

Redwood

National and State Parks

Official Map and Guide



Redwoods and rhododendrons



Washed City Split Rock along the Coastal Trail



Rough skinned newt



Lady Bird Johnson Grove Trail

Lady Urch

World's tallest living thing, king of its race, living link to the Age of Dinosaurs; it grows from a seed the size of a tomato seed and may weigh 500 tons and stand taller than the Statue of Liberty. Acquiring its thick biological armor of umber bark, this tree

seems impenetrable to the ravages of fire and insects. In 1769, the well-traveled Fray Juan Crespi named it *palo colorado*, red tree. Botanical credit for the coast redwood's discovery is generally ceded to Archibald Menzies, who noted it in 1794.

In 1847 it was given its scientific name, *Sequoia sempervirens*, probably honoring Cherokee leader Sequoyah; *sempervirens* means evergreen. Redwood National Park was established in 1968 and expanded in 1978 to protect superlative ancient red-

wood forests growing along the north-west California coast. The park is now a World Heritage Site and international Biosphere Reserve. The millions of travelers who come from around the world to see them reap other benefits from these lofty

trees' affinity for the coastlines. For, in protecting the trees, Congress and the State of California also protect for public use and enjoyment miles and miles of beaches, sea stacks, and biotically opulent tidepools.

From Exploration to Preservation

When Fray Crespi saw the redwood forests in 1769, they probably covered 2 million or more acres. By 1965, they were reduced to 300,000 acres and under intense logging pressure. When gold fever subsided here redwood fever replaced it. The forests at first seemed endless, but most of these ancient forests fell to private ownership. Modern logging methods raised the specter that *all* the trees might be cut. The State of California had preserved several groves before 1968, when Congress created Redwood National Park. The park was expanded in 1978 to protect the world's tallest living things.



Early logging centered on small trees. Later, redwoods could be logged. Gold mining (below) began after 1849 strikes on the Trinity River.



Jedediah Strong Smith Lacking good deep harbors, the redwood coast drew little attention until fur trapper Jed Smith arrived overland in 1828. Smith explored the redwood coast for a better route between the Rockies and Pacific. Gold miners opened the area to Anglo settlement in the 1850s.

Kansas State Historical Society



Treasures of Nature and Culture

From sea level to 3,100 feet in elevation in the Coast Range, a mild, moist climate assures the park an abundant diversity of wildlife. Elusive to visitors, many species of mammals, birds, amphibians, and insects inhabit the mature redwood forest, depending on it for food and shelter. Prairies, called bald hills, form natural islands of grasslands where wildlife abounds.

Prairies and Waterways Prairies and rivers evoke the changing seasons far better than redwood groves do. *Prairies:* In springtime, prairie wildflowers burst with color that gives way in the dry summer to the grasslands' amber glow. Prairies are the realm of raptors, the predatory red-tailed hawk, kestrel, and great horned owl, and their prey of gophers and meadow mice. Mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, foxes, elk, and blacktail deer also frequent prairies, which were historically kept free of trees by wildfire and elk. Acorn-bearing Oregon white oaks edge prairies at higher elevations. They provided protein-rich food for Indians who cleared their understorey with fire. Prairies make good birding spots where you may see the goldfinch, junco, quail, or raven.



Roosevelt elk favor prairie and other open lands but seek forests for cover and shade. The park's largest mammals, these elk may weigh more than 1,000 pounds. Their much larger antlers distinguish them from blacktail deer. One of the best places to see Roosevelt elk is at Elk Prairie campground. At Gold Bluffs Beach elk are usually found along the beach and along trails. Sometimes you can see them from Bald Hills Road and along U.S. 101 south of the park on the west side of Big Lagoon.



Park streams offer swimming and floating opportunities and harbor steelhead and cutthroat trout (left) and Chinook salmon (below).



