



# CONSERVING PEDRO POINT HEADLANDS AND CONNECTING THE COASTAL TRAIL

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PACIFICA, CALIFORNIA

A PROJECT  
**25** YEARS  
IN THE  
MAKING



**PACIFICA**  
LAND TRUST

# The Pedro Point Headlands

has long been  
a place of shelter,  
refuge & enjoyment.

A piece of the southern Sierra 90 million years ago, a mountain far from the shoreline in the last ice age, an Ohlone tribal homeland, visited by European explorers as early as the 17th century—these are the various faces of Pedro Point Headlands. More recently it has been threatened with development and damaged by decades of off-road vehicle use.

When the Headlands was slated for a large residential development in the early 1990s, local conservationists launched an all-out effort to save it. The nonprofit Pacifica Land Trust (PLT) was formed with support from the City of Pacifica and the California Coastal Conservancy. Preservation of this magnificent open space was the PLT's first priority.

Success was achieved when the City and the California Coastal Conservancy purchased a combined 255 acres using grants from the State. The PLT has been stewarding the property since then with funding from the Coastal Conservancy.

More recently, the California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) Recreation Division awarded the PLT a \$1.13 million grant to repair erosion and vegetation loss from off-highway vehicle damage. The serious erosion has caused landslides onto Highway 1 and the future California Coastal Trail alignment. Sediment streaming down from the Headlands flows into San Pedro Creek and impacts the spawning steelhead and red-legged frog populations.

Now, after more than 25 years of conservation efforts, a narrow window of opportunity exists to realize the long-standing vision of restoring the habitat, conveying the Headlands to a permanent land management agency, improving public access, and linking the Headlands to the California Coastal Trail.

At long last, the Pedro Point Headlands is poised to become a world-class destination. But we need your help!

The Headlands  
is now protected  
from development –  
but there is still much  
work to be done.

Additional funds are needed to:

- Repair and restore the land
- Construct safe and sustainable pedestrian trails
- Purchase 5 adjoining acres to complete the California Coastal Trail link
- Complete the California Coastal Trail between Pacifica & the Headlands



## An Opportunity to Connect Linking the Coastal Trail

The City of Pacifica currently has an option to purchase a parcel that will provide a long-sought access point at the north end of the Headlands. The City needs funding to complete the purchase by December 2015. Once the five-acre parcel is acquired, additional funding will be needed to construct this final link to the California Coastal Trail in Pacifica.



## Expanding partnerships

### *County of San Mateo Parks Department*

With the opening of Devil's Slide County Park immediately to the south, the Headlands has become a popular destination. It is anticipated that in late 2015 the City and State will transfer their lands to the San Mateo County Parks Dept., which will then serve as the permanent land management agency. A new \$350,000 grant from County Measure A funds will aid in re-vegetation and enable work to begin on construction of a new pedestrian trail network.



## Keeping it wild

### *Native and endangered species thrive*

The Headlands is home to several endangered and threatened species such as the Peregrine Falcon. The land contains environmentally sensitive habitat areas including coastal bluff scrub and healthy communities of native vegetation such as rare Pacific reed grass, which only grows along the coast.

Pedro Point Headlands has one of the best stands of native grasslands along the coast. Fairy lanterns, mission bells and other unique species of flowers grace the area. San Pedro Rock, located just off the coastal bluffs, is one of the most significant sea bird breeding habitats in San Mateo County.

## Economic benefits abound

### *Beauty and access, a winning combination*

The Headlands is a stunning natural wonder, providing a unique destination for local residents and visitors alike. Nearly 100,000 people are expected to visit the Headlands and surrounding trails annually, bringing economic opportunity and healthy activity to the region.

