



CALIFORNIA
STATE PARKS
FOUNDATION

parklands

The Newsletter for Members of CSPF | Fall 2018

2017-18
Annual Report
Edition



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(1909-1992)

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An impactful year

Getting ready for an annual report is always a time of reflecting on the highlights of the year – like when we asked you to tell us why our parks and our future matter to you. We received more than 600 responses with all sorts of reasons and personal stories, ranging from meaningful memories of time spent in parks, to concerns for the preservation of wildlife, to dreams of protecting parks to be enjoyed by many generations to come. One response poignantly stated, “parks are an essential part of our humanity.” We shared your stories at our annual Park Advocacy Day, along with the core message of Our Parks, Our Future: we believe that youth, now and for generations to come, hold within them the future of our California state parks.



Dave, left, and Rachel, right, at Park Advocacy Day with award recipients Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher and John Roney

All Californians, especially Californian youth, should have access to the positive impacts parks have on health and happiness – but not everyone does. Since our founding in 1969, California State Parks Foundation has advocated for an excellent state parks system, one that provides equitable access for all Californians to experience its beauty and benefits. Now, we’re expressing this commitment as a vision for improving quality of life for all Californians by ensuring positive, meaningful and healthy experiences in a flourishing state park system.

Our Parks, Our Future is one of many steps towards realizing our vision of access, equity and excellence in state parks. Throughout this annual report we’re pleased to share just some of the accomplishments CSPF has made toward this vision this year. We’re applying this lens to deepen the ways we protect, preserve and enhance state parks, and in growing our grantmaking, evolving our volunteer programs, working with park partners and selecting legislation to support.

We’re excited about all we’ve achieved this past year, and to share it with you.

See you in the parks!

Rachel Norton
Executive Director

David Mandelkern
Board Chair



SUGARLOAF RIDGE STATE PARK COURTESY SONOMA ECOLOGY CENTER



Our theory of change for parks

We know our parks are a critical, necessary benefit for all of California. Unfortunately, we also know that not everyone has the same access to enjoy parks and experience the positive impacts they have on improved health, happiness and quality of life.

California is changing: its population, climate and attitudes. It is the most populous state in the nation, and one of the most diverse in the world. Yet state park users and visitors do not reflect the diversity, cultures and needs of all Californians, especially of California's youth.



Approximately 6.2 million students were enrolled in California's public schools in 2016-17, and not all of them had the opportunity to visit, learn and explore state parks as outdoor classrooms. At a national level, youth spend less time outside than prison inmates, playing freely

outside for just four to seven minutes per day on average, according to a recent report.* Additional research shows that youth spend half as much time outside today as they did 20 years ago. Furthermore, 40% of U.S. School Districts have eliminated recess, and outdoor education programs and field trips have declined significantly over the years.

This is cause for concern not only for the future state of our parks, but also for the young people who could benefit from all they have to offer. Without youth who experience and grow an appreciation for their state parks, we jeopardize a future generation of park stewards who support, protect and preserve our lands.

It's more important than ever to grow a generation of park stewards who reflect the future of California. Advocating for park policies and resources that benefit the health and happiness of our children also benefits our parks through future stewardship – which in turn benefits future generations by ensuring they too have access to all our parks have to offer.

Working toward our vision of access, equity and excellence starts with increasing youth access to state parks. To foster the next generation of empowered park stewards, we're putting our theory of change into action. ●

We believe that...

*If we expose youth to the outdoors through increasing access to state parks, **then we can engage them in meaningful experiences that have a lasting impact.***

*If we can engage them in meaningful experiences that have a lasting impact, **then we can empower inspired youth to use their voices as park stewards.***

*And if we can empower inspired youth to use their voices as park stewards, **then they ensure our parks offer the same powerful experiences to future generations through their lifelong stewardship and advocacy.***

*The Path Ahead at <https://www.rei.com/blog/the-path-ahead>



On the way to **Chino Hills State Park** this past April, more than 100 miles away from their

homes in San Diego, nine students from Crawford High School's Adventure Club, a program run by Outdoor Outreach, stopped first at the adjacent Carbon Canyon Regional Park, home to the only redwood grove in Southern California.

