PARKS AS CLASSROOMS®

Howland Hill Outdoor School

Educators' Guide

REDWOOD NATIONAL & STATE PARKS

January 2009

"The young people of today are the lawmakers, the scientists, the industrialists, the conservationists, the cattlemen, and the lumbermen of tomorrow. It is vitally important that they learn today the values of the national parks, and the principles underlying their preservation. For they will have the say tomorrow as to what becomes of these properties of the people."

Newton Bishop Drury

Secretary, Save-the-Redwoods League 1919-1940
Director, National Park Service, 1940-1951
President, Save-the-Redwoods League, 1971-1978
Chief, California Division of Beaches and Parks 1952-1959

Contents

Page	
5/6	Introduction / How the Outdoor School Came to Be
7/8	Parks' Themes / Outdoor Teaching and Learning
9	Supervision / Discipline Policies
11-12	How Do I Plan This? / Pre- and Post-Visit Activities
13-14	Need Preparation Help? / Check-off List
15-16	Facility Overview / Living in "Off-the-Grid" Land
17	Money Matters
19-22	Use Agreement Forms
23	Rules and Regulations
24	Emergency Procedures and Phone
25	HHOS Student Pledge
26	What Should We Pack?
27	How Do We Get There?
28-29	How Will Our Time Be Spent? (sample schedules)
30	Available Equipment
31-32	Meals and All That! / Chores
33-34	Kitchen Operating Procedures / Guests

APPENDICES

37-38 "Ranger Aide" Parent/Counselor Guide
39-42 Maps
43-44 Bears, Mountain Lions
45 Marbled Murrelet Coloring Sheet
46 Clivus Waste Station
47-48 Coast Redwoods/Save-the-Redwoods League

Introduction

The Howland Hill Outdoor School (HHOS) is a living and learning facility within the boundaries of Redwood National and State Parks. It is a place where students can leave the classroom and explore the natural environment. This guide will sow the seeds for a successful trip to the outdoor school. While at HHOS, students and teachers can gain new experiences in living and working together. Trust and cooperation blossom at the outdoor school and grow further in the classroom, providing productive and satisfying experiences for all involved. It is the parks' education goal **to provide Standards-based educational opportunities for students and teachers in northern California and southern Oregon; to develop intellectual and emotional connections to the natural and cultural resources within the redwood region; and to promote an understanding of park stewardship values, resource management practices, and land management issues.**

Redwood National and State Parks are proud to offer this educational experience to you and your students. It is the parks' overall mission **to preserve, protect, and make available to all people, for their inspiration, enjoyment, and education, the ancient forests, scenic coastlines, prairies and streams, and their associated natural and cultural values, which define this World Heritage Site; and to help people forge emotional, intellectual, and recreational ties to these parks.** Redwood National and State Parks sincerely thank you for providing HHOS staff with the opportunities to introduce and share this common heritage.

Feel free to make this guide a genuine workbook: fill the margins and empty spaces with notes. Also, please let the HHOS Rangers know how this guide worked for you, and how it could be improved.

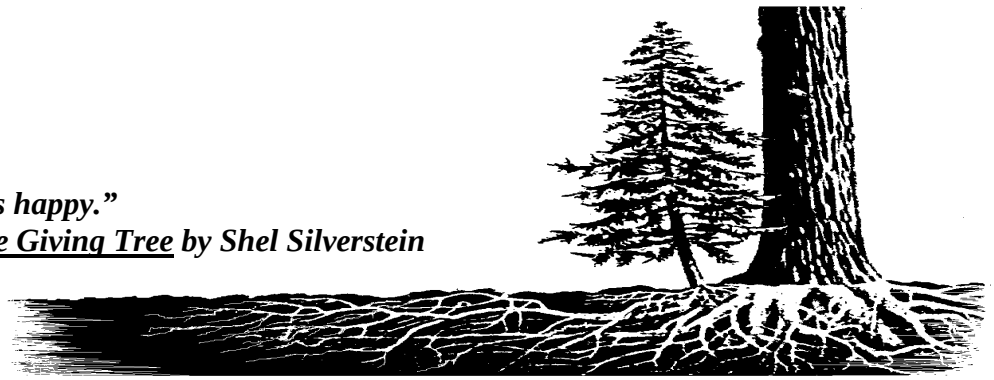
The old Lodge, with new kitchen area in the background

How the Outdoor School Came To Be

Eli and Mary Howland were on route to Oregon from Ohio in September of 1866 when they stopped in Crescent City to await the birth of their sixth child. By the time the child arrived, the Howlands had decided to settle in northern California instead, and bought a ranch not far from Crescent City, in Elk Valley. Today Howland Hill Outdoor School (HHOS) is located on the prominent hill east of Crescent City that still bears the pioneer's name. In 1979, all that existed on the Howland Hill Outdoor School site was a run-down cabin from an early 1900s sheep ranch, surrounded by second-growth redwood forest. Redwood National Park's "environmental living program," the program from which HHOS originated, needed a site in which to grow. Preparation of the Howland Hill site began in February 1979, with the construction of five temporary A-frame sleeping shelters. The National Park Service, California Employment and Training Act (CETA) employees, California Conservation Corps, Youth Conservation Corps, and volunteers funded and executed the project. Since that time, HHOS has gone through quite a metamorphosis! The first water system and kitchen areas were developed, the site was cleared of debris, and sleeping shelters and composting toilets were installed. Even now, facilities continue to be upgraded. In the winter of 2000, we created a new enclosed kitchen, water system, flushing toilets, and an emergency shower! As HHOS evolves into a more efficient outdoor school, the humble beginnings and the cooperation of the educational community that turned a dream into reality will always be remembered. Future developments at HHOS depend on the cooperative effort of teachers, parents, alumni, students, park staff, and other partners working together.

The curriculum for environmental education in the parks has changed throughout the years as well. The first program, in the north area of the parks, focused on the concept of a "living history" program, portraying mountain men at the parks' Nickel Creek campground south of Crescent City. The education program moved to the Howland Hill area in spring of 1978, for a more secluded site. Since the inception of education programming here, it has always been Standards-based, providing teachers and leaders with opportunities for field programs extended from their in-class studies. Most of the participants at HHOS come from Del Norte County, but several hundred students from other areas use the site each year. New programs will continue to sprout at the site, and be constantly reviewed and revised. However, **the basic core of the curriculum for any group using Howland Hill Outdoor School will be stewardship of Redwood National and State Parks: its unique ecosystems and the natural and cultural values associated with its forest, stream, meadow, and seashore habitats.**

"And the tree was happy."
From <u>The Giving Tree</u> by Shel Silverstein



Redwood National & State Parks

Our common mission is to preserve and make available to all people, for their inspiration, enjoyment, and education: the ancient forests, scenic coastlines, prairies, streams, and their associated natural and cultural values, which define this World Heritage Site; and to help people forge emotional, intellectual, and recreational ties to these parks.

Park Appropriate?

Curriculum developed for education programs within Redwood National and State Parks must reflect the parks' primary interpretive themes, listed below. At the same time, programs must meet groups' individual goals as well as National and State Education Standards as appropriate. Imagination and creative planning accomplish these goals.

- The ancient coast redwood ecosystem preserved in Redwood National and State Parks protects some of the world's most majestic forests and is home to a unique community of plants and animals.
- The mosaic of habitats within Redwood National and State Parks, which includes old-growth forest, prairies, oak woodlands, and coastal and near-shore marine environments, are increasingly important refugia for a number of rare and endangered species.
- Steep, highly erodable landscapes, heavy rainfall, powerful rivers, and frequent earthquakes are all related to local geologic forces generated near the junction of the three tectonic plates of the earth's crust that underlie the region.
- The Yurok, Tolowa, Hupa, and Chilula peoples who have lived here for thousands of years, and whose aboriginal lands are now within park boundaries, continue many aspects of their traditional life ways.
- Attracted by the diverse natural resources of the northern California coast, residents developed a number of industries including mining, ranching, fishing, and logging.
- Redwood National and State Parks preserve the living legacy of 19th and 20th century conservation efforts, which set aside diminishing redwood forests, helped spur a worldwide environmental movement, and provide a testing ground for cooperative management and large-scale restoration of severely impacted forest lands.

Outdoor Teaching/Learning in the Parks

Outside of the controlled environment of the classroom, one should always be ready to "plan on the unplanned." Out on the trail, a sudden hummingbird display or startled garter snake can steal the spotlight from any set lesson plan. Rather than an unwelcome disruption, the surprise occurrence becomes a day's most wonderful resource, priming students' curiosity and excitement. We try always to make the most of it by relating it to other observations or to a broader concept.

First and foremost = Protect the habitat
Outdoor education, like any other human activity, has an impact on the environment. We teach students trail courtesy (walking gently, single file), how to live lightly (recycling, attentiveness to littering), and we endeavor to not create excessive "human pollution" (noise). Whenever possible, we teach smaller groups at study sites instead of entire classes at one time, and always encourage awareness to the sensitivity of the natural world.

First and second-most = SAFETY
Safety is essential to the continuation of HHOS programs. Teachers should first be familiar with their school/district's safety policies for field trips. HHOS requires a minimum of one adult counselor/chaperone (other than the teacher) for every 10 students. Overnight groups may need more adults for cabin coverage. All rangers are trained in First Aid and CPR techniques, and activities are readily adjusted to meet safety concerns.

Don't help a good bird go bad!

(see Appendix for marbled murrelet information and printable coloring page)

Supervision and Discipline Policies

Good planning and discipline promote good safety, as well as an equal opportunity for all students to learn in a non-threatening outdoor environment. At Howland Hill Outdoor School, the classroom teacher has the primary responsibility for the discipline of their students. During field studies, the rangers share the responsibility with the teacher and adult chaperones.

Standards

Teachers should review expected behaviors (detailed in the signed Agreement) with their class before arrival. At HHOS, the staff follows the "Three-Strikes" Rules:

1st incident: Student will be given a verbal warning
2nd incident: Student will be given Time Out
3rd incident: Student will asked to leave the activity. The student, teacher, and the ranger if appropriate, will discuss the incident, and review the student's choices and consequences. Ultimately, teachers should have transportation available to return student to the school if necessary.

