



Fort Ross Conservancy — Connecting people to the history and beauty of Fort Ross & Salt Point State Parks

Fort Ross Conservancy (FRC) is a public charity 501(c)(3) and California State Park Cooperating Association whose mission is to promote educational, environmental, and interpretive activities at Fort Ross State Historic Park and Salt Point State Park. FRC has been in operation since 1973; it is wholly independent but works in accordance with its cooperating agreement with California State Parks pursuant to California State Public Resources Code 513.

Operating solely on income from grants, membership, donations, and bookshop revenue, FRC:

- Staffs Fort Ross visitor center seven days a week, maintains website, creates PR and marketing for the park, manages special events, interfaces with and provides educational tours to visitors.
- Promotes interest in Fort Ross at local, state, national, and international levels.
- Sponsors, publishes, distributes, and sells appropriate items which increase visitor understanding and appreciation of this area.
- Funds and supports programming & events at Fort Ross and Salt Point parks; acquires materials and equipment to assist in the educational, environmental, and interpretive programs at Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks.
- Develops and maintains a library (both physical and digital) of historic and regionally significant books, manuscripts, photos; preserves and archives historical material associated with Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks.
- Sponsors, supports, and assists scientific research and investigations that reflect current research relating to Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks, and presents these studies to the public.
- Works to find sustainable long-term solutions to ensure Fort Ross remains a vital and accessible destination in the coming decades.

FRC strives to provide accurate and inspirational interpretation of the distinct eras (indigenous, Russian, and Ranch) and the people (Kashaya, Alaska Native, Creole, Russian, Ranch) that have lived on these lands. FRC has cultivated relationships with academics and publishers around the world to research and publish first-hand accounts of Alta California.

FRC funded the restoration of the Rotchev House, the only original Russian-built structure at Fort Ross and a National Landmark Building, and funded the creation of its house museum. With generous funding from Renova Fort Ross Foundation, FRC has overseen significant restoration in the historic orchard, and is managing the creation of the Fort Ross Historic Orchard Management Plan being developed by esteemed National Parks and State Parks experts.

FRC has received significant funding from:

- Renova Fort Ross Foundation
- Renova
- National Endowment of the Humanities
- Institute of Museum and Library Sciences
- Sonoma County Landmarks Commission
- Chevron
- Sovcomflot
- Transneft
- California State Parks Foundation
- Private donors, and more.

FRC Board of Directors

- Sarah Sweedler, President & CEO; journalist, grant writer
- Jan Phelps, Treasurer; financial & organization guru for non-profits; frequent speaker at State Parks cooperative trainings
- Sandy Curtis, marketing and business development
- Michael Dewees; retired high tech executive, financial watchdog
- Reno Franklin; Kashaya Tribal Chair
- Tim Kelly, educator
- Konstantin Kudryavtsev; software engineer, photographer, traditional woodworker
- Otis Parrish, Kashaya Elder
- Mikhail Pashkov; San Francisco librarian and Kennen Institute member
- Sarah Stierch, museum curator and consultant, free knowledge and women's activist
- Tom Wright; retired teacher, craftsman.

Directors Emeritus: Prof. Kent Lightfoot (UCB); John Sperry; Prof. Ludmila Ershova (SFSU).

FRC Advisory Board

- Irina Dyatlovskaya, Russian language translator
- Glenn Farris, retired State Parks historical archaeologist specializing in early 19th century California
- Jan Kalicki, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
- Jeanne Milligan, non-profit advisor and event planner
- Ellyn Moscowitz, lawyer
- Lauren Peters, Alaska Native community builder
- Susan Rudy, retired National Park Service Interpreter, historic orchard coordinator.

FRC Staff

- Sarah Sweedler, President & CEO
- Hank Birnbaum, Programs Manager
- Sarjan Holt, Operations Manager
- Sondra Hunter, Special Events Manager & Bookshop Buyer
- Lake Perry: Administrative Assistant

Media Links

For photographs of Fort Ross, see:

- FRC website www.fortross.org
- Paul C. Miller's website: <http://paulcmiller.com/>

or contact us at info@fortross.org.

For video, we have partnered with Abamedia to provide media outlets with video footage of Fort Ross. If you would like to download stock footage of Fort Ross or past Fort Ross events, go to <http://media-archive-project.abamedia.com/home>