"I wasn't sure how they were going to respond to it," said Dustin PUNCHES, Youth Programs Senior Coordinator with Outdoor Outreach, a San Diego-based nonprofit connecting youth to the transformative power of the outdoors. "There's a temperature change when you get close to the redwoods, they cool the air around them. It was the first time most of the students had seen a redwood tree before, they loved it."

A \$9,897 grant from California State Parks Foundation made it possible for Outdoor Outreach to expand their overnight program to Chino Hills State Park, partially funding three overnight camping trips and bringing a total of 24 youth to the park for the first time this year. "To really be able to take the youth out of San Diego is special," Dustin said. "They feel the distance in a really positive way, that sense of exploring something new." Sometimes these trips are the first time a student has left San Diego.

The after-school Adventure Clubs give students at three area Title I high schools (schools where 75% or more of the students receive free or reduced-cost lunch) opportunities to attend dozens of outdoor outings throughout the year. The majority of Adventure Club members have little or no prior exposure to the outdoors. At Crawford High School, 100% of students receive free or reduced cost lunch, 97%

identify as an ethnic or racial minority, and 30% of students are refugees.*

"I feel super fortunate to get to work with a school that has so many cultures represented and different languages spoken," said Dustin. But this also presents unique cultural and access barriers between students and state parks. "If I ask my kids, 'what would you do if you weren't on this trip,' they say, 'I would basically just be sitting at home because my parents work and there's no way to get out of the neighborhood.'" Lack of public transportation between their homes and parks, expensive parking and camping fees, the cost of buying or renting equipment and general lack of awareness about parks are just some of the obstacles.

The overnight trips to Chino Hills State Park offer students an opportunity to explore their world, challenge themselves, discover their strengths and connect with supportive peers and mentors who believe in their potential.

"There's an increase in confidence and overall self-perception and self-empowerment," said Dustin. "We create a framework for positive relationship development between peers, and a framework of respect – we respect ourselves, each other, the environment."

This was especially evident during what Dustin calls the highlight of the April trip – a game called "hot seat," in which each camper takes turns answering questions from everyone

else: "I was surprised by the level of depth in many of the questions and answers shared – about family challenges, their greatest fears, hopes and dreams for the future, and what it's like to come from a certain race or cultural background. They felt like everyone was able to have a voice." ●



"Thank you so much for what you're doing on your end to make our work possible! I love my job and getting to see all these things, it wouldn't be possible without these consistent, ongoing and reliable relationships that benefit everyone in the community in different ways."

DUSTIN PUNCHES, OUTDOOR OUTREACH



Increasing access

We believe parks are essential for health, happiness and quality of life, and that meaningful experiences for youth in state parks will grow the next generation of park lovers – but our parks must be accessible for this to happen. Accessible parks are open, available and offer the amenities visitors need. Accessible parks have multiple transit options to get to them. Accessible parks offer educational opportunities that connect students of all ages to the history, science and cultural lessons parks have to teach us.

Through all-ages Park Champions volunteer days, Earth Day Restoration and Cleanup projects to improve ADA compliant accessibility, transporting students to Summer Learning programs, legislative advocacy and strategic grantmaking, California State Parks Foundation is increasing access to state parks and all the benefits they have to offer. Last year, we awarded \$162,927.88 in critical grant funds to organizations such as Outdoor Outreach and the ones listed below:

\$7,500 to **Amigos de Bolsa Chica** for the Follow and Learn about the Ocean and Wetlands program, giving 400 multicultural public school students a unique opportunity to experience a coastal wetland ecosystem.

\$6,500 to **Chino Hills State Park Interpretive Association** for transportation for 900 third and fourth graders to discover how the natural world is important to their lives and learn how their actions affect that environment.

\$10,000 to **Clockshop** for a new model of youth peer training to enable youth from northeast Los Angeles to develop skills in nature interpretation and teaching, leading to an emerging cohort of local youth to become stewards of urban state parks.

\$19,030 to **Community Nature Connection** for a leadership program that will connect culturally diverse youth to state parks and careers in

park settings, addressing barriers through increasing community knowledge for safe nature experiences and increasing visibility of under-represented groups in the outdoors.

\$10,000 to **Jack London Park Partners** for a program that provides Sonoma Valley Middle School educators with multi-disciplinary support and field trips for middle school youth on climate change and its effects on our local ecosystems.

