

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS ON VETERANS DAY

"In honor of Veterans Day, it is important for all of us to take a moment to recognize our Veterans, and their invaluable service to our country. Many of our state parks will be honoring Veterans with activities, ceremonies and displays. Free day use will be available at Prairie Creek Redwoods, Del Norte Coast Redwoods and Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Parks. The California State Railroad Museum offers complimentary excursion train rides on the Sacramento Southern Railroad plus complimentary Museum admission to Veterans and Active-Duty Personnel."

"Starting next year, Veterans, Active-Duty Personnel, Reserve and National Guard members and their families will be able to go to one of California's 280 parks free of charge on both Memorial Day and Veterans Day, as stipulated by AB 150. This will coincide with our 150th Anniversary, and we are honored to be able to offer this service to those who serve our nation on these patriotic days."

Background information:

- AB 150 was authored by Assemblywoman Kristin Olsen (R-Modesto), and signed by Governor Brown earlier this year. It will go into effect on January 1, 2014.

Activities at California State Parks for Veterans Day 2013

- **Columbia State Historic Park** – Veterans Day Remembrance - In Columbia's historic cemetery at 11 a.m., the Columbia Foot Dragoons explain the significance of Veterans Day and how it came into being, and fire a single volley. For more information, call 209-536-1672.
- **El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park** – Veterans Day Ceremony –Join the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation in honoring our military at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park. Beginning at 11:00 a.m., the event includes a wreath ceremony, the playing of taps and colors, and performances by *Los Soldados del Presidio* and Oxnard Air Force JROTC. This is a free event. For more information (805) 965-0093 or www.sbthp.org.
- **California State Railroad Museum** - To honor their service and celebrate the patriotic holiday, California State Parks and the California State Railroad Museum are proud to offer veterans and active military personnel complimentary excursion train rides on the Sacramento Southern Railroad plus complimentary Museum admission on Monday, November 11, 2013. With patriotic music playing aboard the trains, veterans and active military personnel are encouraged to wear their uniforms with pride while enjoying a special excursion train ride available at 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. this one-day-only on a first-come, first-served basis. The excursion train rides are also open to the public at regular price while immediate family members accompanying

veterans and active military personnel can enjoy the train ride at a discounted half-price. In addition, the California State Railroad Museum – North America's most popular train museum -- is also offering complimentary admission for veterans and active military personnel during this celebratory day.

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