

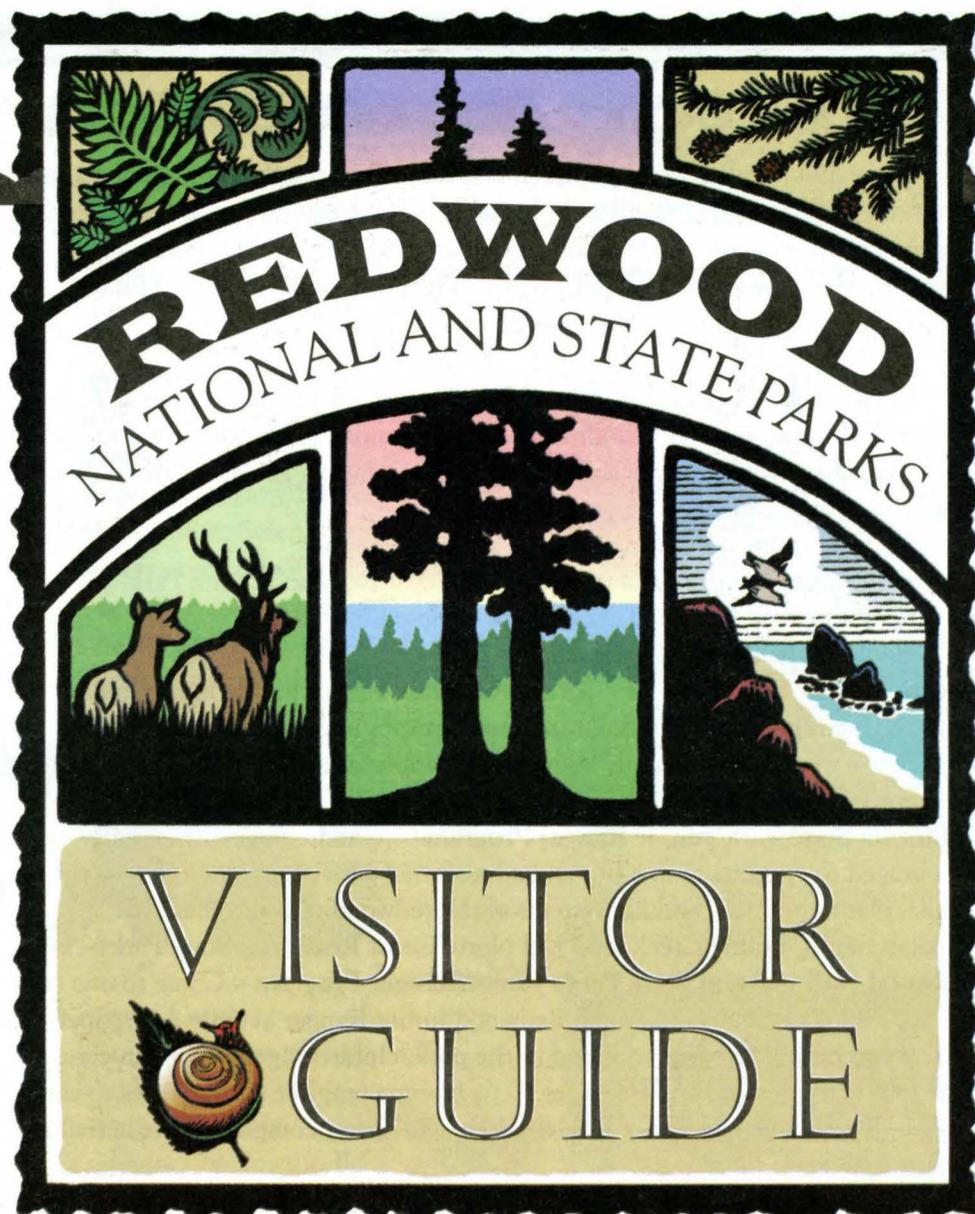
When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe. — John Muir, 1911

Visitors to Redwood National and State Parks frequently ask, "Where are the redwoods?" A variety of conifers and broad-leaved evergreens dominate California's North Coast, so sorting out the redwoods is not always easy. Sitka spruce clings to rocky points; ferns cover stream canyons; redwoods grow in great groves; Douglas-fir and native grasses flourish on the ridgetops.

The parks cover an area 50 miles long and from one-half-mile to eight-miles wide, with elevations from sea level to 3,100 feet. Environmental conditions create three major bands of plant communities, blending from one band to the next, yet each characterized by a conifer. From west to east they are Sitka spruce, coast redwood, and Douglas-fir. We can learn to recognize them by appearance, environmental needs, and associated biotic communities.

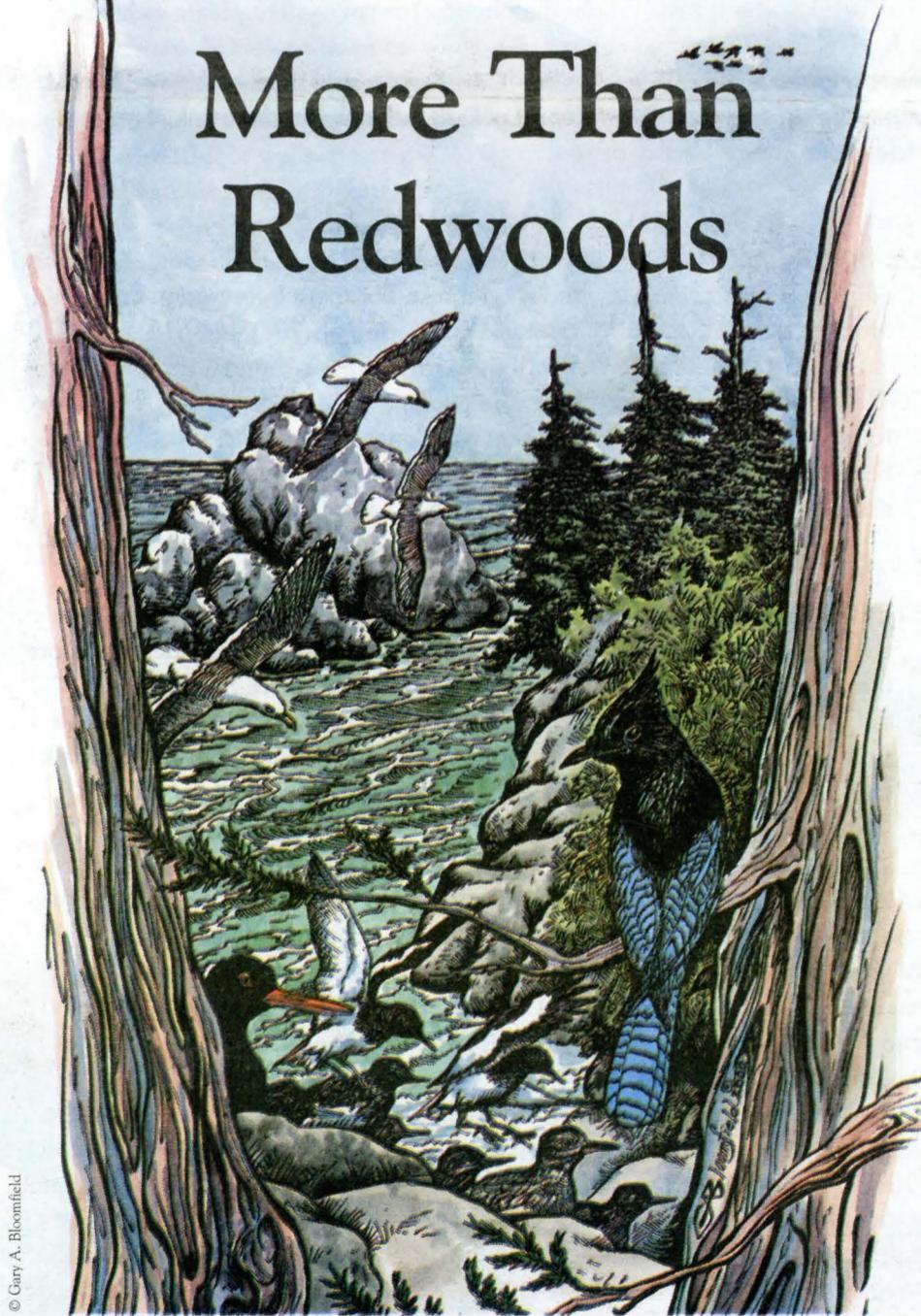
Along the coast, vegetation has adapted to tides, salt spray, and wind. The parks' 37 miles of shoreline include broad, sandy beaches, like those at Freshwater Lagoon Spit, Gold Bluffs Beach, and Crescent Beach; and rocky cliffs, like those near the Coastal Drive, Klamath River Overlook, and False Klamath Cove. Roots of low, spreading plants bind shifting sands into protective dunes. Hardy shrubs like coyote bush, salal, and ocean spray grow in open areas between dunes and forest. Sitka spruce, the parks' most salt-resistant conifer, develops in sand and on cliffs. They grow up to 200 feet tall and form dense coastal forests. Sitka spruce has grayish brown bark made up of loose, patchy scales, and its needles grow in spirals, like a bottle-brush, along the stems.

Coast redwoods prevail in the mid-zone of the park and extend along protected stream valleys, where large amounts of rain in the winter and heavy fog in the summer provide plentiful moisture. The coastal spruce forest protects the redwoods from salt spray, and the



S U M M E R E D I T I O N 2 0 0 0

More Than Redwoods



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moderating effect of the Pacific Ocean usually keeps temperatures between freezing and 80 degrees. The park protects about 40,000 acres of old-growth redwood forest. The trees of Lady Bird Johnson Grove, Stout Grove, Simpson-Reed Grove, and in Prairie Creek and Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Parks range from 400 to more than 1,000 years old, and many grow taller than 300 feet. Redwoods, with tall, straight trunks, grooved reddish bark, and flat sprays of short needles, dominate the canopy.

