



# CRUZIN' on the VAN DUZEN

## Generation to Generation

Friends of the Van Duzen River is a grass roots community organization comprised of residents and visitors to the Van Duzen Region. We are dedicated to helping to restore the river for future generations.

### Who Are We?

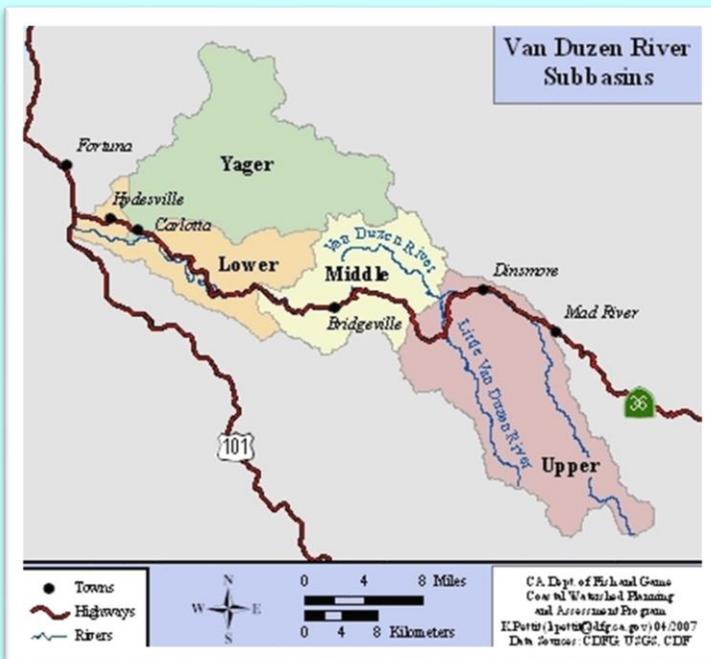
We are an environmental, educational group dedicated to preserving the salmon run and to training young scientists from our local elementary and high schools. We have received three federal Kids in the Woods grants, three local grants, and one significant California Water Quality Control Board grant over the past decade. "The Young Scientists: The Next Generation" connects local students with teams of resource professionals to observe their watershed, collect and analyze scientific data, conduct habitat studies, and witness the magical salmon run at parks in the wild and scenic Van Duzen River. Being out in the natural world connects students to their inner nature!

### Where?

- Humboldt County, California
- South of Fortuna
- Cascades 70 miles of Coastal California mountains, then joins the Eel River

### What We Do

- Water quality monitoring
- Salmon cycle classroom lessons and salmon watch in the parks
- Educate kids and the public about their local watershed
- Help restore the Van Duzen river
- Let kids explore their scientific curiosity



## How we Got Started

The Kids in the Woods concept began in 2012 with “The Young Scientists” from Cuddeback Elementary School selected for their scientific curiosity.

It evolved into the 2013 KIW grant involving over 500 local students studying the Van Duzen Watershed. It continued with the 2016 and now 2017 grants “The Next Generation”.



## Why Friends of the Van Duzen River?

The primary purpose of these Kids in the Woods projects and others like the McLean Foundation’s “Healthy Streams” is to stimulate scientific inquiry in community youth in order to develop a sense of stewardship for their watersheds. The target audience is the community of children and young adults living in the Van Duzen watershed attending one of four K-8 elementary schools and Fortuna High. We are dedicated to restoring the Van Duzen River from generation to generation.

We are collaborators connecting our community to other environmental groups. Thanks to Six Rivers National Forest, Trees Foundation, McLean Foundation, Eel River Recovery Project, and Barbara A. Domanchuk Media, the Native Fish Society, Sanctuary Forest, Friends of the Eel River. Thanks to our local rangers at Swimmers Delight County Park and Grizzly Creek State Park.

"We are teaching all of these students to become scientists because ultimately they are the ones who are going to have to take care of the watershed." - Sal Steinberg

## Contact Info

~ Donations are appreciated ~

Sal Steinberg

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