

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mendocino Railway 07/09/2024

UNVEILING SUMMER'S WONDERS AT THE SKUNK: EXPERIENCE THE RETURN OF THE CHIGGEN STEAM ENGINE

Only August 3rd through September 8th a Limited Time Experience You Won't Want to Miss!

Fort Bragg, CA — (July 9, 2024) — The Skunk Train is excited to announce the return of a sensational experience that will transport visitors on an unforgettable journey through time and immerse them in the beauty of the Redwoods. Prepare to be captivated by the historic Chiggen steam engine.

The Chiggen, a legendary steam locomotive that graced the tracks of the California Western Railroad just last year, is making its return to the Redwood Route this summer. Weekends in August and September, adventurers of all ages can step aboard this remarkable piece of history and embark on a one-of-a-kind voyage through the heart of the Redwoods.

Pulled by an authentic, historic California steam locomotive, passengers will relish a scenic 7-mile round trip along the stunning Pudding Creek Estuary. Immerse yourself in nature's wonders and perhaps catch blue herons gracefully gliding over the waters, ospreys hunting, and elegant egrets like small sculptures against landscape. Departing from our Fort Bragg depot, this enchanting journey lasts one hour and 15 minutes round trip, with a captivating stop at Glen Blair Bar.

Transporting you back to the Days of Steam, the Chiggen mirrors the original locomotive that traversed these very tracks in 1885. Beginning its service in 1909, the Chiggen is over a century old, and with only a handful of these historic locomotives still in operation, their numbers are

sadly diminishing. This makes the opportunity to ride one of these rare trains even more special.

Experience the nostalgia and grandeur of the era as you travel in authentic passenger cars from that time, including an open-air car that allows you to breathe in the fragrant air of the towering Redwoods. This remarkable expedition through history promises to be a cherished memory for everyone on board.

Tickets for this experience are \$79.95 per person, visitors will experience a living testament to locomotive engineering and history. Don't miss your chance to step into a bygone era and experience the wonders of the Chiggen steam engine.

Book your tickets now through <u>Days of Steam</u> and be prepared to embark on an extraordinary adventure that will leave you with memories to cherish for a lifetime.

California Western Railroad / Skunk Train located in the redwood forests of Northern California's Mendocino County, is a heritage railroad that has been operating both freight and passenger service since 1885. Initially used to move redwood logs to the Mendocino Coast sawmills from the rugged back country, the Skunk Train has become a beloved institution touted as one of the "10 Best Rail Tours in the Country" (USA Today), and a "Top 10 Family Activity in California" (National Geographic Traveler). The Skunk Train journey covers 40 miles of scenic delights and 30 bridges, all while retaining its original charm—minus the historic pungent aroma that once preceded its arrival. Operating year-round, this multi-generational experience welcomes passengers to bring along their families and even their dog, ensuring a memorable and inclusive adventure.

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Media Contact: Kimberly Preciado Mendocino Railway

Email: kpreciado@sierrarailroad.com