Why do we celebrate anniversaries? For this ranger—the answer seems simple. To commemorate years spent with loved ones. To show progress made over time. To recognize a decision made long ago that is still valid. No matter the reason, anniversaries mark a moment in time meant to be remembered.

Redwood National Park was established on October 2, 1968. As we celebrate our 50th anniversary, we are given an opportunity to re-evaluate the meaning of an anniversary—a time to reflect on every victory taken towards the preservation of our primeval redwood forests and the cultural histories interwoven with them. What makes this anniversary unique is that it marks 50 years of protection of the coastal redwoods, the tallest trees in the world, for the enjoyment of the people today and the generations of tomorrow.

As a place of both human inspiration and far-reaching ecological value, the park was designated a World Heritage Site in 1980. Partnerships with local tribes and communities have enriched stories told of the past and created dreams for the future. Millions of visitors made memories with the tallest trees in the world. Most importantly, we have stood watch over a mosaic of habitats—from windy coastlines to towering forests—striving to preserve and protect resources for the enjoyment of the people today and the generations of tomorrow.

We are celebrating the past, present, and future efforts to protect this unique place on earth. As a place of both human inspiration and far-reaching ecological value, the park was designated a World Heritage Site in 1980. Partnerships with local tribes and communities have enriched stories told of the past and created dreams for the future. Millions of visitors made memories with the tallest trees in the world. Most importantly, we have stood watch over a mosaic of habitats—from windy coastlines to towering forests—striving to preserve and protect resources for the enjoyment of the people today and the generations of tomorrow.

We at Redwood National Park invite you to help celebrate all that has been done, and all we hope for the future. Hike a trail. Kayak down a river. Watch the whales migrate. Attend a ranger program. Tell us your story. Create memories with friends and families. Enjoy your stay in Redwood National Park as we celebrate the last 50 years—and help us keep the celebration going every day—for 50 years more.

Melissa Lockwood, Park Ranger

Here is where this ranger gets confused. Why do we make a bigger deal out of specific anniversaries? Why is the 50th more important than the 49th or the 51st? As we commemorate Redwood’s 50th anniversary, we aren’t celebrating one isolated event; we are celebrating the past, present, and future efforts to protect and admire this unique place on earth. Something so momentous can’t be honored in a single day. This 50th year is an opportunity to re-evaluate the meaning of an anniversary—a time to reflect on every victory taken towards the preservation of the primeval redwood forests and surrounding lands.

It takes all of us working together to protect and preserve these wondrous resources—including you, the visitor. The park has many exciting volunteer opportunities from being a camp host, greeting visitors at our information centers, walking the trails to report on conditions, removing invasive plants, monitoring wildlife, and helping keep our facilities in top shape. Even if you can’t volunteer, you can still support parks by being good stewards of the redwoods and observing the rules and regulations that help protect this incredible resource.

All of the staff at Redwood National and State Parks hope your visit is one you will never forget. Please share your experience in the park on our social media sites. Thank you for visiting.

Brett Silver
RRNPS Superintendent (California State Parks)

Steve Mietz
RRNPS Superintendent (National Park Service)

Join the Conversation!

@RedwoodNPS #lovemyredwoods

Redwood National Park
Redwoods National Park
Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park

Printed on paper with post-consumer recycled content
National or State Park?

It's both! In May 1994, the National Park Service and California State Parks agreed to cooperatively manage their contiguous redwood parklands. Both park systems have a long history of working together that dates back to Yosemite, which became California's first state park in 1880. Though designated a national park in 1890, Yosemite was briefly managed by both state and federal governments.

Redwood National and State Parks manages 133,000 acres. Our mission is to preserve, protect—and make available to all people, for their inspiration, enjoyment, and education—the forests, scenic coastal lines, pines, and streams and their associated natural and cultural values, which define this World Heritage Site; and to help people forge emotional, intellectual, and recreational ties to these parks.

Mailing Address
Redwood National and State Parks
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, Calif. 95531

Web and E-mail
www.nps.gov/redw
For e-mail, click "Contact Us"

Join the Conversation
facebook.com/RedwoodNPS
twitter.com/RedwoodNPS
youtube.com/user/RedwoodNPS
instagram.com/RedwoodNPS

Park Headquarters
ph: 707-465-7335

Newspaper Editors
Gregory Litten
Crescent City, Calif. 95531

Jedediah Smith Visitor Center
Information, exhibits, park films, passport 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: As staffing permits—please call ahead: 707-465-7335.