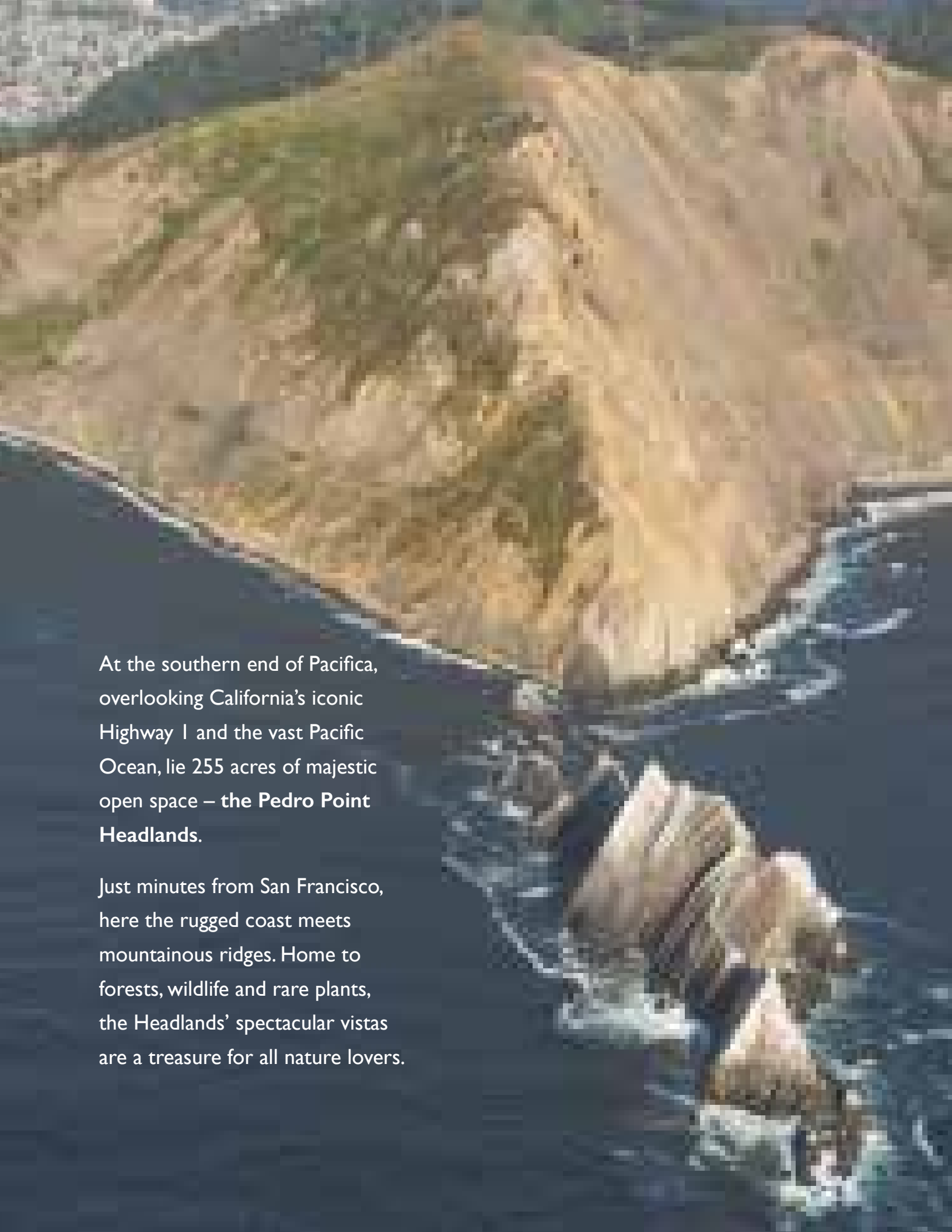
## Restoring habitat—resisting erosion

### *Volunteers are heroes, but funding is needed*

With funding from the Coastal Conservancy, dedicated volunteers have been working with the PLT to restore habitat and combat erosion. These efforts were aided in 2014, when the PLT was awarded a \$1.13 million restoration grant from the California State Parks OHV Recreation Division. However, the grant requires approximately \$300,000 in matching funds and/or in-kind contributions by 2018 in order to complete the restoration project.

Photo by Dave Rauenbuehler





At the southern end of Pacifica, overlooking California's iconic Highway 1 and the vast Pacific Ocean, lie 255 acres of majestic open space – the **Pedro Point Headlands**.

Just minutes from San Francisco, here the rugged coast meets mountainous ridges. Home to forests, wildlife and rare plants, the Headlands' spectacular vistas are a treasure for all nature lovers.



Help us  
make the vision  
a reality.

DONATE. VOLUNTEER. SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS.

We need your help. There is still much to do.

### Help the City of Pacifica

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- Secure funds to purchase 5 acres of privately held land by December 2015
- Fund construction of the final California Coastal Trail segment that will connect Pacifica to the Headlands

#### Please Contact

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650 738-7409  
[www.cityofpacifica.org](http://www.cityofpacifica.org)

### Learn about the Pacifica Land Trust

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- 25 years of successful open space projects including Mori Point, San Pedro Creek at Pacifica State Beach, and Sweeney Ridge Gateway.
- Contribute, volunteer, spread the word!

#### Pacifica Land Trust

PO Box 988, Pacifica, CA 94044 650 359-3275  
[www.pacificalandtrust.org](http://www.pacificalandtrust.org)

Visit our Pedro Point Headlands Restoration  
Project web page  
[www.pedropointheadlands.org](http://www.pedropointheadlands.org)

Conservation efforts have been made possible through the support and leadership of these dedicated organizations:

Pacifica Land Trust

City of Pacifica

California Coastal Conservancy

County of San Mateo Parks Department

Pacifica Beach Coalition

Pedro Point Community Association

CA State Parks (Off-Highway Motor  
Vehicle Recreation Program (OHV))

National Park Service—Golden  
Gate National Recreation Area

Golden Gate National  
Parks Conservancy