Redwood Creek

Commission would serve as the driving force behind establishing the Save-the-Redwoods League. The League negotiated with lumber companies, several months after returning to San Francisco, founded the group of scientists and naturalists explored the devastated area. This redwood preservation movement shifted north in 1917, as US 101 highway threatened the Bull Creek flats, an unparalleled mosaic of habitats. The official visitor guide of Redwood National and State Parks. Welcome to Redwood!

The ancient coast redwood forest ecosystem preserved at Redwood National and State Parks protects some of the world's most majestic forests and adjacent prairies, oak woodlands, and coastal and marine environments. The Yurok, Tolowa, and Chulula tribes historically occupied lands now included in the parks and the diverse traditions of these indigenous people continue today. Their stories and presence on these ancestral lands since time immemorial are important to understand the history of the region. Yosemite was the first California State Park, established in 1864, and Yellowstone was the first national park, established in 1872, but it was not until 1916 that a national park system with a service to operate the system was established. In 2014, we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the California State Park system and similarly, in 2016, we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the creation of the National Park Service. As we celebrate these milestones, park staff are working to protect and restore watersheds, ancient and second-growth forests, and 37 miles of coastline and near-shore marine environments so that you and future generations may continue to enjoy our state and national heritage contained in these world-class landscapes.

There are a number of organizations that partner with Redwood National and State Parks to help us carry out our mission. We rely on our park partners, some of whom include the Redwood Parks Association, whose passion and duty helped preserve much of the old-growth forest within the area, the Parkway—like much of the parks—will instill an appreciation and gratitude for the mission of California State Parks. Continued on page 8…
Information Centers: A Great Start

Five information centers provide orientation, information, and trip-planning advice. Park rangers are on duty.

Crescent City Information Center
Information, exhibits, live video feed from Castle Rock National Wildlife Refuge, postal stamps, restrooms, picnic area, Junior Ranger workbook.

Location: 1111 Second Street, Crescent City, Calif.

Operating Hours: Spring/fall: Open daily, 9 am to 5 pm; Winter: Open daily, 9 am to 4 pm.
Phone: 707-465-7335

Hiouchi Information Center
Information, exhibits, park film, postal stamps, restrooms, picnic area, ranger-led activities and programs (summer only), Junior Ranger programs (summer only) and workbook.

Location: 9 miles northeast of Crescent City, Calif. on US 199.

Operating Hours: Summer: Open daily, 9 am to 5 pm; Off-season: Closed.
Phone: 707-458-3294

Jedediah Smith Visitor Center
Information, exhibits, postal stamps, restrooms, picnic area, ranger-led activities and programs (summer only), Junior Ranger programs (summer only) and workbook.

Location: Jedediah Smith campground (see page 10), 9 miles northeast of Crescent City, Calif. on US 199.

Operating Hours: Summer: Open daily, 9 am to 5 pm; Off-season: Closed.
Phone: 707-458-3496

Prairie Creek Visitor Center
Information, exhibits, park film, postal stamps, restrooms, picnic area, ranger-led activities and programs (summer only), Junior Ranger programs (summer only) and workbook.

Location: 6 miles north of Orick, Calif. on the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway (exit off US 101).

Operating Hours: Summer: Open daily, 9 am to 5 pm; Off-season: As staffing permits—please call ahead.
Phone: 707-488-2039

Thomas H. Kuchel Visitor Center
Information, exhibits, park film, postal stamps, restrooms, picnic area, ranger-led activities and programs (summer only), Junior Ranger programs (summer only) and workbook.

Location: 2 miles south of Orick, Calif. on US 101.

Operating Hours: Spring/fall: Open daily, 9 am to 5 pm; Winter: Open daily, 9 am to 4 pm.
Phone: 707-465-7765

Park Passes
If you’re an America the Beautiful Pass holder, you enjoy free entry to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites, including national parks. Now, those same benefits are extended to state parklands within Redwood National and State Parks: With your America the Beautiful Pass, you won’t pay day-use fees (where applicable) at Jedediah Smith Redwood, Del Norte Coast Redwood, and Prairie Creek Redwood state parks. You may even be eligible to receive a 50% discount on camping fees, too! Of course, visitors with a California State Parks Annual or Special Pass will continue to receive the same benefits and discounts they’ve enjoyed at sites throughout the state.

Find out which pass is right for you and where passes can be purchased by visiting any park information center (see left) or online at:
California State Parks Annual or Special Passes
http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1049

America the Beautiful Pass Series
www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm

Passport Stamps
Don’t forget your park passport stamp! Stamps are available at all information centers in Redwood National and State Parks. Each of the five information centers has a unique stamp. Redwood National Park can be found in the Western Region (page 83) of the passport booklet.

The Fine Print: What You Need to Know

Dates and Hours of Operation
Redwood National and State Parks is open every day (information centers above), campgrounds (see page 10), and day-use areas maintain regular seasonal hours of operation.

Sportfishing
Sportfishing requires a California fishing license for those 16 years-old and older and must be in accordance with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) regulations (available online at www.dfg.ca.gov). For more information, contact any information center (see above) or the CDFW Northern Region Field Office at: (707) 445-6493.

Firearms and Hunting
Federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms in national parks to possess firearms in national parklands. It is the responsibility of visitors to understand and comply with all applicable state, local, and federal firearms laws before entering National Park Service-administered lands within Redwood National and State Parks. It is the responsibility of visitors to understand and comply with all applicable state, local, and federal firearms laws before entering National Park Service-administered lands within Redwood National and State Parks. Federal law also prohibits firearms in certain facilities in the national park; those places will be marked with signs at all public entrances.

