

2017 PARKS UPDATE – ♥ YOUR PARKS!

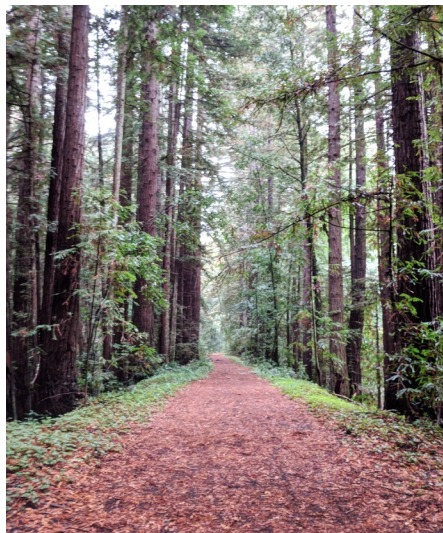


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PARKS & BEACHES

- Año Nuevo State Park
- Bean Hollow State Beach
- Big Basin Redwoods State Park
- Burleigh Murray Ranch State Park
- Butano State Park
- Castle Rock State Park
- Castro Adobe State Historic Park
- Coast Dairies State Park
- Fall Creek State Park
- Gazos Creek State Beach
- Half Moon Bay State Beach
- Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park
- Lighthouse Field State Beach
- Manresa State Beach
- Manresa Uplands State Beach
- Montara State Beach
- Natural Bridges State Beach
- New Brighton State Beach
- Palm State Beach
- Pebble State Beach
- Pescadero State Beach
- Pigeon Point Light Station
- State Historic Park
- Pomponio State Beach
- Portola Redwoods State Park
- Rancho del Oso
- Rio Del Mar State Beach
- San Gregorio State Beach
- Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park
- Seabright State Beach
- Seacliff State Beach
- Sunset State Beach
- The Forest of Nisene Marks State Park
- Twin Lakes State Beach
- Wilder Ranch State Park



DEAR PARK SUPPORTER,

It's been a great year in our local state parks and beaches. Here at Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks, we've been proud to help focus your love for our local parks and beaches into meaningful projects and programs that build connections between people and nature, history and culture. And after years of declining funding that nearly closed our parks, state investment is on the upswing. The State Park Transformation Plan is complete and reforms are taking hold.

The way we do business at Friends is completely unique in California. Friends is an entrepreneurial nonprofit, working through an innovative partnership with our local dedicated State Parks professional staff and volunteers. We leverage local community support to fund educational programs, visitor services and capital projects that sustain 32 state parks and beaches in Santa Cruz County and coastal San Mateo County.

Thanks to our supporters and visitors, this year we:

- Piloted Kids-2-Parks, an innovative park-equity program to bring students from economically disadvantaged schools to field trips
- Made major progress toward opening the Castro Adobe as California's newest State Historic Park
- Invested in projects to protect and restore historic buildings, as well as execute urgent deferred maintenance projects
- Increased our commitment to youth- and community-engagement

I hope you enjoy reading more about what we've accomplished together.

You can continue to show your support by visiting, volunteering, donating and shopping in our ParkStores. With your help, we can look forward to an even better year ahead!

See you in the parks!



Bonny Hawley, Executive Director





#That'sMy
TRAIL

WHAT A GREAT YEAR!

Thanks to supporters like you and our community partners, working with California State Parks in 2017, we:

- Supported projects and programs in 32 state parks and beaches in Santa Cruz County and coastal San Mateo County.
- Provided project management, marketing, event planning, community outreach, fundraising and administrative support to our local California State Parks.
- Funded State Parks Interpretive staff at 17 state parks and beaches, who led more than 2,000 school field trips.
- Funded State Parks staff who worked on roads and trails, park maintenance, visitor services and trail camps.
- Employed 80 Friends Visitor Service Aides at our local parks and beaches.
- Piloted Kids-2-Parks, an innovative park-equity program to bring students on field trips at Wilder Ranch, Henry Cowell, Castle Rock, Seacliff, Rancho del Oso and the Castro Adobe. (Partners: Santa Cruz Elks Lodge #824, PG&E and generous donors)
- Funded replacement of two bridges and repairs to storm-damaged trails at the Forest of Nisene Marks. (Partners: California Conservation Corps and the Advocates for the Forest of Nisene Marks)
- Project-managed and funded improvements at the Castro Adobe, including restoration of exterior columns, balcony, railing, windows and shutters, as well installation of historically accurate boardwalk and exterior stairs, and completion of final seismic stabilization. (Partners: Community Foundation Santa Cruz County and community donors matched by the James & Carol Toney Fund)



- Funded planning for the Half Moon Bay Campfire Center remodel, as well as facilities upgrades and new signs at state beaches in San Mateo County.
- Funded evaluation for restoration of the Wilder Ranch Cow Barn. (Partner: The Cow Barn Alliance)
- Funded installation of high-capacity, water-saving toilets and completed urgent drainage repairs to protect the adobe building at the Santa Cruz Mission.
- Funded remodeling of the Parks Online Resources for Teachers & Students (PORTS) studio at Seacliff State Beach, supporting distance learning for more students than any PORTS program in California. (Partner: California State Parks Foundation)
- Funded mountain lion taxidermy and mural installation at the Henry Cowell Redwoods Visitor Center, as well as safety signage for the Garden of Eden swimming hole in the park.
- Funded maintenance staff and equipment for North Coast Beaches in Santa Cruz County, and temporary restrooms and hand-washing stations at various parks.
- Funded and project-managed adobe brick



floor replacement at the Santa Cruz Mission. (Partners: California Missions Foundation and California State Parks Foundation)