Demeaning punishment, whether physical or verbal, is <u>never</u> in order.

Grievous or criminal behavior

Behavior that endangers the safety of others, involves the malicious destruction of wildlife, animal homes, park or fellow students' property, or results in intentional bodily injury may result in the responsible student(s) immediately being sent home. Teachers will need transportation plans should such situations arise.

"Ranger Aides"

Parent chaperones/counselors are considered "Ranger Aides" and are an important part of HHOS programs. They are expected to participate in all activities with the students, refrain from personal agendas, and be good role models. On registration, teachers will be given an Orientation Pamphlet to distribute to their adult chaperones, with details on expectations, their responsibilities, facility information, and student behavior/safety concerns. This pamphlet is available in the Appendix, Page 37, or online at http://www.nps.gov/redw/forteachers/howland-hill-outdoor-school.htm.

"How Do I Plan This?"

National and State Education Standards-based environmental education at HHOS is a cooperative effort between the classroom teacher/leader, and trained national and state park rangers. All work together throughout the planning phase and during instruction. A basic logistical plan with appropriate grade-level, Standards-oriented program choices will be offered to teachers/leaders during the initial phase. With the assistance of a ranger, the teachers/leaders will then plan the activities that align most closely with their classroom curriculum. It is a requirement that the HHOS curriculum NOT be an individual, stand-alone program. Rather, teachers should prepare their students in the classroom ahead of the visit, and then follow up their visit with activities that relate directly to the topics covered while in the parks. This procedure is designed to make the visit more meaningful to students. Because of this important educational requirement, HHOS is not available to all groups. Facility use by groups who prefer to do their own stand-alone curriculum-based educational programs (for example, Scout groups) is considered a rental (see Agreement Form on Page 21). Groups desiring facilities for personal events such as weddings, reunions, birthdays, and/or other personal or recreation-based activities will need to seek an alternative facility.

It is the responsibility of the teacher/leader to oversee all phases of the visit. Responsibilities include: arranging for and visiting the site prior to the scheduled use; doing preliminary and follow-up work in the classroom; supervising the parents, cooks, counselors, and students; providing for the safety, instruction, and discipline of students; planning for and implementing meals and educational activities; overseeing facility clean-up before leaving; and keeping the park rangers notified of any problems, hazards, or questions that may arise during their stay.

The reservation year for HHOS is divided into Fall and Spring. "Fall" is mid-September to the end of October. "Spring" is mid-April through the end of May prior to Memorial Day. **Reservations for the upcoming school year (September-May) are accepted beginning May 1st**, by phone (see Page 13) on a first-come/first-serve basis until all available dates are reserved. A minimum lead-time of one month prior to your visit is needed for reservations! Site tours for orientation and planning purposes are recommended and always available; just call 707-465-7391 to set one up.

In order to allow the maximum number of students an opportunity to experience HHOS in any given school year, groups/classes are limited to one visit (1-3 days) per school year.

Restrooms, built in 2000

Pre- and Post-Visit Activities

The success of your students' total experience at HHOS will rely a great deal on the preliminary and follow-up activities you implement in your classroom.

Students who have had a preliminary introduction to the site and rules, and introductory activities on the concepts and themes they will explore in the parks, will have an enhanced understanding of the HHOS experience. It is also important for the students to reflect on their visit by engaging in activities that reinforce concepts and themes studied at the Outdoor School. Students should be encouraged to communicate concepts learned by writing, acting, singing, drawing, or speaking. Some of the programs used at the outdoor school suggest follow-up activities and provide journals for the students. These can be additions to your school's curriculum, and can help you meet your assessment goals.

…and Follow-Up Evaluations

Following your visit, please complete the Program/Facility evaluation form you received from the ranger. Your input is invaluable to the continued growth and improvement of Howland Hill Outdoor School. We take these evaluations very seriously, and have implemented many changes to HHOS that teachers have suggested on past evaluations. For example, we would not have such a nice kitchen and restrooms if not from your input. HHOS's future is YOU!

Thank you for your continued support!

"We can only give our children two gifts…
One is roots, and the other is wings."

Need Preparation Help?

The Campfire Ring

On the next page you will find a teacher's check-off list. The list might seem long and complicated, and may be challenging to do while continuing your regular program of instruction. To make it easier and more fun, we recommend integrating it into your in-class curriculum as a preliminary program. Introduce the themes or topics of what will be explored further during your visit, and involve the students in the planning process wherever possible. The better you plan your visit, the more you and your students will learn and benefit from your visit to Redwood National and State Parks' Howland Hill Outdoor School.

Remember that there are resource people at the park to help you!

To reach the parks' Education Specialist (for reservations and all park curriculum education program-related questions)

call (707) 465-7391 or email lynda_mealue@nps.gov

To reach Howland Hill's Education Technician & Site Coordinator (for facility and specific group programming questions)

call (707) 465-7396 or email susan_davis@nps.gov

Redwood National and State Parks' website is www.nps.gov/redw

Check-off List

1. ❑ Make your reservations as early as possible after May 1st for the upcoming school year by calling the Education Specialist at 707-465-7391. You will be sent your Use Agreement (see following pages) and bill for applicable fees one month before your visit, with all fees due two weeks prior to your visit.

2. ❑ Begin your financial and meal planning (see page 17).

3. ❑ If this is your first use of HHOS, we strongly recommended that teachers and leaders visit the site prior to use.

4. ❑ At least two weeks prior to the visit, call or meet with the HHOS lead ranger (if they haven't called you first!). Review the proposed daily schedule/lesson plan) of both the ranger-led and your independent activities (campfires, chores, free time, meal prep, etc.) and arrange for any needed site tours.

5. ❑ Make transportation arrangements. This includes the bus, separate vehicles for gear, etc. **Arrangements must be made with the HHOS lead ranger prior to bringing a large bus past the parking lot;** plan on transporting camping gear via private vehicles or in a single trailer. Please keep private vehicles to a minimum – on-site parking space is limited.

6. ❑ **Check with any school personnel who need to know that you are going** (For example: your Grant Administrator, Principal, etc.)

7. ❑Arrange for payment of the appropriate **use fee** (see reverse side of appropriate Use Agreement, Page 19 or 21). Your Invoice will be provided with the original Use Agreement .

8. ❑ Arrange for qualified supervision: **one responsible group leader/counselor for every ten students**. This number can include the teacher or leader, but not park personnel. At least one group leader must be with each group of students at all times. For overnights: You will also need one parent to be Kitchen Coordinator/Cook for the entire stay.

9. ❑ Make sure each student has a signed parental permission slip and a sturdy name tag.

10. ❑ Make lists of group happenings: roll call (many groups assign each child a number), cabin assignments, study groups, and chores

11. ❑ Prepare your group in class: do preliminary activities, review rules and what to bring, **make name tags**, show pictures from your trip last year, visit the parks' web site, etc.

12. ❑ Bring your class or group to HHOS and implement your program! ☺

13. ❑ **Back at school**: Fill out the evaluation (if you have not already) and mail it in, and carry out follow-up activities supporting your park adventure.

Facilities Overview

We highly recommend a visit to HHOS prior to your visit, to orient you to the facility, to answer any questions you might have regarding logistics or location, as well as to answer questions your parents or students might have. Here are brief overviews of the site areas you may want to know more about if an actual site visit is not possible:

COOKING and EATING

The HHOS kitchen is fully compliant with state and federal health and safety regulations, with stainless steel food prep areas, a 3-sink washing station, small refrigerator, and 6-burner stove. There is no oven. An outdoor propane grill provides additional options. (See kitchen interior photo and in-depth information on page 29). The covered outdoor dining area tends to become the School's 'social center,' as well as doubling as a classroom. It can be enclosed and heated in inclement weather. (See dining area photo on Page 17.)

SLEEPING

Four spacious student sleeping cabins: Tan Oak, Alder, Redwood, and Hemlock, nestle in deep-shaded forest on top of Howland Hill. Each shelter can accommodate 10-12 students and all their Stuff. Spruce Cabin is also available as a wheelchair-accessible sleeping shelter, or it can be utilized by the group's cook or teacher. Cabin windows are unscreened and open directly onto the forest, but are high enough off the ground to provide protection from animal intruders except those that can fly. Foam sleeping pads are provided. Cabins are not heated! (See exterior cabin photo on Page 26, and area maps on Pages 41/42.)

STUDYING

Since HHOS is after all an <u>outdoor</u> school, all classes are conducted out-of-doors. However, inclement weather does force groups inside at times. Parts of the old Lodge (see exterior photo on Page 5) are all that remain from the days when Howland Hill was crowned by open meadow and grazed by sheep, and for many years this rustic building served as a classroom. However, in 2008 Fir Cabin was completely renovated and now serves as a Meeting Room, with propane lights and heat, and as a classroom when the weather makes indoor studies necessary.

"RESTING"

Two restroom buildings provide full ADA-compliant toilet facilities. One building contains four individual units with flush toilets and hand-washing sinks; one unit also houses an emergency shower. The second building is an environmental waste station containing two composting toilets using no water. See "The Clivus Toilet" page in the Appendix for more information.

Living in "Off-the-Grid" Land

Howland Hill Outdoor School is proudly "off the grid," in that the facility is not connected to public utilities, other than delivered propane. Keep this in mind when you are planning!

Water – All water is pumped directly out of the ground to the top of the hill and then gravity fed into the hot water heater, all faucets, and toilets. The water is fully potable, but should be conscientiously conserved. Kitchen sinks need only be filled half-way, and faucets should not just run during food prep. Because of the low water pressure, it is critical that toilets not be burdened with excessive paper.

Heat – All campfire wood is provided; there should be NO cutting or collecting of forest wood. An ax is available for splitting wood into smaller pieces; groups may want to bring their own kindling and paper to be sure it is dry for easier fire starting. Under no circumstances will students be permitted to split wood!

