

Size: 25 total acres
Ownership Status: County owned
Land-use zone: Recreation Management (RM)
Classification: Shared-use, Gateway

Description/Natural Features:

The park area is composed of a remnant coastal temperate rainforest. The Klootchey Creek Giant, once the largest Sitka spruce tree in the United States, as registered by American Forests' *National Register of Big Trees*, is located in the park. The tree was measured at more than 200 feet in height, with a trunk circumference of 56 feet and crown spread of 93 feet. It was estimated to be as much as 750 years old. In 1997, the Heritage Tree Committee dedicated this tree as the state's first Heritage Tree Site.

In 2007 the top portion of the tree was felled by a windstorm, and in 2011 the Parks Department removed a further 40 feet or so of the remaining snag over safety concerns about falling decayed wood. The 17-foot-diameter trunk and two fallen sections remain.



This is a popular day-use facility located north of Highway 26. The main attraction at this site is the Big Spruce Tree and nearby trails. Picnicking is available. There are approximately 3,000 linear feet of river frontage along the Necanicum River for fishing. There is a small boat launch site for non-motorized boats.



Facility Inventory:

- Garbage receptacle
- Chemical toilets
- Rock and log barricades to restrict vehicle parking
- 75' long concrete and steel stringer bridge over the Necanicum River from Highway 26 to the park
- A five-foot fence line along the east side of the park, between County and Campbell Group property
- Picnic tables

Geological Significance:

The park area is located along the Necanicum River flood plain and does partially flood in the winter during periods of very high tides and heavy storms

History:

Klootchey Creek Park has been in existence since the

1940s when it was under private ownership. Crown Zellerbach Corporation developed the park as a campground and picnic area to take advantage of the “Big Spruce Tree” and access to the Necanicum River for a boat launch site and for fishing. Campsites, restroom facilities, water, and garbage receptacles were available for visitors. When Crown Zellerbach was sold to a foreign investor in 1986, the new company became Cavenham Forest Industries.

Kloutchy Creek Park soon became surplus property and Cavenham sold the land to Clatsop County in 1988.