

## Press Release: Pepperwood Foundation appoints Dr. Lisa Micheli Executive Director of Pepperwood Preserve

The board of the Pepperwood Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Lisa Micheli as Pepperwood Preserve's Executive Director. The Pepperwood Foundation, founded in 2005, assumed management of Pepperwood Preserve from the California Academy of Sciences, previous owners since 1979. Pepperwood Preserve is a 3,117 acre private biological preserve located outside Santa Rosa, straddling three watersheds in north-eastern Sonoma County.

A Switzer Environmental Leader since 2002, Micheli brings with her over 20 years of experience in environmental research, policy, and community conservation program development. She worked at the US Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 watershed program in San Francisco before completing her graduate work at UC Berkeley. Her post-doctoral research at UC Davis on the Sacramento River helped to guide the Nature Conservancy's large-scale restoration effort there. From 2000 – 2009 Micheli led the Restoration Program of the Sonoma Ecology Center. She has also served as director of the Rutherford Reach Restoration Project on the Napa River. As a research associate of the California Academy of Sciences, she serves as co-principal investigator of Water's Edge, a regional climate change adaptation initiative.

One of Dr. Micheli's first priorities will be to oversee the opening of the new education and research center at the Pepperwood Preserve, set for spring 2010. She will be directing the expansion of Pepperwood's extensive conservation, education and research programs, bringing with her decades of vital experience and collaborative organizational relationships in the greater Bay Area and beyond. "Pepperwood provides a rare opportunity for people to connect with our region's natural heritage. I look forward to the opportunity to grow our programs to serve more and more members of our community" says Micheli. Starting this fall, she will be focusing on expanding Pepperwood's partnership base and launching a climate and biodiversity research initiative in collaboration with other Bay Area nature preserves.

Additional information regarding Pepperwood Preserve, including current activities, is contained on its website at [www.pepperwoodpreserve.org](http://www.pepperwoodpreserve.org).