

YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF THE OLD-GROWTH REDWOOD LOOP TRAIL at Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. This grove has been admired and cared for by those who have walked this trail before you; please continue the tradition to ensure this grove will remain preserved forever. These incredible trees can only be protected with your help. Although your walk has ended we hope your interest and enthusiasm for the Coast Redwood continues.

Thank you for visiting Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park.

For more information come to our visitor center.



www.parks.ca.gov

Also, visit:

www.mountainparks.org

Phone: (831) 335-7077

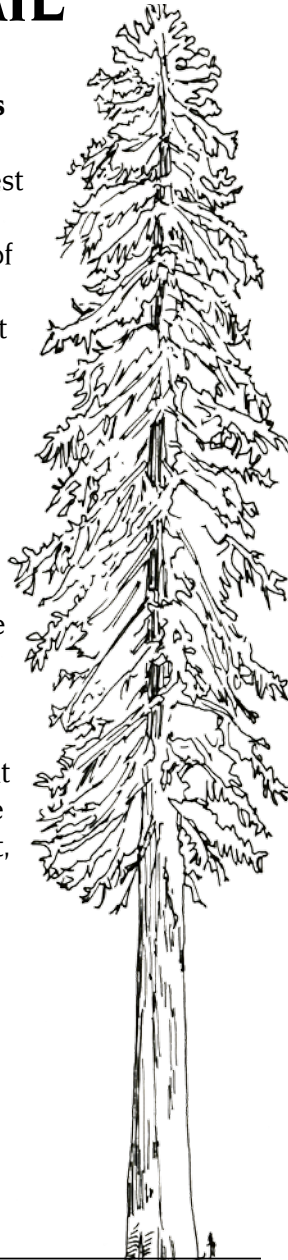


Mountain Parks
FOUNDATION

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Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park **REDWOOD GROVE LOOP TRAIL**

Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park preserves a 40-acre grove of the tallest tree species on earth. This unique ecosystem of ancient Coast Redwoods has captured the interest and dedication of many people throughout time. On this .8 mile (1.2 km) flat loop trail, you will discover the survival adaptations of the Coast Redwood and the inspiration this grove holds. Be prepared to experience the majestic beauty of an old growth coast redwood forest that stands as a tribute to the efforts of stewards—past, present, and future.



In order to continue to protect park resources and to make your visit more enjoyable:

- **Leave only footprints, take only photographs. All park features are protected.**
- **Watch for three-leaved poison oak.**
- **A drinking fountain and a semi-accessible restroom are located mid-trail just past #8.**
- **An ADA accessible restroom is located in the main parking lot of the park.**

1. WELCOME TO THE REDWOOD FOREST
Take a moment to breathe in the fresh forest air, feeling the temperature difference between the parking lot and where you now stand. Look up. You have entered an old-growth Coast Redwood forest. This species of tree can grow beyond 300 ft. (91m) tall and live to the mature age of over 2,200 years. Rainy and foggy coastal conditions ensure there is enough moisture for their survival.

2. BUILT TO SURVIVE
Coast Redwoods have many survival adaptations: thick bark up to 12' in width, roots that extend up to 60-80 ft. (20-27m) from the trunk, and extraordinary height. Tannic acid in the redwood bark gives it the cinnamon-red color and provides defense against insects, fungus and even fire.

3. REDWOODS AND FIRE
More than 150 years have passed since the last wildfire burned through this grove.



Feel the trunk of this tree. The thick, fibrous bark insulates and protects the tree from fires. Although an intense fire may burn through weak areas in the bark and hollow out a tree, if enough living tissue remains unharmed, the redwood will survive and slowly heal its scars. You can find examples of this on the tree in front of you.

4. THE OTHER TALL TREE

This stump is not a Coast Redwood, but rather, a Douglas Fir, and it was severely rotted by fungi and consumed by beetle larvae (neither of which happen often with Coast Redwoods). Due to its instability, the park felled this tree in order to protect hiking trails and visitors. The tree will remain in the forest and play an important role in the cycle of life. Over the course of a few hundred years, this tree will continue to decompose and rot and provide nourishment for other forms of life. Mature Douglas Firs commonly reach heights of 250 ft. (76m) and live around 500 years.

5. REDWOOD FAMILY CIRCLES

Coast Redwoods have the ability to sprout from their bases, producing shoots that will grow into entire trees. You are currently standing in the middle of a redwood family circle, where a larger Coast Redwood once grew, and left behind its offspring. The trees in this circle sprouted from the base of a parent tree and are referred to as "clones" because they are often genetically identical. You can find young redwood sprouts just around the

Continued on next page.

