

**HI, I'M GRETA THE GREAT EGRET!
WELCOME TO HUMBOLDT BAY
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE!**

HOW TO QUEST:

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

OVERVIEW:

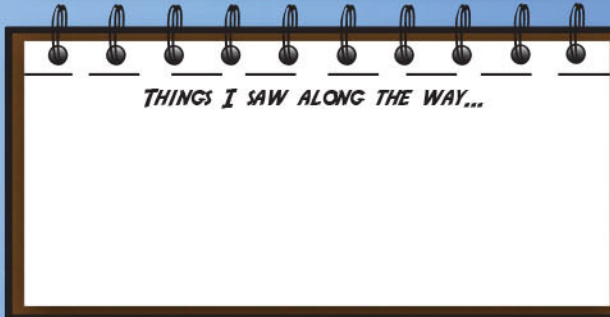
Between the tall trees of Tompkins Hill and Table Bluff and the cold waters of Humboldt Bay lies a special place "in between", Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Once a vast salt marsh estuary, then a working cattle ranch, now a wildlife refuge, this place has seen many changes over the centuries. Today, managers strive to restore some of the historic salt marsh and manage for a mixture of habitats: freshwater wetlands, brackish sloughs, pasture lands and riparian corridors. Many species both large and small call this place "in between" their home.

NOW THAT YOU'VE FINISHED YOUR QUEST:

Return to the Visitor Center by finishing the loop. There you will 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. 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!**



A Quest "In Between" was created during a collaborative community workshop led by Steve Glazer of Valley Quest (www.vitalcommunities.org). Many thanks to all the local participants and to Alisha Clompus for her artwork.

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

REDWOOD EDVENTURES QUEST

Photo Credit: USFWS



A QUEST "IN BETWEEN"

**HUMBOLDT BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
QUEST TRAIL INFORMATION:**

Start: Visitor Center, 1020 Ranch Rd., Loleta.

Contact: (707) 733-5406

www.fws.gov/refuge/humboldt_bay/

Quest Trail Name: Shorebird Loop Trail

Total Length: 1.75 mile loop/~1 hour

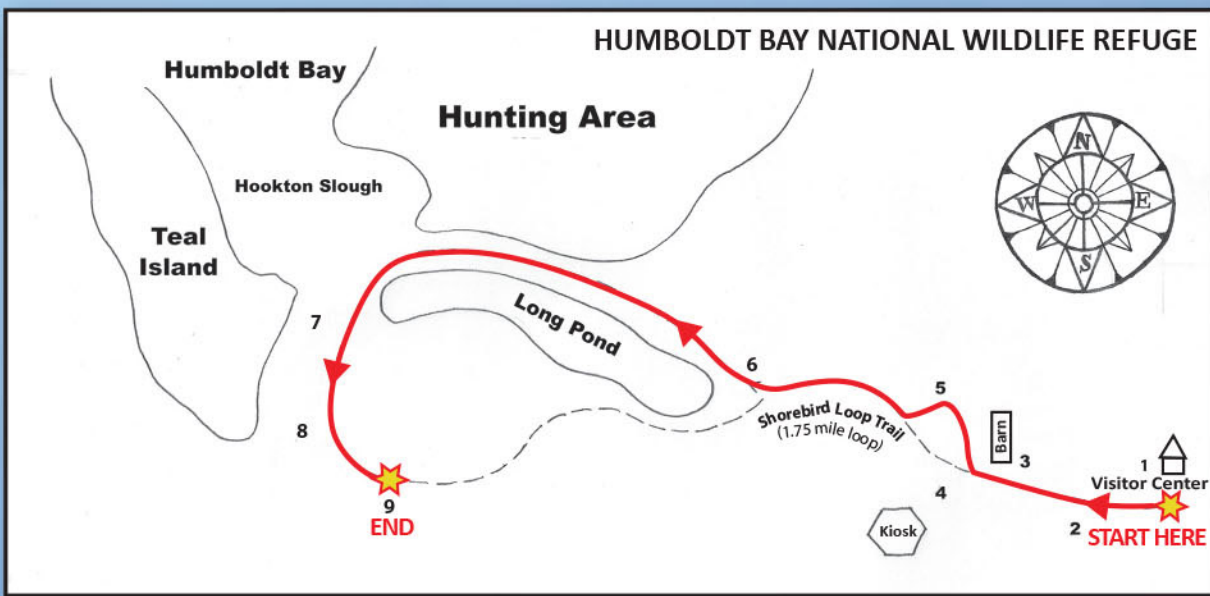
Difficulty: Easy (mostly level gravel path)

Driving Directions:

Take Exit # 696 (Loleta/ Hookton Rd) off HWY 101.

