

# Creating New Digital Learning Systems

A customizable delivery system for the project's online educational resources, the Legacy Project's **Educational Portal** will be fully integrated with the broadcast series, *Becoming California*, and place-based programs. These resources will serve K-12 and university students and teachers, as well as visitors and interpretive staff at parks, museums, and science centers. Through the **Educational Portal**, users will have access to multi-media content, searchable databases, curricular resources, interactive geographical information system (GIS) maps, customizable learning packages, and online learning communities.



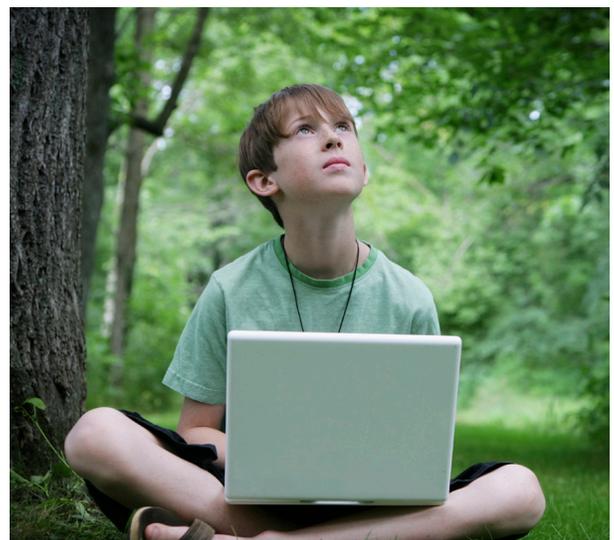
Using new digital learning systems, the **Educational Portal** will create a dynamic and virtual world that provides opportunities to deepen public understanding about environmental change and our place in the environment. Portal users will explore, assemble, and generate new information in ways that are meaningful and relevant to the places in which they live, work, and play. The portal will be designed to inspire users – young and old – to explore nature and experience the wonders of the natural world for themselves.



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CALIFORNIA  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
LEGACY PROJECT

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## Production Team

**Michael Penney** : Lead IT, Web Development & Hosting

Michael Penney has been working as a web learning systems developer, designer and architect for 14 years. He is currently Vice President for Products and Platforms at Remote-Learner.net, a web-based learning services company. Prior to this, he was the Managing Director, Western Region, for Moodlerooms, Inc. While at Humboldt State University in Northern California, he received a Mellon Foundation Grant in 2007 for his development work on the Moodle Learning Management System, which was developed by him and his staff. Michael is a core Moodle developer and was responsible for the Google App's integration with Moodle and other highly popular system add-on's. He received a BA in History from the State University of New York, Albany in 1989.

**Richard Tsai** : Art Director / Animator

Richard Tsai is principal owner of Field of Vision, a design visualization firm based in San Francisco. He has 12 years of experience producing highly crafted computer-generated models, visual simulations, and animations for a wide range of projects. Prior to forming Field of Vision, Richard Tsai was a visual simulation specialist at BRW Inc., focusing on simulations and animations for major transportation planning projects. He continued his simulation work at EDAW Inc., where he founded and led the Design Visualization Group serving EDAW's entire western region.

**Jim Baxter** : Executive Producer

Creator of *Becoming California* and co-founder of the California Environmental Legacy Project, Jim Baxter has long had a passion for enjoying, understanding, and protecting the natural world. A professor of biology at Sacramento State University, he teaches ecology, natural history, and plant ecology, and chairs the department's graduate program. His love of nature, teaching and research has inspired him to explore meaningful ways of communicating scientific understanding about the natural world. He has B.A. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz and an M.A. in Ecology and Systematic Biology at San Francisco State University. He earned his Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolution from Rutgers University.

**Jeffrey White** : Executive Producer

Jeffrey White is a science educator and biodiversity specialist. His career in teaching and learning about the natural sciences began in middle school and was deepened by work in Brazil conducting ecology studies and surveying human impacts on rainforest systems. He has taught in California public schools and is currently a biology professor at Humboldt State University. He is also Co-founder and Executive Director of the Redwood Science Project, a natural science education institute. His passion for teaching and learning about natural history led him to co-found the California Environmental Legacy Project and co-create *Becoming California*. With a B.A. in Biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz, he earned a teaching certificate from California State University, Los Angeles and his Ph.D. in Botany from Michigan State University.