\$20,000 to **Mendocino Woodlands Camp Association** for its Mendocino Outdoor Science School, serving youth ages 8-18 from diverse schools throughout Northern California through community building and discovery-based learning.

\$10,000 to **Orange County Coastkeeper** for their Kid Care program to host assemblies and field trips for 2,000 low-income public school students in third through fifth grade, teaching simple solutions to help protect the ocean followed by state beach field trips to clean and learn about the impact of trash.

\$10,000 to **Outdoor Afro** to grow its network of volunteer leaders for a series of field trips and outings that bring African-American families and children to state parks, highlighting cultural and natural histories.



\$10,000 to **Regional Parks**

Foundation for outdoor educational youth development programming for underserved populations in the East Bay, grounded in the tenet that youth are resources to be developed, rather than problems to be solved.

\$10,000 to **Saint Mary's College** to implement The Watershed Explorer, a K-12 curriculum that encourages young people to explore and savor the watersheds where they live – including state parks in the Bay Area, via the Mount Diablo Unified School District in Contra Costa County.

\$10,000 to **Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation** for programs that serve local, underserved youth, explore nature in an urban setting, and provide a unique view of the past through the resources of state parks.

\$15,000 to **Sonoma Ecology Center** for an environmental education curriculum and a series of outings for Spanish-speaking families – establishing family-wide appreciation for local state parks so participants continue to visit the park outside of the program.

\$15,000 to **Stewards of the Coast & Redwoods** to expand its "Forest to the Sea" Summer Youth Camp, which removes financial and logistical barriers to bring youth from Pre-K through high school to four state parks for inspiring, multi-day, multi-touch learning and recreational experiences. ● 5

Every month, volunteers with our Park Champions program head to **Candlestick Point State Recreation Area**

in southeast San Francisco to restore habitat and help with general maintenance. Partnering with Literacy for Environmental Justice (LEJ) – a nonprofit that promotes ecological health, environmental stewardship and community development to directly engage and support local residents in securing a healthier future – we help coordinate volunteers to work in the native plant nursery, replace invasive species with native plants throughout the park and more.

“Without the volunteer program, the park isn’t as clean, not as biologically diverse, not as safe,” said Patrick Marley Rump, executive director of LEJ. “It lights people’s faces up to see people pouring their love into the park. It gives them hope that there is a better future for Candlestick.”

Patrick, who’s worked with LEJ and San Francisco’s Bayview-Hunters Point community for 20 years, describes the neighborhood as thirsty for the kind of stewardship and maintenance that Park Champions volunteers help provide.

The surrounding communities are some of the lowest income neighborhoods in a city whose overall area median

income is rapidly increasing. When the California Legislature voted to develop the park in 1977, residents envisioned a “state park for the people.” Equity in open space at Candlestick Point – which Patrick describes as a fundamental right, like “food, air, water” – has been a priority since California State Parks Foundation partnered with the Department of Parks and Recreation on the Yosemite Slough Wetland Restoration Project in the early 2000s.

Patrick sees a need for state parks to codesign their future with the communities they serve, and this work provides a model for what that could look like: “We worked closely with CSPF to increase community representation. One of the outcomes of the process was several groups reengaging with the park in a way that hadn’t taken place in over a decade.”

The first phase of the project (which included site cleanup, habitat restoration and trail development) was completed in 2012, and last year, CSPF secured the final funding needed to complete capital improvements at Yosemite Slough with a \$454,602 grant from the State Coastal Conservancy and a \$894,705 Urban Greening grant from the California Natural Resources Agency, as well as

funds from other generous donors.

The centerpiece of this second phase will be a new 1,100-square-foot educational and interpretive center designed with the community in mind. “I think the interpretive center serves two audiences: the audience of the community and the audience of the land,” said Patrick.

“What’s beautiful about open spaces and things like interpretive centers is they are the hub where interaction between people and the environment can happen in a facilitated way.”

PATRICK MARLEY RUMP,
LITERACY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Construction is scheduled to begin on the interpretive center early 2019. When it opens, it will create new opportunities for community organizations like LEJ to deepen their work to build equity through culturally relevant programming, and “to protect the investment that CSPF put into Yosemite Slough,” Patrick said. “There’s a lot of healing and community gathering opportunities that will take place because of it.” ●



CANDLESTICK POINT STATE RECREATION AREA

Building equity

We believe that everyone – regardless of socioeconomic status, language, ability, gender, race, culture or zip code – should have equitable access to the beauty and benefits of parks, and that they must feel culturally and historically relevant to all visitors. An equitable park system reaches every Californian. An equitable park system reflects the diverse cultural traditions and histories of all California’s communities. In an equitable park system, cost is not a barrier to any Californian enjoying their parks.

