999 I moved to Sonoma County and was hired to manage West County Community Services' youth program. During this time I also attended New College of California, majoring in Culture, Ecology & Sustainable Communities. My studies here renewed my commitment to help create a world where people and nature live in balance.

More recently, I worked with West Sonoma County schools to implement a program for service learning. Here I started a leadership program for students to learn about and act upon environmental and social issues. I also facilitated teacher trainings and created a plan for organizational development that continues to guide the district today.

As I learn about Coastwalk's history, I see remarkable success and growth, clearly the result of many people's time, energy and support over the years. Looking to the future, I see that we still have much work to do to complete the California Coastal Trail while we raise awareness and advocate for coastal protection. I am honored to be a part of the next leg of the journey.

As the new Director of Operations and Development, I will work hard to increase efficiency and sustain funding so that Coastwalk thrives well into the future. I will oversee the day-to-day business of the Coastwalk office, coordinate staff efforts and organize our "home base" to better support our volunteers and various activities. I will raise awareness of our programs and attract new people to our walks through increased outreach and by introducing new Coastwalk experiences. Your feedback about Coastwalk is essential and I would love to hear from you.



#### ROB HELMS Trail Steward, CCT Project

My family has a history of community involvement, starting with my grandparents, who planted what is now a Memorial Forest. My aunt spent endless days improving

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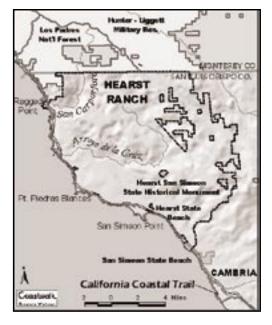
# News from the California Coastal Trail



## Is the Hearst Deal Good for the Public?

by Richard Nichols

The 82,000-acre Hearst Ranch, located on some of San Luis Obispo County's most breath-taking coastal and mountainous lands, has been the subject of a great deal of public speculation since the Hearst Corporation announced its intention to make a deal with the State of California to conserve the 128 square mile property. As it stands, the Hearst Corporation will gain \$95 million in public funds from the deal. Environmentalists and outdoor enthusiasts, among many others in the community, have long argued that the property should be preserved for its countless rare species of plants and animals, and that the public at large should have access to its historic coastline.



Over a year ago, the Hearst Corporation released a one page, five-point "Framework for the Conservation of the Hearst Ranch," and began recruiting endorsers for the deal with the State. At the time the SLOcoast Alliance of environmental groups (including Coastwalk), led by the local San Luis Obispo chapter of the Sierra Club, did not endorse the framework, but instead called for disclosure of details, and at the same time expressed some cautious optimism that the framework would benefit the public. In the last year the Hearst Corporation, along with the American Land Conservancy, has been in secret negotiations with state agencies to hammer

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## Mapping the CCT

Coastwalk volunteer mappers will be out on the trail this summer with their GPS units and cameras, detailing the California Coastal Trail. They will be using a set of fieldwork maps I, as Coastwalk Mapping Coordinator, have made, in order to locate certain points along the trail, and collect information about them. We are collecting data on over 60 characteristics, from firepits to trail surfaces to impassable rocks, and taking pictures of each site.

The use of GPS technology is making this project the most geographically accurate listing available anywhere of coastal access points, parks, trails, public marinas, etc. GPS is the global positioning system that allows a GPS receiver to display the exact location, and record the latitude and longitude coordinates for any point on earth. Our volunteers will be seen carrying a GPS, camera and notepad for recording the

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*In the midst of all the drama surrounding the Hearst* Ranch deal, we can forget the actual piece of land that everyone is fussing about. Yet this land is not only a stunning, diverse slice of the State, including what we have hoped will be a new 18-mile length of the CCT, but an actual place with a living, breathing history. In many ways this history mirrors California's as a whole, and reminds us all why access to public lands, and particularly to our coast, is so important. Our beautiful coastline is a huge part of what defines us as Californians. To know about the coast and its history is to know more about ourselves. That's why, from time to time, you will find in our newsletters little snapshots of the history and lore of a particular slice of the CCT. We hope in this way to make the Trail more alive for our readers and ourselves.

The Hearst Ranch, stretching from the ocean over the Santa Lucia Mountains, up to Los Padres National

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#### Hearst Deal cont. from page 3

out the very details that the Alliance has been calling for disclosure of.