- Funded and facilitated planning for education and interpretation at the Castro Adobe and Kimbro Visitor Center.
- Funded field radios for Big Basin and Wilder Ranch, and equipment and supplies for the Wilderness Patrol Program and the State Park Trails crew.
- Sponsored the first UC-Santa Cruz Archaeology Field School at the Castro Adobe. (Partners: UCSC and Albion Environmental, Inc.)
- Funded repair of the weir gate and removal of invasive vegetation at Schwan Lake at Twin Lakes (Partners: Bill & Brigid Simpkins)
- Honored the memories of Darryl Dill, Christine Evans, Victor & Sidney Jowers, Erik Hansen, Nancy Thomas, Dr. Leslie M. Finder and Nathan Foley-Mendelssohn by establishing funds that reflect their unique values and commitments.





FRIENDS SUPPORTERS CAME TOGETHER

for our beloved parks and beaches through an impressive
array of local events and partnerships.

FRIENDS-SUPPORTED STATE PARKS EVENTS

- Welcome Back Monarchs Day and Migration Festival at Natural Bridges
- Garden & Wool Day, Heritage Harvest Festival, Old-Fashioned Fourth of July, Life on the Ranch and Holidays on the Ranch at Wilder Ranch
- Monthly open house events and Holidays on the Rancho at the Castro Adobe
- Summer Archaeology Program at the Santa Cruz Mission
- Wildflower Festival at Half Moon Bay (Partner: Coastside State Parks Association)

FRIENDS-HOSTED EVENTS

- 4th Annual Stewardship Party at the Castro Adobe
- PopUp Picnics in the Park and Movie Night at the Santa Cruz Mission
- Fourth of July Feed the Force (Partners: Woodstock's Pizza and Marianne's Ice Cream)
- 5th Annual Mole & Mariachi Festival at the Santa Cruz Mission
- Book Talk at Natural Bridges with Tai Moses, author of 'Zooburbia' (Partner: Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History)
- Vaqueros on the Rancho at the Castro Adobe (Partner: The Vaquero Heritage Times Journal)
- Community Archaeology Day at the Castro Adobe (Partners: UC-Santa Cruz and Albion Environmental, Inc.)



#ThatsMy
BEACH

FRIENDS SUPPORTERS CAME TOGETHER (continued)

FRIENDS PARTNER EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

- 8th Annual KB Farms Gerbera Festival
- Advocate's Tree Memorial and 25th Anniversary Celebration for The Advocates for the Forest of Nisene Marks
- Museum of Art & History's History Jam
- Bookshop Santa Cruz event with Jennifer Ackerman, author of 'The Genius of Birds'
- Co-sponsored the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History exhibit Rocks and Waves
- New Leaf Community Markets Community Day at Downtown Santa Cruz, Felton and Boulder Creek stores
- Friends ParkStore wholesale partners: American Cycling, Bookshop Santa Cruz, Down Works, Epicenter Cycling, Outdoor World, Santa Cruz Bicycles and the Waddell Creek Association

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND PARK EQUITY

- Summer Fun in State Parks program serving Santa Cruz Beach Flats youth (Partner: Nueva Vista Community Resource Center and Coastal Watershed Council)
- Rip-Current Awareness with State Park Lifeguards at Pajaro Valley High School
- Watershed Work Day at Natural Bridges (Partners: AmeriCorps, NOAA, Watershed Stewards Program and California Conservation Corps)
- "Food What?!" youth empowerment dinner at the Santa Cruz Mission (Friends sponsorship of the event)
- Senderos partnership on events including the Mole & Mariachi Festival, Castro Adobe Open House and Día de los Muertos procession, as well as bringing visiting orphaned Oaxacan youth to state parks and beaches
- Youth participation with Alcance, a Community Action Board program, to support the Castro Adobe
- Outreach to local alternative high schools, as well as Meals on Wheels, in partnership with State Parks and Encompass Community Services
- Engagement with over 300 youth interested in pro-social activities partnership with the Youth Violence Prevention Task Force
- Intro to Backpacking program for migrant youth (Partner: Davenport Resource Center)
- County Office of Education Youth Work Day and tour at the Castro Adobe



#ThatsMy
PARK



SANTA CRUZ
MISSION
ADOBE



WILDER
RANCH

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES EVERYTHING POSSIBLE.

Become a member or give a gift membership. Join as an individual, family/household or business/organization online at ThatsMyPark.org/donate or mail to 1543 Pacific Avenue, Suite 206, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

Donations are also welcome in support of all of our parks, a specific park or project, or to honor or remember someone special. Check to see if your employer will match your donation.

All purchases made at our ParkStores support local state parks and beaches. Visit stores at Natural Bridges, Wilder Ranch, Santa Cruz Mission, New Brighton, Seacliff or online at ThatsMyPark.org/shop, as well as at PopUp ParkStores at special events. You can even round up your purchases to the nearest dollar through our Pennies for Parks program.

Visit our parks and remember to pay your entrance fee, or buy an annual California State Parks Pass at a park entrance or through our ParkStore Online.

Give through our partners:

- New Leaf Community Markets Envirotokens program
- Name Friends as your "charity" on Amazon.com and Friends receives .05% of your purchase – learn more at smile.amazon.com.

Explore ways you can leave a legacy through your will, trust and other planned giving – call (831) 429-1840 x312.

As always, all donated funds stay local and are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Thank you!



f t i p i @ ThatsMyPark.org

Sustaining the legacy of our local
state parks and beaches



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