A large propane space heater is available for use in the dining area. All group leaders will receive full instructions for safe heater operation from the ranger before use. No students will be permitted to operate heaters, and students will be instructed on heater safety before heater use.

Gas – All kitchen lights, the refrigerator, the stove, and the water heater, as well as Fir Meeting Room heat and lights are propane-powered. Group leaders will receive instructions on proper and safe operation of the stove and lights as part of their orientation.

- Lights: the mantles are <u>extremely</u> fragile (and expensive). <u>The filaments should</u> <u>never be touched</u>. Only the site ranger will replace them when needed.
- Stove: The ranger will turn on the pilot lights for each group use, and turn them off after the group leaves; no one other than the Ranger should adjust the stove's main gas valve.
- Water heater and refrigerator: These are pre-set and should not be adjusted.

Telephones (or lack thereof) - Cellular phones have particular challenges in the forest, but they do work. HHOS' best transmission spots are the gravel area in front of the kitchen (on the "phone rock") and on the road up from Fir Meeting Room.

Money Matter$

Money and meals both require good planning when considering your trip to Howland Hill Outdoor School. If you plan wisely, expenses can be kept to a minimum.

Your costs will include:

- **Use Fee, paid at least two weeks ahead of time**
- **Transportation Expenses**
- **Food Costs**

1. **The Use Fee** is necessary to defray the operation and maintenance costs of HHOS. Each group will be billed at least one month prior to scheduled date at the site. The fee will be due two weeks prior to arrival at the site. ***(Please see the Use Agreements on Pages 20 or 22 for applicable fees and policies.)***

2. **Transportation** charges for buses vary. Some grants for transportation may be available through your school district or through the Save-the-Redwoods League. Contact the League through their website: www.savetheredwoods.org, and link to their education page. Applications for the school year beginning in September are usually due in late June of that year. Another funding source may be found through the California Regional Environmental Community (CREEC), www.creec.org.Some groups rely solely on personal vehicles (from parents, etc.) for transportation. Please keep the numbers of vehicles to a minimum, and make sure all drivers understand how to get to the HHOS, how to shut the gate, and where to park (Page 27 and Pages 39 and 41).

3. **Food** costs can average upwards of $5.00 per person per day. Some groups have defrayed the cost by asking for money from parents to buy breakfast, lunch, and dinner items, by requesting school lunch support, by grants, and even by asking grocery stores for donations. See Page 31 for suggestions for meal planning.

Kitchen and covered eating/classroom area

Office Use:

Fee:
_____

USE AGREEMENT

Standards-Based Programs 2009

HOWLAND HILL OUTDOOR SCHOOL

Redwood National and State Parks

Please read all information thoroughly, fill in all open blanks, sign, make a copy for your records, and return this original with your fee payment AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to the address listed**, no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled date of your visit**.

Date(s) of visit:_____
Name(s) of teacher/leaders: _____
Organization/Group: _____ Phone: _____
Mailing Address: _____
E-Mail Address: _____
Students (45 max): ___ Grade Level(s): ___ **# of adults:** ____
Student Transportation: bus_____ / # of cars:_____

*****

Following is the basic agreement for the use of the Howland Hill Outdoor School (HHOS), a facility for the implementation of Standards-based educational programs. **We reserve the right to cancel, at any time, groups failing to comply with established policies and regulations.**

- This signed Agreement, payment of applicable fees, and specific program arrangements are due two weeks prior to your visit unless other arrangements have been made.

- The group leader/teacher designated above must be on-site with and responsible for the actions of the group at all times. If a group leader must leave the group, a substitute leader must be assigned. The group leader agrees to support HHOS staff in maintaining school discipline standards:
  1st incident: student will given a verbal warning
  2nd incident: student will given Time Out or placed with adult leader
  3rd incident: student will be removed from the activity; after discussion with the teacher a decision will be made whether the student should be taken back to school.

- A ratio of one qualified leader/adult to every 10 students will be maintained. Students will not be allowed to wander off by themselves at any time. Parents and other aides are expected to assist with the group's educational experience; the site ranger will provide the teacher with an parent orientation flyer for distribution. Parents should leave siblings with other caregivers at home.

- The gate on Howland Hill Road must be **CLOSED** at all times during your visit, and locked overnight. If you are over-nighting, two sets of keys will be issued to the group leader at check-in.

- Each group will have one vehicle at the site at all times for emergency use. No more than **three vehicles** are allowed at the school site. Excess vehicles must be parked in the main lot ¼ mile from the site. Please try to transport all gear in one vehicle**.** Any busses or extra vehicles past the parking lot must have prior permission.

- National and State Parks regulations will be followed to help protect and preserve the natural environment. Plant gathering or feeding of wildlife is not allowed at any time. Personal pets are not allowed on site. Quiet time is enforced park-wide 10:00 P.M. to 6:00 A.M. **To promote a healthy and positive outdoor experience, "scary stories" are not allowed at HHOS**.

- Any and all accidents or unusual happenings will be reported to a ranger as soon as possible: **Northern Communications** (NORCOM, dispatcher for the parks): **916-358-1300**

[**HHOS Use Agreement (continued):**

- No combustible or flammable items are allowed in the cabins; this includes matches, candles, lanterns, or anything else that uses a flame or fire.

- Kitchen use will be according to the Standard Operating Procedures set forth in the Educators' Guide, and posted in the kitchen, in compliance with State and National Health Codes.

To avoid confrontations with wild animals, please:

* Do not over-fill the bear-proof garbage cans. The cans must close completely.
* If the cans are full, and garbage pick-up doesn't arrive before you leave the site, all garbage beyond the capacity of the cans, and any garbage considered by bears to be extra yummy (like salmon parts, etc.), must be taken with your group when you leave.
* All food or other attractants must be properly stored in the kitchen or in vehicles; food is not allowed in the cabins (water bottles are OK).
* All doors in camp buildings must be kept closed at all times.

- **Pre-cycle, reduce, re-use, and recycle!** HHOS provides washable dishes, cups, and utensils for groups to use and wash while on site. Please do not bring single-use paper or Styrofoam cups, plastic plates or utensils. Provide one name-labeled water bottle per person; bottles can be refilled onsite as needed.

- For overnight groups, check-out time is no later than 3:30 p.m., and only after the site ranger has conducted a check-out inspection of facilities. Groups will be responsible for the safe return of all Park property. Return keys and loaned materials to the ranger during checkout.

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HHOS Standards-Based program Fees

1-35 students…… $50.00 per day
36-45 students……. $100.00 per day.

Payment is due two weeks prior to your visit, unless other arrangements made with the Education Specialist. **Refund Policy:** You are entitled to 100% refund of your paid fee if you cancel two weeks prior to your visit, or if the park cancels for any reason. If you need to cancel within two weeks of your visit, please submit your refund request in writing for a 50% refund of your paid fee.

***Mail payment (**checks payable to RPA (Redwood Park Association) **and this signed reservation form to**
Redwood National and State Parks - HHOS
ATTN: Kat Eisenman
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

PLEASE SIGN AND DATE:

I / we have received on-site orientation to HHOS, or in lieu of on-site orientation have read the most current version of the HHOS Educator's Guide, either online at http://www.nps.gov/redw/forteachers/howland-hill-outdoor-school.htm or a provided hard copy.

I / we have also fully read this Agreement, understand what is required to use HHOS, and agree to be responsible for the actions of our group while on site. I / we understand that failure to comply with the above Use Agreement can affect my/our groups' future use of the facility.

Signature(s) of leader(s): **Date:** _____

X_____ **X** _____

Office Use:

Fee:
_____

Rental Agreement 2009
HOWLAND HILL OUTDOOR SCHOOL
Redwood National and State Parks

Thank you for requesting use of Howland Hill Outdoor School for your group's visit to Redwood National and State Parks. Please read all information thoroughly, fill in all open blanks, sign, make a copy for your records, and return this "pink sheet" original with your fee payment AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to the address listed**,** and **no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled date of your visit**. The site ranger will contact you to arrange a site visit to orient you to the facility, review details of your visit and answer any questions.

Date(s) of visit:_____
Organization/Group: _____ Phone: _____
Name(s) of teacher/leaders: _____
Mailing Address: _____
E-Mail Address: _____
Students (45 max): ___ Grade Level(s): ___ **# of adults:** ____
Student Transportation: bus ___ / # of cars:_____

*****

The following is the basic agreement for the use of the Howland Hill Outdoor School (HHOS), a facility for the implementation of park resource-related educational programs. **We reserve the right to cancel, at any time, groups failing to comply with established policies and regulations.**

- This signed Agreement and payment of applicable fees are due no later than two weeks prior to your visit unless prior arrangements have been made.

- The group leader/teacher must be on site with and responsible for the entire group at all times. If a group leader must leave the group, a substitute leader must be provided.

- A ratio of one qualified leader/adult to every 10 students must be maintained at all times. Students will not be allowed to wander off by themselves at any time

- The gate on Howland Hill Road must be **CLOSED** and locked at all times during your visit. If you are over-nighting, two sets of keys will be issued to the group leader.

- Each group should plan to have one vehicle at the site at all times for emergency use. No more than **three vehicles** are allowed at the school site. Excess vehicles must be parked in the main lot ¼ mile from the site. Please try to transport all gear in one vehicle**.** Any busses or extra vehicles past the parking lot must have prior permission.

- Parents and other counselors will be expected to provide positive assistance to the group's educational experience, and to abide by the same rules and regulations as students.

- National and State Parks regulations will be followed to help protect and preserve the natural environment. Plant gathering or feeding of wildlife is not allowed at any time. Personal pets are not permitted on site. Quiet time is enforced park-wide 10:00 P.M. to 6:00 A.M. **To promote a healthy and positive outdoor experience, "scary stories" are not allowed at HHOS**.

- Any and all accidents or unusual happenings will be reported to a ranger as soon as possible: **Northern Communications** (NORCOM, dispatcher for the parks): **916-358-1300**

[**HHOS Use Agreement (continued):**

- Provided cabins must be used for sleeping shelters; if extra space is needed, tents may be set up only with prior permission, and only in designated areas.

