

# New River Discovery Guide

## Welcome

### to New River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)

Rich in its variety of plants, animals, and habitats, New River ACEC offers opportunities for a variety of non-motorized, low-impact recreation. Enjoy your visit and remember....

- \* The ACEC is open for day use from sunrise to sunset.
- \* Pets must be leashed at all times.
- \* Off-road vehicles are not allowed.
- \* Pack out your trash.
- \* Avoid trespassing on private land by observing the posted signs.
- \* Portions of the sand dunes above the high tide line are set aside for nesting western snowy plovers from **March 15 - September 15**. Observe the rules posted on site for the restricted areas.
- \* Campfires are not allowed.
- \* Collecting mushrooms and other forest products not permitted.



## New River Vision Statement:

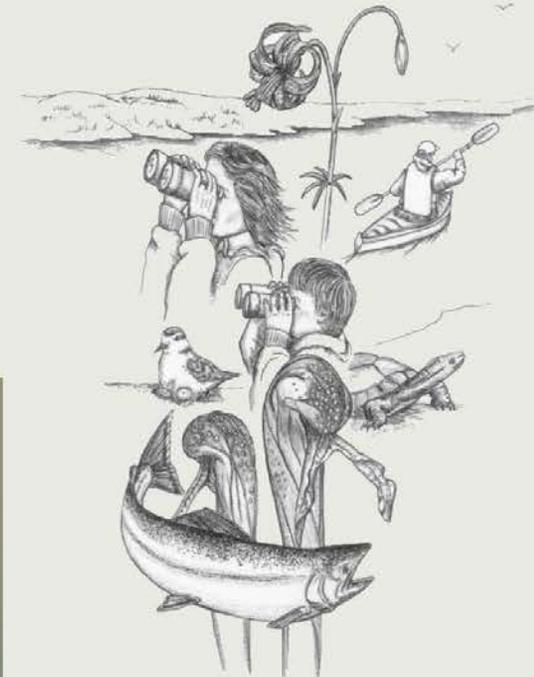
New River is a dynamic, ever-changing system. The river and adjacent lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are in a special management category known as the New River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).



If you are interested in volunteering at New River, reserving the learning center, scheduling school groups, or have questions, please contact:

The Bureau of Land Management  
Coos Bay District Office  
1300 Airport Lane  
North Bend OR 97459  
(541) 756-0100

BLM/OR/WA/GI-006/XXX-XXXX



# Discover New River

The New River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) offers miles of trails, waterways, and beaches for hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, wildlife view and paddlers. With its diversity of habitats and interconnected network of rivers, streams and lakes, New River is a secluded place rich in biodiversity - a place where plants and animals flourish and people are only visitors.

The BLM provides four public access points to New River: Lost Lake, Fourmile Creek, Storm Ranch and Floras Lake. These sites not only provide access for low-impact recreation, but a network of protection throughout the greater New River ecosystem.

## A. Lost Lake

The trail begins at the small parking lot and follows the southern edge of the lake through a mature forest and leads to a series of large sand dunes. Traversing the dunes will lead hikers to New River and the ocean. The beginning of the trail is flat with a hard-packed surface; the western portion has steep sections with loose sand.

Total trail length: approximately 1.5 miles.

## B. Fourmile Creek



A short hike will take you through a wetland meadow leading to New River. The semi-primitive trail is relatively flat and may be flooded in the winter. Canoes or kayaks can be portaged along this trail to the river.

Total trail length: approximately 0.2 miles.

## C. Storm Ranch

Storm Ranch offers the best access for a variety of recreation activities: hiking, boating, fishing, picnicking and wildlife viewing. Trails will take you through a variety of habitats and vistas.

Storm Ranch has universally accessible facilities, including wildlife viewing areas and West Muddy Lake Trail.

The Visitor Center has interpretive displays about the area and is available for group events. Naturalists offer programs during the summer season. Total trail length: approximately 2.3 miles.



## D. Floras Lake

The southernmost access point of the ACEC is next to Boice Cope County Campground. Park in the lower parking lot and cross the footbridge to see more of Floras Lake and access the beach. One trail leads to the beach and the other connects to the State Parks trail system to Blacklock Point.

Total trail length: approximately 1.2 miles.

Small boats can float down Floras Lake Outlet to New River and takeout points at Storm Ranch (approximately 8 miles) and Lower Fourmile Road (approximately 9 miles).

# Explore the Ocean Shore

The 22-mile segment of beach between Bandon and Cape Blanco State Park has been designated by State Parks as part of the Oregon Coast Trail.

Most hikers use the trail during the summer when stream crossings are easier. Strong winds from the north during the summer encourage hikers to travel south with their backs to the wind.