Through our ongoing work in advocacy, volunteerism and engaging park users, California State Parks Foundation emphasized initiatives and policy that would make our state parks more relevant and equitable to a diverse range of Californians.

We create pathways for youth to visit their local state parks

At **Los Angeles State Historic Park**, Park Champions held walking field trips for 72 students from the three nearest public elementary schools to learn about the environment in their community and help beautify it over two special workdays. Learning about the biodiversity benefits of habitat restoration, clearing trash, planting native Blue Eyed Grass, and meeting a range of parks staff helped build connections for these students to this nearby park. They even got to carry the connection further with native sage plants and packets of wildflower seeds to take home.

We support legislation that brings state parks closer to more people

Because the San Joaquin Valley lacks the scale and diversity of park and recreational resources compared to other regions of the state, we support Assembly Bill 3218 by Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula because of the opportunity it presents to increase more equitable, public access to park resources for Valley residents extending **Millerton Lake State Recreation Area**. We also

support Assembly Bill 2534 by Assemblymember Monique Limón which would help grow the next generation of park stewards by increasing the ability of underserved and at-risk communities – especially students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, foster youth, or pupils of limited English proficiency – to participate in outdoor environmental educational experiences at state parks and other public lands.

(Read about more legislation we supported this legislative session on page 10)

We increase exposure to parks for the most economically disadvantaged

In November, we partnered with Outdoor Outreach on a special Park Champions habitat restoration workday at **Silver Strand State Beach** with 13 students from the Monarch School, which serves students impacted by homelessness, helping them develop hope for the future with necessary skills and experiences for personal success. One of Outdoor Outreach’s core values is possibility – and through opportunities like this, together we’re helping youth connect to nature and see new paths for their future that they’ve never considered before. ●



ASSEMBLYMEMBER LORENA GONZALEZ FLETCHER: LEGACY AWARD HONOREE

Each year, CSPF recognizes the efforts of policymakers who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the protection and enhancement of California’s state parks. As the 2018 Legacy Award honoree, Assemblymember Lorena Gonzales Fletcher (D-San Diego) has effected policy change to create more equitable access to state parks for all Californians.

“We must stand together to protect our state parks so today’s youth and future generations can learn and grow from the experiences they offer. No child in our state should be denied the opportunity to experience the beauty and benefits of our state parks. We must create ways to ensure that these extraordinary environments are accessible for everyone to enjoy.”

Assemblymember Gonzalez Fletcher authored the successful Assembly Bill 250 expanding the availability of low cost overnight accommodations so more Californians can access the state’s 1,100 miles of coastline.



Driving over the hill and catching the first glimpse of **Plumas-Eureka State Park**. Learning about the unique English-style bank barn's history at **Burleigh H. Murray Ranch**. Looking up at the Golden Gate Bridge with wind-blown faces on the ferry to **Angel Island State Park**. Seeing elephant seals for the first time at **Año Nuevo State Park**. These moments are all what Jenée Solis calls, "golden nuggets."

"We have these little golden nuggets we get from each time we go to a park and volunteer," Jenée said. "It's that shared moment between my daughter and I that we get to keep. You can't put it in a book or in a photograph... it just has to be experienced."

Jenée found California State Parks Foundation's Park Champions volunteer program while researching opportunities for her daughter Grace, 12, to spend time in parks after a couple moves for Jenée's career meant Grace missed her schools' outdoor education opportunities. When she found the Park Champions webpage, an all-ages workday at Half Moon Bay State Beach stood out. "Going to volunteer would allow us to visit the park for free for the whole day," Jenée said.

On December 2, they volunteered for their first Park Champions workday. "Meeting the [Core Leader] John Salcido, he was very friendly, inviting

and encouraging. A big plus was he had donut holes – so Grace was sold." "It sounds corny, but if someone's just kind and nice, you're more likely to go back again," said Jenée. "If you have a good Core Leader and a good nonprofit, it makes people want to work and help because it's fun. We wanted to go back again."