- No combustible or flammable items are allowed in the cabins; this includes matches, candles, lanterns, or anything else that uses a flame or fire.

- Kitchen use will be according to the Standard Operating Procedures as provided on the attached sheet, in compliance with State Health Codes

To avoid confrontations with wild animals, please:

* Do not over-fill the bear-proof garbage cans. They must close completely.
* If garbage pick-up doesn't arrive before you leave the site, all garbage beyond the capacity of the bear-proof garbage cans, or any garbage that is extra yummy to bears (like salmon parts, etc.), must be taken with your group when you leave.
* All food or other attractants must be properly stored in the kitchen or in vehicles; food is not allowed in the cabins (water bottles are OK).
* All doors in camp buildings must be kept closed at all times.

- Pre-cycle, reduce, re-use, and recycle! The parks are a great place to learn this by experience. HHOS provides washable dishes, cups, and utensils for your group to use and wash while on site. Please do not bring single-use paper or Styrofoam cups, plates, forks, etc. Provide one name-labeled water bottle per person; bottles can be refilled onsite as needed.

- For overnight groups, check-out time for is no later than 3:30 p.m., and only after the site Ranger has conducted a check-out inspection of facilities. Your group will be responsible for the safe return of all Park property. Return keys and other Park property to the ranger during your checkout.

****

HHOS Rental Fees

1-30 people……. $100.00 per day
30-45 people…….. $200.00 per day.

Payment is due two weeks prior to your visit, unless other arrangements made with the Education Specialist

***Mail payment (**checks payable to RPA (Redwood Park Association) **and this reservation form to**

Redwood National and State Parks / HHOS
c/o Kat Eisenman
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

Refund Policy: You are entitled to 100% refund of your paid fee if you cancel two weeks prior to your visit, or if the park cancels for any reason. If you need to cancel within two weeks of your visit, please submit your refund request in writing for a 50% refund of your paid fee.

I have read this agreement and understand what is required to use HHOS. Failure to comply with the above standard operating procedures may affect my groups' future use of the facility.

Signature(s) of leader(s): **Date:** _____

X_____ **X** _____

Rules and Regulations

Use of Park Facilities:

HHOS is for educational purposes only; family reunions, retreats, etc. must seek another facility. The land and the buildings at the site are the property of the U.S. Government and the National Park Service. Groups using the site must follow both National Park Service and site regulations, for the safety and benefit of everyone as well as for the environment. Please review the rules on this page, on the reservation form, and in the parent orientation brochure (provided by the site ranger) with your leaders and students before arriving at the school.

* No pets are allowed on the site. The *only* exception is an officially-trained assist animal; notify the Rangers prior to your visit if this will be the case

* Fires are permitted in designated areas only. No gathering of forest wood for fires; firewood is provided. Only adults may use axes, splitting mauls, or matches.

* No destruction or defacing of buildings or other park property is permitted.

* All plants, animals, geological, archaeological objects found within the parks are under protection of the National Park Service and the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

* No firearms, traps, bows, or other weapons are allowed in the parks.

* All students must be with a partner and/or a qualified group leader at all times.

* Shoes must be worn at all times. (Cultural dance demonstrations excepted.)

* Quiet hours will be maintained from 10:00 P.M. until 6:00 A.M.

* **Howland Hill Outdoor School policy dictates that there be NO telling of scary stories at bedtime**. We want students to view the natural world as positive, nonfearful place. For some students this is a new experience, and this may be their first time away from home. Stories that can frighten students can jeopardize the trust they place on us as guiding adults. Please ensure everyone in your care feels at ease; help them have a pleasant outing.

* The facility gate on Howland Hill Road must remain closed at all times and <u>locked at night</u>.

* Smoking is allowed <u>only</u> in the fire pit area or in the smoker's personal vehicle, and **NEVER** in the presence of students.

* Everyone must use the toilet facilities available while in camp. Proper and safe field sanitation will be taught and used when the group is too far away from camp. When this is necessary, each child will have a partner, who will stand guard for wildlife (and other students!)

* Trailers are permitted only with prior permission from the Education Specialist.

* **PLEASE pre-cycle, reduce, reuse, and recycle!** The parks are a great place to learn recycling by experience. HHOS provides washable dishes, cups, and utensils for your group to use and wash while on site (<u>do not bring disposable cups, plates, forks etc</u>.).

Emergency Procedures for
N41°45.266' W124°07.780'

If needed, HHOS will loan group leaders a cellular phone, for emergency use only .

1. For a **Law Enforcement Ranger, call <u>Northern Communications</u> dispatcher: 1-916-358-1300.** For any life-threatening emergency, call 9-1-1 directly

2. All groups must have one vehicle at the site for emergency transportation.

3. Take a gate key with you if you are leaving temporarily — the gate may be locked when you return and it's a long walk up the hill.

4. Notify the Education Specialist as soon as possible of **any** incident **(465-7391).**

*** Note**: Any vehicle blocking the entrance gate or the road between the school and Howland Hill Road can and will be towed away at the owner's expense.

EMERGENCY DIRECTIONS

*** <u>Sutter Coast Hospital</u>:** approximately 5 miles (15 min.) from HHOS.

- From gate, turn **left** onto Howland Hill Road,
- At the store/stop sign, turn **left** onto Elk Valley Road,
- At the traffic signal, turn **right** onto Highway 101 and proceed through town (three lights),
- Veer **right** onto Parkway Drive (follow the hospital signs),
- Past the Highway Patrol office, turn **left** onto Washington Boulevard. The hospital is ½ mile on the right, past Wal-Mart and Ace Hardware.

*** <u>Pay phone</u>:** approximately one mile from the gate on Howland Hill Road. From gate, turn **left** onto Howland Hill Road. Proceed down the hill to the phone by the front door of the Elk Valley Casino.

If there is an emergency of any kind, all students and adults not directly involved should proceed to the kitchen area.
If the accident is in the kitchen, students should assemble at the campfire ring.
Sit and wait quietly for further information or instructions from teacher or ranger.

The Howland Hill Outdoor School Pledge

When I am in the parks,
I will do no physical harm
to any living or nonliving thing.
This includes all the plants, animals,
buildings, trails,
and people.

I will gladly do all my assignments
to the best of my ability.

I will keep our cabin clean,
And respect the privacy of others.

I will do my part to make our outing
a safe and happy one.

Name:_____

"What Should We Pack?"

Keep these things in mind when packing:

- Remember there is no electricity at HHOS!
- **Please leave at home**: all personal electronic entertainment devices, student cell phones, toys, siblings, propane hair dryers, or any other item(s) not regularly allowed in a school setting, or that would otherwise be a distraction in a classroom.
- Food or snacks are not allowed in sleeping cabins (food attracts critters!).
- All personal medicines should be given to the group leader.
- Parents should notify teachers if they are going to visit the camp during their child's visit to HHOS, and obtain from the teacher a copy of the "Park Aide" brochure detailing parent/counselor responsibilities.

For a Day Visit

____ Layered clothing; long pants; T-shirt; jacket; socks; closed-toed, sturdy walking shoes; a change of clothes if getting wet is a possibility

____ warm hat and gloves

____ individual refillable water bottle

____ personal day pack

____ rain gear, or a large plastic bag

____ Snack, lunch (if requested by teacher)

For an Overnight Visit:

(please label everything!)

Bedding: *Thin foam pad is provided*

____ warm sleeping bag, or very warm bedroll, pillow

Clothing: *Layered clothing is best!*

____ warm hat (to keep in body heat)
____ 2 sets of underclothes (wear one)
____ 2 pairs of socks (or more)
____ 2 shirts
____ 2 pairs of long pants
____ warm jacket or coat
____ rain gear (it can rain anytime)
____ closed toed shoes
____ pajamas
____ sweater or sweat shirt
____ gloves (they do make a difference)

(all in one large plastic bag or duffel)

Food:

____ Lunch (if requested by teacher)
____ non-crumbly snacks

Luggage:

____ backpack, stuff sack, big plastic bag, or suitcase
____ daypack with small water bottle that doesn't leak

Toilet Articles: *in zip-lock bag or pouch.*

____ comb or brush
____ hand towel
____ toothbrush/paste

Extras:

____ flashlight and batteries
____ camera
____ plastic bag for emergency raincoat

____ **A positive attitude!!**
(This is a requirement; don't leave home without it!)

Redwood Cabin, one of the five sleeping shelters

"How Do We Get There?"

Visitors searching for the Howland Hill Outdoor School should look in the Milky Way Galaxy for planet Earth, the North American continent, the United States of America, state of California, Redwood National and State Parks, and Crescent City. For the easiest automobile route, south of Crescent City turn off Highway 101 onto Elk Valley Road, and from there onto Howland Hill Road. The white access gate to HHOS will be 2.5 miles from the Elk Valley Rd./Howland Hill Rd. intersection, about .25 mile beyond the paved portion of Howland Hill Rd, on the right just as you reach the summit. **The gate is normally locked; on the day you arrive, a ranger will make sure it is *unlocked* (but closed). Lift the pin through the gate tongue that is holding it closed, open the gate, drive in, CLOSE THE GATE, and replace the pin.** Be sure to familiarize yourself and your volunteer help with the area maps (see Appendix).

***Make sure that the gate is not left open at any time during your stay!** Also, the gate MUST be locked at night. If you are staying overnight, a ranger will issue the group leader a key so that the gate can be unlocked in case of an emergency. Issued keys will also unlock the lodge, maintenance closet, and kitchen. Please leave the cabins unlocked whenever you leave the site.

The main parking lot is about ¾ mile from the gate off Howland Hill Road. You will see a school sign and a toilet on your right (see below). Parking is limited to this small area, ¼ mile from the outdoor school. A ranger will assist with parking arrangements when you arrive. All students and most adults will hike in to the school site from here with the ranger.

In order to keep the outdoor school as uncluttered and natural as possible for the enjoyment of the students, only three vehicles from your group may park in camp. Other vehicles may be driven in to the school to unload, but they must be returned to the parking lot. If there are too many vehicles at the site or blocking access, you will be asked to move them; otherwise, they will be towed away at the owner's expense. Please make sure all drivers know this! Dealing with parking issues greatly affects teaching time.

