CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## **News Release**



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## Henry W. Coe Park Supporters Return with New Agreement to Keep Park Open, First Under AB 1478

The Coe Park Preservation Fund (CPPF) has signed a new, amended agreement with California State Parks to renew their donation under the matching funds provision of AB 1478. In September, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed Assembly Bill 1478, which appropriated \$20.5 million of the unreported funds in the State Parks and Recreation Fund (SPRF) back to State Parks to help prevent park closures in the 2012-13 and 2013-14 fiscal years.

In signing the amended agreement with State Parks, Coe Park Preservation Fund became the first partner to return and sign an AB 1478 matching fund agreement. CPPF will provide a donation of \$279,000 to be matched by State Parks to fund the park through two years, 2012-2014, but the agreement also keeps the park open for an additional two years, to 2016, the level of staffing, services and hours/days of operation dependent on available funding.

"When we learned of the unreported funds, we were devastated," said Ann Briggs, president of the Coe Park Preservation Fund. "But we waited to find out what would happen and today, we are returning with our full faith and confidence that the new parks department leadership is setting things straight and can move the system to a better future."

"We are extremely pleased that the Coe Fund board had faith in our system and wanted to help our new management team," said Major General Anthony L. Jackson, director of California State Parks. "This is our first, premier indicator of us moving beyond our recent troubles and forward with the restoration of trust in our park system."

Under the agreement, all operations and maintenance of Coe State Park will be performed by State Parks' staff. The funds will be used for salary and benefits for two, full-time permanent State Park Peace Officer positions, one permanent, full-time Park Maintenance Worker 1, and two full-time seasonal Park Aid positions.

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For energy efficient recreation – California State Parks on the Internet: <u>www.parks.ca.gov</u>>

