



TRAILS FOREVER UPDATE

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS

SPRING/SUMMER 2008

UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS, & MILESTONES

JUNE 3

- American Hiking Society volunteer vacations begin (8 weeks)

JUNE 7

- National Trails Day (Tennessee Valley, Inspiration Point — Presidio, Mori Point)
- National Park Service Open House (Fort Mason 10:30-1:30 PM)

JUNE 8

- Public Program at Lands End: Through a Lens (1-3 PM)

JUNE 19

- San Francisco butterfly count at Lands End

JULY

- Trail Keeper Training and Orientation — date to be determined

JULY 27

- Public Program at Lands End: The Bee's Knees (1-3 PM)

AUGUST 2

- Joint volunteer program with Golden Gate Audubon at Lands End (1-4 PM)

PROJECTS

Marin . . .

DIAS RIDGE TRAIL: The Dias Ridge FONSI was issued in March 2008 and is ready to implement, pending funds acquisition. Project staff is currently reviewing project budgets and potential phasing to determine a feasible project start date. *Project staff: Kate Bickert, Sharon Farrell, Steve Griswold*

HAWK HILL SITE ENHANCEMENT/COASTAL TRAIL — CONZELMAN ROAD: The project has four primary goals: Mission Blue Butterfly habitat restoration; public access improvements; visitor and volunteer safety and amenities improvements; and cultural resources stabilization and rehabilitation. The project has been included in the Marin Headlands, Fort Baker Transportation Management Plan EIS. A preliminary Cultural Landscape Report and draft Historic Structures Report have been completed and initial design concepts have been presented at NPS Project Review and 5X. Preliminary design plans have been developed by an interdisciplinary core team and include restoration of seven acres of Mission Blue Butterfly habitat; construction of a new alignment of the Coastal Trail and creation of an accessible loop trail at Hawk Hill that meets outdoor accessibility guidelines; installation of visitor amenities and safety improvements including restrooms and seating/gathering areas; resurfacing of trail tread; and installation of signage. Next steps include determination of additional compliance needs, cost estimating, and continued integration with existing planning efforts. *Project staff: Sharon Farrell, Kate Bickert*

San Francisco . . .



Volunteers weeding at Lands End

LANDS END: The new parking lot construction is complete and the western overlook and grand trailhead are under construction, with completion anticipated August 2008. Work completed to date includes: drilling and installing concrete and rebar piers for stability; grading the parking lot and installing a waste water recharger system; moving the parking lot entrance closer to the intersection to create safer and easier access to the area; creating planters between parking bays; and paving the majority of the parking area. This past winter and spring, project information coordinators engaged over 7,000

**LATE AUGUST/
SEPTEMBER**

- Lands End Parking Lot opening event — date to be determined

SEPTEMBER 6

- “Lovers’ Line” Event — Jeannene Przyblyski/ Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

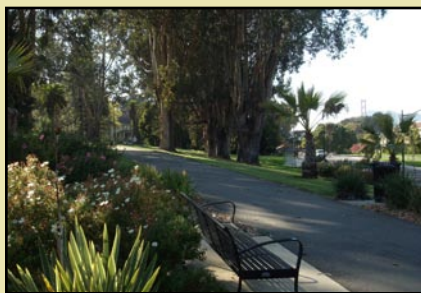
OCTOBER 5

- Trails Forever annual dinner

visitors at the site. 80% of these visitors feel positive about the project and 17% feel neutral. During this same time, more than 360 volunteers planted over 23,500 plants and contributed more than 3,200 hours of time at Lands End. Volunteers continue to be instrumental in maintaining restoration areas at Lands End and have removed hundreds of bags of invasive plants, including wild radish and thistle, during the spring weeding season. *Project Staff: John Skibbe, Caroline Christman, Alex Hooker, Sharon Farrell*

COASTAL TRAIL (Presidio): Planning is underway for the Presidio multi-use Coastal Trail and its two associated overlooks - the Pacific Overlook and the Golden Gate Overlook. A multi-disciplinary team of staff from the Trust, NPS and the Parks Conservancy has been established and is meeting regularly. This summer, detailed surveys and geotechnical and traffic studies of the trail route and Lincoln Blvd. will be conducted. Once this background data has been collected, the team will engage landscape architects and other contractors to develop final plans, cost estimates and an implementation phasing strategy. The current plans estimate planning/design to be completed by spring 2009, with construction beginning in late summer 2009. *Project Staff: Kate Bickert, Sharon Farrell, Diane Ochi, John Skibbe, Allison Stone, Steve Griswold, Amy Marshall*

