1026



PARK WEBPAGE FOR MORE INFO

BIG BASIN REDWOODS
STATE PARK

WELCOME! Established in 1902, Big Basin Redwoods State Park is California's oldest state park. In the heart of the Santa Cruz Mountains, its biggest attractions—literally—are its ancient coast redwoods. The park also offers spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean, many babbling brooks, and a fascinating natural and cultural history.

A new chapter in Big Basin's story began in the summer of 2020, when the CZU Lightning Complex Fire swept through 97% of the park's property. The fire destroyed all historic structures and radically changed the landscape. The park now looks very different from how generations of visitors experienced it, but most of the old-growth redwood trees survived, new plant life is vigorously growing, and many animals have returned to the area. The Reimagining Big Basin project is managing the multi-year process of rebuilding park facilities and infrastructure. Learn more at ***ReimaginingBigBasin.org.***

Big Basin Redwoods State Park
21600 Big Basin Way
Boulder Creek, CA 95006

Day-Use Areas:
8 a.m. to sunset

Day-Use Parking:
$8 for reserved spot,
$10 first come, first served.
Reserve online at
bit.ly/BigBasinParking

California State Parks Passes Accepted: Adventure, Disabled Discount, Explorer, Golden Bear, Golden Poppy, Senior Golden Bear, State Library, Veteran

831-338-8860
711, TTY Relay Service
parks.ca.gov/BigBasin

California State Parks supports equal access. For accommodation requests, including alternative formats, please contact ***831-338-8860.*** *For information about accessible features at this park, visit* ***parks.ca.gov/AccessibleFeatures.***

GETTING TO THE PARK

Parking Reservations—Recommended on summer and holiday weekends. Guaranteed entry by reservation only at ***bit.ly/BigBasinParking.***

Park Shuttle—A free hourly shuttle is available in summer (Memorial Day-Labor Day) on holidays and weekends from the Saddle Mountain overflow parking lot to the main day-use area and back. Visitors must still pay parking fee.

Santa Cruz Metro—Bus Route 35B provides weekend service to the park's main day-use area during summer.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Park Access—Due to damage from the 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Fire, the park is only partially open and may close during adverse weather events.

Trail Closures—All trails to Berry Creek Falls and in the West Waddell Creek Wilderness are closed. View the map for open trails.

Dogs—Allowed on 6-foot leashes in paved areas only. Dogs are prohibited from all trails and unpaved roads.

Heat Safety—Temperatures can easily break 100°F on hot days. Bring plenty of drinking water, sun protection, and know the signs of heat illness.

Water—No drinking water in the park.

Connectivity—No electricity or cell service in the park. Limited Wi-Fi.

Crumb Clean Park—Help us protect endangered Marbled Murrelets by cleaning up all food and trash properly.

ACTIVITIES

Visitor Center —Stop by and chat with friendly park staff or volunteers and view exhibits about the park. Located at 21600 Big Basin Way.

Guided Walks—Guided Redwood Loop Trail hikes on Saturdays and Sunday by request (inquire at the visitor center).

Kids' Activities—Self-guided Junior Rangers program and Litter Getters materials available at visitor center. Earn prizes for learning about the park and helping Keep It Crumb Clean!

Rancho del Oso—Visit the park's coastal area by driving north on Highway 1 from Santa Cruz. There is no trail or road access to the Rancho del Oso area from the main day-use area of Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Rancho del Oso can only be accessed via Highway 1. Hiking trails, walk-in campsites, and ocean activities are available there, as well as a Welcome Center and Nature and History Center.

THINGS TO DO

If you have one hour, visit the ADA-accessible visitor center. Explore the paved North Escape Road to walk your dog on leash or take a quick bike ride (1.5 miles one-way) and look for banana slugs!

If you have half a day, hike a longer trail, such as the trail to Ocean View Summit (4.2 miles total), Mount McAbee Overlook (5.7 miles total), the Dool-Middle Ridge-Meteor Trail Loop (5.5 miles total) or the Sequoia-Skyline to the Sea Trail Loop via Sempervirens Falls (4.3 miles total). Enjoy a picnic afterwards at the picnic area in the main day-use area.

