

Redwood

National and State Parks

Official Map and Guide



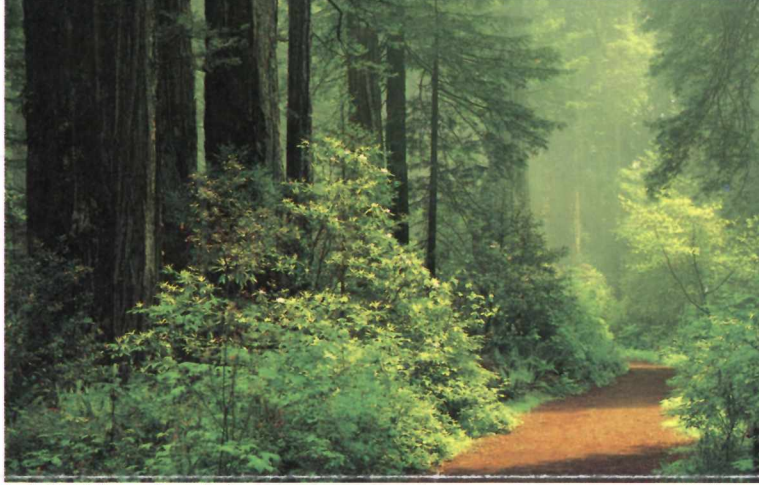
Redwoods and rhododendrons



Split Rock along the Coastal Trail



Rough-skinned newt



Lady Bird Johnson Grove Trail

Larry Ulrich

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

ravages of fire and insects. In 1769, the well-traveled Fray Juan Crespi named it *palo colorado*, red tree. Botanical credit for the coast redwood's discovery is generally ceded to Archibald Menzies, who noted it in 1794. In 1847 it was given its scientific name, *Sequoia sempervirens*,

probably in honor of Cherokee leader Sequoyah; *sempervirens* means "ever living." Three North Coast redwoods state parks were established in 1923 (Prairie Creek), 1925 (Del Norte) and 1929 (Jedediah Smith). Redwood National Park was established in 1968 and expanded in 1978 to

protect the superlative ancient redwood forests growing along the northern California coast. The parks now constitute a World Heritage Site and International Biosphere Reserve. The millions of travelers who come from around the world to see these giants reap other benefits from the

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

From Exploration to Preservation

When Fray Crespi saw the redwood forests in 1769, they probably covered almost 2 million acres. As gold fever subsided here redwood fever replaced it. The trees at first seemed endless, but quickly fell to determined logging. The State of California preserved a number of key groves during the 1920s. When modern logging methods raised the possibility that all the rest might be cut, Congress created Redwood National Park in 1968. The park was expanded in 1978 to protect the world's tallest trees. Today, Redwood national and state parks include just under 40,000 acres of ancient forest, nearly half of all that remains.



Early logging centered on small trees. Later, redwoods could be logged. Gold mining (below) began after the 1848 strikes on the Trinity River.

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



Kansas State Historical Society



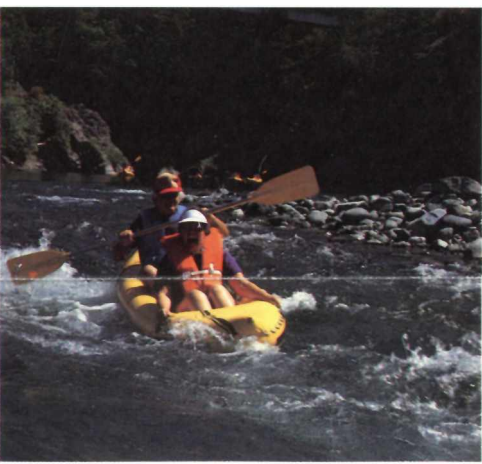
Treasures of Nature and Culture

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



Roosevelt elk favor prairie and other open lands but seek forests for cover and shade. The parks' largest land mammals, these elk may exceed 1,000 pounds. Their much larger antlers distinguish them from black-tail deer. One of the best places to see Roosevelt elk is at Elk Prairie campground. At Gold Bluffs Beach elk can be found along the beach and nearby trails. Look for them along the Bald Hills and Davison roads, too. Always be alert for elk crossing the highways.

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



Park streams offer swimming and fishing opportunities and harbor steelhead, cutthroat trout (upper left), and Chinook salmon (lower left).



