

**9** White oak trees are the main distinguishing feature of this oak savannah, which is an important habitat for many wildlife species like deer, coyotes, turkeys, grouse, quail, elk, foxes and jackrabbits. Another “oak” also calls this place its home: Poison-oak. It can grow as a bush or vine with shiny green, red, or yellow leaves in groups of three. The oils can cause swelling, pain and itching, so remember: “Leaves of three, let it be.”

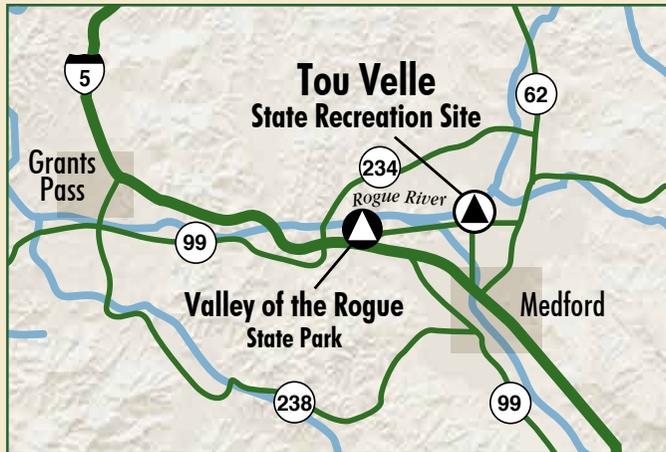


**10** Looking west toward the parking lot, you’ll see a giant Ponderosa pine. Look closely at the bark, and you’ll notice it’s covered in the same tiny holes that you observed earlier. Acorn woodpeckers drill these holes and fill them with an acorn, to be eaten later in the season when food is scarce. This “granary tree”



has thick bark, allowing it to withstand the drilling over a long period of time.

*To help conserve our natural resources and keep a clean park, please return this guide to the box.*



**Tou Velle State Park**  
5342 Table Rock Road  
White City, OR 97503

Park: 541-826-2257 or 541-582-1118  
Reservations: 800-452-5687



**Oregon Parks and Recreation Department**

725 Summer St. NE, Suite C  
Salem OR 97301

[oregonstateparks.org](http://oregonstateparks.org)  
[oregonstateparks.wordpress.com](http://oregonstateparks.wordpress.com)



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# Tou Velle State Recreation Site

## Nature Trail



## Welcome to the Tou Velle Nature Trail.

*There are ten markers located  
along the 1/4 mile loop.*



**1** Welcome to the riparian zone of the Rogue River, characterized by the unique plant habitat that exists where land and river meet. Before the bridge, an interpretive sign explains the importance of maintaining a healthy riparian zone.



**2** Step over to the clearing overlooking the river. Tall trees along the river's edge serve as nesting habitat for great blue herons. When the river is low and clean, you may view a great blue heron or green heron fishing for lunch.



**3** Vegetation along the river's edge prevents erosion and provides habitat for many animals, birds and fish. Tree species in this area include black oak, white oak, willow and alder. Branches and woody debris that fall into the river provide shade and shelter from predators for the aquatic life below.

**4** Anadromous fish like Chinook, steelhead and coho salmon migrate to the ocean, where they live for a few years before returning upstream to spawn in the same location where they hatched. In fall, you may glimpse a female salmon or steelhead building her "redd"— a shallow nest in the gravel where she deposits her eggs.



*Steelhead salmon return to the place where they hatched to spawn.*

**5** Up ahead we've started building a fishing platform in the river. Once complete, this will be a prime spot for both fishing and viewing. *Take a right up ahead to stay on the trail.*

**6** Scouts crafted and installed these benches, where you can look out over the Denman Wildlife Area and watch for great blue herons, green herons, coots, wood ducks, ospreys, mallards, cinnamon teals, Canada geese and an occasional beaver or muskrat.

**7** A number of plants not traditionally found in this area grow along the trail, including teasal, rose, yellow star thistle and Himalayan blackberries. These plants provide habitat and food for a variety of birds and small rodents, but they are also considered invasive because they take resources from and crowd out native plants. While there are many techniques for removal, none are as effective as preventing the initial introduction. Park managers are researching removal methods.



*Teasal*

**8** This seasonal creek is an overflow outlet for the three ponds of Denman Trail. As you cross the bridge, take note of the holes in the tree trunks. What could have formed these holes? How many trees like this can you spot until the next stop?