

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 5, 2013

Contact: Park Information
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REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS

Walk and Bike the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway Saturday September 14th

Pump up your bicycle tires! Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway will be closed to all vehicle traffic—creating a wonderful opportunity for cyclists and walkers—all day Saturday, September 14, 2013. The parkway gates will be closed to all vehicle traffic from 10:00 pm on Friday, September 13th, and reopen at 10:00 pm on Saturday, September 14th. The closure is an early kick-off commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of California State Parks, which will continue through 2014.

Newton B. Drury Parkway, which winds through the heart of old-growth redwood forest in the Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park unit of Redwood National and State Parks, is located off Highway 101 six miles north of Orick, California, or four miles south of Klamath, California.

The parkway is ten miles long and can be accessed from either the north or south gates. However, most walkers and cyclists prefer to explore the lower two-thirds of the road, avoiding the much steeper northern-most section. Visitors wishing to take advantage of this event should park vehicles appropriately: south of the closure, park only in designated spaces parallel to the roadway and adjacent to Elk Prairie in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Please do not block the gate or park in lots reserved for visitor center or backcountry use. In the north, parking is available at the junction of Coastal Drive and Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway. Again: please do not block the gates. All park trails will remain open and Elk Prairie Campground, the Prairie Creek Visitor Center, and Davidson Road out to Gold Bluffs Beach and Fern Canyon will still be accessible by vehicle.

The parkway closure to vehicle traffic offers the public a chance to safely explore the beauty of the redwoods on bike or foot without the worry of competing traffic. Redwood National and State Parks staff especially hope that families will take advantage of the closure and bring their children out for a ride or walk. Walking or biking with children through the wonders of the ancient coast redwood forest not only helps young people get physical exercise and enjoy quality time with family and friends, but also fosters a better understanding and appreciation of the environment in which they live and a burgeoning enthusiasm for exploration.

For more information, maps, and suggestions for exploring your parks, stop by any visitor center: Thomas H. Kuchel Visitor Center off US 101 just south of Orick, Calif.; Prairie Creek Visitor Center at Elk Prairie on the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway; Hiouchi Information Center off US 199 near Hiouchi, Calif.; and, the Crescent City Information Center located at 1111 Second Street in Crescent City, Calif. Information can also be obtained by calling (707) 465-7335 (M-F) or visiting the RNSP website at: www.nps.gov/redw.

1111 Second Street, Crescent City, California 95531

