FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR MOORE CREEK RESTORATION DAY AT NATURAL BRIDGES STATE BEACH

Join Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks, California State Parks and the Watershed Stewards Program.

MARCH 2, 2016—SANTA CRUZ, CA—Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks today announced it will partner with California State Parks and the Watershed Stewards Program to host a volunteer-driven restoration effort along Moore Creek at Natural Bridges State Beach on Sunday, March 19.

Moore Creek is home to a variety of species such as the Tidewater Goby, Monarch Butterfly and the Ohlone Tiger Beetle. Volunteers are needed to help maintain sustainable, healthy ecosystems in this watershed by volunteering. Volunteers will spend the day removing invasive plants that crowd out vital habitat within the Natural Bridges State Beach section of Moore Creek.

The volunteer workday is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, March 19. Volunteers should wear long sleeves, pants and boots, and bring a reusable water bottle to stay hydrated. Dogs are not allowed at the event. Snacks will be provided. Volunteers also will receive a discount coupon to the Friends ParkStore at Natural Bridges and will be eligible for a raffle during the event.

Natural Bridge State Beach is at 2531 W. Cliff Drive in Santa Cruz. Parking is \$10 and supports the park. Please RSVP by email (<u>Rebecca.howard@ccc.ca.gov</u>) or phone (831-429-1840 x110).

About the Watershed Stewards Program

The mission of the Watershed Stewards Program (WSP) is to conserve, restore, and enhance anadromous watersheds for future generations by linking education with high-quality scientific practices. A program of the California Conservation Corps, WSP is one of the most productive programs for future employment in natural resources. WSP is administered by CaliforniaVolunteers and sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

About Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks

Established in 1976, Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks is an entrepreneurial nonprofit sustaining the legacy of our state parks and beaches. Through an innovative partnership with California State Parks, and by leveraging local community support, Friends provides funding for educational programs, visitor services and capital projects. Friends is passionately dedicated to

the preservation of our spectacular natural environment and rich cultural history. Friends also operates six ParkStores, offering nature- and history-themed merchandise for sale to benefit local parks and beaches. ParkStore locations include Natural Bridges, New Brighton, Santa Cruz Mission, Seacliff, Wilder Ranch and Online. Learn more at ThatsMyPark.org or via Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Pinterest.

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