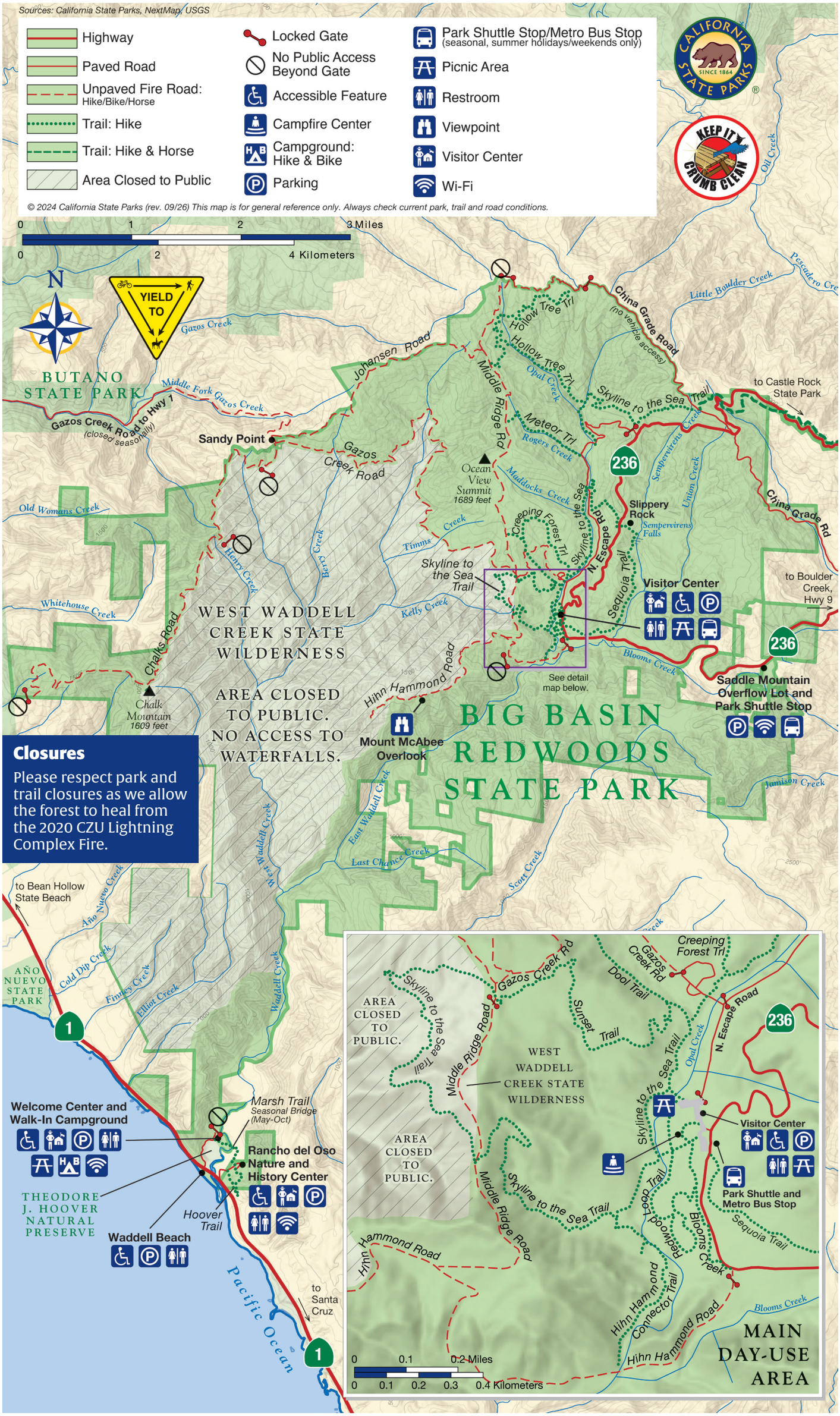
If you have a full day, explore the fire roads by foot, bike, or horseback—follow Gazos Creek Fire Road to Sandy Point to Johansen Fire Road to Middle Ridge Fire Road (12 miles total).

