

## Next Generation of Environmental Stewards

### Our Vision

Inspire a next generation of environmental stewards.

### Descriptive Highlights

- Identify existing resources for environmental education experiences for all learners
- Addressing state academic standards
- Providing outdoor experiences for youth

### Key Benefits

- Connecting students to the environment and giving them tools to become stewards
- Integrating standards into curriculum to assist teachers and improve student performance
- Providing environmental education to otherwise underserved youth



### Ways to Collaborate

- Target 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers with stewardship outdoor ed
- ☼ “Kids outside” groups team up to break down barriers to outdoor ed
- ☼ Share grant and other funding and curriculum for partnerships for richer outdoor ed programs
- ☼ Sharing ways to address English language learners
- Meet curricular/NCLB needs for teachers / ☼ Information curricular on outdoor ed programs to circulate to schools
- Prepare for state environmental education initiative

### First Steps

- Form a coalition of environmental education organizations in Santa Cruz County
- Identify stakeholders in education community
- Investigate and identify funding opportunities for coalition
- Identify vehicles to deliver the mission (website, brochure, commercial, etc.)

### Available Resources

- Existing curricula and program directories such as CREEC, CFSCC
- Meeting spaces
- Volunteers and docents of organizations represented here
- Existing partnerships and collaborations
- Existing sites for outdoor education (parks, wetlands, Sea Odyssey, Life Lab garden, etc.)

### **Other Things We Need**

- Staff time, money
- Increased communications among our organizations
- Strengthened relationships between school districts and our organizations and individual teachers and after school programs
- Access to safe, environmentally sound transportation for students to sites
- Development and use of on and off campus or near campus sites for outdoor education

### **Who's Taking the Next Step?**

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  - Erika Perloff / Deb Bolt
  - Stephen McCabe
  - Mark Davidson
  - Surrey Kent