The Parks Conservancy is supporting the Bolinas Lagoon restoration effort through the One Tam initiative. The project is led by Marin County Parks with several stakeholder and agency partners, including the National Park Service.

Follow us on Instagram @parks4all
MORE than 30 years ago, I was honored to be selected as the first executive director of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (then the Parks Association), leading four staff members in working toward a dream.

Since then, in pursuit of our shared vision of "Parks For All Forever", we have provided over $500 million in support to these special places—among America’s most-visited national parks.

That incredible story is not just only mine. It is ours, together. It is the story of our talented staff; passionate Trustees; steadfast partners in the National Park Service and Presidio Trust; dedicated elected officials; scores of community organizations; and our extraordinary community of donors, volunteers, and members like you.

While I transition to a new role as Special Projects Advisor in 2019, I know that the amazing story of inclusion and innovation in this national park will continue. It is written by your generosity, care, and love for these parklands. And it is written in every moment of joy and friendship along the trail.

FROM GREG’S DESK

Greg Moore
President & CEO
Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
WHILE out exploring, most visitors to Mt. Tamalpais in Marin County may not realize that they cross the boundaries of up to four land management agencies (National Park Service, California State Parks, Marin County Parks, and Marin Municipal Water District). Not surprisingly, local creatures and plants who inhabit the mountain also do so without regard to such borders. The challenges these flora and fauna face, such as climate change, forest disease, and fire suppression, are equally indiscriminate.

In 2014, the four managing agencies did something unprecedented in the region. They joined together with the Parks Conservancy and formed One Tam—a partnership dedicated to big ideas and working across boundaries to more holistically steward the lands of Mt. Tam.

This experiment in collaboration has produced some mountainous outcomes. With over $3M raised and invested, and another $2.5M planned over the next two years, new projects and programs that improve the mountain’s health and resiliency are underway.

Forest, creek, wetland, and other habitat restoration, plus mountain-wide weed management programs, are primary ventures of One Tam’s approach. Guiding this work is a first-ever effort to understand the overall health of the mountain by aggregating decades of siloed data. Understanding the condition of key indicators is essential to making smart decisions, as is filling in knowledge gaps identified through that process.

Equally important is the need to connect more communities to the mountain and cultivate the next generation of stewards. High school, college, and post-college internships are place-based opportunities to gain job skills while learning about our local environment. Through One Tam’s community science programs, volunteers contribute to the growing body of research. Numerous volunteer opportunities in habitat and trail restoration are also offered.

Many projects would simply not have moved forward without the boost of working together through One Tam. These include expanding signage and way-finding mountain-wide, trail improvement projects, and restoring the mountain’s West Peak.

At only four years old, One Tam has already become a regional, statewide, and national model. Our partnership is the subject of unprecedented research measuring partnership success, while demonstrating significant positive impacts. And recognition is growing. In the last year, One Tam received a national award for partnership from the Public Lands Alliance, California State Parks’ Dewitt Partnership Award, and Marin Conservation League’s Conservation Award. Each are strong signals that One Tam is leading a broader movement toward cross-border large landscape stewardship.

The Parks Conservancy and One Tam welcomes everyone to grow with us in partnership. LEARN HOW AT onetam.org
FORT MILEY: VISIT FOR THE HISTORY, STAY FOR THE VIEWS

Once an important coastal defense military reservation for the "big guns" during World War II, Fort Miley is now a series of abandoned batteries and open space. It's surrounded by a forested hillside overlooking Lands End and the San Francisco Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center. The remnants of this military fortification and the nearby Battery Chester give today's visitors an unparalleled perspective of the sandy shores of Ocean Beach and the shimmering, neverending Pacific Ocean.

The park site itself is hidden in plain sight. If you've visited Lands End or Sutro Baths, you've already passed right by. To visit, park in the USS San Francisco Memorial lot. Towards the entrance to the lot you'll see a trail. Follow the short but steep trail uphill to an opening above the trees.

You can save yourself a climb, however, if you access East Fort Miley from the parking lot at the San Francisco VA Hospital.

