

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
PARKS DEPARTMENT

DATE: December 6, 2018

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

DISTRICT I – NORTH COUNTY

Includes Coyote Point Park, Crystal Springs Trail/San Andreas Trail
As reported by Ty Kang, Ranger IV

Coyote Point Recreation Area

- Kid's Obstacle Challenge-Special Event. This was a two-day event with 3000+ participants.
- Repaired 4" leaking main irrigation water line-New Beach Area.
- Pergola site in Upper Knoll-1st wedding ceremony conducted.
- Removed several dead trees & stump grinded.
- New fitness/workout equipment installed. Coyote Point's Fitness Zone.
- Volunteer Group-'Wiser'-Beach Clean-up with 15 volunteers.
- Volunteer Group-CSM Students-re-painted Magic Mountain reservation area picnic tables. The project took two days with 30 students each day.
- County Health & Wellness Volleyball Tournament-Beach Group Areas 5 & 6.
- Welcome Matthew Tolmasoff-Park Ranger III to District 1.
- SuperHero CycloCross Special Event at the Knoll area, with 200 participants.
- Installed ADA drinking fountain at Fitness Zone location.

Crystal Springs Trail

- Attended SFPUC quarterly meeting.
- Entry area to Sawyer Camp South Gate repaint-stripped.
- Attended meetings for bridge-dam-trail project.

DISTRICT II – SOUTH COUNTY

Includes Edgewood Park & Preserve, Flood Park, Friendship Park, Huddart Park, Wunderlich Park
As reported by Rogelio Castaneda, Ranger IV

Edgewood Park and Nature Preserve

- Replaced retaining wall at residence
- Hosted Civics 101 for County Managers office on a Ranger-led hike

- Remodel work on residence started, kitchen and bathrooms
- New windows installed residence
- Shed installation residence

Flood Park

- Hazardous tree removal throughout the park.
- Stump removal throughout park

Friendship Park

- Staff continues to perform playground inspections and basic maintenance.
- Dias de los Muertos celebration event
- Shade structure for benches to be purchased and installed

Huddart Park

- Woodside Day of The Horse Event through Huddart Park
- California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)/Cal Fire hand crews on Kings Mountain Road at the wide spot for fuel reduction project. Two acres treated per CALFIRE/WFD request.
- CDCR/Cal Fire hand crews on Archery Fire Road working on shaded fire break
- Hazard tree removal along Archery Fire Road
- Repair water break on Archery Fire Road
- Sheep Camp Trail, PG&E work
- Trail work, preparing for winter: clearing drainages and repairing water bars
- Closed Toyon Campground for the winter.

Wunderlich Park

- Hazard tree removal along upper Alambique Trail
- Paving entrance and exit of main parking lot
- Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC) Project at Loop Trail, Meadow Trail and Ranch Road
- Wunderlich Park Carriage Room renovations continue
- Split rail fence installed along Woodside road near arena

DISTRICT III – SOUTH COAST

Includes Memorial Park, Pescadero Creek Park, Sam McDonald Park
As reported by David Vasquez, Ranger IV

Memorial Park/ Pescadero Creek Park/Sam McDonald Park

- Volunteers with the Trail Center came out to Memorial Park on Saturday, October 13, and conducted much needed tread work on the Mt. Ellen Summit Trail.
- On Saturday, October 20, Memorial Park ranger staff collaborated on a local trash pickup in the Pescadero area with the Office of Sustainability, County Manager's Office, and others.

