



Species of the Year
2015

Coast Redwood
Northern Spotted Owl

Coast Redwood

Redwoods once grew throughout the Northern Hemisphere, and the first redwood fossils date back **more than 200 million years** to the Jurassic period.

During the 1850s commercial logging began decreasing the coast redwood range significantly. Now **only 5% of the original old-growth forest** remains along a 450-mile coastal strip. Some of that old-growth forest exists at Muir Woods National Monument.

This iconic species towers above all others with heights of over 350 feet. Their thick, reddish bark protects the tree from fire and insect damage allowing it to live over 2000 years. Their broad green needles absorb moisture from fog providing water to the tree during foggy summer days.



Historic Coast Redwood Range, 200 years ago.



Current Redwood Research

In the past, one of the biggest threats to coast redwoods was logging. Currently threats include climate change, fire suppression, burl poaching, and illegal marijuana cultivation. Save the Redwoods League and the National Park Service are working hard to protect redwood forests from these threats.

Current climate change research has shown that ancient redwood forests **store at least three times more carbon** above ground than any other forests on Earth. Additionally changing environmental conditions have triggered a **growth increase** in coast redwoods and they have grown faster in the past century than ever before.

For More Information

Save the Redwoods League
www.savetheredwoods.org

Muir Woods National Monument
<http://www.nps.gov/muwo/index.htm>

Save The Redwoods
LEAGUE