On Monday, July 12, a 500-page document was released by the State, outlining only part of the substance of the conservation agreement. While the agreement does sell over 1,000 acres of the coastal land to the State, and does place a conservation easement on the ranch, there are huge loopholes and compromises in the deal, leading

the SLOcoast Alliance to conclude that withholding early endorsement of the framework was indeed a wise decision.

There are many issues and unanswered questions in the agreement. A few of the highlights of the deal that seem at odds with the spirit of the original framework include:



Corporation will retain ownership of three of the most scenic coastal sites, and will restrict access, forcing the California Coastal Trail (CCT) adjacent to the highway for a significant part of the route. This is in stark contrast



Ragged Point on the Hearst Ranch

- to the framework promise of a continuous CCT route providing full access to the shore.
- The easement allows oil, gas and mining development, a winery, and logging.
- The 27 five-acre clustered home parcels are actually 25-acre parcels and are spread throughout the ranch, including in undisturbed wild lands.

The Hearst Corporation is demanding huge concessions

from the State, including the 27-home sites spread out over the entire ranch, a 100-unit inn, another 15 employee home sites, and continued ownership of the three most scenic parcels on the coast.

The \$95 million deal is on a short timeline for state approval. The SLOcoast Alliance is calling for an extension of the public comment period, and is asking that the State fully explore the many issues that make this less than an ideal agreement. The areas of major

concern are: full coastal access, a genuine clustering of the proposed home sites, and a more transparent conservation process and stronger restrictions.

Public money is being spent; the public has a right to get full value. Our coast belongs to all of us.

#### Mapping cont. from page 3

locations and attributes in a low-tech field effort.

As the data comes back into the office environment (or home-office, in many cases) a shift is made to the high-tech world with the use of web-based forms for moving the data to the web site, and eventually into a computerized Geographic Information System (GIS). The mapper will be able to go into the new Coastal Trail web page and call up a form just like the paper one to enter the information. In this way, volunteers from all over California can feed their data into a common database, and it will be displayed over the Internet. Look for it at www.californiacoastaltrail.info with your web browser.

This field effort, and the display on the web, also depends on the development of base maps for the counties upon which the new data will be placed. The base data has been collected for over a year and the maps are now being drawn. The two most active Coastwalk counties, Sonoma and Los Angeles, have county-wide maps now on the website, and are divided up into section maps for close viewing. Access points developed by the Coastal Commission are already positioned on these maps, without the more accurate GPS readings, and can give the viewer a good idea of where to access the Trail and ocean. As new GPS positions come in from the Coastwalk mappers, these points will be updated with more accurate positions.



We had a workshop on use of the GPS and camera for recording this data in June with Sonoma County board members Linda Hanes and Jon Breyfogle. They both learned the technology very quickly and easily did ten sites in about 5 hours, including drive time. We covered all of Bodega Bay. From this experience we can see that two mappers could cover an entire county on a few weekend expeditions. Coastwalkers love to get out on the coastal trails, and we hope that many more volunteers will get some training and try their hand at coastal trail mapping. If you are interested in contributing to the knowledge about the Coastal Trail in this way, please contact Rixanne Wehren at coastgis@mcn.org in Northern and Central California or Don Nierlich at cct@coastwalk. org in Southern California.

Forest in the north, covers an area of 128 square miles and is the largest functioning cattle ranch on California's coast. Yet its long history, which embraces Native Americans, Spaniards, settlers and Hollywood moguls, is far more colorful than these statistics would imply.

When Europeans arrived in what is now the central coast in 1769, the Salinan Indians were living, farming and trading in the area currently encompassed by the Ranch. Salinan remains dating back 10,000 years have been found in the area. The Salinans and other local tribes coexisted peacefully prior to the advent of the Spanish, and the tribe survived fairly intact until the US took control of California, at which time it was decimated. Until recently the Salinans were considered "extinct," but the tribe is currently experiencing a cultural renaissance and is examining channels for cultural and national preservation of the tribal homeland

The Santa Lucia Mountains, home to more than half of California's native plants and to nationally prized oak savanna habitats, have always been tremendously wild lands. The Spanish Explorers were unnerved by them, and the early settlers would not explore them. But other parts of the area were quickly tamed, as the San Miguel Mission annexed much of the coastal grasslands for cattle grazing. In 1836 the Spanish governor of California took over the Mission's lands and divided them into 3 ranchos which remained intact until George Hearst acquired them later in the century.