Black Bears

Seldom seen, black bears number several hundred in the park. They favor the recently logged Redwood Creek area whose revegetation fosters abundant food. Fond of acorns, bears travel far to harvest them. Redwood's bears generally have not lost their fear of humans. The best way to prevent wild bears from becoming



Illustration by George Fomfara

Waterways: Streams and rivers are welcome forest breaks that gauge the seasons with their ebb and flow. The park's rivers, world renowned for fishing, are no less loved for recreation and sheer beauty. They are home to the sleek and graceful river otter. The Smith River, named for mountain man Jedediah Smith, arises in the Siskiyou Mountains and flows through the park's north section. It is California's last major free-flowing river—and is famous for salmon and steelhead. The Klamath River, also a salmon and steelhead stream, merely crosses the park east to west. The park protects its mouth. Redwood Creek flows through the park's southern section. Its salmon and steelhead resources have been severely diminished by logging activities within its watershed.

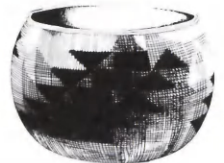
Restoring Forest Lands Congress expanded the park in 1978 and directed the National Park Service to rehabilitate logged-over lands. Native trees are planted, and exotics removed, to restore natural systems. Congress



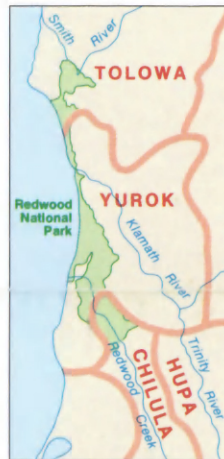
Coast redwood, Douglas-fir, and other native trees are planted to redevelop forests similar to those cut. Reshaping logging roads prevents erosion that clogs Redwood Creek and endangers streamside trees.

also created a Park Protection Zone—30,000 acres upstream from the park in Redwood Creek—to limit effects of timber harvest on the park downstream.

Indians of the Redwood Coast Tolowa, Yurok, and Chilula Indians lived in this area when it was explored by non-Indians in the 18th century. Abundant and diverse resources enabled them to achieve the highest population density and most complex cultures known among any food-gathering peoples.

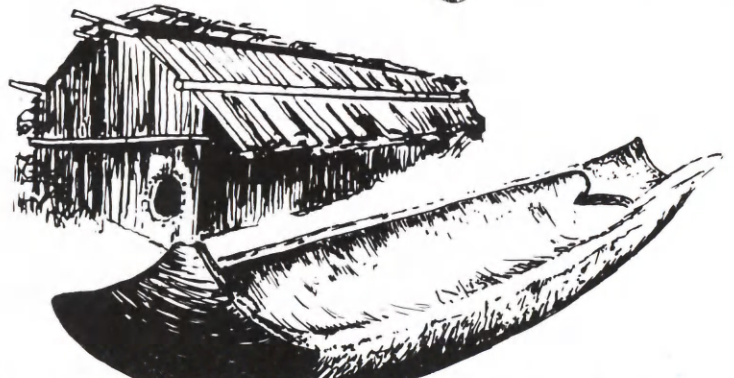


spoon below. Their world centered around water. Settlements were generally located near lagoons, rivers, and major creeks. They knew no cardinal directions but used only water flow—up, down, and across the stream, etc.—for directions. Yurok means "downstream" in the nearby Karuk language.



Yurok Indians arrived in this area about 1300. The Tolowa and Chilula came about 200 years later. Yurok and Tolowa groups still exist; the Chilula were assimilated into the inland Hupa culture.

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Life Along the Seacoast

Even apart from the Coast Range and its lofty forests, Redwood's coastline—to which the big tree is intimately related—would justify national park status. Rugged, with stretches of steep, rocky cliffs broken by rolling slopes, it is largely unaltered by humans. Generally rocky, its tidal zone can be difficult to traverse, with exceptions such as Gold Bluffs Beach, a 7-mile stretch of dunes and sandy beach. Visitors to the north coast may discover a rich mix of life forms that occupy distinct habitats shown below.

