

# DEL NORTE COAST REDWOODS STATE PARK MILL CREEK ADDITION GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT

APRIL 2009

NOW AVAILABLE:

## Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park Mill Creek Addition General Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Report!

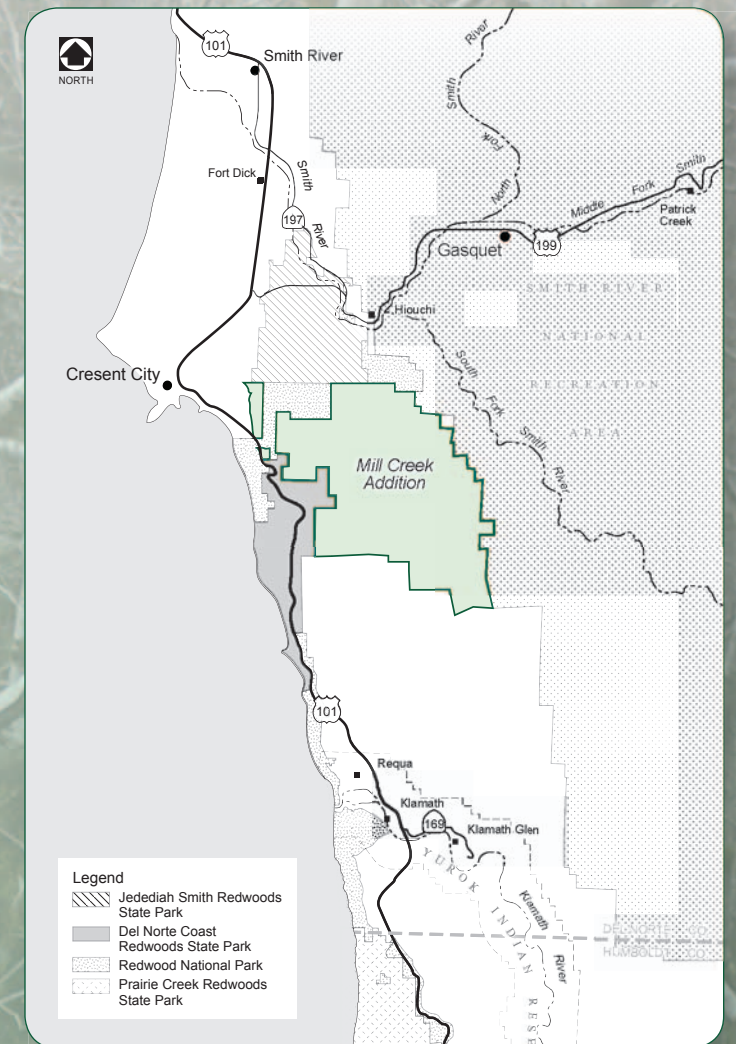
State Parks is pleased to announce the release of a General Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Mill Creek Addition to Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park. This milestone is the result of a combined effort of the public, the Mill Creek Advisory Committee, and the planning team consisting of staff members from Redwood National and State Parks, the North Coast Redwoods District of State Parks, and consultants in a planning process that has been underway since fall 2007.

The General Plan Amendment is a document complementary to the existing Redwood National and State Parks General Management Plan/General Plan and will guide future management and stewardship of the Mill Creek Addition over the next 20 years. The General Plan Amendment identifies a set of planning issues and actions for the long-term management of the Mill Creek Addition. These issues and actions focus on restoring the property to old-growth redwood forest (late seral forest) characteristics, providing recreational opportunities, protecting sensitive resources, improving existing administration and operations, providing opportunities for research and interpretation, and balancing visitor needs with the unique natural character of the Mill Creek Addition. Inside this newsletter you will also find the Vision Statement developed as part of the General Plan Amendment.

The General Plan Amendment is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A Program EIR has been prepared concurrently with the General Plan Amendment process and is included within the General Plan Amendment document. The EIR analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with implementing the General Plan Amendment.

We encourage you to review the document and submit your comments by May 29. Please refer to the inside of this newsletter for places to review the General Plan Amendment and Draft EIR. The document is also available online at the following address:

[www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=24651](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=24651)



### DEL NORTE COAST REDWOODS STATE PARK – MILL CREEK ADDITION

#### TIMELINE OF PLANNING PROCESS AT A GLANCE

Fall 2007	June 2008	Fall/Winter 2008/2009	Spring 2009	Summer 2009
Public Workshop Number 1 Scoping Meeting: Identify Issues and Concerns	Public Workshop Number 2 Alternatives Meeting: Review Draft Alternatives	Develop General Plan Amendment and Prepare Draft EIR	Public Review of General Plan Amendment/ Draft EIR	Final General Plan Amendment and EIR, Agency Approval