Meanwhile, San Simeon Point became home to a whaling station and a small commercial center. At this time, there were still no roads to the area, and visitors, including Russian fur traders and Aleut hunters in pursuit of sea otters and their fur, would come by boat to a small wharf. The sea otter was brought to the brink of extinction by the hunting, and was believed to be extinct until rediscovered in the San Simeon coastal

area, which is now a sea otter preserve, and home to large populations of sea lions.

A drought in the 1860's decimated the cattle population and led to rapid sell-offs by the rancheros. An influx of settlers, including Swiss who opened dairies and New Englanders who planted orchards, arrived and in 1865 the multi-millionaire George Hearst purchased the lands comprising the Hearst Ranch. He also constructed a new wharf at Point San Simeon, which opened the region up to large ships transporting goods to and from mercury mines in the area.

Hearst's son William Randolph's is of course the name most associated with the Ranch. In his early 20's he assumed proprietorship of the *San Francisco Examiner*, which his father had acquired as payment for a gambling debt. He sensationalized the paper with banner headlines and lurid reporting and soon created a vast media empire, ushering in an era of "yellow" journalism. He was reputed to have initiated 1898's Spanish-American War as a way to boost his newspaper sales, and is accused of using his papers to whip up xenophobic sentiments (for example, his papers were said to be anti-Mexican; Hearst had lost 800,000 acres of prime timberland to Pancho Villa), as well as of being pro-Nazi in the 1930's.

Hearst was also infamous for his alliance with movie star Marion Davies, who lived with him at San Simeon's Hearst Castle, and as the subject of Orson Welles' *Citizen Kane*, the release of which he tried to prevent by blackmail, intimidation and smear campaigns, but which nonetheless survives as a classic.

Since the late 1950's, the Castle and environs have been property of the State, while ranching activities continue on the remainder of the vast Hearst Ranch. Activists have fought hard to preserve its land from development. The lands encompassed by the Ranch, with their uniquely Californian history, should belong to all of us. Who knows what history we may make there?

## Join Us at the Beach

Everyone is invited to participate in one of the biggest volunteer events of the year - the annual **California Coastal Cleanup Day**, happening up and down the coast on Saturday, September 18, from 9 a.m. to noon, with a beach party to follow.

Coastwalk is helping to organize the Sonoma County event; call us at (707) 829-6689 for more info. To help out in another coastal county, go to: www. coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html

#### Accomplishments cont. from page 1

**Far-reaching mapping project:** GPS and photo volunteer teams gathered data for a California coast web map in at least five counties. **Record number of walks**: We planned and are leading 23 summer hikes. **Leadership and collaboration:** Coastwalk attended and presented at several trail and coastal coalition conferences.

**Outreach:** We showed the Coastwalk and CTE 03 slide show to numerous groups statewide.

**Youth education:** We presented the CTE 03 story to several 6th grade classes in Orange County.

**Promotion:** Coastwalk produced a DVD featuring the CTE 03 hike and CCT, and held a party to celebrate its release. Get your copy for \$20.00

**Volunteer skills upgraded**: We conducted two weekend trainings for Summer Walk volunteers.

**Increased staff:** We very recently hired one full-time Operations Manager and two half- time staff members, a Trail Steward and an Editor. **Larger space:** We moved to a new, larger office in Sebastopol.

the neighborhood pool and park; Helms Park now serves as the Forest Creek Garden Club & Vensel Creek Restoration Headquarters. I am looking forward to carrying on the family tradition with Coastwalk.

As a student in Sonoma State University's Environmental Studies and Planning program, I studied species interactions and biological reserve design. On campus, I volunteered at the Fairfield Osborne Preserve and with the Copeland Creek Restoration Project. As an intern, I worked at the Bodega Marine Reserve, where I was active in the restoration of native dunes and grasslands.

For the last year, I have worked at REI in Santa Rosa as a camping specialist. I developed the Stewardship Program for the store and we have successfully completed six stewardship projects in the County.

Now, as the Trail Steward for Coastwalk, I can continue in my goal of educating the public to preserve the coastline. I will set up a Coastal Trail Committee for each county involved in the CCT. Committees will become familiar with actual and potential coastal trail routes, and will inform Coastwalk about the status of existing and future trails, allowing us to work together in the CCT decision-making process, and eventually to encourage routes to improve coastal access. Over time these Committees will take on the responsibilities of stewardship and oversight for their portions of the CCT.

A major part of Coastwalk's mission is to educate the public about the CCT. I plan to set up clinics and attend events to further educate California's youth and encourage them to volunteer with the CCT project. It is essential that today's youth becomes familiar with California's natural resources, because they will be the next stewards of the CCT. With the help of people of all ages and backgrounds, we can complete the California Coastal Trail.