- Expert plumbing work was contracted to repair and replace two failed critical wastewater line sections leading from the Memorial Park Corporation Yard, the Loma Mar Fire Station, and Ranger Residence to the Homestead Flats Campground.
- Memorial Park - The Office of Sustainability donated 21 recycle cans to be installed throughout the park to contribute to a cleaner environment and encourage recycling.
- On October 9, contractors began repairs to the Old Haul Road Keystone and Harwood Creek crossings in Pescadero Creek Park. This was a collaborative project planned between the Parks Department and the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District. The week of November 5, work was successfully completed to replace the two old creek crossings with new culverts.
- The Sequoia Flats Campground and Jack Brooks Horse Camp were officially closed for the winter season. The Azalea Flats Campground will remain open as it is a year-round campground.
- Memorial Park hosted a public movie night at the Amphitheater. There was a great turnout for the movie Ghostbusters.
- Local youth organization PUENTE of La Honda renewed their joint agreement with Parks to have their intern continue working at Memorial/Pescadero Creek/Sam McDonald Parks through the winter. PUENTE funds intern-related costs.
- Park Rangers carried out tree work and cleanup of the campgrounds in conjunction with the Parks arborist management plan.
- Due to the California wild fires, ensuing smoke and bad air quality, on Friday, November 9, Memorial Park and District 3 staff began carrying out proactive measures, by partially closing areas and mountainous trails as well as closing the Shaw and Tarwater Trail Camps in Pescadero Creek Park.
- On Tuesday, November 13, contracted for plumbing services to replace two failed wastewater line sections in the Memorial Park Tan Oak Day Use Area. These are two critical lines that affect the Water Treatment Plant as well as a restroom which had been recently closed due to the line failures.

DISTRICT IV – MID-COAST

Includes Devil's Slide, James V. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, Mirada Surf, Moss Beach Playground, Pillar Point Bluff, Quarry Park, San Pedro Valley, Sanchez Adobe
As reported by Matt Del Carlo, Ranger IV

San Pedro Valley/Devils Slide/Sanchez Adobe/ Tunitas Creek Beach

- Staff have been working with Cal Fire and CDCR crews removing fuel loads next to houses in the Park Pacific area of San Pedro Valley Park.
- Sanchez Adobe trenching exploration has been completed. All items found during the work have been mitigated. Once the project is completed, the items will be reburied on site.

- Staff have been meeting with contractors for site improvements at San Pedro Valley. A fencing contract and a paving project are in the works. Staff are applying for permits for the work being done.
- Thermal striping on all of Devil's Slide Trail completed.

Fitzgerald/Mirada/Quarry/Pillar Point Bluffs/Moss Beach Playground

- A recruitment for a park aide position at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve was filled. This position is used to staff the cone line during low tides to prevent flushing of seals; educating the public about the Marine Protected Area; and the harbor seal population and rookery.
- Patrols have been stepped up to address illegal motorcycle activity in Mirada Surf and Quarry Park.
- With a portion of the fuel break completed at Mirada, we are in the planning stages of creating a loop fire road. This allows for a fuel break along the perimeter of the parks and quicker response times to respond to emergencies.

DISTRICT V - OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

As reported by Kevin Scott, Ranger IV

Note: There are no Parks in District V, this is our Maintenance Division.

- Constructed retaining wall at Edgewood residence
- Edgewood residence interior upgrades
- Continued work at Sanchez Adobe for new Visitor's Center
- Road improvements at Pillar Point Bluff access road
- Annual Corp Yard inspections being completed
- Finished Creekside area improvements

DISTRICT VI – COYOTE POINT MARINA

As reported by Mark Bettis, Harbormaster

Abandoned Boats

The marina was awarded a grant of \$135,000 by the California Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) to pay for removal and/or disposal of abandoned and derelict vessels. The grant contract was authorized by the County Board of Supervisors and executed by acting Parks Director Peggy Jensen. The contract was returned to DBW in late October, and we are currently awaiting their authorization to begin spending money to remove derelict vessels.

In anticipation of this funding, we have included marine salvage in the upcoming solicitation for on-call contracts. The first group of approximately ten vessels will be put out for bid as a group, but once the backlog is cleared the on-call contracts will allow us to dispose of derelicts one by one as they clear the lien process.

Part of this grant includes the Vessel Turn In Program which allows owners of derelict vessel that are not delinquent in berth fees or taxes to turn their boats in for salvage at no cost to the owners. We have at least four boat owners awaiting this program, and will be offering it to owners of other derelict vessels once we are authorized to do so.

Staffing

The Marina is fully staffed at this time, as Park Aide Daniela Todorcevic joined us November 7, transferring from Division I.

Occupancy

Occupancy of the Marina continues to improve, with a net increase of 16 boats from July to October. There are a significant number of boats in the Marina that are occupying slips that are larger than their boats require and can accommodate larger boats. We have begun a process of relocating boats in the Marina to slips that are the correct size so as to free up larger slips.

