

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 1, 2017
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REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS

Redwood Parks Conservancy Holds Annual 5k Fun Run/Walk at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park

Join us for the 4th Annual Prairie Creek “Run in the Redwoods” 5k Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, September 16, at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m.; the run/walk begins at 10 a.m. The run is limited to the first 200 participants. Register at www.redwoodparksconservancy.org; deadline is Friday, September 1. Proceeds from the event will be used for visitor services and educational programs at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park.

Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway will be closed to all vehicle traffic on race-day, Sept. 16, creating a wonderful opportunity for runners, walkers and cyclists. (You do not have to participate in the race to take advantage of the vehicle-free road.) The Parkway winds through the

heart of old-growth redwoods in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park unit of Redwood National & State Parks and is located off Hwy 101 six miles north of Orick, Calif., or four miles south of Klamath, Calif.

The parkway is ten miles long and can only be accessed from the south gate on this date only. Visitors should park vehicles south of the closure and park only in designated spaces parallel to the roadway and adjacent to Elk Prairie in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Please do not block the gate or park in lots reserved for visitor center or back country use.

The parkway closure to vehicle traffic offers the public a chance to safely explore the beauty of the redwoods on foot or bike without worry of competing traffic. Redwood National and State Parks staff hopes that families will take advantage of the closure and bring their children out for a walk or bike ride. Walking or biking with children through the wonders of the ancient coast redwood forest not only helps young people get physical exercise and enjoy quality time with family and friends, but also helps foster a better understanding and appreciation of the environment in which they live and a burgeoning enthusiasm for exploration.

For more information about the Prairie Creek “Run in the Redwoods” 5k Fun Run/Walk, contact Redwood Parks Conservancy at 707-464-9150. For maps and suggestions for exploring your parks, stop by any of our many visitor centers or call 707-465-7335 Monday through Friday or visit www.nps.gov/redw.

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