Many of the park's marine bird species are migratory. Brown pelicans are summer visitors, cormorants take to lagoon or river and shore waters, and willets and sanderlings work the beach. Offshore may be California gray whales in migration, seals, sea lions, dolphins, porpoises, and orca (killer) whales. In the intertidal areas the vagaries of periodic wetting and drying have produced tightly zoned layers of life. Lagoons—where freshwater and saltwater mix—are extremely productive of sea life. The national park boundary extends one-fourth mile beyond mean high tide.

Offshore Between shore and the deep ocean an average surface acre is as productive as a similar acre of fertilized agricultural land. Basic wealth lies in phytoplankton, single-celled plants. Sea lions feed beyond the surf and haul out on shore or on sea stacks. Harbor seals swim in the surf; they haul out in sheltered coves. Several kinds of sea birds nest on offshore rocks. Flowing south, the California Current works with offshore winds to draw nutrients up from deep waters, feeding coastal creatures. Moisture-laden air off this current condenses as low clouds over cold water near shore.

Intertidal Zone Twice daily on a 25-hour lunar cycle, tides rise and fall. In the zone between high and low tide, life forms arrange themselves vertically. Just where depends on their tolerance for exposure to air and/or water, heat, and wave shock, as well as the usual biological limits of predation and competition for food and living space. A splash zone just above high tide is home for periwinkle snails and beach hoppers that can withstand the powerful shock of



Periwinkle snail

pounding waves and episodic wetting. Splash zone inhabitants are transitional creatures, but they are more attuned to life on land than in the sea. Mussels cling to rocks in the **high-tide zone** covered by water only at high tide. They must tolerate being exposed to air and direct sunlight temporarily, for which their shells are supremely adapted. Various algae, often called seaweeds and possessing chlorophyll, frequent the **mid- and low-tide zones**. They cannot long endure being deprived of water. Seaweeds provide oxygen, food, and shelter for creatures of the intertidal zone. Larger kelp, with built-in floats and anchored in deeper water, may rival redwoods in height. **Tidepools** form in rocky beach outcroppings to shelter life forms found only

in these environments. You can see more animal species here than in a single visit anywhere. Tidepool dwellers must cope with myriad changes—in water temperature, salinity, and oxygen content. Here are barnacles, limpets, nudibranchs, sea urchins, sea stars, and sea palms. The latter, well-anchored by root-like mechanisms called hold-fasts, are erect seaweeds whose flexible stem-like structure can withstand the full force of breaking waves.

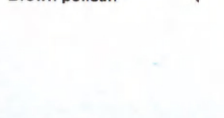


Giant green anemone



Sea star

Beaches Life on sandy beaches also observes wet and dry zones based on tides and waves. The lower beach is often wetted while upper beaches resemble narrow oases between sea and lush inland forests. Clams and mole crabs burrow into wet lower beaches. Sanderlings follow retreating wave lines to forage washed-up organisms.



Brown pelican

Sea Cliffs Northern park beaches tend to be rocky and backed by sea cliffs. Southern beaches tend to be backed by bluffs. More than half of the park's birds are marine species, some of which nest—often in great crowds—in sea cliffs: murrelets, cormorants, puffins, auklets, gulls, and pigeon guillemots.



Double-crested cormorant

The Role of Fog The passage of air warmed by inland heat over cold, near-shore waters creates fog here almost daily in summer. Fog plays a two-fold role that helps approximate the mild, moist climate that prevailed in the Age of Dinosaurs when redwood species grew over much of North America. Bathing redwood forests, the frequent summer fogs bring

relief from dry summers and decrease the amount of water lost through leaf surfaces. Also, fog collects on trees and its dripping contributes additional precipitation. Fog is not essential to redwoods, but its absence would reduce their range.

Woodlands Forests of the Coast Range's west slope benefit from proximity to the sea in terms of fog, rainfall, and moderate climate. Redwoods favor moist, north-facing slopes where sunlight's effects are less drying. Rivers near sea level also provide hospitable flats.

Seacoast illustrations by Rob Wood



A park interpreter shares natural lore of the rocky tidepools with visitors to the park's Pacific shore.



