

HI, I'M PERCY THE PELICAN!  
**WELCOME TO THE CALIFORNIA  
 COASTAL NATIONAL MONUMENT!**

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL NATIONAL MONUMENT  
 QUEST TRAIL INFORMATION:**

**Start:** At Trinidad Head Trailhead

**Contact:** BLM Arcata Field Office  
 (707) 825-2300

**Website:** [www.blm.gov/svld](http://www.blm.gov/svld)

**Quest Trail Name:** Gateway to  
 Monumental Treasure Trail

**Total Length:** ~1.4 miles RT/ ~1 hour

**Difficulty:** Moderate, mostly unpaved,  
 elevation gain of 300 feet, frequent rest stops

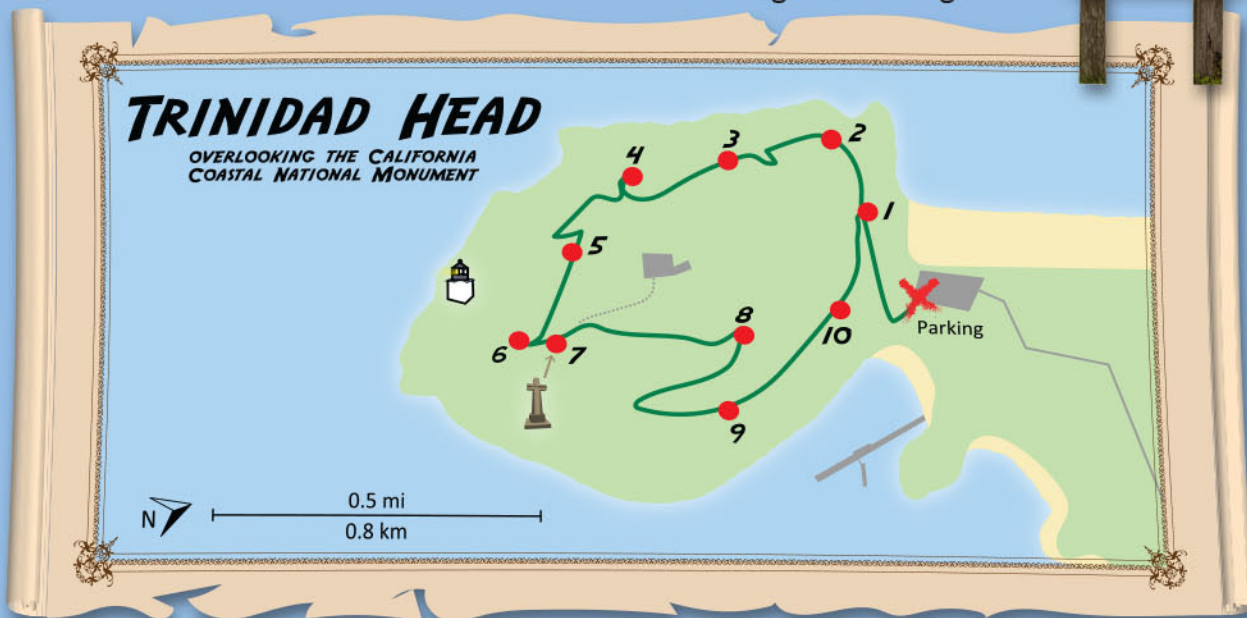


**Driving Directions:** Take Exit  
 Trinidad (#728) from HWY 101.  
 Go west on Main St., continue  
 westbound and stay left on  
 Trinity St., then turn right  
 onto Edwards St. and stay left  
 on Lighthouse Rd. Enter the  
 unpaved parking lot and look  
 for a large trailhead sign.



**HOW TO QUEST:**

You are holding a treasure map! Follow the movement clues (*italicized*) between the stops (numbered) and discover the natural and cultural treasures of this peninsula. At your final destination you will find your Quest Clue. This is the “key” to your prize (see the “Now that you’ve finished your quest” section for your next step)! Have fun, be safe, and stay on marked trails on your adventure.



**NOW THAT YOU'VE FINISHED YOUR QUEST:**

Go to the **Trinidad Museum** (400 Janis Court at Patricks Point Dr, Trinidad. Phone (707) 677-3883. Open Thu.-Sat.), to display your Quest Clue and claim your prize. If they are closed, log on to the Redwood EdVentures website (below) and we'll mail your prize to you.

**WHERE WILL YOUR NEXT QUEST TAKE YOU?**

The journey you've just completed is one of many Redwood EdVentures Quests. Find Quest locations and download free copies at [www.redwood-edventures.org](http://www.redwood-edventures.org).

Teachers, students, and families can also explore hundreds of outdoor places and educational opportunities on the beautiful Redwood Coast. Find out why **nature is closer than you think!**



THINGS I SAW ALONG THE WAY...



**Rivers to  
 Redwoods**  
 CHILDREN'S FOREST



Developed in collaboration with the Environmental Education and Interpretation Practicum class, Humboldt State University, 2014.

Produced in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, which is an equal opportunity service provider and employer.

