

**MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
STAFF REPORT**

BOARD MEETING: September 6, 2023

SUBJECT: Monthly Staff Report

PRESENTER: Lew Bauman, Ph.D, P.E. Interim General Manager

REPORT: The following briefly summarizes some of the key tasks and projects the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) Staff undertook from mid-July through mid-August 2023 in addition to performing MPRPD's regular business.

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

1. FEMA – Winter 2023 Storm Damage Compilation

Administration staff & Operations staff continue working on FEMA damages reporting requirements. Staff generally meet weekly with FEMA staff to review progress and answer questions from FEMA.

Admin and Ops staff prepared three Request for Proposals for work at San Clemente Blue-Rock Open Space, Dampierre ball fields and Palo Corona backcountry. The proposals have been released to heavy equipment vendors. Agreements for services are expected to be presented to the Board at the October 4 Board Meeting.

2. Training

Staff participated in the following training during the month: Developments in HR and Compliance in 2023 and Embracing Digital Transformation from the Society for Human Resource Management; OpenGov Procurement Updates; Fixed vs. Floating Net Asset Values (NAV) and your CalTRUST Investment Options

3. Open Enrollment

Staff attended meetings with CalPERS regarding 2024 health benefits and prepared for next year's enrollments.

4. Policy Creation/Updates Project

Administrative staff is working on various policies and updates which will be presented for Board approval over the coming months.

5. Year End Audit

Staff are reviewing FY22-23 activity and preparing documents for the annual financial audit. The bulk of audit activities generally run from July through December/January. Audit entrance conference with Finance Committee has been scheduled for September 8, 2023

6. Wedgewood Tenant Improvements

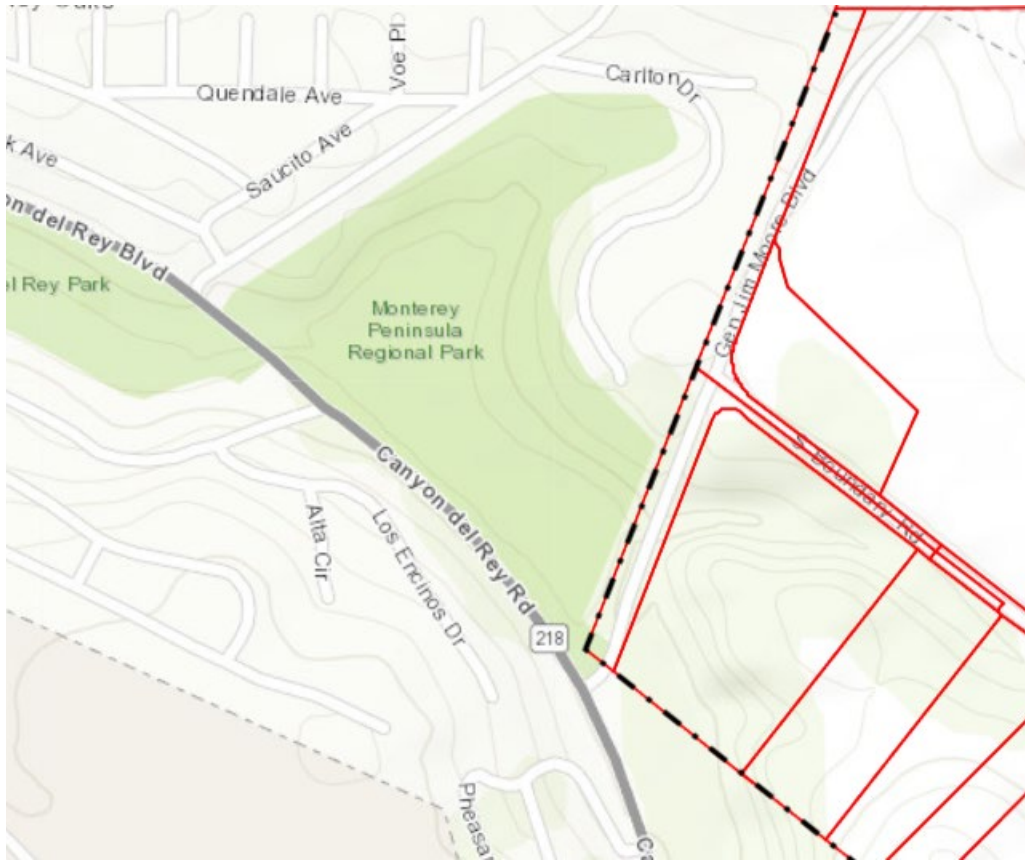
Staff continue to coordinate with Wedgewood on tenant planned capital improvements. Many Priority A planned improvements have been completed, such as painting and roofing of the clubhouse, banquet room renovations, HVAC replacements and outdoor wedding venue improvements. Items that are currently being considered are parking lot resurfacing and security lighting improvements.

