

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2025		
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION	
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Welcome Message	Director Armando Quintero, California State Parks
9:15 AM - 9:45 AM	Opening Remarks	Secretary Wade Crowfoot, California Natural Resources Agency
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM	Truth, Healing and Historical Justice for California Native Peoples	Christina Snider-Ashtari, Secretary of Tribal Affairs
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	BREAK	
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Partnerships at Work: A Practical Introduction	Carlene Croisdale, Chief, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	LUNCH	
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	Exhibit Hall & Exposition	
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	California's Property Insurance Market: A Perfect Storm of Challenges	Denise Brown, Vice President/Executive Claims Consultant & Kevin Higgens, Risk Management Consultant with InterWest Insurance Services, LLC
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Parks without Borders: Achieving Large Scale Land/Seascape Restoration and Stewardship Outcomes through Partnerships	Jay Chamberlin, Chief, Natural Resources Division, California State Parks; Sharon Farrel, Strategic Advisor, The Stewardship Network; & Becky Rittenburg, Director of Programs, Climate & Stewardship, Parks California
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Change Management	Emily Walsh, Nonprofit Programs Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Partnerships Office Hours	Robyn Krock, Park Impact Partner Program Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
1:30 PM - 1:45 PM	BREAK	
1:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Building Fire Resilience Strength for State Parks with Community Partnerships	Cyndy Shafer, Natural Resources Program Manager, Bay Area District, California State Parks; Anne Cottrell, Chair, Napa County Board of Supervisors and Members; Christopher Thompson, Chair, Napa Firewise Foundation; Kevin Coleman, Chair, FireSafe Council, Diamond Mountain; Cathie Bennett Warner, President, Napa Valley State Parks Association
1:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Leading Through Partnership: An Innovation and Collaboration Skills Training	Daniel Student, Managing Director, Potrero Group
1:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Introduction to California Native American Tribes and State Parks: Reexamining Our Past	Leslie Hartzell, Division Chief; Patricia Garcia, Tribal Affairs Program Manager; & Dena Mitchell, Tribal Affairs Program Coordinator, Cultural Resources Division, California State Parks
1:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Successfully Navigating Challenging and Difficult Relationships	Phil Sandoval, Employee Assistance Program, Magellan Healthcare
1:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Partnerships Office Hours	Erik Hernandez, Senior Concessions Program Manager & Sasha Tokas, Concessions Program Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
3:15 PM - 3:30 PM	BREAK	
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Customer Service Story Time	Bob Waller, Lead Training Consultant, Training Section, California State Parks
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	All Things RFP: From Planning to Execution	Jakob Crawford, Megan Boisvert, Nicole Spaulding, & Kevin White, Concession Specialists, Concessions Program, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Inside the Park Impact Partner Program: Agreements, Authority, and Engagement	Robyn Krock, Park Impact Partner Program Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Redwood Rx: Nature Based Wellness Partnership	Brenda Holmes, Executive Director, Mountain Parks Foundation; Julie Norton, Board Member, Mountain Parks Foundation; & Juan Villarino, Staff Services Manager II, Santa Cruz District, California State Parks
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Field Chief Office Hours	Greg Martin, Desert Field Division Chief & Matt Bellah, Central and Coast Field Division Chief, California State Parks
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM	BREAK	
5:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Optional Social Event	Train Ride & Buffet Dinner at the California State Railroad Museum <i>Hosted by California State Railroad Museum Foundation</i>

