





## Trail Description

### Islands in the Sky Vista Loop Trail

This 3 1/2 mile loop trail will allow you to take in some of the best vistas on the Sonoma Coast. On the first leg of the trail, you will climb through Douglas Fir and Coast Redwood forest. You will come to two primary junctions. Stay to the right on the main road and keep climbing. After approximately 1 mile, you will emerge from the forest onto the grassy ridge top where you will be treated to views of the "Islands in the Sky," tree covered knolls jutting up from the surrounding grasslands. On a clear day, you can see all the way to the ocean.

At the first junction on the ridge, stay right again and follow the old road until you come to a sign and a trail heading north back down to the parking area. You can extend your hike by going another 1/2 mile on the road before returning to this sign.

To return to the parking area at Freezeout Flat, take mowed, grassy trail through the meadows until it joins up with another old logging road and ducks back into the forest. The trail continues through lush woodlands and open meadows, finally connecting to the Freezeout Flat driveway at the bottom of the trail. Turn right here and walk another few hundred yards back to the parking area to complete the loop.

## About the Willow Creek Acquisition

The Willow Creek Acquisition became part of the Sonoma Coast State Beach in May 2005. This beautiful 3,373-acre property covers nearly the entire Willow Creek watershed and represents a boon for both recreation and wildlife habitat. It is open for hiking, biking and equestrian use through a permit program and through a docent-led hike series (see other side for details).

This spectacular property contains rolling grasslands, Coast redwood and Douglas-fir forest, and riparian, estuarine habitat. Over 3 miles of fish-bearing creeks and streams flow through the property. Both Willow Creek & Freezeout Creek support critical habitat for species such as northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet and California red-legged frog.

## Permits and Docent-led Outings

California State Parks has partnered with LandPaths and Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods to provide public access to the Willow Creek Acquisition. LandPaths is administering a permit program that allows the public to hike, bike and horseback ride on the property as they would any other State Park. LandPaths and Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods are also offering regularly scheduled docent led hikes on the property.

## Directions

### From Highway 101 in Santa Rosa

Take River Road exit and go west to Hwy 116. Continue on 116 to Duncans Mills. Turn left through Duncans Mills, over the bridge, and then make an immediate right onto Freezeout Road. Proceed about 1/3 mile to second gate on your left.

### From Highway 101 in Petaluma

Take Hwy 116 exit west through Sebastopol and Forestville to Duncans Mills. Turn left through Duncans Mills, over the bridge, and then make an immediate right turn onto Freezeout Road. Proceed about 1/3 mile to second gate on your left.

## Contact

### In case of an emergency, dial 911.

Please note that cell phones may not work on the property. The nearest phone is in Duncans Mills.

### For Permit Program information:

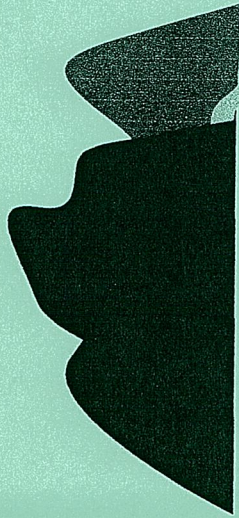
LandPaths - 707.524.9318  
willowcreek@landpaths.org

### For Docent-led tour schedule and info:

LandPaths - 707.524.9318  
willowcreek@landpaths.org

Stewards of the Coast & Redwoods - 707.869.9177  
stewards@mcn.org

# SONOMA COAST STATE BEACH Willow Creek ACQUISITION



## Support for Acquisition

Resource Management  
& Public Access

## Provided By

Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation  
& Open Space District

California Coastal Conservancy

California State Parks

California Wildlife Conservation Board

Trust for Public Land

LandPaths

Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods