

The logo for the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, featuring the text "GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVANCY" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, enclosed within a black rectangular border with a thin orange inner line.

**GOLDEN GATE  
NATIONAL  
PARKS  
CONSERVANCY**

# **2008 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY**





## THANK YOU TO THE PARKS COMMUNITY

Through your extraordinary contributions and efforts in 2007, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy advanced our mission of *Parks For All Forever* in partnership with the National Park Service, Presidio Trust, and our community:

**Over 20 million** Visitors annually to the Golden Gate National Parks

**\$15.7 million** Total aid to the parks provided by the Parks Conservancy in 2007

**\$15 million** Gift received from the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund for the ongoing transformation of the Presidio into a fully-realized national park site

**\$3.5 million** Improvement project to Alcatraz premiered, including revamped audio tour, expanded museum store, more interpretive displays, and restored historic gardens

**3 million** People served by Conservancy staff and volunteers at park visitor centers, information outlets, and interpretive bookstores

**1.4 million** Visitors to Alcatraz served each year through tours

**390,812** Combined hours in 2007 contributed by 19,621 volunteers engaged in the active stewardship of our parks; a new record

**145,920** Native plants grown in Native Plant Nurseries for 56 restoration projects throughout the parks

**80,400** Acres of public land in the Golden Gate National Parks preserved as living testaments to our natural, cultural, and historic heritage

**41,532** Native plants returned to the landscape at Lands End, site of dramatic trail improvements and ongoing habitat restoration made possible by the leadership support of the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Foundation

**33,362** Raptors sighted by the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory during the fall migration, with 2,243 banded

**33,000** Community members served by our environmental education facility, Crissy Field Center, through programs and outreach activities

**16,000** Schoolchildren and youth reached by Crissy Field Center and National Park Service educational programming

**14,068** Members of the Parks Conservancy supporting one of the world's largest national parks in an urban setting

**3,664** Feet of the Batteries to Bluffs Trail placed along the spectacular western coastline of the Presidio

**2,000** Youth and community members engaged through the outreach efforts of 11 youth environmental leaders in I-YEL (Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders)

**1,273** Plant and animal species that call the parks home and who benefit directly from the Conservancy's stewardship activities

**500** Young people who enjoyed an unforgettable camping experience (many of them for the first time) through our new program in partnership with the Presidio Trust and Bay Area Wilderness Training—Camping at the Presidio

**500** Acres of Coastal Trail corridor enhanced through park projects

**475** Guests attended our fifth annual Trails Forever Dinner, contributing a record \$743,850 (gross) to benefit trail projects parkwide

**420** Feet of corridor rehabilitated in the newly restored and electrified Battery Townsley, a top-secret World War II-era military installation now open to the public

**270** Schoolchildren and youth participated in Crissy Field Center summer camps

**224** Teens on Trails volunteers used their days off during the school year as “days on” the trails contributing to their vitality

**150** Community members and young environmental leaders inspired by meeting six Goldman Environmental Prize Winners at a Crissy Field Center reception

**80** Items developed and released in our stores last year to help interpret the parks for visitors

**49** Miles of trail built, maintained, or enhanced through Trails Forever efforts in 2007

**33** Endangered and threatened plant and animal species protected by the parks

**9** Trail Keepers trained and engaged as trail monitors and community liaisons during pilot year of program

**3** Ponds dug and improved at Mori Point as habitat for the threatened California red-legged frog

**1** Parks Conservancy dedicated to PARKS FOR ALL FOREVER

Cover Photo: Presidio enhancements like the new Batteries to Bluffs Trail are made possible by the support of the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund and your contributions, and the partnership of the Parks Conservancy, Presidio Trust, and National Park Service. Opposite page: Henry Lau, a City College student, volunteers at Mori Point in Pacifica.



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“DEAR MEMBERS OF  
OUR PARK COMMUNITY,

The Golden Gate National Parks are a treasure—to our region, nation, and the world. These national parks bring together people of all ages and backgrounds, and the experience of sharing them strengthens our sense of community. Their very creation in 1972 was the result of citizens who united to preserve these cherished lands. The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy builds on this legacy of stewardship.