State laws prohibit firearms in California State Park-administered lands.

Hunting (and/or any discharge of firearms) is prohibited in Redwood National and State Parks.
Ranger-Led Programs & Activities

**Junior Ranger Programs (1 hour)**

Children ages 7-12 have fun while learning about the people, plants, animals, and life systems of the redwood region. Allow one hour for scheduled programs at the Jedediah Smith Campground, Mill Creek Campground, or Prairie Creek Visitor Center, self-paced junior ranger activities are available at all visitor centers. See page 9 for more activities and information.

**Tidepool Walk (2 hours, as tides permit)**

Get your hands (and feet!) wet while discovering delicate tidepool creatures. A park ranger/naturalist leads this investigation into the hidden world beneath the waves. *Come prepared: dress for the weather, bring drinking water and a snack, wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots (no sandals) with non-slip soles—they will get wet!*

**Campfire Programs (1 hour)**

As darkness descends on the North Coast, the Jedediah Smith, Mill Creek, and Elk Prairie campgrounds (see page 10) are ideal settings for an informative State Park and inspiring night cap. Programs may include narrated slide shows, storytelling, music, and/or games. Campfire circles and outdoor amphitheaters are wheelchair accessible.

**Nature Walks (1-2 hours)**

Immerse yourself in the forest, sea, or prairielands. Join a park ranger-naturalist for a down-to-earth exploration of the natural communities that contribute to one of the most diverse ecosystems on Earth. *Come prepared: dress for the weather, bring drinking water and a snack, wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots with non-slip soles.*

**Area Information**

Chambers of Commerce & Visitor Bureaus

- McKinleyville, Calif.
  1640 Central Ave.
  McKinleyville, CA 95519
  ph: 707-839-2449
  web: www.mckinleyvillechamber.com
- Orick, Calif.
  P.O. Box 234
  Orick, CA 95555
  ph: 707-488-2885
  web: www.orick.net
- Trinidad, Calif.
  P.O. Box 356
  Trinidad, CA 95570
  ph: 707-677-1610
  web: www.discovertrinidadca.com
- Humboldt County Convention & Visitors Bureau
  1034 2nd Street
  Eureka, CA 95501
  ph: 800-346-3482
  web: www.redwoods.info
- Klamath, Calif.
  P.O. Box 476
  Klamath, CA 95548
  ph: 707-482-7165 or 800-200-2335
  web: www.klamathchamber.com
- California Welcome Center
  1034 2nd Street
  Eureka, CA 95501
  ph: 707-442-3738 or 800-356-6831
  web: www.eurekahamber.com
- Humboldt County Convention & Visitors Bureau
  1034 2nd Street
  Eureka, CA 95501
  ph: 800-346-3482
  web: www.redwoods.info

**FAQs: Where can I...**

- **...take my pet for a walk?**
  Pets on a leash not exceeding six feet in length are allowed only at designated campgrounds, picnic areas, public roads, parking areas, and Crescent, Gold Bluffs, Hidden, and Freshwater beaches (excluding dune habitat). Unless posted otherwise and/or with the exception of guide animals, pets are not allowed elsewhere in the parks, including on park trails, at ranger-led programs, or in park buildings.

- **...check out my campsite?**
  Ultra-sandwiches that can be dispensed at information centers (see page 2). Inquire at any information center or see pages 10-11 for more information.

- **...have a campfire?**
  Fire is permitted at designated campgrounds; check out the map on pages 6-7 for information.

- **...ride my bicycle?**
  Bicycles are permitted on all public roadways open to vehicle traffic, as well as on designated backcountry bicycle routes (see page 11). Bike-hike campers are available at all developed campgrounds and at some backcountry campgrounds. See pages 10-11 for more information.

- **...ride my horse or travel with pack animals?**
  Travel with horses and/or pack animals is allowed only in designated areas or on designated routes and trails (see page 11). Camping with horses is allowed at two stock-ready campsites along these routes; free permit may be required. Inquire at any information center (see page 2) or see pages 10-11 for more information.

- **...take my motorhome, RV, or trailer?**
  With the exception of major highways, the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway, and access roads to information centers and campgrounds (though length limits may apply—see page 10), motorhomes, recreational vehicles (RVs), and trailers are either ill-advised or prohibited on other roadways. Check-out the map on pages 6-7 or inquire at any information center (see page 2) for additional information.

- **...have a picnic?**
  Picnic tables are available at numerous locations throughout the parks, including all information centers (see page 2). **Help Keep Wildlife Wild:** never feed wildlife; properly dispose of all garbage—even crumbs, store food and other odorous items in airtight containers, out-of-sight in a locked car or bear-proof locker.

- **...find lodging?**
  While there are no lodging services (hotels, motels, or hostels, etc.) within the parks, lodging is available in and around nearby communities—contact local chambers of commerce (see “Area Information,” above) for more information.

- **...dine or purchase groceries?**
  While there are no food services within the parks, food is available in and around nearby communities—contact local chambers of commerce for more info. (see “Area Information,” above). Full-service grocery stores are available in Brookings, Ore., and Crescent City, Trinidad, McKinleyville, Arcata, and Eureka, Calif.

- **...go camping?**
  Camping is permitted in four developed campgrounds; at numerous designated backcountry camps; and at dispersed sites on Redwood Creek gravel bars upstream of Bond Creek and no closer than 0.5 mile from Tall Trees Grove. Permits, reservations, and fees may apply—see pages 10-11 for more info. Outside the national and state parks, tent, trailer, and RV camping may be available on adjacent public lands or nearby private campgrounds. Inquire at any information center or contact local chambers of commerce (see “Area Information,” above) for additional information.

