

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 2012

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California State Parks Foundation Grants Keep Two Los Angeles Area Historic Parks Off Closure List

A strategic effort by the California State Parks Foundation (CSPF) will allow two Los Angeles area historic state parks to remain open. Los Encinos State Historic Parks and Santa Susanna State Historic Park were scheduled to be closed but received a one-year reprieve when CSPF provided grants to cover operating costs and entered into donor agreements with State Parks.

Donor agreements were finalized this week for the two parks. Funds for Los Encinos were provided by an anonymous donor with the help of Senator Fran Pavley. In addition to these two parks, on May 17th, CSPF announced it will award 13 grants totaling \$328,586 to organizations that are fighting to keep state parks off the closure list.

“We are pleased to announce these grants as part of our integrated effort to help keep these threatened parks open,” said CSPF President Elizabeth Goldstein. “More organizations will have similar needs in the future and it is our hope to assist in providing reprieves for as many parks as possible by working closely with the parks community.”

Los Angeles Sector Superintendent Sean Woods said the CSPF’s assistance will allow local associations at each park time to reach out into their areas to develop community ties and long term financial support for the parks. Los Encinos SHP is aided by the Los Encinos Docent Association while Santa Susanna SHP is supported locally by the Foundation for Preservation of Santa Susana Mountains.

“We are awed by the amount of support in the community for our parks,” said Woods. “People really stepped up to keep our parks open because of their value to the community. It was a really grass roots efforts.”

Woods said concern about possibly having local parks closed has strengthened bonds between State Parks and the communities.

“If there is a silver lining, it has brought us closer together with our partners,” he said. “We can look together for opportunities to reinvigorate our parks.”

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