Shade-loving trees grow in the understory—big-leaf maple, Sitka spruce, and western hemlock in moister areas, and tanoak and Douglas-fir at the higher, drier elevations. Rhododendrons, huckleberry, and madrone flourish in the acidic soil. The forest floor is a jumble of fallen giants. Saplings, ferns, mosses, and wildflowers cover the moisture-laden, rotting logs.

Iland, conditions change radically, with hot summers and cold winters. On the exposed ridgetops along Bald Hills Road and Highway 199 redwoods give way to Douglas-fir, with their dark gray bark and ragged cones that seemingly have tiny mouse tails peeking from between the scales.

Farther still from the ocean, the rich soil and drier climate of the Bald Hills, at the southern end of the parks complex, is conducive to "balds," or prairies, of native grasses and Oregon white oak.

American Indians used fire for centuries to maintain these prairies and woodlands. Acorns were a primary food source. New branches from plants such as hazel provided basket-making materials and prairie grasses attracted wildlife for hunting. Park resource managers continue to burn prairies to preserve this historic landscape.

Twenty-six miles or so north, in the Little Bald Hills, the alkaline (serpentine) soil is high in magnesium, and Jeffrey and knobcone pines are among the few trees that grow in these conditions.

From the coast to the high balds, varied environments provide ideal conditions for more than 800 plant species. Salt spray, wind, fog, rain, rich stream bottoms, dry ridgetops, cool temperatures, fires, and floods all help make Redwood National and State Parks home to much more than redwoods.

by Mindy DeCesar



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Visitor Activities

Come and join Redwood National and State Parks staff in activities that are both fun and educational for the whole family. For schedules, times, topics, and locations of all programs listed below, check at one of the visitor centers or campground bulletin boards. The campfire circles at Jedediah Smith, Mill Creek, and Elk Prairie campgrounds are wheelchair accessible.

ACTIVITIES: JUNE 17 – AUGUST 27

Campfire Programs – Here's your chance! Learn more about a redwood-related topic. Varied activities may include narrated slides, music, games, or storytelling. People of all ages can enjoy these programs given at:

- Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park campground
- Mill Creek campground in Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park
- Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park campground
- Gold Bluffs Beach campground

Nature Walks and Talks – Be a part of the forest, sea, or prairie lands. Join a ranger to learn more about the natural communities in one of the most diverse areas of the world. Offered daily at various locations and times near Hiouchi, Crescent City, and Orick.

California State Park Junior Ranger Programs – Children ages 7 to 12 are encouraged to participate in a fun and educational activity. Topics focus on the people, plants, animals, and life systems of the redwood region. Offered at Jedediah Smith, Prairie Creek, and Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Parks.

Redwood National and State Parks Junior Ranger Program – Come to one of the five visitor centers to pick up a Redwood Junior Ranger activity newspaper (\$2). If you have a few days to spend in the park, children ages 7 to 9 can complete four activities and children ages 10 to 12 can complete six activities to earn a patch. If you have one day or less, children 7 to 12 can complete three activities to earn a sticker.

Tidepool Walk – Discover the wonders of the sea! All tidepool walks meet at the Enderts Beach parking area near Crescent Beach Overlook south of Crescent City. The walk takes about two and one-half hours. For your safety, please wear shoes that have non-slip soles and can get wet.

Come Prepared to Ranger-led Walks – Carry water and snacks. Wear shoes that can grip the slippery rain forest floor. Lock all valuables in the trunk of your vehicle. Keep your wallet with you.

SPECIAL EVENTS

JULY 15 – Gourmet Tour at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Guided hike and edible journey through the redwood forest. For more information contact North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association at (707) 464-6101, ext. 5300

AUGUST 19 – Banana Slug Derby. Join us for the parks' annual slimy slug race.

AUGUST 26 – NPS Founder's Day. The public is invited to the Tall Trees Grove to see some of the world's most remarkable trees. The access road gate will be open from 9:30 A.M. to 4 P.M. with no permits required. The grove is accessed from Bald Hills Road just north of Orick. A ranger-led hike will start at the trailhead parking lot at 10 A.M. Rangers will be on hand until 4 P.M. to provide information and answer questions.

OCTOBER 14 – Discovery Ride in Redwood National and State Parks. Enjoy the park on bicycle for easy 10-mile and challenging 28-mile rides. For more information, contact North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association.

DECEMBER 9 – Candlelight celebration of the ancient forest at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Experience the redwoods by candlelight. Short walk and program are free to the public. Check at visitor centers for time.

REDWOOD FIELD SEMINARS

Ancient forests, colorful grassland prairies, deep rock canyons, and backwater marshes — these are your classroom for a day. For more than 20 years, Redwood Field Seminars have paired subject-matter experts with small groups of amateur naturalists for concentrated and personal day-long field trips. Redwood National History Association, a non-profit partner in the parks' education programs, directs the seminars.

Discover Smith River geology and Klamath River wildlife by kayak. These popular programs teach the beginner basic rivercraft skills. Other seminar subjects for 2000 include tidepools, wildflowers, photography, Roosevelt elk, and astronomy.

Science and history can be an interesting and fun way to strengthen your connection to this grand landscape. Ask at a visitor center for more information. Pre-registration is required. Call (707) 464-9150. A fee is charged for each course.

WELCOME

The tranquility of a towering redwood inspires people world-wide. Even though these ancient forests are protected, great challenges remain and parks will become even more valuable in the new millenium with an ever-growing population.

The movement to preserve the redwoods on this part of the California coast took shape more than 75 years ago when Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park was established and further developed when Congress created Redwood National Park in 1968 and expanded the park in 1978.

In 1994 the National Park Service and the California State Parks agreed to cooperatively manage four parks — Redwood National Park, Prairie Creek, Jedediah Smith, and Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Parks — as a complex to provide maximum resource protection and the best possible visitor services.

Redwood National and State Parks form a World Heritage Site and are part of the California Coast Range Biosphere Reserve, designations that reflect worldwide recognition of these resources as irreplaceable. They must be safeguarded.

We hope you enjoy your visit to these parks. Whether your adventures include hiking the many park trails or enjoying a tidepool walk with a ranger, please remember to be a thoughtful protector. When you depart, we hope you will take with you inspiration, memories, and an enhanced appreciation for these redwood forests. Please leave only footprints.

Richard C. Sermon
State Parks Superintendent

Andrew T. Ringgold
National Park Superintendent

Redwood National and State Parks Visitor Guide is provided by Redwood Natural History Association and the North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association in cooperation with Redwood National and State Parks.

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Production: Triad Associates
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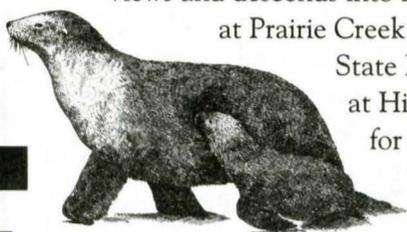
Redwood National and State Parks Visitor Guide
masthead art ©1997 Redwood Natural History Association.

A Day in the Parks

If you have just arrived at Redwood National and State Parks and are wondering how to make the most of your time, try these suggestions to help plan your visit. Look for these place names on your official map and guide or stop at one of our five visitor centers listed on Page 6. Suggestions are given north to south. Driving time from the north (Hiouchi) to the south (Redwood Information Center) with no stops is approximately 1-1/2 hours.

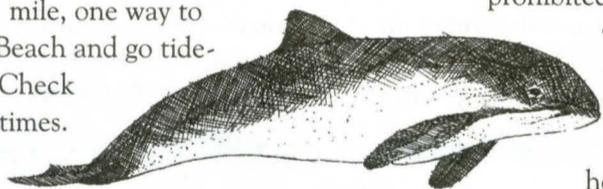
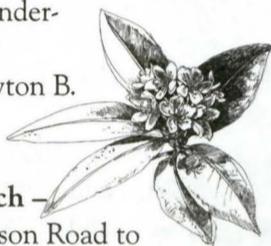
HALF DAY

- **Howland Hill Road/Stout Grove** – 6-mile scenic drive through old-growth redwoods, along Mill Creek, and past the pristine Smith River; 1/2-mile walk through river-bottom grove of tremendous trees. Trailers not advised.
- **Enderts Beach/Crescent Beach Overlook** – Outstanding view from the overlook; 1-mile trail to Enderts Beach provides access to tidepools. Check low tide times. Take Enderts Beach Road, 3 miles south of Crescent City.
- **Lagoon Creek/Yurok Loop** – Fishing and birdwatching; 1-mile Yurok Loop trail offers ocean views or hike 1 mile, one way to Hidden Beach and go tide-pooling. Check low tide times.
- **Klamath River**
Overlook – Watch for whales and other marine mammals; hike 1/4-mile, steep trail to lower overlook for a more dramatic view; seabirds. Take Requa Road.
- **Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway/Big Tree Wayside** – 10-mile scenic drive through old-growth redwoods; 1/8-mile walk to Big Tree Wayside; Roosevelt elk viewing in the prairie.
- **Davison Road** – Roosevelt elk viewing; 1-mile Trillium Falls Trail.
- **Lady Bird Johnson Grove** – Ridgetop old-growth redwoods on a 1-mile, easy walk; Redwood Creek Overlook picnic area. Take Bald Hills Road. Trailers not advised.