Prairie Creek Visitor Center
Information, exhibits, passport 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: 707-465-7335.

Visitor Centers: A Great Start

Five visitor and information centers provide orientation, information, and trip-planning advice. Park staff and park partners are on duty.

Crescent City Information Center
Information, live video feed from Castle Rock National Wildlife Refuge, passport stamps, nearby restrooms, Junior Ranger workbook.
Location: 1111 Second Street, Crescent City, Calif.
Operating Hours: Summer: Open daily, 9 am to 5 pm; Off-season: As staffing permits—please call ahead: 707-465-7335.

Hoouchi Visitor Center
Information, exhibits, park films, passport stamps, restrooms, picnic area, ranger-led activities and programs, Junior Ranger programs (summer only) and workbook.
Location: 3 miles northeast of Crescent City, Calif. on US 199.
Operating Hours: Summer: Open daily, 9 am to 5 pm; Off-season: As staffing permits—please call ahead: 707-465-7335.

Jedediah Smith Visitor Center
Information, exhibits, passport 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: As staffing permits—please call ahead: 707-465-7335.

Prairie Creek Visitor Center
Information, exhibits, passport stamps, restrooms, picnic area, ranger-led activities and programs (summer only), Junior Ranger programs (summer only) and workbook.
Location: 6 miles south of Orick, Calif. on US 101.
Operating Hours: Summer: Open daily, 9 am to 5 pm; Off-season: As staffing permits—please call ahead: 707-465-7335.

Tommy H. Kuchel Visitor Center
Information, exhibits, park films, passport 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: Summer: Open daily, 9 am to 5 pm; Off-season: As staffing permits—please call ahead: 707-465-7335.

The Fine Print: What You Need to Know

Dates and Hours of Operation
Redwood National and State Parks is open every day. Visitor 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. For more information, contact the CDFW Field Office at (707) 445-6493.

Firearms and Hunting
Federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under applicable federal, state, and local laws to possess firearms in National Park Service (NPS)-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. Federal law also prohibits firearms in federal buildings in the national park; those places will be marked with signs at all public entrances.

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

Hunting (and/or any discharge of firearms) is prohibited in Redwood National and State Parks.

Drone Aircraft
Federal and state laws prohibit the use of drones anywhere in Redwood National and State Parks.

Fees and Reservations
State parks collect day-use fees at entrance stations and fees are required for camping at campgrounds; camping reservations may be required (see pages 10-11). Holders of qualifying park passes may be eligible for discounts (see above).

Permits
Permits are required for scientific research, collecting, organized events, and commercial activities such as filming. Call 707-465-7307 or visit www.nps.gov/redw for more information.

Backcountry
Backcountry permits are required for camping at all backcountry campgrounds, available from most information centers (see page 10 for more info).

Tall Trees Access Road
The gated Tall Trees Access Road is only accessible via free permit from the Thomas H. Kuchel Visitor Center, Prairie Creek and Hoouchi Visitor Center. Fifty permits per day are issued first-come, first-served.

Collecting and Vandalism
Disturbing, defacing, or collecting any park resources without a permit is prohibited. Exceptions on national NPS parklands only: apples (five per person per day); acorns (ten gallons per person per day); and berries, hazelnuts and unoccupied seashells (one gallon per person per day). Exception on state (CDPR) parklands only: berries (five pounds per person per day).

Crescent City, California Weather

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Average High</th>
<th>Average Low</th>
<th>Average Precip.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>54.1°F (12.3°C)</td>
<td>39.5°F (4.2°C)</td>
<td>11.6&quot; (29.5 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>55.7°F (13.2°C)</td>
<td>40.5°F (4.4°C)</td>
<td>9.9&quot; (25.2 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>56.9°F (13.8°C)</td>
<td>40.9°F (4.9°C)</td>
<td>9.0&quot; (22.7 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>59.1°F (15.1°C)</td>
<td>42.4°F (5.8°C)</td>
<td>5.3&quot; (13.6 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>61.9°F (16.6°C)</td>
<td>45.3°F (7.4°C)</td>
<td>3.5&quot; (8.8 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>64.9°F (18.3°C)</td>
<td>48.3°F (9.1°C)</td>
<td>1.6&quot; (4.0 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>66.6°F (19.4°C)</td>
<td>50.6°F (10.3°C)</td>
<td>0.5&quot; (1.1 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>67.9°F (19.6°C)</td>
<td>50.9°F (10.5°C)</td>
<td>0.6&quot; (1.6 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>67.6°F (19.8°C)</td>
<td>49.1°F (9.9°C)</td>
<td>1.8&quot; (4.7 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>64.1°F (17.8°C)</td>
<td>46.2°F (7.9°C)</td>
<td>5.2&quot; (13.3 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>58.4°F (14.2°C)</td>
<td>42.9°F (6.1°C)</td>
<td>9.9&quot; (25.0 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>54.9°F (12.6°C)</td>
<td>40.1°F (4.5°C)</td>
<td>11.7&quot; (29.6 cm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Park Passes

If you're an America the Beautiful pass holder ("Annual," "Military," "Senior," "Access," or "Volunteer"), 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 Park, "Senior" and "Access" passholders 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 visitor center (see left) or online at:
California State Parks Annual or Special Passes
www.parks.ca.gov

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

Passport Stamps

Don't forget your park passport stamp! Stamps are available at all visitor centers in Redwood National and State Parks. Each of the five visitor centers has a unique stamp. Redwood National Park can be found in the Western Region (page 83) of the passport booklet.
Ranger-Led Programs & Activities

BE PART OF THE PARKS' TRADITION!
Park staff lead a variety of seasonally available activities and programs throughout the parks that are free, informative, and fun for all ages and backgrounds.

Programs are available mid-May to mid-September. Some winter walks are offered too. Inquire at visitor centers (left) or campground bulletin boards for times, topics, and locations.

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 a creative and inspiring evening. Programs may include narrated slide shows, storytelling, music, and/or games. Campfire circles and outdoor amplifiers are wheelchair accessible.

NATURE WALKS (1-2 HOURS)
Immerse yourself in the forest, sea, or prairielands. Join a park ranger for a downs-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

FAQs: Where can I...
...find an accessible trail in the redwoods?
Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park: Simpson-Reed Grove (see page 6).
Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park: Several trails and loops begin at the Prairie Creek Visitor Center; Off the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway is an accessible path at "Big Tree Wayside" (see page 7).

...take my pet for a walk in the redwoods?
Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park: Walker Road (see page 6).
Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park: Cal Barrel Road (see page 7).
Pets on a leash not exceeding six feet in length are allowed at designated campgrounds, picnic areas, public roads, parking areas, and beaches with road access.

...have a campfire?
Fires are only permitted in park-provided grills and fire rings at picnic areas, campgrounds, and designated backcountry camps; on Redwood Creek gravel bars per conditions of a valid permit; and, on national parkland beach wave slopes. Up to 50 pounds of dead and downed wood (including driftwood) may be collected from: Freshwater, Hidden, Crescent, and Enderts beaches; Redwood Creek gravel bar; and, within a 1/4-mile radius of designated backcountry camps on national parkland. Wood collection is prohibited in developed campgrounds. On state parklands, up to 50 pounds of driftwood only may be collected by hand, per person, per day.

...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). Biker/hiker campsites are available at all developed campgrounds and at some backcountry campsites.

...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.

...take my motorhome, RV, or trailer?
With the exception of major highways, Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway, and access roads to visitor centers and campgrounds (though length limits may apply—see page 10), motorhomes, recreational vehicles (RVs), and trailers are prohibited on other roadways.

...have a picnic?
Picnic tables are available at numerous locations throughout the parks, including all visitor centers (see page 2). Help Keep Wildlife Wild: never feed wildlife; properly store and dispose of all food and garbage—even crumbs.

...find lodging?
While there are no lodgings within the parks, lodging is available in and around nearby communities—contact local chambers of commerce. See "Area Information," (above-right) 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-right). Full-service grocery stores are available in Brookings, Ore., and Crescent City, Calif. Most "Recommended Short Walks" and "Recommended Scenic Drives" offer easy access to some really tall trees. Most of the "Suggested Hikes" in the chart on page 11 also traverse old-growth forests.

