

Memorandum

Date : June 16, 2011

To : Division Chiefs
District Superintendents
District Volunteer Coordinators

From : Anthony I. Perez 
Deputy Director Park Operations

Subject : Volunteers in Parks Program 2010 Annual Report

For the third consecutive year, the Volunteers in Parks Program reported record levels of achievement. In 2010, 34,510 volunteers contributed an all time high of 1,118,261 hours, representing an equivalent dollar value of over \$23 million. Dedicated individuals and groups assisted staff in interpreting our unique natural and cultural resources, helped keep facilities clean and in good repair, represented our department to the public and provided a welcoming presence in our campgrounds and visitor centers.

In these extraordinarily difficult budget times, we are challenged as a department to improve our services and continue presenting engaging programs for our visitors. I urge you to seek ways to expand the use of volunteers in our parks. Well-trained and managed volunteers offer a cost-effective and mutually beneficial way of meeting critical operational needs; each staff hour spent administering the program yields more than 12 hours of volunteer time.

I am extremely proud of the great work our staff and volunteers accomplished together during the past year. Please take every opportunity to thank our volunteers and offer meaningful recognition of their invaluable service. Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Margo Cowan, Program Coordinator at (916) 653-8819 or mcowan@parks.ca.gov.

Attachments

cc: Ruth Coleman, Director
Michael Harris, Acting Chief Deputy Director
Roy Stearns, Deputy Director, Communications
Bill Herms, Deputy Director, Legislation
Daphne Greene, Deputy Director, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation
Margo Cowan, Coordinator, Volunteers in Parks Program

2010 VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS PROGRAM





VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS PROGRAM 2010 Activity Report

Summary

Achieving the threshold of one million volunteer hours for the third successive year, **34,510** individuals served an all-time high of **1,118,261 hours**, with an equivalent dollar value to the department of over **\$23 million**.* The attached charts summarize 2010 volunteer activity and overall trends over the past decade.

Due largely to a rise in short term, event-related activity, the number of state parks volunteers increased by 30% in 2010. However, the number of active volunteers serving long-term assignments remained consistent with 2009, as did the average number of 32 annual service hours per volunteer.

Interpretation continued to represent the largest category of volunteer service, comprising nearly 24% of all volunteer hours. Similarly, campground and park hosts and volunteers performing public contact functions combined for an additional 30% of total volunteer hours.

Staff Support and Training

Dedicated field staff who coordinated the VIP Program were vital to the program's success. While the number of employees managing volunteers decreased slightly, from 894 to 836, the total staff hours devoted to volunteer administration increased by nearly 4%. Each staff hour expended on volunteer management yielded more than 12 hours of volunteer service. Mott Training Center offered Volunteer Management training in December 2009 to 30 department employees.

Special Events and Public Workdays

Earth Day, Trails Day, Coastal Cleanup Day and other one-day or weekend special events and public workdays attracted over 24,000 short-term volunteers. Working collaboratively with the California State Parks Foundation, park cooperating associations and other partners, individuals and groups assisted in cleaning up our parks and beaches, maintaining trails, producing living history demonstrations, and a variety of other activities throughout the state.

Volunteer Recognition

Department staff presented 53 Poppy Awards and 18 Volunteer Medallions to volunteers deserving of special acknowledgment during 2010.

Volunteer Enhancement Program

Proposition 84, approved by California voters in 2006, allocated \$4 million to the Volunteer Enhancement Program, allowing the Department to fund five minor capital projects totaling \$650,000 in FY 08/09, three projects totaling \$575,000 in 09/10, and eight projects totaling \$586,000 in 10/11. District staff used VEP funds to upgrade visitor centers and volunteer facilities, develop or improve camp host sites, and carry out other restoration projects that enhanced our parks and helped increase volunteer participation.

Program Contact

If you have questions about this report, please contact Margo Cowan at (916) 653-8819 or by e-mail at mcowan@parks.ca.gov.

* The 2010 volunteer service hour is based on the private sector value of \$21.36 per hour, derived from private non-farm payroll determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, as reported by the Independent Sector in Washington, D.C.