As a former military defense station, Fort Miley, naturally, is steeped in history. The military abandoned the site, and Fort Miley became a national park when the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was formed in 1972, forever preserving San Francisco's forgotten garrison—and those very same views the military used to protect the Bay Area.

ONE TAM LOOKS TO BUILD DIPSEA TRAIL BRIDGE

One of the oldest and most historic routes on Mt. Tamalpais, the spectacular Dipsea Trail, hosts the oldest trail race in the United States: The Women's Dipsea Hike. However, certain outdated trail features have led to unfortunate impacts on the surrounding ecosystem.

Currently, two wooden planks serve as a primitive bridge across Redwood Creek. Not only is it a bottleneck for racers, it sits low in the water and stirs up sediment—leading to erosion and the degradation of habitat for the endangered coho salmon and other species. Sediment can smother salmon eggs in the streambed and deplete oxygen levels.

The partner organizations of the Redwood Creek Watershed Collaborative and One Tam have been looking at designing a replacement. The new bridge will protect creek habitat, accommodate foot traffic on the popular trail, preserve the rustic character of the Dipsea, and withstand winter floods. This project is part of a broader effort to reduce erosion, restore hydrological function, and revitalize forest and stream habitats in the Redwood Creek corridor (including through Muir Woods).

LEARN HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT
Contact Matt Leffert at (415) 561-3069 or mleffert@parksconservancy.org

VISION FOR MT. TAM’S WEST PEAK REVEALED

In the 1950s, the Mill Valley Air Force Station transformed West Peak—the "true peak" of Mt. Tamalpais. Since the base closed in 1983, the community has been envisioning how the peak could be restored to a more natural condition.

The Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD), in partnership with the Parks Conservancy, has completed an 18-month study and public engagement process examining various ideas and concepts for the future of West Peak. In June, the project team will share its findings with the MMWD Board of Directors. The preferred project will remove pavement, reshape disturbed areas, improve trail connections, and restore nearly 18 acres for rare plant communities and wildlife habitat.

TO LEARN MORE VISIT marinwater.org

AT FIRST SITE

The hilltop park got its namesake from Lieutenant Colonel John D. Miley in 1900, who died in Manila, Philippines, in 1899; six years after the land was first acquired by the U.S. Army in 1893. These weapons mounted at Battery Chester guarded the approach to the Golden Gate until more modern guns were mounted in 1948.

NEWS IN BRIEF

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GIVE BACK KICK BACK 6/2 Lands End (9:30 AM–2:30 PM) Volunteer in the AM, kick back in the PM. Bring your best Hawaiian attire for a day filled with live jams with Gabe Bondoc, BBQ, and adult beverages! Learn more at parksconservancy.org/parksocials.

TRAIL MIXER “HAPPY HOUR” – PRIDE IN THE PARKS 6/7 Upper Fort Mason (6–8:30 PM) Celebrate Pride Month at a festive outdoor happy hour at Fort Mason’s Great Meadow. Trail Mixer tickets include complimentary adult beverages, snacks, entertainment, and more. Tickets and info at parksconservancy.org/parksocials.

BIOLITZ 6/9 San Geronimo Ridge (9 AM–3 PM) At a site with dramatic views and lots of critters, you’ll take field observations, eat lunch, discuss identifications, and upload the collective observations. Learn more at onetam.org/events.

BEGINNING BIRDING 6/17 Rodeo Lagoon (9:30 AM–1:30 AM) Longer days mean more chances to scope out the skies and lagoon for birds of all kinds! Explore the shore of Rodeo Lagoon with docent Jane Haley and enjoy the summer selection of birds.

SUMMER WOMEN’S TRAIL DAY 6/23 Location TBD (10 AM–2 PM) This will be an all-women’s trail event open to all self-identifying women, ages 12 years old & up, led by the lady trail builders of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and supported by REI.

NIKE MISSILE SITE VOLUNTEER/VETERAN OPEN HOUSE 7/7 Marin Headlands (12:30–3:30 PM) Hear tales of the days when the U.S. Army used to protect the Golden Gate Strait from the Marin Headlands. Veterans who operated the Nike Missile site will reveal what life was like working at Nike Missile Sites across the country.

