



Big Basin Briefing #11: July 2022

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MAKING BIG BASIN SAFE FOR PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE

- ❑ On July 22, the park opened for limited day-use access by reservation! Park users have been eager to return to the park and the reservation system has been filling quickly, in addition to people accessing the park by the SC Metro bus and by bicycle.
- ❑ Day use reservations opened to the public through the Friends of Santa Cruz Website on July 1st. Please remember to reserve these passes in advance and keep in mind that only some of the trails will be open; the rest will be made available when they are safe. To learn more about the reservation system click [here](#).
- ❑ Highway 236 opened along with the park to through traffic for motorists on July 22 and will stay open permanently.
- ❑ SC Metro began bus service to the park on Saturdays and Sundays with four trips per day through mid September.
- ❑ This month, trail work on the Redwood Loop Trail and Dool Trail was completed and the trails were opened for public use.
- ❑ Interpretive and educational materials have become available at the park, including a series of panels, three tablets, an interim access map, and additional visitor information in the temporary park visitor center area.
- ❑ The Saddle Mountain facility is now operational for limited park staff use including office and communications space for staff to operate the park. No public access is available at Saddle Mountain at this time and parking is for authorized vehicles only.
- ❑ The Union Creek culvert replacement project was completed.
- ❑ State Parks worked in partnership with County DPW to complete maintenance on lower China Grade Road to allow the road to open simultaneously with Highway 236.

LEARN ABOUT BIG BASIN'S RECOVERY

- ❑ Mountain Parks Foundation released this [video](#) highlighting the CZU Fire and the story at Big Basin Redwoods State Park.
- ❑ State Parks posted about the opening on social media, including a facebook post, which reached over 100,000 people, with over 12,000 likes, comments or shares.



LEARN ABOUT BIG BASIN'S RECOVERY (CONTINUED)

- ❑ There has been extensive media coverage of the opening, including some in-depth coverage by KQED, Bay Nature, and Telemundo, among many others:
 - ❑ Bay Nature: <https://baynature.org/2022/07/21/in-the-wake-of-wildfire-big-basin-redwoods-state-park-partially-reopens-to-the-public/>
 - ❑ KQED: <https://www.kqed.org/news/11919474/as-big-basin-finally-reopens-indigenous-stewardship-key-among-plans-for-parks-rebirth>
 - ❑ Telemundo: <https://www.telemundoareadelabahia.com/noticias/california/reabre-el-parque-estatal-big-basin/2244420/>
 - ❑ Audubon: <https://www.audubon.org/magazine/summer-2022/rebuilding-iconic-california-state-park-birds-and>
- ❑ Read about recent research related to climate change and redwoods summarized by Sempervirens Fund article.

LONG TERM PARK PLANNING

- ❑ The Reimagining Big Basin Vision Summary has been revised based on reactions and feedback on the public draft vision summary. The final version will be posted next month on reimaginingbigbasin.org
- ❑ Staff and consultants are working on revising a draft Cornerstone Document for Big Basin Redwoods State Park which includes similar information to the Vision Summary but formatted in a new park planning document format.
- ❑ Parks California has initiated and kicked off a preliminary park transportation study with consultants Fehr & Peers to focus on developing potential shuttle options for future park planning.

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