Even travelers on major highways will catch a glimpse of these giants (just keep an eye on the road); look for ancient coast redwoods along US 199 through Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, as well as on US 101, especially just south of Crescent City, Calif. In Del Norte County, Redwood National and State Parks—it's not called the Redwood Highway for nothing!
50 Years of Wild and Scenic Rivers

THE SAME DAY HE SIGNED THE LAW THAT CREATED REDWOOD National Park on October 2, 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson also signed the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. This created a system of free-flowing rivers across the country which have "outstandingly remarkable values." In 2018, celebrate this 50th birthday with a splash: have a swim, a float, or watch the wildlife along the parks' exceptional watercourses. Upon your return home, you may be surprised to find a river near you that is also on the list of National Wild and Scenic Rivers (NWSR).

There are two National Wild and Scenic Rivers that flow through Redwood National and State Parks: the Smith River and the Klamath River. These rivers are considered outstanding for their anadromous fisheries, and are notably significant for recreation, wildlife, cultural history, and scenery.

Nearly all 900 miles of the Smith River are designated "wild and scenic," making it one of the most complete river systems in the national system. It flows freely without a single dam along its entire length—the only major river system in California to do so. You can tell right away that this river is something special: the emerald-clear water, deep swimming holes, and towering tall trees along its banks beckon visitors to stay longer.

The Smith River provides many great recreation opportunities in Redwood National and State Parks. Park rangers offer free, guided kayak tours for a limited time during the summer. You can learn more about this popular program by asking rangers at any visitor centers. Also, the Smith is a wonderful river for swimming, bird watching, or even just lounging with a good book on sandy river bars in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. Fishing is especially popular in the winter months when Chinook salmon and steelhead trout swim upstream from the ocean to spawn. The California state record for steelhead trout, just over 27 pounds, was caught in the Smith River in 1976.

While impounded by four major dams further upstream, most of the Klamath River is also designated—including the stretch through Redwood National and State Parks: the Smith River and the Klamath River. From this vantage point, visitors might see gray whales spouting as they feed on the abundant life nourished by the Klamath River. While gray whales have one of the longest migrations of any animal, some individuals may take up residence at the mouth of the Klamath for the summer. Seals and sea lions join the party, as do a myriad of sea birds, raptors, and the more-common but no-less-beautiful swallows and other songbirds.

From this vantage point, visitors might see gray whales spouting as they feed on the abundant life nourished by the Klamath River. While gray whales have one of the longest migrations of any animal, some individuals may take up residence at the mouth of the Klamath for the summer. Seals and sea lions join the party, as do a myriad of sea birds, raptors, and the more-common but no-less-beautiful swallows and other songbirds.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act does not prohibit development along designated rivers, or their shorelines. Designation of a river as Wild and Scenic is an attempt to balance the value of future development with other values such as conservation, recreation, and culture.

Over 200 rivers are included in the national system; only ten states do not have any national NWSRs. If you're from the USA, there's a chance that a river near your home has outstanding qualities similar to the rivers here. Wherever you call home, exploring new areas and enjoying the many benefits of outdoor recreation is something we wish for all of our visitors.

Celebrate 50 years of Redwood National Park—and 50 years of Wild and Scenic Rivers—by creating memories on the water to forever take home with you. Then, be sure to make more.

Brad Maggetti, Park Ranger

You are in Tsunami and Earthquake Country

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. These 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 rise or fall in coastal waters.
- A loud rumbling 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 stations for updated information.
- Locate loved-ones and review evacuation plans.
- Be ready to move quickly if a Tsunami Warning is issued.

What to do during a Tsunami Advisory:
- Because of the threat of a potential tsunami and the danger to those in or near the water, local officials may clear beaches and evacuate harbors and marinas. Please obey their directions.

What to do during a Tsunami Warning:
- If you hear a tsunami warning siren, 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.
- Watching a tsunami from near the shore is dangerous, and it is against the law to remain in an evacuated area.
- Keep listening to NOAA Weather Radio or local radio or TV for the latest updates.

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 currents that can occur at any time. They are stronger than you are.
- 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.

If someone in the water appears to be in trouble, CALL 911. Don't get in after them—you may not survive.

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 currents that can occur at any time. They are stronger than you are.
- 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.

If someone in the water appears to be in trouble, CALL 911. Don't get in after them—you may not survive.

Brad Maggetti, Park Ranger

At Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, visitors on the Smith River enjoy paddling past old-growth redwoods. The river-bank is a favorite place for families to picnic.
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.