TRAIL MIXER “HAPPY HOUR” – DOGS IN THE PARKS 7/12 Crissy Field (6–8:30 PM) Join retired park ranger and historian John Martini for a walk along Baker Beach and up the bluffs of Fort Winfield Scott. RSVP required: Call (415) 561-4323 or visit parksconservancy.org/memberevents.

HEALTHY PARKS HEALTHY PEOPLE 8/5 Presidio Visitor Center (2–4 PM) Join the National Park Service rangers on first Saturdays, February through October, as we work our way to a healthier lifestyle. This is part of the Healthy Parks Healthy People program of the Institute of the Golden Gate.

TRAIL MIXER “HAPPY HOUR” – PLAY IN THE PARKS 8/10 Lands End (6–8:30 PM) Unleash your inner child with this “adult recess” themed happy hour! Enjoy classic games, adult beverages, snacks, entertainment, and more. See a schedule of our park socials at parksconservancy.org/parksocials.

PRESIDIO TUNNEL TOPS PREVIEW 7/18 Presidio Visitor Center (4–5 PM) Join Rania Rayes, Landscape Architect at the Presidio Trust, for a special insider’s view of the Presidio Tunnel Tops project, which will create 14 acres of parkland above the Presidio Parkway (Doyle Drive) tunnels. Registration for this event will open at 9 AM on 7/18: parksconservancy.org/memberevents.

SUNRISE TOUR OF MUIR WOODS 8/15 Muir Woods (6:15–10:45 AM) Greet the day with a bath in the forest! Catch the first light of the day as it filters through the redwood canopy above, warming the forested valley where Muir Woods National Monument resides.

BAKER BEACH HISTORY HIKE 8/4 Baker Beach (10 AM–noon) Join retired park ranger and historian John Martini for a walk along Baker Beach and up the bluffs of Fort Winfield Scott. RSVP required: Call (415) 561-4323 or visit parksconservancy.org/memberevents.

A NEW WAVE OF VOLUNTEERISM AT OCEAN BEACH In the early history of San Francisco, the undeveloped area around Ocean Beach was known as “Outside Lands” due to its distance from the fledgling city. Even today, Ocean Beach’s sandy shores still feel worlds away from the hubbub of urban living, offering an oasis complete with fire pits and space to roam. But this oasis of ours needs some serious TLC. To help beautify this beloved site, the National Park Service recently launched a new volunteer drop-in program. From March to October, on the second Fridays of each month, you can work alongside Park Rangers and fellow community members to restore this site for the enjoyment of all beachgoers and wildlife alike. To get involved email volunteer@parksconservancy.org.

Ocean Beach Cleanup
San Francisco Programs
San Mateo Programs
Lakesides & Historic Sites: Groundskeeping & Site Restoration
Alcatraz Gardens
Golden Gate Maintenance
Presidio Forest & Trail
Presidio Garden & Sustainability
Plant Nurseries: Grow & Care for Plants
Fort Funston Nursery
Marin Headlands Nursery
Presidio Nursery
Trail Repair, Construction, & Master Trails
Golden Gate Trail Crew (Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo)
Tears on Trails

IT’S FUN. IT’S HEALTHY. IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE. AND IT’S EASY TO GET STARTED! With 80,000 acres of national parkland, we need your help as we work towards our vision of Parks For All Forever. VISIT parksconservancy.org/volunteer for more info or call (415) 561-3044, e-mail volunteer@parksconservancy.org.
**SPRING ACTIVITIES ROUNDUP**

**TAKE A STRIDE ACROSS THE CONTINENT—TO THE STATUE OF LIBERTY**

Looking to read another tale on a trail of the Golden Gate National Parks? StoryWalks are back, thanks to the Parks Conservancy and National Park Service’s partnership with San Francisco Public Library.

