About Byrne-Milliron

The 402-acre Byrne-Milliron Forest is open to the public year-round from sunrise to sunset.

You can explore redwoods and mixedhardwood forests on the property's ten miles of trails. Take in panoramic views of the Pajaro Valley and Monterey Bay over a picnic lunch at AJ's Point of View.

The Land Trust acquired the 322-acre Byrne Forest in 1984, and the Milliron property (pronounced just as the two separate words mill and iron) in 2008. The Land Trust manages the land for public access and as a sustainable working forest.

Land Trust membership support makes access to the forest possible.

Caretaker of the Forest

Nico de Paolo began work as caretaker of the forest in 2018. He considers himself lucky to enjoy a fulfilling career in land management, both at Byrne-Milliron and in his work for Land Trust of Santa Cruz County. If you see Nico out on the trails, say hello! He welcomes any opportunity to get to know our visitors and supporters.

Conservation Forestry

Like most conifer forests in the Santa Cruz Mountains, Byrne-Milliron was clear cut and burned in the late 19th century. Since that time, the forest has been managed as a sustainably harvested forest.



With acquisition of the property in 1984, the Land Trust took over management of the forestry operation. We use a comprehensive Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan, virtually hand selecting which trees are harvested. The operation reduces tree density and provides age diversity, which is why the Byrne-Milliron Forest is both healthy and beautiful.

Funds generated from harvests go toward stewardship of the forest and maintenance of the thousands of acres under the Land Trust's care.

Trail Use and Safety

All Byrne Trails are "moderate" intensity and contain long uphill segments.

- Hiking and dog-walking are permitted on all fire roads and trails.
- Dogs must be on leash at all times.
- Horseback riding, bicycling, motorized vehicles, fires, camping, and hunting are NOT permitted.
- Park in the designated lot only. Do not park along the road or in turnouts.

A Note on Mountain Lions



The forest is home to many species, including mountain lions. If you encounter a lion, stay back and try to appear large by raising your arms or opening your jacket. Speak in a loud, firm voice. Pick up and hold children. If the lion approaches, fight back. People have effectively defended themselves with rocks, sticks or whatever they could grab. Do not run, crouch, or bend over.

Welcome to

Byrne-Milliron Forest

Byrne-Milliron Forest is private property owned by the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County. Use of its trails is a benefit provided to the public by Land Trust membership support.



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SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Join us by making a donation today! www.landtrustsantacruz.org

Byrne-Milliron Forest Trail Map

