Redwood National Park celebrates its silver anniversary this year. It was October 2nd 1968 when President Lyndon Johnson signed enabling legislation creating the second of the nation’s redwood parks. As we celebrate these 25 years of growth and change, let’s take a look back from the first redwood park, Muir Woods, established in 1908 through the sixty years to our second Redwood National Park.

Coast redwood forests of the San Francisco region were well known as gold seekers streamed through this port in the mid-nineteenth century. These fortune hunters created a local demand for lumber for housing and mining operations. The coast redwood forests of Humboldt and Del Norte counties, where Redwood National Park stands today were less well known. Rocky coasts and foggy weather limited all but the most hardy explorers from sailing into the area. In the first wave of migration across the United States, these coastal forests would remain relatively untouched.

As technology improved, the isolated northern redwood forests became more accessible by 1870. The transcontinental railroad opened new markets for sturdy and beautiful redwood timber. Logging machinery improved allowing larger trees to be cut and expanded the acreage available to loggers. These technological changes increased the number of trees that could be cut and sent to market.

Concern for the future of redwood forests throughout the state was voiced as early as 1899 when National Geographic magazine published an article on Humboldt County redwoods. Grass roots movements led by the Sempervirens Club helped establish the first California state redwood preserve at Big Basin in 1902. A few years later, the first redwood national park area, Muir Woods, would be set aside by President Theodore Roosevelt. He accepted the donation of redwood forest lands in Marin County and created Muir Woods National Monument in 1908. This park honors the ardent Californian conservationist John Muir who at that time was a close friend of the donor, Marin County Congressman William Kent.

In the sixty years until the establishment of Redwood National Park, grass roots movement would continue to lead the cause of redwood preservation. In 1918, the Save The Redwoods League was formed. Their goals included establishing a north coast redwood national park as well as acquiring as many acres of redwoods as possible along the Highway 101 corridor. The League raised funds and began an aggressive acquisition campaign working in concert with state agencies to continue establishing state redwood parks. The League continues today to support the preservation of redwoods throughout California.

By 1961, a renewed interest in a second redwood national park began. This wave of activity was aided by the National Geographic Society who conducted studies in 1964 in the Humboldt and Del Norte county region to identify potential park sites. Congress and President Lyndon Johnson acted upon these findings and Redwood National Park was created in 1968 and expanded in 1978. Today the coast redwood forests stand preserved for future generations.

As a visitor, you play an important role in preserving national parks such as Redwood and Muir Woods. You are a temporary visitor to the permanent homes of park wildlife and plants, please be a good guest! Take only pictures, leave only footprints. Your respect of the park will help insure another 25 years and more for Redwood National Park!

Welcome!
On behalf of the park staff, I am pleased to welcome you to one of the truly great national parks! We hope you will take the time to get to know the park, especially as we celebrate our 25th year in the national park system. Do not hesitate to ask any of the park staff for assistance in planning your visit.

My staff and I hope your winter and spring adventures in the park are safe, fulfilling and unforgettable.

Bienvenue
Bienvenue au parc National de Redwood!
Vous pouvez vous procurer une brochure sur le Parc au Centre des Visiteurs. En cas d’urgence, contacter un garde du parc ou téléphoner 911.

Willkommen
Willkommen zu Redwood National Park!
Eine deutsche Übersetzung der park broschure gibt es in dem Besuchszentrum. In notfallen, wenden Siesich bitte an einen Park ranger, oder rufen 911.

FOR TDD
(707) 464-6101

Please contact a park ranger with your accommodation needs. We are happy to make arrangements for sign language interpreters, print materials, etc, so your visit will be enjoyable!
WHAT IS THERE TO DO IN REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK?

☐ Sightsee on scenic drives
☐ Attend ranger programs
☐ Hike forest and mountain trails
☐ Walk interpretive nature trails
☐ Mountain bike on old roads
☐ Birdwatch the shore and forest
☐ Whale watch along the coast
☐ Photograph wildlife
☐ Explore tidepools

WHERE DO I START?

