



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Roy Stearns
(916) 654-7538

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Nevada County Supports Keeping South Yuba River State Park Open, State Parks says Yes

California State Parks' Director Ruth Coleman announced today that action by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors and community supporters will help keep South Yuba River State Park open.

At a recent meeting, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors gave their unanimous support to a State Parks' proposed Revenue Generation Parking Plan that will provide revenue critical to keeping the park open. The revenue plan will allow State Parks to collect entrance fees at this park for the first time. The action by the supervisors came following a community support campaign that resulted in more than 10,000 petition signatures being collected by elementary school students from the Grass Valley Charter School urging action to keep the park open.

"The Nevada County Board of Supervisors, backed by overwhelming community support, has helped make this possible," said California State Parks' Director Coleman. "We cannot thank them enough for their support. All concerned truly understand the importance of this park, not just for recreation, but for the tourism dollars that flow into the county because of this park."

In the Revenue Generation Parking Plan proposed by State Parks, community members agreed with the installation of "No Parking" signs along the county road at Bridgeport. Those signs will cause people to park within the newly installed fee area parking lots located in the Bridgeport District on the South Yuba River. This new revenue is the critical ingredient needed to keep the park open; however, State Parks cautions that the new fees are not expected to generate enough for full operations and a funding gap will remain. That means significant service reductions will continue at the park.

"The new fees are not expected to be enough to totally close the gap needed for full operations of the park," said Acting Sierra District Superintendent Matt Green. "But this overwhelming and greatly appreciated support from the community is a start that will keep the park open."

At this time, it is not known just how much revenue this new program will generate, since this has never been done for this park before. For that reason, all parties and stakeholders recognize that this is not the final solution and that there must continue to be an effort toward a more sustainable funding source to augment the full operation of the park. #####

For energy efficient recreation –
California State Parks on the Internet: www.parks.ca.gov>

