

## HOW TO QUEST;

You are holding a treasure map! Follow the movement clues *(italicized)* between the stops (numbered) as you discover the wonders of nature along the trail.

At your final destination you will find the Quest question you need to answer. This is the "key" to your prize (see the "Now that you've finished your quest" section for your next step)! Have fun, be safe, and stay on the marked trail on your adventure.



## HI, I'M BAILEY THE BARN OWL! WELCOME TO FRESHWATER FARMS RESERVE!

# FRESHWATER FARMS RESERVE QUEST INFORMATION:

**Start:** Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail Parking Lot *5851 Myrtle Ave. Eureka* 

**Contact:** Northcoast Regional Land Trust, (707) 822-2242 | www.ncrlt.org

Quest Trail Name: Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail

Total Length: 1.5 miles out and back

Difficulty: Easy; flat trail (not paved)

**Driving Directions**: Freshwater Farms Reserve is located on Myrtle Avenue just south of the junction with Freshwater Road between Eureka and Arcata.

**From the NORTH:** Drive along US-101 S towards Eureka, turn left on Indianola cut off, at the traffic circle take the first exit onto Myrtle Ave. Continue until you see the big red-roofed barn on your right, you are close, continue down the road until you see the Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail parking lot.

**From the SOUTH:** Drive along US-101 N towards Arcata, turn right onto Myrtle Ave. Continue along Myrtle until you see the Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail parking lot on your left. If you pass the big red roofed barn on your left, you've gone too far.

#### NOW THAT YOU'VE FINISHED YOUR QUEST;

Register your answer to the final question of this EdVenture on our website and the prize (patch) will be mailed to you. Or, go to the Northcoast Regional Land Trust office at 901 Samoa Blvd in Arcata during office hours M-F 8:30-5:00 pm. Call first to make sure they are open! Please note: there are no patches available at Freshwater Farms Reserve.

### WHERE WILL YOUR NEXT QUEST TAKE YOU?

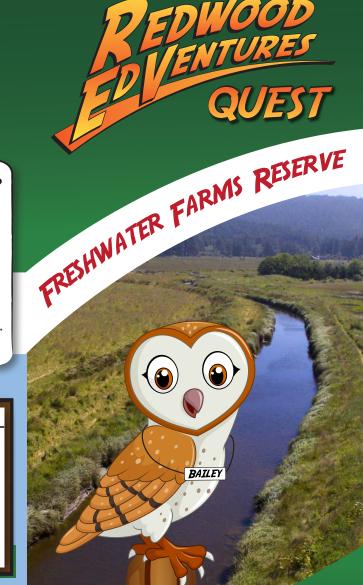
The journey you've just completed is one of many Redwood EdVentures Quests. Find Quest locations and download free copies at www.redwood-edventures.org. Teachers, students, and families can also explore hundreds of outdoor places and educational opportunities on the beautiful Redwood Coast. Find out why **nature is closer than you think**!



Developed in collaboration with the Northcoast Regional Land Trust. *Created July 2019* 











Begin this quest at the Freshwater Farms Reserve

Freshwater Farms Reserve. Enjoy your visit to this

Nature Trail Parking Lot and Kiosk Sign. Look

out over the Northcoast Regional Land Trust's

wild and working landscape.

From the barn turn around and look for the nature trail. You will see row crops and a fence making up its right boundary. Your next stop is at a sign entitled "Freshwater Slough" on your right.

**3** When you look down, rushes, sedges, and grasses abound. Find a clump of green plants with narrow like leaves around. Sedges have edges, grasses have nodes, rushes are round. Can you tell me what you have found?

Continue along the trail until you see a fence post on your left. You have reached your next stop, look but do not touch!

**4** How did this fence come to be? It was built by a rancher for cattle you see. Electrified it may be; steer clear of the wire and happy you'll be. In the summer the pasture is dry and the cattle run about. In winter the pasture is too wet and cattle must stay out.

You are standing in a wetland, a truly important place. For animals and plants, it's a common space. Improving water quality and absorbing pollutants is no small feat; Wetland habitats cannot be beat.

Follow the nature trail until you see the big red barn on your right, look for a sign on the barn entitled: "Our Regions Shared Agricultural Heritage - the Graham-Long Dairy Barn."

Built in 1910, this is the Graham-Long Dairy Barn. This historic building is a sure sign that you're at a farm. Where cows and chickens roam, Even a barn owl calls this place home.

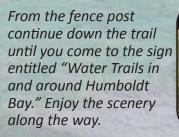




Photo: Northcoast Reaional Land Trust

**5** Sloughs are where fresh water meets the salty sea. For a fish, bird, or insect the slough is a good place to be. We need to keep this waterway clean of trash and debris. What passes through the slough ends up in the sea.

Following the trail as it runs alongside the pasture away from the slough, walk until you arrive at the memorial bench, and take a seat if you wish.

6 Imagine not a creature is stirring, certainly not even a mouse. High in the sky, a white-tailed kite hovers about. This wetland provides food, shelter, water and space. The habitat here makes for a special place.

If you are sitting on the bench, to your right you will see a narrow continuation of the nature trail, follow this until you reach the wooden wildlife viewing platform on your left.



**7** Salmon are born in the river and migrate to sea, They are a fish who practices an-ad-ro-my. Moving downstream juvenile salmon are always in motion. They eat a lot of bugs on their way to the ocean.

## FINAL QUEST QUESTION;

As you turn to head back the way you came, take a moment to answer this question: How many barn structures do you see?



## WRITE YOUR QUEST CLUE HERE:

Photo Cred Backaround: DJ Glissan Others: Erik Fraser, HCOE (except where noted)