7. Pollution, Legal, and Liability Insurance Coverage

The District owns roughly 20 acres adjacent to the Frog Pond Wetland Preserve that it acquired from the Fort Ord Resue Authority (FORA). After the dissolution of FORA, the City of Seaside (City) was designated the FORA Successor Agency and Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) and in that capacity, inherited Pollution, Legal, and Liability (PLL) coverage for said land which will expire on December 31, 2024. With the policy set to expire, the City searched the market for continued coverage and has extended the opportunity to cost share with neighboring landowner agencies including: the District, cities of Marina and Monterey, County of Monterey, Monterey Peninsula College, Monterey-Salinas Transit, and the Transportation Agency for Monterey County.

On August 22, staff from the noted agencies met at Seaside City Hall to discuss the proposed replacement policy and cost sharing opportunities. Because of the changing landscape and market, the total coverage presented, underwritten by Beazley which includes Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) is \$20M, down from the expiring \$50M policy with Chubb (who declined to quote the new policy; its preceding policy was \$100M). Agencies were presented the option to purchase a portion of the \$20M policy at a cost of \$50,000 per \$1M on a “first come first served” basis with a \$500,000 self-insured retention (SIR). The City asked agencies to advise whether they wish to participate by September 30, 2023, a very short window.

After considering the option and discussing with legal counsel, staff has determined that it would not be beneficial for the District to participate in the proposed coverage. Rather, we are pursuing the option of similar coverage through our existing membership in the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA). Any insurance would be supplemental protection to the exiting warranties and indemnity obligations of the U.S. Army, which has expressly accepted responsibility for cleanup and liability for any pollution or MEC resulting from its use of the land prior to conveyance to the District. We will keep the Board apprised of any developments.



8. Palo Corona's Project-B Construction in General

Rework on the Multi Purpose Pad began August 22, 2023. The pads surface was not sufficiently compacted and began unraveling. The entire pad is being removed and replaced. Work began with installation of a frog fence barrier around the entire pad and work area. SWCA Environmental Consultants, and a tribal monitor were on-site for the frog fence barrier installation. Completion of the rework is expected by the end of August. Bollards were installed at the trail head to prevent unauthorized vehicles from traveling down the trail. The next phase of permanent power service work will be performed by PG&E. Construction has been approved by PG&E, with a construction date of October 16 & 17, 2023 provided by PG&E.



Frog protection fencing around MP Pad



Bollard installation



Multi-purpose Pad breakup and removal

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH (EECO)

1. Community Outreach

A. Carmel Valley Fiesta Days

EECO staff, a MPRPD ranger, volunteers, and board member Monta Potter staffed an outreach booth on the weekend of Saturday, August 5th and Sunday, August 6th at Carmel Valley Community Park. All actively recruited for volunteers, hiring positions, and LGO! instructors, while answering questions about our parks and providing fun coloring activities for all ages. An estimated 1,500 people attended this very popular two-day event.



Volunteer Pat Herro and EE Specialist Jon David greet Fiesta Day visitors at the MPRPD outreach booth.



The booth display included information about jobs, volunteering, and conservation efforts. Animal pelts and crafts drew visitors to the table.



Ranger Joe Narvaez's support at the Carmel Valley Fiesta Days outreach booth was highly appreciated, as the public enjoys interacting with ranger staff.

B. LGO! Fund and Transportation Grant

Staff continue to work with the Community Foundation for Monterey County (CFMC) as these two programs move toward initiation. The Transportation Grant guidelines and application are now available on the CFMC website at cfmco.org/MPRPDTransportationGrants. The LGO! Fund link is active on the CFMC website (<https://www.cfmco.org/give-now/?fund=33885>), and staff are now working on enhancing the web page design and creating a user-friendly, shortened link.