Rangers are on duty at each of these centers to help orient you to the park and offer free maps. Natural history publications may be purchased and disabled access information is available.

Redwood National Park Headquarters - 2nd and K Street, Crescent City. Open 8:00 am to 5:00 pm daily.

Redwood Information Center - One mile south of Orick near Freshwater Lagoon. Open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily. Orientation films on request and a 12 foot relief map of the park. Exhibits include a Yurok canoe and Native American basketry. Permits issued here for Tall Trees Grove. Tune into 1610 AM in this area for current information.

Hiouchi Information Center - Ten Miles NE of Crescent City of Highway 199. Open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily. Closed November-May. Orientation films on request. Exhibits include redwood ecology and a Yurok canoe. Tune into 1610 AM in this area for current information.

REDWOOD GROVES

Lady Bird Johnson - One mile loop walk. Leave the noise of the road behind you and enjoy the stillness of the coast redwood forest. Turn onto Bald Hills Road off Highway 101. Picnicking and restrooms.

Tall Trees Grove - Three mile round trip hike to old growth forest where some of the tallest coast redwoods are found. A limited number of no cost car permits are issued to reach this trailhead. These free permits are only available at the Redwood Information Center from 9:00-1:00 pm daily. Limited shuttle service available on weekends. The drive begins on paved road but the final six miles are gravel. Vehicles over 18 feet in total length are not allowed. Hiking into the grove is downhill but the return trip is very steep.

Lost Man Creek - Eleven mile hiker/biker trail through second growth and ancient forest. Turn off Highway 101, five miles north of Orick. Picnicking and restrooms.
Scenic Roads (Paved)

Enderts Beach Road - Three miles south of Crescent City off Highway 101. Beach and hiking trail access, coastal views, whale watching, birding.

Requa Road - Sixteen miles south of Crescent City, just north of Klamath River. Hiking trail, picnicking, whale watching. Steep grades require cautious driving.

Coastal Drive - Just past Klamath River Bridge. Eight mile drive along the river and ocean. Paved and unpaved sections with coastal views, hiking trails, whale watching, picnicking, World War II historic site. Recreational vehicles should use Alder Camp turnoff.


Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway - Look for signs off Highway 101. Access to Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park and Elk Prairie, a favorite browsing area for Roosevelt elk.

Scenic Roads (Unpaved)

Howland Hill Road - Turn onto Elk Valley Road, south of Crescent City. Six mile drive through Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park; 1/2 mile trail through Stout Grove, old growth redwoods. Watch for two way traffic on this one lane gravel road. Motor Homes and Trailers Not advised.

Cal-Barrel Road - Six miles north of Orick on Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway. A three mile drive through redwoods. No turnaround for recreational vehicles. Mountain bikes may be used.

Davison Road - Four miles north of Orick off Highway 101. A nine mile drive through redwood spruce forests to Gold Bluffs Beach and Fern Canyon, a 1/2 mile walk through a stream canyon lined with ferns. Trail heads into Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. (Day use fee collected.) Vehicle length cannot exceed 24 feet.

Other Points of Interest

Big Tree Wayside - Use Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway to reach this area in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Paved, 1/4 mile trail to "Big Tree", 304 feet tall and 21 feet in diameter coast redwood tree.

Elk Prairie Visitor Center - Eight miles north of Orick on Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway inside Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Exhibits include natural and pioneer history. Interpretive trail for the blind. (Day use fee collected.)

Avenue of the Giants - 75 miles south of Eureka. Look for signs off Highway 101 near the town of Pepperwood. A 33 mile scenic drive through Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

Where Is The Drive Thru Tree?

A cherished memory for many park visitors is visiting a "drive thru tree." However, no drive thru trees exist in the national or state parks. At one time, the Tunnel Tree, carved out of a Giant Sequoia, was located in the Mariposa Grove of Yosemite National Park. That tree fell in 1969 due to a heavy snowstorm.