Motivated by a shared commitment to the community, the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund made a \$15 million gift to advance the Presidio’s evolution from an historic military post to a beloved national park. We are both grateful for and inspired by this landmark gift. Coupled with prior contributions for the transformation of Crissy Field, the Haas, Jr. Fund’s support for the Presidio and the Golden Gate National Parks totals over \$30 million—the largest cash contribution in the history of America’s national parks.

Indeed, this year has been marked by extraordinary accomplishment and unprecedented community engagement. The Parks Conservancy, in partnership with the National Park Service and the Presidio Trust, reached more people than ever before. We achieved our highest level of membership and volunteerism. We reached more school-

children with learning opportunities in our parks. And we were delighted to see thousands of people from diverse communities hike trails, enjoy recreational activities, and make memories with loved ones.

And thousands of you gave back to the parklands. By contributing your time, resources, and talents, our parks become places of generosity and enduring public benefit.

This is an exciting era in which former military installations, including the Presidio and Fort Baker, are being transformed into national parks for all. We ask you to join the cooperative efforts of the Parks Conservancy, Presidio Trust, and National Park Service to restore these special places within one of the nation’s quintessential urban park systems.

We extend our admiration and appreciation to our friends, donors, members, and volunteers who make it all possible. We celebrate you—the park community—throughout this annual report. Thank you. ”

**MARK BUELL**  
Chair, Board of Trustees

**GREG MOORE**  
Executive Director

Photo above: Mark Buell (left) and Greg Moore at Crissy Field Center





“For me volunteering is a meaningful way to work on something bigger than myself; it’s very meditative. It’s also our wedding anniversary today so we decided to make it a date and celebrate with the community.”

**KRISTIN ARMSTRONG**

“I love volunteering with the people at the Parks Conservancy; I don’t know how you can beat this — you’re outside, and doing good.”

**ROBERT ARMSTRONG**

Oracle employees and volunteers spend their five-year wedding anniversary planting around a Mori Point frog pond

Better places to recreate, better spaces to live. Better experiences for each visitor to the national parklands, brighter futures for every species in the ecosystem. All are made possible through the support of the Parks Conservancy’s members, supporters, and volunteers like Kristin and Robert. They also happen to be your family, friends, and neighbors — dedicated individuals who, after all, not only enhance the parklands and restore habitat but enrich the fabric of our lives and renew our faith in the potential of people.





## THE PRESIDIO

Across the astonishing sweep of Presidio history, the year 2007 is one to remember. Last April, in an epochal moment in the Presidio’s journey from military post to national park, the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund announced a \$15 million gift toward ensuring the park’s enjoyment by all. Through the generosity of the Haas, Jr. Fund and donor contributions leveraged by the historic gift, our Presidio experiences will be greatly enhanced. This exceptional contribution to the Parks Conservancy will propel projects and programs implemented in partnership with the Presidio Trust and National Park Service. Highlights include:

- A world-class, 24-mile system of trails and bikeways, improving the vital network that brings people to the parklands. In 2007, the Parks Conservancy helped complete the stunning Batteries to Bluffs Trail along the wild western edge of the Presidio.
- Six new overlooks to delight and inspire. The first, Crissy Field Overlook, is scheduled for completion in 2008.
- Improvements to Rob Hill Campground—the only overnight camping facility in San Francisco—that include a new entranceway, fire circle, and covered gathering area. The work will result in a doubling of site capacity.

## LANDS END

Following the opening of the spectacular overlook and promenade in 2006, the revitalization of Lands End continued last year with hundreds of volunteers restoring over 41,500 native plants to this rugged landscape. In fall, work began on a new series of enhancements that include renovation of the Merrie Way area and placement of a new sunset overlook and trailhead to the Coastal Trail—all made possible by the leadership support of the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Foundation, with additional funding from The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation and the California Coastal Conservancy.

## TRAILS FOREVER

Entering its fifth year, this partnership initiative of the Parks Conservancy, National Park Service, and Presidio Trust improved trails and preserved habitat throughout the parks—from the Marin Headlands to San Mateo County and all along the Coastal Trail. Two highlights from 2007 were the completion of the Batteries to Bluffs Trail, which was established with keen sensitivity to the fragile habitat, and trail work at Mori Point, which includes a breathtaking stairway to the top of the bluffs.