Redwood Visitor Guide 3
Aftershocks, 50 Years Later

For those who were there, a half-century is not nearly enough time for the lessons of March 27, 1964 to fade from the rear-view mirrors of their consciousness. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the most powerful recorded earthquake in U.S. history—the second largest earthquake ever recorded—and the largest and most destructive recorded tsunami to strike Crescent City, California.

At 5:36 p.m., 75 miles (120 km) southeast of Anchorage, the earth unleashed an energy equivalent to 950 million tons of TNT detonated under the surface of the earth. The United States Geologi- cal Survey reported that 200,000 square miles (520,000 km²) experienced vertical displacements that ranged from 38 feet (11.5 m) of uplift to 75 feet (2.3 m) of subsidence relative to sea level. In less than five minutes, an area of sea floor larger than the state of Oregon raised up and lurched seaward while, simultaneously, an area of mainland approximately the size of Nevada sank.

A seafloor mountain had been instantaneously formed and the Pacific Ocean was no longer pacified. The 90,000 square miles (235,000km²) of seafloor heaved and displaced billions of gallons of water. The 900 megatons of energy was transferred from earth to water—from earthquake to tsunami.

The fourth wave, loaded with debris and a freakish energy, surged 21 feet (6.4 m) above sea level, inundating 60 city blocks and destroying 30. In its wake, 12 people were dead, over 100 were injured, and several were missing. Approximately, 300 buildings, 1000 cars, and 45 large fishing vessels had been lost to the great wave. It was reported that Crescent City received more damage from the tsunami on a block-by-block basis than did Anchorage from the initial earthquake.

Nate St. Amand, Park Ranger

In Depth: Coastal Connections

Tips from a Tsunami-Ready City

Since 1933, Crescent City, California has recorded 34 tsunamis—more than any other community on the Pacific Coast of the United States. Crescent City’s tsunami preparedness came at the highest of costs, however. Often through unwelcomed experience and practice, it has proven itself to be one of the most tsunami ready cities on the Pacific Coast. The following tips will help you to stay safe while visiting tsunami country:

Know the signs of a tsunami:

• A strong earthquake lasting 20 seconds or more near the coast.
• A noticeable rapid rise or fall in coastal waters.
• A loud roaring noise from the ocean.

If you are in a coastal area and feel a strong earthquake...:

• Drop, cover, and hold on.
• Protect yourself from the earthquake. When the shaking stops, move quickly to higher ground away from the coast. A tsunami may be coming within minutes.
• Be prepared for aftershocks which happen frequently after earthquakes. Each time the earth shakes; drop, cover, and hold on.
• Move as far inland and uphill as possible.

What to do during a Tsunami Watch:

• Use a NOAA Weather Radio or listen to local radio or television sta- tions for updated information.
• Locate local crisis and review evacuation plans.
• Be ready to move quickly if a Tsunami Warning is issued.

What to do during a Tsunami Warning:

• If you hear a tsunami warning sirens, detect signs of a tsunami, or hear about a tsunami warning on the radio or TV, move to higher ground and inland immediately.
• Bring pets with you to keep them safe.
• Take your disaster supplies kit. Having adequate supplies on hand will make you more comfortable.
• Know local conditions. Ask local officials how high you need to go in order to escape the tsunami.
• If someone in the water appears to be in trouble, CALL 911. Don’t go in after them—you may not survive.

What to do after a tsunami:

• Return ONLY when local officials tell you it is safe to do so. A tsunami is a series of waves that may continue for hours. Do not assume that the danger is over after one wave. The next wave(s) may be larger than the first.
• Stay away from damaged areas so emergency responders can have full access.
• Stay out of any building that has water around it and take care when re-entering any structure. Surge floodwater may damage buildings.

A life vest can be the difference between an incident and a tragedy. Enjoy the beaches but don’t let the ocean catch you off guard:

Sneaker Waves are very large waves that can occur at any time. Never turn your back on the ocean.

Rip Currents are strong out-going cur- rents that can occur at any time. Avoid swimming or wading.

Rising Tides can cut off access. Know the tides; plan for rising water.

Think “TSUNAMI!” If you feel a strong earthquake. Go to high ground or inland. Stay there.

Cold Water quickly paralyzes muscles, making it hard to swim.

Protect yourself during the earthquake

Move to high ground or inland as soon as you can

Stay there!

Remain on high ground! Tsunamis last for hours

Stay there!
Three Redwoods: All in the Subfamily

THOUGH WE OFTEN SIMPLY REFER to the world’s tallest living trees on California’s North Coast as “redwoods,” there are in fact three distinct redwood species: dawn redwood, giant sequoia, and coast redwood. Much like the members of your family, the species in this subfamily (Sequoioideae) share a common ancestry and many similar characteristics while maintaining their own unique identities.

All redwoods are cone-bearing trees and get their common name from their reddish-brown bark and heartwood. And, much like the members of your family, the species in this subfamily (Sequoioideae) share a common ancestry and many similar characteristics while maintaining their own unique identities.

Fossil evidence suggests that redwoods descended from a group of conifers that thrived across Europe, Asia, and North America when dinosaurs roamed the Earth—in the Jurassic period more than 145 million years ago. As Earth’s climate gradually and generally became cooler and drier, redwoods became restricted to three distinct geographic regions and evolved into the three species we know today.