Black Bears
Seldom seen, black bears roam throughout the parks. They favor the recently logged Redwood Creek area whose revegetation fosters abundant food. Fond of acorns, bears travel far to harvest them. These bears generally have not lost their fear of humans. The best way to prevent wild bears from becoming problem bears is to



Illustration by George Founds

ing spots where you may see the goldenfinch junco, quail, or raven. *Waterways*: The parks' rivers, world renowned for fishing, are no less loved for recreation and sheer beauty. The Smith River, named for mountain man Jedediah Smith, arises in the Siskiyou Mountains and flows through the parks' north section. The Smith is California's last major free-flowing river and is famous for salmon and steelhead. The Klamath River, also a salmon and steelhead stream, crosses the mid-section of the parks. Redwood Creek flows through the parks' southern section. Salmon and steelhead populations have been severely diminished by past logging activities within Redwood Creek's watershed.

keep human food away from them. Use sound food storage practices. Counter-balance all food, scented items—soap, toothpaste, lotion—and garbage in a tree 200 feet from camp; 12 feet up and 10 feet out from the trunk; and 5 feet down from the branch. Ask a park ranger for proper techniques. Remember: a fed bear is a dead bear.

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



Coast redwood, Douglas fir, and other native trees are planted to redevelop forests similar to those cut.

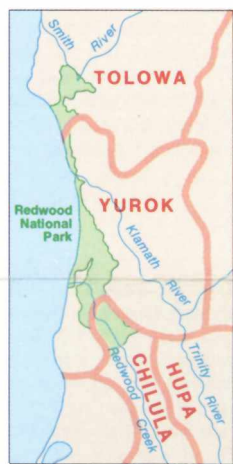
Congress also created a National Park Protection Zone—30,000 acres upstream from the park in Redwood Creek—to limit effects of timber harvest on the park downstream.

Indians of the Redwood Coast

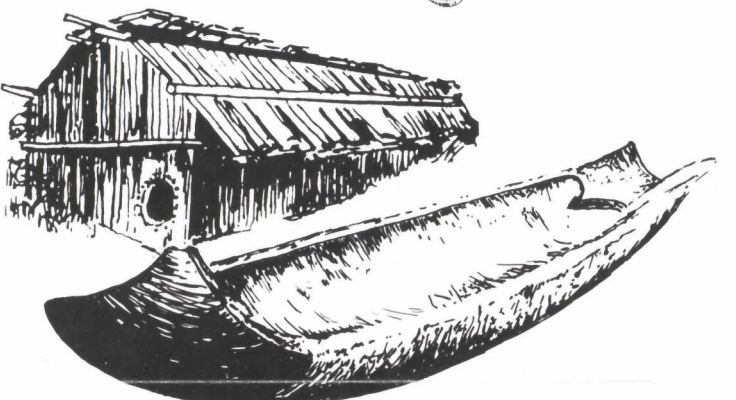
For thousands of years American Indians have lived along the redwood coast. They belong to a number of different groups and speak different languages, even within this relatively small geographic area. Prior to the arrival of non-Indians in the 18th century, American Indian villages, with fine split-plank structures, dotted the coast and lined the major rivers. People traveled in redwood dugout canoes along the waterways, and by foot along an elaborate system of trails. Due to seasonal changes, the foods they ate varied; they fished the ocean and rivers, hunted land and marine mammals, and gathered nuts, seeds, and berries. Today



American Indians live on and off reservation lands and account for 5 to 10 percent of the local population. Groups are represented by sovereign governments and many traditions continue: Some members still speak the languages, traditional ceremonies are held, hunting and fishing are important, and traditional arts and crafts are kept alive.



Redwood national and state parks lie within the traditional territories of three American Indian groups. Yurok and Tolowa groups still exist; the Chilula were assimilated into the inland Hupa culture.



Life Along the Seacoast

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

Many of the park's animal species thrive along the coast. Brown pelicans are summer visitors, cormorants take to lagoon or river and shore waters, and willets and sanderlings work the beach. Offshore may be California gray whales in migration, seals, sea lions, dolphins, porpoises, and orca (killer) whales. In the intertidal areas the vagaries of periodic wetting and drying have produced tightly zoned layers of life. To help protect these animals, the national park boundary extends one-quarter mile offshore.

Offshore

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

Intertidal Zone

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



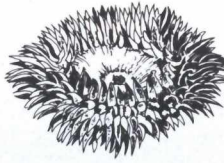
Periwinkle snail

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



Sea star

rocky beach outcroppings to shelter life forms found in these environments. Tide-pool dwellers must cope with myriad changes—in water temperature, salinity, and oxygen content. Here are barnacles, limpets, nudibranchs, sea urchins, sea stars, and sea palms. The latter, well-anchored by root-like mechanisms called hold-fasts, are erect seaweeds whose flexible stemlike structure can withstand the full force of breaking waves.