The LGO! Fund and Transportation Grant are also featured in the upcoming Fall 2023/Winter 2024 *Let's Go Outdoors!* guide.

C. Social Media

Annual Summary for August 1, 2022 – July 31, 2023 (as compared to August 1, 2021 – July 31, 2022):

- a. Facebook Page Reach: 77,656 (↑ 153.4%)
- b. Facebook Published Posts: 234 (↑ 64.8%)
- c. Instagram Page Reach: 11,389 (↑ 502%)
- d. Instagram Published Posts: 176 (↑ 70.9%)

Social Media Posts (July 16-August 15, 2023):

For this reporting period, posts consisted of district news, promotion of upcoming LGO! programming, LGO! instructor recruitment, Carmel Valley Fiesta Days promotion, volunteer outreach, hiring recruitment, snowy plover nesting

awareness, and educational content about the flora and fauna of MPRPD parks.

The following of MPRPD social media accounts grew in July-August.

i. **Facebook stats - @MPRegionalParkDistrict (1) Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) | Carmel CA | Facebook**

1. August 15 Follower Count: 2,259 (+7)
2. Facebook Page Reach (number of accounts that viewed a piece of content at least once): 7,492 (↑ 2.6%)
3. Top 3 posts for likes/reactions (July 16-August 15):
 - a. August 13: PCRCP osprey facts and conservation (3,200 reach) (167 likes/reactions)
 - b. August 14: village park road update (4,500 reach) (50 likes/reactions)
 - c. July 29: MPRPD outreach booth at upcoming Carmel Valley Fiesta Days weekend (1,300 reach) (39 likes/reactions)

ii. **Instagram stats - @mprpd_lgo: Monterey Peninsula Parks (@mprpd_lgo) • Instagram photos and videos**

1. August 15 Follower Count: 1,302 (+47)
2. Instagram Page Reach (number of accounts that viewed a piece of content at least once): 1,580 (↓ 42.9%)
3. Top 3 posts for likes/reactions (July 16 – August 15):
 - a. August 13: PCRCP osprey facts and conservation (518 reach) (92 likes/reactions)
 - b. July 30: GRRP Carmel Valley Kiwanis Mountain Run next weekend (407 reach) (35 likes/reactions)
 - c. August 12: Hiring post (486 reach) (33 likes/reactions)



mprpd_lgo

The osprey is an unusual hawk that possesses a reversible outer toe, allowing them to grasp with two toes in front and two behind. This helps the osprey fly aerodynamically with prey lined up head first in their talons!

They also have barbed pads on their feet to help them grip their favorite meal, slimy fish. Their numbers rebounded following the ban on the pesticide DDT, in the early 1970's.

These pictures of an osprey in flight and perched on a bridge over the Carmel River were taken recently at Palo Corona Regional Park by a visitor who said it made their day. We hope it makes your day better too!

#mprpdandme #osprey #monterey #montereybay #montereycounty #montereypeninsula #montereybirds #montereynature #carmelriver #carmelriverwatershed #carmelvalley #carmelbythesea

lloyd_niles Great information with photos!
1 like Reply

View insights

Liked by birdschoolproject and 91 others

5 DAYS AGO

Add a comment...

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPPRD)
August 12 at 4:22 PM

Looking for an exciting new job opportunity? Look no further than our employment page: <https://www.mprpd.org/employment-opportunities> (link in bio.)

Applications are currently being accepted for the following positions:
Environmental Education Specialist (part-time)
Ranger (full-time)

Photo of the Carmel River in Palo Corona Regional Park, with above information. Do you know someone who would enjoy working with MPPRD? If so, tag them below!

#jbs #montereycounty #jobopenings #outdooreducation #recreation #sustainability #parttime #letsgetoutdoors #mprpdandme

We're Hiring!

Apply today: <https://www.mprpd.org/employment-opportunities>
For more information see website or call (831) 372-3196 ext. 107

- Environmental Education Specialist (part-time)
- Ranger (full-time)

MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Register today for the NEW Flint Knapping-Making Stone Tools!
View a demonstration of basic stone tool creation from the earliest 2.5 million year old tools from the Paleolithic to the more refined tools of the 5,000 year old Neolithic!

Saturday, August 12
10:00-11:00 am
Palo Corona Regional Park
All ages

Reserve your spot for this FREE program here: https://secure.rec1.com/_/monterey-peninsula.../catalog (link in bio.)