All redwoods are cone-bearing trees and get their common name from their reddish-brown bark and heartwood. And, by whatever name, these magnificent trees have the uncanny ability to inspire awe and mystery. It’s a subfamily tradition!

DAWN REDWOOD Metasequoia glyptostroboides

Thought to have been extinct for millions of years, the dawn redwood was rediscovered in 1944 by a forester in the Sichuan-Hubei region of China. Also popular as an ornamental today, the tree is easily distinguished from its California relatives by its smaller size and deciduous leaves.

Distribution: Central China.
Height: To 140 feet (43 m).
Diameter: To 6 feet (2 m).
Age: Indeterminate.
Leaves: Deciduous; needle-like with small stalk, arranged opposite each other.
Cone size: Like a large olive, shed yearly.
Seed size: Like a tomato seed.
Reproduction: By seed.
Habitat/climate: Indeterminate.

GIANT SEQUOIA Sequoiadendron giganteum

Quick-growing and long-lived (some over 3,000 years), no tree is more massive than the giant sequoia. The General Sherman Tree in Sequoia National Park is the most massive living thing on Earth, with an estimated total volume of over 50,000 cubic feet.

Distribution: Western slopes of Sierra Nevada Mountains in Central California.
Height: To 354 feet (166 m).
Diameter range: To 30 feet (9 m).
Age: To more than 3,000 years.
Leaves: Evergreen; awl-shaped, attached at base.
Cone size: Like a chicken egg, can stay on tree for two decades.
Seed size: Like an oat flake.
Reproduction: By seed only.
Habitat/climate: Seedlings require abundant light, are frost tolerant, and drought-resistant.

COAST REDWOOD Sequoia sempervirens

Coast redwoods are the tallest trees in the world. Dense forest stands grow on nutrient-rich river bars and flood plains, protected from the wind. Heavy winter rains and fog from the Pacific Ocean keeps the trees continually damp, even during summer droughts.

Distribution: Northern California coast, and into southernmost coastal Oregon.
Height: To 375 feet (115 m).
Diameter range: To 26 feet (8 m).
Age: To more than 2,000 years.
Leaves: Evergreen; both needle- and awl-shaped, attached at base.
Cone size: Like a large olive, shed after 1-2 years.
Seed Size: Like a tomato seed.
Reproduction: By seed or sprout.
Habitat/climate: Seedlings are shade-tolerant but frost sensitive; require abundant moisture.

Watchable Wildlife: Roosevelt Elk

Roosevelt elk (Cervus elaphus roosevelti) is the largest subspecies of North American elk and one of the most commonly seen mammals in Redwood National and State Parks. Though abundant today, as few as 15 Roosevelt elk remained in California in 1925 when one of the last herds made its stand in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Since then, protection of critical habitat in parks and surrounding areas has allowed the population to rebound.

Prime locations for viewing Roosevelt elk include (also see map on pages 6-7):

- Elk Prairie: Six miles north of Orick, Calif. or 34 miles south of Crescent City, Calif. on the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway.
- Elk Meadow: Exit Davison Road three miles north of Orick, Calif. or 39 miles south of Crescent City, Calif. on US 101.
- Gold Bluffs Beach (day-use fee area): From Elk Meadow (see above), continue four unpaved miles on Davison Road (trailers prohibited; motorcycles/RVs not advised).
- Bald Hills Road: Exit Bald Hills Road one mile north of Orick, Calif. or 41 miles south of Crescent City, Calif. on US 101; continue about nine miles or more on Bald Hills Road to upland prairie and oak woodland habitat.

Elk may appear almost anywhere—even along major roads and the busy US 101 corridor. Biologists think that road kills are among the major cause of death for elk in the parks. For your safety and theirs, please respect posted speed limits and always watch for wildlife.

Adult males (bulls) weigh up to 1,200 pounds and will aggressively guard their harems, especially during the fall mating season. Females cows may be very protective during calving season, typically May-June. Never approach wild elk! Observe them from a distance with binoculars or photograph them with a telephoto lens.

SHELTERED IN A SOFT NEST OF MOSS AND FERNS, A MARBLED MURRELET CHICK waits silently atop a massive coast redwood branch high above the forest floor. It’s parent’s spend their day at sea diving for small fish, returning at dusk to feed their solitary offspring. Like the fog that shrouds the North Coast, the life of the marbled murrelet (Brachyramphus marmoratus) is connected to both forest and sea.

Nearby, a Stellar’s jay hops along the forest floor scavenging for any morsel of food. Aggressive and incredibly intelligent—they can remember hundreds of different food locations—jays and their fellow corvids (ravens and crows) flourish at the ecologically-rich edges of the redwood forest.

The edges of this once unbroken forest have increased a hundred-fold in as many years. Logging, highways, cities, campgrounds, and picnic areas open broad boulevards into the heart of the coast redwood forest. Thus exposed, murrelet chicks and eggs make easy meals for crafty corvids. As the forest edge continues to expand, the marbled murrelet lives on the edge of extinction.

Never Feed Wildlife! It’s dangerous to you, the fed animal, and other wildlife. It’s against the law, too! Store food and smelly items in bear-proof storage lockers. Keep food within arm’s reach when cooking or preparing. Together, we can ensure a place in the wild for a rare bird.

Jeff Denny, Park Ranger
**Recommended Short Walks**

**Stout Grove Trail**
- **Easy; Level trail surface**
- **Distance & Duration:** ~1 mi; 30 minutes.
- **Location:** Signed access road to trailhead located east of Howland Hill Road (see “Highlighted Scenic Drives,” below). In summer, a bridge over the Smith River provides easy access from Jedediah Smith Campground.
- **Description:** This loop trail meanders among colossal redwoods thriving in the rich soils of the Smith River floodplain. Flood waters inhibit the growth of understory trees and plants seen in other groves, revealing the full stature of the 300-foot coast redwoods on display.

