

FOGR MONTHLY

News about the Gualala River and Watershed



Redwood Royalty

"These kings of the forest, the noblest of a noble race, rightly belong to the world, but as they are in California we cannot escape responsibility as their guardians." - John Muir

Coast Redwood Facts

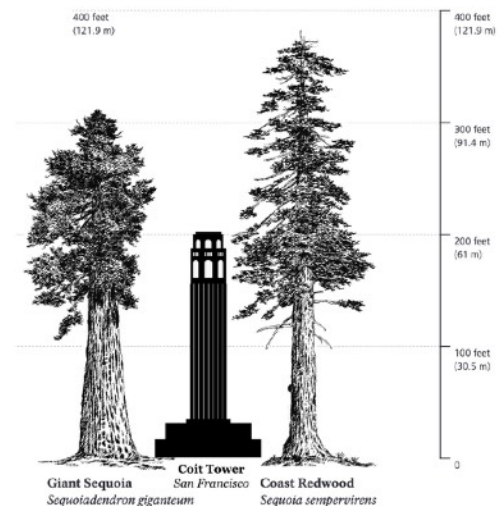
- California's State Tree
- Tallest tree in the world
- Bark is up to 12" thick
- Can live up to 2000 years
- Fossils place origin in the Jurassic Period when dinosaurs roamed the earth
- Reproduce by seed and or by sprouting



This month features

The Sequoia Sempervirens

Also known as Coast Redwoods, cousin to the Giant Sequoia, these majestic trees run in a narrow swath along the coast of California from Big Sur to just north of Oregon border. You can find these trees along the Gualala River. Although many of them are on private land, several are protected by state and local parks, including the Gualala Point Regional Park and Campgrounds. You can view a stand of them called "The Magic Forest" by locals. Enter the Gualala Point Regional Park's campground and follow the trail that leads along the southeastern bank of the river.



Modified graphic from the National Park Service



[Click for more information and larger map](#)

Redwoods in the Movies

Besides National Geographic productions like *Planet Earth*, *Seasonal Forests* and *Climbing Redwood Giants*, you might be surprised to learn that several movies were filmed in the Redwood Forests of California including many blockbusters and some older and more obscure ones.

- Star Wars: Return of the Jedi
- E. T. the Extra-terrestrial
- The Lost World: Jurassic Park
- Vertigo
- Outbreak
- Rise of the Planet of the Apes
- A Wrinkle in Time
- The Big Trees (1952)
- Sequoia (1934)

The Rhetoric of Redwoods

"This land is your land and this land is my land; From California to the New York island; From the redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters."- Woody Guthrie

"No one has ever successfully painted or photographed a redwood tree. The feeling they produce is not transferable. From them comes silence and awe."-John Steinbeck

"A grove of giant redwoods or sequoias should be kept just as we keep a great and beautiful cathedral."-Theodore Roosevelt

More on Coast Redwoods, please see [FoGR's article here](#)

A Coast Redwood named Hyperion



Photograph by Michael Nichols, National Geographic

Discovered in 2006 in Redwood National Park and later confirmed by Prof. Stephen Sillett who climbed to the crown of this tree and dropped his measuring tape, it holds the Guinness record for the tallest living tree in the world at 380 feet.

Redwoods and Climate Change



Scientists have found that redwoods play an impressive role in mitigating global warming by their ability to store large amounts of carbon. They have a unique ability to withstand many environmental disturbances, including drought, fire, and flood. Fog plays an intricate role in the tree's life by providing year-round access to water that makes it easier for the trees to grow even during drought. The bigger the mass of the tree, the greater the benefit to all. .