

DEL NORTE COAST REDWOODS STATE PARK

MILL CREEK GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT

SUMMARY OF SCOPING COMMENT RECEIVED IN WRITING

Date Received Name	Comments
July 2 Don Amador Blue Ribbon Coalition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide recreational opportunities, including OHV and motorized access to adjacent portions of the Six Rivers National Forest. Cited a letter that goes into more detail written in May, 2004. Letter attached. • Schedule a comprehensive field tour of the road network and mill sites as part of preparing comments for this amendment. • Would like to know all ways in which public can participate in CEQA/NEPA processes.
July 5, 2007 Carol Crawford Myers, Sourdough Chapter of Back Country Horsemen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amenities for horsemen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drive in horse camp with drive thru parking for large rigs. ○ Vault toilets. ○ Running water. ○ Good signage, similar to horse camps near Florence, OR. ○ A stacked look system of trails with beginner to advanced levels. ○ 2 or 3 dispersed trail heads in addition to the main camp. • Looking forward to another new place to explore.
July 12, 2007 Sean Berry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads maintained to a high level so that public will have access. Spur roads need to be removed; yet main roads need to be upgraded so that both emergency and public vehicles have access. • Determine exact boundaries of the area. The present eastern and northern borders are vague and action should be taken against trespassers. • Fund and restore the Old Mill site. • Remove Alder trees gradually and replace them with Evergreen trees. Many acres have been exploited by timber companies.
July 13, 2007 Northwest Trail Riders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on horse camps and trails: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vehicle accessible horse camps with corrals, water, fire rings, and large drive-thru parking spaces to accommodate a truck and horse trailer. ○ Vehicle accessible trail heads not connected with the horse camp. These would allow riders to use different trails and lessen the environmental impact. ○ Loop trails. ○ Good signage.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintain access to historic established horse trails already in the area. ○ Trails should be multi-use. Horse trails are compatible with other trail uses. ● All items suggested and future recommendations for trail access are made with the understanding that the Northwest Trail Riders is a dedicated volunteer organization committed to assisting the Park in maintaining trails and camp sites with donated volunteer time, some materials, equipment, and a great deal of sweat equity.
July 13, 2007 Robert Ford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Address historic uses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The reintroduction of a shooting range (rifle, pistol, shotgun, and bow arrow). ○ Allow hunting. ○ Allow fishing. ● Only rangers allowed on public land should not happen.
July 13, 2007 John Mertes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emphasize restoration of old growth redwood forest and enhancing the salmon runs in Mill Creek. ● The area of the old mills be developed for visitor services to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natural and human history of the area and explanations of the ongoing restoration efforts. ○ A visitor lodge (hotel/inn) with rates similar to popular motels in the area. ○ A RV park with water, sewer, and electrical hookups. ○ Dismantle existing mill buildings and reuse the old growth redwood to build the new facilities. ○ Provide some trails with a durable surface and grade so people in wheelchairs or using scooters can travel away from vehicles and roads. ○ Utilize some of the old log landing sites to provide dispersed (car) camping sites with pit toilets.
September 19, 2007 Katy Sanchez, Program Analyst, Native American Heritage Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To adequately assess and mitigate project-related impacts to archaeological resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Contact the appropriate regional archaeological Information Center for a record search. ○ If an archaeological inventory survey is required, the final stage is the preparation of a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the record search and field survey. ○ Contact the Native American Heritage Commission for a Sacred Lands File Check and a list of appropriate Native American contacts for consultation. ○ Lack of surface evidence of archeological resources does not preclude their subsurface existence.