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2025		
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION	
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Opening Remarks	Emily Walsh, Nonprofit Programs Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Everyone Belongs Outdoors: Reinventing Access with Off-Road Mobility Devices	Austin Nicassio, Executive Director, Accessible Off-Road
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	GROUP PHOTO & NETWORKING BREAK	
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Interpretation, what is it and how can it help?	Peter Ostroskie, Visitor Service Manager, Bay Area District, California State Parks
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Emergency Preparedness	Peter Brandt, Captain & Peter Estes, Assistant Chief, Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division, California State Parks
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Creating the Space – Cultivating Community Programming	Leslie Parra, Senior Manager of Community Engagement, Save the Redwoods League; Karla Jovel, Interpreter III; & Erika Granadino, Interpreter I, North Coast Redwoods District, California State Parks
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Partnership Leadership Roundtable: Collaborative Problem-Solving for Park Partners	Bri Fordem, Executive Director, Anza-Borrego Foundation and President of California League of Park Associations (CALPA); Carolyn Christian, CALPA Board Member; & Ruth Coleman, Executive Director, California Parks Hospitality Association (CPHA)
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Partnerships Office Hours	Emily Walsh, Nonprofit Programs Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	LUNCH	
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Concession Performance Evaluation Best Practices	Jared Zucker, District Services Manager, Northern Buttes District & Sasha Tokas, Concessions Program Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Collaboration through a Redwood Interpreter's Network	Deborah Zierten, Sr. Manager of Education and Interpretation, Save the Redwoods League; Jeanne Smith, Mendocino Woodlands Camp Association; & Michelle Levesque, Interpreter II, Sonoma-Mendocino District, California State Parks
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Restoring Parks, Rethinking Partnerships, Rebuilding Communities: Park Management and Partnership Following a Natural Disaster	Richard Fink, District Superintendent, Angeles District & Jordan Burgess, Deputy District Superintendent, Santa Cruz District, California State Parks
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Perspectives in Fundraising	Kelly Siefkin, Chief Philanthropy Officer, Sacramento Region Community Foundation; Shannin Stein, Director of Advancement, Alchemist Community Development Corporation, Board Member of Association of Fundraising Professionals; & Paige Haller, Rivers Sector Manager, Central Valley District, California State Parks
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Partnerships Office Hours	Carlene Croisdale, Chief, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM	BREAK	
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Leadership Development Navigating Agreement Closures: Who, Why, and How <i>(Parks Staff only)</i>	Emily Walsh, Nonprofit Programs Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	City Hikes	Chinh Nguyen, Community Outreach Specialist, Community Involvement Unit, California State Parks
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Stanford Mansion Halloween Tour	Interpretive Staff, Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park, California State Parks
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	California State Capitol Museum Tour	Interpretive Staff, California State Capitol Museum, California State Parks
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	BREAK	
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Optional Social Event	Trivia Night at Bear & Crown Restaurant Hosted by Save the Redwoods League

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2025		
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	INFORMATION TABLE	
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Opening Remarks	Erik Hernandez, Senior Concessions Program Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Strategic Planning and Recreation Services Division	Alex Stehl, Deputy Director & Jim Newland, Planning Chief, Strategic Planning & Recreation Services Division, Strategic Plan Implementation, California State Parks
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	BREAK	
10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	Capital Outlay	Tara Lynch, Chief Counsel & Brian Dewey, Assistant Deputy Director, Facilities and Development, California State Parks
10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	Augmented Reality in Action: How AI Is Transforming Visitor Engagement at California State Parks	Joel Krupa, Chief Administrative Officer & Anna Scheck, Partnerships Team Lead, Agents of Discovery
10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	Partnership and Co-creation with Tribes	Leslie Hartzell, Chief, Cultural Resources Division; Heather Holm, Chief, Interpretation & Education Division, California State Parks; & Fernando Villalba, Director of Programs – Access and Belonging, Parks California
11:45 AM - 1:45 PM	LUNCH & TOUR at Sutter's Fort and California State Indian Museum <i>Hosted by California State Park Foundation</i>	
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Identifying appropriate Insurance Acord requirements - insurance topic for all partners & parks staff	Chris Carroll, Associate Risk Analyst, Office of Risk and Insurance Management, Department of General Services & Erik Hernandez, Senior Program Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Using Mindfulness to Reduce Stress and Improve Wellbeing	Phil Sandoval, Employee Assistance Program, Magellan Healthcare
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Volunteer Management: Policies, Best Practices, and Tips	Rachel Young, Volunteers in Parks Program Coordinator, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
3:00 PM - 3:15 PM	BREAK	
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	California State Parks K9 Program	Mike Gleckler, Assistant Chief & Sasha Wessitsh, Captain, Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division, California State Parks
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	Building Stronger Partnerships: Developing Effective Annual Plans	Brie Grossman, Cooperating Associations Program Coordinator, Partnerships Division, California State Parks
4:15 PM - 4:30 PM	BREAK	
4:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Closing Remarks	Carlene Croisdale, Chief & Emily Walsh, Nonprofit Programs Manager, Partnerships Division, California State Parks