Buses are not allowed past the parking lot except with prior permission from the Education Specialist. If arriving by bus, school groups should bring a separate vehicle or vehicle with trailer for transporting gear from the parking lot to the site and for emergency use.

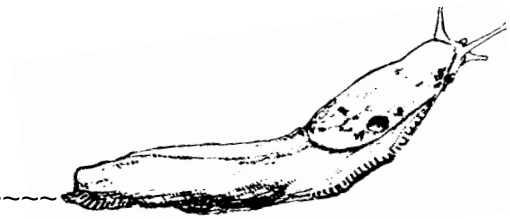
The composting toilet in parking lot

"How Will Our Time Be Spent?"

The following are SAMPLES of program scheduling. Standards-based, grade-specific, programs are developed in conjunction with individual teacher needs/desires and so do not adhere to any "typical" schedule!

***A sample* day-trip schedule**

Time	
9:00 A.M.	Arrival, meet rangers in parking lot, hike into camp
10:30-11:30(12:00)	Study stations (small-group rotations through 2, 30- or 2, 45-minute programs
12:00 P.M.	Lunch
12:30-1:30 P.M.	Whole-group activity
1:30 P.M.	Busses usually depart, depending on grade



If at all possible, your group should try to spend at least one night. There is a magic in those hours spent relaxing around the campfire, gazing at the stars, or walking silently through the woods, with a value that is priceless.

A simple, *sample*, single-overnight schedule:

Time	Day One	Day Two
8:00 A.M.		Breakfast Chores Clean-up/packing
9:00 A.M.	Arrival, meet rangers in parking lot, gear is transported into camp, students hike in	Rangers arrive, flag salute, night/day review
9:30 A.M.	Facility orientation, unpack	Group activity
10:30 A.M.	Journaling activity Hike prep	Study stations, Station 1 (45 minutes)
11:00 A.M.	Hike to Mill Creek On-trail activities Lunch at creek Stream studies	
11:30 A.M.		Lunch
12:00 P.M.		Stations, (rotation 2)
1:00 P.M.		Journaling / wrap-up
1:30 P.M.		Conclusion / bus away
2:00 P.M.		
3:30 P.M.	Back in camp, snack (Rangers leave)	
{5:00 P.M.}	**Dinner prep** **Dinner** **Clean-up**	
{7:00 P.M.} **(dark-ish)**	**Campfire** **Night hike?**	
10:00 P.M.	**All lights out!**	

***{Teacher is responsible for all late afternoon, evening, and morning activities}

Doesn't time fly when you are having fun?

Available Equipment

To reduce vandalism and theft at HHOS, nothing of value is stored on-site. All materials are provided specifically for each group, according to their planned curriculum**.** Supplies such as scissors, tape, crayons, glue, pencils, paper, etc. are provided to every group, and stored in Fir Meeting Room

<u>If requested at least two weeks in advance</u>, other items such as stream study equipment, tidepool guides, compasses, binoculars, hand lenses, books, rubber track molds, dissecting microscopes, and puppets are available for loan. All park property items will be returned to the ranger on duty the last day of the stay. Groups will be financially responsible for any equipment that is lost or damaged while in their care.

Mill Creek trailhead into ancient redwood forest off Howland Hill Road

Meals and all that!

Precycle, reduce, reuse, and recycle whenever possible!

The parks are a great place to learn recycling by experience. HHOS provides washable dishes, cups, and utensils for your group to use and wash while on site. Do not bring single-use paper plates, Styrofoam cups, plastic utensils etc. Also, **please provide one name-labeled water bottle per student**; they can refill it onsite.

Food, Glorious Food!

HHOS follows the same food practices as the public school systems; check your local policies if you have any questions. **Health regulations do not allow food to be prepared at home and reheated at HHOS, and no leftovers may be served**.

Breakfast: Cereal, hot or cold, is easiest. Adventurous groups could do pancakes…

Lunch: On Day One most groups bring their own pre-packed lunch from home or school, well-labeled, and packed separately for easy distribution. Day Two lunches are best made at HHOS that morning, or ordered/picked up from a commercial kitchen.

Snack: (if needed) It is best if the teacher provide the same snack to all, preferably something non-crumbly if for a trail snack (string cheese for example).

Dinner: Limited only to your oven-less imagination and effort! Spaghetti is always popular, as are make-it-yourself burritos. Be creative! Well-fed students learn better.

EXTRAS YOU SHOULD BRING

* Dish drying towels
* Coolers with your food ice-packed in them (we have limited refrigerator space)
* Wooden matches and/or a long-neck lighter (we have them, but a spare is good)
* **Dry newspaper (and kindling** if you don't want to split it here) for campfire starting
* Extra hot pads/pot holders (we have some, but they tend to wander away)
* "Specialty" cookware? (See photo below: we have most of what you would need. Ask if you need something in particular.) Remember: no electricity!
* Roasting sticks or forks if needed for marshmallows, to be taken home when you leave (We cannot keep used ones, and you cannot cut your own)
* Coffee (Some people REALLY need this in the morning!)

Kitchen interior

Chores

When planning your outing, divide the class into groups for the various activities, including the different camp chores. By designating groups in advance, you will ensure that all chores are assigned and carried out properly. Depending upon your group size, you may want to divide the chores even more specifically, but here are the general categories:

Dinner Prep Student may set tables, set up food and drinks, help with preliminary clean up.
No student is allowed in the kitchen to prep, cook or serve!

Fire Crew Gather firewood from woodshed, set up campfire, and stockpile wood.
Students are not allowed to use axes or matches/lighters.

Dinner Clean up Scrape off all food scraps before rinsing, washing, rinsing, and sanitizing dishes. Follow directions posted above sinks. Let dishes air dry, put away food, clean up ground around kitchen and eating area, sweep porch. Use designated tools (**red-topped handles**) to sweep and mop inside of kitchen, and wash all surfaces with soap and water. Don't forget the sinks outside. Take garbage to the cans. Make sure propane lights are completely off when you leave.

Breakfast Prep See dinner prep above.

Breakfast Fire (if needed because of weather etc.) Teacher or other adult can start a warming fire in the campfire area, or start heater in eating area.

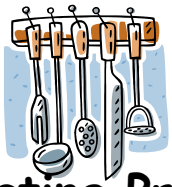
B'fast Clean-up See dinner clean up above.

Lodge Clean-up Pick up litter, pack up and put away all class supplies, clean off tables, stack chairs, replenish wood box, sweep floors and porch.

Grounds Pick up litter and put it in bear-proof garbage cans. Use can numbered "1" first, then "2", etc. Do not over load the cans! (See Appendix, Page 43, for bear information, or the Reservation Forms, Ppages 22/22). Put clean glass, plastics (#1 and #2), clean steel, and clean aluminum into the recycle cans. Make sure all fires are out!

Toilet Clean-up Pick up trash and empty cans into to the bear-proof trash cans. Use designated tools (**yellow-topped handles**) to sweep and mop inside floors and exterior cement pad. Wipe sinks. Replenish plastic bags in cans, and toilet paper if needed.

Cabin Clean-up Pack all personal belongings, load them into gear vehicle/trailer. Pick up all litter in and outside. Stack sleeping pads on Lodge porch, sweep sleeping platforms, floor, and porch (put all sweepings in a dustpan; take to the bear-proof trash cans). Close doors and windows. Report any damage to the ranger on site. If the last group has left anything, please give it to the ranger.



Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the HHOS Kitchen

It is the goal of this school to provide you with the safest kitchen possible. The regulations below are based on both the National and California State Health Standards; all kitchen users must follow these procedures, or they will be asked to leave.

- One person from each group must be assigned to lead the kitchen crews. Please let the ranger know what you are planning to cook for meals
- No children are allowed in the kitchen to prepare meals.
- All who enter the kitchen must wash their hands first at the hand-washing sink. If you touch your face at any time (even if it is just to scratch), wash your hands again.
- Hair must be held back.
- Wash cutting blocks, tools, and counters with bleach and water after each food is prepared. Wash your hands again at the hand-washing sink. The food prep sink is only for food prep.
- If you are not sure that the tool you want to use is clean, wash it before you use it.
- Wear an apron to keep you and the food clean.
- Use plastic food handling gloves to serve food, or thoroughly wash hands.
- If it boils over, clean it up.
- Keep paths clear at all times. Empty boxes must be folded down and taken out of the kitchen to the recycle area.
- Coolers must be kept at 40 degrees for cold storage, and stored beneath table or neatly stacked.
- The roll-up windows must be open when food is being cooked on the stove.
- Do not eat your meal in the kitchen. If you must sample something while cooking, use a clean spoon and put it into the dirty dish tray immediately after each taste.
- If any tool touches the ground, get a clean one and wash the old one.
- If any food touches the ground, throw it away!
- If the food is hot keep it that way. A hot food warmer is provided for you to keep food warm. You may also use the stove to serve from.
- No cooked leftovers can be reserved in this kitchen! Leftovers must be thrown away.
- Follow clean-up procedures (posted in kitchen) after every meal.

Would you like other parents to be guests at HHOS for an evening meal?

Just remember that your group must accept responsibility for the actions of *EVERYONE* at the site, parents and other visitors included.

* **All visitors must follow all HHOS and Redwood National and State Parks regulations while on the site**! Make sure they are aware of this ahead of time.

* Let the students give their parent/guardian a personal tour of the site.

* Please be sure all parents/visitors receive a copy of HHOS's *"Park Aide"* pamphlet (see Appendix, Page 37). The site Ranger will provide as many copies as you need.

* Provide careful directions to the HHOS parking lot. Remind them to close the gate behind them. Also remind parents that they must park in the designated parking area, in a way that maximizes the small amount of available space, and walk the short distance (¼ mile) to the school.

* Remember that there can be no food prepared/brought from home; only food cooked at camp, commercially prepared, or purchased.