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September 25, 2007 Lee House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested in all issues with waters, plants, and animals (fish, amphibians, insects, reptiles, mammals, and birds). • Recreation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paved roads remain open to street motorcycles and bicycles. ○ Set-aside area for mountain bikes and motocross dirt motorcycles. ○ More visitors are good for public opinion to be positive. ○ Some JEEP trails or routes like in the Rocky Mountains. Can be used by ATV's and other 4 wheel drive vehicles. ○ Local rentals of small JEEPS and ATV's ○ Trail signs and maps. ○ Pedestrian trails should allow dogs on leash.
September 26, 2007 John Mertes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure to open portions of this addition to off-road vehicles which will inevitable result in resource damage. • Opening portions to four-wheel drive vehicles, such as old logging trails, will lead to resource damage.
October 4, 2007 Ron Pleehaty, Lake Earl Grange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple uses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Equal weight given to all recreational opportunities. ○ Minimize conflicts between user groups. ○ Must include ATV/OHV/4x4, mountain bike, horseback, and hiking uses. ○ Users pay fees for maintenance. • Consideration of the economic consequences on Del Norte County. • Like to see a world class lodge for upscale visitors and eco-tourists. • Staging areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4-5 staging areas for various recreational uses. ○ Restrooms, water, and parking available. • Provide a place for hunters to stage and provide access to NCA/Rattlesnake Ridge. • Keep open roads that lead to Jedediah Smith Park. • Grant ownership of roads to the County to facilitate reduced maintenance for the State. • Create loop trails, some to be used by ATVs. • Creation of campgrounds, RV and primitive, with areas tailored to specific users.
October 4, 2007 Tom Weseloh, California Trout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries restored according to the purpose of the acquisition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water quality and quantity. ○ Sediment remediation and control to eliminate anthropogenic sources of sediment. ○ Introduction and future recruitment of large woody debris. ○ Prevention of exotic/invasive aquatic and terrestrial species. ○ Public education regarding fishery habitat needs and values.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development and implementation of a comprehensive fisheries monitoring plan. ● All proposed activities should be evaluated as to their impacts or benefits to fishery resources.
October 4, 2007 Chris M. Burdg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enhancement and maintenance of habitat for vanishing species. ● More hiking trails with mileage signs and less destruction by OHVs. ● Maps of the area are needed.
October 4, 2007 Jerry and Robin Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reconsider opening up the Mill Creek area and portions of Tolowa Dunes to ATV riders. ● Residents are limited to outdoor recreation due to restrictions on fishing, hunting, and horseback riding. ● Handicap trails. ● Control of illegal activities (i.e. marijuana growers, dumping, and squatters). ● Protect salmon spawning habitat. ● Research Oregon State Parks to see how they determine and manage uses while keeping the environment pristine.
October 5, 2007 Nicola Grobe and Paul Norup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Block access for motorized vehicles, especially OHVs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Damage plants, burrows, and scare wildlife. ○ Interfere with the sounds of nature. ○ Dangerous to other people. ● Do not allow hunters to drive through the park.
October 5, 2007 Helen L. Brown, Northwest Trail Riders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Many trails for various multiple uses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Horseback riding. ○ Dirt bikes and quads.
October 10, 2007 Don Amador, Blue Ribbon Coalition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Administrative or legal issue regarding the appropriateness or timing of this proposed programmatic general plan amendment. ● Questions if the size and scope of the proposal warrants a new general plan instead of a general plan amendment. ● A new form of OHV called eco-OHV would be appropriate public use on logging roads and skid trails. Look at the South Spit Management Area and Red Rock Canyon SP. ● Easements or transportation corridors should be identified for a new highway segment should portions of Hwy 101 was out during a storm event. ● Sustainable recreation alternative be created: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Designate some logging roads and skid trails for OHV use. ○ Designate campgrounds that are use specific. ○ Provide motorized access to the Six Rivers National Forest for hunting and

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	<p>recreational activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop a volunteer program, such as OHV patrol. ○ Create an OHV nexus to help create funding opportunities. ○ Consider a general plan vs. general plan amendment.
<p>October 11, 2007 David Finigan, Chairman, County of Del Norte Board of Supervisors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The County requests a public hearing to be conducted prior to the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report to allow for public input and discussion. The meeting held on October 4, 2007 was not adequate. ● Acquisition was funded through public funding and therefore the public should have access to the resources. ● Consideration for the only electrical transmission line to the Klamath area and the collapse of the Last Chance Grade. ● Support multi-recreational use of the property by the general public. ● Consider an alternative of having another entity manage the Mill Creek Watershed and not have the property included in Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park in order to meet the needs of the public. ● Management of the Mill Creek Watershed by consistent with the vision of the County. ● Discuss having Childs Hill/Rock Creek Loop Roads placed within the County Maintained Road System.
<p>October 11, 2007 Craig S. Strong, Crescent Coastal Research</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Protection and restoration of salmonid runs in Mill Creek should be top priority for this area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not be a fishing stream. ○ Special education opportunity. ● Road removal and management plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintenance for emergency access and recreational uses. ○ Converted to a trail system. ○ “Put to bed” using current knowledge and technology to minimize slides and sediment loading of the watersheds when the roads are decommissioned. ● Visitor access regulated. ● Multi-use management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Old growth or ancient forest should be reserves without visitor access to provide habitat for Marbled Murrelets, Spotted Owls, and other old growth dependent species. ○ Encourage discreet multi-use management that allows for different areas for different uses. ○ ATV areas are not compatible with State Park designation or any other alternative uses of the lands due to noise pollution, erosion and hazards of driving. ● Educational center/visitor accommodation would be an excellent use of the old log deck/mill site. ● Solicit local expertise and local human resources in carrying out surveys, road