Indigenous people have lived on this land for thousands of years; we are grateful to share this place now and into the future.

Flyer with pictures of stone tool making and the above event information.

#letsgetoutdoors #mprpdandme #education #outdoorlife #carmel #carmelvalley #carmelriver #carmelriverwatershed #monterey #montereybay #montereycounty #montereybirds #archaeology

Flint Knapping

Join staff and a local archeologist to learn about stone tool making!

Saturday, August 12th
Palo Corona Regional Park
10 - 11 AM

MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Register Today

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPPRD)
August 5 at 4:21 PM

Visit us today until 6 pm and tomorrow, Sunday, August 6th at the @carmelvalleykiwanis "Fiesta in the Park" event at Carmel Valley Community Park!

Come check out this fun event and stop by our booth for nature themed activities!

Can you guess the hummingbird species two visitors colored at our craft table? Comment below.

The fiesta includes arts, crafts, rides, food vendors, and free concerts. The very popular and entertaining Doggie Show is our feature event on Sunday. The Fiesta is culminated by the Grand Prize Raffle Drawing at 3 pm on Sunday. The winner wins a one week stay at a large casa in Costa Rica plus \$1500 towards travel expenses. Need not be present to win.

More info: <http://cvk.weebly.com/-fiesta-in-the-park.html> (link in bio.)

Pictures of the MPPRD outreach booth at Fiesta in the Park 2023.

#mprpdandme #kiwanisclub #carmelvalleykiwanis #carmelbythesea #carmelvalley #montereybay #monterey #montereycounty

D. Village Park Road

Formerly Rio Road, the entrance road leading to PCPR has a new name. In response to the change, EECO staff reached out to MoCo Public Works to follow up on public outreach. When such a name change occurs, their staff send an announcement to the Board of Supervisors regarding the new name and contact all emergency responders.

MPPRD staff also submitted requests to Google Maps and Apple Maps to update their online content for PCPR. Specific changes/corrections requested:

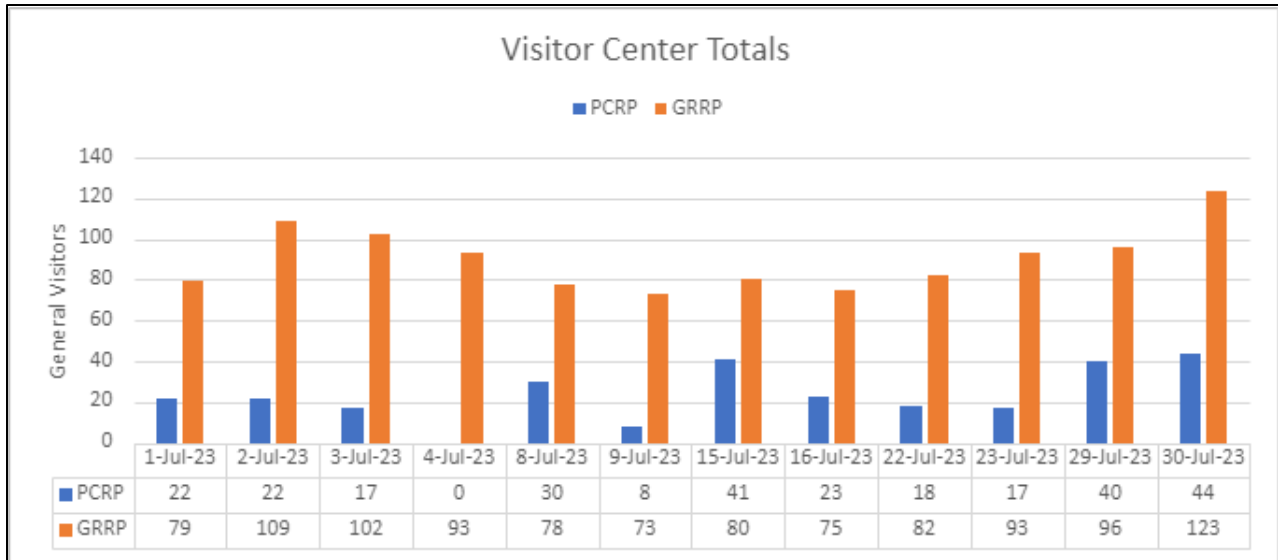
- Google – Village Park Road; Carmel (not Carmel-by-the-Sea); PCPR “Open” (not “Closed” as it had been displaying)
- Apple – Village Park Road



Formerly labeled Rio Road, PCRCP visitors will now see the new Village Park Road street sign.

