

News Release



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State Parks Finalizes Two More Partnerships

California State Parks announced today that key partnerships have been formed with non-profit organizations that will help keep two more state parks open. Those parks are Gray Whale Cove State Beach in San Mateo County and Benicia Capitol State Historic Park in Solano County.

“We are grateful to all of our partners, donors and staff members, especially those who continue to step-up and help despite the recent discovery of surplus money,” said California State Parks acting Director Janelle Beland. “There is an understanding that the recently identified funding only gets us past the immediate crisis, but does not address the long-term budget shortfall. Solving the long term problem remains our greatest challenge, making continued help very necessary.”

For Benicia Capitol State Historic Park, a Partnership Donation Agreement was signed Sept. 19 between California State Parks and the Benicia State Parks Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. In this agreement, the Benicia State Parks Association has agreed to donate \$35,469 to State Parks to be used to maintain and operate the park from Sept. 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. The agreement calls for minimum operating hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at least two days per week. It allows for the donor to recruit and utilize volunteers to assist with the operation of the facility.

For Gray Whale Cove State Beach, a State Park Contingent Fund Donation Agreement was finalized Sept. 19 between California State Parks and the San Mateo Coast Natural History Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. In this agreement, the donor is providing \$6,000 to State Parks as a one-time donation to be used to maintain and operate the facility from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. The donor is strictly providing for a donation and will have no responsibility for maintaining or operating the park.

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