#### LEILA RAND Editor

Most of my working life has been devoted to some form of outreach for non-profits. "Outreach" for me has taken many forms: I've recruited and trained L.A. activists to go door-to-door in their neighborhoods to get out the vote; I spearheaded and publicized a volunteer family law clinic for Mendocino County's legal aid program; I've written and designed the publications for a children's advocacy organization. I am thrilled to be putting my experience to work in the service of Coastwalk's mission. In the four months that I have been here, I've enjoyed working

with the dedicated, creative and fun group of people that is the Coastwalk board and staff.

My part-time position's goal is getting the Coastwalk message out to the public in a meaningful and compelling way. This often means updating the "look" of our publications and casting a fresh eye on our content. I am editor of this newsletter, and work with the webmasters on the content and design for all three of our websites (look for the newly redesigned Coastwalk website – www.coastwalk.org - to go live this month). I also am re-doing the Coastwalk brochure and working with staff and board members to brainstorm about future publications like an Annual Report.

I'm always looking for volunteers to provide content for the newsletter and websites, so if you like to write and have some ideas, please don't hesitate to contact me at *lrand@coastwalk.org* or (707) 829-6689.

**Oceans** cont. from page 1

## **GOODBYE ANNE**

Coastwalk Volunteer Coordinator Anne Peterson has moved on to greener pastures — we will miss her cheery presence and great efficiency!

One of Anne's greatest accomplishments was spearheading the media campaign for the 2003 Coastal Trail Expedition, an effort by 10 Coastwalk members who hiked the entire length of coastal California. Her hard work resulted in over 60 print, radio and television pieces covering the Expedition. Anne also coordinated three seasons of our volunteerled Coastwalks, overseeing all aspects of this huge undertaking; prepared summer walk brochures and two volunteer handbooks and compiled an updated Volunteer Training Manual. We thank her for her dedication and wish her the best of luck.

Until the dust settles from our restructuring, the existing staff will share the volunteer coordinator's tasks. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering for Coastwalk, please contact Richard Nichols (*rnichols@coastwalk.org*) or Sasha Rose Schaible (*sschaible@coastwalk.org*) at 1-800-550-6854.

The reports cover both land- and ocean-based problems. Among those on land the primary ones, in our view, are coastal development and sprawl, which are wiping out shoreline and wetlands habitats, and non-point pollution (run-off from streets, agricultural pesticides and chemical fertilizers), which fouls and closes beaches at an alarming rate.

Major causes of ocean decline include pointsource pollution (sewage treatment and cruise ships, for example) invasive species, over-fishing, habitat destruction by trawling, bycatch and climate change.

The Pew report found three primary reasons for the deteriorating conditions. First, we have exploited ocean resources without regard to the consequences. The second is the fragmented nature of ocean governance; many agencies with conflicting jurisdiction and rules, and thirdly, the fact that governance has focused on saving individual species (whales, for example), not whole ecosystems.

Sweeping changes are recommended based on a fundamental change in values: towards an ethic of stewardship of and responsibility for the oceans. Only if society at large embraces real conservation

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will any changes in policy take place. The report states, "Human well-being and the well-being of our coasts and oceans are interdependent. We depend on marine ecosystems and they depend on respectful treatment." (Page 20).

The recommendations are aimed at fulfilling the promise of stewardship of the coast and ocean, including:

- A revamping of governance to bring together conflicting jurisdictions and take an ecosystem approach,
- A new system of fisheries management to protect fish and habitat,
- Confronting coastal sprawl by curbing development and redirecting resources away from development subsidies and towards restoration, especially by the Corps of Engineers,
  - Limiting all forms of pollution.

These reports depict a terrible legacy of coast and ocean destruction on a huge scale, and ask government and citizens to reverse the trend and restore the ecosystem. Coastwalk is one small environmental organization among many who are working to ensure a healthy future for all earthly inhabitants. We must demand that our local, state and Federal governments reverse the terrible losses to a once-healthy ocean. Coastwalk will continue to do our part to protect the coast, call for strong policies, and encourage state government to treat these reports with the utmost seriousness. Individually we have a duty to elect officials who have a strong conservation and environmental ethic. If we don't do this, our healthy coast and ocean, and coastal trail, will be lost forever.

**Postscript:** I just returned from the Blue Visions Conference in Washington DC, where coast and ocean activists, scientists and academics addressed the issues raised in the reports.