## ALCATRAZ

After the successful debut of the museum store, new audio tour, and revamped displays and signs, the visitor experience at Alcatraz continued to grow during the last year. The Alcatraz Historic Gardens Project—a partnership effort of the Parks Conservancy, Garden Conservancy, and National Park Service—gathered volunteers to revive the plots once tended by inmates, prison guards, and other island residents. During the last year, over 400 volunteers helped complete the cutting gardens and gravel paths along Officers Row, as well as restore the garden railings, stairs, walls, hot house, and irrigation system.

## FORT BAKER

A cornerstone of parkwide “post to park” transformations, Fort Baker continued in 2007 to evolve into an exceptional setting for a national park lodge and environmental institute. The Parks Conservancy supported National Park Service and Fort Baker Retreat Group (FBRG) efforts to rehabilitate the historic houses, barracks, and 14-acre parade ground as Fort Baker prepares for its vital new chapter of public service. New structures on the grounds were also built under stringent environmental standards.

Opposite page (clockwise from top left): Fort Baker transforms from “post to park”; I-YEL intern Chris Norman works on the Lobos Creek Valley boardwalk in the Presidio; longtime volunteer Donna Everson enjoys her work at Lands End; flowers bloom in the revitalized Alcatraz Gardens; volunteers at Crissy Field pitch in on National Trails Day 2007.





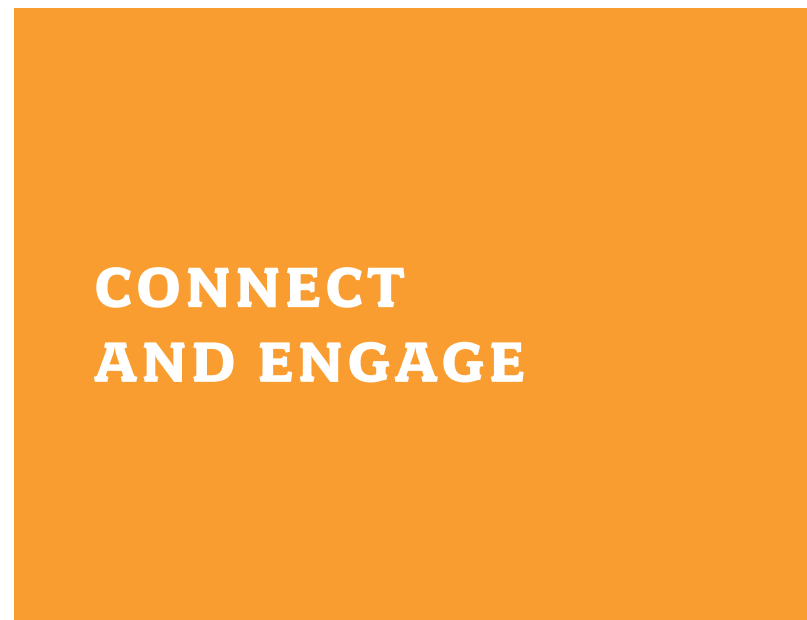
“The I-YEL program has helped me grow as an environmental leader. I know I am a part of the next generation of stewards, and it makes me so proud of my role here and beyond.”

**KARY KWONG-LEE**

Sophomore at Abraham Lincoln High School in San Francisco and I-YEL (Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders) intern shares a moment with her peers at Crissy Field Center

Just as the Golden Gate National Parks bridge San Francisco and San Mateo counties with Marin, stewards of our parklands forge a vital connection across all borders and backgrounds. Through environmental education and outreach, youth leaders and I-YEL interns like Kary leave a lasting impact on their peers in diverse communities around the Bay Area. Environmental education is at the heart of the Parks Conservancy’s work because these magnificent parklands—just like conversation, laughter, and shared passion—bring people together.





## CRISSY FIELD CENTER

Crissy Field, at the heart of the parks' 80,400 acres, is where the Parks Conservancy brings our community together. In partnership with the National Park Service and Presidio Trust, programs of the Center connect our parks to kids, families, and underserved communities. From youth camps in summer to the "Season's Greenings" event in winter and through every season in between, the Crissy Field Center is a place for kids and parents alike to learn from the Earth—and each other. In 2007, the Center's seventh class of Community Heroes—extraordinary people and groups making positive change in their neighborhoods—inspired us all with their stories of hope and action for a better future. The Center also hosted, for the first time, a reception for Goldman Environmental Prize Winners, who connected with 150 Bay Area youth leaders and community members. In addition, our community is growing globally; in November, the Conservancy sent Crissy Field Center delegates to a UNESCO conference in India to exchange ideas with environmental educators from around the world.

