

PRESS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Divisions of Boating and Waterways, Historic Preservation and Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation

For Immediate Release

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Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park Remains Temporarily Closed Due to Recent Storm Damage

BIG SUR, Calif. – California State Parks is reminding the public that Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park remains closed due to extensive damage caused by recent storms. The popular park has been closed since early February when heavy rains and high winds pummeled the Big Sur area. The restroom facilities and visitor welcome station at the park were severely damaged and need to be repaired. The closure means there is no access to the Waterfall Overlook Trail which leads to the iconic McWay Falls.

State Parks is asking for the public's cooperation in respecting the park closure by refraining from parking illegally on Highway 1 or attempting to climb down to the trail. This behavior is unsafe and has already resulted in significant, additional damage to park resources in the form of erosion, litter and damaged fencing as well as highway congestion.

Parks staff from the Monterey District are working diligently to identify funding sources and implement a plan to re-open the park as soon as possible. The park's restrooms are one of a limited number of public restrooms in the Big Sur area and State Parks is seeking short-term solutions to alleviate this concern. A longer-term plan is being worked out to make the needed repairs to the parks' damaged buildings and trails. State Parks hopes to re-open the park in a limited capacity later this spring.

Please check our [website](#) for updates and thank you for your patience as we work to protect this spectacular landscape for future generations.



Damage at Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park due to recent storms.

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