Jenée and Grace went back again... and again. Volunteering helps Jenée share her childhood experiences visiting parks with Grace, while also making sure these state parks will be maintained for more generations to come. Whether they are removing invasive species, repairing a broken fence or planting, Jenée believes volunteering fosters a sense of independence, helping Grace know that there's more out there than just what's around their home in Sacramento. "She's only 12, but I want her to be more of a self-sufficient young adult. Going to the parks forces her to rough it a bit."

Then, this past spring, they applied to be Core Leaders, committed volunteers who help coordinate and manage the on-site logistics of our Park Champions workdays across the state. It's important to Jenée that becoming Core Leaders was something she and her daughter could do together: "We're kind of up here on our own – she goes where I go. There aren't very many places we can volunteer together, where I can bring my child with me and we can experience it together."

Grace isn't just a Core Leader in name – she shares the responsibility with her mom, especially when other youth are volunteering. This summer at Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, Grace turned picking up trash into a game, getting young volunteers excited about finding the most bottle caps or the grossest refuse. "In those instances where communication needs to happen, Grace is really good at doing that with other kids." Grace told her, "I can tell them what to do and it's a lot easier for them to listen to me."

Park Champions allows Jenée and Grace to give back to their state parks while getting new opportunities to connect with them at the same time. "Park Champions staff and volunteers make you feel like family when you see them. Park Champions feels like a community." ●



Grace selected this as her favorite photo volunteering with her mom.

Maintaining excellence

We believe our park system contains cultural, historic and environmental treasures that must be preserved and protected. We believe parks need enthusiastic partners to thrive. Excellent parks are adequately funded, invite people to engage and provide input on how their public resources are managed, and offer a user experience that's fun, safe, educational, culturally relevant and accessible to visitors with diverse needs and backgrounds.

Over the past year California State Parks Foundation continued work mobilizing volunteers and bringing together park partners for critical work that helps ensure our park system is an excellent system.

We improve the quality and safety of our state parks with Park Champions

Celebrating the milestone of passing 1,000 volunteer workdays since its launch in 2010, our Park Champions program helped make 43 state parks better for visitors and wildlife. Across the state, 1,948 volunteers improved parks with projects such as removing invasive plants at Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook and Half Moon Bay State Beach during Invasive Species Action Week, trimming vegetation for fire prevention at Big Basin Redwoods State Park, clearing trash and debris at Carpinteria State Beach following heavy rain, finishing the overlook gazebo at Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area, pruning fruit trees at Burleigh H. Murray Ranch and landscaping around the historic buildings on Angel Island State Park.

“Park Champions has increased our district’s capacity to enhance and maintain sensitive coastal habitats that rare species depend on, while helping to better connect the local community to these unique, biologically diverse open spaces.”

CARA STAFFORD, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST

We marked 20 years of celebrating Earth Day with action and public service

Nearly 3,000 people showed up on April 21 to 35 state parks for our 20th annual Earth Day Restoration and Cleanup, presented by Pacific Gas and Electric Company. For the first time special climate resiliency projects helped prepare state parks for changing climate threats and keep them excellent for generations to come. In one day, volunteers planted 6,702 native plants; removed 741 cubic yards of non-native vegetation; collected 620 bags of trash and 65 bags of recycling; restored 14.5 miles of trails; and built, repaired and improved many park structures, all to help protect California’s treasured public lands.

We facilitate building connections and capacity among park partners

In January, nearly 50 individuals from more than 30 organizations attended our Partnerships Convening, a day of workshops, networking and community building. By supporting the success and progress among our park partners through creating opportunities to learn from experts, network with each other and share experiences, we also support ongoing success of state parks. Attendees representing community groups, nonprofit park operators and more reported that storytelling and fundraising workshops would help them increase their capacity, and several joined us for more virtual trainings throughout the year.



**JOHN RONEY:
GRASSROOTS CHAMPION**

California State Parks Foundation presents our Grassroots Champion Award only when an individual has demonstrated truly extraordinary commitment and dedication to California’s state parks. This year, we honored John Roney of Sonoma Ecology Center for his tireless commitment and dedication to **Sugarloaf Ridge State Park**, its community of visitors and supporters, and the broader state parks world.