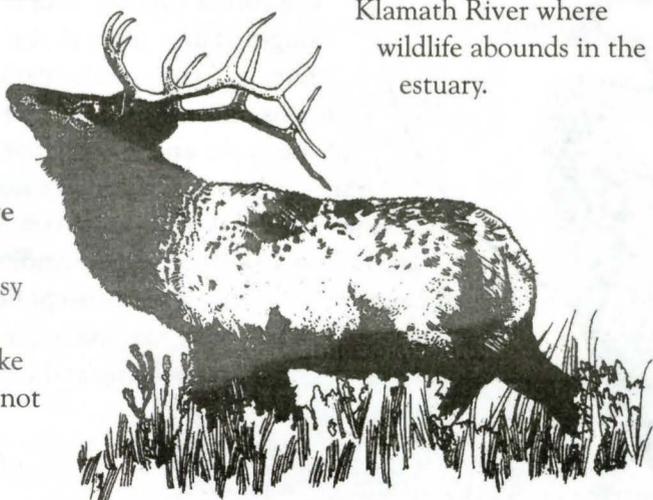
at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park; stop at High Bluff for a picnic. Trailers not advised.

- **Nickerson Ranch** – 2-mile hike among old-growth redwoods, along Mill Creek, over a moss-covered bridge, finish on Howland Hill Road back to your vehicle.
- **Damnation Creek** – 4-1/2-mile trail through old-growth trees to the ocean shore. Steep scramble to access ocean. Hwy. 101, milepost 16, south of Crescent City.
- **Coastal Drive** – 8-mile rough road winds past expansive Pacific Ocean views and descends into redwoods
- **Brown Creek Loop** – 4-mile loop through old-growth forest with rhododendron understory, creek with salmon. On Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway.
- **Gold Bluffs Beach** – Go beyond Davison Road to access this isolated Pacific beach; continue to Fern Canyon and walk amidst 30-foot walls of ferns; birdwatching; many hiking trails into Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. \$5.00 state park fee. Trailers prohibited.



Lyons Ranch – 4-mile round-trip trail along prairies to a homesteader's site; spring wildflowers; escape the coastal summer fog. At the end of Bald Hills Road. Trailers not advised.

- **Kayak** – Kayak the Smith River's clear, turquoise waters past rugged rock walls to redwoods, or kayak the Klamath River where wildlife abounds in the estuary.



WHOLE DAY

Add the following stops to those suggested for half-day visits.

JOIN OUR REDWOOD COMMUNITY – VOLUNTEER IN THE PARKS

You can share your skills and education, help preserve the redwood community, and even learn something new as a Volunteer in the Parks. Previous experience often is not necessary. Training and uniforms are provided. Dorm-style housing or trailer hookups may be available. Ask a ranger how you can get involved or call the Volunteer Coordinator at (707) 464-6101 ext. 5031 to obtain an information packet and application.

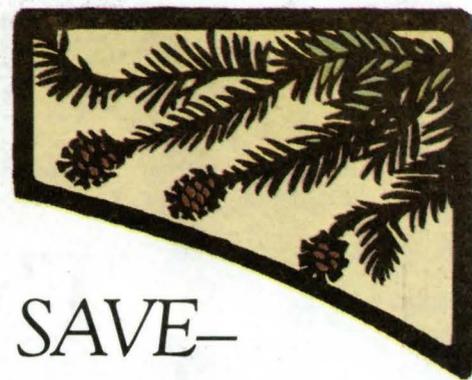
YOUR DOLLARS HELP

During the past year, park staff have been busy installing 25 new interpretive panels at scenic overlooks, trailheads, and visitor centers throughout the parks. These exhibits were developed and funded in partnership with the Redwood Natural History Association, a non-profit partner that provides funding for the enhancement of interpretive and educational activities and projects within Redwood National and State Parks.

Over the next few years, 38 additional exhibits will be completed and installed at other park sites. Funding for these new exhibits was made possible through the National Park Service's Fee Demonstration Program. Congress established the Fee Program in 1997 to assist parks in funding projects that improve visitor facilities and better protect park resources. This program allows 80 percent of the fees collected at a national park site to stay within that park. Other parks, such as Redwood, do not collect fees; they compete for the remaining 20 percent to complete projects. The additional 38 interpretive exhibits are an example of your fee dollars at work throughout the national park system.

UserFee

Improves this park



SAVE–THE–REDWOODS LEAGUE

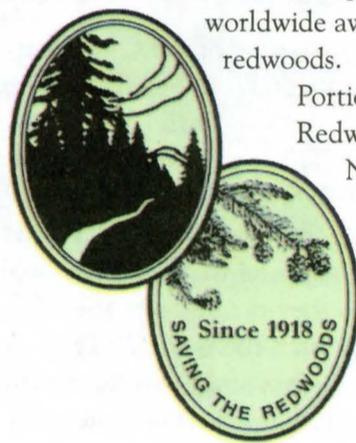
The road was dusty and the trip was long back in 1915 when three men traveled from San Francisco to see for themselves the towering trees and the impending effect of the ax. So impressed were Dr. John C. Merriam, Professor Henry F. Osborn, and Dr. Madison Grant that they immediately sought means to preserve redwood groves for future generations.

In 1918 they established the Save–the–Redwoods League and since then the non-profit organization has set aside over 130,000 acres of redwoods. Through public donations and matching funds from the State of California, the League purchases stands of redwoods and helps to raise

worldwide awareness of redwoods.

Portions of Redwood

National and State Parks comprise land donated by the League.



The brown and gold signs seen along trails and roadways represent the Memorial Grove Program, started in 1921. More than 800 groves, named for individuals and organizations, have been set up, with more being added each year. They are instrumental in saving redwoods.

The Save–the–Redwoods League has more than 43,000 members from all over the world. If you would like more information about the League, you can contact them at 114 Sansome Street, Room 605, San Francisco, California, 94104, (415) 362-2352. Their website address is www.savetheredwoods.org.



The Earth Moves

By Vicki Ozaki

The ground under the coastline of Redwood National and State Parks constantly moves—lifting, folding, surging—as two large land masses, called tectonic plates, collide. The Gorda oceanic plate moves eastward and downward, like a conveyor belt, sliding under the edge of the North American plate in a region called the Cascadia Subduction Zone. The upper plate scrapes off the surface of the lower one and adds these rocky remnants to the Pacific coastline.

This zone of subduction extends about 600 miles from northern California to southern Canada and has produced great earthquakes (magnitude 8 or greater) about every 300 to 500 years. The last great earthquake occurred on January 26, 1700.

A large earthquake beneath the sea floor can cause a tsunami, or a series of sea waves that may be spaced minutes to hours apart. Recent research at Redwood National and State Parks has revealed paleo-tsunami deposits associated with great subduction earthquakes. Geologists believe the tsunami from the last Cascadia earthquake rose 60 feet up the hill near the Redwood Information Center, higher than a 6-story building and 40 feet higher than the center.

Stories from the Yurok, Tolowa, Wiyot, and other American Indian tribes of northern California vividly describe earthquakes and tsunamis, and their destructive aftermaths.

THE FLOOD. A Tolowa Indian story recorded in *Tolowa Tales and Text*, 1869-1928, an oral history collection by Pliny Earle Goddard, published in 1992 by the Berkeley California Indian Library Collections.

It was in the fall of the year when there was an earthquake. "Well something not good is happening, you had better watch," he* said. The earth shook again . . . "If the earth shakes east and west the sea will rise up . . ." he said. The earth did truly shake from the west and everything on the earth fell down. The water rose in the streams and came over the banks.

There was among them a girl . . . Her brother went with her running up the mountains. They kept looking back as they ran and saw the water coming from the west . . . They ran on up the hill and the water nearly overtook them . . . The water was also coming up the mountain from the east side because all the streams were overflowing . . . "Let us run up along the ridge," the boy said to his sister. When they neared the top, they saw the water covering the whole world . . . After ten days the young man went down to look about and when he returned, he told his sister that all kinds of creatures both large and small were lying on the ground where they had been left by the sea. "Let us go down," his sister said . . . But when they came there, there was nothing, even the house was gone. There was nothing but sand. They could not even distinguish the places where they use to live.

*American Indian stories rarely identify who "he" is because it doesn't matter. The important part is what happens in the story.

American Indians

By Lori Harder

From Crescent Beach to Orick Beach, the Pacific Ocean shapes the Tolowa and Yurok cultures. To these tribes the ocean is like the air we breathe, necessary for life. Renewal ceremonies still performed by each tribe welcome the return and diversity of marine life.

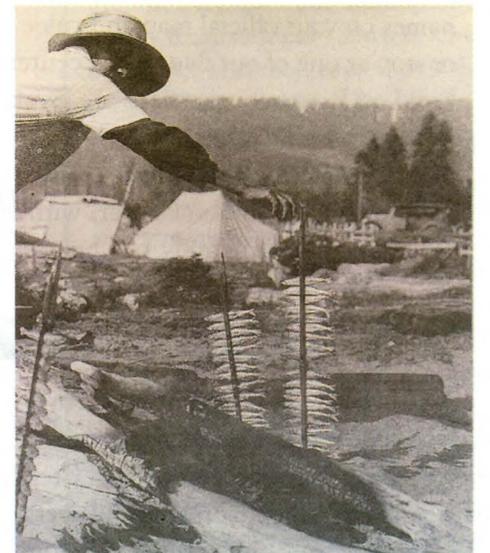
Fishing is a celebration and a fine art, crafted and perfected over thousands of years. In the past, both Tolowa and Yurok hosted fish camps along the coast. Male and female roles during the fishing season were equally important. Men caught the fish and made fishing tools, while women wove burden baskets and prepared the fish for preservation. Today, many local Indians continue the tradition of setting up coastal camps, especially for smelt, salmon, and eel. Storing fish includes sun drying, smoking, and canning.

