

Redwoods Rendevous

Fri. April 19th - Spokane to Lincoln City

Left 514 W approx 7A and headed south into a steady rain. Ran into Kennewick for gas and a quick bite. With determination we hit the 84W and pushed all the way to Multnomah Falls for our first photo op.

Overcast and gray provided the back drop for some HDR shooting around the falls. Back on the road we buzzed thru Portland and headed out 99W to the 18 then south to Lincoln City and the Devils Lake Campground.

Found site C10 and had camp setup by 4:15PM. Not more than half an hour later it began to mist. This turned into a steady rain and managing the fire was not an option. We retreated to the tent and the heater buddy. Steady rain all night was interrupted by a dog raccoon chase. Turned in to a warm tent around 10 bells.

Sat. April 20th - Lincoln City to Florence

Happy Four Twenty all. Started a fire in the morning sun and made a leisurely breakfast of scrambled eggs with coffee. Packed up a wet camp and hit the road by 11 ish. Had to visit with the neighbors that had the VW Westphalia and the Subaru engine.

Headed south with a stop at Heceta Head Lite but it was closed due to renovations. The sunshine made for a nice walk anyway. Also stopped by Cape Perpetua and wandered down to the tide pools for more photo ops. Pushed south again thru Florence and found a spot at Honeyman SP. Pitched camp in the sunshine and got things drying out. Then back to Florence for a late lunch @ ICM and a photo stroll around old town.

Picked up beer, ice, cocoa and tea on the way back to site 19 and hunkered down for the night. Sat around the fire and watched the moon rise to half moon. Couldn't resist the calling and broke out the tripods and cameras. Did some timelapse and light painting around the campsite til 11:30 ish.

Sun April 21st - Florence to Brookings

Damn cold night, slept in me sweats. Weird dream with Jimmy Buffett and the Cd'a fire department and Bluberry was in it. The whole time I had the pipe in my pocket, lol!

Anyway up @ 8 ish and built a fire, made coffee & walked to the end of the campgrounds. Holy Bat Smoke a bazillion 4 wheelers, quads, dune buggies and two stroke noise everywhere.

Jonathan rose 11 and a half bells and we proceeded to break camp. Packed Bluberry and headed south rolling into Bandon for a quick BP check on moi. Rolled into Harris Beach SP 6 ish, set camp, and enjoyed a delicious chili n mac dinner. Immediately after we headed for sunset shots.

We had to move due to gate closings and such so our set up was hurried as the golden hour turned blue. Shot some HDR's then tried a little light painting. LJ saw a couple shooting stars. Turned in round 10 to a pleasant nights rest.

Mon April 22nd - Brookings to Crescent City

Up @ 8 made cocoa. the light was gorgeous in the campground so I grabbed the tripod & started shooting. Had breakfast and connected to the grid to upload a few images. Camp down by 10:40 and headed south.

Pulled into Redwoods NP Headquarters in Crescent City around noon. Talked with the rangers, got some maps and headed to the wharf to see two Tall Ships that were berthed there. The Hawaiian Chieftan and the Washington Lady, both ported in Grays Harbor were prepping for a run up the coast to Coos Bay. the Lady was used as the Interceptor in the Pirates series.

Had a late lunch on the main drag then headed into the giants. Arrived at site 42 in Jedediah Smith SP and had camp set by 5:30 ish and began shooting. Headed for the Smith River, the longest undammed river in California. Cool, clear, flowing green water surrounded by old growth, wow! Wandered up stream looking for the footbridge crossing to the Stout Grove.

Seems its a natural path when the river is low and slow, lol. Friendly campers told us how to get to the grove via the back road out of the campground so off we trod. Stopped in town for firewood first. LJ purchased starter fluid & showed me how to start a white man's fire. Also got wood at the Home Depot.

Zipped up to the Stout Grove and found 6 miles of dirt road. The light was failing so we headed back to camp. Hunkered down with some beef stroganoff and hot cocoa, with a shot of St. Brendans Irish and a roaring white man's fire. I turned in ten ish while LJ was still shooting timelapse.