Three drive thru trees are located in the vicinity of Redwood National Park. All are along Highway 101. Each tree area charges admission. From north to south the drive thru trees are:

• Klamath Tour Thru Tree - Use the Terwer Valley Exit in the town of Klamath.

• Shrine Drive Thru Tree - Use the Avenue of the Giants Exit near the town of Myers Flat.

• Chandelier Tree in the Drive Thru Tree Park - Follow signs off Highway 101 in the town of Leggett.
E\\NK

Redwood National Park is home to two of the country’s largest wildlife species, the Roosevelt elk and the California black bear. Elk are abundant in the park and offer visitors ample opportunities for observation. They may often be seen in meadows, pastures, and prairies, and, if you are quiet, may be observed for long periods. Bears, however, are less commonly seen, and then for only brief periods as they cross roads or trails.

The Roosevelt elk is the largest of the six recognized subspecies of elk in North America, with males or bulls weighing up to 1,200 pounds. They once ranged from southern British Columbia to south San Francisco Bay. Elk were perceived as interfering with agriculture and were also considered a good food source, especially for hungry gold miners. Their two large front teeth were also valued as watch charms. These factors encouraged intense hunting which eliminated them from the southern part of this range by the mid-1800s.

Before timber harvesting began in the region, the elk used both forests and grasslands for browsing and cover. Prairies and coastal shrublands probably provided the bulk of the available browse. After logging, the increased growth of young trees, shrubs, and grasses provides ample food for elk for a few years. This new growth, coupled with park protective measures typically leads to slightly increased elk numbers. So far, research indicates that the elk population has been growing and will continue to expand in the lower Redwood Creek and the May Creek drainages and northward up the coast along the Klamath River.

As vegetation succession brings about a return to the redwood forest, what is now good elk habitat will become less productive, causing the elk population size, structure, and distribution to change again. To provide information for management of the elk population in this changing environment, the park is considering a research project. This project would involve live-trapping and anesthetizing the animals, fitting them with radio collars, taking blood and hair samples, and monitoring elk movements.

Logging has also increased the distribution and availability of bear habitat in the same manner as for elk. The result has been an increase in the population of bears. Prior to the park expansion of 1978, there was a conspicuous absence of "bear problems," relative to other national parks. Part of the reason Redwood did not experience a bear problem was visitor use patterns. In the pre-expansion period, visitors were using the narrow band of old-growth forests that were the state and national parks, while bears were more abundant in the productive cutover lands. The result was a separation of visitors and bears, and a low potential for human/bear interactions.

However, the expansion of the park resulted in prime bear habitat being acquired. The influx of visitors and employees into this new park area increased and continues to increase the bears’ potential for familiarity with and loss of fear for humans. As bears become familiar with humans and human foods, their behavior changes. These resulting behavioral modifications increase rates of people/bear interaction and escalate the risk of personal injury and property damage from bears.

Most national parks with significant bear populations have adopted bear management plans after unfavorable bear/human relationships developed. In contrast, Redwood National Park has the opportunity to study bears and manage visitors on a preventive rather than a corrective basis.

Actually, bear management is people management. The park has developed a Bear Management Plan to help ensure that the natural integrity, distribution, abundance, and behavior of the black bear population is maintained while providing for visitor safety and education. Look for displays posted in the park on bear management. Ask for the park brochure "Bear Facts" as you visit park information centers for an overview of bear management at Redwood National Park.

Black bear and Roosevelt elk are but two members of the wildlife community at Redwood. We hope your park visit affords you a special memory in viewing one of these creatures.

**TIPS**

- **Don't Feed The Animals!**
  Feeding animals can make them dependent beggars, unable to care for themselves in the wild. Hungry animals may beg for food but may become aggressive and dangerous.

- **Observe And Enjoy!**
  Watch animals through binoculars and from a safe distance. Close approach to wild animals may cause stress and disrupt vital nesting, breeding, or other activities. Do not disturb nests or dens.

