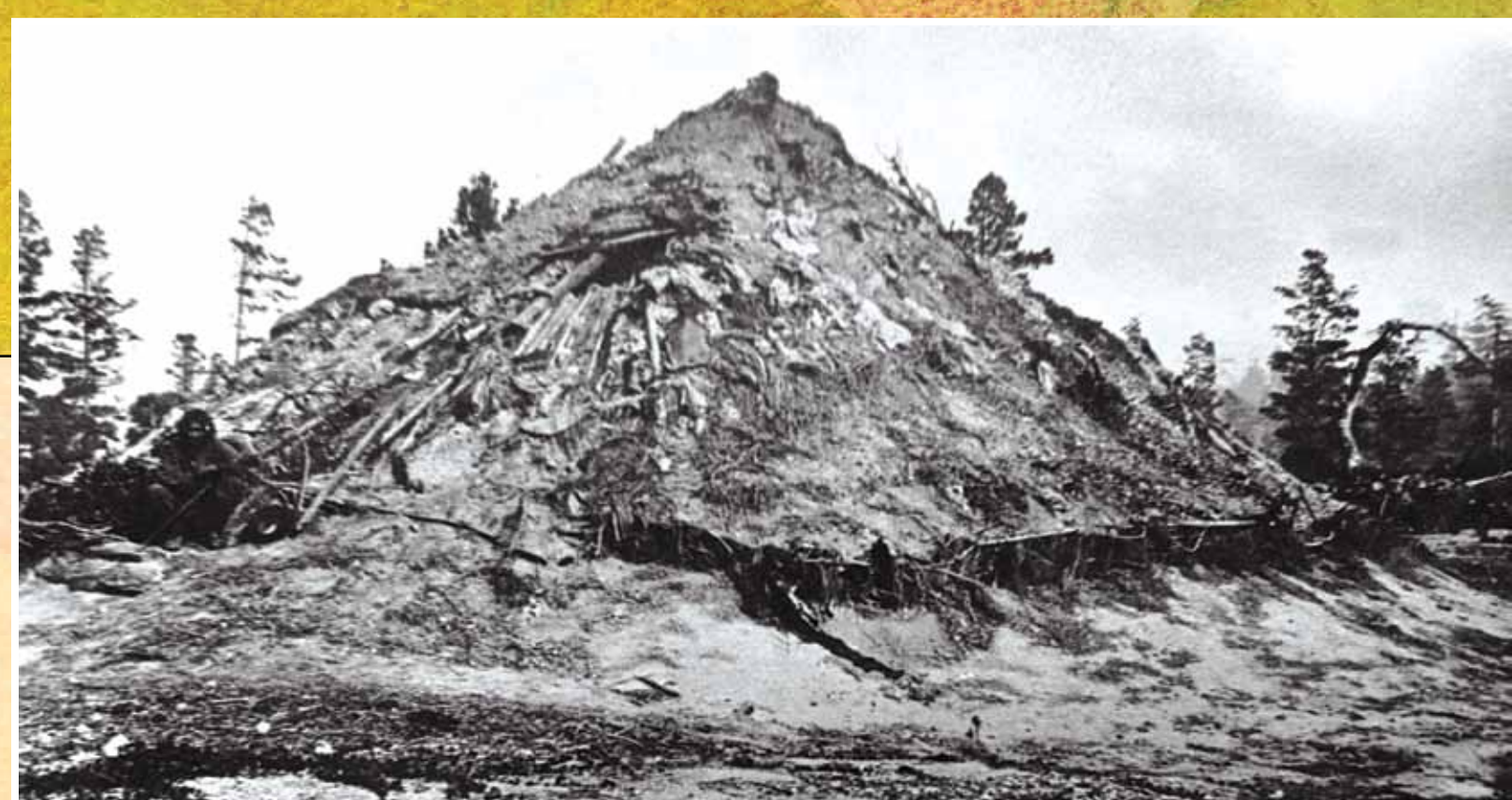
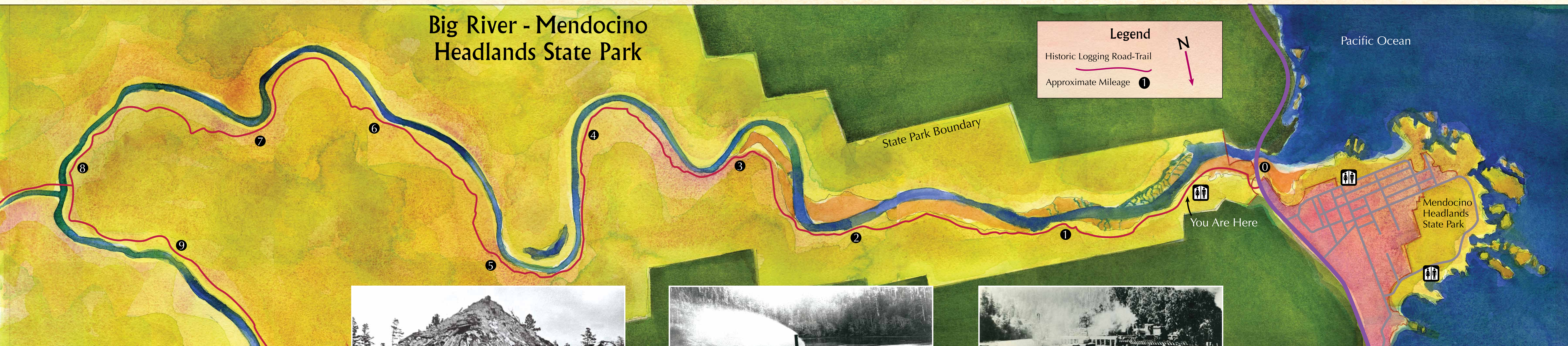