**Lady Bird Johnson Grove Trail**
- **Easy-moderate; Level trail surface with grades.**
- **Distance & Duration:** ~1 mi north of Orick, Calif. on US 101, turn east onto Bald Hills Road and continue 3½ miles to signed trailhead.
- **Description:** The historic walk winds through upland stands of old-growth redwood, Douglas fir, and tan oak to the site where Lady Bird Johnson dedicated Redwood National Park in 1968. In spring, rhododendrons and astilbe abound, while vine and big leaf maple reveal their bold colors in the fall. A brochure at the trailhead corresponds to marked interpretive stops along the trail.

**Circle Trail**
- **Easy; Level trail surface**
- **Distance & Duration:** ~1 mi; 30 minutes.
- **Location:** Trail begins at the well-marked Big Tree wayside, ~1½ mile north of Elk Prairie on the Newton B. Dury Scenic Parkway (see “Recommended Scenic Drives,” below).
- **Description:** With access to Big Tree—one of the largest in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park—this trail offers time-pressed visitors an opportunity to experience a lush old-growth redwood forest.

**Yurok Loop Trail**
- **Easy; Level trail surface with non-steep grades.**
- **Distance & Duration:** ~1½ mi, 45-60 minutes.
- **Location:** Trailhead begins at the signed Lagoon Creek picnic area, 15 miles south of Crescent City, Calif. or ~6½ miles north of Klamath, Calif. on US 101.
- **Description:** With spectacular views of False Klamath Cove and Lagoon Creek, this trail traverses a fine example of coastal scrub forest plants, including Sitka spruce, Douglas fir, cow parsley, wild cucumber, saltbush, yarrow, and a variety of bionics. Bring along binoculars and scout for seabirds among the sea stacks.

**Revelation Trail**
- **Easy; Level trail surface**
- **Distance & Duration:** 0.3 mi; 15 minutes.
- **Location:** Trailhead located at the Prairie Creek Visitor Center, 1 mile north of US 101 on the Newton B. Dury Scenic Parkway (see “Highlighted Scenic Drives,” below).
- **Description:** Developed specifically for the visually impaired but enjoyable for all, this trail encourages you to engage all your senses: touch, hear, smell, and taste your way to a more complete understanding of the redwood ecosystem.

**Highlighted Scenic Drives**

**Howland Hill Road**
- **Mostly unpaved, mostly two-way traffic; Motorhomes/RVs and trailers not advised.**
- **Distance & Duration:** 10 miles, 45 minutes.
- **Location:** Signposted exit off of US 101 located 6 miles north of Klamath, Calif. and 14 miles south of Crescent City, Calif. on US 101.
- **Description:** Signposted exit off of US 101 located 6 miles north of Klamath, Calif. and 14 miles south of Crescent City, Calif. on US 101.

**Newton B. Dury Scenic Parkway**
- **Paved, two-way traffic; No commercial vehicles permitted.**
- **Distance & Duration:** 10 miles, 30 minutes.
- **Description:** This scenic drive follows the Redwood Highway through the heart of the old-growth redwood forest in Prairie Creek. It begins at the prairie Creek Visitor Center, 15 miles south of Crescent City, Calif. or ~6½ miles north of Klamath, Calif. on US 101. The drive includes pullouts at several trailheads leading to the picturesque and historic Dolason and Lyons prairie Creek trailheads, Big tree Wayside, prairie Creek Visitor center, elk prairie campground, and a resident herd of Roosevelt elk. The drive faces north through the coastal coastal woodland of the Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. In summer, a bridge over the Smith River provides easy access from Jedediah Smith Campground.

**Crescent Beach Overlook**
- **Easy; Level trail surface**
- **Distance & Duration:** 0.5 mile; 30 minutes.
- **Location:** Trailhead located at the prairie Creek Visitor center, 1 mile north of US 101 on the newton B. Drury scenic parkway (see “Recommended scenic Drives,” below).
- **Description:** This narrow road with steep grades and sharp curves through the heart of the old-growth redwood forest in prairie Creek. It begins at the prairie Creek Visitor Center, 15 miles south of Crescent City, Calif. or ~6½ miles north of Klamath, Calif. on US 101. The drive includes pullouts at several trailheads leading to the picturesque and historic Dolason and Lyons prairie Creek trailheads, Big tree Wayside, prairie Creek Visitor center, elk prairie campground, and a resident herd of Roosevelt elk. The drive faces north through the coastal coastal woodland of the Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. In summer, a bridge over the Smith River provides easy access from Jedediah Smith Campground.
Drive Through a Tree?

Carving a hole through a coast redwood reflects a time passed when we didn’t fully appreciate the significance of all organisms and their interplay with the environment. Yet, drive-through trees have fascinated travelers for years, offering a unique perspective on scale. Today, there are three coast redwood drive-through trees along US 101 in Klamath, Myers Flat, and Legget, Calif. Whether we drive through, walk beside, or peer skyward to the tops of these towering ancient giants, their scale and timelessness capture our imagination and inspire our care.

Avenue of the Giants

About 80 miles south of Orick, Calif. (120 miles south of Crescent City), Avenue of the Giants (State Route 254) is a 32-mile scenic drive that parallels US 101 and the South Fork of the Ed River through the heart of Humboldt Redwoods State Park. Numerous public and privately operated services are available in the communities along the route: enjoy auto touring, picnicking, camping, hiking, biking, horseback riding, swimming, or boating among thousands of acres of coast redwoods, including the largest remaining old-growth coast redwood forest in the world.