- **Store Food In Airtight Containers. Hang Food From Trees In The Backcountry.**
NATURALIST'S NOTEBOOK

A Birder's Paradise

Over 370 species of birds have been sighted at Redwood. The fall is a great time to catch the southward migration as many species leave their summer breeding areas and head to warmer climates for the winter. In the spring, the northward return migration may also be observed. The sky above the Pacific coastline is known as the Pacific Flyway, one of four broad bird migration routes used in the seasonal rounds.

Start by picking up a bird checklist from a visitor center and explore the local "hot spots":

- The Smith River: This Wild and Scenic River offers sightings of Water Dipper, Belted Kingfisher, Common Merganser, Osprey and more.
- Castle Rock: (near Crescent City): You'll need a spotting scope to view colonies of seabirds and sea lions on this National Wildlife Refuge.
- Coastal Beaches: Brown Pelicans and Caspian Terns during late spring; Black Oystercatchers and three species of Cormorants are present year-round.
- Coastal Trail and Wooded Areas: Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon race), Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets in winter. Townsend's, Wilson's and Orange-crowned warblers during late spring.
- Redwood Forest: Winter Wrens, Varied Thrushes, Steller's Jays, Ravens. Rare birds include Pileated Woodpecker and Northern Spotted Owl.
- Bald Hills: Grassy oak woodlands offer good viewing of Red-tailed Hawks, Red-shouldered Hawks, Blue Grouse, and Turkey Vultures.

Detailed information on the natural history of North American birds can be found in the various field guides available for sale in the Visitor Centers or by asking a ranger!

The Fungus Among Us!

Take a moment to examine these delicate inhabitants of Redwood National Park. Mushrooms vary in size and shape, from delicate parasols to familiar brown "inky caps." They sometimes cluster along a rotting log or climb the bark of a tall tree. Redwood, like many Pacific Northwest parks, is a haven for mushrooms. Our forests and slopes are a gold mine of the elements mushrooms need: rotting wood, moisture, and tree roots. Long prized for their tasty flavors, mushrooms play a largely unknown role in the health of the forest. Recent studies have indicated that certain species of trees need mushrooms amongst their roots to remain healthy.

Recently, Pacific northwest parks have experienced an increase in harvesting mushrooms because of their value in the culinary market. This increase brings an, as yet, unmeasured impact as soil is disturbed and illegal activities becomes associated with the valuable harvest. Harvesting mushrooms is not permitted at Redwood National Park to protect their vital role in coastal redwood forest ecology.

Spring Wildflowers

Redwood Violets

Human eyes are not the only eyes attracted to the showy flowers of spring. Insects, birds, and several mammals seek them out as well. Most of these creatures are seeking the sugary nectar produced by glands at the base of the petals. In turn, other bird species will feed on the tiny insects that come to feed on the nectar.

The flower, on the other hand, is attracting animals and insects so its pollen will be carried from one flower to the next, insuring next year's display of colorful plants. Good places to see wildflowers are along the meadows and oak woodlands of Bald Hills Road and in the forest groves such as Lady Bird Johnson.

Remember!
Do Not Pick Wildflowers!
Leave their beauty for all to enjoy.
Whale Tales!
A special part of the winter scene at Redwood National Park is the gray whale migration along the coast. Each winter, gray whales migrate from their spring breeding grounds in the warm waters off Baja California to their summer feeding grounds in Alaska. During the migration, they tend to stay very close to the coastline and thus, are one of the easiest species of whales to observe in the wild.

Gray whales are actually covered with a thick black skin. However, from a distance they appear gray because of white barnacles which encrust their head. Gray whales are 30 to 50 feet long, approximately the size of a school bus. Once hunted almost to extinction, they have made a slow recovery.

In their summer feeding grounds, they eat up to a ton of small bottom dwelling crustaceans each day. The whale dives to the bottom of the cold Arctic seas, rolls onto its side, plowing through the muddy bottom and sieving out crustaceans through thin plates of baleen in its mouth. After a leisurely season of eating in May through November, they head to Mexico to breed in the shallow warmer waters of Baja California. Not all whales will make the full return trip, some will remain playing and splashing along the coast where they may be seen from the Redwood Information Center near Orick.

