

August 2, 2000

We arrived in Willits in the afternoon yesterday. As is our luck, they were having a heat wave, as is everyone else. Only 105 deg.! It did cool down to 66 deg at night.

We left early, to catch the 8:30 train to Fort Bragg. The Willits Skunk train is a neat little ride. It takes all day by the time you change trains at the halfway point on the route and when you spend an hour and a half in Fort Bragg.

The train uses the route established for the logging industry in the early 1900's. Much of the logged area has grown back with second growth timber and some areas have never been logged. There still are old logging camps occupied by people who love to be isolated. The train moves about 10-15 mph and is a scenic ride. Every so often they narrate a story about the area. We were lucky and went on a day that the train singer went all the way to Ft. Bragg and back. He played a guitar and a harmonica at the same time and also sang old lively railroad songs.



The steam locomotive was broken and we were pulled by a diesel.

We returned just in time to have dinner out in beautiful downtown Willits.

The picture is of the station and water tank at North Spur.