Directions: From Crescent City, Calif., drive south 1 mile on US 101 and turn left onto Eel Creek Road. Drive 1 mile and turn right onto Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park; the road becomes unpaved as it enters Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. Continue another 1 mile on this road to Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. Numerous pull-outs and trailheads along the way, including the Boy Scout Tree Trail and Stout Grove.

Bald Hills Road

Mostly unpaved, two-way traffic, Motorhome/RVs and trailers not advised.

Distance & Duration: ~7 miles, round trip; 45 minutes.

Directions: Exit 765 off of US 101, drive south 1 mile on US 101 to Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. Numerous pull-outs and trailheads along the way, including the Boy Scout Tree Trail and Stout Grove.

Visit the Redwood Highway, an exciting scenic drive through the heart of Humboldt Redwoods State Park. Numerous public and privately operated services are available in the communities along the route: enjoy auto touring, picnicking, camping, hiking, biking, horseback riding, swimming, or boating among thousands of acres of coast redwoods, including the largest remaining old-growth coast redwood forest in the world.
The National Tribute Grove
The Eternal Gratitude of a Nation, Eternally Expressed

SO WENT OUT A CALL AT THE END OF World War II in support of a memorial honoring the sacrifices and accomplishments of the men and women of the United States military. The National Tribute Grove was to be a memorial like no other: Ancient and sacred coast redwood trees seemed the most fitting medium to remember veterans. Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, a former Secretary of the Interior, said “Instead of stone or concrete, this monument is made up of living trees, survivors of centuries of combat with storm, drought, fire and flood.”

Americans were urged to donate money toward the purchase of redwood forest from the Del Norte Lumber Company, and donate they did. All across the country, organizations like Save the Redwoods League, the Country Club of America, and Daughters of the American Revolution pooled member donations to buy 4,500 acres of old-growth coast redwood forest in what is now Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. At the dedication ceremony on September 25, 1949, a memorial marker was placed on the roadside in plain sight, all but ensuring that generations of visitors would stop, take notice, and remember.

But time passes, roads widen, and speeds increase; natural forces go to work on bronze and stone. Decades later, the National Tribune Grove seemed somehow forgotten; the memorial marker sat in forest shade about twenty feet off the highway where it was rarely visited. In April 2013, however, a 1940's era poster came to the attention of park staff. It referenced the National Tribute Grove, the armed services monuments. And so, as you remember the sacrifices that saved these trees, consider how these “ever-living” giants will live on in turn keep the memory of that sacrifice alive for eons to come. May the memory of our veterans never be forgotten again.

Mike Pote, Park Ranger

This year also marks the 20th anniversary of Redwood National and State Parks. In May 1994, California State Parks and the National Park Service agreed to cooperatively manage their contiguous redwood parklands, now known as Redwood National and State Parks. Following the path that Newton B. Drury and others had laid down, park managers and park partners continue to focus on the task-at-hand—the preservation and restoration of the old-growth redwood forest.

Parks and their supporters have a long history of collaboration. Redwood National and State Parks would not be able to sustain its mission without the support of its dedicated employees, volunteers, partners, and most importantly, its visitors!

Anica Williams, Park Ranger

... "A Gift From and To the People," continued from page 1

On parade, the 41st Engineers at Ft. Bragg, NC in a color guard ceremony.
Keep It Crumb Clean
Help Keep Wildlife Safe and Healthy

Did you know that human food and garbage can hurt wildlife? Keeping our parks clean and safe is important! Decode the secret message to find out what you can do to help wildlife in Redwood National and State Parks. Some of the pictures make the sound of the word. You may also have to subtract (−) or add (+) letters to the word.

−y +ep

_________ wildlife _________ by _________

−t+d-ing −t+d

_________ them _________

N food __________ and food lockers.

Parks as Classrooms
Don’t Get Left Inside!

AT REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS, LEARNING TAKES place at all levels! For over a quarter century, two outdoor schools in the parks have offered unique, hands-on, curriculum-based education programming. National park education rangers guide students, parents, and teachers in resource-immersed field studies directly related to redwood ecosystems and the rich cultural histories of the area. All programs are aligned with National Science Standards and California Department of Education content standards for natural science, social science, and the arts.

HOWLAND HILL OUTDOOR SCHOOL
Situated above the Mill Creek watershed near the towering coastal redwoods of Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, Howland Hill Outdoor School offers a variety of day-long and overnight experiences for students in preschool through sixth grade. Many students who took part in these programs in the early 1980s now return as teachers or parent chaperones, providing important generational connections to the outdoor school and the parks.

WOLF CREEK EDUCATION CENTER
Started in 1972 as a grassroots effort by local teachers eager to study the newly created Redwood National Park, today the Wolf Creek Education Center provides overnight programs (2½ days, including a nights lodging) for fourth through sixth grade students. Ideally located near Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, in-depth study focuses on prairies, wetlands and streams, and the ancient coast redwood forest.

Programs and facility use are by reservation only. Weekend and shoulder season rental of the facilities for redwood ecosystems-related study may also be available. For more information, please contact the Education Specialist at 707-465-7391 or visit us online at www.nps.gov/redw/forteachers.
Backcountry Camps

For those who like to get away—a trail to themselves, a starlit sky at night, and a lullaby of crashing waves—Redwood National and State Parks offers more than 200 miles (322 km) of extraordinary backcountry trails and eight designated backcountry camps. Whether on foot, bicycle or horseback, you’ll traverse a wide variety of natural habitats, including old-growth redwood forests, oak woodlands, prairies, pristine beaches, rivers, streams, and marshes.