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

Thanks to our members and supporters, the Parks Conservancy continues to bring young people out to national parklands—and into a more meaningful relationship with the earth and waters they will one day soon steward.

- Students in Project WISE (Watersheds Inspiring Science Education)—a collaboration of Crissy Field Center, Urban Watershed Project, the Presidio Trust, and Galileo Academy of Science and Technology—conducted environmental-science research in the outdoor classroom of the Presidio.

- Urban Trailblazers, a diverse group of 35 students representing 13 underserved middle schools in the Bay Area, learned from ecological workshops and hands-on conservation projects.

- Eleven high school students in I-YEL (Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders, a youth-led program now in its seventh year) gained leadership skills and experience, while giving back to their communities through service projects and energetic outreach to thousands of their classmates and peers.

## CAMPING AT THE PRESIDIO

We believe a night in a tent and under the stars is the right of every child, from all communities and all backgrounds. That's why Crissy Field Center—in partnership with the Presidio Trust, National Park Service, and Bay Area Wilderness Training—launched Camping at the Presidio (CAP) in 2007. The program, based at Rob Hill Campground, provides camping experiences to children who traditionally have not had access to national parks. In the inaugural season of CAP, 500 young people came to Rob Hill, curled up in sleeping bags, and fell asleep to the sound of swaying trees—many for the first time.

## LINC

Through our Site Stewardship program, LINC (Linking Individuals with the Natural Community) provided 15 teens with the ultimate experience in environmental education in the summer of 2007. Students engaged in leadership and career workshops, connected with natural resource professionals, and contributed thousands of hours of trail and restoration work in Golden Gate and Yosemite National Parks.

Opposite page (clockwise from top left): Edward Arias, a Crissy Field Center Community Hero, helps kids grow an "edible garden;" Ranger Nancy Caplan leads a bird-watching trip to Lands End as part of a Crissy Field Center after-school program; young volunteers remove cape ivy at Milagra Ridge; Camping at the Presidio participant makes himself at home; summer camper explores local ecology.





“I want my children to realize they need to preserve and protect the outdoors and that is why I came out on Earth Day at Crissy Field to be a part of this experience with them.”

**KIMBERLY CLUFF**

“We also went to Muir Woods. Even though the trees are big and strong, we need to take care of them.”

**CATIE JO LARKIN**

Pacific Primary School kindergartner

Mother and daughter volunteer together on a restoration project at East Beach of Crissy Field

Nature embraces and nurtures all living things, making life both possible and vital. We at the Parks Conservancy believe the affection is mutual. By restoring native habitat for endangered species, cultivating native plants, monitoring raptors, stewarding sensitive sites, preserving precious spaces like Muir Woods, learning from the land, and passing its lessons onto children like Catie Jo, we show we care. It's about caring for something greater than oneself—people and places beyond one's door, generations beyond one's lifetime. It's something simply called community.





## COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERISM

The care and energy that volunteers contribute to our parks are a source of constant inspiration to us. Working with the National Park Service and Presidio Trust, the Parks Conservancy empowers community members to serve as active stewards of the land. In 2007, in addition to drop-in volunteering opportunities available six days a week and special group programs offered year-round, the Parks Conservancy continued to cultivate different ways to get involved.

In its second year, Teens on Trails—a program that turns days off from school into hands-on volunteering experiences—brought 224 teens into the park. The Trail Keepers program, which wrapped up a successful pilot year in 2007, included nine dedicated individuals who contributed over 3,600 hours of trail monitoring and public outreach. Whether through one-day special events like National Trails Day and Muir Woods Earth Day—or one-week volunteer vacations with the American Hiking Society—the Parks Conservancy ensures we can all share our talents and time in the places we love.