Both tribes consume a variety of shellfish and seafood, such as clams, mussels, and sea anemones. Traditionally, people roasted their catch over a fire or steamed it with hot rocks in a woven cooking basket.

The tribes gather and save an assortment of shells to adorn ceremonial dresses and necklaces. Abalone and dentalia shells historically were used in trade and are still coveted for their high material value.

Although the Tolowa and Yurok

differ significantly in language and culture, their common link is the ocean. Their cultures, alive and well today, still practice the time-honored gathering of the ocean's precious gifts.



Josie Brown Marks cooks surf fish that have been tied with strawberry vines onto the center of a split redwood stick, at the Mark's fish camp, circa 1925-30. Phobe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology, University of California at Berkeley.

The Yurok and Tolowa people have inhabited the redwood region since time immemorial. Their ancestral territories include land and resources now contained within Redwood National and State Parks. Today, the Yurok Reservation runs from the mouth of the Klamath River 40 miles upstream, and the Tolowa have two rancherias in Del Norte County.



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California Coastal Trail

By Susan Davis

Did you know a 1,200-mile trail extends along the California coastline's expansive beaches, rich wetlands, secluded coves, and lush forests? The California Coastal Trail is one of the most diverse long-distance trails in the world, and it links national, state, and community parks with wilderness areas, towns, and cities. The trail begins at the northern part of the parks and covers more than 70 easily accessed miles. Here in California's northernmost corner, the Coastal Trail is at its most complete, climbing rugged ridges more than 1,000 feet high, winding through ancient redwood forests, and traversing wind-swept bluffs above pristine beaches.

The Coastal Trail has been nationally recognized as California's Millennium Legacy Trail, symbolizing and connecting California's culture, heritage, and communities.

(See page 11 for access points.)

STRAND

From the Rangers' Journals ...



Slippery Life, Hidden Life

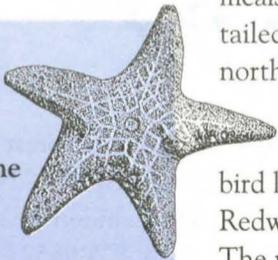
By Jenni Buttici

Time to venture out once again and explore one of my favorite tidepool spots, Enderts Beach. The sun breaks through the fog as the ocean swallows up the moon. I gaze out across the vast blue water and spy a harbor seal watching me. A flock of brown pelicans flies by. One breaks formation and, like a lightning bolt, dives for a fish.

The tide is out, so the ocean floor is exposed. I angle to the backwater cove I've visited so many times. Trying to maintain my balance on the slippery rocks, I peer into a pool full of hermit crabs and giant green anemones. A nearby ochre sea star has pried open a clam to enjoy a tasty lunch. Limpets, turban snails, and barnacles cling to the rocks as waves crash. A crab startles me as it runs close to my toes.

Abundant life thrives in the tidepools. Fossil records of many of the mollusks that live here date back millions of years; finding a chiton in the backwater cove helps me imagine the beginning of time. I am glad to be a part of the land mixing with the sea, experiencing the hidden life at ocean's edge.

When exploring the tidepools, remember to keep an eye on the ocean; know where the waves are crashing. Tidepool critters are fragile, please handle with care. Be sure to return an animal to the same pool or rock from which it came.



Parks Are for the Birds

by Lynne Mager and David Fix, Regional Naturalist

A throng of seaside explorers fills the skies, creeks, and ocean on the northern California coast. At Redwood Creek estuary, a conspicuous ensemble of birds welcomes the seasons.

Spring and summer reveal cliff, barn, tree, and violet-green swallows gathering nest materials. Within the host

of swallows is the smaller, sooty-colored Vaux's swift, known by its flickering wing beats and high-pitched, chittering calls. A subdued buzz from flowering shrubs betrays the wing beat of the tiny Allen's hummingbird. Overhead any time of year, the stately osprey searches the shallows for fish.

From late July to September, flocks of Arctic-nesting sandpipers and plovers probe the soft sand in search of worms, small crabs, and tiny mollusks, fuel for their long journey south. Large gull-like birds with a bold black crown, daggerlike red bill, and raucous, barking call will prove to be Caspian terns. Smaller, orange-billed elegant terns, post-breeding visitors from the subtropics, occasionally appear in their midst.

With the approach of winter, large flocks of quarrelsome gulls assemble to bathe, preen, and loaf. The little black-and-white bufflehead, the swan-shaped western grebe, and the low-slung forms of common and red-throated loons paddle by, then dive for dinner. Numerous birds and small mammals afford meals for red-tailed hawks, white-tailed kites, American kestrels, northern harriers, and a few peregrine falcons.

A vivid theater of bird life can be encountered within Redwood National and State Parks. The ragged and dynamic coastal strand connects forest, shores, and waters, providing a great playhouse of habitats for a variety of wild birds. Find them at Redwood Creek, Gold Bluffs Beach, False Klamath Cove, and Crescent Beach.

Number of Species of Waterbirds found in the National Parks.

- Glacier Bay ... 42
- Cape Hatteras and Lookout ... 40
- Pictured Rocks ... 39
- Yellowstone ... 38
- Denali ... 38
- Redwood ... 37
- Olympic ... 37
- Cape Cod ... 36
- Grand Teton ... 34
- Wrangell-St. Elias ... 34
- Kenai Fjords ... 30



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Marine Mammals

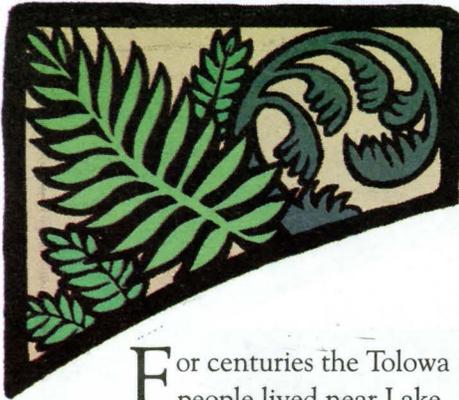
By Jim Wheeler

I was privileged to witness an extraordinary scene while on a kayak trip above the mouth of the Klamath River, the second largest river in California. It was August and salmon were running up the river. Just offshore, I observed a pod of seven to ten gray whales feeding in the shallows. They dove to the bottom, took in mouthfuls of amphipods, then surfaced, muddy water streaming from the corners of their mouths. Occasionally, one spy-hopped, lifting its head above the surface, or breached, hauling two thirds of its body above water before doing a half-turn to land on its side. Lunging through the water nearby were several California sea lions and a few Steller's sea lions. Within the estuary, a dozen

Please remember that marine mammals are protected species. Seal and sea lion pups resting on shore must not be disturbed. Call the Northcoast Marine Mammal Center at (707) 465-6265 for instructions if you find sick or injured animals.

harbor seals occasionally raised their rounded heads above the water surface. Meanwhile ospreys and brown pelicans dove for smelt and perch, only to contend with bald eagles that attempted to steal their prey.

I hope you can have such an experience! Redwood National and State Parks contain many sites to observe marine mammals, among the most visible wildlife in the parks. Good locations to observe these animals include Crescent Beach Overlook, False Klamath Cove, Klamath River Overlook, Coastal Drive, Gold Bluffs Beach, and Redwood Creek Beach/Freshwater Lagoon.



Lake Earl State Park

For centuries the Tolowa people lived near Lake Earl and relied on the abundant fish and wildlife supported by the varied habitats that surrounded the lake. The diverse natural resources attracted fur traders, miners, and eventually settlers to the area.

Dense, old-growth stands of spruce, redwood, and Douglas-fir that once blanketed this area fell with the advance of settlers, loggers, and miners. Lake Earl was once used to transport logs for a local mill. Some dreamed of its potential as a freshwater port and experimented with devices to control the level of water. Fortunately for the wildlife dependent upon the lake and wetlands, this idea failed.

In 1977 the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Fish and Game began a series of acquisitions to protect this unique and delicate area. Today these 10,000 acres are administered jointly by the two agencies. Lake Earl Wildlife Area and Lake Earl State Park Project encompass two lakes, beaches, sand dunes, a wide variety of ecological communities supporting a diversity of



© Gary A. Bloomfield

plants, animals, and birds.

Lying within the Pacific flyway, Lake Earl wetlands serve as an important stopover for thousands of birds. The entire population of Aleutian Canada geese can be observed every spring at Lake Earl. Nearly extinct a dozen years ago, the population has recovered to over 27,000 birds. Other notable species include bald eagles, osprey, and peregrine falcons. Most birds that frequent Lake Earl wetlands

are migratory, but a few species, such as mallards and wood ducks, winter-over and nest locally.

A network of trails offers access to hikers, bicyclists, and horses. Bring your binoculars to enjoy the wildlife and scenery!

Location: Follow Hwy 101 into Crescent City, turn north-west onto

Northcrest Drive, which turns into Lake Earl Drive. Take Old Mill Road for 1-1/2 miles to park headquarters and many trailheads. From here the park extends 11 miles north along the coast. Pick up a brochure for other access points.

Address: Lake Earl State Park, 1375 Elk Valley Road, Crescent City, CA 95531 (707) 464-6101 x5151.