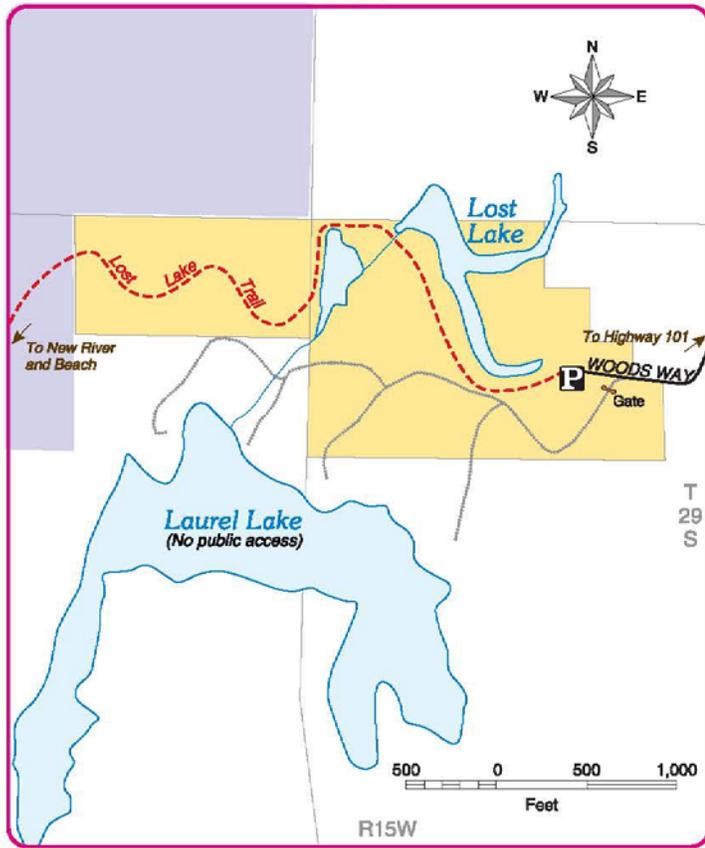
The trail is unmaintained and consists only of the beach below the high tide line.

# Paddling New River

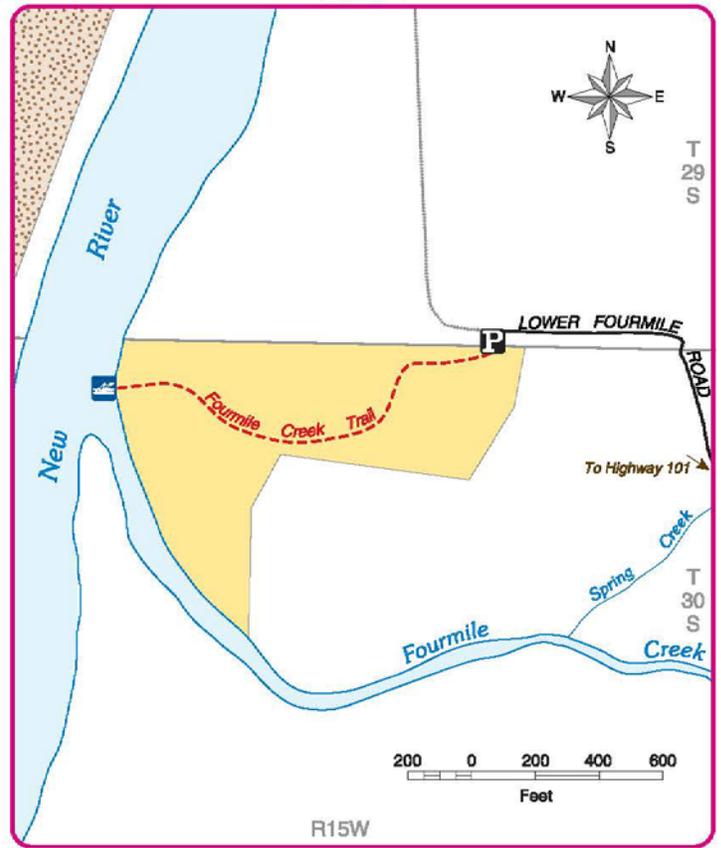
- \* Small boats can be used for float trips along New River. There are put-ins and take-outs at Fourmile Creek, Storm Ranch and Floras Lake.
- \* Boats need to be portaged 1/4 mile at Fourmile Creek and from March 15 - Sept.15 at Storm Ranch.
- \* Be prepared for changes in water levels, strong currents near river mouths, and strong winds. Plan your float trip accordingly.
- \* Be aware that portions of the sand dune are closed from March 15 - Sept. 15 to protect nesting snowy plovers. Observe posted signs to ensure that you are not disembarking into a restricted area.



## A. Lost Lake Trail



## B. Fourmile Creek Trail



## C. Storm Ranch Trail System



## D. Floras Lake Trail