Big River Estuary, A Treasure Forever

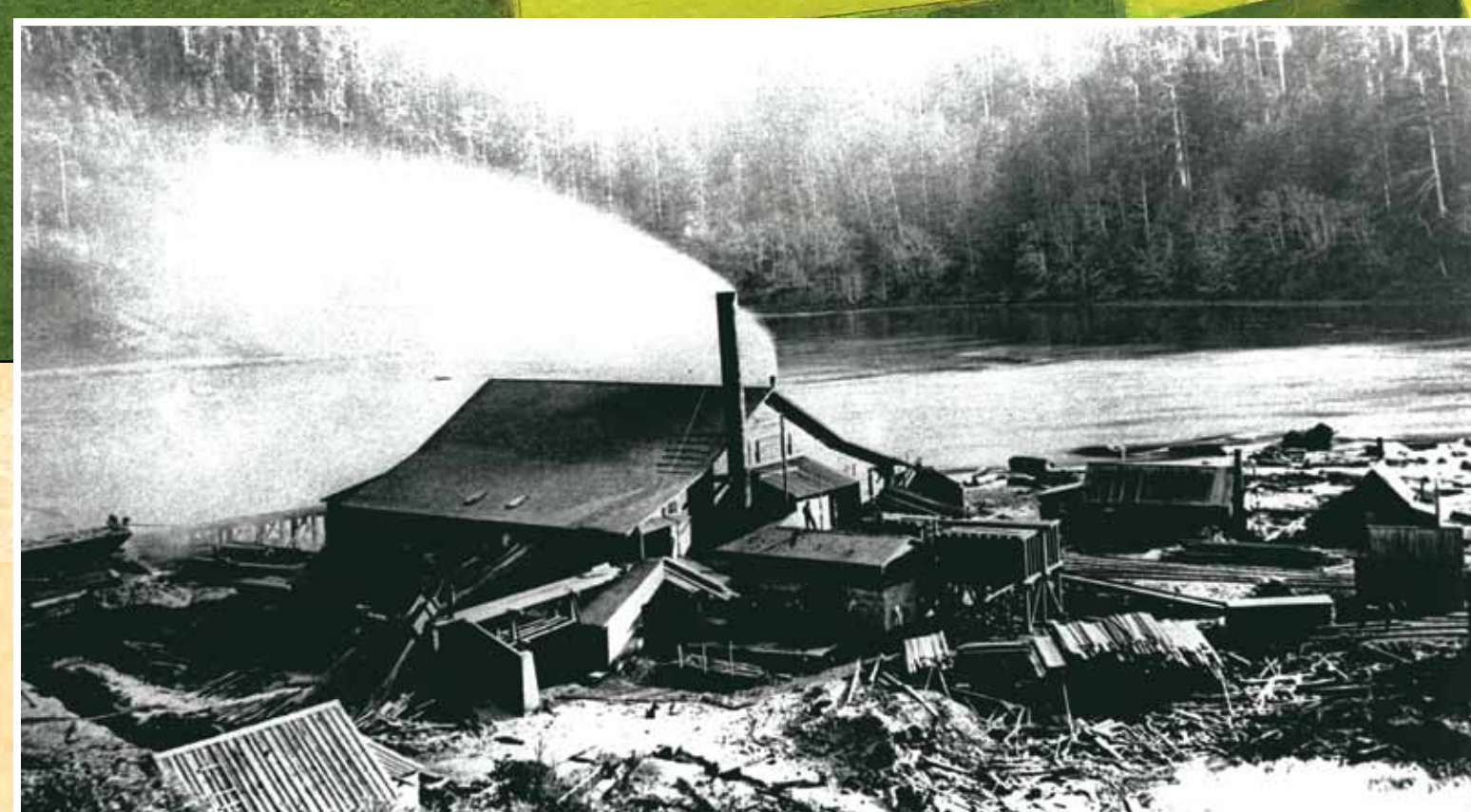
Big River is a place of gentle tidal flows, mist-laden redwoods and tucked-away marshes. It is abundant with wildlife, and it has a human history thousands of years old as a home, a source of sustenance, a place of wealth, and a sanctuary for retreat and contemplation.