E. Visitor Center Totals

In FY 2023-24, staff will continue tallying visitor contacts during weekends, 10am-4pm, at both the PCRCP Discovery Center (DC) and the GRRP Visitor Center (VC). Staff are also opening both centers on holidays this summer, including Memorial Day (5/29), Juneteenth (6/19), Independence Day (7/3 & 7/4), and Labor Day (9/4). The chart below summarizes weekend visitor contacts with staff or volunteers in July 2023. Dates with 0 contacts recorded (7/4 for the DC) indicate that the center remained closed.



Visitor contacts in July 2023, including Independence Day weekdays (7/3-4).

2. Education

A. Summer Camp Partnerships

MRRPD staff were excited to open both the GRRP VC and the PCRP DC on several different weekdays for special use by both Ventana Wildlife Society and MEarth camp programs this season. Having partners offer programs on MRRPD lands and utilize our centers enhances our connection to children, and children to the environment, as expressed in the following note:

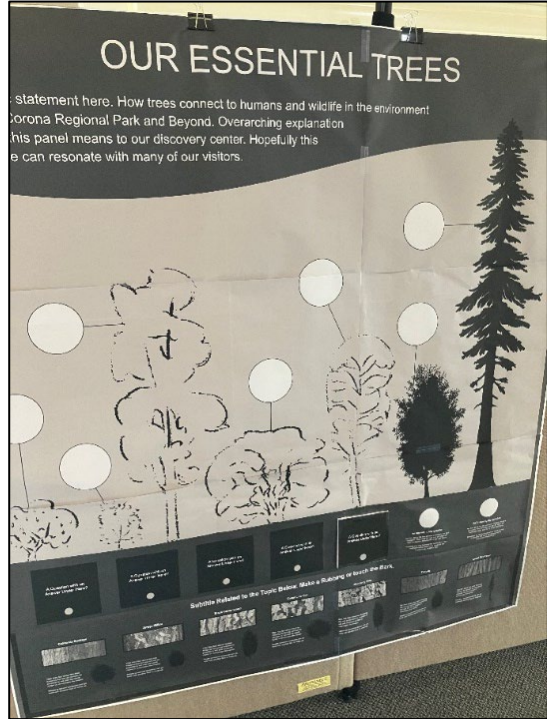
Good afternoon MRRPD Team,

I want to first start by thanking you all for opening up the doors of the Discovery Center to the MEarth camp. It has truly enhanced our message about environmental stewardship to the new and upcoming generation. We spent a little over an hour talking about animals, endangered, threatened, and extinct species, and the kids felt like we were only there for about 20 minutes. The Discovery Center is truly a magical place, and from the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you all for giving us access to it.

- Mauricio Lopez, Environmental Stewardship Educator

B. Scientific Illustrator Internship

Staff guided CSUMB Scientific Illustrator intern, Adara Koivula, and a photographer through PCRP to collect impressions of the bark of seven species of trees in the Backcountry, Front Ranch, and Rancho Cañada units. The results of this study will be featured in a new, large-scale trees exhibit in the Discovery Center. Meetings continue weekly as EECO staff work in close collaboration with Koivula on the design of the exhibit.



3. Facilities

A. GRRP Outdoor Classroom

Approved in the FY 23-24 adopted budget, this open, roofed structure is now in the surveying phase. Staff have contracted with an architectural firm, Kasavan, and a construction management company, Ausonio, with support from Regional Government Services. Site visits have been conducted, a civil site survey completed (report pending), and requests for proposals for environmental and archeological studies have been released. Staff will be presenting to the board further information regarding this item in the coming months.



MPPRD staff survey the GRRP ground to determine the outdoor classroom location.

4. *Let's Go Outdoors!* Guide and Programs

A. Fall 2023/Winter 2024 Season

Staff have completed the recruitment process for new and returning instructors for the Fall '23/Winter '24 season. Proposals are currently being processed, and the official schedule for the new season is being assembled. Publication and distribution of the new guide and online schedule is slated for late September 2023. New programs, including Meditative Painting, Sing-a-long in Nature, a climate change lecture, and more, have been added this season.