European Beachgrass Removal

European beachgrass (*Ammophila arenaria*), an exotic (introduced) plant, has become established on many beach and coastal strand areas of the North Coast. As a dense, expanding mat of grass and roots, it can displace native dune vegetation. Species at risk in Redwood National and State Parks include pink sand verbena, Wolf's evening primrose, and the endangered beach layia. Beachgrass also eliminates sandy nesting areas preferred by the threatened western snowy plover.

The parks are mapping beachgrass distributions in preparation for an integrated coastal management plan. In 1999, removal focused on Freshwater Lagoon Spit where approximately 3-1/2 acres have been dug up and burned. Vigorous resprouting occurs the year after the initial dig, so follow-up treatment began in February 2000. Eradication will take at least three years. The good news: Native plants quickly recover *without reseeding* once the European beachgrass no longer exists.



Area Information

LOCAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

ARCATA

1635 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521
(707) 822-3619
email: chamber@arcata.com

BROOKINGS

16330 Lower Harbor Road
Brookings, OR 97415
(541) 469-3181 (800) 535-9469
email: chamber@wave.net

CRESCENT CITY

DEL NORTE COUNTY
1001 Front Street
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-3174 (800) 343-8300

EUREKA

2112 Broadway
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 442-3738 (800) 356-6381
email: eureka@northcoast.com

KLAMATH

1661 West Klamath Beach Road
Klamath, CA 95548
(707) 482-7165 (800) 200-2335

MCKINLEYVILLE

2106 Central Avenue
McKinleyville, CA 95519
(707) 839-2449
www.northcoast.com/~mckcofc

ORICK

PO Box 234
Orick, CA 95555
(707) 488-2602

TRINIDAD

PO Box 356
Trinidad, CA 95570
(707) 441-9827

For fishing, horseback riding, kayaking, and other recreation, contact the local Chamber of Commerce.

AREA ATTRACTIONS

Battery Point Lighthouse Museum
PO Box 535
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-3089
living history tours — summer only

Del Norte County Historical Society
577 H Street
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-3922

DeMartin Redwood Youth Hostel
14480 Highway 101 South
Klamath, CA 95548
(707) 482-8265

Northcoast Marine Mammal Center
424 Howe Drive
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 465-6265

Trinidad Museum
PO Box 1126
Trinidad, CA 95570
(707) 677-3883

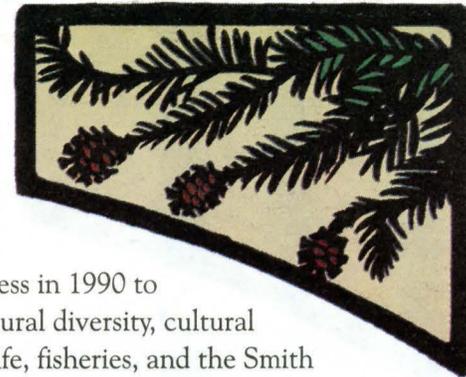
Headwaters Forest Reserve
BLM Arcata Field Office
1695 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521
(707) 825-2300

NATIONAL & STATE PARKS

Redwood National and State Parks
(707) 464-6101
Crescent City Information Center, ext. 5064
Jedediah Smith Visitor Center, ext. 5113
Hiouchi Information Center, ext. 5067
Redwood Information Center, ext. 5265
Prairie Creek Visitor Center, ext. 5300
www.nps.gov/redw/

For camping reservations call:
(800) 444-7275

Come Play in the NRA!



The Smith River National Recreation Area (SRNRA) invites you to a scenic playground encompassing more than 450 square miles of densely forested mountains, pristine botanical areas, remote wilderness landscapes, high-mountain lakes, and rocky canyons. The Smith River's watershed contains over 300 miles of forks and streams. Enjoy 75 miles of hiking trails and several hundred miles of roads, including the Smith River Scenic Byway.

Managed by the USDA Forest Service as part of the Six Rivers National

Forest, the SRNRA was created by Congress in 1990 to protect the area's special scenic value, natural diversity, cultural and historical attributes, wilderness, wildlife, fisheries, and the Smith River's clean waters.

Dedicated and protected as part of the National Wild and Scenic River System, this crown jewel begins high in the Siskiyou Mountains and flows freely, without a dam, for its entire length, the only major river system in California to do so. The SRNRA offers a year-round menu of recreational opportunities.

Winter Whitewater Challenges. Smith River tenders surprises for even the most seasoned boater on 145 miles of navigable whitewater with Class 4 and 5 rapids on all three forks.

World-Class Fishing. Smith River's 175 miles of anadromous fish habitat presents exceptional runs of salmon (late October through December) and steelhead (mid-December through April).

The Smith River Scenic Byway along Highway 199 passes through four miles of coast redwood forests and along 27 miles of rugged canyons, turbulent rapids, and the confluence of the south and middle forks of the Smith River.

Camp along the River. Three of the four developed campgrounds in the SRNRA are along the Smith. Panther Flat campground is open year round.

Stay in a Lookout! Experience a night at the top of Bear Basin Butte (5,303 feet in elevation) and see for yourself what life would be like for a fire fighter. Contact the SRNRA for information and to rent the lookout.

For more information contact Smith River National Recreation Area, 10600 Hwy 199, PO Box 228, Gasquet, CA 95543, (707) 457-3131.



© Gary A. Bloomfield

Help Save Port Orford Cedar!

At home among other local giants, Port Orford cedars can live 600 years and their cylindrical trunks can extend 200 feet from flared bases. The delicate blue-green foliage hangs from



sloping limbs like layers of textured curtains. A moisture-loving North Coast native that grows from central Oregon to extreme northern California, the tree thrives in areas with year-round surface water.

Port Orford cedar has been

cultivated into more than 100 horticultural varieties, blessing parks and gardens in Europe and America. Commerce has transformed the fragrant wood into boats, toys, arrow shafts, and ceremonial temples.

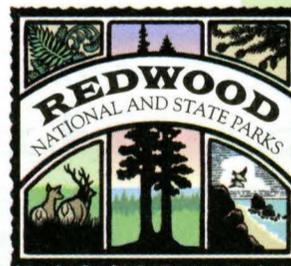
Today, an invisible enemy threatens to eliminate this handsome softwood. A parasitic root-rotting fungus that kills Port Orford cedar has spread throughout the tree's range in the past 50 years, killing seedlings within a few months and mature trees in four years. The

disease probably originated in a commercial nursery, then moved into the natural forest. It travels through flowing water and the spores can live in the soil for seven years.

Help prevent the total loss of these cedars! Infected soil can easily be

transported on shoes, equipment, clothes, and vehicles. When you travel in the Port Orford's range, inquire about contaminated areas. Scrape mud from your shoes, change into a second pair, and wash those shoes thoroughly. Avoid driving in infected areas. Respect road closures. Your efforts will help save biological diversity and wildlife support that contributes to forest wealth. Port Orford cedar locations in this area:

- Hiouchi
- Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park
- Little Bald Hills Trail
- Smith River Nat. Rec. Area



Association Support

Redwood Natural History Association and the North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association are not-for-profit cooperating associations, established to aid and support the education programs within Redwood National and State Parks. At each visitor center, the associations sell a wide range of educational and informational material covering the redwood forests, the seashore, and other natural and human histories. Proceeds from sales support the parks' visitor programs, museum activities, research, exhibits, and publications.

Redwood Natural History Association
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-9150

North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association
Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
Orick, CA 95555
(707) 464-6101 ext. 5300



Nearly 200 miles of walking and hiking trails await you in Redwood National and State Parks. The trails range in difficulty from easy walks to strenuous backpacking treks. They traverse a wide variety of natural habitats: old-growth redwood forests, mixed evergreen forests, coastal scrub, prairies, streams, marshes, and unspoiled beaches.

Backpackers stay in designated campsites except along the Redwood Creek gravel bars.

Enjoy the forest or ocean for 5 consecutive days; 15 in a calendar year. You can camp anywhere along Redwood Creek's gravel bars beyond the first seasonal bridge and no closer than within 1/4 mile of Tall Trees Grove.

Be sure to obtain a permit for camping and firewood collecting along Redwood Creek. Backpackers can collect up to 50 pounds of dead and down wood per day per campsite. Obtain your overnight backcountry permit at a park visitor center.

Backcountry Basics

REGULATIONS

- ✓ Pets, firearms, motorized vehicles, and hunting are prohibited on park trails.
- ✓ Feeding or intentionally disturbing wildlife is illegal and carries a fine.
- ✓ Store food, garbage, cooking gear, and all odorous items in food storage lockers provided in campgrounds, food storage canisters, which are available at visitor centers; or suspended in a tree, at least 10 feet above ground and 4 feet out from the trunk.
- ✓ Mushroom gathering or possession is illegal.

HORSES

Horses are welcome on the following trails. Walk your mount when approaching hikers or riders.

- 🐎 Little Bald Hills Trail - access from Howland Hill Road
- 🐎 Mill Creek Horse Trails - access from Bertsch Avenue off Howland Hill Road
- 🐎 Orick Horse Trails - access from Orick Rodeo Grounds

Backcountry Horse Regulations

- ✓ Permits are required for overnight use and can be obtained at visitor centers.
- ✓ Camp only in designated sites.
- ✓ Carry only pellets or certified weed-free feed.
- ✓ Animals may not graze park vegetation.
- ✓ Animals must be hobbled or tied to a hitching post when unattended.