Exploring the Redwood Coast

Redwood National and State Parks represent a cooperative management effort of the National Park Service and the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Together these parks are a World Heritage Site and International Biosphere Reserve protecting resources cherished by citizens of many nations. Information in this brochure can help you decide what to

Hiouchi Area

Hiouchi Information Center
The information center is open in spring, summer, and fall. It offers a good place to begin your visit to the national and state parks if you are approaching the north end of the parks on U.S. 199. Exhibits and interpretive publications here tell about the parks, their trees and coastline, and other related topics. Trail maps are available. In summer, interpretive programs are offered here.

Crescent City Area

Park Headquarters
The headquarters for Redwood National and State Parks is located at 1111 Second Street in Crescent City. Information, interpretive publications, and programs are available here, seven days a week during daytime hours. For 24-hour information about the parks, call voice/TDD 707-464-6101. Nearby attractions are the Battery Point Lighthouse, Del Norte County Museum, and Citizens Dock. Find out about commercial attractions and private campgrounds at the Chamber of Commerce on Front Street, across the street from park headquarters.

Crescent Beach
Picnicking and beachcombing are popular activities at Crescent Beach, just 2 miles south of Crescent City off Enderts Beach Road.

Klamath Area

False Klamath Cove
False Klamath Cove lies north of the Klamath River. A protected beach and picnic area are located at the mouth of Wilson Creek. Across U.S. 101, the Redwood Hostel (fee) is operated by American Youth Hostels, Inc. For hostel information call 707-482-8265.

Lagoon Creek
Picnic, fish in the freshwater lagoon, and enjoy the beach. The self-guiding Yurok Loop nature trail (1 mile, 1 hour) gradually climbs atop the sea bluffs with panoramic ocean views. It offers looks at wildflowers in season and the chance to view sea mammals.

Prairie Creek Area

Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
Use the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway to reach the park from U.S. 101. You will find park information, exhibits, and interpretive publications at the visitor center. Cal-Barrel Road is an unpaved scenic drive through the redwood forest. Davison Road, narrow and unpaved, goes to Golds Bluff Beach and affords excellent elk viewing. Trailers or trailers and vehicles longer

Orick Area

Bald Hills Road
Do not take trailers or motorhomes on the steep—15 percent—grade here. Parking and temporary storage for trailers are available at the Redwood Creek trailhead and the Redwood Information Center.

Walk the **Lady Bird Johnson Grove** self-guiding interpretive loop trail (1 mile, 1 hour), off Bald Hills Road. The trail leads through a mature forest to the site at which the national park was dedicated by Lady Bird Johnson in 1968.

A limited number of free permits for private vehicles are issued on a first-come, first-served basis to reach the trailhead for the **Tall Trees Grove**. The permits are only available at Redwood Information Center. Allow four hours round-trip for driving to the trailhead and then hiking to the grove (1.3 miles each way). The trail is

General Information

Camping facilities Developed campgrounds are located within Jedediah Smith Redwoods, Del Norte Coast Redwoods, and Prairie Creek Redwoods state parks. Sites offer a table, grill, and cupboards. Hot showers, restrooms, and disposal station are provided, except at Gold Bluffs Beach, which has solar-heated showers only and no disposal station. Trailers up to 24 feet long and motorhomes up to 27 feet are allowed, except at Gold Bluffs Beach, where trailers are prohibited. No trailer hookups.

Reservations are usually necessary in summer. Make them through MISTIX, P.O. Box 9029, Clearwater, FL 34618, or call 1-800-444-7275. The nearest group campground is at Patrick's Point State Park, south of Orick. Other public campgrounds are located in Six Rivers National Forest; Grassy Flat and Patrick Creek are closed in winter. No reservations are necessary for national forest campgrounds.

Safety and management tips Safety hazards exist here, be alert and use common sense. On the beach, be aware of tidal fluctuations. Swimming is not advised because the ocean is cold and has strong rip currents. Be cautious while climbing or walking near

see and do in the time you have available in the parks—and what services and facilities you might take advantage of.