5. Special Use Permits (SUP)

Staff are preparing several permits for a variety of uses, from the Big Sur Marathon Foundation Cross Country 2023 race season to a Challenged Athletes Foundation bike tour fundraiser. During this reporting period, the following SUPs were issued:

A. Cabrillo College Extension Workshop

Bruce Elliott held a "Biology of Bats" workshop at the GRRP ranger station meeting room for nearly 20 Cabrillo College students. Ranger staff and MPPRD volunteers were instrumental in setting up and facilitating the success of the program.

B. CA Native Plant Society (CNPS) Vegetation Sampling

This sampling project is to support fine-scale vegetation mapping for SLO, Monterey, and San Benito Counties. The map is intended for multiple uses including, not limited to, regional fire and fuels management planning, game management, wildlife habitat identification, water conservation and management, and watershed assessments. Professional botanists will conduct sampling of key vegetation communities using the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife VegCAMP sampling methods. CNPS is authorized to access all MPRPD lands under the direction of the Planning and Conservation Programs Manager.

C. Carmel Valley Fiesta Mountain Run at Garland Park

Carmel Valley Kiwanis Foundation hosted a 7.7-mile trail race and a shorter 2.25-mile trail run at Garland Ranch Regional Park on Sunday, August 6th as part of their annual Carmel Valley Fiesta Days event. Approximately 155 runners participated. Proceeds from the event benefit the Carmel Valley community through over twenty local organizations.

D. California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Freshwater Ecology Studies (J. Olson)

CSUMB students accessed the Carmel River at GRRP to train and practice collecting freshwater invertebrates and making habitat measurements following the California Water Board SWAMP protocol as part of an ecology course. The class is training future biologists and ecologists as they begin to enter the work force.

E. LuxeVaca PCPR Parking Lot Rental

A luxury vacation rental company in the region rented the use of the PCPR plaza entrance, restrooms, and parking lot from August 17 through August 20 for VIP parking and shuttles during Car Week. The event featured the reveal of a new concept car.

F. Santa Lucia Conservancy (SLC)

SLC staff and contractors were issued a SUP to access Palo Corona Regional Park along SLC-MPPRD property boundaries and at various other locations for multiple SLC environmental projects: inventory surveys, invasive species mapping/removal, fire management planning, pond research, etc. SLC's work began on August 24, 2023.

6. Volunteers

A. Volunteer Potluck & Tree Exhibit Presentation

Volunteers and staff enjoyed a potluck and had the opportunity to get a sneak peek and give helpful comments on the "in progress" PCPR trees exhibit presented by Scientific Illustrator Intern, Adara Koivula.

B. Rancho Cañada Flagging Removal Project

Four volunteers walked many off-trail miles in PCRP to remove the pink survey tape used to mark ground-nesting bird areas for the mowers to avoid. A large quantity of tape had come loose in the wind and been blown across the area.

C. Instructing and Facilitating Programs and Classes

During this reporting period, volunteers served as instructors for three LGO! programs, helped instructors with one college program, and facilitated five other LGO! programs, for an overall total of 165 participants.

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE DIVISION

1. Carmel Valley Fiesta Mountain Run

The Fiesta Mountain Run in Garland Ranch Regional Park on August 6, 2023 experienced no injuries or incidents. Ops staff was present throughout the event and appreciated how organized and prepared the CV Kiwanis group was. In total, 214 participants entered and finished the race.



Fiesta Mountain Run 5 minutes prior to start

2. Multi-Benefit Community Trail Repairs

Repairs to the Multi-Benefit Community Trail have been completed using a combination of Ranger staff, in-house equipment, rented equipment, contracted equipment, and a contracted operator. Big Sur Marathon Foundation was gracious to contribute to the cost of the repairs, which included addressing areas of erosion and entrenchment to make the course race-ready. Staff anticipates mowing the trail edges once more in advance of the first XC race event on September 9, 2023.



Calle King Construction



MRRPD staff and equipment

3. Discovery Center Office Improvements

Ranger and EECO staff worked together to install privacy screening in the Discovery Center offices in accordance with the District's new Lactation Policy.