BAY TRAIL AT BATTERY EAST (Presidio): Construction is underway for the first phase of improvements, from the intersection of Long Ave. and Lincoln Blvd. to the Golden Gate Bridge plaza. The project will build 1,100 linear feet of new trail and repave 1,000 linear feet of Battery East Road as a multi-use trail, to create a safer, off-street route to the bridge. This segment will connect the Coastal, De Anza and Ridge Trails on the west, and to the Presidio Promenade on the east. New wayfinding and interpretive signage, as well as interim improvements to Battery East parking lot, are also included. Construction will be completed by August 2008. *Project Staff: Diane Ochi, Kate Bickert*



PRESIDIO PROMENADE (Presidio): Construction of a multi-use trail through the historic Cavalry Stables area and on-road bike lanes along Lincoln Blvd. will begin in summer 2008. *Project Manager: Michael Lamb*

◀ *Presidio Promenade*

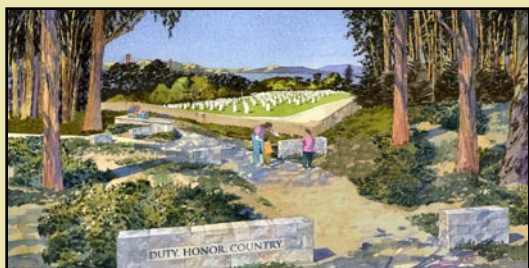


LOVERS’ LANE (Presidio): Asphalt repair on the trail crossings at Liggett and West Pacific will be completed in summer 2008. A design for the replacement of the aging light fixtures along this historic trail will be prepared in 2008 and installed in 2009. *Project Manger: Rania Reyes*

◀ *Lovers’ Lane*

PARK TRAIL (Presidio): Design for a substantial portion of the Park Trail (a major north-south trail corridor identified in the Presidio Trails & Bikeways Master Plan) will be completed by fall/winter 2008. Construction is planned for spring 2009. This multi-use trail will provide visitors with a direct connection between Mountain Lake and Crissy Field's northern waterfront. Bike lanes along the Park Trail will also be improved. *Project Manager: Michael Lamb*

CRISSY FIELD OVERLOOK (Presidio): Construction of the Crissy Field Overlook is in progress and will be completed by summer 2008. Visitors will enjoy beautiful views of San Francisco Bay, Alcatraz, Angel Island, Crissy Field, and the San Francisco skyline from this overlook that will feature a stone plaza, seating areas, interpretive panels, and accessible parking. *Project Manager: Paul Scardina*



CEMETERY OVERLOOK (Presidio): Nestled in the woods above the San Francisco National Cemetery, the National Cemetery Overlook will provide a tranquil view of this landmark in recognition of the sacrifices of our nation's enlisted men and women. Design will be prepared in 2008 and construction is planned for 2009. *Project Manager: Rania Reyes*

◀ *Artist rendering of National Cemetery Overlook*



LOBOS VALLEY OVERLOOK (Presidio): Design of the Lobos Valley Overlook has begun as part of the site planning for the former Public Health Service Hospital. This overlook will provide spectacular views of the Lobos Creek Valley dunes and the Pacific Ocean. *Project Manager: Chandler McCoy*

◀ *Artist rendering of Lobos Valley Overlook*

PRESIDIO OVERLOOK (Presidio): Design of the Presidio Overlook has begun. This overlook, located inside the historic Presidio Gate will provide views of the Park's wooded ridge tops to both neighbors and visitors. *Project Manager: Michael Lamb*

PRESIDIO CONNECTOR TRAILS (Presidio): Design for two secondary pedestrian trails is underway. One will provide visitors with access from the Main Post to the proposed Cemetery Overlook, Bay Area Ridge Trail, and Park Trail. The other will guide visitors between the Coastal Trail (including the Batteries to Bluffs Trail) and Immigrant Point (as well as the nearby Anza Trail, Bay Area Ridge Trail, and Rob Hill Campground). *Project Manger: Allison Stone*

San Mateo . . .



Mori Point community celebration

MORI POINT: Approximately 150 people participated in a community event on April 26th celebrating the completion of the first phase of site improvements and the ground breaking of the second stage of implementation this summer. Activities included guided site tours, a volunteer planting activity, meeting "Mori," the SF Zoo's San Francisco garter snake, and dedicating the newly installed entrance sign and interpretive kiosk.

Work this summer includes converting 1,650 ft. of road into trail and converting over 2,600 ft. of non-designated trails through endangered species habitat into 1,800 ft. of trails through less sensitive areas.