## SITE STEWARDSHIP

The Site Stewardship Program is transformative for both parklands and people. At sites like Milagra Ridge in San Mateo County and Oakwood Valley and Wolfback Ridge in Marin, volunteers restore vital habitat for species like the mission blue butterfly. At Mori Point in Pacifica, community members helped excavate and maintain three ponds designed to encourage populations of the threatened California red-legged frog—the prey of choice for the dazzling (and endangered) San Francisco garter snake.

## NATIVE PLANT NURSERIES

Our conservation work grows—quite literally—from the strength of the Parks Conservancy’s five native plant nurseries and its tireless volunteers. Celebrating 10 years of Conservancy support in 2007, the nurseries grew nearly 146,000 plants that were restored to habitat areas, and also collected from our parks over 1 million seeds that will become the next generation of grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees. They—in turn—feed and shelter the parks’ many threatened and endangered species.

## GOLDEN GATE RAPTOR OBSERVATORY

In fall 2007, the 23rd year of monitoring raptorial migrants along the Pacific flyway, the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory engaged 260 volunteers to count, band, and track these majestic birds. From its perch on Hawk Hill, the GGRO stands at the cutting edge of participatory science, as regular Bay Area residents—with training and enthusiasm—produce invaluable data used in academic research on some of our most pressing ecological questions.

## INSTITUTE AT THE GOLDEN GATE

Last year, the Parks Conservancy continued to build momentum for the Institute—a new program in partnership with the National Park Service scheduled to launch in fall 2008. The Institute will promote conservation and sustainability—locally, nationally, and internationally. Located at Fort Baker and the facilities of Cavallo Point—the Lodge at the Golden Gate, the Institute aims to spark solutions for a sustainable future. The Institute brings together leaders across all sectors—nonprofit and private, governmental and educational—in an environment of close collaboration, innovation, and action. The Institute’s goal is simple: gather people who care about our planet, and who inspire positive change.

Opposite page (clockwise from top left): I-YEL intern Carmen Lu and Goldman Environmental Prize Winner Hammerskjöld Simwanga plant together at Crissy Field Marsh; LINC students Crystal Lee (left) and Karry Araujo transplant native plants; with support from the Marin Community Foundation, Marin community leaders discuss climate change at the Institute at the Golden Gate; Golden Gate Raptor Observatory intern Ruthie Parsley holds a Cooper’s hawk; young volunteer gets in touch with nature at Mori Point.





## REFLECTIONS ON THE PAST YEAR: OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### ADOPT-A-BEACH DAY

Helped lead nearly 1,300 Bay Area youth in volunteer activities at Ocean Beach during this event co-hosted by the Headlands Institute and the California Coastal Commission.

### ALCATRAZ PROGRAMS

Supported and staffed tour programs on The Rock, including the popular Alcatraz Night Tours and educational Alcatraz Kidz Tourz (in its sixth year).

### APPL AWARDS

Recognized at 2007 Association of Partners for Public Lands convention, receiving top awards for Alcatraz Visitor brochure and 2006 Annual Report, and Honorable Mentions for the Alcatraz audio tour, historic decal reproductions, and Trails Forever Dinner.

### BATTERY TOWNSLEY

Rehabilitated historic World War II-era battery tucked in the Marin Headlands and opened the fortification—one of the most extensive in the area—to public tours.

### CRISSY FIELD CENTER ENHANCEMENTS

Completed physical improvements to the Center, including new wall panels, furniture, and Community Heroes display.

### ECOCAREER DAY

Connected high school students interested in pursuing careers in the environment with insight and advice from professionals at a Crissy Field Center event.

### HORSE PATROL

Supported the Marin Headlands Horse Patrol, a volunteer group that interacts with and guides fellow trail users.

### INTERPRETIVE PRODUCTS

Developed and released more than 80 individual items and products in the last year, to help interpret the parks for visitors and enhance their experiences.

### LADDER OF LEARNING

Offered 37 ecology and conservation classes to park staff, volunteers, and interns interested in becoming more informed park stewards.

### MILESTONE COMMEMORATION

Celebrated the 35th anniversary of the Golden Gate National Parks with a special ceremony featuring park founders Dr. Edgar Wayburn and Amy Meyer and park leaders Brian O'Neill, Doug Nadeau, and Ray Murray.

### MULTILINGUAL MATERIALS

Produced Mandarin Chinese and Dutch versions of the Alcatraz audio tour (currently available in eight languages), to better serve a global community. Also furnished Chinese and Russian translations of Richmond District YMCA trail brochure.

