



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE RUN UNTIL JULY 1ST 2017

## Friends of the Van Duzen River receives new Kids in the Woods Grant from Six Rivers National Forest

May 8, 2017 - The federal Kids in the Woods Project is a Junior Watershed Training Program designed for elementary school students with an emphasis on 4<sup>th</sup> graders. This educational program, run by Friends of the Van Duzen River, is seeking to train the next generation of young scientists to become the future stewards of the watershed. It will take place during the 2017-2018 school year and follow the annual salmon migration cycle.



For the past decade, Friends of the Van Duzen River has been placing temperature probes in the main stem and her tributaries. Teams of young scientists from four elementary schools join our team, and are selected by virtue of their scientific curiosity and a written essay on why they want to become a watershed steward for the Van Duzen River. High school interns train with our staff and help guide the student teams. Students will work directly with natural resource professionals and will be given the opportunity to conduct important scientific investigations within the Van Duzen region while exploring their scientific nature.

Kids in the Woods is a collaborative venture with the Eel River Recovery Project (ERRP), Trees Foundation, Six Rivers National Forest, Barbara A. Domanchuk Media, and the McLean Foundation. Hydesville, Cuddeback, Bridgeville, and the Van Duzen Elementary Schools as well as the Fortuna Union High School all participate in the project.

The Kids in the Woods program seeks to train the next generation of scientists to be sustainable stewards of the land. Through classroom lessons and field studies organized by Director Sal Steinberg, kids get to learn about restoring and managing our rivers by learning about water quality, and the habitat for vital species of the Van Duzen ecosystem. These experiences introduce the next generations of young scientists to water quality instruments, underwater photography, aquatic diversity, the magical salmon cycle, and adventures within the Van Duzen Watershed.

High school interns from the Kids in the Woods program have gone on to receive full scholarships in the Science and Natural Resources Department at Humboldt State University.

This year, let kids watch salmon cruzin' on the Van Duzen, generation to generation.

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For more information, photos, and movies, visit <http://www.fov.org> or contact Sal Steinberg at [steinberg.sal@gmail.com](mailto:steinberg.sal@gmail.com) or call 707.768-9208.