Strawberry Rock The proposed Strawberry Rock Redwood Forest Trail, in Trinidad, Humboldt County, CA is a 45-acre conservation easement acquisition project that includes a beautiful creek-side redwood forest grove and permanent public forest trail to Strawberry Rock, a massive on-shore sea stack that rises above the surrounding redwoods to offer visitors a magnificent ocean view over the forest canopy. Trinidad Coastal Land Trust, working with private landowner, is leading the effort to purchase and permanently protect this special culturally-significant place as a low-impact public recreation trail and conservation area in the redwood forest. We are outreaching for support to raise awareness and secure acquisition funding.

Stats

Distance: ~3.4 miles round trip
Round Trip time: ~2.5 hours
Difficulty: Moderate
Elevation at top of Rock: ~900’
Climb: ~650’
Location: Trinidad, Hwy 101 N exit, go straight on Frontage Road; public parking end of county road; trail head behind gate on private property.

Fast Facts

The estimated appraisal value to purchase the 45-acre forest, rock and trail public access conservation easement is $800,000.

The proposed area had an approved timber harvest plan and threats include rock quarry, residential subdivision, forest clear-cut and enforcement of private property no-trespass laws.

Timber harvest is temporarily restricted via an option-to-purchase contract between Trinidad Coastal Land Trust (TCLT) and landowner, Green Diamond Resource Co. (GDRC), who is a willing seller, project partner and advocate.

Presently the area is visited illegally by the public via trespass. Permanent legal public access will inspire future generations of conservationists and help develop a collective conservation ethic.

The Yurok People of the Yurok Tribe and Trinidad Rancheria hold Strawberry Rock as a culturally significant and sacred place.

Amazing views of the California Coastal National Monument and Pacific Ocean from the summit make this trail a potential highlight spur trail of the nearby California Coastal Trail.

Trail and watershed improvements will benefit the headwaters of the Mill Creek watershed, which flows to Trinidad State Beach Park into the ocean within Trinidad’s state-designated Area of Special Biological Significance.

This trail head has introduced thousands of residents, visitors, students and tourists from all socio-economic and cultural backgrounds to the importance of redwood forest conservation for quality of life values, forest recreation, carbon sequestration and climate stabilization, redwood forest ecology and species protection. This relatively inexpensive conservation project is of statewide importance.

Visit www.trinidadcoastallandtrust.org for more info. TCLT owns and manages over twenty nearby properties for public benefits, trails, beach access and recreation; uniquely qualified to manage this project.
The proposed 45-acre protected easement trail area includes a threatened redwood forest, a sacred rock that could be quarried, and an 'illegal' trail within a larger private timber harvest management area. This a rare opportunity to purchase and establish a public trail and conservation area for future generations today.
Support

Approximately $800,000 total in grant funding from agency conservation programs or a conservation foundation still needs to be raised to purchase and permanently protect the Strawberry Rock Redwood Forest Trail, the redwood forest grove, public access, riparian areas and special rock. Lead partner Trinidad Coastal Land Trust has a three-year option agreement with landowner to purchase the 45-acre conservation easement. The trail is already popular with county residents, tourists, students, and is Humboldt State University’s most popular redwood forest-ocean view day hike destination. Strawberry Rock holds cultural and spiritual significance to the Yurok People of the Yurok Tribe and Trinidad Rancheria. Many entities like the City of Trinidad, Visitors Bureau, Chamber of Commerce and County of Humboldt endorse purchasing the trail for public benefits. People often experience inspiration and a renewed conservation ethic while visiting this easily-accessible redwood forest trail with clean, ocean air. This is the place to promote conservation values needed to inspire future generations, to cultivate appreciation for nature and strengthen our collective conservation ethic.

Family-owned, industrial forest company landowners are supporting partners in this conservation easement acquisition project and have temporarily restricted any harvesting via an option-to-purchase agreement with the land trust. GDRC staff provide in-kind resources and assist in project management. A conservation easement valuation appraisal is underway. Expected purchase price is $800,000 for the 45-acre easement acquisition. Trail improvement design and construction will be completed after purchase. GDRC has and will continue to provide in-kind services and resources for all phases of this trail project.

Strawberry Rock in the Media

*Times-Standard*  *The future of Strawberry Rock*

*Times-Standard*  *Strawberry Rock considered for Permanent Protection*

*Mad River Union*  *Tag of Articles about Strawberry Rock*

*Outbound Collective*  *Hike to Strawberry Rock*