Thank you to our partners!

Mountain Parks Foundation
Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks
Save The Redwoods League
Sempervirens Fund
Parks California
Waddell Creek Association

Land Acknowledgment

Quiroste and Achistaca tribes stewarded this area since time immemorial until colonial pressures forced them out of their homelands. Today, the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band continues the legacy of Indigenous stewardship in honor of the Quiroste and Achistaca.


Sources: California State Parks, NextMap, USGS
Highway
Paved Road
Unpaved Fire Road: Hike/Bike/Horse
Trail: Hike
Trail: Hike & Horse
Area Closed to Public
Locked Gate
No Public Access Beyond Gate
Accessible Feature
Campfire Center
Campground: Hike & Bike
Parking
Park Shuttle Stop/Metro Bus Stop (seasonal, summer holidays/weekends only)
Picnic Area
Restroom
Viewpoint
Visitor Center
Wi-Fi
© 2024 California State Parks (rev. 09/26) This map is for general reference only. Always check current park, trail and road conditions.
0 1 2 3 Miles
0 2 4 Kilometers
N
YIELD TO
BUTANO STATE PARK
Gazos Creek
Middle Fork Gazos Creek
Gazos Creek Road to Hwy 1 (closed seasonally)
Sandy Point
Johansen Road
Hollow Tree Trl
China Grade Road (no vehicle access)
Little Boulder Creek
Pescadero Cre
Middle Ridge Rd
Opal Creek
Skyline to the Sea Trail
to Castle Rock State Park
Meteor Trl
Rogers Creek
Gazos Creek Road
Ocean View Summit 1689 feet
Maddocks Creek
Sempervirens Creek
Union Creek
Old Womans Creek
Slippery Rock
Sempervirens Falls
China Grade Rd
Creeping Forest Trl
N. Escape Rd
Timms Creek
Henry Creek
Berry Creek
Skyline to the Sea Trail
Sequoia Trail
Visitor Center
to Boulder Creek, Hwy 9
Whitehouse Creek
WEST WADDELL CREEK STATE WILDERNESS
Kelly Creek
Chalks Road
Hihn Hammond Road
See detail map below.
Blooms Creek
Saddle Mountain Overflow Lot and Park Shuttle Stop
AREA CLOSED TO PUBLIC. NO ACCESS TO WATERFALLS.
Chalk Mountain 1609 feet
Mount McAbee Overlook
BIG BASIN REDWOODS STATE PARK
Jamison Creek
East Waddell Creek
Last Chance Creek
Scott Creek
West Waddell Creek
Closures
Please respect park and trail closures as we allow the forest to heal from the 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Fire.
to Bean Hollow State Beach
Año Nuevo Creek
AÑO NUEVO STATE PARK
Cold Dip Creek
Finney Creek
Elliot Creek
Waddell Creek
Welcome Center and Walk-In Campground
Marsh Trail
Seasonal Bridge (May-Oct)
Rancho del Oso Nature and History Center
THEODORE J. HOOVER NATURAL PRESERVE
Hoover Trail
Waddell Beach
Pacific Ocean
to Santa Cruz
AREA CLOSED TO PUBLIC.
Skyline to the Sea Trail
Gazos Creek Rd
Creeping Forest Trl
Gazos Creek Rd
Dool Trail
Middle Ridge Road
Sunset Trail
N. Escape Road
WEST WADDELL CREEK STATE WILDERNESS
Opal Creek
Skyline to the Sea Trail
Visitor Center
Park Shuttle and Metro Bus Stop
Redwood Loop Trail
Sequoia Trail
Blooms Creek
Hihn Hammond Road
Hihn Hammond Connector Trail
MAIN DAY-USE AREA
0 0.1 0.2 Miles
0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Kilometers