Privacy screening at RCU Discovery Center

4. Rancho Canada Unit Ranger Staff Office

The new "temporary" portable office trailer to be used for Ranger staff offices at Palo Corona Regional Park was recently outfitted with proper cabling to provide internet, phones, and a network printer. Staff has finished moving furniture into the building and plans to move in officially on August 29.



Cables being run throughout the ceiling

5. Wilderness First-Aid Training

Ranger Staff participated in a 2-day (16 hour) Wilderness First-Aid course at the Garland Park Meeting Room. Planning & Conservation staff also participated, and Interim GM made a brief appearance. Rangers also received their recertification in CPR, First Aid, and AED as part of this training exercise. This course also trained and certified Ranger staff to administer Epi-pens. The course was taught by Ryan Armstrong, a local Carmel High graduate, who now operates Capital City CPR. Rangers learned some new wilderness first aid techniques, including:



Proper application of a tourniquet



Replacing a dislocated shoulder



Patient assessment and "log roll"



CPR recertification



Preparing a patient for extraction



Stop the bleed!



Using hand tools as splints

6. Storm-related FEMA damages

Staff continues to coordinate with our FEMA Program Delivery Manager toward addressing damages, effecting repairs, and recovering as many costs associated with the event as possible. Staff released a Request for Proposals for the repairs following Board approval of the RFP at the August meeting. Ranger staff will be facilitating a mandatory site visit for all 3 projects on August 31, followed by a proposal due date of September 15, and proposal approval on October 4.

7. Peak-season Visitation at Garland Park

Rangers continue to experience peak visitation at MPRPD parks and preserves. Most recently, Ranger staff requested assistance from Monterey County Sheriff's Deputies while contacting a group of unruly individuals suspected of being intoxicated and consuming hard alcohol on District property (a violation of District rules/regs). As large groups continue to flock to the Carmel River for relief on hot summer days, Rangers make frequent stops at those areas known to be popular river access points, to ensure visitors are abiding by District rules and regulations, especially on weekends.

8. MCHD Water Systems Inspection

The Monterey County Health Department recently visited Garland Ranch Regional Park to conduct an inspection of the Cooper and Mesa Water Systems. Ranger staff facilitated these inspections by providing information and transportation for the MCHD Inspector to the various facilities. A full report with findings and recommendations will be forthcoming. At Rancho Canada, the annual inspection of our backflow devices is due, and has been scheduled.



MCHD Inspector at Mesa system source well

9. Cal Fire Training at PCRP Front Ranch

Members of the Carmel Hill Battalion of Cal Fire held a full-day training exercise at the Palo Corona Regional Park Front Ranch on August 15. Exercises included structure protection, mobile attack, and proper hose lay.



10. Dedampierre Ballfields Electric Gate

Due to an increase in the number of reports involving after-hours access at Dedampierre Ballfields, staff met with a contractor onsite to discuss options for installation of an electric-powered gate that would open at sunrise and close at sunset. More to come on this project in coming months.

11. California State Parks Visit to PCRP Barn

Ranger staff facilitated a tour of the Palo Corona Regional Park Barn for California State Parks staff. According to State Parks, they have a similar Barn on the Monterey District that is in need of improvements, and visiting the PCRP Barn helps to visualize what some of those improvements might look like.

12. Cal-Am Production Well Maintenance @ GRRP

Ranger staff coordinated with California-American Water to ensure that large equipment brought in to service a production well along Lupine Loop did not impact MPRPD assets and/or infrastructure. More importantly, staff emphasized to Cal-Am that public safety along the trail (which would remain open) was a top priority.

13. Fuel Reduction at PCRP Hwy 1 Gate

Ranger staff coordinated a full day of fuel reduction work at the Highway 1 entrance of Palo Corona Regional Park. With the assistance of a Cal Fire inmate crew, the eucalyptus grove along the property boundary with Highway 1 was thinned and cleansed of fallen debris. The Gabilan Camp brought along their large chipper for this project.



Gabilan Crew thinning PCRP Front Ranch eucalyptus grove

14. Fuel reduction at GRRP Ranger Station

Ranger staff recently masticated an area adjacent to the Garland Park Ranger Station parking lot. This area will be the future home of a staging area used to stockpile materials, thus saving Ranger staff a trip to Seaside or Salinas when they need a load of decomposed granite, base rock, sand, etc.