Volunteers at Oceana High School and Fort Funston Native Plant Nurseries are growing thousands of plants which will be planted this winter. Construction will be completed by September 2008. Roth Lamotte Landscape Architecture has been engaged to design the final stage of the project, the elevated boardwalk/trail along the section of Mori Road adjacent to the new ponds. The boardwalk is being designed to allow wildlife to move safely around the site as well as to provide an accessible route to the Coastal Trail at the sea wall. Final designs are expected to be completed by September 2008. *Project Staff: Susie Bennett, Sharon Farrell, Kate Bickert, Sue Gardner, Steve Griswold, Erin Heimbinder*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND VOLUNTEERS



Trail volunteer at Tennessee Valley

VOLUNTEERS: Trail volunteer programs are off to a busy start this spring season. American Hiking Society Volunteer Vacations will kick off the first week of June. A new group of Student Conservation Association (SCA) volunteers will also begin work in the park in June. This includes a new pilot program with SCA called “Commuter Crew,” which will bring high school students from the Bay Area to work on trails in San Mateo County. National Trails Day volunteer events will be taking place at Tennessee Valley, Presidio, and Mori Point on June 7th. Volunteer groups/work days over the winter and early spring include: Centennial Muir Woods Earth Day; Chico State Alternative Spring Break; Boy Scouts; EPA; Bay Area Badgers; National Parks America Tour; Charles Schwab; SF Tri Club; BPM Accounting; PG&E; LEVI Strauss and Co.; Marin Conservation Corps; AAA and Troop 318. *Contact: Kimberly Kiefer*

Regular volunteer programming has begun on Presidio Trails with the Presidio Trust Trail Crew. We have worked with the Presidio Park Stewards at Mountain Lake and have hosted two drop-in volunteer programs. This year, we will be hosting our first National Trails Day event at Inspiration Point on the Ecology Trail. The Presidio Trails volunteer program meets every second Tuesday of the month from 12-3 pm. *Contact: Kimberly Kiefer, Jenny McIlvaine, Damien Raffa*



TEENS ON TRAILS: We closed out the Teens on Trails year with three final programs on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents’ Day, and Cesar Chavez Day, attracting an average of 50 youth for each project. Special thanks to IYEL who participated this year by providing ice breakers relevant to the holiday programs we were observing. Teens on Trails will be back in the fall with a full schedule for the following school year. *Contact: Kimberly Kiefer*

◀ *Teens on Trails participants visiting Mali*

TRAIL KEEPERS: We have hosted a total of three winter orientations at Lands End, the Presidio, and San Mateo parklands, in addition to follow up site visits. We have recruited over 40 new Trail Keepers for all three sites and are developing a suite of trainings to support Trail Keepers. Trail Keepers submitted over 37 logs and over 100 hours of volunteer service to the park. They have also been present at General Management Plan walks, celebrations, volunteer events, and have been attending additional courses through the Park Academy. Additional summer/fall orientations will be announced soon. *Contact: Kimberly Kiefer, Jen Greene*

GENERAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Jeannene Przyblyski has developed a proposal for an art installation at Lovers' Lane in the Presidio. The installation, Lovers' Line, will create opportunities for engaging artists, nature lovers, and history buffs, following the success of her podcast, Comings and Goings, at Lands End. Lovers' Line proposes to temporarily mark the trail with signs that can be rearranged by park visitors, allowing them to discover the stories of people and nature that have shaped the landscape that Lovers' Lane passes through. An event at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts is scheduled on September 6th. *Contact: Allison Stone, Kate Bickert*

FUNDRAISING

NEW GRANTS:

To date, \$2.5 million has been raised to match the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund gift of \$15 million for the Presidio Trails and Bikeways and Rob Hill Campground projects. This allows us to move ahead with the first phase of construction and detailed design for a variety of Presidio trail projects.

The Bay Area Ridge Trail Council has approved a \$385,000 grant for construction and restoration on the Dias Ridge Trail. Project funds are administered through the California Coastal Conservancy, who will vote on the grant recommendation at their June 5th board meeting.

Other recent donors include the California Coastal Conservancy, the James Irvine Foundation, the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, the David B. Gold Foundation, the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, National Park Service Challenge Cost Share Program, Chevron, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation — Nature Restoration Trust, Oracle and REI.

THANK YOU TO OUR LEAD FUNDERS:

- Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund
- California Coastal Conservancy
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
- Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund

Trails Forever is a park-wide initiative sponsored by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, the National Park Service, and The Presidio Trust.



www.parksconservancy.org

www.nps.gov/goga

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