Lighted Boat Parade

Coyote Point Yacht Club has invited all marina boat owners to participate in the 2nd annual lighted boat parade on Saturday, December 15, beginning at 5:30 p.m. After the parade, there will be holiday treats and music, Santa for the kids and other festivities. The public is invited.

Cooperation and coordination with Coyote Point Yacht Club has been an ongoing goal this year. In addition to the lighted boat parade, the Yacht Club has agreed to invite all sailboat owners to participate in their Wednesday evening races. There is also have a new program for 2019, "First Fridays." On the first Friday of each month the Yacht Club will be open to all boat owners in the marina for dinner and drinks. We hope that this ongoing cooperation with the Yacht Club will increase boating activity in the marina, making Coyote Point even more attractive to new prospective boat owners, increasing occupancy and revenue.

Twitter

The marina has launched a twitter feed (@CoyotePtMarina). Those who have chosen to get marina news this way have seen current information on a recent Internet outage, water and power interruptions on the docks, a huge floating log that our Harbor Patrol towed in from outside the harbor, a hazardous materials response at the Yacht Club parking area, recent air quality issues and other relevant subjects. We are doing our best to make this a viable and effective way to get critical information out to boat owners. Since launching on August 22, we have gained 41 followers. The goal is to have at least 300 subscribers within the first year.

DISTRICT VII

Includes Junipero Serra Park, San Bruno Mountain Park
As reported by Priscilla Alvarez, Ranger IV

Junipero Serra Park & San Bruno Mountain

- On September 11, park staff worked with the Maintenance Staff removing hazardous trees in the Oak Area at Junipero Serra Park.
- On September 12, park staff responded to a possible fire in San Bruno Mountain on the north side of the park. The fire was actually at the entrance of Point Pacific Condominiums.
- Park staff painted the exterior of the Junipero Serra Park shop. The shop exterior had not been painted for several years and the paint was faded.

- During the month of September, park staff worked with Detective Mike Tabak of the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT), in regards to a homeless couple that they believe was living in San Bruno Mountain Park. The South San Francisco Police and Fire Department assisted in the case. As there have been no recent sightings, it is believed the couple has now vacated the park.
- On October 9 and 10, the Steri-Clean Company cleaned up three homeless encampments that were unoccupied in the south east section of San Bruno Mountain.
- October 23, park staff met with a hiker who reported a homeless encampment on the northwest section of San Bruno Mountain off the Old Ranch Road Trail. Park staff, three San Mateo County Sheriff Deputies, and a canine dog found the encampment and one homeless individual.
- October 23, park staff began filled potholes at Junipero Serra Park. During the summer months the potholes got bigger due to the high traffic coming in on the weekends. Filling in the potholes are part of the winterizing projects.
- October 25, there was a vehicle break-in at San Bruno Mountain. The suspects took a purse from the trunk of an unlocked car. A San Mateo County Sheriff Deputy responded.
- October 27, a special event was held at San Bruno Mountain. The Excelsior Running Club had 100 runners use the Saddle Loop Trail in the park.
- November 1, park staff began a fire fuel reduction on the single track trails in Junipero Serra Park. The project started on the Live Oak Nature Trail. Staff removed leaves, eucalyptus bark and woody debris from the uphill side of the trail. To date, 177 feet have been cleared. This project will continue through the winter as weather allows.
- November 7, a dead pine tree that bordered private property at San Bruno Mountain was removed.
- November 9, there was a vehicle break-in at San Bruno Mountain. The suspects broke into a parked car and stole a backpack. A San Mateo County Sheriff Deputy responded and took a report. We have requested more patrols.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (NRM)

As reported by Hannah Ormshaw, Natural Resources Specialist

Operations Support

The NRM team has continued to support Parks Operations staff through conducting sensitive species surveys and flagging at various parks to support routine trail maintenance and routine projects. Staff oversaw contractor work to support the Old Haul Road sediment repair projects and scheduled biological monitors for oversight of project activities during construction, and for completing the necessary pre-construction surveys for species of concern in the project areas. Project activities were completed in early November for the Keystone and Harwood crossings. NRM has also provided additional support to operations through coordination with on-call contractors to conduct vegetation management activities within the parks.