Giant green anemone



Brown pelican

Beaches

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

Sea Cliffs

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



Double-crested cormorant

The Role of Fog

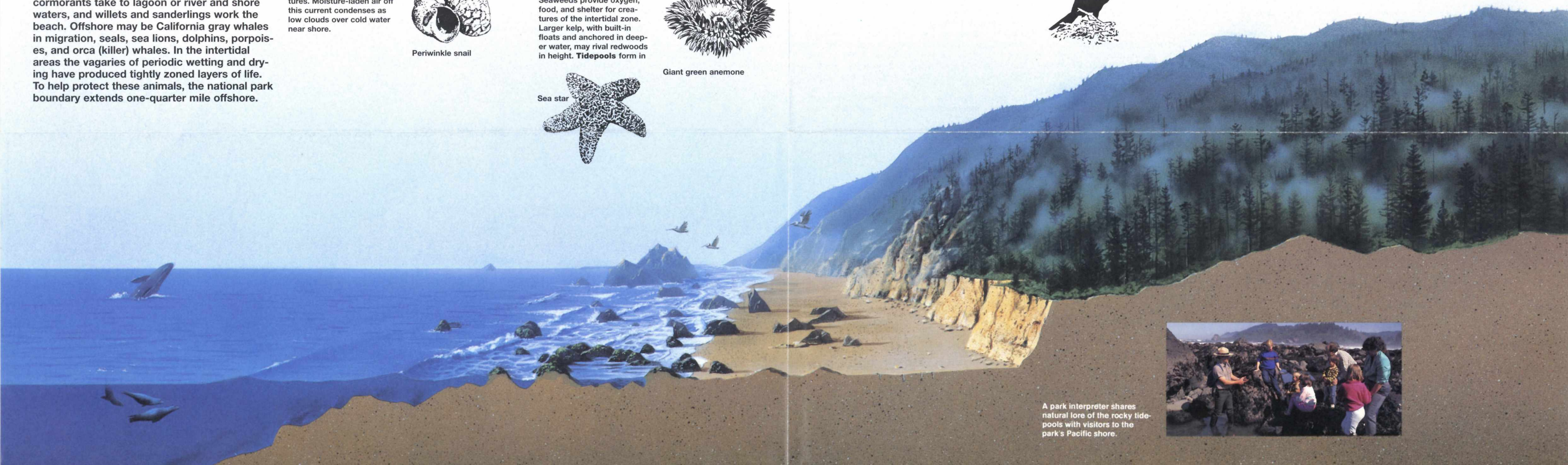
The passage of air warmed by inland heat over cold, near-shore waters creates fog here almost daily in summer. Fog plays a two-fold role that helps approximate the mild, moist climate that prevailed in the Age of Dinosaurs when redwood species grew over much of North America. Bathing redwood forests,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

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

Woodlands

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

Seacoast illustration by Rob Wood



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



Exploring the Redwood Coast

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

Hiouchi Area

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

Crescent City Area

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

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

the parks. There is also a description of services and facilities available to you.

Accessibility For information on the accessibility of facilities and programs, ask at the park information centers.

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

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

Crescent Beach Overlook
This viewpoint is a good place for whale-watching, picnicking, or just taking in the scenery.

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

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

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

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

Klamath Area

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

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

Prairie Creek Area

Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
Use the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway to reach the park from U.S. 101. You will find park information, exhibits, and interpretive publications at the Prairie Creek Visitor Center. Camping is available at Elk Prairie campground. Cal-Barrel Road is an unpaved scenic drive through the redwood forest. Davison Road, narrow and unpaved, goes to Golds Bluff Beach and offers excellent

Requa Road
Requa Road leads from U.S. 101 out to the Klamath Overlook, which stands some 600 feet above the estuary at the Klamath River's mouth. There the Coastal Trail leads down to a spur trail leading to another overlook some 200 feet above the ocean. Whale-watching can be good in this area.

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

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

Lost Man Creek
Take the short, unpaved, scenic drive through the redwood forest. **Trailers are not advised.** This area offers hiking and mountain biking trails and picnicking facilities. Lost Man Creek Trail (1.5 miles round trip) leads past the World Heritage Site dedication area and on to a cascade on Lost Man Creek.

Orick Area

Bald Hills Road
Do not take trailers or motor homes on the steep—15 percent—grade here. Parking for trailers is available at the Redwood Creek trailhead and the Redwood Information Center.

