



News Release

For Immediate Release
Date January 15, 2016

Contact:
Name Fred Andrews
Email fred.andrews@parks.ca.gov
Phone 707-961-0471

Gray Whale Programs at MacKerricher State Park

California State Parks and the non-profit Mendocino Area Parks Association announce weekend whale talks at MacKerricher State Park! Talks take place from January 16, through March 27, 2016. Knowledgeable docents talk about the annual gray whale migration and about other marine mammals seen along the Mendocino coast. **Programs are scheduled every Saturday and Sunday at 11:00 a.m., from January 16, through March 27. Whale programs are scheduled for January 16 & 17, 23 & 24, 30 & 31; February 6 & 7, 13 & 14, 20 & 21, 27 & 28; March 5 & 6, 12 & 13, 18 & 20, 26 & 27.**

Talks begin at the park visitor center. Docents will talk about the annual gray whale migration. Then drive to and walk out the Laguna Point wheelchair accessible boardwalk to watch for whales and other wildlife. Binoculars are available to borrow. Rain cancels program.

A rare, reconstructed gray whale skeleton is on permanent display near the visitor center and entrance station. The skeleton is a composite of two whales that beached on the Mendocino coast.

About The Whales

Migrating gray whales pass by the Mendocino coast in late fall, into winter and spring on their annual 10,000 to 12,000 mile round trip. Gray whale calves weigh about 1,500 pound at birth. Mother gray whales' milk has about 52% fat content. A gray whale calf will gain between 60 and 70 pounds a day while nursing. A full grown gray whale can weigh up to 40 tons.

Driving Directions

The main entrance to MacKerricher State Park is located approximately three miles north of Fort Bragg, California on Highway 1. Turn in when you see the MacKerricher State Park sign, and park near the entrance station and visitor center.

For more information call (707) 961-0471.



About California's Drought

California has been dealing with the effects of drought. To learn about all the actions the state has taken to manage our water system and cope with the impacts of the drought, visit Drought.CA.Gov.

Every Californian should take steps to conserve water at home, at work and even when recreating outdoors. Find out how at SaveOurWater.com

California State Parks Mission

To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.

Subscribe to California State Parks News via e-mail at info@parks.ca.gov or via [RSS feed](#).

X X X

