

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Parks Department



DATE: May 30, 2014

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: June 5, 2014

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Scott Lombardi, Park Superintendent
SUBJECT: Superintendent's Report

RECOMMENDATION:
Review and accept report.

BACKGROUND:
This report covers Park activities since the Commission's April 3, 2014 meeting.

DISCUSSION:

DISTRICT I

Coyote Point Recreation Area

- Two of three windsurf ramps have been temporarily re-opened with to allow access to the water until construction begins later this summer on the promenade.
- Staff continues to work on Measure A funded projects including new picnic amenities and drinking fountains. A fountain recently installed at the Captain's House Conference Center is equipped with an automatic bottle filler that has already saved the use of over 150 non-reusable plastic bottles.
- Our summer picnic season is upon us with increased numbers of visitors and Special Events including multiple 5/10Ks. We will even have a visit from Layla Ali for the 10th annual Soul Stroll
- Staff training is constantly ongoing. This summer, Rangers Mario Nastari and Mark Rogers will be certified applicators for turf and weed management and Ranger Lisa Di Lorenzo will be a certified playground inspector through California Parks and Recreation Society.

Junipero Serra Park

- Staff continues to partner with Salesforce on a large landscaping project at the Meadow View playground.
- An AB109 crew continues fire abatement work near the park's perimeter.

Crystal Springs Trail

- Sawyer Camp Trail's restrooms have been outfitted with storage closets built by Park Maintenance. This addition will free up a patrol truck for the District as one is on loan to District IV.
- Parks will partner with SFPUC for their annual summer BBQ. Ranger Matthew Del Carlo will act as Head Chef and showcase his culinary skills

San Bruno Mountain

- For a second year, San Bruno Mountain hosted a volunteer group from US Congresswoman Jackie Speier's office. This year we planted native plants at the park's entrance. This project was funded by the Park's Foundation and the plants were purchased from the San Bruno Mountain Watch nursery.
- Parks continues to partner with the Student Conservation Association as they rehabilitate the Edward Bacciocco Jr. Day Camp.
- District I Ranger Supervisors took part in the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) walkthrough to assess successes and new ideas as the HCP is being reviewed.

DISTRICT II

Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve

- Mowing has been completed in the entire Bay Checkerspot butterfly habitat consisting of over seven acres with the help from park staff and the AB109 crew.
- Park staff has completed mowing and string cutting and has painted all of the curbs within the day use area, Education Center and the outer entrance to the park.
- Several potholes were filled in the parking lots, a new steel gate was installed by the maintenance crew in the meadow area and a dying walnut tree was removed near the West Kiosk that threatened to fall on the Park's only King's Mountain Manzanita bush (a threatened species).
- A 40-person volunteer group from Sequoia High School of Special Education students painted picnic tables and spread chips in the day use area getting the area ready for use this summer.
- Park staff started removing aggressive nonnative acacia trees on the North Sylvan Trail with crews scheduled from the Sheriff's Work Program to remove them by hand down the trail and then chipped by park staff.

Flood Park

- Three new ADA drinking fountains were installed, with one located in the Bay reservation picnic area, one in the Redwood drop in picnic sites and one near the Manzanita picnic reservation area.

- Sheriff Work Program crews continue to be scheduled biweekly to help weed islands and install weed barrier fabric over the cleared areas.
- All the sand in the water play feature has been removed and replaced with nearly 100 cubic yards of Fibar wood chips.
- On May 17, a large Raychem Event reserved most of the Park and we had over 500 visitors that day.
- The Baseball field continues to be maintained and the selection process is nearly completed to hire two interns to assist in field improvements.

Huddart Park

- Park staff continues to remove hazardous trees along all the trails including four large Coast Live Oaks near the Meadow Reservation Area where the Girl Scouts camp overnight.
- On May 17, almost 100 Girl Scouts volunteered to weed and pick up litter in the Sequoia Youth Camp Area.
- Over 150 volunteers from the Sacred Heart School picked up litter and gathered several tons of broken limbs throughout the picnic areas on May 21.
- New ash bins have arrived and are being installed throughout the Park. These bins will greatly increase both safety and efficiency in the daily operation of collecting and storing hot coal ash.

Wunderlich Park

- The upper barn rededication on April 27 went well. Supervisors Pine and Horsley attended along with many enthusiastic participants.
- Many tons of sand were dumped and graded to soften the compaction for the horses in the arena.
- CDC crews are again working on fuel reduction along the Alambique Trail. They have treated over 15 acres, lifting up limbs, removing dense brush and chipping dead material.
- The May 3rd Take A Hike event had over 40 participants. Rangers led two separate hikes along the Alambique, Loop, Meadow, and Bear Gulch Trails. The event went on for over two hours and received many positive reviews.