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	<p>management, and interpretive activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would be interested in consulting on habitat suitability or carrying out surveys for Marbled Murrelets should the need arise.
<p>October 11, 2007 Robert Freschon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure should be built on the property due to its remote location: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water and sewage. ○ Trailer pads out of public view. ○ Work crews could use areas during restoration work.
<p>October 12, 2007 Melissa McDowell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore native redwood forest habitat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Restore redwood forest (Douglas-fir plantings, thinning, etc.). ○ Protection from invasive species. ○ Minimize vehicle traffic, no OHV. ○ Restore and protect streams and fish. • Develop campground facilities. • Adhere to the State Parks mission.
<p>October 15, 2007 Dan Burgess, Rural Human Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize the use of local vendors/employees, use existing employment services (Rural Human Services). • Traffic at the Park entrance (Hwy 101 and Hamilton Rd). There are multiple accidents at this point.
<p>October 15, 2007 Victor L. Stratman</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Del Norte County needs to be included in the Mill Creek General Plan Amendment. • Road areas that Del Norte County is pursuing to manage/utilize for future activated should be given the highest priority. • Keep area open. • Explore all options, such as partnerships with private sectors. • Gates and closures are not an option that is acceptable. • Park is large enough for all uses.
<p>October 16, 2007 Grant Werschull, Smith River Alliance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management, restoration, and use of the property consistent with the purpose of acquisition. • Management and restoration of the property as a “salmon stronghold”, since Mill Creek is a major tributary to the Smith River and the Smith River is recognized as a “salmon stronghold”.
<p>October 17, 2007 Eileen Cooper, Boardmember, Friends of Del Norte</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further decommissioning of roads to prevent sedimentation and significant water quality impacts to salmonids. • Protect Port Orford cedar from root rot. • Impacts of inappropriate use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ OHV activity • Long term vision, restoration of an extensive old growth forest 1000 year plan.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of Marbled Murrelet Preserve/Redwood Old Growth Preserve Area. • Creation of Darlingtonia Preserve. Please consult State Park Biologist Valerie Gazinsky. • Invasive plant control. • Spotted Owl Conservation. • Mardon Skipper and other rare serpentine species protection.
<p>October 17, 2007 Lynn Ryan RN</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity of State Park and Six Rivers National Forest should be for foot travel, forest and aquatic species movement, not vehicles. • Reduction of road density to one mile per square mile. • Support active restoration activities, help keep the soil on the hillsides, and restore the watershed to a more natural state for the health of all living things. • State Parks care for the roads and manage them for soil stability, fish enhancement, decreased sedimentation, appropriate TMDL, and at least 80% reduction. • OHV activities should not be allowed on public land. • The old mill site is not an appropriate camping area. Camping with minimal environmental impact should be located elsewhere in an area that does not interfere with fish and wildlife retention and restoration. • RVs and motels belong in Crescent City.
<p>October 17, 2007 Paul A. Turcke and Carl J. Withroe, Moore Smith Buxton & Turcke, Chartered</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support proposed alternative detailed by Don Amador, Blue Ribbon Coalition. • Consider rich history and tradition of multiple uses on the lands in, or adjacent to, Mill Creek Watershed Addition. • Sustainable trail use, including mechanized access. • Segmented analysis with discrete EIRs for Mill Creek and other areas creates the unnecessary risk that cumulative effects will be inadequately considered.
<p>October 17, 2007 John Mertes and Lynn Ryan, North Group Redwood Chapter Sierra Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep promises to people and organizations that helped in the acquisition of the property. • Support active restoration activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Thinning and prescribed burns. ○ Reducing road density to less than one mile per square mile. ○ Reducing and preventing erosion impact from excess roads. ○ Continuing to close roads. ○ Restoring the watershed to a more natural state. • Roads be retained by State parks and managed for at least 80% reduction. • Not in favor of suggestions for ATV competitions and racing area for dirt bikes, archery, and rifle ranges. • Emphasis on quiet recreation compatible with the restoration of soils, forest, wildlife, and aquatic systems. • Area of the old mill site for marbled murrelet habitat and not camping. • Camping in areas that do not interfere with fish and wildlife retention and