What to look for on your whale watch adventures? The spout, or “blow” is a mixture of water and hot air that is seen when a whale breathes. Gray whales usually spout three to five times in a row, then dive out of site with a flip off their tail or “fluke.” Spouting is usually the easiest sign of a whale but also look for breaching, a spectacular jump out of the water. Spying is another typical whale behavior. The whale lifts its head from the water, perhaps to take a bearing or look for landmarks along the coast. Don’t forget to pack your binoculars.

The best times to watch for whales off the coast of Redwood are in January, and again in mid-March. However, anytime between mid-December and May there is a chance of seeing whales spouting and breaching. Good viewing spots include Redwood Information Center where a spotting scope is set up, Klamath Overlook, and along the Coastal Drive. In Crescent City, head out to the Battery Point Lighthouse at low tide or out to Crescent Beach Overlook.

The Winter Beach
Walking along the beach has special rewards for the winter and spring visitor to the coastline of Redwood National Park. As the seasons change, so do the patterns of the beaches. Waves deposit new treasures of pebbles and driftwood, strands of kelp create unusual hieroglyphics along the sand.

Winter and spring/summer beaches have special characteristics that are constant from year to year. In the summer, when most beachcombers are out, beaches are usually broad and flat. Sand may be dry and blown by the wind into miniature sand dunes near the back of the beach, the foredune area. Waves gently lap the shore and winds are usually moderate.

In the winter, bigger waves with more strength move much of the beach sand offshore and underwater. The bigger winter waves batter the beach and drag sand back into the sea where it will be stored in a bar. The beach becomes higher and steeper in contrast to the flat expanses typical of the summer beach. Then as the season changes, the gentle waves of spring and summer will move the offshore sand bar back onto the beach.

Be sure to dress warmly as the chilly clear days of winter also bring low temperatures! Lock your vehicle at beach parking areas to protect against theft in these secluded areas.

Tidal Tunes!
They’re rough. They’re tough. They’re the plants and animals of the intertidal zone. The especially low tides of January are a great time to visit Pacific coast tidepools.

It’s here that the ocean meets the land and, together with the tides, creates one of the harshest, most inhospitable habitats on Earth. The moon -- actually, its gravity -- is mostly to blame, for it creates tides. Twice a day the high tides bring cold, salty water and crashing waves to the puddles of water among the rocks known as tidepools. And twice a day the low tides expose the area and its inhabitants to sun, air, wind, and predators. It’s a hard life, but an amazing variety and abundance of fascinating creatures flourish in the intertidal and possess surprising adaptations to their unique environment.

Sea stars use hundreds of small suction cups called tube feet to hang on tight in the waves, while crabs, with their flattened bodies, scuttle into tiny cracks to find protection. Anemones -- animals that look like flowers -- use tentacles laden with special stinging cells to capture their prey, but fold those tentacles in to lay low and keep water inside at low tide.

Just add water! As high tides bring in cold splashes of water, sun-dried, crispy seaweed gets rehydrated and rubbery again. The well-camouflaged sculpin, the most common tidepool fish, darts quickly and then remains motionless. Hermit crabs, the tourists of the intertidal, hustle about in recycled snail shells that protect their soft bellies.

The wonders of Redwood National Park’s tidepools await the careful explorer. Enderts Beach and Hidden Beach are two excellent areas to visit. Be sure to check tide tables and allow plenty of time as both areas require a half mile hike. Put on some sturdy, non-slip shoes.

Get your feet wet. But remember that life is hard here and you’re only a visitor. Collection of living plants and animals is prohibited.

Respect intertidal creatures by returning rocks to their proper position, by gently touching but not removing animals stuck to rocks. Pack out all your trash and dispose of it properly. We’re all linked together in ways we’re only barely starting to understand, so, who knows? Maybe someday a tidepool animal will return the favor!
All of these plants and animals live in the Pacific Ocean near Redwood National Park. Many of them live in the tidepools while some like deeper water off the coast. Can you find the plants and animals in the hidden word puzzle? The words may be found vertically, horizontally, or diagonally.