**REDWOOD  
 EDVENTURES  
 QUEST**

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL NATIONAL  
 MONUMENT: TRINIDAD HEAD**



**GATEWAY TO  
 MONUMENTAL TREASURE**

From the parking lot, find the trailhead by the big sign. Follow it up to the top of the stairs, take a right up the paved path, and keep going up until you see 3 benches at a fork in the road. Take a break and look out at the ocean.



## JOURNEY THROUGH THE TRINIDAD GATEWAY TO MONUMENTAL TREASURE!

- 1** Welcome to your very first stop. Look at the coast before you. Notice the islands and the peninsula, The sandy beach and ocean so blue.

Pewetole Island, Elk Head Peninsula, Green Rock and Trinidad State Beach! Can you point each one out Even though they are far from your reach?



Face away from the lookout and follow the unpaved path to the right. As you walk, notice the tunnels of trees and bushes. Your next stop will be a lookout with another 3 benches. Can you find Pewetole Island again at the far right?

- 2** On a windy day, the ocean slams against Pewetole Island, Creating smoke-like spray from the crashing waves. The collision of water and wind against the coastal land, Created Trinidad Bay with sea stacks, islands and caves.

As you follow the trail, stop to discover the sitka spruce and its scaly bark and cylindrical cones. These trees love salty environments like this. Continue on, ignore the spur and stay left, and climb the trail until you reach 4 benches.

- 3** Look for the rock named Flatiron on the right, Home to California's largest colony of Common Murres! It's a rookery, a place for birds to raise their young, A safe place, far from their predatory fears.

On this rock is a bounty of eggs, The Common Murre has a great adaptation: Their eggs have a unique shape, avoiding a fall, Spinning in circles, thanks to evolution!



Keep following the path. Stop when you get to a single bench and a post marked "SPUR." Follow the spur uphill to reach the top of a large rock overlooking the ocean. Be careful on this rocky trail!

- 4** Keep an eye out for a giant swimming south in the fall; It's the once endangered California Gray Whale. In spring it heads north to its summer feeding grounds. Look for bubbles, spouts, a hump, or a tail!

Underwater lies a rich ocean habitat, A treasury of unique species shows off its magnificence. Rock cod and sea stars, octopi, and crabs, Live in this "Area of Special Biological Significance."

Now go back the way you came and keep following the main trail. Listen to the sounds of the sea and land as you walk. Continue until you reach a single bench with a spectacular view; look for the name Capt. Harrington on the bench.

- 5** Before taking a seat on this commemorative bench, Take a look at the name engraved on the plaque. It celebrates Trinidad's longest lighthouse keeper, Who made sure ships wouldn't hit a sea stack.

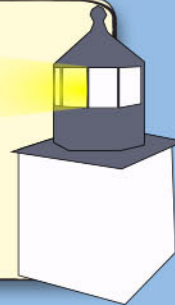
Continue up the trail, but watch out for poison oak that grows near the trail's edges. Eventually, you'll see a cross made of stone on your left, partially blocked by some trees. Don't go to it yet! Instead, keep going until you hit a "T" in the road, then take a right towards a wooden platform. Can you find the round roof of the water tower? And a lighthouse too?



Poison Oak

- 6** Now look carefully for a lighthouse below. How high is it above the ocean? Imagine the sea rising up and up, And crashing over this lighthouse station!

In 1914 the Big Wave hit. Harrington saw it coming and held on tight. The whole place shook while the lights went out. He fixed it in 30 minutes and saved the night!



Now leave the wooden platform and head back towards the big stone cross you passed earlier.

- 7** Can you guess who built this cross? Captains Bodega and Heceta sailed from Spain, Made one out of wood and etched some words. And if you can't read Latin, let me explain:

"Charles III, by the Grace of God, King of Spain." They erected a cross to honor his name, But the wood grew old and had to be replaced. A stone one was built; the words stayed the same.



Go uphill on the path, past three benches, until you reach a wide gravel road Follow the gravel road down to the right until you reach a single bench at a big bend. You should be overlooking the town of Trinidad.

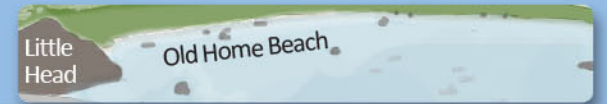
- 8** Now take a closer look at Trinidad from here: The old white church was there from the town's start, The Memorial Lighthouse remembers lost sailors, And the Marine Lab has scientists who're quite smart!



Head down the trail further, past the picnic area. The road becomes paved at this point. Keep following it until you reach a single bench on your right.

- 9** Birders enjoy Little Trinidad Head on the left, And on the right, the sea stacks where birds like to flock. Here pelicans rest and cormorants dry their feathers. Guillemots nest in caverns and gulls nest on rocks.

Head further down the trail until you reach the next overlook with another single bench.



- 10** Look across and imagine a village above Old Home Beach. The Yurok people lived here first and still live here today. Protecting the coast and preserving their culture and beliefs, Gathering plants, hunting deer, catching surf fish in the bay.

Before you leave our very last stop, look at the plaque on the bench. Write down the last letter on the plaque. Can you name something you saw on this trip that starts with that letter? This is your clue!

WRITE YOUR QUEST CLUE HERE:

Our journey through monumental treasure was a treat. But no trip through Trinidad would be complete, Without partners who help us protect the bay, So future generations can see the same views we do today.

