



News Release

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Contact:
Vicky Waters,
Vicky.Waters@parks.ca.gov
916-653-5115
916-217-5714

California State Parks Prepare Ahead of Significant Storm

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—California State Parks is preparing for what is anticipated to be a severe storm this week by closing or restricting access to several parks, campgrounds and other park facilities.

“There is still some uncertainty as to the severity of the storm, but it is clear our state will experience a strong storm that will pose significant public safety risks over the next 48 hours,” said Lisa Mangat, Acting Director for California State Parks. “Public safety is our primary focus and we are taking steps to have all necessary preparations in place.”

Below is a list of some park closures:

Santa Cruz County

- [Big Basin Redwoods State Park](#), [New Brighton State Beach](#), [Seacliff State Beach](#), and [Sunset State Beach](#) have been closed, and are expected to remain closed through next Wednesday December 16. Reservations are being cancelled and refunds will be issued.

Monterey County

- [Carmel River State Beach](#), [Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park](#) and [Point Lobos State Natural Reserve](#) will close tomorrow evening through Friday.

Mendocino County

- Campers are being evacuated from [MacKerricher](#) and [Van Damme](#) state parks until the storm passes.

Other State Parks

- At [Mount Tamalpais State Park](#), the Pantoll and Bootjack campgrounds will be closed tomorrow evening through Friday.
- [Olompali State Historic Parks](#) will be closed Thursday, until further notice.
- [Richardson Grove State Park](#) has been closed until further notice.



- [Samuel P. Taylor State Park](#) will be closing the campground beginning at noon tomorrow for at least one night.
- The road of Newton B. Drury Parkway at [Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park](#) and Howland Hill Road at [Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park](#) are closed, as well as Davison Road to Gold Bluffs Beach Campground and Fern Canyon. The Elk Prairie Campground at Prairie Creek will be closed.
- Near Guerneville in western Sonoma County, [Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve](#) and adjoining [Austin Creek State Recreation Area](#) will close during the storm, **except for local residents who need drive through the parks to access their homes**, due to high winds and potential for falling trees and debris.

In addition, due to high winds expected with the storm the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways is advising recreational boaters to use caution while on waterways across the state. Boaters are also advised to secure their vessels in their marina berths to avoid property damage. High-wind speeds can cause flying debris, uproot trees and down power lines. The National Weather Service is forecasting that winds will decrease by Friday.

More updates will be available on our website at www.parks.ca.gov and on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

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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.