Notes on your plans:

_____

_____

_____

_____

APPENDICES

- "Park Aide" parent/counselor guide
  This brochure is also available online:
  http://www.nps.gov/redw/forteachers/howland-hill-outdoor-school.htm

- Maps:
  - Getting There
  - North Area Topographic
  - HHOS Area
  - Camp Facilities

- Bears, Mountain Lion information

- Marbled Murrelet coloring sheet

- Clivus Environmental Waste Station

- Coast Redwoods/Save-the-Redwoods League

For resource protection and individual safety, all Redwood National and State Parks regulations apply at Howland Hill Outdoor School. The following rules in particular must be abided by for facility use:

- *Collection of natural plants materials is allowed only with permission of the site Ranger, and for study purposes only.*
- *All wildlife will be respected. Animals such as snakes, spiders, slugs and bugs can be collected and studied during educational activities, and then returned to where they were found.*
- *Unless specifically designated, park trails and facilities are closed to pets. Exceptions are made only for certified assistance animals.*
- *The marbled murrelet, a small seabird needing large ancient forest trees to nest in for survival, is a federally identified endangered species. Research has shown that corvids (jays, crows, and ravens) are the murrelet's primary predators. Efforts are made to prevent corvids from "hanging out" at the HHOS site, by paying special attention to reducing food litter.*

PLEASE HELP by not feeding any park wildlife, and by picking up and properly disposing of any litter you may find, including the smallest food scraps

Redwood National and State Parks Common Mission:

To preserve and make available to all people, for their inspiration, enjoyment, and education: the ancient forests, scenic coastlines, prairies, streams, and their associated natural and cultural values, which define this World Heritage Site; and to help people forge emotional, intellectual, and recreational ties to these parks.

Howland Hill Outdoor School

HHOS is strictly for educational purposes tied directly to the natural/cultural resources in Redwood National and State Parks. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate family reunions, retreats, weddings, or other uses that are not park-, curriculum- or National Education Standards–based.

Redwood National and State Parks
1111 Second St.
Crescent City, CA 5531

Lynda Mealue, Education Specialist
Phone: 707-465-7391
Fax: 707-465-1571
E-mail: lynda_mealue@nps.gov

Welcome to Redwood National and State Parks'

HOWLAND HILL OUTDOOR SCHOOL !

Thank you for taking valuable time to serve as a "Ranger Aide," helping create a positive learning environment at Howland Hill Outdoor School (HHOS). This orientation pamphlet outlines your responsibilities, Ranger expectations, and facility use policies/requirements. Feel free to ask the site Ranger if you have any questions or concerns.

Explore, Learn, Protect

WELCOME!

All students deserve equal opportunities for safe, fun, and non-threatening outdoor educational experiences.

<u>We need and appreciate your help to make it happen.</u>

- Safety is essential; thank you for keeping it first in mind.
- Please participate in all activities. Talking with other parents during a program is a distraction to the instructor, and detrimental to students' learning.
- **No smoking is allowed in students' presence at any time** Smoking on site is permitted only on the entrance road by the campfire ring, or in the smokers' private vehicle.
- Very young siblings of students should be left with caregivers at home. If this is not possible, please understand that you assume full responsibility of assuring the child does not interfere with planned student curriculum and is safe from all hazards.

SAFETY INFO

- There will be no throwing of rocks, cones, sticks, etc., and no use of open-bladed knives other than for food prep.
- Running is permitted only during supervised games in the meadow; HHOS' gravel "hallways" are walk-only!
- Students will not be alone or out-of-sight at any time, or alone with any adult other than their teacher or relative.
- The First Aid kit is located inside the kitchen building, to the left of the door

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"SURVIVAL" TIPS

- Please help the programs stay on schedule by paying attention and by assisting the ranger when asked to.
- All students must use the toilet facilities on site. During longer hikes/field studies, field sanitation techniques will be discussed in advance and followed by all.
- Don't be afraid to say "I don't know" in response to student questions. Guide students to those who might know, or find out later and personally get back to them!
- You are the grown-up, not one of the students! Kidding around with students can be easily misunderstood. If you are asked to lead a group, make sure students know your name and lead by positive example.
- Some student discipline may occasionally be necessary, but demeaning punishment, whether physical or verbal, is <u>never</u> in order. Difficult students or continued inappropriate behavior should be brought to the attention of the teacher or Ranger.

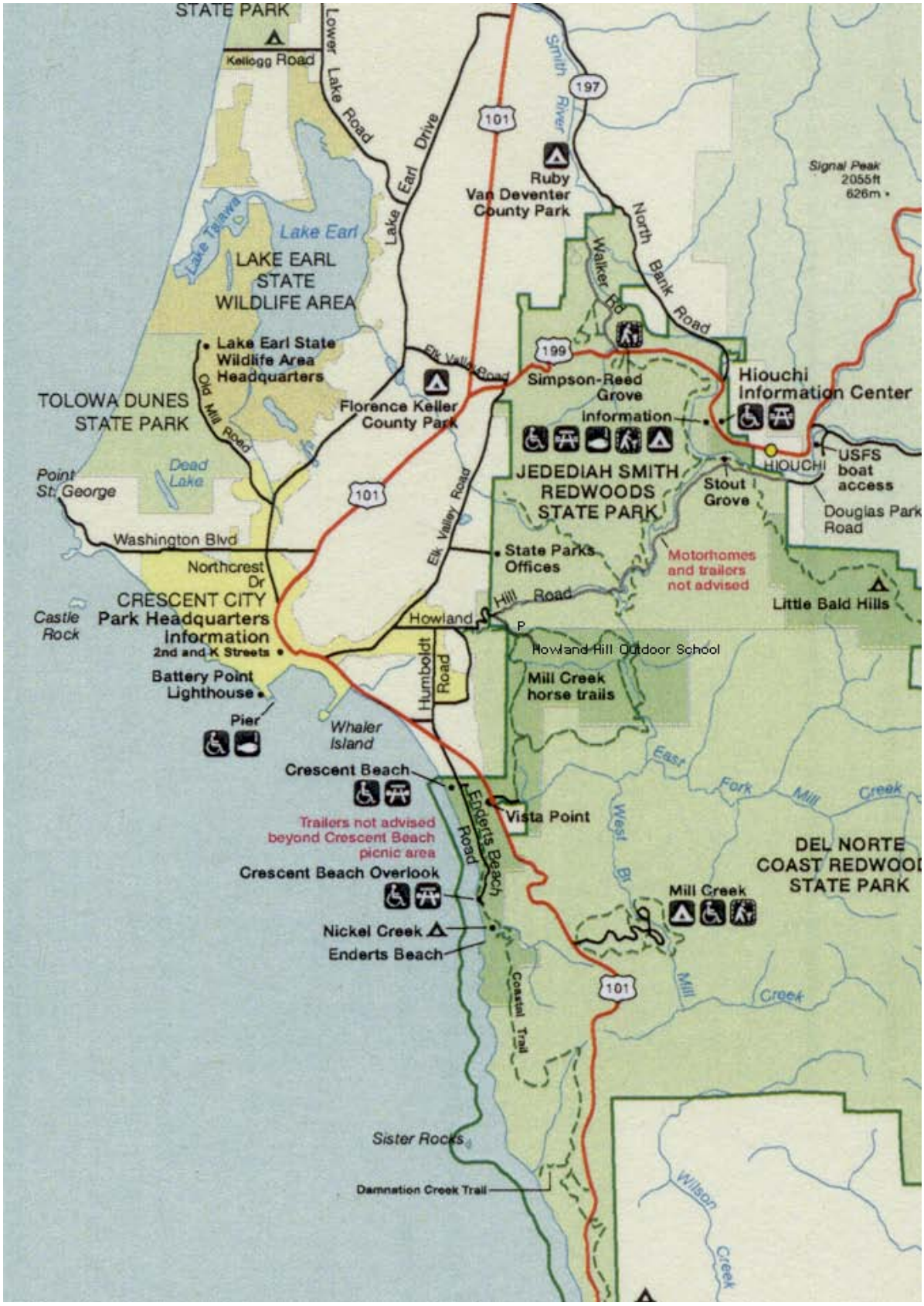
FACILITY NOTES

- **The gate on Howland Hill Rd. MUST be kept closed at all times.** If you are the driving the tail car in a caravan, arriving late, or leaving early, you MUST close the gate behind you. The teacher is given a gate key for security of overnight groups.
- Parking: To preserve the open space on site we ask that all private cars, with the exception of those identified by the teacher for transport or emergency use, be parked in the main lot, less than 1/4 mile from the school.
- HHOS is "off-the-grid". All kitchen appliances and all facility lights are propane-powered; water is gravity-fed into camp from a hill-top well with a propane pump; security features are solar-powered. Please help conserve water and gas usage. Use of propane utilities is prohibited without prior ranger instruction.
- The bear-proof garbage cans must be used to avoid unnaturally attracting any type of wild animal into camp.