When the park sustained catastrophic damage from the wildfires in Sonoma County last October (which ultimately closed the park for four months), John’s heroic efforts to ensure campers, staff and nearby residents were safely evacuated proved his leadership as well as the strong link between state parks and their communities.

John Roney has been park manager at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park since 2012, after helping Sonoma Ecology Center reopen the park in the midst of the park closure crisis. To honor his commitment and this park’s resilience, we also provided a \$25,000 grant to support fire recovery work.





PARK ADVOCACY DAY

At our annual Park Advocacy Day in May, we celebrated the theme of Our Parks, Our Future Day to advocate for an accessible, equitable and excellent park system. We convened more than 100 park supporters and advocates from throughout California to spend the day learning how to activate their voices for parks, building relationships with elected officials and communicating a message of why our parks and our future matter to state elected officials and policy staff.

To prepare participants to effectively advocate for the critical access issues facing our 280 state parks at their legislative meetings and at home, we hosted a storytelling workshop and briefing on proposed park legislation. Advocates prepared for their meetings hearing from leaders in environmental work, advocates for youth and elected officials, including **Elmy Bermejo** from the San Francisco Commission on the Environment; **Lisa Mangat**, Director of Parks and Recreation; **Ted Lempert**, President of Children Now; and **Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia**.

After their trip to the Capitol, advocates joined **Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo**, a new legislative champion for parks, in conversation about her bills AB 2614 and 2615 and how she's fighting to increase community access to parks and breaking down for future of state parks.

Prioritizing policy for parks and people

Powered by our members and community, California State Parks Foundation prioritizes policy that not only protects our state parks, but also enhances accessibility and addresses equity barriers for all Californians to have positive, meaningful experiences in parks.

In a historic year for park legislation in California, advocates raised their voices for a state park system that is accessible, equitable and excellent. We successfully organized around an agenda that supports access and equity to parks by activating members and coalition partners, collecting signatures, sending letters, testifying at committee hearings and joining press conferences to be a voice for parks in Sacramento.

We helped pass Proposition 68

With 57.4% marking "yes" on their ballots this June, voters passed Proposition 68, the largest investment in natural resources and underserved communities in California history. In a lean, grassroots campaign, CSPF collaborated with partners to mobilize our collective communities to reach more than 3.8 million people who voted Yes on 68 through word-of-mouth, press coverage and more. This victory was won by the strength of our networks and advocates on the ground ensuring Californians' voices would be heard. Together, we'll continue to raise our voices for a growing movement for state parks.

We prioritize legislation that increase equitable access to parks

Bills this legislative session recognize the critical need for policies that would make California's state parks and other public lands more accessible and equitable to all. CSPF is proud to support the following bills:

- Assembly Bill 1918 (Garcia, Eduardo) – Office of Sustainable Outdoor Recreation
- Assembly Bill 1984 (Garcia, Eduardo) – California Museums for All
- Assembly Bill 2534 (Limón) – Parks: environmental education: grant program
- Assembly Bill 2614 (Carrillo) – Outdoor experiences: disadvantaged youth
- Assembly Bill 2615 (Carrillo) – State highway system: parks and recreation: accessibility for bicycles and pedestrians
- Assembly Bill 3218 (Arambula) – Millerton Lake State Recreation Area: expansion
- Senate Bill 1072 (Leyva D) – Regional Climate Collaborative Program: technical assistance

At the time of report development, the Legislature was still in session. Updates on bills will be posted at calparks.org/advocacy as available.

We use our voice to protect federal lands in California

Federal lands faced many threats last year. More than 2,000 people used our action alert to ask congressional representatives to protect monuments under review by the Department of the Interior, and we invited you to tell National Park Service your thoughts on a proposal that would double or triple entry fees, making some national parks too expensive for many people to visit. With your efforts, California's national monuments have been protected, and the national park entrance fee increase was rescinded. ●

2017-18 by the numbers



4,907 volunteers engaged



192

Park Champions workdays (totaling 14,825 volunteer hours) at 43 state parks



15 grants awarded

for youth education and access in state parks totaling

\$187,927



4,617 action alert responses

asking legislators to increase access to parks and

protect public land



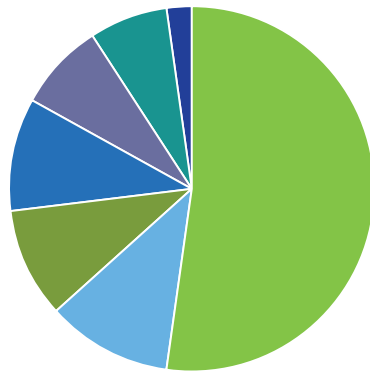
190 organizational

signatures on legislative floor alerts and sign-on letters

Since our founding in 1969, CSPF has raised over \$265 million to benefit state parks and park users. **In 2017-18, our supporters contributed \$8.74 million.**

