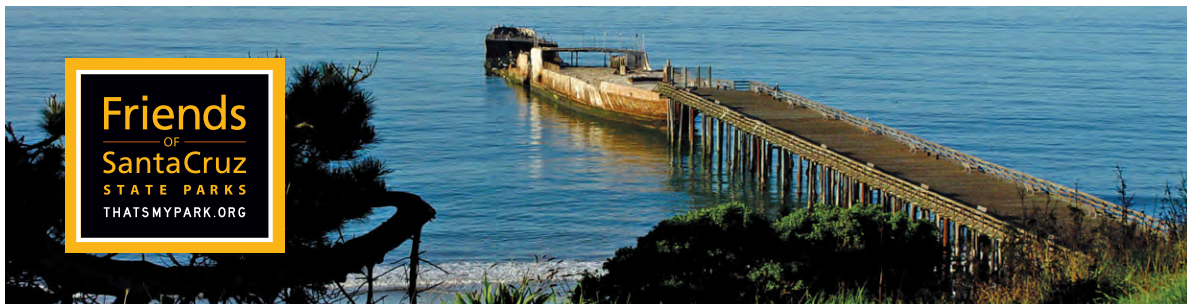


Friends
OF
SantaCruz
STATE PARKS
THATSMYPARK.ORG



2015 PARKS UPDATE ♥ YOUR PARKS!





Dear Park Supporter,

Every day, in myriad ways and thanks to supporters like you, Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks is focused on sustaining the legacy of 32 state parks and beaches in Santa Cruz and San Mateo Counties.

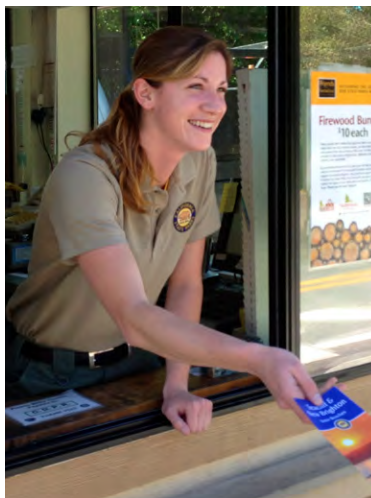
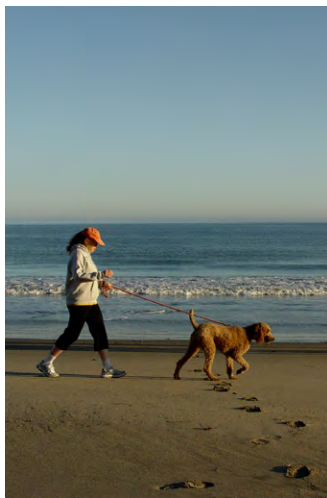
For 2015 we focused on major new investments in education and interpretation services for visitors, significant updates for aging infrastructure, and completion of critical milestones toward the full opening of the new Castro Adobe State Historic Park. We're also thankful for the great work that came from our strategic partnerships with local organizations such as Mountain Parks Foundation, Waddell Creek Association, Coastside State Parks Association and the Advocates for The Forest of Nisene Marks. In addition, we were proud to participate in California's Parks Forward and State Parks Transformation planning processes, which aim to increase access to State Parks for all Californians. Lastly, we were thrilled to host many fun community events, including the 3rd Annual Mole & Mariachi Festival.

Looking ahead to 2016, Friends will continue to ensure that all local state parks are accessible for all through expanded education and interpretation offerings, increased access to the features of the Castro Adobe, and offering more robust mobile access to park information for visitors. 2016 will also present some major anniversaries worth celebrating, including the 40th anniversary of Friends' founding and the 25th anniversary of Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park.

As always, whether you hike, bike, swim, run, walk or simply love local state parks and beaches, Friends is here to help protect and enhance them. Thank you so much for your generosity and support!

Bonny Hawley, Executive Director



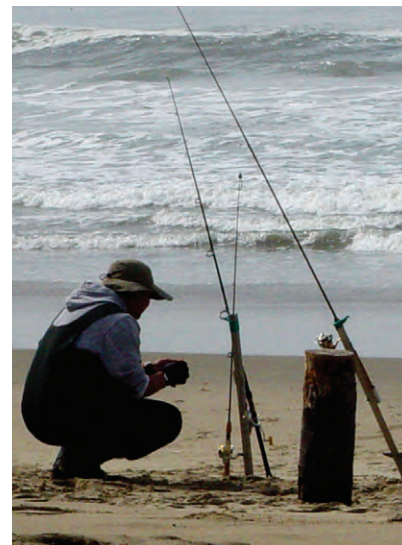


2015 was a great year!