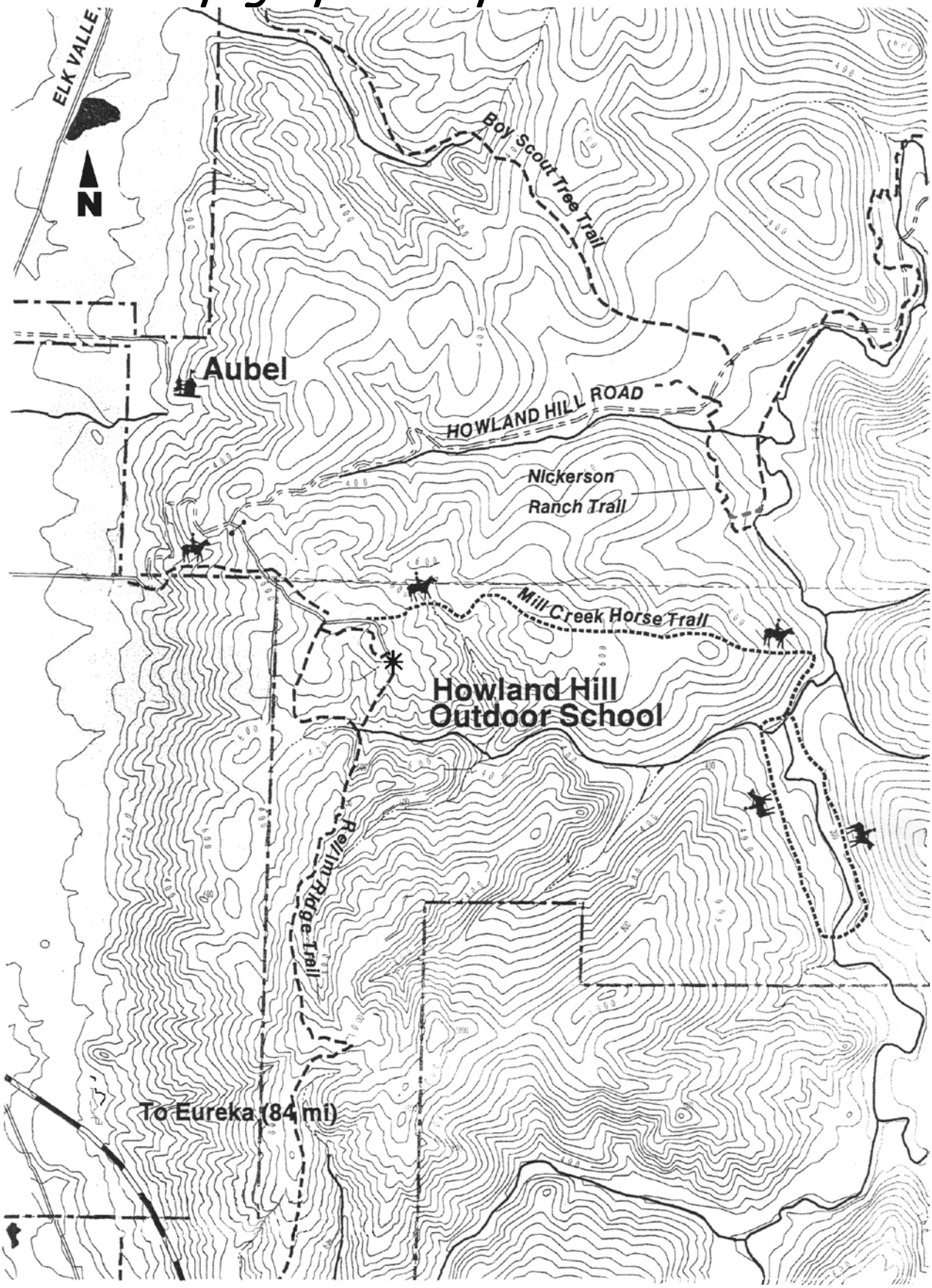
CRITTERS…..
OH MY!

- Large animals are rarely seen at HHOS primarily because there is no natural water source (and usually too many people!) Report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Ranger.
- Redwood National and State Parks are home to many wonderful animals; be grateful for any opportunity to safely observe the residents!

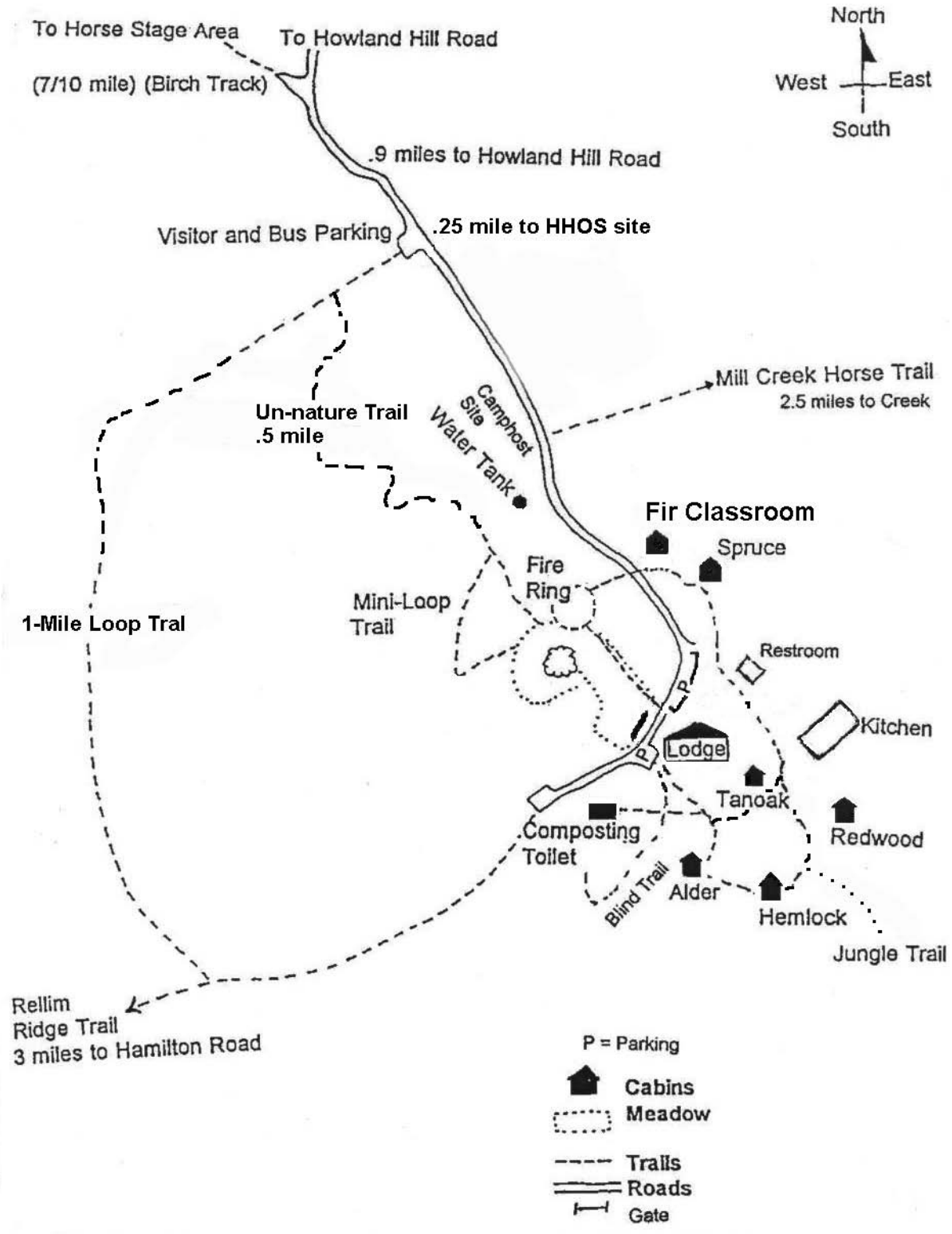
Getting There



HHOS Topographic Map



HHOS Area Map



HHOS Camp Facilities Map

The Bear Facts!

Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*)

* Store ALL food in the trunk of your vehicle or the HHOS kitchen.
* Put food away and clean area immediately after cooking and eating.
* Do not feed bears (or any other creatures!)
* Do not litter!
* Discard waste and garbage in bear-proof trash cans as soon as possible after preparing and/or eating meals. (Everyone is responsible for his or her own trash.)
* Do not overfill bear-proof trash cans. If it doesn't fit safely inside cans, take it with you.
* If a bear should wander by, discourage it by making a lot of noise!
* Keep in mind that gum, lipgloss, toothpaste, and deodorant can attract bears. Leave them at home or keep these items away from critters. Toiletries should be in a labeled zip-lock bag.

Don’t Be Responsible For A Dead Bear!

Store Food and Dispose of Garbage Properly

Violators will be issued a citation under
36 CFR 2.10(d) Redwood National and State Parks

Mountain Lions in the Redwood Parks

Mountain lions (cougars) roam throughout Redwood National and State Parks. Although they have been spotted in picnic areas and along trails and roads, your chance of seeing one of these secretive animals is rare.

Mountain lions can be distinguished from bobcats by tail length; lion tail length is at least three-quarters the length of the body. Bobcat tails are much shorter relative to body length.

Any lion sighting should be reported to a ranger immediately. Although mountain lions have been known to attack people and pets, the likelihood of encountering an aggressive lion is very remote.

Nonetheless, it is wise to be prepared. Avoid hiking alone. Watch children closely. Do not let them run ahead of you on the trail. Hikers in particular are encouraged to read the tips on this sheet carefully. Following these tips will allow both you and the mountain lions to coexist in the parks.

The reclusive behavior of mountain lions and their tendency to live in remote areas explain why we know relatively little about these graceful cats. They once ranged from northern Canada through South America and from coast to coast; their range is now much reduced. No other land mammal in this hemisphere had a more extensive range. Primarily due to hunting and loss of habitat, mountain lions have been largely creatures of the West (in North America) since the 1920s.

The mountain lion is, for many, the quintessential symbol of wilderness: a large animal ranging freely in wild areas, independent of human interference. As the largest carnivore in the North Coast redwood parks, they are at the top of the food chain and therefore are an indicator of this ecosystem's health. In addition, they play an important role in maintaining balance within the ecosystem.

Safety Tips:

Do not run. Mountain lions may chase things that run because they associate running with prey.

Do not crouch down; try to appear as large as possible. Attempts to hide may be unsuccessful; mountain lions see most people long before people spot them.

Hold your ground or move away slowly while facing the lion.

If you have little children with you, pick them up.

If the lion behaves aggressively, wave your hands, shout, and throw sticks at it.

If attacked, FIGHT BACK.

