Recruiting and Retaining Volunteers with Interpretation
Steve Diers, Ranger/Naturalist, EBMUD Watershed & Recreation Division, Valley Springs

Philomene Smith, Staff Park & Recreation Specialist, California State Parks Planning Division (Mokelumne Trailbuster), Sacramento
Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail

The Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail
Proposed 300 Mile Trail with Existing Segments

- Oakland
- Martinez
- Ebbetts Pass
- Camanche & Pardee Reservoirs
EBMUD’s Formula for Success for recruiting and retaining volunteers is:

NEEDS + RESOURCES = Interpretive and Volunteer Project OPPORTUNITIES
EBMUD’s Needs:
1. Long-term projects
2. Periodic projects
3. Publicize EBMUD’s resource stewardship
4. Involve the local community
5. Promote environmental awareness
6. Recruit volunteers

(http://www.volunteercentersca.org/)
EBMUD’s Needs:

1. Long-term projects:
   Trail Construction, Revegetation, Exotic Species Removal, Heritage Garden Maintenance
EBMUD’s Needs:

2. Periodic projects:

Waterway Clean-Up, Equestrian Camp Construction, Erosion Control, Other Stewardship Projects
EBMUD’s Needs:

3. Publicize EBMUD’s resource stewardship:

EBMUD Mission Statement:
“To manage the natural resources with which the District is entrusted; to provide reliable, high quality water and wastewater services at fair and reasonable rates for the people of the East Bay; and to preserve and protect the environment for future generations.”
NEEDS + RESOURCES
= OPPORTUNITIES

EBMUD’s Resources:
1. Interpretive Resources
2. Volunteer Resources
EBMUD’s Resources:

Interpretive Resources;
Ranger/Naturalists, local Native Americans, Volunteer Speakers and Writers…

**Character**  Poem by John Willard
A hundred years in the future about the year twenty-one O Five.
A horseman is riding down a trail like horsemen of days gone by…

**Traibusters Rock!**  Article by Steve Diers & Jerry Wright
Excerpts from the Diary of a Mokelumne Trailbuster
Over a 12-month period from October 2005 to October 2006, Trailbusters built 15 rock walls of native stone…

**History Hike 2006: Wildermuth House Tour**  
Article by Stan Venckus  Twenty-seven participants mustered up for the Wildermuth House Tour, Saturday October 7, 2006. The day began with perfect hiking weather…
EBMUD’s Resources: Interpretive Resources continued; …Wildflowers and Wildlife…
EBMUD’s Resources: Interpretive Resources. Historic and Prehistoric Cultural Sites
EBMUD’s Resources:

Volunteer Resources:

Local Community/Youth Groups/Service Learning/Special Interest Groups
NEEDS + RESOURCES
= OPPORTUNITIES

EBMUD’s Opportunities:
1. Interpretive Opportunities
2. Volunteer Project Opportunities
3. Publicity Opportunities
4. Community Outreach Opportunities
EBMUD’s Opportunities:
Interpretive opportunities that promote environmental awareness;
Guided Eagle and Raptor Tours
EBMUD’s Opportunities:
Interpretive opportunities that involve the local community;

Wildflower Hikes
EBMUD’s Opportunities:
Interpretive Opportunities;
Native American Cave Art Tour, Crafts and Games
EBMUD’s Opportunities:

Interpretive Opportunities that recruit volunteers;

History Hike
EBMUD’s Opportunities:

Volunteer Project Opportunities;

Trail Construction Program:
EBMUD’s Opportunities:

Volunteer Project Opportunities;

Trail Construction Program:

Workdays scheduled every other Saturday throughout the year

Spring & Summer 2007 Trailbuster Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>CA Trail Days/Earth Day*** (See page 6 for details.) 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Trailbuster Work Day*** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10-12</td>
<td>CA Trails Conference (See page 6 for details.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Trailbuster Work Day*** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2</td>
<td>Pardee to Camanche National Trail Days Hike*** (See page 9 for details.) 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 16</td>
<td>Trailbuster Work Day*** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>Trailbuster Work Day*** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Schedule Symbols

***Please RSVP Steve Diers at (209) 772-8260 or sdiers@ebmud.com prior to attending.

▲ Ideal for families and youth groups.

☺ Meet @ MW&RD Office, 5883 E. Camanche Parkway, Campo Seco……………… (##3 on map)

▼ Meet @ Camanche South Shore Recreation Area…………………………… (##4 on map)

▼ Meet @ Campo Seco Staging Area……… (##9 on map)
EBMUD’s Opportunities:

Volunteer Project Opportunities;

Annual Waterway Cleanup

Volunteers leave a cleaner river in their wake

By Sara Pistoia
Ledger Dispatch Staff

JACKSON — About a dozen volunteers Saturday collected 41 bags of trash weighing 915 pounds as they scoured the banks of the Mokelumne River during the fall cleanup project sponsored by the Foothill Conservancy.
EBMUD’s Opportunities:
Volunteer Project Opportunities.
Re-Vegetation
EBMUD’s Opportunities:

Publicity Opportunities:
California Trail Days:
National Trails Day:
Earth Day:

The Mokelumne Monitor newsletter: distributed to 150 people and to local newspapers and available online
EBMUD’s Opportunities:

Additional Volunteer Benefits:

**Training** - instructions on tools & techniques

Gain knowledge and skills —
for use at home, on the job, or for applying for a job
EBMUD’s Opportunities:

Additional Volunteer Benefits;

Learning about the area: During the workday the Ranger shares his/her knowledge of the nearby natural and cultural features.
EBMUD’s Opportunities:
Additional Volunteer Benefits;
Mentoring
EBMUD’s Opportunities:

Additional Volunteer Benefits;

**Recognition** — Annual Awards BBQ, Trail & Volunteer Pass, Newsletter, Service Recognition Pins and Certificates
EBMUD’s Opportunities:

Additional Volunteer Benefits. **Exercise** - Volunteers are pleasantly surprised at how good they feel, both physically and mentally, after spending the day on such a worthwhile project.
The End
Photo Credits

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Carolyn Fox
Lynn Fritz, EBMUD
Kent Lambert, EBMUD
Lorraine Morrison, Mokelumne Trailbuster
Greg Persons, EBMUD
Pete Silva, Stewardship Through Education
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