Backcountry camping in Redwood National and State Parks is allowed only in designated backcountry camps and at dispersed sites on Redwood Creek gravel bars (see below). Except at Redwood Creek gravel bars, all camps feature picnic tables, food storage lockers, and toilets.

Backcountry Use Permits
Free permits are required for all backcountry camping, available from the Crescent City Information Center, Thomas H. Kuchel Visitor Center, and seasonally from the Hoopa Information Center (see page 2 for operating hours and locations).

CAUTION: CROSSING REDWOOD CREEK
Redwood Creek may be dangerous and/or inaccessible during the rainy season and/or high flow stages. Always check with a park ranger or inquire at any information center (see page 2) for the latest conditions. Two bridges over the creek (via the Redwood Creek Trail) are only in place during summer, usually June–September.
Choose Your Own Adventure!

More than 200 miles of trails traverse a mosaic of habitats at Redwood National and State Parks. Whatever your interest, experience, or fitness level, there’s a trail adventure for you!

The information in this visitor guide alone does not ensure a safe and enjoyable trail experience. Inquire at any information center (see page 2) for trip-planning advice and trail conditions. Maps and guidebooks are also available at cooperating association bookstores and are an essential part of any trail user’s pack.

Trailhead Security
Wherever leaving your vehicle, secure all valuables and keep them out of sight. Better yet, take them with you!

Hiking
Suggested hikes in the chart below are just a sample of possible adventures and may not be suitable for everyone. Circled numbers next to each trail name reference trailhead locations indicated on the map on pages 6-7. Mid-level walk/hikes are shown in red; longer day hikes in blue. Short on time? Check-out “Recommended Short Walks” in 

Bicycles
Bicycles are permitted on all public roadways open to vehicle traffic, as well as on designated backcountry bicycle routes:

Little Bald Hills Trail
Camp: Little Bald Hills Camp

Coastal Trail
Last Chance & Gold Bluffs Beach sections

Ossagon Trail
Camp: Ossagon Creek Camp

Davison Trail

Streeelow Trail

Lost Man Creek Trail

Bikewriter campsites are available at the Jedediah Smith, Mill Creek, and Elk Prairie Campgrounds and at two designated backcountry camps (see page 10). For more information, including a Free Bicyclist Route Brochure, contact any information center or visit us online at www.nps.gov/redw/planyourvisit/bikes

Horses
Horses and pack animals are welcome on three designated trails, with opportunities for short day rides or multi-day trips. Camping is allowed at two stock-ready sites along these trails (see “Backcountry Camping” on page 10):

Little Bald Hills Trail
Camp: Little Bald Hills Camp

Mill Creek Horse Trail
Day-use only:

Orick Horse Trail
Camp: Elam Creek Camp

Horses are also allowed on Crescent, Hidden, and Freshwater beaches, and within the Redwood Creek streambed up to the first footbridge/trail crossing of Redwood Creek.

Animals may not graze park vegetation, and must be hobbled or tied to a hitching post when unattended. Carry only pellets or weed-free feed. Contact us for more information (see page 2) or visit www.nps.gov/redw/planyourvisit/horses