Tues April 23 - The Redwoods

Up 8 ish made coffee and started a white mans fire, smoked a bowl then caught up in the journal. LJ up round 10 and we had scrambled eggs with bacon for breakfast. One more serving of that left then its chili mac n cheese.

Heading out arrived at Stout Grove trailhead noonish. WOW effing wow - giants everywhere. Started walking and shooting many shots straight up trying to find the tops of the giants. Found a

cool locations and setup for a couple selfies with LJ & I. On the road again we found another cool place at a wide spot in the road. Grabbed a flash and some triggers a reflector the pipe and tripods and just played.

Into Crescent City 3 ish and had an excellent lunch at the Apple Peddlars, meatloaf yummy. Then headed for the Simpson Reid Grove. After a detour to the river, my bad, we found the trailhead and began our shoot around of the grove. Returned to camp 6 ish and hunkered down for the nite.

Shower time, LJ built a fire and we sat around reflecting of the great day, cool shots and great video. Connected to the grid and upped a shot to FB, final action of the day. 8:30 relaxing around the fire on a warm evening in the Redwoods.

Wed April 24th - Redwoods

Up 7 ish and made coffee and finished the scrambled with bacon. The light in the camp ground was soft and ephemeral so I set up the 24 1.4 and started a timelapse. Switched out to the 17-40 and started some video slo mo. Shot a couple angles of the site for stock footage.

LJ surfaced 11 ish. We left camp 11:45 and headed south for the Drury Scenic Loop. Stopped by the Ossagon trail but decided to move south to the Big Tree Wayside. We shot our way around the Cathedral Trees Tr. Even broke out the flashes and played with light.

Hungry and sun baked we headed North on the 101 in search of food. Missed the Casino and ended up at Perlittas in Crescent City. Had a bite will connecting to the grid and cooled down with a couple of Coronas. After finishing we headed south again to Enders Beach Rd.

Found the lookout for a photo op. w the 70-200 on LJ's 7D we set out to shoot the lighthouse. Lol, could just barely see it with this combo. Anyway got some great shots of Crescent Beach. Stopped at the city beach on the way back to camp. One of the Tall Ships was making seaward into a calm sea and a setting sun.

Back to camp round 7P, started a fire and that was it for the night. Round 9 ish had an epiphany and texted Lacey. Originally we were headed for Crater Lake but it is still snowed in facilitating a detour, thus the Lacey connection. To see if we could crash at her place in Eugene Thursday. Had it all worked out by 9:30 then sat up til 11 burning the last of the firewood.

Thurs April 25th - Redwoods to Eugene

Up early made coffee & finished up the instant. Had chili mac n beef for breakfast, not bad. Had camp down and showers taken by 10 A. Pointed Bluberry east on 199 heading for Grants Pass and the 5. Beautiful drive thru winding, banked curves along river and forest, with the sunroof open and fresh air rolling in we made Grants Pass by 11:30 A. Gassed and grubbed up @ the

Casablanca. great wrap and fruit smoothie.

Switched drivers steering north on the 5 Eugene in our sites. After being lost in Cottage Grove we stopped for beer and called Lacey. Got directions and arrived at her and Nick's place round 3 ish. We sat on the deck after the tour and talked photography and business til Nick got home @ 5:30.

After a couple beer the 3 of us headed out for a sunset shoot around Eugene. Hitting the Rose Garden and Spencer's butte we grabbed a few shots then headed to Agate Alley Laboratory for dinner and refreshments. Back to Lacey's where we gabbed and watched *Marijuana Wars* til 11:30 before cashing in.

Fri April 26th - Eugene to Spokane

Up 7:30ish for a poop then a cat nap. Back at 8:30 LJ finished his laundry and we were on the road munching on VooDoo donuts for breakfast. Missing the 205 exit LJ ran Bluberry thru Portland. We pulled into Hood River with less than a gallon in the tank, lol. Two cans of Sunoco fuel and right side tires and we're back on the lead lap.

Stopped for a bite in Umatilla, changed drivers and blew thru the Tri-Cities. A quick gas stop in Ritzville and we arrived at 514 W around 6 ish, 1648 miles from when we left.