### NEWSLETTERS

Reached over 15,000 community members through the *Park Adventures* calendar and the electronic *Park E-ventures*, free resources linking the public to the freshest park news.

### NURSERIES IMPROVEMENTS

Installed a new greenhouse (with Presidio Trust support) at the Presidio Native Plant Nursery; also built a new shade house at Headlands nursery to replace its storm-damaged predecessor.

### PARK BENCHES

Offered community members a unique way to honor or memorialize a loved one by dedicating a bench in the Golden Gate National Parks.

### REDWOOD CREEK WATERSHED

Advanced restoration efforts along lower Redwood Creek, installed logjams to restore water flows conducive for salmon, and dug a pond for red-legged frog habitat.

### SIGNAGE

Garnered recognition (with Hunt Design) from the Society for Environmental Graphic Design for our redesigned trail-sign system.

### SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Collaborated with Dr. Nina Roberts, who has completed a study documenting the transformative experience of teens in the Crissy Field Center's Urban Trailblazers and I-YEL programs.

### TRAILS FOREVER DINNER

Hosted our fifth annual dinner and auction in support of trail improvements parkwide, and raised over \$740,000 for key projects.

### VISITOR SERVICES

Provided staffing and volunteers for park visitor centers, information outlets, and bookstores throughout the parks, serving over 3 million people.

### WARMING HUT

Rehabilitated and reopened this landmark structure after a fire, using the sustainability principles that guided its original redesign.

### WEBSITE REVAMP

Continued enhancing and adding features to [www.parksconservancy.org](http://www.parksconservancy.org), better informing our community of park resources and events.

Opposite page: Greg Wells (front) and Brett Lefevre, Levi Strauss employees and volunteers, carry a fence post along a Battery East trail.





The Golden Gate National Parks span 80 miles from north to south, forming an expansive public green space within the densely populated San Francisco Bay Area. Encompassing more than 80,400 acres and with more than 20 million visitors each year, the parks at the Golden Gate are among the world's largest national parks in an urban setting and the most visited national parks in the United States.



- Lands within the Authorized Boundaries of the Golden Gate National Parks
- Lands Managed by the National Park Service
- Lands Managed by the Presidio Trust
- Point Reyes National Seashore

## THE GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy is the nonprofit membership organization created for the preservation and enhancement of these parklands. The Parks Conservancy works to protect and rejuvenate park sites, improve the experience of park visitors, and build a community of people dedicated to the parks. The Parks Conservancy seeks private contributions to augment federal funds for the parks and partners with the National Park Service and the Presidio Trust.

Established 27 years ago, the Parks Conservancy is among the largest nonprofit organizations affiliated with our national parks. The Conservancy is a leader in innovation and park aid, contributing over \$15 million in 2007 and more than \$120 million in total support to the parks since its inception in 1981.



**Alcatraz Island**  
The infamous former prison gives visitors a closeup look at a maximum-security, minimum-privilege life.

**Baker Beach** This mile-long beach offers spectacular views of the Marin Headlands and the Presidio.

**Bolinas Ridge** The top of this secluded and scenic crest presents views of the San Andreas Rift Zone.

**China Beach** Legend says this sandy patch was named for Chinese fishermen who, long ago, anchored their junks nearby.



**Cliff House** Giant windows present a direct view of the Pacific—allowing you, as one historian put it, “to confront nature from the comfort of an armchair.”



**Crissy Field** It was a home for Ohlone Indians and later hosted Spanish and Mexican ships, a historic army airfield, and a Coast Guard station.

The community center on the site now offers a host of recreational and educational activities.



**Fort Baker** The stately buildings of this former army post were once occupied by military brass. It has been transformed into a lodge and environmental institute.

**Fort Cronkhite** The fort has one of the only restored barracks in the West that reflects its original appearance, complete with period furnishings that span the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



**Fort Funston** Steady winds and dunes reaching 200 feet make this rugged stretch a premier hang-gliding spot.

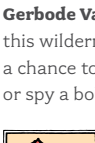


**Fort Mason** In bygone times, Fort Mason housed Spanish soldiers, the US Army, earthquake refugees, and port authorities. Today, piers and

waterfront warehouses constitute the facilities of the nonprofit Fort Mason Center.