Friendship Park

- Park staff Installed three benches, two bear saver trash bins and a bicycle rack.
- Volunteers also installed a new irrigation line and hose bibs for the community planting beds.
- April 25 through 27, volunteers laid weed fabric throughout the park and spread and compacted nearly 100 tons of rock for a harder surface.

DISTRICT III-SOUTH COAST

Memorial Park Complex

- Staff continued removing hazardous trees in Memorial Park in April and May in the Tan Oak Day Use Area, Wurr Group, Sequoia, Azalea and Huckleberry campgrounds.

- A contractor was hired to remove hazardous trees in the Jack Brook Horse Camp Area because of the size of the trees and not having the necessary equipment. I.
- Staff worked with six SCA volunteers brushing back and treading trail on the west end of the Pomponio Trail in Pescadero Creek Park. .
- Park staff cleared trees off the trails in Memorial, Pescadero and Sam McDonald Parks after rainy weather in April.
- State Parks installed 300 eggs filled with Carbohol as part of the Marbled Murrelet project. Stellar Jays and ravens consuming any of these eggs would get sick and based on that experience in the future would stay away from the actual Marbled Murrelet eggs. Cameras were installed in the Sequoia campground next to the eggs to record which birds actually went near the eggs. On April 17, Park Maintenance staff built a new bulletin board and made a new sign and posts for the Jack Brook Horse Camp. Park staff assisted with the installation of the two projects as well as removing hazardous trees and limbs from various sites.
- On April 19, Rangers Schneider and Donigan and Director Finley worked at the Jack Brook Horse Camp on the annual workday. Over 60 members from various equestrian clubs volunteered. Several projects were completed such as splitting wood for firewood, removing weeds from the sites, spreading and tamping base rock in the horse corrals, cleaning the restrooms and building fences.
- AB109 crews have worked in the District for three weeks and have completed the following projects:
 - ❖ Helped with the opening of the Sequoia campground (raking around barbecue pits), spreading chips, working on the trail tread and brushing back the Creek Trail from Tan Oak to Azalea.
 - ❖ Brushing back the trail from Azalea to Homestead.
- On May 10, eight volunteers from Valley Bible Church in Livermore worked with Rangers Donigan and Brien and installed 190 redwood boards (seating and back rest) and even made an ADA seating site at the Sequoia Amphitheater in Memorial Park. The existing boards were cracked and in serious need of repair. This project was funded by the Parks Foundation (\$15,000).
- The Sequoia campground was opened on May 11 (Mother's Day) and sold out for Memorial weekend.

DISTRICT IV

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve/Quarry Park/Pillar Point Bluff/Mirada East & West

- Annual mowing of Mirada East and West. Mirada East mowed to protect wetland areas.
- Mirada West restroom installed and nearly ready for opening.
- Fitzgerald tour season coming to a conclusion. Another successful year.
- Moving forward with onsite video viewing project at the Reserve visitor center.
- Continuing preparation for Moss Beach Playground improvements
- Working on operations plan for Wicklow property.
- Installed new tot swing at Quarry Park to replace unsafe old swing.

San Pedro Valley/Sanchez Adobe/Devils Slide

- Annual mowing string cutting at San Pedro Valley and Sanchez Adobe
- Replaced rotten decking on upstairs level of Sanchez Adobe
- San Pedro Valley Park native garden restoration in progress with Friends Group
- Special Event trail runs occurring in May and June
- The first commercial photo shoot on Devil's Slide took place in April
- Regular requests for Ranger led hikes and talks at San Pedro Valley Park and Devil's Slide. District rangers have lead several talks and hikes over the last 3 months.

DISTRICT V

Maintenance

- Constructed and installed replacement metal gate at Edgewood (replaced old wooden board gate).
- Annual field mowing-various District areas-for fire/fuel reduction, aesthetics and vegetation management.
- Removal of several large hazardous trees at Huddart and Memorial Park.
- Constructed and installed new information kiosk at Skylawn Cemetery for Ridge Trail.
- Re-stripped/painted parking stalls in CuriOdyssey Musuem parking areas and lot at Coyote Point Recreation Area.
- Completed metal shed cover at Huddart Park.
- Assisted with tree project along Sawyer Camp Trail North with the SFPUC Water Department.
- Completed repairs on TD-8 dozer and other Park equipment.
- Constructed storage sheds for janitorial supplies at Sawyer Camp Trail restrooms.
- Assisted District I staff with asphalt patching of root uplifted pathways near - Magic Mountain Playground
- Sign Shop: Made posters for State Parks (food lockers), signs for DPW-Facilities and Maintenance, CuriOdyssey and several signs for various Districts.
- All Maintenance vehicles equipped with GPS.
- Beginning of our summer season garbage collection schedule.