HIKING SAFETY

- 🚰 Filter water or bring it to a boil to be safe from *Giardiasis*, an intestinal disorder caused by a microscopic protozoan.
- 🚰 River conditions in Redwood Creek can change at any time. When fording water that's above your knees, unbuckle waist and chest straps on your backpack. Brace yourself with a sturdy stick for solo crossings, or interlock arms if you are with other hikers. Seal important items in plastic bags.
- 🚰 To avoid hypothermia, stay dry (bring lots of good raingear); stay out of the wind; do not wear cotton, the new synthetics are better; use a hat and gloves to preserve body heat. If you experience uncontrollable shivers, slurred speech, and fumbling hands, hypothermia is setting in. Remove all wet clothing, get into dry clothing and a sleeping bag, and drink warm fluids.



Leave No Trace



Plan ahead and prepare:

Inquire about the area you plan to visit; bring proper equipment; repack food into reusable containers to reduce trash; select terrain and mileage compatible with your entire group; know the regulations.

Camp and travel on durable surfaces:

Stay on established trails; do not short-cut switchbacks (it is destructive and illegal); don't clear new ground for camping; camp in designated campsites to limit impacts to the resource.

Pack it in, pack it out:

Pack out all unburnable trash; carry plastic bags for garbage; do not throw garbage into pit toilets; leave your site in better condition than you found it.

Properly dispose of what you can't pack out:

Use pit toilets when available or bury human waste in a 6-to-8-inch-deep cat hole 100 feet away from any water; wash yourself and dishes 100 feet away from streams/ocean; strain food particles from waste water and scatter it well away from campsite and 100 feet away from waterways.

Minimize use and impact of fires:

Strive to use portable stoves only; fires are restricted to designated fire pits (except on Redwood Creek gravel bars); collect dead and down wood only; keep fires small and contained; check fire danger level at a visitor center before you go.

Leave what you find:

Collecting or disturbing natural features, plants, rocks, antlers, and cultural or archeological resources is forbidden.

Backcountry Campsites

CAMPSITE	DeMartin	Elam	44 Camp	Flint Ridge	Little Bald Hills	Miner's Ridge	Nickel Creek	Ossagon Creek
Number of Sites	10	3	4	11	5	3	5	3
Potable Water					◆			
Non-Potable Water		◆	◆					
Creek Nearby		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆
Toilet	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Fire Pit	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Food Locker	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Picnic Table	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Beach Access						◆	◆	◆
Permit Required		◆	◆			◆		◆
Fee Area per night						\$3 per person		\$3 per person

Pay for Miner's Ridge and Ossagon Creek at Prairie Creek Redwoods Visitor Center. Dispersed camping is allowed only at Redwood Creek, which contains no amenities.

ELK WATCHING



The northern redwood region's most often seen land mammal is the Roosevelt elk. Bulls of this largest subspecies of North American elk can weigh as much as 1,200 pounds, and are aggressive in guarding their cow elk harems.

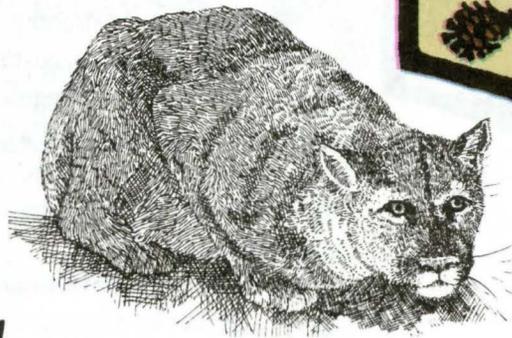
REMEMBER that Roosevelt elk are wild animals. NEVER APPROACH THEM.

One of the most popular elk-watching spots is along the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Elk Prairie is 35 miles south of Crescent City and 6 miles north of Orick. The open area on both sides of the parkway allows good year-round viewing of the herd, mostly females and calves. Large bull elk with magnificent antlers are commonly seen at Elk Prairie during the fall mating season. Calves are born in May and June.

You may see elk a few miles south of Elk Prairie off Highway 101 along Davison Road. If you follow the unpaved Davison Road (motorhomes and vehicles with a combined length of more than 24 feet are prohibited) eight miles to Gold Bluffs Beach (day-use fee area) you may take advantage of the only opportunity to see and photograph these majestic animals on the beach.

Travel eight miles along Bald Hills Road (½ mile north of Orick off Highway 101; motorhomes and trailers not advised) to reach one of the most picturesque areas for elk watching. Oak woodlands and grasslands with Redwood Creek far below provide a grand backdrop for grazing elk surrounded by ancient redwoods.

South of Orick on the ocean-side of Highway 101, lone bulls and herds of as many as 30 cow elk may be seen grazing at Stone and Big Lagoons.



About Cougars | About & Bears

Cougars, or mountain lions, are large, seldom-seen inhabitants of Redwood National and State Parks. Like any wild animal, they can be dangerous. No attacks on humans have occurred within the parks, but mountain lion sightings have increased over recent years. If you should be among the few people to see a cougar, the following suggestions can help ensure a safe experience:

Prevent an encounter

- Do not hike alone.
- Keep children in sight; do not let them run ahead of you on the trail.
- Keep a clean camp.
- Be alert to your surroundings.

If you meet a mountain lion

- Do NOT run!
- Do NOT crouch or bend over.
- Stand up and face it.
- Pick up young children.
- Appear large; wave your arms or jacket.
- Do not approach the lion; slowly back away.

If a mountain lion attacks

- Do NOT turn your back or take your eyes off it.
- Shout loudly.
- Fight back aggressively.

Report all mountain lion sightings to a ranger immediately. Call (707) 464-6101 or stop by any park information center. A description of the animal, the location, date, time of day, the cat's behavior, and duration of the sighting can help park managers protect visitors and lions.

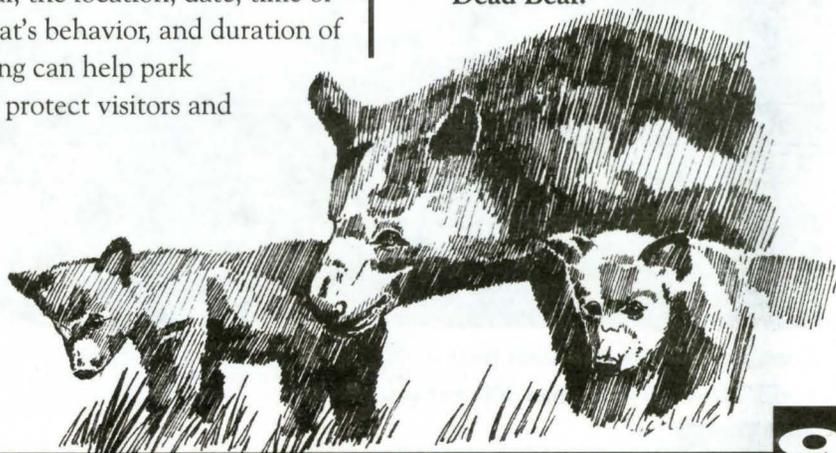
Like all animals in our parks, bears are wild.

Inviting them into your picnic or camp—on purpose or accidentally—can result in damage to your equipment, you, or the bear. Bears are memory retentive and quickly grow accustomed to human foods. Wildlife managers may have to destroy bears that repeatedly visit areas where they encounter people. So that visitors continue to enjoy seeing free-roaming bears, and to avoid personal injury, please follow these precautions:

- Keep a clean camp. A bear uses its nose to read your menu. Food odors will invite a bear to pay you a surprise visit—not a good thing.
- Store food in airtight containers or wrap it carefully. Use bear-proof lockers; when they are not available, lock food in the trunk of your vehicle and/or out of sight.
- Dispose of all garbage in bear-proof trash cans or dumpsters.

Animals will often beg for food. Do NOT feed them. Once fed, animals often become increasingly aggressive in their demands for more.

Remember: A Fed Bear Is a Dead Bear.





What Is Old Growth?



Coast redwood are the tallest trees in the world. Many are more than 300 feet tall.

Old-growth forest ecosystems of the Pacific Northwest are dominated by large conifers which range in age from 250 to beyond a thousand years. Twenty-five conifer species are in these forests. In southeast Alaska and coastal British Columbia, Sitka spruce tends to be dominant; Douglas-fir in Oregon, Washington State and inland B.C.; and the stately coast redwood, largest of all, in northern California.

Younger forests share some characteristics with old-growth woodlands; however, only in old-growth forests are all of the following features present at the same time.

- **Large living trees and a multi-layered canopy.** Old and younger trees grow together in a mixture of species. The larger trees, 200 feet tall or more, have wind-damaged tops and relatively few large branches and thick growth of mosses and lichen harboring many insects, birds, and small mammals. The huge trunks often survive fires, for they are reservoirs, which hold thousands of gallons of water protected by thick bark. The uneven canopy is efficient at trapping moisture, even from thin fog during drier seasons. Bacteria living on the leaves of certain lichen capture nitrogen, essential for plant growth, from the atmosphere.

- **Large standing snags.** Dead snags may remain standing for more than 200 years. As their branches slough off, sunlight can reach the forest floor and allow species that require light, such as Douglas-fir, to germinate. Insects and woodpeckers open up the dead wood, providing habitat for many other species. In turn, these creatures become food for the northern spotted owl, marten, black bear, and other larger predators.

- **Large down trees.** Logs, 50 tons per acre or more in stands of Douglas-fir crisscross the forest floor, helping to hold steep soils in place. Over a period of 200 to 500 years, as the logs decay, dozens of species of insects, birds, and mammals use them for shelter or food. All this activity helps raise concentrations of nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen in the rotting wood, and the rootlets of nearby live trees tap them for food. Like live trees, down logs can hold extraordinary amounts of water. Often rotten sapwood from such logs can be wrung out like a sponge.