Be Careful As You Visit - Tidepools Are Fragile Places.
Those Dog Gone Rules!

Dogs were among the first wild animals domesticated by humans. We enjoy their companionship and affection as well as valuing their practical skills such as herding, aiding disabled people, or perhaps searching for lost hikers. Our relationship with our pets often brings out a natural protective instinct in our canine companions. However, in this protective urge towards us, our pets may become a threat to other people. A friendly hand towards a pet may result in a sharp nip if the pet misinterprets this innocent gesture as a threat to its owner.

To avoid this kind of painful interaction, pets must remain on leash no more than 6 foot long while they visit Redwood National Park and most other areas of the National Park system. Check at each park area for specific regulations.

Dogs are not permitted on park trails except the Enderts Beach Trail. Your leashed dog is welcome at Crescent Beach, the parking and picnic areas of Redwood Information Center and Lost Man Creek, and the Freshwater Spit Overnight Use area. Leashed pets may also be within 100 feet of public roadways. Observing these rules allow all visitors a safe and pleasant visit along the trails and beaches.

Protecting fellow visitors is an important reason for restraining pets and also serves a larger protective purpose for park wildlife. Domestic dogs and cats retain their once primitive instinct to mark territory with scent. The presence of domestic animal scents along a trail can confuse wild animals and drive these wild creatures out of areas where they need to feed or find shelter.

While our pet may return to a peaceful bowl of kibble each day, a wild animal may take days to search out a new territory and in the meantime, go hungry. Interaction between domestic and wild animals can also spread diseases.

Your unleashed pet may get lost! A lost animal may turn up as lunch for a coyote or mountain lion. Lost domestic animals sometimes turn to preying on park wildlife and must be destroyed.

Please help protect your fellow visitors and park wildlife by leashing your dog at Redwood!

*Riding The Redwoods*

One of the many ways to enjoy the beaches and forests of the Park is by bicycle. Begin at park visitor centers by picking up a map. Be sure to strap on appropriate safety gear as trail surfaces may be uneven. Practice trailside courtesy by calling out to hikers as you approach.

*Holter Ridge Bike Trail:* Eleven mile, one way ride along an old road. For the easiest ride, shuttle your car. Park cars at Lost Man Creek Picnic Area, off Highway 101. Travel up Bald Hills Road and park at the trailhead across from Redwood Creek Overlook. The ride climbs briefly and then drops downhill through redwood and spruce forests. If you ride back to the trailhead, the round trip becomes 20 miles and includes a steep uphill ride on a busy, paved road.

*Rellim Ridge Trail:* Four and 1/2 miles, one way through redwood forest. Less than 300 feet of elevation changes on this moderate trail. Begin at Hamilton Road across from Crescent Beach Vista Point on Highway 101 or use Howland Hill Road trailhead.

*Coastal Trail (Last Chance Section):* Six miles one way through redwood forests ending with a steep section and coastal views. Begin at Milepost 15.6 on Highway 101 for easiest approach. Trail becomes steep and narrow at the four mile mark where it descends into Enderts Beach Trailhead. Nickel Creek backcountry campground is on this route.

*Mill Creek Horse Trail:* Seven and 3/4 mile round trip through young redwood forest. Watch for Horses! Begin at the southern end of Howland Hill Road (Look for locked gate). Steep and demanding downhill and return uphill.

*Little Bald Hills Trail:* Eight miles, one way. Steep initial climb with open prairie views. Begin at trailhead on east end of Howland Hill Road. Ends on South Fork Road with access to national forest lands.

*Prairie Creek/Ossagon Trail Loop:* 22 mile loop takes you from redwood forest to the coast and back. Begin on Davison Road, off Highway 101. Check with Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park (707) 488-2171 for up to date trail conditions and day use fees.