Suggested Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail/Route Name(s)</th>
<th>Trailhead(s)</th>
<th>Distance/Duration</th>
<th>Difficulty</th>
<th>Additional Info.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mid-Level Walks/Hikes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Damnation Creek</strong></td>
<td>10 miles south of Crescent City, pullout at milepost 16 on west side of US 101</td>
<td>4½-miles (out and back) / 3 hours round-trip</td>
<td>Strenuous. Sleep 1100-foot descent/ ascent (out and back) with switchbacks.</td>
<td>Old-growth redwoods, Damnation Creek, rugged coast and tidepools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>South Fork / Rhododendron / Brown Creek</strong></td>
<td>1¼ miles north of Elk Prairie on east side of Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway</td>
<td>3½-mile loop / 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate overall. Sleep ascent on South Fork Trail.</td>
<td>Loop: South Fork Trail east, Rhododendron Trail north, Brown Creek Trail south.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prairie Creek / Foothill</strong></td>
<td>Prairie Creek Visitor Center: 1 mile north of US 101 on the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway</td>
<td>2½-mile loop / 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy overall. Relatively level.</td>
<td>Loop: Prairie Creek Trail north, east across parkway to Foothill Trail, Foothill Trail south, west across parkway to Prairie Creek Visitor Center.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Longer Day Hikes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mill Creek</strong></td>
<td>1½ miles southwest of Stout Grove on Howland Hill Rd. just across footbridge from Jedediah Smith Campground (summer only)</td>
<td>6 miles (out and back) or 5 miles as a loop via Stout Grove and Howland Hill Road (summer only) / 3-4 hours</td>
<td>Easy. Relatively level.</td>
<td>Mill Creek Footbridges across Smith River (former Jedediah Smith Campground) and Mill Creek available in summer only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boy Scout Tree</strong></td>
<td>From Crescent City, Calif.: 3½ miles east of Elk Valley Road on Howland Hill Road (unpaved through park).</td>
<td>5½ miles (out and back) / 4 hours round-trip</td>
<td>Moderate. Some steep grades with switchbacks.</td>
<td>Old-growth redwoods, riparian corridor, fern falls, Boy Scout Tree (optional).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coastal Trail – Last Chance Section</strong></td>
<td>Crescent Beach Overlook to Damnation Creek Trail</td>
<td>13 miles (out and back) / 6-9 hours (round-trip)</td>
<td>Strenuous. Sleep 1000-foot descent/ ascent (out and back) over 1-mile section south of Nickle Creek.</td>
<td>Ocean views, Enderts Beach (via side trip), Damnation Creek, old-growth redwoods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fern Canyon / Friendship Ridge / West Ridge / Coastal Trail</strong></td>
<td>Fern Canyon Trailhead and parking area at end of Davison Road.</td>
<td>7-mile loop / 4 hours</td>
<td>Moderate overall. Sleep grades and switchbacks on Friendship Ridge Trail.</td>
<td>Loop: Fern Canyon Trail east, Friendship Ridge Trail north, West Ridge Trail southwest, Coastal Trail south.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>James Irvine / Cliftonia / Miners Ridge</strong></td>
<td>Prairie Creek Visitor Center: 1 mile north of US 101 on the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway</td>
<td>6½-mile loop / 3-4 hours</td>
<td>Moderate overall. Some steep grades on Cliftonia and Miners Ridge Trail.</td>
<td>James Irvine Trail northwest, Cliftonia Trail south, Miners Ridge Trail southwest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>James Irvine / Fern Canyon / Davison Road / Miners Ridge</strong></td>
<td>Prairie Creek Visitor Center: 1 mile north of US 101 on the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway</td>
<td>12-mile loop / 6 hours</td>
<td>Moderate overall. Some steep grades on Miners Ridge Trail.</td>
<td>James Irvine Trail northwest then southwest into Fern Canyon, Davison Road south, Miners Ridge Trail southwest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tail Trees</strong></td>
<td>Railroad accessible only via free permit from Kuchel Visitor Center or Crescent City or Moulsh icon center.</td>
<td>4½ miles south of US 101 on Bald Hills Road, then 6½ miles south on unpaved Tall Trees Access Road</td>
<td>Moderately strenuous: 800-foot descent/ascend (out and back) over 1½ miles to/from Tall Trees Grove.</td>
<td>Old-growth redwoods, Redwood Creek access, Tall Trees Grove.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pets
While pets are family, a national or state park may not be the best place for them. Some pets may mark territory with scent or spread domestic disease, interfering with natural patterns and causing injury to wildlife. Even normally well-behaved pets can become stressed by unfamiliar surroundings, threatening visitors and wildlife in close situations, such as on trails. Predators including mountain lions, bears, and coyotes may see pets as prey, placing both pet and owner in danger.

For the safety of visitors and all animals (domestic or wild), and for the continued protection of your parklands, pets on a leash not exceeding six feet in length are allowed only at designated campgrounds, picnic areas, public roads, parking areas, and Crescent, Gold Bluffs, Hidden, and Freshwater beaches. Unless posted otherwise and/or with the exception of guide animals, pets are not allowed elsewhere in the parks, including on park trails, at ranger-led programs, or in park buildings. Thank you for your cooperation!

Hundreds of miles of trails beckon hikers, bikers, and horseback riders in Redwood National and State Parks.

Redwood Visitor Guide 11
Beach Safety
Before hitting the beach, check for storm or high surf advisories and be aware of changing tide levels—tide charts are available at all information centers (see page 2). Never turn your back on the surf: large “rogue” or “sneaker” waves may strike unexpectedly. Supervise children at all times.

Tsunamis
Most commonly caused by earthquakes, tsunamis are series of large waves or surges that may strike the coast for four hours or longer. If you feel an earthquake, see the ocean suddenly recede, or receive any other tsunami warning: immediately move inland or to higher ground; stay away from coastal areas until official permit you to return.

Poison Oak
Leaves of three, let them be! Poison oak occurs in various forms in the parks—it can be vine-like or a free-standing shrub. Stay on trails and look for the three distinctive, smooth, shiny leaflets that are bright green or red in new shoots or during the dry season. Contact with leaves can cause an itchy skin rash—wash thoroughly if you brush against poison oak.

Ticks
Ticks carry Lyme disease occur in the area. Stay on trails and check clothing frequently (light-colored clothes enhance visibility). Tuck pant legs into socks and shirts into pants. Inspect your body thoroughly after hiking.

Mountain Lions
Mountain lions, or cougars, are seldom seen in these parks. Like any wild animal, they can be dangerous. To prevent an encounter: hike in groups, do NOT run, crouch down, or bend over—stand and face the animal; pick-up children and appear large; remain calm and back away slowly, giving the animal a chance to leave the area; if the animal approaches, yell loudly, wave arms, and throw objects; if attacked, fight back!

Invasive Plants and Diseases
Sudden Oak Death is a disease killing millions of oak and tan oak trees in Calif. and Ore. A root-rotting fungus is killing Port-Oxford-cedar throughout its limited range. Non-native invasive plants such as Scotch broom, English ivy, and yellow starthistle compete with native plants and alter ecosystems. You can help: stay on established trails; clean mud and debris from shoes, pets, livestock, and tires before exploring your parks.

Marine Mammals
Marine mammals are protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Stay at least 75 feet away—like all park animals, they’re wild, unpredictable, and potentially dangerous. Never approach seal pups on the beach—they’re resting and waiting for their mothers to bring food.

Never Feed Wildlife
Feeding wildlife is dangerous to you, other humans, and the fed animal. It’s against the law, too! A fed bear that becomes habituated to humans often has to be killed; feeding ravens and Jays may result in increased populations of these predatory birds, threatening endangered species like marbled murrelets and snowy plovers.

Aquatic Hitchhikers
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