

GUIDE TO THE ADMIRAL WILLIAM STANDLEY STATE RECREATION AREA  
PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

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## ADMIRAL WILLIAM STANDLEY STATE RECREATION AREA PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

### Park History

Admiral William Standley State Recreation Area contains roughly 45 acres of natural resources. Located in Mendocino County, the park is bordered to the south and west by the Eel River's South Fork, to the east by Mud Creek; it is roughly 35 miles north of the city of Willits. The park is accessible by car via Branscomb and Mud Creek roads.

Named after a former Naval Operations Chief and foreign diplomat, the Admiral William Standley State Recreation Area contains a small but lush virgin redwood grove. Acquired by California State Parks in 1944 from the Westport Tie Company, the park unit was classified as a state recreation area in 1963 and today remains densely forested with mixed coast redwoods and Douglas fir (**Figure 1**). In addition to its conserved redwoods, the park is also a popular destination for salmon and steelhead fishing. There are currently no facilities there.



**Figure 1.** Admiral Wm. H. Standley State Recreation Area, June 22, 2010. Catalog # 090-P63958.

## **Scope and Content**

The Admiral William Standley State Recreation Area Photographic Collection spans the years 1958-2010, with the bulk of the collection covering the years 1959, 1984, and 2010. There is a total of 51 cataloged images, including 7 photographic prints, scans, and negatives, 22 35mm slides, and 22 born-digital images. Photographs originated from California State Parks staff.

The collection depicts the park's landscape. Imagery includes ground views of the forest, which incorporate natural features, such as redwood trees, stumps, grass, Mud Creek, Eel River, rocks, bushes, logs, mountains, and birds. Also depicted are images conveying human involvement, including: logging debris, the Branscomb Dam site, California State Park signage, picnic tables, park visitors, an unidentified building, telephone lines, and a bridge. The collection also includes a few aerial views of the valley, Eel River, forests, and Johnston Ridge.

## **Related Collections**

Admiral William H. Standley Papers, University of Southern California: Special Collections.

Admiral William Standley State Recreation Area Collection, California State Parks Archives.

## **Catalog Subject Search Terms**

Admiral William Standley  
Aerial photography  
Branscomb Dam  
Coast redwood  
Eel River  
Johnston Ridge  
Mud Creek  
Picnic tables