This summer, bring the whole family out to the Crissy Field Promenade, where a series of signs will reveal the pages of Her Right Foot, written by Dave Eggers and illustrated by Shawn Harris. This charming book shares a secret about the Statue of Liberty—and how her own “storywalk” conveys a powerful and resonant message.

Also, don’t miss an encore presentation of the StoryWalk at Mountain Lake in the Presidio. Lizi Boyd’s I Wrote You a Note.

**PRESIDIO PICNICS SHOWCASE CULTURAL DANCES THIS SUMMER**

On the fourth Sunday of each month, a different community within our diverse Bay Area will share a dance performance that showcases its unique and vibrant culture—from traditional Japanese dance to African Haitian dance. Visit presidio.gov/calendar for the full schedule.

**LACE UP YOUR BOOTS FOR NATIONAL TRAILS DAY: JUNE 2**

Once again, the Parks Conservancy, National Park Service, and Presidio Trust are partnering with the American Hiking Society to commemorate the year’s biggest celebration of trails.

Visit parksconservancy.org/calendar for all the details. Register, bring your crew, and don’t forget to hashtag your photos on the trail with #Parks4All and #NationalTrailsDay.

**GOLDEN GATE OPENS IMPORTANT PORTALS TO OUR PAST**

Our friends at Golden Gate National Recreation Area are proud that this national park has joined the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience. With 230 members in 55 countries across the globe, the Coalition brings together historic places that connect past struggles with contemporary issues. By remembering and reflecting on universal stories of triumph and tragedy, these sites honor the past while catalyzing conversation and action on human rights today.

Golden Gate was selected for shining a light on the patriotism of African-American Buffalo Soldiers, the heroism of Japanese-American Nisei soldiers during WWII, and the powerful statement of the 1969 Indian Occupation on Alcatraz.

Learn more at sitesofconscience.org

**ASK THE RANGER**

Q. Why isn’t Ocean Beach considered a safe place to swim or learn how to surf?

The Redwood Forest: It All Fits Together

“When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.” –John Muir, My First Summer in the Sierra

Put all the pieces together with this gorgeous mini redwood forest puzzle! Featuring the delightful artwork of Parks Conservancy designer Charles House, this 100-piece puzzle evokes the sights, sounds, and wonders of deep and primeval forests like Muir Woods National Monument.

Great for ages 7 and up. The finished puzzle, 7” by 9”, made in the USA, $9.95 (members $8.46). Available in our park stores or online at parksconservancy.org/store

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ON A MISSION: TO SAVE THE MISSION BLUE BUTTERFLY

The adult Mission blue butterfly is about the size of a quarter and gets its name from its brilliant blue wings. It is also San Francisco’s only endangered butterfly. As the San Francisco Bay Area continues to change and expand, the Mission blue’s preferred habitat, coastal grasslands, continues to decrease. Part of the reason these insects have declined over the years is due to the loss of connected pathways caused by human encroachment and development. Where they could once easily flutter from one location to the next by themselves, now these tiny creatures require our help.

To aid in the recovery of the declining Mission blue populations, a translocation project has been underway to move them from San Bruno Mountain in South San Francisco to Milagra Ridge in Pacifica. The butterflies are collected at the adult stage, which lasts just about seven to 10 days, and moved to a new location where they can deposit their eggs under protective nets. The hope is that this relocation project will help introduce genetic diversity and boost the depleted population.

On paper, this process sounds like a typical walk in the park; in reality, it is a taxing activity requiring lots of patience and passion to save this species from extinction.

A combined team of Parks Conservancy and National Park Service staff meticulously plan the relocations. A crew of butterfly hunters venture to San Bruno Mountain to locate females carrying fertilized eggs (or “gravids”) and a few males. They then place them in Tupperware containers and transfer them to a cooler. The chilling effect of the ice chest slows down the butterfly’s metabolism, allowing them to keep calm and inactive for the move. The team then gives the Mission blues a “Tupperware taxi” to Milagra Ridge where they can lay their eggs on their plant of choice, the lupine.