Volunteers in Parks Program 2010

District/Unit/Office	Unit	Admin.	Campground/ Park Host	Interp.	Maintenance/ Housekeeping	Public Safety	Natural Resource Mgt.	Cultural Resource Mgt.	Public Relations	Public Contact	Special Events, Other	Total Volunteer Hours	Total # of Volunteers	Total Long Term Vols	Total Short Term Vols	Total CSP Staff Hours	Total CSP Staff
Angeles	915	11,533	1,000	14,852	8,271	18,650	984	1,135	335	4,389	9,555	70,704	3,740	591	1,384	3,304	57
Capital	670	44,330	0	86,390	18,706	1,636	201	20,157	210	17,467	4,928	194,025	1,123	866	281	7,995	46
Central Valley	730	3,193	7,115	5,762	2,862	1,420	289	496	276	7,507	6,007	34,927	966	360	724	7,090	38
Channel Coast	910	3,028	14,201	6,232	12,154	89	351	550	80	3,781	178	40,643	332	225	102	6,368	48
Colorado Desert	940	5,408	6,227	2,389	5,297	5,089	11,257	2,730	45	17,302	802	56,546	597	424	178	5,806	26
Diablo Vista	660	2,839	2,826	6,766	6,051	4,872	1,151	382	110	7,940	7,851	40,785	1,071	506	565	5,418	57
DPR HQ-Interp & Ed	830	310	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	310	2	2	0	85	4
DPR HQ-Legal	25	525	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	525	5	5	0	210	3
Gold Fields	690	2,325	2,881	9,582	6,542	5,144	143	571	374	5,163	2,220	34,942	1,053	326	878	2,420	8
Hollister Hills	556	167	0	33	120	2,556	121	5	0	0	530	3,531	152	57	95	542	17
Hungry Valley	553	5	0	888	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	943	27	27	0	10	2
Inland Empire	950	1,607	2,839	1,219	761	428	106	456	0	7,570	2,766	17,751	447	175	428	2,680	8
Marin	653	630	4,000	5,652	2,209	404	394	366	340	3,093	1,412	18,500	635	186	449	1,240	18
Mendocino	641	2,000	4,001	2,102	1,650	0	2,111	300	217	8,109	1,800	22,290	700	60	640	1,500	15
Monterey	720	10,196	2,760	19,178	9,110	1,410	7,052	2,340	736	12,806	7,805	73,393	1,119	649	464	7,170	75
North Coast Redwoods	635	450	5,000	300	1,000	50	200	30	40	5,000	50	12,120	115	75	40	50	40
Northern Buttes	645	2,868	20,569	5,612	5,135	707	2,754	812	17	4,284	3,652	46,410	720	181	539	2,643	61
Oceano Dunes	264	3,681	1,720	2,607	0	6,962	1,670	85	167	1,832	4	18,726	151	143	8	1,900	3
Ocotillo Wells	555	436	10	922	3,125	334	0	44	0	88	0	4,959	171	14	90	551	11
Orange Coast	925	3,970	10,399	3,902	4,267	1,393	1,762	445	200	4,335	16,186	46,859	10,275	393	9,880	4,480	36

Volunteers in Parks Program 2010

District /Unit/ Office	Unit	Admin.	Campground/ Park Host	Interp.	Maintenance/ Housekeeping	Public Safety	Natural Resource Mgt.	Cultural Resource Mgt.	Public Relations	Public Contact	Special Events, Other	Total Volunteer Hours	Total # of Volunteers	Total Long Term Vols	Total Short Term Vols	Total CSP Staff Hours	Total CSP Staff
Russian River	651	445	11,560	2,469	2,088	988	2,062	42	1,417	3,499	7,553	32,122	1,873	563	1,439	1,120	14
San Diego Coast	935	12,099	30,381	10,441	5,072	873	8,049	1,622	1,593	7,462	5,384	82,974	2,339	550	1,789	3,149	61
San Luis Obispo Coast	740	8,066	9,530	9,691	4,334	3,800	1,276	10	407	12,324	1,748	51,185	864	568	296	3,160	45
Sanita Cruz	715	6,914	13,985	33,195	10,919	1,126	2,881	996	546	9,489	15,382	95,397	4,504	860	3,623	14,914	86
Sierra	683	1,740	7,669	10,829	7,123	1,022	636	923	396	26,930	5,501	62,767	896	543	353	3,803	34
Tehachapi	900	601	9,840	22,410	570	0	501	1,830	284	4,400	5,492	45,928	454	135	319	2,733	15
Twin Cities	558	0	0	0	0	2,525	30	80	0	40	6,324	8,999	179	48	131	148	8
District Totals	129,366	168,513	263,423	117,366	61,478	46,031	36,407	7,790	174,810	113,130	1,118,261	34,510	8,532	24,695	90,489	836	
% of Total	11.57%	15.07%	23.56%	10.50%	5.50%	4.12%	3.26%	0.70%	15.63%	10.12%							

2010 VIP Program Figures at a Glance

Total Number of VIPs	34,510
Total Volunteer Hours (equal to 536 full time employees)	1,118,261
Value per Volunteer Service Hour *	\$21.36
Total Value *	\$23,315,741.85