From ridge top to ridge top, this valley corridor creates an unbroken core of critical protected habitat for northern spotted owl, coho salmon, steelhead, and other rare, forest-dependent species. Large corridors like this are known to promote greater plant and animal genetic diversity, and are vital for the survival of large mammals such as mountain lion and black bear.

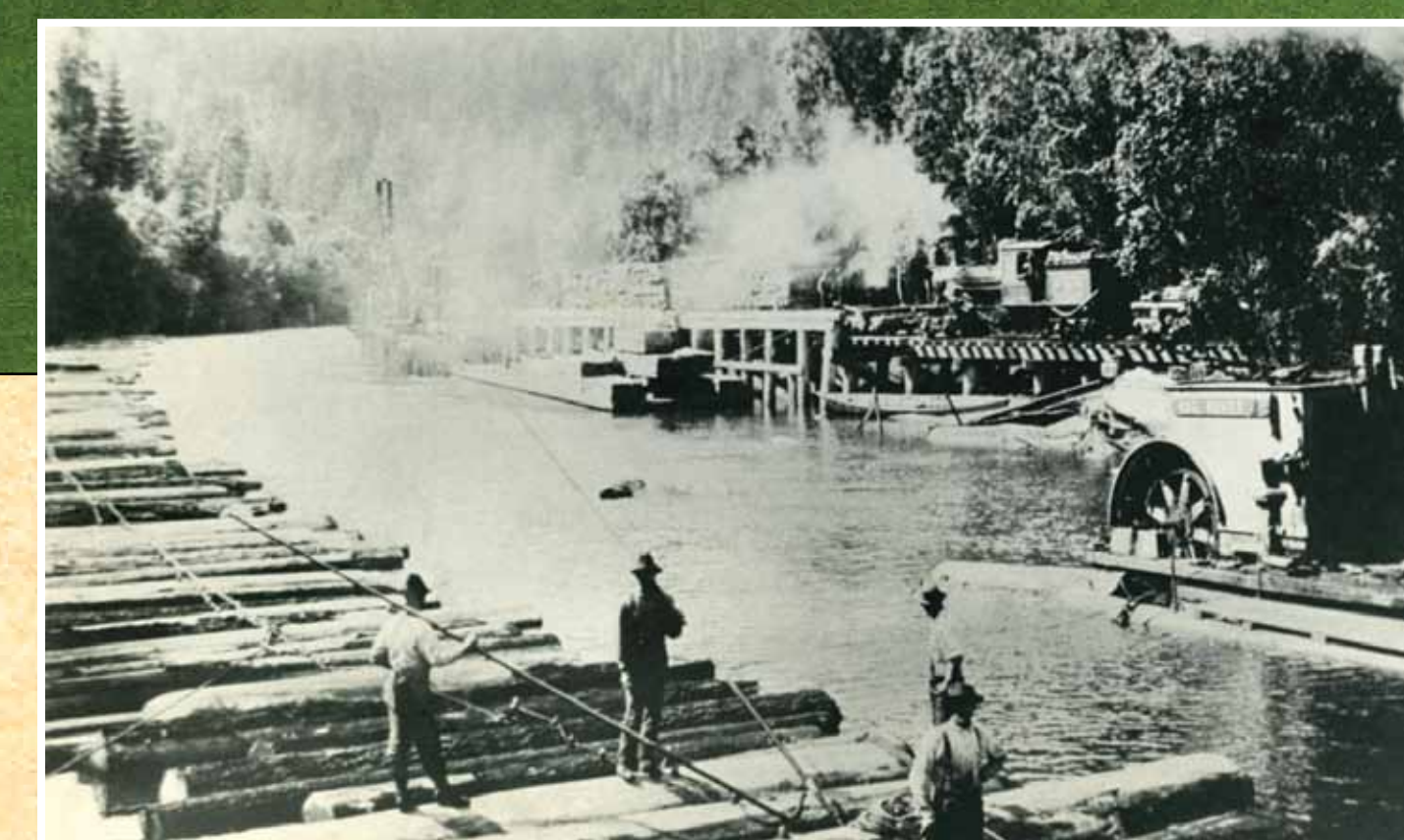
In 2002, in an unprecedented community effort, the Mendocino Land Trust brought together state and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, school groups and community foundations, as well as over 1,400 private donors in raising \$25.6 million to purchase and permanently protect 7,334 acres of the Big River Estuary and surrounding forestland.



Pomo Sweat House at Buldam, an old village site near Big River.



One of the early mills was situated on the river beach to your right.



Logging Equipment on Big River, circa 1920

All Photos Courtesy of Kelley House Museum