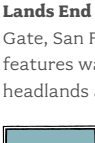
**Fort Point**  
Imposing Fort Point kept vigil over the bay for almost half a century, and now visitors can explore its brick casemates and grand arches and participate in cannon drills.



**Gerbode Valley** A hiker's paradise, this wilderness backcountry offers a chance to smell fennel and sage, or spy a bobcat or bush rabbit.



**Kirby Cove** Nestled at the foot of the Marin Headlands, the cove is a pristine beach wedge with fabulous views of the Bridge and the City.



**Lands End** West of the Golden Gate, San Francisco's wildest coast features wave- and wind-carved headlands and intriguing shipwrecks.



**Marin Headlands**  
This is the place to see migrating birds of prey—as well as enjoy bird's-eye views of the famous Bridge.

**Martinelli Ranch** Hikers here enjoy undulating grasslands, a beautiful freshwater pond, and a stunning Tomales Bay overlook.

**Milagra Ridge** Habitat for threatened species like the California red-legged frog, this ridge also affords impressive views of Pacifica and the ocean.

**Mori Point** Jutting between black sand beaches, this dramatic promontory rewards visitors with gorgeous wildflowers and coastal vistas.

**Muir Beach** Picnics are pleasant in this quiet cove and the overlook trail stands out—literally—as a great place to spot gray whales.



**Muir Woods** Serene streams, canyon paths, and the redwood giants. It is—in the words of namesake John Muir—simply “the best tree-lovers’

monument” in the world. This National Monument marked its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in January 2008.

**Oakwood Valley** This swath is home to coyotes, owls, mission blue butterflies, and the Parks' largest stand of oak and bay forest.

**Ocean Beach** A recreational paradise for generations, San Francisco's western flank remains perfect for sunset walks, brisk jogs, and gulps of fresh briny air.



**Olema Valley** Grazing cattle and Victorian farms grace this area between Bolinas and Inverness ridges.

**Phleger Estate** This wildlife corridor at the Parks' southern tip reveals traces of 19<sup>th</sup>-century logging—like remnants of steam mills.



**Point Bonita**  
Adventurers relish the steep climb and heart-stopping footbridge that lead to the Lighthouse (first lit 1855).



**Presidio** Topping San Francisco's crown, this emerald park was once among the oldest continuously used military posts in the nation.



**Rodeo Beach** Rodeo Valley opens to this windswept beach speckled with colorful pebbles.



**Stinson Beach** One of the best swimming beaches in northern California, this three-mile stretch of white sand provides invigorating surf and barbecue spots.



**Sutro Heights**  
The lands of former San Francisco mayor Adolph Sutro showcase the Cliff House, Sutro Baths ruins, and the splendid Garden.



**Sweeney Ridge**  
Explorer Gaspar de Portola first saw San Francisco Bay more than 200 years ago from the 1,200-foot-high summit.



**Tennessee Valley**  
This peaceful valley meanders to a pocket beach near the shipwreck of the SS Tennessee.



THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY OF VOLUNTEERS

Nearly 20,000 volunteers contributed over 391,000 hours of service in our parks last year. These remarkable numbers are testament to the success of the Golden Gate National Parks Volunteer Program (a collaborative effort of the Parks Conservancy, National Park Service, and Presidio Trust)—as well as to the conservation spirit of our park community.

We are grateful to our volunteers from specific programs and departments within the following organizations for their outstanding contributions—between October 1, 2006 and September 30, 2007—to the stewardship of our parklands north and south of the Golden Gate.



AAA of Northern California, Nevada & Utah  
AAVE Teen Adventures (All About Visiting Earth)  
ACE USA  
Acumen Solutions, Inc.  
AIG Insurance  
Aim High  
American Hiking Society, Volunteer Vacations  
American Park Network and Aveeno  
American Re-Insurance Company  
American Society of Ophthalmology  
Americorps  
Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.  
AP Giannini Middle School  
Aquarium of the Bay  
Aquatic Park Neighbors  
Autodesk  
Bay Area Backroads  
Bay Institute, STRAW (Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed)  
Bay School  
Be the Change  
Benfield, Inc.  
Black & Veatch Construction, Inc.  
Booz Allen Hamilton  
Bovis Lend Lease  
Boy Scouts of America  
Building with Books  
Burlingame University High School  
Burners Without Borders  
Cal Poly Alumni  
California Coastal Commission  
California State University, East Bay  
California State University, Pomona  
Cameron House