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	<p>restoration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support visitor center/museum with exhibits on history of the area, including logging and Native Americans. • Eradication of invasive plants. • Handicap access.
<p>October 19, 2007 John Mertes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep commitment to major contributors (old growth forest restoration and salmon habitat enhancement). • Old mill site area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Visitor center/museum with exhibits on history. ○ Motel/lodge and restaurant accommodations for visitors. ○ RV Park with full hookups. ○ Tent camping sites. ○ Dismantle buildings and reuse redwood lumber for new buildings. Retain office buildings and others that are well suited to park needs. • Provide family and group campsites and picnic areas. • Provide trails for hiking and horseback riding with connections to trails beyond the Park boundaries. Relevant parking and trailheads. • Handicap access. • Turning roads over to the County would increase administrative work load and complicate goals. • Del Norte Board of Supervisors should not have decision making power. • OHV would result in further destruction of land and increased erosion. • Facilities and uses, such as a rifle range, archery, hunting, and gold panning are incompatible with the purpose of state and national parks and should not be permitted. • If allowed, mountain biking should be restricted to avoid damage to park resources.
<p>October 19, 2007 Nancy Jo Martin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant portion of the Park should remain unimpaired by excessive human generated noise and light to allow all species, including humans, to hear and experience nature.
<p>October 25, 2007 Joseph Lacey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Del Norte Southern Railroad. ○ Hobbs Wall & Co. ○ Incline railroad exhibit. ○ Sites evaluated and restored.
<p>November 1, 2007 Kathy Walker, President, Marge Lesina, Vice-President, Becko Haynes, Secretary,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclassified to accommodate all recreation needs • Request for equestrians: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vehicle accessible horse camp with overnight accommodations. ○ Loop trails with trailheads

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Eileen Mitchell, Treasurer, Charlie Haynes, Board Member, Art Hanna, Board Member, Suzanne Clough, Board Member, Northwest Trail Riders, Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dogs on verbal leashes to accompany equestrians. ○ Commercial horse rentals and guided trips. ○ Multi-use trails. ● Let nature decommission roads.
November 2, 2007 Eileen Cooper, Boardmember, Friends of Del Norte	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OHV activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The OHV Division of California Department of Parks and Recreation helped pay for the Smith River National Recreation Area Road Plan, providing about 600 miles of roads. ○ The 305,000 acres of surrounding National Recreational Area provides ample opportunities for OHV activity and back country driving. ● Make these 25,000 acres refugia for salmonids and a preserve for marbled murrelets and spotted owls.
November 2, 2007 Ron Plechaty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NPS and CDPR ignore economic considerations relating to community stability and fail to offer adequate alternatives to the old management plan. ● NEPA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do a full economic impact analysis to determine the fallout of the continued acquisitions. ○ Community stability is part of the scope of this environmental document. ● General Plan reopened for public comment. ● Current plan must be amended and include more local government input. ● Recreational opportunities under the old management plan do not generate sufficient economic activity. ● Stand alone as a State Park. ● CEQA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Start process over with full public input. ○ CDPR manager(s) in Sacramento or Eureka responsible for circumventing the initial public input for CEQA, by choosing categorical exemption as the preferred alternative, be removed from management.
November 2, 2007 Donna M. and Ronald W. Thompson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purchase of Mill Creek made for restoration and permanent preservation of the redwood forest, recovery of salmon spawning grounds, safeguarding watersheds and providing safe habitat for threatened and endangered species. ● Concerned that the Board of Supervisors and others are asking to re-designate the area as a recreational park for OHV riding. Such a request is unsupportive of the purpose of acquisition.