SOURCES OF CONTRIBUTIONS

- Individuals 53%
- Legacy Gifts 11%
- Foundations 10%
- Mitigation 10%*
- Government Grants 8%*
- Corporate gifts 7%
- Other 2%



* Read more about the Yosemite Slough project at [Candlestick Point State Recreation Area](#) on page 6

CSPF's 2017-18 audited financial statements will be posted online when available at calparks.org/aboutus/financials, where you can also find financial and annual reports from previous years.





Thank you for your support

California State Parks Foundation members and donors are protecting state parks and making them more accessible, equitable and excellent! The generous support of individuals, foundations, corporations and government agencies makes our work possible, and we are pleased to recognize contributors of \$1,000 or more between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.

\$100,000+

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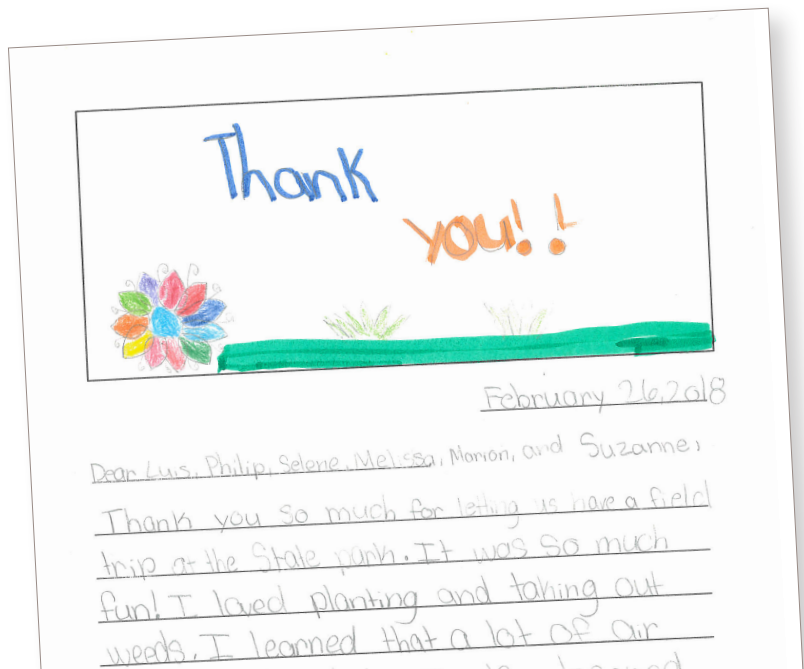
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“Thank you so much for letting us have a field trip at the state park. It was so much fun! I loved planting and taking out weeds.”

SAVANNAH, STUDENT AT SOLANO AVENUE ELEMENTARY

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California State Parks Foundation is a member-supported nonprofit dedicated to protecting, improving and advocating for all of California's state parks. Together we ensure that the natural beauty, rich culture and history, and recreational and educational opportunities of our 280 state parks are accessible and equitable for all to enjoy, now and for generations to come.

We could not accomplish any of our work without the support of our members, donors, volunteers and advocates. You make an enormous difference in helping us carry out programs and projects for the benefit of state parks and the millions of Californians who use them. Learn more about the many ways you can help support our work.

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Your voice matters! Speak out for parks online, to your legislators or at our annual Park Advocacy Day. To learn more about our ongoing advocacy efforts and how you can take action, visit calparks.org/advocacy.

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You can join this thoughtful, caring group of supporters by making a planned gift to CSPF of any amount. By including CSPF as part of your estate and becoming a member of the William Penn Mott Jr. Legacy Society, you help preserve our incredible network of 280 state parks for future generations to enjoy. We encourage those who have made a planned gift to CSPF to add their name to the Mott Society list in order to encourage others to consider a legacy gift that will protect our parks. Of course, you can always choose to remain anonymous.

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