Accessibility For information on the accessibility of facilities and programs, ask at the park information centers or request a copy of

Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park
Here you can camp, picnic, hike, fish, swim, and float the Smith River; no lifeguards. Interpretive exhibits and publications are available at the information center. Interpretive walks and talks are offered during the summer.

Howland Hill Road, an alternative route to Crescent City, is an unpaved, narrow, scenic drive through the redwood forest. It provides

Crescent Beach Overlook
This viewpoint is a good place for whale-watching, picnicking, or just taking in the scenery. Always lock your unattended car. **Lock all valuables out of sight in the trunk or, preferably, carry them with you.**

Enderts Beach
Enderts Beach Road leads to an overlook some 500 feet above this sandy beach that backs up against tall bluffs. Enderts Beach Trail (1.2 miles round trip) leads down to the beach. A hike-in camping area (0.5 mile) just above the beach offers five sites with beach access. Picnic tables, grills, and pit toilet are provided; no water. In summer, 1½- to 2-hour tidepool or seashore walks are conducted. They begin at the parking area, descend to the beach, and explore rocky tidepools at its southern end.

Requa Road
Requa Road leads out to the Klamath Overlook, which stands some 600 feet above an estuary at the Klamath River's mouth. There the Coastal Trail leads down to a spur trail leading to another overlook some 200 feet above the ocean. Whale-watching can be good in this area. There are exhibits at Klamath Overlook.

Coastal Drive
This narrow, scenic, partially paved drive (8 miles, 45 minutes) winds through stands of redwood, offering close looks at the Klamath River and breathtaking views of crashing surf and the expansive Pacific Ocean. Don't miss

than 24 feet or wider than 8 feet are prohibited. Fern Canyon, at the end of Davison Road, offers a pleasant walk. Herds of elk frequent Elk Prairie and Gold Bluffs. **Danger: elk are wild and unpredictable. Do not approach them on foot.**

Lost Man Creek
Take the short, unpaved, scenic drive through the redwood forest. **Trailers are not advised.**

steep, descending 800 feet to the banks of Redwood Creek where some of the world's tallest trees grow. Limited shuttle bus service may be available. Check at park information centers for schedule and permit information. Horseback trips are available in this area and in the north through Tall Trees Outfitters, a licensed park concessioner; call 707-488-5785.

Redwood Creek Trail
Here you can combine hiking and backcountry camping. Take an 8.5-mile hike to Tall Trees Grove, where the world's tallest trees grow on the flats of Redwood Creek. This involves two creek crossings. **Caution: Bridges are provided in summer only. During the rainy season high waters make stream crossings dangerous.** For current information on access to Tall Trees Grove via this route, ask a park ranger or ask at an information station. Don't drink untreated

edges of high, rocky bluffs. Watch for poison oak, particularly in coastal areas. And watch out for falling limbs, particularly in winter. Roosevelt elk are wild and unpredictable—do not approach them on foot. Do not feed bears or wild animals. Follow park regulations regarding bears and food storage. These regulations are the safest alternatives for food storage in that they decrease the likelihood that personal injury or property damage will occur. All food and scented personal care items should be secured and hidden from view in vehicles, placed in bear-proof lockers, or hung from trees. Garbage should be properly disposed of in bear-proof garbage cans. Mountain lions may also be found in the parks. Check at park information centers for brochures and updates on lion behavior. Mushroom gathering is prohibited.

Road conditions Watch for logging trucks and other heavy vehicles. If traffic backs up behind your car, use a turnout and let faster traffic pass. Drive cautiously in fog. Do not take trailers or motorhomes on roads other than main highways without first asking if the roads can handle them.

the publication, *Access Redwood National and State Parks*.