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 (45 m).
Diameter: To 6 feet (2 m).
Age: Indeterminate.
Leaves: Deciduous; needle-like with small stalks, arranged opposite each other.
Cone size: Like a large olive; shed yearly.
Seed size: Like a tomato seed.
Reproduction: By seed only.
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 314 feet (96 m).
Diameter (trunk): To 36 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 banks 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 (114 m).
Diameter (trunk): To 36 feet (9 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 (trailer prohibited; motorhomes/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 more on Bald Hills Road to upland prairie and oak woodland habitat.

Elk may appear 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. Female 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.

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.

Marbled Murrelet: On the Edge of Extinction

SHELTERED IN A SOFT NEST OF MOS and FERNs, A MARBLED MURRELET CHICK WaITS SILENTLY atop a massive coast redwood branch high above the forest floor. It’s parents 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 Steller’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 coyote corvids. As the forest edge continues to expand, the marbled murrelet lives on the edge of extinction.

Jeff Davysh, Park Ranger
Protecting Redwoods, Past & Future

The restoration of the redwood forest requires a strong and diverse coalition of dedicated supporters, including community members. No one has a greater stake in the health and resiliency of the redwood forest than the people who coexist with them.

This includes the Yurok and Hupa Tribes, first citizens whose ancestors have lived in the redwood watersheds since time immemorial. The redwood forest habitat is a foundational part of their cultures, and the tribes’ commitment to the preservation and enhancement of redwood ecosystems is an inspiration to all park advocates.

Ultimately, the techniques that we learn in restoring Redwood National and State Parks can be applied to other harvested lands throughout the historic range of the coast redwood. Together, public agencies, private organizations and committed citizens are implementing a vision that will leave the redwood forest — and the world — better than we found it.

To learn more about the League’s projects and Centennial celebration visit... StandForTheRedwoods.org

Mike Kahn, Save The Redwoods League

Hands-On Efforts Restore Beach Dune Habitats

Gold Bluffs Beach is a popular destination for many people. The miles of tranquil dunes seem to invite us to explore and play in them. Yet, all is not quiet—the largest coastal restoration program on the Pacific Coast is unfolding here.

In the past years, California State Parks and volunteer groups have been busy removing invasive plants that had almost taken over the natural and diverse dune ecosystem. More than 350 acres has been treated to remove European beachgrass (Ammophila arenaria) from the northern part of Gold Bluffs Beach.

This invasive changes how dunes form, impacts pollinators like bees, and chokes out the native plants that make the dunes such a rich habitat for a wide variety of coastal creatures.

European beachgrass may initially be removed, or buried by machinery—but it takes people to hand pull the regrowth. Once this invasive species is gone, native flowers and plants come back swiftly to the dunes. Thanks to the efforts of unsung nature-heroes, these dunes are almost back to their natural and healthy state.

Greg Litten, Park Ranger

Redwood forests exist on a geologic time scale. The individual trees can live for millennia, while a mature and healthy forest can regenerate and sustain itself indefinitely. Our restoration techniques conform to the deep time that characterizes the redwood forest, assuring steady progress and ultimate success.

We have, in short, entered a new era in redwood conservation. Though vast tracts of the ancient redwood forest have been lost, we now know that what was lost can be regained.

...end
For Kids / Education

Redwood

Pick-up a copy of the Redwood Junior Ranger booklet at any Redwood National and State Parks visitor center (see page 2 for locations).

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 ---

-t+ding -t+d

--- them ---

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 coast 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 (2¼ 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.

PORTS
Bringing the magic of the redwoods to classrooms. California State Parks’ PORTS program uses video-conference technology to link students and park rangers. In existence since 2003, this distance-learning program reaches over 30,000 students per year.

Aligned with sixth grade California academic content standards, students get a behind-the-scenes look at Redwood National and State Parks—from the latest canopy research to large-scale ecological restoration efforts now underway in the parks.

For more information visit PORTS online at www.ports.parks.ca.gov.

Below: A California state park ranger chats live with students from the "EduGator."
Developed Campgrounds

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 (see page 11 for more info.), 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 Thomas H. Kuchel Visitor Center, and the Hiouchi Visitor Center (see page 12).

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! This visitor guide does not ensure a safe trail experience. Inquire at any visitor center (see page 2) for trip-planning advice and trail conditions. You can get maps or guidebooks from any cooperating association bookstore.