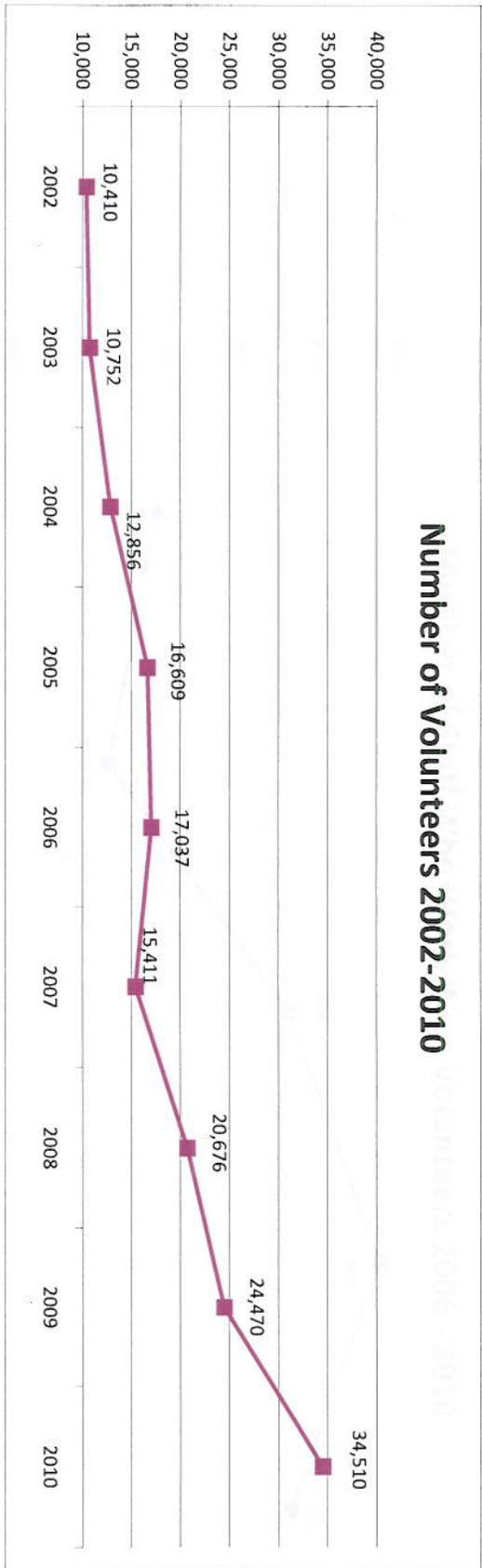
*The value of the volunteer service hour is based on the average hourly earnings of all production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Independent Sector takes this figure and increases it by 12% to estimate for fringe benefits.

2010 CSP Investment in VIP Program

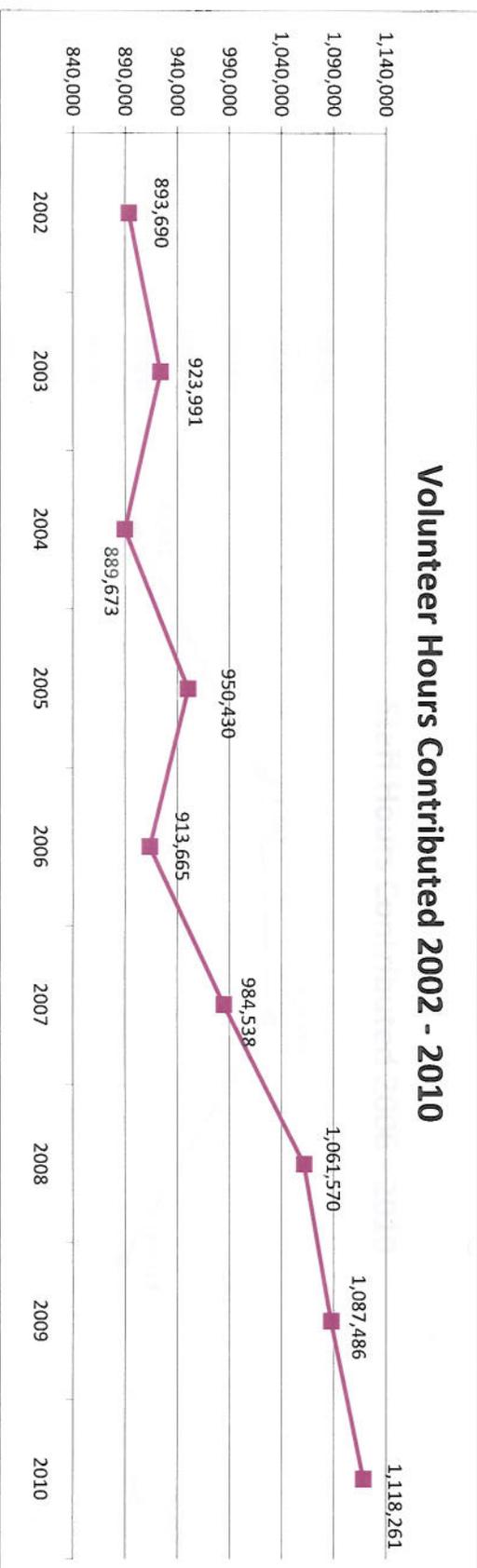
Total Number of CSP Staff	836
Total CSP Staff Hours	90,489
Total CSP Pys	47
Value per Service Hour **	\$34.94
Dollar Value of Park Staff Investment	\$3,161,685.66
Ratio of CSP Dollars to Investment Return	8.10

**CSP staff hour is based on the midpoint hourly wage of a State Park Ranger, with 31% added to represent state employment benefits.