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November 2, 2007 Jenny McNamara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEPA and CEQA ignored. • All roads open for the safety of the general public. • A negative majority to recreation could give an opportunity to create a gated area. • Contain a State Vehicle Recreation Area.
November 4, 2007 Helen Ferguson, Chair, Lake Earl Grange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclassification for all recreational uses. • Boundary adjustments to reclassify portions of Mill Creek allowing for multi-use recreation activities. • Complete NEPA review. • Complete CEQA review. • Acquisition and inclusion into the CA State Parks system did not include public involvement. • Designated roads (already in place) and Trails: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Selected Roads to be County Roads. ○ Alternate routed for 101 would be allowed on present roads through the park during emergencies. ○ Relocation of 101 through the Park. ○ Fire Prevention Programs and Search and Rescue to determine roads to be maintained and open to afford protection. ○ Designated roads by Native American Groups, local Native American Tribes or Rancherias should be left open and maintained. ○ Designated roads to remain open to allow hunter vehicle passage. ○ Designated roads to remain open to Truck/Trailer passage. ○ Roads for motorized vehicles should remain open and maintained for use by handicapped visitors. ○ Variety of trail use. • ATV/Dirt Bike Park area. • Shooting facility. • Archery Range. • Demonstration Sawmill. • Tourist destination lodge. • Forest management that considers timber thinning and fire prevention. • Carrying capacity for the expanding Elk herds addressed. Hunting to control overpopulation. • Fish/Stream enhancement projects. • Special-status species considerations. • Old growth protection.

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November 5, 2007 David Finigan Chairman, Del Norte County Board of Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends opportunity to California DPR to coordinate directly with the County as outlined in Del Norte County Code Chapter 12.02. • Requests public hearing to be conducted prior to the preparation of DEIR. • Early coordination to provide forum for discussing and avoiding any potential inconsistencies between Del Norte County’s plans for future recreational use of Mill Creek acquisition. • Plan for diverse recreational use throughout the Mill Creek property to take advantage of diversity of land and needs of users. • Discuss alternatives such as designating property as Recreation Area, State Vehicular Recreation Area, or combination of different recreational designations. • Discuss involvement of CAL FIRE in development of forest management program. • Discuss inclusion of Hamilton Road and Childs Hill/Rock Creek Loop roads into the County Maintained Road System. • Requests addressing whether proposed project will result in need for NEPA compliance and requests description of history of compliance with CEQA and NEPA as it relates to property acquisition and previous actions.
November 8, 2007 Ethan Mehr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More mountain bike trails and single track. • Expand open hours/days from present weekends only.
November 15, 2007 Helen Ferguson, Chair, Lake Earl Grange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A copy of the “side bar” agreement referred to in minutes of the State Public Works Board dated May 3, 2002. Reads “DPR, The State Coastal Conservancy, The wildlife Conservation Board, ...” ○ A copy of the “deed restrictions” on the Mill Creek Acquisition property. ○ A legal description of Tolowa Dunes State Park. ○ A legal description of the Mill Creek Addition property as it was purchased from the timber company. ○ A legal description of the additional properties. ○ A copy of the agency, organizations and private citizens comments on “Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park – Mill Creek watershed addition General Plan Amendment.”
November 15, 2007 Chris Howard, President, Crescent City & Del Norte County Chamber of Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the acquisition of Mill Creek as part of an economic engine for the future of the County. • Management plan that significantly increases recreational opportunities for visitors and provides for a sustainable framework for economic development over the long term. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open General Plan to wide public comment. ○ Study consistent with NEPA with respect to the nexus of a State Park operating within a Federal Park boundary. ○ Re-categorizing a portion of the acquisition for motorized recreational uses. ○ Opportunities for outdoor education that would allow Del Norte County to

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	<p>promote Mill Creek as a world-class and best practice natural resources learning center and position Del Norte County as the premier natural resources learning center in the Western United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ World class destination lodge within the Mill Creek acquisition.
<p>November 29 Howard Zacharias RV camper</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Loss of best camping place (Orick). ● New camp ground doesn't appear to accommodate RV.