Thanks to supporters like you, we:

- Funded new Interpretive Park Aide positions at Henry Cowell State Park, Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park and Seacliff State Beach
- Installed credit card acceptance technology at 15 remote park locations
- Funded new Interpreter positions at Portola State Park, Castle Rock State Park and Half Moon Bay State Beach
- Launched Phase 2 Construction at the Castro Adobe to install an accessible lift, staircase, floor strengthening and seismic stabilization, and restored, furnished and provided interpreted signage for the historic *cocina* (kitchen)
- Initiated phased opening of the Castro Adobe as a park, including a school field trip program and open house events
- Funded first ever Interpreter positions at Castro Adobe State Historic Park
- Funded trail restoration and replacement of Big Basin State Park's Berry Creek Falls Viewing Platform (partners: Waddell Creek Association, Mountain Parks Foundation and Coastside State Parks Association)
- Funded Henry Cowell State Park Visitor Center exhibit upgrades
- Funded replacement of the Loma Prieta Grade Trail Bridge B3 at The Forest of Nisene Marks State Park
- Funded Fire Road Dust Abatement (partner: The Advocates for The Forest of Nisene Marks)
- Received Conservation Lands Foundation grant to coordinate work day at Coast Dairies State Park (partners: Bureau of Land Management, California Veterans Conservation Corps, PG&E and the Bay Youth for the Environment Program)
- Fully funded five open days per week at Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park
- Completed new and improved Saltwater Touch Tank at Seacliff State Beach
- Raised final round of funding for painting and repairs at the Wilder Ranch Victorian (partners: Wilder Ranch Docents and New Leaf Community Markets)
- Published *Accessible Beaches Guide and Accessible Trails Guide* (partner: Hilltromper)





Our community came together for beloved parks and beaches through an impressive array of local events and partnerships.

Friends-Funded State Park Events

- Welcome Back Monarchs Day and Migration Festival at Natural Bridges
- Summer and fall open house events at the Castro Adobe
- Spring Planting Day, Heritage Harvest Festival, Old-fashioned 4th of July, Life on the Ranch and Holidays at the Ranch at Wilder Ranch
- Holidays on the Rancho at the Castro Adobe

Friends-Hosted Events

- Summer Series at the Mission Adobe, including outdoor movie screenings and First Fridays art and music events
- 4th of July Feed the Force
- 3rd Annual Mole & Mariachi Festival at the Mission Adobe
- Holiday Sale at the Mission Adobe
- 2nd Annual Stewardship Dinner at the Castro Adobe

Friends Partner Events & Programs

- 6th Annual Kitayama Brothers Gerbera Festival
- Hilltromper.com
- Food What?! fundraising dinner at the Mission Adobe
- FashionTEENS at the Mission Adobe
- New Leaf Markets Community Day
- Watsonville Film Festival
- Friends ParkStore wholesale partners: American Cycling, Bookshop Santa Cruz, Down Works, Epicenter Cycling, Outdoor World, Santa Cruz Bicycles and the Waddell Creek Association



Your support makes everything possible.

To help Friends continue to make a difference for our local state parks and beaches, please consider a contribution. As always, your donation will be tax-deductible and all donated funds stay local.

- Online at ThatsMyPark.org/donate/membership (donate \$25 or more and become a member)
- Mail a donation to 144 School Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

In addition to a donation, there are several other ways you can support Friends!

- Shop at our ParkStores: Natural Bridges State Beach, Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park, Seacliff State Beach, Wilder Ranch State Park, online and at our "PopUp ParkStores" at special events
- Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Pinterest and YouTube
- Volunteer with Friends
- Visit our parks (Please remember to pay your entrance fee!)
- Attend local events hosted by Friends

ThatsMyPark.org



SUSTAINING THE LEGACY OF 32 STATE PARKS AND BEACHES
IN SANTA CRUZ AND SAN MATEO COUNTIES



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