After two days of workshops and presentations, it became clear that a Federal bill mandating a complete overhaul of the human relationship with the coast and ocean is the priority. A bill, nicknamed BOB, the Big Oceans Bill, is about to be introduced to the House by Monterey Congressman Sam Farr. Senator Barbara Boxer is introducing a companion bill to the Senate.

In the early 1970's, public outcry brought us the much needed and comprehensive Clean Water, Clean Air, and Endangered Species Acts. The Oceans Bill is equally important. This bill will be considered during the 2005 session of Congress. Public demand for change is the only

way it will happen. I urge all of you who care about our coast and the waters that define it to closely watch for this bill and do everything you can to support it.



#### SEA OTTERS COMING BACK

Good news for sea otters: the US Geological Survey's spring 2004 survey has shown an appreciable increase, to a total of 2,825, in the population of the threatened California sea otter, which was hunted to near-extinction. This is a 12.8% increase from the 2003 total, and contributes to a 3-year running average increase of 9.8%. For the southern (Californian) sea otter to lose its status as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act, a 3-year running average count of at least 3,090 sea otters would need to be observed for three consecutive years.

The bad news is that only the male population appears to be increasing – the number of reproductive females has basically remained stable for the past 10 years or so. Further studies are being undertaken by a collaborative team of privately- and publicly-funded scientists to discover why this is and how to help boost the female population.

#### GARCIA ESTUARY PRESERVED

The Nature Conservancy led the effort to acquire, for permanent protection, 1,711 acres on the Stornetta Brothers Ranch at the mouth of the Garcia River in Mendocino County. A portion of the land will continue to operate as a family ranch under a conservation easement, with provisions for the protection of threatened and endangered species' habitat. The remainder of the property includes the estuary of the Garcia River, coastal wetlands, 2.5 miles of coastline, and Sea Lion Rocks island, which will be included in the California Coastal National Monument. Public access will be provided along the coastline.

#### ELLWOOD MESA CLOSER TO PRESERVATION

The Trust for Public Land secured a victory when the Coastal Conservancy unanimously approved a \$4 million grant towards its efforts to save the 137-acre Ellwood Mesa property in Goleta, at the eastern gateway to the Gaviota Coast in Santa Barbara County. The Ellwood Mesa is a significant transition zone containing monarch butterfly groves, grasslands, and vernal pools; its purchase will not only protect critical habitat for creatures including the Monarchs, who annually over-winter there, but will add nearly a mile to the California Coastal Trail. The remaining \$3 million of the \$20.4 million required to purchase the property will be accounted for when the city of Goleta swaps some adjacent land for the developer's remaining interest in the Mesa, and acquires the Mesa to be managed together with Santa Barbara Shores Park.

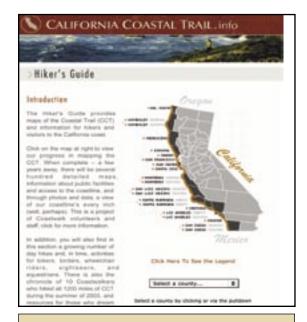




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### Coastwalk Websites

visit

www.coastwalk.org for news about Coastwalk www.californiacoastaltrail.info for news about the California Coastal Trail and www.californiacoastaltrail.org for Trail pictures, lore and facts

# Coastal Trail Maps and Photos Now on the Web

Those with wireless hand-held computers can view Coastwalk's new, detailed maps of the California Coastal Trail (see article by Rixanne Wehren on page 3) out in the field, but for the moment, most of us will be looking at them at home. The trail maps and other information are based generally on those in Coastalk's twovolume description of the Trail, Hiking the California Coastal Trail [Lorentzen & Nichols] (contact the Coastwalk Store at store@coastwalk.org to order yours), and on the California Coastal Commission's Coastal Access Guide, but they will be continuously supplemented and updated by volunteers as can only be done on the web, with clickable icons showing — including photos and text — the trail and its access points. Check out www. californiacoastaltrail.info and click through to the Hiker's Guide! When complete, there will be 5,000 points along the CCT that page visitors can use to find out where to park, picnic or play, or to track projects underway for the Trail's completion. The project is led by Don Nierlich (cct@coastwalk.org), Rixanne Wehren and Stan Bluhm, with technical support from Marker 7, a San Francisco-based web-media firm. Care to volunteer? People with different skill are needed, such as photographers, writers and GPS enthusiasts; contact Jon Breyfogle (surveyor@sonic.net) or Rob Helms (rhelms@coastwalk.org).