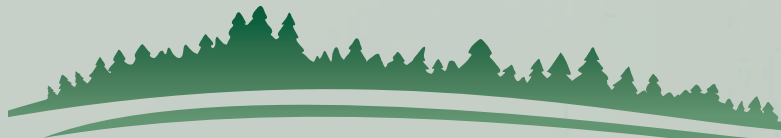


EDAW | AECOM



THANK YOU for your interest in the Mill Creek Addition and your continued participation in the planning process!





laboratory for ecological research, forest and watershed restoration, and the effects of global climate change on native species and communities. Researchers from throughout California and the world use the facilities at the site to study forest and stream ecology and related disciplines.

The natural, cultural, and recreational resources at the Mill Creek Addition are managed according to the best available science and in cooperation with the local community and stakeholders through open communication on important issues, such as resource management, fire safety, public access, wildlife management, on-site concessions, and others as they arise.

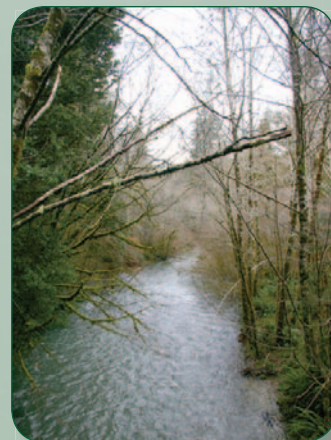
Interpretation of the unique aspects of the Mill Creek Addition is provided at state-of-the art facilities at the site and focuses on natural and human history of the site, conservation, and the Park's role in adapting to issues related to global climate change.



The Vision Statement provides guiding images of what the Mill Creek Addition would be like in the future, following implementation of the General Plan Amendment. It incorporates ideas and input provided by the Mill Creek Advisory Committee and State Parks staff.

## VISION STATEMENT

The Mill Creek Addition encompasses a mosaic of natural communities providing habitat for a large variety of common and special-status native plant, fish and wildlife species. Mill Creek and Rock Creek provide important strongholds for steelhead, coastal cutthroat trout, coho, chum and Chinook salmon, and old-growth groves provide habitat for marbled murrelets and northern spotted owl. Mill Creek's habitats also serve as refuge and migration corridors for species adapting to changing conditions.



Park visitors pass from old-growth forest present in the adjacent Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park into the Mill Creek Addition seamlessly without noticing a difference. They are able to hike or ride along an extensive trail network, camp at remote locations, and pass among adjacent parks on a parkwide trails network.

Resource management practices applied at the Mill Creek Addition are tailored to promote, maintain, and restore ecological functions of the habitats to a pre-European condition. Mill Creek serves as a living



## WE WANT YOUR INPUT

The General Plan Amendment and Draft EIR is available for your review at the following locations.

Main Branch  
Del Norte County Library  
190 Price Mall  
Crescent City, CA 95531

Smith River Branch  
Del Norte County Library  
1241 First Street  
Smith River, CA 95567

Main Branch  
Humboldt County Library  
1313 Third Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Redwood National Park Headquarters  
Office/Visitor Center  
1111 Second Street  
Crescent City, CA 95531

Jedediah Smith Visitor Center  
U.S. Highway 199  
Hiouchi, CA 95531

California State Parks  
North Coast Redwoods District Office  
3431 Fort Avenue  
Eureka, CA 95503

State Parks Planning Division  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 108  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The document is also available electronically on the Internet at:

[www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=24651](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=24651)

## WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

Since the fall of 2007, we have solicited public input through two public meetings, comment sheets, and newsletters. We have also compiled data on the existing conditions and issues of the Mill Creek Addition and surrounding region and closely coordinated with the Mill Creek Advisory Committee. Based on the information, we have prepared the General Plan Amendment and Draft EIR.

## WHERE WE ARE NOW

We are now seeking your responses on the General Plan Amendment and Draft EIR. Please submit written comments to:

Petra Unger, Project Manager  
EDAW, Inc.  
2022 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811

The 45-day public comment period for the Draft EIR will begin on April 14, 2009, and end on May 29, 2009 (comment letters must be postmarked no later than May 29, 2009).

## WHERE WE ARE GOING

Your comments on the General Plan Amendment and Draft EIR will be reviewed by the planning team and incorporated into the Final General Plan Amendment and EIR. A timeline for the planning process is provided on the following page.



## WHAT IS AN EIR?

An EIR is an informational document prepared per the California Environmental Quality Act, also known as CEQA. An EIR provides detailed information about the effects that a proposed project is likely to have on the environment. It lists ways through which significant effects might be minimized and describes alternatives to the proposed project.