Number of Volunteers 2002-2010



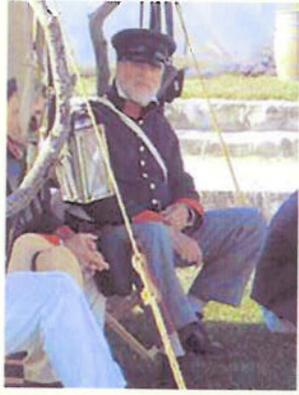
Volunteer Hours Contributed 2002 - 2010



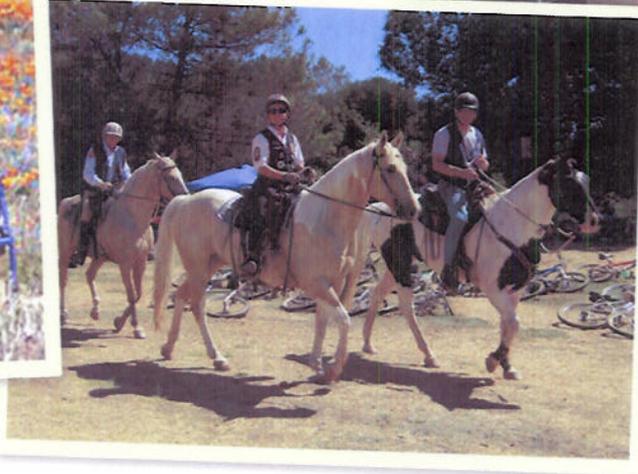
VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS 2010 Park Staff / Volunteer Hours

District/Unit/Office	Total Volunteer Hours	Total # of Volunteers	Total CSP Staff Hours	Total CSP Staff	Volunteer Hours Received Per Staff Hours Invested
Angeles	70,704	3,740	3,304	57	21.40
Capital	194,025	1,123	7,995	46	24.27
Central Valley	34,927	966	7,090	38	4.93
Channel Coast	40,643	332	6,368	48	6.38
Colorado Desert	56,546	597	5,806	26	9.74
Diablo Vista	40,785	1,071	5,418	57	7.53
DPR HQ-Interp & Ed	310	2	85	4	3.65
DPR HQ-Legal	525	5	210	3	2.50
Gold Fields	34,942	1,053	2,420	8	14.44
Hollister Hills	3,531	152	542	17	6.51
Hungry Valley	943	27	10	2	94.30
Inland Empire	17,751	447	2,680	8	6.62
Marin	18,500	635	1,240	18	14.92
Mendocino	22,290	700	1,500	15	14.86
Monterey	73,393	1,119	7,170	75	10.24
North Coast Redwoods	12,120	115	50	40	242.40
Northern Buttes	46,410	720	2,643	61	17.56
Oceano Dunes	18,726	151	1,900	3	9.86
Ocotillo Wells	4,959	171	551	11	9.00
Orange Coast	46,859	10,275	4,480	36	10.46
Russian River	32,122	1,873	1,120	14	28.68
San Diego Coast	82,974	2,339	3,149	61	26.35
San Luis Obispo Coast	51,185	864	3,160	45	16.20
Santa Cruz	95,397	4,504	14,914	86	6.40
Sierra	62,767	896	3,803	34	16.50
Tehachapi	45,928	454	2,733	15	16.80
Twin Cities	8,999	179	148	8	60.80
	1,118,261	34,510	90,489	836	12.36

2010 Volunteers in Parks Program



Making Parks Shine!



Thank You!

to the following districts for contributing photographs of their dynamic volunteers at work in 2010!



Capital
Central Valley
Channel Coast
Colorado Desert
Diablo Vista
Hollister Hills OHMVR

Inland Empire
Marin
Mendocino
Monterey
Northern Buttes

Orange Coast
Russian River
San Luis Obispo Coast
Santa Cruz
Tehachapi



It is always great to get images of volunteers submitted either individually or included with annual district reports. We hope to make the photo montage a regular feature of the VIPP Annual Report, so keep your cameras busy – and those Visual Media Consent forms handy!