Once the Mission blues lay their eggs, the nets are removed. The adult butterflies are released back into the wild, and the host plant is flagged for monitoring. If the eggs hatch within the next year, the surviving larvae will develop into fully-grown caterpillars. The caterpillars will form chrysalises, and the next generation of butterflies will emerge. Each new generation brings new hope that these coastal grasslands will be home to a self-sustaining population of beautiful blue butterflies.

LEARN MORE AT parksconservancy.org/missionblue
FOR THE FUTURE: FROM GARDENS TO OPEN SPACE

Dr. Judy Ann Doi of San Bruno, CA was a member of the Parks Conservancy for nearly 20 years and gave through our monthly donation program, Golden Gate Keepers. Mori Point was practically in her backyard, and she hiked there regularly. She also enjoyed Milagra Ridge, Sweeney Ridge, and Rancho Corral de Tierra. In San Francisco, Fort Mason and Crissy Field were her favorite park sites to walk. She always professed her love for the national parks.

Before Judy passed away in March, she volunteered in the Alcatraz Gardens and made friends with the other regulars. Judy also was a volunteer for the Black Point Historic Gardens restoration in Fort Mason, even before the stewardship program began. “It is exciting that a regularly scheduled volunteer day is now happening for Black Point,” she told us.

Judy made sure that her estate plan included a thoughtful bequest gift of real property to support the Parks Conservancy and the Alcatraz Gardens, Black Point Historic Gardens, and Mori Point. Judy wrote, “The Parks Conservancy is doing such a wonderful job with our national treasure that I am really happy that I can do something in return….I just want to give back.” Her legacy certainly will have significant impact in the park places she loved.

TO LEARN MORE about legacy gifts to support the parklands you love, contact Audrey L. Yee, Esq. at ayee@parksconservancy.org or (415) 561-3016.

MONTHLY DONATIONS: A SEAMLESS WAY TO GIVE

Did you know that the greenest way to support the parks is with a monthly Golden Gate Keeper membership? Monthly donations provide a consistent, reliable source of support to help sustain the Conservancy’s year-round projects, programs, and park improvements—without the need for annual renewal notices.

Monthly giving is also easy and convenient for you! Your credit card will be automatically charged each month for the donation amount you choose, and you can change or cancel your gift at any time.

We thank our Golden Gate Keepers with all the regular benefits of Parks Conservancy membership—PLUS a calendar with the Michael Schwab-designed park logos each year.

Additionally, when you renew your gift with a Golden Gate Keeper monthly donation of $10 or more, we will send you a reusable Chico shopping bag with the Marin Headlands logo—perfect for a trip to the store or an outing in the parks!

VISIT parksconservancy.org/givemonthly to join.

SALESFORCE TEAMS ESCAPE TO ALCATRAZ

In February and April, two teams from Salesforce.org became Alcatraz Rock Stars with the Parks Conservancy’s new team-building, volunteer opportunity on Alcatraz. The sun was shining as they escaped their offices to spend the morning on The Rock. For most of the Salesforce employees, it was their maiden voyage to the infamous island and they enjoyed the ferry ride, the gardening, and the Cell House Audio Tour.

Salesforce employees have supported projects across the Golden Gate National Parks and have one of the highest levels of corporate volunteering in the parks. Just the past year, 1,282 Salesforce employees volunteered 3,481 hours to remove 1,356 bags of vegetation, prune 1,075 trees, install 1,050 feet of trail, and so much more.

With Salesforce’s Team Grants program, Salesforce volunteers maximize their impact with financial support for the Parks Conservancy’s volunteer programs. Thank you, Salesforce, for joining us to achieve our vision of Parks For All Forever!

VISIT parksconservancy.org/corporatevolunteering to plan your company’s escape to Alcatraz.

ENJOY BREWS AND VIEWS WITH YOUR CREWS

Love your national parks and love meeting up with your friends? Why not do both, at a Parks Conservancy park social?

Join the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and be a part of the movement that’s building a community of fun-loving nature enthusiasts through a series of events in these parks.

Our Trail Mixer happy hours are ticketed events on the second Thursday of the month that introduce participants to the Golden Gate National Parks in a fun, new way!

