

## **DAVID DOUGLAS COUNTY PARK**

<b>Location:</b>	Located between mileposts 13-14 on Hwy 26, Saddle Mountain area of US 26.
<b>Size:</b>	64.4 acres
<b>Ownership Status:</b>	County
<b>Land-use zone:</b>	Recreation Management (RM)
<b>Classification:</b>	Natural Area

### **Description/Natural Features:**

This is a forest tract that has not been developed for any active recreational uses. Access to much of the site is difficult due to topography, brush and downed trees. This is an authentic old-growth forest site. The property contains a variety of large trees including:

- Western hemlock: 180-200 years old
- Douglas fir: 400-500 years old
- Western red cedar: 400-500 years old
- Pacific silver or Grand Fir: 200+ years old

A dense understory of western hemlock, about 30 years old, covers much of the site. Other species represented include Sitka spruce, red alder, red elderberry, salal, salmonberry, and Oregon grape. Invasive species, such as Scotch broom, English holly and evergreen blackberries, are also present on site.

A wide variety of fungus species are present including impressive conks growing on snags and downed trees. A variety of birds are present, including pileated woodpeckers. There is evidence of deer, elk and beaver. Small ponds are used by newts and other amphibians.

### **Cultural/Historical Significance:**

Humans have minimally impacted this site. It offers a glimpse of what much of Clatsop County may have looked like prior to the "tree farming" era.

### **Geological Significance:**

Elevation ranges from 1150 feet to 1400 feet. There are several springs and small creeks that feed into the Little North Fork of the Nehalem River. There are small beaver dams at the southeast corner of the property.

### **History:**

Property was held by the County through delinquent tax payments. The Northwest Discount Corporation deeded the property to the County for the sum of \$50. Board of Commissioners designated site as parkland in 1936 for public benefit and preservation for future generations.