Accessible
Simpson-Reed Grove, Big Tree Wayside, Elk Prairie, Foothills/Prairie Creek Loop and Revelation trails will lead you through old-growth redwood groves (see page 6-7).

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 route name reference trailhead locations indicated on the map on pages 6-7. Mid-level walkways are shown in red, longer day hikes in blue. Short on time? Check-out "Recommended Short Walks" 1-5 on page 6.

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
  Camp: Gold Bluffs Beach Campground
- Ossagon Trail
- Davison Trail
- Streowel Creek Trail
- Lost Man Creek Trail

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
  Camp: Elm Creek Camp

Orick Horse Trail
Camp: Elm 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 info (see page 2) or visit www.nps.gov/redw/planyourvisit/bikes

Suggested Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trail/Route Name(s)</th>
<th>Trailhead(s) (Approach)</th>
<th>Distance/Duration (Approx.)</th>
<th>Difficulty</th>
<th>Additional Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Level Walks/Hikes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damnation Creek</td>
<td>10 miles south of Crescent City, pullout at milepost 16 on west side of US 101</td>
<td>4% miles out and back / 3 hours round-trip</td>
<td>Strenuous: Steep 1100-foot descent/ascent (out and back) with switchbacks</td>
<td>Old-growth redwoods, Damnation Creek, rugged coast and tidepools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Fork / Rhododendron / Brown Creek</td>
<td>16% 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: Steep ascent on South Fork Trail.</td>
<td>Loop South Fork Trail east, Rhododendron Trail northwest, Brown Creek Trail south.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie Creek / Foothill</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longer Day Hikes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek</td>
<td>1½ miles southwest of Stout Grove on Howland Hill Rd., or 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) / 3½ hours</td>
<td>Easy: Relatively level.</td>
<td>Mill Creek Footbridges across Smith River (from Jedediah Smith Campground and Mill Creek available in summer only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scout Tree</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) / 4½ hours round-trip</td>
<td>Moderate: Some steep grades with switchbacks.</td>
<td>Old-growth redwoods, riparian corridor, Ferm Falls, Boy Scout Tree (optional).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Trail - Last Chance Section</td>
<td>Crescent Beach Overlook: Southern end of Emonds Beach Road (just south of Crescent City, Calif.).</td>
<td>13 miles (out and back) / 6½ hours round-trip</td>
<td>Strenuous: Steep 1000-foot descent/ascend (out and back) over 1½ mile section south of Niskal Creek.</td>
<td>Ocean views, Emonds Beach (via side trail, Damnation Creek, old-growth redwoods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fern Canyon / Friendship Ridge / West Ridge / Coastal Trail</td>
<td>Fern Canyon Trailhead and parking area at end of Dawson Road</td>
<td>7-mile loop / 4 hours</td>
<td>Moderate overall: Steep grades and switchbacks on Friendship Ridge Trail.</td>
<td>Loop Fern Canyon Trail east, Friendship Ridge Trail north, West Ridge Trail northwest, Coastal Trail south.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Irvine / Clintonia / Miners Ridge</td>
<td>Prairie Creek Visitor Center: 1 mile north of US 101 on the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway</td>
<td>6½-mile loop / 3½ hours</td>
<td>Moderate overall: Some steep grades on Clintonia and Miners Ridge trails</td>
<td>James Irvine Trail northwest, Clintonia Trail south, Miners Ridge Trail southeast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Irvine / Fern Canyon / Davison Road / Miners Ridge</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 southward into Fern Canyon, Davison Road, Miners Ridge Trail southeast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tall Trees Trailhead accessible only via free permit from Kuchel Visitor Center or Crescent City or Hoouchi inn center.</td>
<td>6½ miles southeast of US 101 on Bald Hills Road, then 6½ miles south on unpaved Tall Trees Access Road.</td>
<td>3½-mile semi-loop / 4 hours (includes drive to/from trailhead)</td>
<td>Moderately strenuous: 800-foot descent/ascent (out and back) over 1¼ miles to/from Tall Trees Grove.</td>
<td>Old-growth redwoods, Redwood Creek access, Tall Trees Grove.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TRAILHEAD SECURITY! Whenever leaving your vehicle, secure all valuables and keep them out of sight. Better yet, take them with you!

