

REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK

— U.S.A. —



Redwood National Park

While the “roots” of the Redwood National Park only date back to 1968, the trees for which this amazing place gets its name can live up to 2,000 years. Three state parks in this area share some of the borders with the national park, and in 1994, operations were united to form Redwood National and State Parks. The protected park lands are as varied as they are beautiful, marrying the Pacific coastline with the Coastal Range of mountains. The park features 37 miles of coastline, as well as prairies and oak woodlands. Plus, water flows through the lands in the form of streams and rivers.



The Trees

The area is probably most well known for its coastal redwood forests. The famed gigantic trees growing strong here once grew in other regions, but are pretty much only found on North America’s west coast these days. In an area once full of these beautiful trees, only a remnant of them still stands. In fact, since the 1850s, 95% of the redwoods have been cut down. The remaining 5% of old-growth redwood trees cover

39,000 acres of land in the park. These awe-inspiring trees are a sight to behold, with heights sometimes reaching over 300 feet. Not only are the redwood trees big, they’re also pretty old, having grown in California for somewhere near 20 million years.

When the leaves of the redwoods shed, they can mix with water and dust, forming soil mats that rest on the tree’s branches. The mats can sustain whole ecosystems within the canopies of these massive trees, providing a place for huckleberries, ferns, moss, and more to grow. This plantlife, in turn, can be a food source for a variety of animals like wandering salamanders, squirrels, and insects.

Redwood trees are extraordinary from top to bottom. Although the roots are shallow, they are far reaching. In fact, these trees weave their roots with those of neighboring redwoods, supporting one another, and offering protection against flooding and winds. When new trees sprout from a parent tree’s roots, they may grow in a circular pattern. These are called family circles or fairy rings. By way of their roots, the trees provide nourishment to these sprouts and even other trees.

The Animals

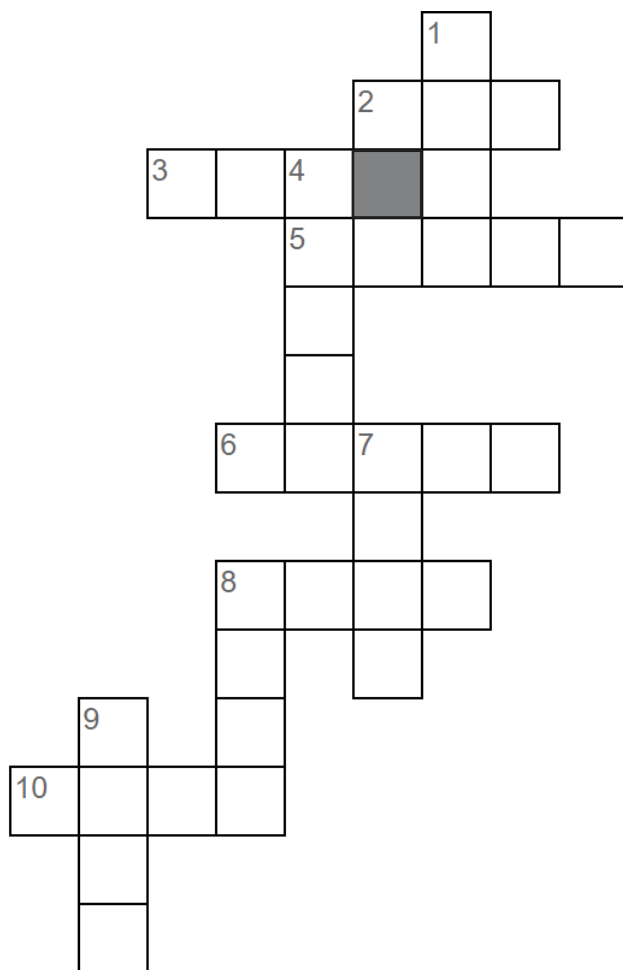


Visitors to the park have plenty of wildlife to see, from endangered coho salmon that swim in its waters, to the endangered wild mountain lions that roam the forests. The marbled murrelet is one species of bird that can be spotted among the redwood trees. Visitors who hope to catch a glimpse of migrating gray whales can visit the Klamath River Overlook, while the park’s Elk Meadow, fittingly, is the place to see Roosevelt elk.

Word Jumble

Every answer uses only the letters in the word:

Branches



Across

- 2. Vehicle
- 3. Curve
- 5. Farm
- 6. Extend Out
- 8. Uncover
- 10. Be concerned

Down

- 1. Deserve
- 4. Hoist
- 7. Land measurement
- 8. Foundation
- 9. Rabbit

Word Search

V Z L D Y T F O R E S T V Y T
C I C C K P Z E Q F M A I N A
O C K D M W I L D L I F E A O
A R Q U A O W K D J R E L K T
S I I T W I I F X W E K M R V
T V N V I L O T J D D N J O K
L E F Y G D U R R M W G Z O M
I R M B L I O E M F O K E T O
N S H T Y M G E S F O E V S U
E T X I Y C T A W U D K U I N
L J V X V C D B N V U T C W T
N A T I O N A L O T D M T Z A
A J O G V Z P A R K I O P X I
A H J G J G W G R A J C C J N
C B A T Q Y U G H S U L V U S

Redwood

Tree

Forest

Wildlife

Park

National

Gigantic

Elk

Roots

Mountains

Coastline

Rivers

Solutions