Future site of material staging area

15. Water Line Repair at PCRP Front Ranch

Ranger staff recently teamed up with employees of Ms. Diana Fish to expose and repair an underground waterline leading from the Riverfield well to Ms. Fish's residence. Rangers provided the equipment (excavator) and Ms. Fish provided the parts, supplies, and manual labor. This waterline often fails due to age and will require replacement in the near future.

16. Terrace Trail Stair Steps

Ranger staff recently addressed the erosion threatening to undermine the staircase along Terrace Trail at Garland Ranch Regional Park. Rangers harvested rock from a nearby drainage to buttress the stairs and minimize further erosion.



PLANNING & CONSERVATION DIVISION

1. **Marina Dunes Preserve Restoration Project:** Staff and representatives from Burleson Consulting and Habitat Stewardship Project Monterey Bay (HSP) met at Marina Dunes Preserve to go over HSP's MPRPD-funded public and school volunteer restoration events at the Preserve, proposed restoration sites, and how to coordinate and track those activities with Burleson's ongoing implementation of the PG&E funded mitigation project. Public volunteer events will be advertised in the next issue of Let's Go Outdoors.
2. **Frog Pond Wetland Preserve Fort Ord Regional Trails and Greenway Mitigation:** Staff provided additional input to the Transportation Agency of Monterey County and its consultant team on proposed riparian planting activities at Frog Pond Wetland Preserve, as mitigation for vegetation that would need to be cleared at the Preserve as a part of the Canyon Del Rey/ Highway 218 segment of the FORTAG trail. Staff are requesting that mitigation planting support fire-safe conditions and reduce invasive species at the Preserve.
3. **Garland Ranch Regional Park Fuel Mitigation Projects:** MPRPD staff continue to work with The Resource Conservation District of Monterey County (RCDMC) and Denise Duffy & Associates (DDA) on environmental review and permitting for Cal Fire funded fuel breaks and Coastal Conservancy funded projects on Garland Ranch Regional Park, including thinning of the eucalyptus grove near the Rancho Loop trail and a shaded fuel break along East Garzas Road. The project team has completed the project-specific analysis under the California Vegetation Treatment Program and are now working on permits for the project while also developing request for bid documents that are expected to be released to potential contractors later in September or early October.
4. **Fire Safe Monterey County PG&E Grant:** Staff are working with representatives from Fire Safe Monterey County to coordinate PG&E funded roadside fuel break work occurring the County right-of-way adjacent to Garland Ranch Regional Park and East Garzas Road.
5. **Palo Corona-White Rock Fuel Break Access and Enhancement Project:** Staff are working with the Santa Lucia Conservancy to help facilitate contractor access for CalFire grant funded vegetation management and fuel break maintenance activities in the vicinity of Palo Corona Regional Park. Some of this work proposed by the Santa Lucia Conservancy may include maintenance of sections of the Palo Corona-White Rock Fuel Break, a 12-mile fuel break primarily located within Palo Corona Regional Park.

6. **The Multi-Benefit Community Trail**

Staff continue to work with resource agencies and grant funders to develop a plan for realignment of sections of the Multi-Benefit Community trail. Maintenance activities on the trail were overseen by the MPRPD Ranger team in late August.

7. **Rancho Cañada Floodplain Restoration Project:** The project team is developing a timeline for additional community outreach meetings later this winter through next summer as it brings project designs from 65% to bid ready documents. The project team also continues to apply for grant funding and remains in discussion with potential funders regarding already submitted grant applications.
8. **Rancho Cañada Floodplain Restoration Project Plant Propagation:** Denise Duffy & Associates (DDA) continues to oversee seed collection and amplification contractors. Native seed that has been collected in sufficient quantities has been shipped to amplification contractors that will begin to plant fields for seed harvest next year.
9. **Low-effect Habitat Conservation Plan for the Rancho Cañada Unit of Palo Corona Regional Park:** Staff are preparing to begin development of a Low-effect Habitat Conservation Plan for the park and are in the process of securing consultant services to support that process which is expected to occur over the next 12-months.
10. **Planning & Conservation Program Consultant Support:** staff are preparing requests for qualifications for a range of consultant services that will be used to secure a variety of consultants via master agreements that will streamline contracting and approvals process for future MPRPD projects.

(end of report)