Join us Thursday, June 14 at the Great Meadow for a special “Pride in the Parks” themed Trail Mixer with partners OutThereVentures and TurnOut, and sponsors REI, Fort Point Beer Company, Deep Eddy Vodka, and Whole Foods.

All events are ticketed and open to the public. Locations are subject to change. This is an ages 21 and over event.

VISIT Parksconservancy.org/parksocials to learn more about upcoming events.
TAKEO Kishi has been a park ranger with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) for five years. Starting out building trails, he recently moved to Alcatraz as the Community Outreach Manager. We sat down with Takeo to learn more about his job as a ranger and his passion for public spaces and social justice.

What do you enjoy about being a ranger? We’re known for our signature “flat-hats,” but I like that we also get to wear so many figurative hats: as interpreters, educators, researchers, community liaisons, and more.

What made you decide to become a National Park Ranger? When I graduated in 2009, I spent a year hitchhiking and backpacking around New Zealand working odd jobs like bartending and sheep herding. Struck by the beauty, I decided to work outdoors. I built trails with the California Conservation Corps, where I lived in a tent for six months, 15 miles from the nearest road alongside 14 other youths from across the country. It was the best summer of my life.

Tell me about your work at the NPS. My team and I bring local under-resourced communities to GGNRA to break down barriers that prevent them from visiting their national parks. We provide free tickets to Alcatraz and lead programs for communities affected by mass incarceration. I also lead interpretive programs for the public.

How are you involved with the library, community shuttles and veterans? As a part of our Summer Stride partnership with the San Francisco Public Libraries, my colleagues and I travel to libraries to bring the parks to the people. We also run a free shuttle that takes people from their library to a park. On the first Friday of the month, we take veterans from the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center to different parks. I have really enjoyed getting to share the parks with people through these repeated programs.

What do you feel is the most satisfying part of your job? Part of my role is looking at how our park can partner with and serve communities affected by mass incarceration. This country has 5% of the world’s population and 25% of the world’s incarcerated population. With our Prisoner Reentry Network program, we visit different park sites and use these beautiful spaces as places of healing while building community.

1930s “GUN” SHOW
Before there was the Healthy Parks Healthy People program in the Presidio, cadets from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point used the grassy area of the Fort Winfield Scott Parade Ground as their outdoor gym. Here is one such cadet showing off his physical prowess with a handstand while his peers get ready for a sun-drenched sweat session.

From the Colonel James H. Short Collection, c1938.

THE LONG ROAD TO INCLUSION
Today the Golden Gate National Parks welcome all people, including those of Asian heritage. But that wasn’t always the case in the history of this land.
parksconservancy.org/asianhistory

CAREER DOORS OPEN AT GOLDEN GATE
The Parks Conservancy’s robust Academic Internship program introduces participants to possible jobs in parks, the conservation sector, and beyond.
parksconservancy.org/academicintern

MYERS-BRIGGS, COOPER’S, SWAINSON’S
Match up your Myers-Briggs personality type with one of 16 birds of prey. Then visit your very own raptor patronus during fall migration on Hawk Hill!
parksconservancy.org/hawkpersonality

Explore a trove of historical images at the Park Archives and Records Center; visit nps.gov/goga/historyculture/collections.htm.
Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy is the nonprofit membership organization created to preserve the Golden Gate National Parks, enhance the experiences of park visitors, and build a community dedicated to conserving the parks for the future.
(415) 4R-PARKS parksconservancy.org facebook.com/parksconservancy Twitter/Instagram: parks4all

OUR PUBLIC AGENCY PARTNERS

National Park Service
The National Park Service was created in 1916 to preserve America’s natural, cultural, and scenic treasures and to provide for their enjoyment by future generations.
(415) 561-4700 nps.gov/goga

Presidio Trust
The Presidio Trust
Responsible for transforming the Presidio—in partnership with the National Park Service—from an historic Army post into a new kind of national park, the Presidio Trust is leading the nation’s largest historic preservation project, restoring the park’s buildings and landscapes, and creating engaging programs. (415) 561-5300 presidio.gov