- **Large fallen trees in streams.** Old-growth forests shape their streams in complex ways. Fallen trees lie in random patterns in small headwater streams. Since run-off is not powerful enough to dislodge them, such logs form semipermanent "staircases" that hold woody debris long enough for 70 percent of it to be processed as food and shelter by insects and bacteria. Fish benefit from the pool-forming ability of the forest floor by not only having the insects available for food, but also having shelter from storm run-off and temperature-controlled waters. Studies show that populations of large salmonoids, such as coho salmon and cutthroat trout, are directly related to pool volume on a stream. Given a choice between pools, large fish always congregate in the one with the most large woody debris. Fish are an end product of the old-growth forest. When northwestern fisheries declined disastrously after World War I, overfishing was blamed. Recent research suggests that this was instead the consequence of the destruction of old growth in the coast ranges, a distress signal that no one understood.

(Information from *Secrets of the Old Growth Forest* by David Kelly; Gibbs Smith Publishers, Layton, Utah; Copyright 1988. Used with permission of the publisher.)

The Tall Tree

Area loggers' talk of "great timber" first led National Geographic Society naturalist Paul Zahl to Redwood Creek in 1963. On one particular trip, Zahl stopped on the cut-over ridge across from what would become known as the Tall Trees Grove to take some pictures. "While catching my breath, I scanned the treetops before me — then suddenly started. One particular redwood rose above the others like a giant candle. I had already measured its companions — all of them about 320 feet tall . . ."

The Tall Tree of Redwood Creek was measured at 367.8 feet and proclaimed the world's tallest tree in July 1964. As the torch of the environmental movement in the 1960s, it helped establish Redwood National Park in 1968.

In 1963 the top of the Tall Tree was green with foliage. At the time of its discovery, the forest on the opposite slope was being logged, opening the Tall Trees Grove to windier, hotter, and drier conditions. By the early 1970s, the Tall Tree's uppermost greenery had wilted and died, killing its upper branches and stem tip. Over the years the treetop flora stabilized and thickened. Then in 1989 during a winter storm, the top broke off, making the Tall Tree just another survivor in the ancient forest.

Today, there are other identified tall trees growing throughout the redwood region of northern and central California. All these trees have environmental qualities in common and a genetic heritage that allows them to attain exceptional height and stature. Growing on nutrient-rich alluvial flats (river bars and flood plains), protected from persistent winds by surrounding terrain, and developing dense stands that provide their own micro-environment, redwoods survive the seasons and the centuries.

What's Left of the Redwoods?

Redwoods
Historic Range:
Two Million Acres

3% preserved
in public lands
1% privately
owned and
managed

The wedge represents what's left of the old-growth redwood forest since logging began in 1850, 4% of two million acres. Redwood National and State Parks contains 45% of all old-growth redwood forests remaining in California.

DRIVE THROUGH A TREE?

Both giant sequoias and coast redwoods have served as drive-through trees that have fascinated travelers for years. Carving a hole through a tree reflects a time passed, a time when we didn't understand the significance of all organisms and their interplay within the environment. Now we know that the coast redwood is home to threatened and endangered species, animals that don't live anywhere else. And we know that, because redwoods do not have taproots, the mass that so inspires us to look upon them plays a major role in keeping them upright. The famous drive-through giant sequoia in the Mariposa Grove of Yosemite National Park fell in 1969 under heavy snow.

Today there are three coast redwood drive-through trees along the Highway 101 corridor in northern California. All are on private lands, all charge admission. From north to south, they are:

- **Klamath Tour-Thru Tree in Klamath.** Take the Terwer Valley exit.
- **Shrine Drive-Thru Tree in Myers Flat.**
- **Chandelier Tree in Drive-Thru Tree Park in Leggett.** Follow signs off Highway 101.

Whether we drive through, walk through, or peer skyward more than 300 feet to the tops of these towering ancient giants, their scale and timelessness capture our imagination and inspire our care.

Four Longer Hikes

Banana slugs and elk tracks, black huckleberries and Sitka spruce—these are just a few of the wild things you may encounter on a hike amongst the coast redwoods. And no matter what time of day or year it may be, you're also likely to encounter a slippery path. Redwoods are notorious for their drippy environment. Wear raingear and shoes that grip the ground. Be aware of windy days. The limbs of the coast redwood are known as "widow makers" because they have been known to come crashing down during strong winds. Look skyward. You'll see branches bigger than your hiking partner.

Be sure to purchase a good map, not all trailheads are marked. At the trailhead, always secure your valuables in the trunk of your vehicle; leave nothing showing through the windows. Please refer to the back of this visitor guide for a list of other warnings and regulations that you'll need to know.

HIKE	LOCATION	TIME, DISTANCE & FEATURES
DeMartin Section of the Coastal Trail	Milepost 15.6 on Highway 101 south of Crescent City or at DeMartin Redwood Youth Hostel	7 hours, 10 miles round trip. Moderate, some uphill. Explore an old-growth redwood, hemlock, and Douglas-fir forest for the first few miles. A steep grade takes you to 10 backcountry campsites with toilets. Descend into prairie lands and sweeping panoramas of the ocean. Look for wildflowers and berries; watch out for bears.
Hidden Beach Section of the Coastal Trail	Lagoon Creek Picnic area, Hwy. 101 or Klamath River Overlook, Requa Road	5 hours, 8 miles round trip. Moderate, some uphill. Experience far-reaching ocean views along a spruce-alder forest. Listen to sea lions offshore and watch for whales. Good trail for wildflowers and birds. Access to Hidden Beach and its tidepools.
Flint Ridge Section of the Coastal Trail	Douglas Bridge parking area of Coastal Drive or past Alder Camp Road, gravel portion of Coastal Drive	6 hours, 9 miles round trip. Moderate, climb a ridge. Hike from red alder and Sitka spruce forest through ridgetop redwoods. Primitive camp at one of 11 sites, toilet available. Richardson Creek and Marshall Pond create a birding haven. Beavers live there, too! Trailers not advised on gravel section of Coastal Drive.
Skunk Cabbage Section of the Coastal Trail	Milepost 122.69 on Highway 101 two miles north of Orick or Gold Bluffs Beach north of Espa Lagoon	7 hours, 10 miles round trip. Moderate, switchbacks. Thick Sitka spruce forest with scattered old growth opens up into dense streamside vegetation. Check out skunk cabbage bogs and scads of ferns! Walk beside the Pacific with haunting cliff-top alder stands. Look for the old Union Gold Bluff mine site. Good for spring wildflowers, seabirds, and seastacks.

Four Short Walks

WALK Stout Grove

START

Stout Grove parking lot off Howland Hill Road, 7 miles east of Crescent City. In summer, access is available from Jedediah Smith campground.

TIME, DISTANCE & FEATURES

1 hour, ½ mile

Beautiful, easy walk in a river-flat group of redwoods. The Stout Tree (345 feet tall) is the main feature of this walk. Paved trail from parking lot area to redwood flat is fairly steep.

Simpson-Reed Nature Trail

Park on shoulder of Hwy 199, 2 miles west of Hiouchi Information Center (6 miles east of Crescent City).

1 hour, ¾ mile

Flat stroll on self-guided nature trail with large redwoods, octopus trees (hemlock), and many redwood-associated plants.

Lady Bird Johnson Grove and Nature Trail

Bald Hills Road is steep (15 percent grade). Trailers and motorhomes not recommended.

Travel on Hwy 101 to Bald Hills Road (½ mile north of Orick). Turn right and travel 2-½ miles on Bald Hills Road.

1 hour, 1 mile

Easy walk on self-guided trail through beautiful redwood grove. Distant views of ocean. Picnic sites available.

Prairie Creek Nature Trail

Prairie Creek Visitor Center

2 hours, 2 miles

Easy-to-moderate hike on self-guided interpretive trail through old-growth redwoods and along Prairie Creek.

Four Scenic Drives

DRIVE

Howland Hill Road

Improved gravel, narrow in spots. Large motorhomes and trailers are not advised.

START

Travel on Hwy 101 to just south of Crescent City. Turn onto Elk Valley Road and drive 1 mile to Howland Hill Road. Can also be accessed 2 miles west of Hiouchi off Hwy 199. Follow road to Stout Grove.

DISTANCE & FEATURES

6 miles

Giant coast redwoods, Mill Creek, trails to Stout Grove, Nickerson Ranch, and Boy Scout Tree.

Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway

No commercial vehicles are permitted

Parkway begins 6 miles north of Orick on Hwy 101, or 4 miles south of Klamath on Hwy 101.

10 miles

Old-growth redwoods, ferns, numerous trailheads, Big Tree Wayside.

Coastal Drive

Gravel road for much of its distance. Motorhomes and trailers are not permitted.

From the north: travel Hwy 101 to Klamath Beach Road, and follow to Coastal Drive. From the south: travel Hwy 101 to Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway, then 7 miles to Coastal Drive.

8 miles

Magnificent views of ocean, mouth of Klamath River and its estuary. Whales, sea lions, and pelicans are often seen from overlooks. Flint Ridge trailhead is about 3 miles from Highway 101 on Klamath Beach Road.

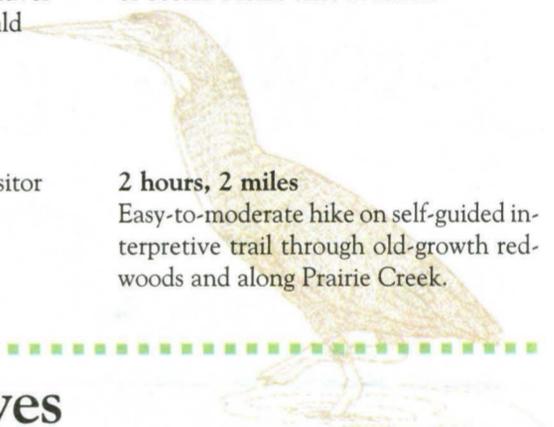
Gold Bluffs Beach/Fern Canyon Road

Davison Road is narrow and unpaved. Vehicles and trailers with a combined length of more than 24 feet are not permitted.