Fuel reduction within County Parks continues to be an item of great need. Dan has been attending the scheduled Fire Safe Council meetings to build relationships within the organization and with representatives from Cal Fire. Working directly with Cal Fire, Dan has assisted Park staff to coordinate upcoming fuel reduction projects for the 2019 season by continuing to utilize standardized language to better define priority of projects for California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) crews. Scheduling CDCR in advance is necessary as a placeholder to reserve crews when available. Unfortunately due the catastrophic wildfires in other Counties over the past couple years CDCR crew projects are often delayed if scheduled during peak fire season. Fire fuel reduction will continue to be a point of emphasis in the coming months and years.

NRM Coordination & Program Management

Since August, the arborist has been shifting his work load from conducting tree inspections to focusing on developing a Parks' Tree Management program. This program will directly benefit safety and improve operational oversight of trees within high visitor use areas. His early work providing physical inspections has assisted him to better understand the best ways to implement a tree safety and risk management program. Hannah has been coordinating with the Department of Public Works and the Office of Sustainability on annual reporting for the San Vicente Water Quality Plan, and the permit application process for the Routine Maintenance Program for County-wide stream maintenance activities. Other Program and Project-specific activities include:

San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan

The NRM team has engaged with Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) to coordinate the implementation of the West Peak restoration plan, with the first season of native planting to occur this December. Management of conserved habitat in the form of invasive vegetation removal and scrub encroachment reduction for the fall and winter of 2018-2019 is underway, with all priority treatment areas identified. Ecological Concerns, Inc. has been conducting scrub and broom removal work this fall in priority parcels within Dairy & Wax Myrtle Ravine and Devil's Arroyo management units, including work on the McKesson parcels that are to be dedicated to San Mateo County Parks. A second meeting of the grazing technical advisory committee occurred, with a field tour of potential pilot grazing areas at San Bruno Mountain. The annual report for protected species activities for 2017-2018 is being written, with a final draft to be provided to USFWS by the end of December, 2018.

Stewardship Corps

Preparations are underway for the 2018-2019 season for volunteer stewardship corps activities, with the first event of the season scheduled for December 1 at San Bruno Mountain. Volunteer events involving native plantings or invasive weed removal are scheduled to occur on Saturdays, two to three times per month from December through May. Stewardship Corps events will take place at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, Pigeon Point Bluffs, Junipero Serra, San Bruno Mountain, Coyote Point Recreation Area, and Wunderlich.

Wunderlich County Park – Oak Woodland Restoration:

The NRM team has reviewed and approved the seventh revision of PG&E's L-109 Mitigation; Wunderlich Restoration Plan. Final confirmation of the revisions are still needed by SF Planning and CDFW, though CDFW has passed on verbal approval. An MOU between PG&E and County Parks has been drafted and is being reviewed for approval. With the MOU approved, PG&E will be able to officially begin their restoration plan though Eucalyptus removal cannot begin until a Timber Harvest Plan (THP) is completed by a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) and approved by Cal Fire. A finalized THP from Davey Resource Group is expected in December, approval by Cal Fire is likely not to occur until the first quarter of 2019. Public outreach on this project has thus far been well received.

Edgewood County Park – SOD Blitz Results:

In May, a Sudden Oak Death (SOD) blitz had been conducted in Edgewood County Park through the coordination with Friend of Edgewood and the UC Berkeley Pathology and mycology lab. Results from the collected samples had been cultured and presented to the public on October 16. Within Edgewood, 14 of 74 samples (18.9%) came back as positive. These results are higher than the state average, however, County Parks had to date never participated in a SOD Blitz. Using the results from this year's Blitz will help NRM staff to develop an effective management plan for SOD in Edgewood Park.

Region-wide and County-wide Collaboration

The NRM team is collaborating on a fine-scale vegetation map for all of San Mateo County. This effort is being led by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and is in collaboration with regional partners such as California State Parks, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, San Mateo County Resource Conservation District, and Peninsula Open Space Trust. This effort provides a unique opportunity for all regional agencies and partners to have the same baseline vegetation map for all manner of analysis to support conservation, fire safety and fuel reduction, and improve project impact analyses. The NRM team is coordinating collaboration at the County level with the Office of Sustainability, Department of Public Works, Agriculture Weights and Measures, Planning and Building, and Information Services Department to improve our access to this important resource. At this time, the regional partners, along with the various San Mateo County departments, have been able to secure enough funding to map the full geography of San Mateo County, and produce a number of additional high value deliverables in addition to the fine-scale vegetation data.

