

## **Trail Closed Ahead May We Suggest a Trail?**

The Main Trail between the Cross Cut and the Pinchot Tree is closed for construction from August 22 to January 31, 2012. The fencing and asphalt trail will be removed and a new boardwalk will be built to improve trail access and safety, an enhanced visitor experience with the woods and greater protection of redwood roots and fragile forest floor. May we suggest the following walks? Be sure to check the program board for times for Tree Talks at Bridge 2.

### **If you have...**

**½ hour, walk to the east side of Bridge 2** and catch a Tree Talk by a Muir Woods interpreter. Head south on the trail between two large redwoods toward the Ocean View trailhead where you can learn why there isn't an ocean view on the Ocean View Trail. You will pass a tree that was split in half and still growing. This trail runs close to Redwood Creek. Look across Redwood Creek and try to find the largest tree in Muir Woods. From the Ocean View Trailhead, you will have to turn around to go back to the Visitor Center or go for a 2 hour walk on the Ocean View Trail (see below). The Main Trail is closed for construction at the Ocean View Trailhead. Distance: ½ mile, 30 minutes round trip.

**½ hour, take the Bridge 3 Loop.** Follow the signs which lead you across Bridge 1 to Bohemian Grove where a giant Buddha once stood. To the right of the popular stand-in tree is Muir Woods' tallest tree. On the way back, catch a Tree Talk at Bridge 2 by a Muir Woods interpreter. Check the program board at the Visitor Center for times. Distance: ½ mile, 30 minutes round trip.

### **Hillside Trail Loop**

**1.5 hours**, take a quiet walk on Muir Woods' earliest nature trail, and experience the view from the canyon wall. Listen for woodpeckers and owls on this walk above Redwood Creek. This trail is important for protecting the natural soundscape of the national park because it is above Cathedral Grove, the Muir Woods' Quiet Zone. You can access the Hillside Trail from Bridges 2 or 4. Distance: 2 miles loop, 1.5 hours.

### **Cathedral Grove Loop**

**1 hour.** The oldest trees in Muir Woods may live here. It is the site where the United Nations first met in 1945. In 2006, the National Park Service designated this grove as a Quiet Zone to promote the protection of Muir Woods' natural soundscape. Distance: 1 mile, 1 hour round trip.

### **Ocean View Trail**

**2 hours**, this scenic, yet steep trail makes its way through quiet stands of redwood, Douglas fir and coast live oak to the top of Redwood Canyon but due to fire suppression this young forest has grown to block ocean views. To return to Muir Woods, take the Lost Trail and Fern Creek Trail back to the Main Trail. Be sure to pick up a \$1 trail map at the Visitor Center or at Bridge 2. Distance: 3 miles, 2 hours round trip.

**More than 2 hours**, purchase a \$1 map at the Visitor Center or Bridge 2 to experience trails outside of the monument such as the Fern Creek, Ben Johnson and Dipsea trails. These trails can be steep with protruding tree roots and uneven surfaces, and many are not suitable for

strollers. **Please stay on the trail for your safety and the protection of the redwood forest.**

See map below. Some helpful tips:

- There is no cell phone coverage in the forest. A pay phone is available at the restrooms by the bus lot. Agree on a common meeting place with your party such as in front of the Visitor Center.
- Check the entrance for today's programs
- Check the website for updates on the trail program, [www.nps.gov/muwo](http://www.nps.gov/muwo)
- Follow us on Twitter, @Muirwoodsnp
- Try a family fun activity. Ask the Visitor Center for a free copy of the Jr. Ranger or Quest programs.

