



Jessie M. Honeyman State Park



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Welcome to Jessie M. Honeyman

Experience one visit to Honeyman State Park and you'll wonder why you waited so long to make the trip. This central Oregon coast jewel shines much like the park's three freshwater lakes under the summer sun.

Just three miles south of Florence, Honeyman is a popular destination for day-use visitors and campers. Oregon's second largest state campground offers tent sites, RV sites and the always-popular yurts. The kids will have fun at the playground. Time your family reunion in the yurt meeting hall to coincide with fall huckleberry picking. Let a summer interpretive program in the park's amphitheater catch your children's imagination. They could see Oregon State Parks' mascot J.R. Beaver!

Honeyman's rich past is visible almost everywhere you look. A stroll through the 43-acre historic district reveals the enduring work of the Civilian Conservation Corps. The district retains much of its 1930s character.

Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

Honeyman has it all.



Leaving a legacy of craftsmanship

Take a close look at the lodge and terrace along the edge of Cleawox Lake and the stone work that borders the park roads. In the 1930s, young men serving six-month stints in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) shaped and placed each rock and timber. A workforce of willing and able 18-25 year olds joined the CCC during the Great Depression. Their hands built portions of the park now listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Although the CCC built the original day-use areas, the park design is a hallmark of the National Park Service. The design invokes harmony with nature, from the rustic buildings to the naturalistic landscape. Visitors to the historic district today will discover many features that showcase the rustic era.



Historic Gazebo



Historic Cleawox Lodge

Honeyman became a premier attraction during the 1940s and 1950s. People began to travel more as the post World War II economy boomed. In the 1950s, a new campground with electricity, water and hot showers introduced many families to overnight camping. The park's facilities and ways to have fun prompted LIFE magazine to name it one of the Top 10 state parks in the nation.



Who was Jessie M. Honeyman?

Jessie Honeyman was a tireless advocate for Oregon's natural resources and the scenery along the state's highways. During the 1920s and 1930s, she gained the respect of state parks superintendent Samuel Boardman. Between the two of them, they protected many parcels of scenic land along the coast. Boardman recognized Honeyman for her efforts on July 12, 1941, when Jessie M. Honeyman Memorial State Park was officially dedicated.

Meet a living landscape

Honeyman is a special place of coastal rain forest, ancient dunes and freshwater lakes that draws families back year after year. Nowhere else in North America can you find such a spectacular expanse—47 miles, running from Florence to Coos Bay—of coastal dunes. Some dunes are nearly 500 feet tall, formed by complex weather patterns and shifting winds.



Dense groves of Douglas-fir and Sitka spruce tower over huckleberry and salal plants, mixed with pockets of salmonberry. Visitors are delighted by the pink Pacific rhododendrons that brighten the park in the late spring.

Unique wetlands at the ends of the narrow fingers of Woahink and

Cleawox lakes are hosts to several species of rare plants, as well as skunk cabbage, waxmyrtle and sedges. The water and trees around Woahink are excellent places for birdwatching. A peek along the lakeshore might reveal minks, beavers, muskrats, weasels and the occasional migrating river otter.



Enjoy family fun

Parents and grandparents who camped and played here decades ago now bring their families to enjoy Honeyman. With 500-plus acres to explore, discover your favorite way to play in the park.

Cleawox and Woahink lakes are prime spots for water sports. Rent a kayak, canoe, or paddle boat at Cleawox Lake, or take a dip in the swimming area. Scuba divers find Woahink's cool, deep waters perfect for exploring. Fishing is a popular pastime at both lakes.

The park abuts the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, but don't expect an easy hike to the beach. The park is separated from the ocean by two miles of sand. A favorite with all-terrain vehicle riders, the dunes offer another extreme sport; hop on a sandboard and slide down a dune. Sandboarding is similar to snowboarding, but you can do this all year!



PHOTO COURTESY LON BEALE



Honeyman's trail system weaves through the park's lush grounds. A mile-long interpretive trail stretches from the historic Cleawox Lodge to the campground registration booth. Let the cool lake breeze refresh you as you take a break at the signs that describe the coastal plants.