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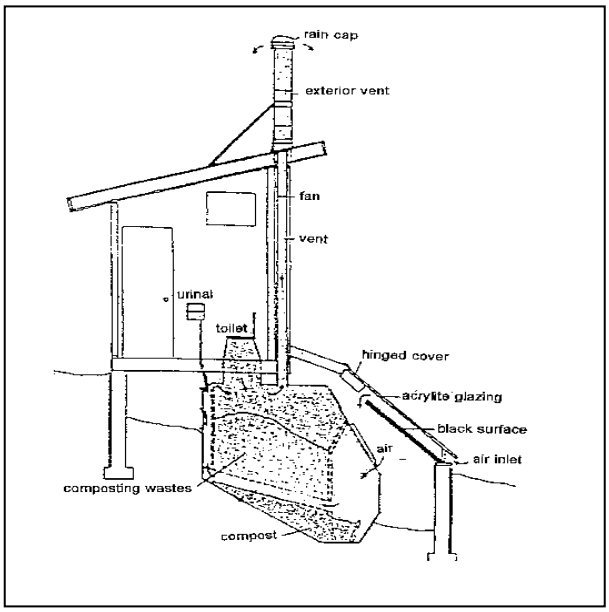
Report any lion sightings to a ranger immediately.
Call 707-464-6101, or stop by a park information center in Hiouchi, Crescent City, or Orick.

As you visit lion habitat, it is important that you understand the behaviors that these cats use to survive. You can then act accordingly to protect yourself and these animals in their native habitat.

Don't Help a Good Bird Go Bad!

Can you find the baby chick? Its parents take turn bringing food to it from the ocean. The chick is a marbled murrelet. The other birds are called Steller's jays. How many jays do you see in the picture? Jays will eat just about anything that can be eaten in the forest. Did you see the food on the picnic table? This campsite has not been cleaned up! The jays are staying around to get more food. They could find the chick! If that happens, the jays will eat the chick. You can help the murrelets by helping your parents clean up after eating in the forest. Remember to never feed any wild animal in the parks including birds. Thank you!

The Clivus Toilet



The Clivus Multrum environmental "waste station" is a composting toilet that turns human waste into an odorless material that can be used as fertilizer. The process combines waste with organic material (sawdust), and heat (from the sun, collected in the sloping structure at the rear of the building), and air.

Clivus Multrum toilets, front view

Please educate your students on the proper use of the Clivus. The Clivus will be used when groups are studying in the meadow, so students will not have to use the more distant 'regular' toilets.

Some very important concerns:

1. <u>Only</u> human waste and toilet paper are to go into the toilet. No food scraps! Please put personal hygiene items in the bear-proof garbage cans

2. The lid to the toilet must be closed before exiting the restroom. This provides the proper airflow to help compost the waste, and also helps keep the facility from smelling foul.

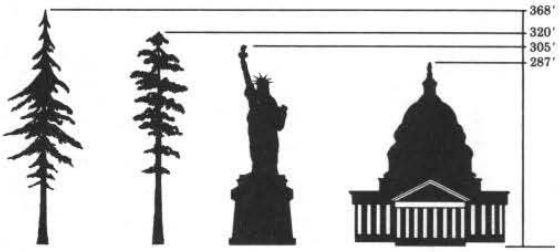
COAST REDWOOD
(Sequoia sempervirens)

California's magnificent Coast Redwood is the world's tallest known tree and one of the world's oldest trees. Average mature trees, several hundred years old, stand from 200 to 240 feet tall and have diameters of 10 to 15 feet, and some trees have been measured at more than 360 feet. In the most favorable parts of their range, Coast Redwoods can live more than two thousand years.

Redwoods are named for the color of their bark and heartwood. The high tannin content of the wood gives the trees remarkable resistance to fungus diseases and insect infestations. The thick, fibrous bark has an even higher tannin content, and insulates them from the periodic fires which have occurred naturally down through the centuries in the Redwood region.

These immense trees have delicate foliage. Narrow, sharp-pointed needles only one-half to three-quarters of an inch long grow flat along their stems, forming feathery sprays. Redwood cones are about an inch long and each cone contains 14 to 24 tiny seeds—a pound of Redwood seeds would number more than a hundred thousand. Redwood seedlings grow rapidly, more than a foot per year in good conditions. Young trees also sprout from their parent's roots, taking advantage of the established root system.

Coast Redwoods form almost pure stands in some areas—especially on flat, silt-covered river plains—but they are also found in mixed evergreen forest with the majestic Douglas-fir, as well as western hemlock, grand fir, and Sitka spruce. On drier slopes tan oak, madrone, maple, and California bay laurel grow along with the evergreens. Rhododendrons and a variety of ferns are the most common understory plants. Other plants which flourish under the trees in the duff of fallen needles include poison oak, huckleberry, hazel, and many flowering herbs.



Mammals found in the Redwood forest include the ubiquitous raccoons and skunks, black bears, Roosevelt elk, deer, squirrels, porcupines, weasels, mink, and the rare ringtail cats. Among the birds found here are the marbled murrelet and the northern spotted owl, both of which nest almost exclusively in old-growth Redwood and Douglas-fir forest. Many visitors in the Redwoods notice a common mollusc, the yellow banana slug.

It is generally believed that the last ice age limited the Coast Redwoods to their present range, a narrow 450-mile strip along the Pacific Ocean from central California to southern Oregon. In the Redwood belt, temperatures are moderate year-round, and heavy winter rains and dense summer fog provide the trees with the water they need.

This climate was far more common in earlier eras. Paleobotanists have discovered fossil Redwoods throughout what is now the western United States and Canada, and along the coasts of Europe and Asia. Some of these fossils are as much as 160 million years old. Redwoods are relatively recent arrivals in their current region; the earliest fossil record in California is found in rocks less than 20 million years old.

A natural Coast Redwood forest is a perfect recycling system. The soil (like that in any high-rainfall climate) contains few nutrients; most of the substance necessary for life is in the trees themselves, living and dead, and in the other plants and animals of the forest. If trees are removed from the forest instead of being allowed to die and decay naturally, many nutrients are lost from the cycle.

Landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. once said, "This generation has received, as a free inheritance from past ages, a hoard of forest wealth. But if any of the future generations for thousands of years to come are to have the opportunity of enjoying the spiritual values obtainable from such primeval forests, this generation must exercise the economic self-restraint necessary for passing on some portion of this inheritance, instead of 'cashing-in' on all of it." Since 1918 the Save-the-Redwoods League has worked to preserve the great Coast Redwood forests for future generations by purchasing Redwood lands for the California Redwood State Parks and Redwood National Park. When these parks are complete, the Redwoods will be protected from man-made dangers. From that time on, it is hoped, their own natural endurance will enable them to flourish as they have for thousands of years past.

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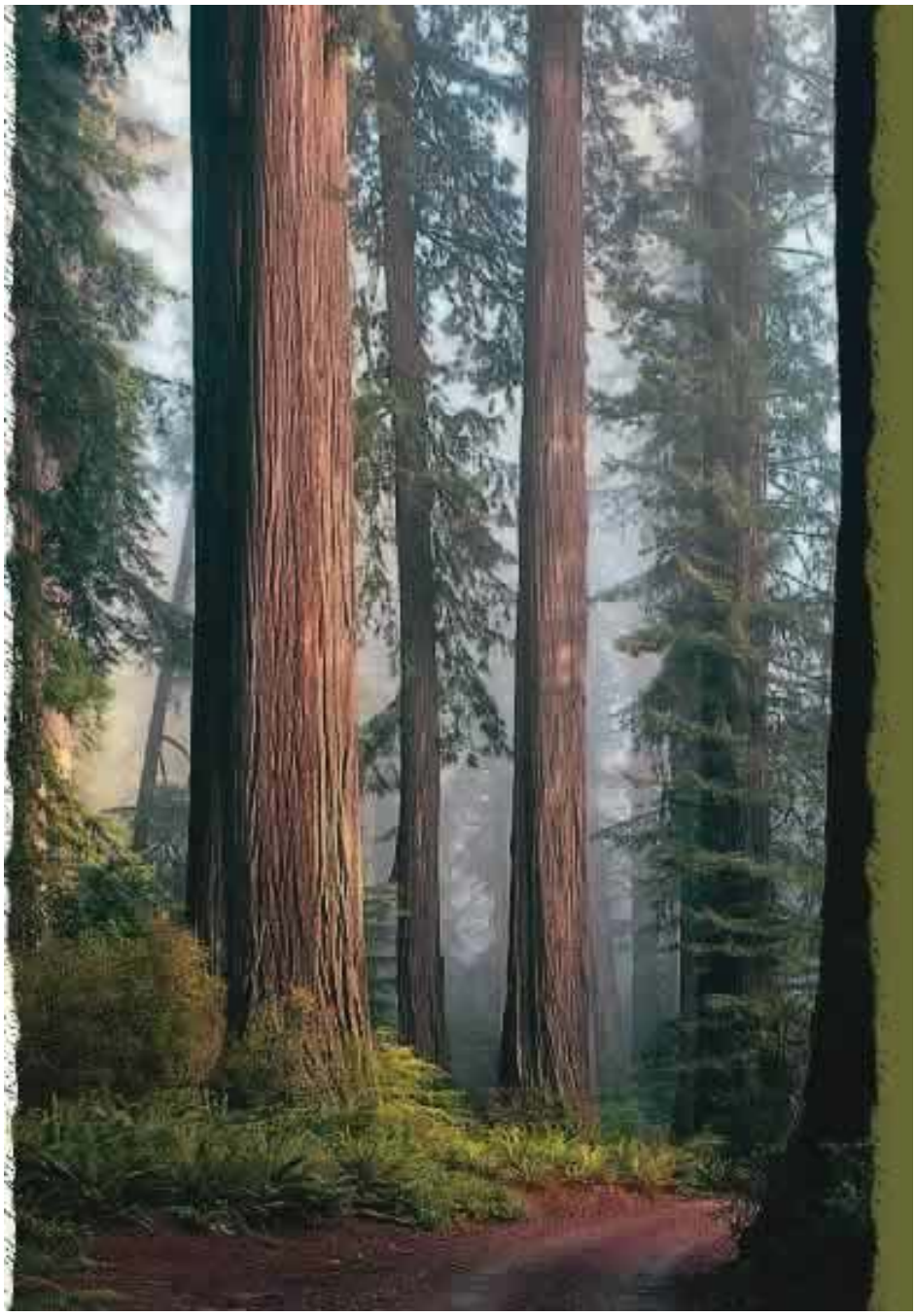

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