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

A limited number of permits for private vehicles are issued on a first-come, first-served basis to reach the trailhead for the **Tall Trees Grove**. The free permits are only available at Redwood Information Center. Allow four hours round-trip for drive

ving to the trailhead and then hiking down to the grove (1.3 miles each way). The trail is steep, descending 800 feet into the grove where some of the world's tallest trees grow.

Redwood Creek Trail
Here you can combine hiking and backcountry camping. Take an 8.5-mile hike to Tall Trees Grove, where the world's tallest trees grow on the flats of Redwood Creek. This involves two creek crossings. Caution: Bridges are provided in summer only. During the rainy season high waters make stream crossings dangerous. For current information on access to Tall Trees Grove via this route, ask a park ranger or ask at an information station. Camping is allowed only on gravel bars along Redwood Creek, and only upstream from

the confluence of McArthur Creek, 1.5 miles from the Redwood Creek trailhead. Camping is not permitted within 0.25 mile of the Tall Trees Grove. Check with a ranger for nearby camping options. Backpackers please note the camping restrictions on Redwood Creek; see Coastal Trail under Crescent City Area above.

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

General Information

Camping facilities Developed campgrounds are located within Jedediah Smith Redwoods, Del Norte Coast Redwoods, and Prairie Creek Redwoods state parks. Hot showers, restrooms, and disposal station are provided, except at Gold Bluffs Beach, which has solar-heated showers only and no disposal station. Trailers up to 24 feet long and motor homes up to 27 feet are allowed, except at Gold Bluffs Beach, where trailers are prohibited. Motor homes up to 24 feet long are allowed at Gold Bluffs Beach. No trailer hookups are available in the parks. For backpackers, there are several primitive backcountry campgrounds in the parks. Three backcountry campgrounds can also accommodate stock.

Reservations are usually necessary in summer. Make them through DESTINET, P.O. Box 9029, Clearwater, FL 34618, or call 1-800-444-7275. The nearest group campgrounds are at Jedediah Smith Redwoods and Patrick's Point state parks. Other public campgrounds are located in Six Rivers National Forest; Grassy Flat and Patrick Creek are closed in winter. Reservations can be made at some national forest campgrounds but many do not require reservations.

Guided horseback trips Guided horseback trips are available through Tall Trees Outfitters, a licensed park concessioner; call 707-488-5785.

Safety and management tips On the beach, be aware of tidal fluctuations. Swimming is hazardous because of cold water and strong rip currents. •Be cautious while climbing or walking near edges of high, rocky bluffs. •Watch for poison oak, particularly in coastal areas. •Do not feed bears or wild animals. Roosevelt elk are wild and unpredictable—do not approach them on foot. Follow park regulations regarding bears and food storage; all food and scented personal care items should be secured and hidden from view in vehicles, placed in bear-proof lockers, or hung from trees. Garbage should be properly disposed of in bear-proof garbage cans. Mountain lions may also be found in the parks. Check at park information centers for brochures and updates on lion behavior. •Water from natural sources should be treated before drinking. If you are unfamiliar with proper water treatment techniques, ask a ranger for assistance. •Always lock your unattended car. Lock all valuables out of sight in the trunk or, preferably, carry them with you. If you become a theft victim, or if you witness vandalism, call the nearest law enforcement officer or information center.

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

Park regulations Redwood National and State Parks are managed under special regulations to protect park resources and you. •All plants and animals are protected; mushroom gathering is prohibited. However, you may gather fruits and berries for your personal consumption. •California fishing licenses are required for freshwater and ocean fishing. The California Department of Fish and Game can supply you with current, site-specific fishing regulations. •Tidepools are fragile environments, so collecting is not permitted. •Do not hunt, trap, or carry loaded or assembled firearms on park lands. •Keep pets restrained at all times; pets are prohibited on all park trails. •Camp and build fires only in areas designated for such uses. •Damaging or removing any government structure, sign, or marker is prohibited. •Help keep the park clean and litter-free; take out what you bring in. •Horseback riding and mountain biking are allowed only on certain designated trails. Information centers can provide you with more detailed information on trails. If you have questions, check at an information center or ask a patrolling park ranger.

For your protection Lock your unattended car. Lock all valuables out of sight in the trunk or carry them with you.

In case of emergency, dial 911.



0 5 Kilometers
0 5 Miles

- Redwood National Park boundary
- National parkland
- State parkland
- Trail
- Unpaved road

- Picnic area
- Interpretive trail
- Fishing
- Wheelchair accessible
- Boat access
- Campground
- Primitive campsite

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

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

PACIFIC OCEAN

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

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