Pets
Walker Road and Cal Barrel Road are great places to walk through old-growth redwoods with your pets (see page 6-7).

While pets are family, wild park trails are not the best place for them. Some pets may mark territory with scent or spread domestic disease to wildlife. Well-behaved pets can become stressed by unfamiliar surroundings and threaten visitors or wildlife. Predators including mountain lions, bears, and coyotes may see pets as prey, placing 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 beaches with road access. Unless posted—with the exception of service animals—pets are not allowed on park trails, at ranger-led programs, or in park buildings.

www.nps.gov/redw/planyourvisit/bikes
www.nps.gov/redw/planyourvisit/horses
www.nps.gov/redw/planyourvisit/horses

Protect Yourself...

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 visitor centers (see page 2). Never turn your back on the surf: large "rogue" or "snapper" 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 eight hours or longer. If you feel an earthquake, see the ocean suddenly recede, or notice any other tsunami warning: immediately move inland or to higher ground; stay away from coastal areas until officials 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 leaves 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 carrying Lyme disease occur in the area. Stay on trails and check clothing frequently (light-colored clothes enhances visibility). Tuck pant legs into socks and socks into pants. Inspect your body thoroughly after hiking.

High Winds
Avoid old-growth forests in high wind. Entire trees or heavy branches ("widow-makers") can fall from hundreds of feet above at high speeds.

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; keep a clean camp; always be alert to your surroundings. If you meet a mountain lion: 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!

...Protect Your Parks

Tidepools
While exploring, protect yourself and the fragile creatures that live here: step carefully among slick rocks; return all rocks and tidepool life to their original position and orientation; be aware of changing tides.

Aquatic Hitchhikers
Help prevent the spread of invasive species such as New Zealand mudsnail, quagga mussel, and Asian clam. Never release plants, fish, or other animals into a body of water unless they came from that body of water. When leaving water, remove all visible mud, plants, fish, or other animals from recreational equipment and drain water before transporting; clean and dry any equipment or clothing that comes into contact with water.

Invasive Plants and Diseases
Sudden Oak Death is a disease killing millions of oak and tanoak trees in Calif. and Ore. A root-rotting fungus is killing Port-Orford-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 trees 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.

Please keep a clean camp or picnic site and store all food or smelly items out of sight in a locked car or bear-proof locker. When cooking or preparing food, keep all food within arm's reach.

VIPS: Volunteers in Parks

Volunteers play an ever-increasing role in our parklands. At Redwood, VIPs work side-by-side with National Park Service, California State Park and Redwood Park Conservancy employees to help care for these special places. Whether staffing a visitor center front desk, serving as a campground host, assisting park scientists in the field or lab, or picking up litter, volunteers are true stewards of our natural and cultural heritage!

We welcome VIPs from all over the United States and the world to live and work in this special place (housing may be available to qualified volunteers). To learn about available VIP opportunities and to apply online, visit www.volunteer.gov. For opportunities as a campground host, visit www.parks.ca.gov/Page_id-886

Plants redwoods in the Mill Creek Waterfall

Redwood Parks Conservancy

Redwood Parks Conservancy (RPC) is a non-profit cooperating association established to foster understanding, enjoyment, and stewardship of our parks and public lands through educational outreach, visitor services, and support of our partners entrusted with the care of public lands along California's North Coast. Proceeds from visitor center and online store sales, as well as fundraising events, are returned to these special places to provide interpretive and educational programs and materials. This Visitor Guide, too, was made possible by a generous donation from Redwood Parks Conservancy.

Volunteer opportunities are available to qualified volunteers. To learn more about available VIP opportunities and to apply online, visit www.redwoodparksconservancy.org

Redwood Parks Conservancy ph: (707) 464-9150
Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/redwoodparks
To become a member and/or make an online donation to support your public lands, visit www.redwoodparksconservancy.org

Recycling for a variety of materials is available throughout the parks—look for receptacles at day use areas, information centers, and campgrounds. Steel propane cylinder drop-off locations are available at all campgrounds. Any usable fuel will be made available to other campers, while staff safely and completely remove remaining fuel from "empty" canisters so they can be recycled by a local steel recycler.

To view Redwood's Action Plan or learn more about Climate Friendly Parks, visit www.rnp.ca.gov/climatefriendlyparks
For more information on Cool Parks, visit www.coolparks.ca.gov/