Staff attended and presented at an annual workshop for all stakeholders involved in work on Habitat Conservation Plans in Northern California. The presentation covered the many lessons learned throughout 30+ years of implementing the San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan, which also happens to be the first Habitat Conservation Plan that was created. Staff also attended an annual coordination meeting for the Recovery Unit for populations of Western Snowy Plover that are present in the

central coast of California, from Monterey to Point Reyes. This meeting was an opportunity for all land managers who manager properties with snowy plover habitat (such as Tunitas Creek Beach), to meet and discuss the monitoring findings for the past year and the issues that have been encountered with species management actions.

NRM Team Updates

Arborist

The arborist has taken on responsibilities of coordinating the wildlife camera trapping efforts for County Parks. This year San Pedro Valley, San Bruno Mountain and Junipero Serra County Parks are the focus for this effort. In October the arborist assisted camera trapping expert, Ken Hickman, with installation of wildlife camera traps in San Pedro Valley Park. In an effort to improve Parks public outreach the arborist taught a home school group about the redwood forests. The Half Moon Bay based home school group comprised of 12 children (ages 6-12 and their parents) walked around the day-use areas of Memorial County Park to learn about the great coast redwood and their environment. The group was incredibly interested in learning about these ancient trees and how they can grow to be the tallest tree in the world.

Natural Resource Specialist II

Staff have been coordinating contractors for the vegetation management activities and priorities at San Bruno Mountain for this fall and onward. Staff hosted quarterly natural resources coordination meetings for Edgewood and San Bruno Mountain, and are the contact for all contracting, budgeting, and scientific permit or site activity review requests for activities in the parks.

PROGRAMS

Interpretive Programs

As reported by Laurel Finnegan, Ranger IV

Events			# of Attendees
September 15	Movie Night w/ Libraries Coco	Coyote Point Park	125
September 29	BioBlitz	Huddart Park	40
October 6	Take a Hike	Fitzgerald Marine Reserve/Pillar Point Bluff	50
October 13	Day of the Horse	Woodside	50
October 17	Walk with kids from SMMC	Indian Springs	65
October 20	Halloween Movie Night: Ghostbusters	Memorial Park	105
October 26	Night Hike	San Pedro Valley Park	20

November 3	Dia De Los Muertos Event with Libraries and Health	Friendship Park	35
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Administrative and Fiscal Services

As reported by Rolando Jorquera, Administrative Services Manager

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The Administrative and Fiscal Services Unit (the “Unit”) plans to visit District II (i.e., Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve; Flood Park; Friendship Park; Huddart Park; Woodside Store; and Wunderlich Park) on Tuesday, December 4. The Unit is looking forward to an incredible time learning more about the parks and operations; visiting sites; and finding ways to provide additional assistance and support to the rangers. As mentioned previously, the goal of the Unit is to visit all the County’s beautiful parks by the end of the calendar year so that we may be able to provide even better support and customer service to both our internal and external customers. The team would like to thank Rogelio Castaneda, Ranger IV in advance for his time.

The Unit has begun preparing for the upcoming FY 2019-21 budget and performance cycle as well as FY 2018-19 mid-year projections, which will estimate where the Unit believes the Department will end the current fiscal year. The Unit will continue to keep the Commission abreast of upcoming matters concerning the Department’s budget and performance.

Here are a few upcoming and key dates for the Unit:

- December 11 – County Manager’s Office Budget Report to the Board of Supervisors
- January 4 – FY 2018-19 Mid-Year Projections Due
- January 8 – Measure K Sub-Committee Work Session
- January 16 – Governor’s Budget Impact Analysis Due
- January 25 – FY 2018-19 Mid-Year Department and Measure K Performance Updates
- January 29 – Board of Supervisors Meeting to Review the FY 2018-19 Mid-Year Report

Finally, on Monday, December 24 and Monday, December 31, the main office will have special holiday hours for staff to enjoy more time with their friends and family during the holidays. The main office will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on these two days. As always, reservations can be made online 24 hours a day, seven days a week by visiting <https://secure.itinio.com/sanmateo/>.