



# News Release

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## California State Parks Director Announces Retirement

*SACRAMENTO, Calif.* – After bringing leadership and stability to the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Maj. Gen. Anthony L. Jackson has announced that he will retire on June 30, capping nearly 40 years of public service, including 36 years in the U.S. Marine Corps.

“I sincerely appreciate General Jackson’s service to California and the Department of Parks and Recreation,” said California Natural Resources Secretary John Laird. “He came to the department during its darkest hour, bringing stability and consistency. After almost 40 years of public service, he has more than earned the right to retire to private life.”

Jackson took over as director of the department in the wake of financial reporting irregularities and other management issues. He held the post for 18 months. Since being sworn in as director, Jackson worked with Gov. Brown and the state Legislature to address deferred maintenance issues at park facilities, helped rebuild morale among employees, and closely partnered with the Parks Forward Commission to chart a long-term future for the park system.

“I want to thank Gov. Brown and the dedicated group of professionals at State Parks for the opportunity to return to public service and help earn back the public’s trust in one of California’s most valuable assets,” said Jackson. “It has been a challenging, but ultimately fulfilling tenure at California State Parks.”

Jackson’s retirement will be effective June 30, 2014, the end of the current fiscal year.

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### **Mission**

*To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state’s extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.*