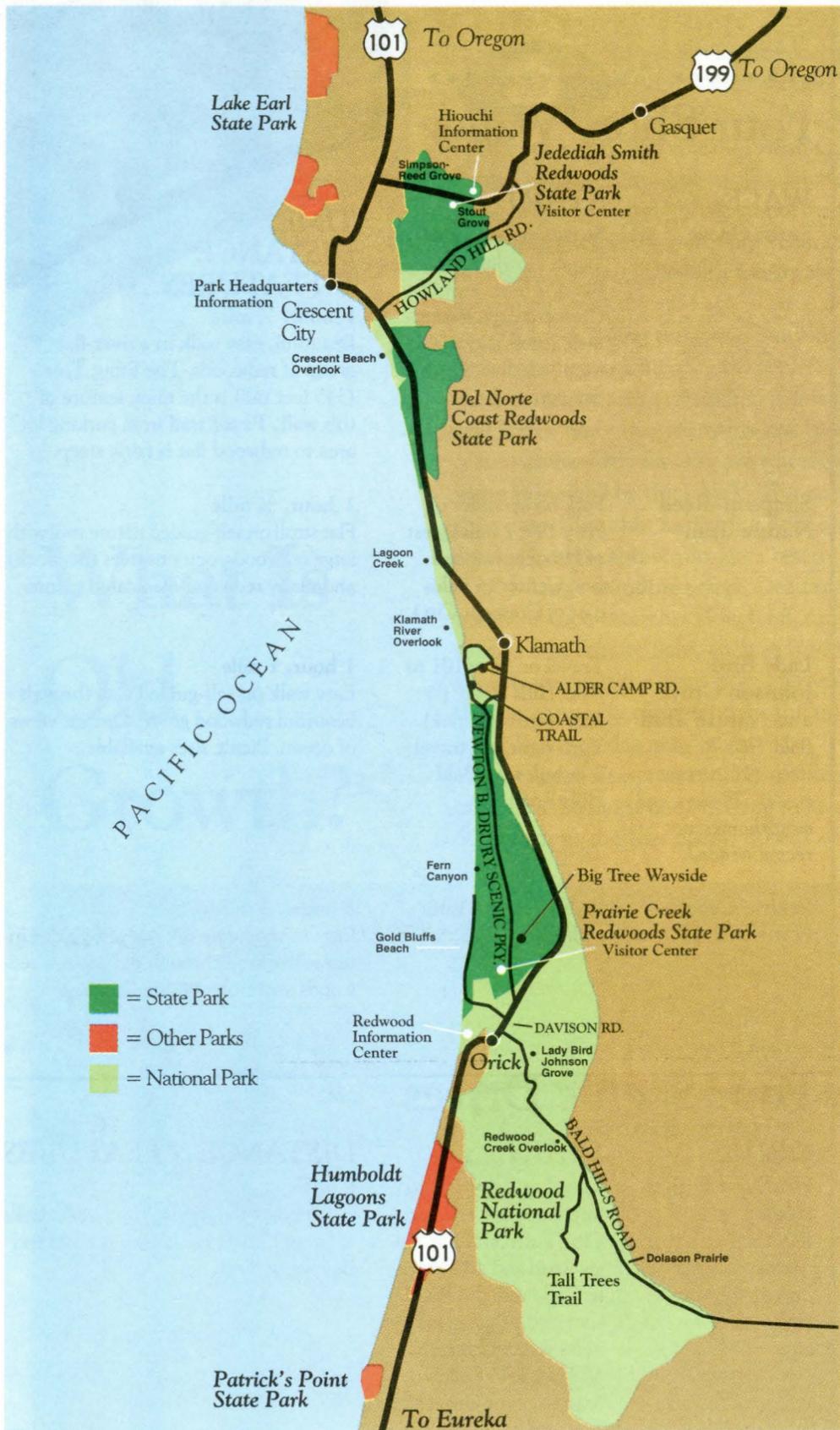
Travel Hwy 101 to Davison Road, 2 miles north of Orick.

8 miles

State park day-use fee is charged. 4 miles of spectacular beach; elk watching; Fern Canyon, a botanical wonder (30-foot canyon walls covered with numerous fern species).



What You Need to Know!



PETS—Pets are wonderful creatures that give comfort and companionship; however, a national or state park is not the best place for them. Domestic dogs or cats retain their instinct to mark territory with scent and may spread domestic diseases to wild animals. Unleashed pets may chase wildlife, causing the animals to be injured or leave their territory. Your unleashed pet may get lost and become a meal for a coyote or mountain lion.

If you bring your pet, please remember the following:

- Pets must remain on a leash under six feet in length while they visit Redwood National and State Parks.
- Your leashed pet is welcome at Crescent and Gold Bluffs Beaches, the parking and picnic areas of Redwood Information Center, Lost Man Creek, the Freshwater Spit Overnight Use Area, and state park campgrounds and roads.
- Only guide animals are allowed in park buildings or at interpretive programs.

BICYCLES—Bicycle on designated trails only. Bicyclists under 18 years of age must wear a helmet. Walk your bike past horses; do not attempt to pass on a bike. Practice trailside courtesy by calling out to hikers as you approach. Bike trails at Redwood National and State Parks include:

- Lost Man Creek Trail—Along an old road; 11 miles one way
- Coastal Trail (Last Chance section)—Through redwood forest ending with steep section and coastal views; six miles one way
- Little Bald Hills Trail—Through open prairie; eight miles one way
- Ossagon Trail Loop—Through redwood forest to coast and back; 19-mile loop

Check at park visitor centers for current information on trail closures and conditions. Sections of trails may have been affected by winter storm damage.

PARK ANIMALS—Remember these are wild animals. Let's keep them that way. Do NOT approach or feed any park animals.

PLANTS—You are welcome to harvest berries, but plants, mushrooms, and flowers are protected and removal is prohibited.

LITTER—Place all garbage in trash cans or bear-proof receptacles. Do not stuff garbage cans to overflowing or place garbage outside of cans. Please use recycle bins found throughout the parks. Help keep the parks clean. Save a bear.

LODGING—DeMartin Redwood Youth Hostel offers inexpensive shared lodging inside the parks. Contact them at 14480 Highway 101, Klamath, CA 95548, (707) 482-8265.

Be Aware!

TICKS—Ticks that carry Lyme disease occur in this area. Stay on trails and check your clothing frequently. Dark-colored ticks can be seen most easily on light-colored clothing. Tuck pant legs into your socks, and your shirt into your pants. Inspect your head and body thoroughly after a hike.

POISON OAK—Leaves of three, let them be. Poison oak is found in various forms throughout the parks. Sometimes it occurs in vine form, climbing the tallest redwoods in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, but can also be found as a free-standing shrub. Look for the distinctive three smooth, shiny leaflets that are bright green or can be red in new shoots or during the dry season. Contact with leaves can cause an itchy skin rash, so wash thoroughly if you brush against its leaves. Stay on trails.

BEACHES—The North Coast offers a diversity of beaches to explore. If you plan to spend time near the shoreline, be aware of the movement of the tides. Consult a tide book or check at a visitor center. Always keep an eye on the surf and watch for large "sneaker" waves along Pacific Ocean beaches.

TSUNAMI PRECAUTIONS—Earthquakes beneath the ocean floor can cause a series of large waves. These tsunamis have sent 100-foot waves surging inland along the coastline in this region. If you feel a strong earthquake while on the coast, move to higher ground — at least 100 feet above the shoreline — and move away from the coast right away, and stay away. Do not return to the coast after the first wave. Big waves can occur for hours. Wait for an official "all clear" on the radio.

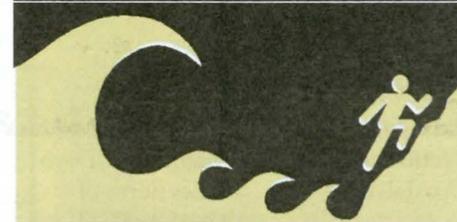
Maps, Field Guides, & Books

Five visitor centers operate within Redwood National and State Parks. Available for purchase in these centers are a wide range of educational and informational material covering the redwood forests, the seashore, and other natural history topics as well as regional human history. You will probably find something appealing no matter what your age or interests.

Redwood Natural History Association and the North Coast Redwood Interpretive Association are not-for-profit cooperating associations, established to aid and support the interpretive programs within Redwood National and State Parks. Proceeds from sales are returned directly to the parks for visitor programs, museum activities, research, library operations, exhibits, and publications. Park maps, information, and publications are available at the following locations:

- Hiouchi Information Center — Located on Highway 199. Open daily 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. during the summer months. ♿
- Jedediah Smith Visitor Center — Located in Jedediah Smith campground. Open daily during the summer months, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. and when staffing is available in the winter months.
- Crescent City Information Center — Located at 1111 Second Street, Crescent City. Open daily 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. during summer months. Closed on Sundays in the winter months. ♿
- Prairie Creek Visitor Center — Located off Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway. Summer hours, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. daily. Winter hours, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. daily.
- Redwood Information Center — Located one mile south of Orick on Highway 101. Open daily 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. ♿

TSUNAMI HAZARD ZONE



IN CASE OF EARTHQUAKE, GO TO HIGH GROUND OR INLAND