For more information, write to Parks Information, Redwood National and State Parks, 1111 Second Street, Crescent City, CA 95531; or call voice/TDD 707-464-6101, or 1-800-423-6101.

access to Stout Grove and hiking trails as well as to the Howland Hill Outdoor Education School. Motorhomes and trailers are not advised on this road. Walker Road is an unpaved scenic road through the redwood forest. It provides access to the Smith River and to short hiking trails.

Coastal Trail
Multiple sections of the Coastal Trail (see map) explore beaches, bluffs, grasslands, former farmlands, and redwood and other forests. With substantial road links and other trails, the Coastal Trail enables you to backpack nearly the length of the parks, from Enderts Beach Road in the north to the Tall Trees Grove in the south. Primitive campsites are provided at (north to south) Nickel Creek, DeMartin, Flint Ridge, and Butler Creek. There is a campground at Gold Bluffs Beach; the Redwood Hostel (see below) is near False Klamath Cove. For more information about the Coastal Trail, ask at park information centers for maps and publications.

Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park
Here you can camp year round, hike, fish, and mountain bike. Interpretive walks and talks are available in the summer.

the World War II radar station. It looks like a farmhouse and barn—that was its disguise in the 1940s. The smaller structure housed the power supply. The operations building housed an oscilloscope and radar technicians. Near the junction with Alder Camp Road, the high Bluff Picnic Area provides panoramic views of the coast from its location atop the bluff. Another point of interest is the old Douglas Memorial Bridge that was destroyed by flooding in 1964. Cars with trailers and motorhomes should not travel along the coast between points A and B on the map; these vehicles should turn south on Alder Camp Road to continue the Coastal Drive. Note: part of the Coastal Drive is not paved.

This area offers hiking and mountain biking trails and picnicking facilities. Lost Man Creek Trail (1.5 miles round trip) leads past the World Heritage Site dedication area and on to a cascade on Lost Man Creek.

water from Redwood Creek; it may be polluted from stock grazing upstream. No dogs are allowed on the trail. Camping is allowed only on gravel bars along Redwood Creek, and only beyond 1½ miles from the Redwood Creek trailhead. Camping is not permitted within ¼ mile above or below the Tall Trees Grove. Check with a ranger for nearby camping options. **Backpackers please note the camping restrictions on Redwood Creek;** see "Coastal Trail" under "Crescent City Area" above.

Redwood Information Center
If you are approaching the park from the south, make this your first stop. View the exhibits and browse publications that tell about the park, its trees, coastline, and related topics. A trail map is available. Interpretive programs are offered here in summer. For information, call 707-488-3461.

Park regulations Redwood National and State Parks are managed under special regulations to protect park resources and you. Please observe them. All plants and animals are protected. However, you may gather fruits and berries for your personal consumption. California licenses are required for freshwater and ocean fishing. Tidepools are fragile environments, so collecting is not permitted. Do not hunt, trap, or carry loaded or assembled firearms on park lands. Keep pets under physical restraint at all times; pets are prohibited on all park trails. Camp and build fires only in areas designated for such uses. Damaging or removing any government structure, sign, or marker is prohibited. Help keep the park clean and litter-free; take out what you bring in. If you have questions, check at a ranger station or ask a patrolling park ranger.

For your protection Lock your unattended car. Lock all valuables out of sight in the trunk or carry them with you. If you become a victim of theft, or if you witness vandalism, report such acts to the nearest law enforcement officer or ranger station.

In case of emergency, dial 911.



High Tide
Check the tide tables before walking on the beaches. Rising water can trap you against a cliff with no possibility of escape.

Heavy Surf
The pounding surf and rip currents are treacherous. Stay away from the water.

Yurok Reservation
The lands within one mile of both sides of the the Klamath River from the Pacific Ocean to 43 miles upstream comprise the Yurok Reservation. Currently, only 10 percent of the land remains in Yurok ownership or trust status.

Steep Cliffs
Cliffs are likely to crumble and slide. Climbing on them or walking near the edge invites catastrophe. Because of falling rocks, walking below cliffs is dangerous. Keep away!

Falling Limbs
Tree limbs can fall during high winds, especially in old growth forests.

