

# HI I'M PERCY THE PELICAN! WELCOME TO THE HAMMOND COASTAL TRAIL BIKE QUEST!

### HOW TO QUEST:

You are holding a treasure map! Follow the movement clues (italicized) between numbered stops to discover this historic coastal rail-trail. Interpretive signs along the way provide more information. BOTH start and end locations have hidden Quest Clues – "keys" to your prize. You must know them to redeem your prize; write them in the Quest Clues section. (See "Now that you've finished..." for next steps.)

### QUEST INFORMATION:

**Start:** Letz Avenue/Road Trailhead

**Contact:** Humboldt County Office of Education **Quest:** Hammond Coastal Trail Clam Beach

**Bike Quest** 

**Total Length:** 3.2 miles round trip. Plan for up to 2 hours. Pack a snack or lunch and binoculars for bench or beach stops.

Difficulty: Trail includes flat pavement, gravel

and one steep gravel hill (see map).

**Driving Directions:** From the NORTH: Take Airport Road exit off 101. Turn right under 101. Turn right onto Letz Ave. and park at trailhead lot. From the SOUTH: Take Airport Road exit off 101. Turn left under 101. Turn right onto Letz Ave. and park at trailhead lot.

### **BIKE SAFETY TIPS:**

- Helmets are required for youth under 18 and strongly recommended as models for adults.
- Ride only on the right-hand side of the trail.
- Leave the distance of a 'ghost bike rider' between bikes in your group to avoid contact.
- Verbally announce the need to stop before slowing down and stopping.
- Pull your bike off the trail at each Quest stop.



## SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Take photos anywhere along the trail and post with hashtag #hammondcoastaltrail.



### ONCE YOU HAVE FINISHED YOUR QUEST;

Register your clues on the Redwood EdVentures website (below) and we will mail you your patch.

### 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.

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!** 













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CLAM BEACH
BIKE QUEST

### WELCOME TO THE HAMMOND COASTAL TRAIL!

### LOOK FOR QUEST CLUES!

MANY STOPS HAVE NEARBY ITEMS TO SPOT AND RECORD.

QUEST CLUE: ON THE WOOD KIOSK AT THE TRAIL ENTRANCE TO YOUR RIGHT, ON THE RIGHT PANEL, FIND OUT WHAT MONTHS ARE NESTING SEASON FOR THE SNOWY PLOVER.

(WRITE ANSWERS IN THE QUEST CLUE ANSWER BOX ON THE RIGHT)



THIS QUEST CAN ALSO BE DONE ON YOUR PHONE! POINT YOUR CAMERA AT THIS CODE TO START.

Requires internet connection; data usage fees may apply.

Nesting Snowv Plover

4 Out on the beach in the dunes' soft sand The Snowy Plover makes its nest where it can. Stay on hard-packed sand and keep dogs on-leash And pack out trash to help Plovers survive on the beach.

Continue riding along the trail, it will become smooth and paved. Your next stop will be about a half-mile ride until you reach a bench and sign entitled "Wetland Dune Hollows" on your left.

Photo: Bovle Collection, Humboldt State University Library

In the late 1800s this area was mined for gold. There was none to be claimed, as the story is told. The Clam Beach Inn and cabins were a popular location Attracting locals and visitors for a coastal vacation (until Highway 101 was constructed in 1964).

You have reached the end of the Quest and turnaround point! Be sure to record your Ending Quest Clue. Restroom and seasonal beach access through camparound lot ahead.

Your first stop is here at the wood kiosk and trail entrance.

You are about to journey along the California Coastal Trail, It follows the Mad River and old Hammond lumber rail. It will link 1,200 miles of coast when finally complete, For trail users to enjoy by wheel, hoof, shoe and bare feet.

Begin riding along the trail, winding through the eucalyptus trees. Go slow on the loose gravel and stop at the overlook near the parking area, before the big downhill.

2 Look out across the sweeping coastal view, Can you see the mouth of the 95 mile-long Mad River below you? Trinidad Head (to the north) extends from the bluffs and the bay Any seal, whale, or seabird sightings today?

> GO SLOW AND STAY IN CONTROL for this gravelly downhill section. Stop toward the bottom of the hill at the bench and interpretive sign entitled 'Marine Terraces On The Rise.'

You are standing atop a great piece of geology A marine terrace that was once below the sea Pounded by waves then lifted up over time These ancient processes shape this coastline.

QUEST CLUE: ON THE SIGN PANEL, WHAT KIND OF GEOLOGIC FORMATION IS 'STRAWBERRY ROCK?'

> GO SLOW as you continue this downhill section. Your next stop will be at the base of the hill near the chain link fence that opens to the beach.



Look for this trail insignia.

These trees mark the dune hollows; the lowest parts of the beach. This coastal habitat forms where water (for plant roots) is within reach. Plants and animals are drawn to this watery zone The Western Toad is one of many to call this hollow home.

### **QUEST CLUE:**

ON THE SIGN PANEL, WHAT IS ANOTHER NAME FOR A DUNE HOLLOW?

Wilson's Warbler in the dune hollow.

Continue riding along the trail (about another half-mile) until you get to a wooden bridge. Stop on the bridge.

6 The Hammond Lumber Company gave this coastal trail its name. Running tracks between Crannell and Samoa Mill by steam train. This bridge spans over little Strawberry Creek, As you rumble over, look for birds and wildlife; take a peek!

> QUEST CLUE: ON THE SIGN PANEL, WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE BROWN BIRD IN THE ARTWORK?

Whale spout. Photo: Andrew Goff

> The trail meets the Clam Beach County Park parking lot just ahead. Your last stop is at the entry kiosk to this trail, at the parking area.



Photo: allaboutbirds.org

Photo: istor.ord

### **ENDING QUEST CLUE:**

FIND THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION BY LOOKING AT THE SIDE OF THE CLAM BEACH KIOSK WITH THE 'SHARE THE BEACH' PANEL. WHAT IS THE MAIN REASON GIVEN FOR KEEPING TRASH OFF THE BEACH?

### WRITE YOUR QUEST CLUES HERE:

Starting Quest Clue: Nesting season

Stop #3 Clue: Geologic formation

Stop #5: Other name for dune hollow

Stop #6: Brown bird

Ending Quest Clue: Reason for preventing trash