Northbound, turn left and go west over the overpass and take the first right, follow the entrance road north and west ~1.3 miles to the Richard J. Guadagno Headquarters and Visitor Center.

Southbound, turn right and then immediately left onto the entrance road (see above).



Begin this quest at the **Visitor Center**.

*From the front desk, turn around
And out through the door you should bound.
Look for where wood and concrete meet
The compass rose will be right at your feet.*



DISCOVER THE LAND "IN BETWEEN" AT HUMBOLDT BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE!



1 The mountains--to the east--your eyes greet
The rumble of ocean--to the west--sounds so sweet
In front of you there is a mystery:
Seek hidden connections between land and sea.
**Awaiting you up ahead? A mysterious scene:
Why is this refuge a place "in between"?**

*Let your feet flow down the decline,
Don't worry about leaving the highway behind.
The meandering path of the wooden bridge below,
Copies the shape of the Refuge's tidal flow.*

2 **At the bottom what do you hear?
Are some sounds far and others near?**
You may see geese, a mower or cows nearby
Their interest is in how the grass grows throughout
the seasons that's why.
Before this old gate kept cattle in their place
It was a redwood tree growing in the hills with great grace.
Gaze down at the water to the slough below
It also has a gate to control water flow.

*Turn yourself right to face the salty sea
Now, walk along the slough to marker number 3.
Continue between the willows just 40 paces more
To find a relic in the form that was once here before.*

3 Before the days of ranching, look east and you will see
Willow used for centuries in Wiyot basketry.
Long ago this barn was built of old growth redwood slats
Instead of cows, now it is home to owls; and notice boxes for the bats.
How many bat boxes can you see?



*Alongside the ditch, continue your stroll
Watch for a fence and water where otters might roll.
At the end of the wood rail, hidden from you,
Is a picture perfect place that frames a view.
Go left to the kiosk, spy birds inside and out
The scene from the bench holds a secret mystery no doubt!*

4 Off in the distance, under the trees, lies Salmon Creek
Named for the fish the Wiyot Tribe did seek.
From Headwaters to tidewaters, be it mist, wet or dry
This stream flows sinuously and continuously linking sea, earth & sky.
**Can you see the forested horizon? And in front a flat open space?
Can you find "in between" the riparian corridor cutting across this place?**

*Come out of the kiosk and toward the barn you should trek
Move forward on the path to the Wild Wing Deck.*

5 "Wet feet" keep cattails abundant all year
Providing a secret hiding place for deer.
From this cattail marsh beautiful ducks called teal
Search through the abundant vegetation looking for a meal.
Don't fear if you see some areas of cattails mowed down
It actually creates openings for more wildlife to be found.
Look quietly and carefully: What different critters can YOU hear & see?



*From the cattails take a journey quite a ways to the west
Pass thickets, fields and wetlands where many birds nest.
When the trail forks and Long Pond is in sight
Continue this Quest by going to the right.*

6 Fresh and salt together make this brackish water
a wonderful home for the local otter.
Wet winter south winds make the ripples grow.
In summer, north breezes move water slow.
Please give a close inspection: What is today's wind direction?



*Meander along the edge of the pond and watch for wildlife every which way
When the trail rises up, you'll find yourself looking at quite a view on the
edge of Humboldt Bay.*

7 Winter, spring, summer or fall
Many lives gather here, both large & small.
Here in this estuary named Hookton Slough
You may see salmon running through.
Up Salmon Creek adults heading home
The other way through, fry have a chance to roam.
**Here the tides ebb and flow.
Tell me now, is it high or low? And how do you know?**

*With Long Pond on your left, Hookton Slough on your right,
Your next stop is almost in sight.
Cross over the bridge and you shall see
A "bucket" where it ought not to be.*

8 The dredge Jupiter's bucket remains of human's plan
To turn salt marshes into grazing land.
Now the dikes decay; Teal Island's a ghost.
Nature restored - a balanced host.
Look this way and that. How many people modified this habitat?

*Leave the rusty bucket behind to continue its decay
Find a brown redwood bench, we're near the end of our play.
Our Quest treasure box is in a place quite fitting,
directly underneath the place you are now sitting!*

9 Write down the name of the bird that appears on the outside
of the yellow treasure box, this is your Quest Clue.
Now open the box: Sign in, tell us what you've seen and that you've been here.
And please come again and visit every season, year after year.

**WRITE YOUR
QUEST CLUE HERE;**