Carleton College Alumni  
Cathedral School  
Centerforce, LIFE Project (Leaders in Future Environments)  
Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership of Marin  
Charles Schwab  
Chevron  
Chico State University, CAVE Program (Community Action Volunteers in Education)  
Children’s Day School  
Chubb Group of Insurance Companies  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Youth Conference)  
City Arts & Technology High School  
City Church of San Francisco  
City College of San Francisco  
City of San Francisco, Natural Areas Program  
Clarendon Elementary School  
Clif Bar & Company  
Cohn & Wolfe  
College of Charleston  
Combined Federal Campaign  
Conservatory of Flowers  
Convent of the Sacred Heart  
Cord Blood Registry  
Cornerstone  
Coro Fellowship  
Crystal Springs Uplands School  
CSE (Civil Service Employees) Insurance Group  
Deloitte  
Denman Middle School  
Dominican University  
Downtown High School  
Drew School  
Edgewood Center & Youth Power Club

Employment Plus  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Environmental Traveling Companions  
Esurance  
Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association  
FedEx  
Federal Reserve Bank  
Fort Funston Hang Gliding Association  
Francis Scott Key Elementary  
Galileo Academy of Science and Technology, Project WISE (Watersheds Inspiring Student Education)  
GAP, Inc.  
Gateway High School  
Genentech  
Genesys  
George Washington High School  
Girl Scouts of the USA  
Grace Hill Americorps Rangers  
Grant Thornton  
Gratton Elementary  
Hamlin School  
Hands On Bay Area  
Harvey Mudd College Alumni  
Headlands Institute  
Head-Royce School  
Hilton  
Hoover Middle School  
Horace Mann Middle School  
Hyde School  
IGN (division of FOX)  
Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation  
Institute of International Education  
IronPort Systems  
I-YEL (Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders), Crissy Field Center  
James Lick Middle School  
Japan Pacific Resource Network  
Jewish Community Center (JCC)

JROTC (Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps), San Francisco High Schools  
Junior Ranger Ecologists (National Park Service)  
Kaiser Permanente  
Katherine Burke School  
KIPP Aspire Academy  
KPMG, LLP  
Landmark Volunteers, Youth Across America  
Landon Day Care  
Lawton Elementary  
Levi Strauss & Co.  
Lick-Wilmerding High School  
LINC (Linking Individuals with the Natural Community), Site Stewardship Program  
Live Oak School  
Lowell High School  
Lycée Français La Pérouse  
M Squared  
Marin Academy  
Marin Conservation Corps  
Marin Country Day School  
Marina Middle School  
Marine Mammal Center  
Marriott  
Marsh Insurance  
MAS (Muslim American Society), Youth Give Society  
McGraw-Hill  
McKesson  
Mercy High School, Burlingame  
Meridian  
Morgan Stanley  
National Parks Conservation Association  
Neocase Software, Inc.  
Net Impact  
Nueva School  
Oberlin Alumni  
Ocean Beach Foundation  
Oceana High School  
One Brick  
Oracle  
Ove Arup & Partners  
Pacific Primary School  
PacTel

Park Personnel  
PG&E  
Piedmont High School  
Pittsburg CBI  
Postini  
Presidio Hills School  
Presidio Middle School  
PricewaterhouseCoopers  
Real Branding  
Red Bricks Media  
Redwood High School  
REI  
Rodef Shalom  
Sacramento State University  
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory  
Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton  
Salesforce.com  
San Francisco Clean City Coalition  
San Francisco Conservation Corps  
San Francisco Conservatory of Music  
San Francisco Department of Public Works  
San Francisco State University  
San Francisco Triathlon Club  
San Francisco Waldorf School  
Santa Rosa Junior College  
School of the Arts  
Schools of the Sacred Heart  
Second Wind  
Seismicom  
Seneca Center  
Sensible Habitats  
SF Connect  
SF Friends School  
Shopping.com  
Sierra Club  
Skyline High School  
Skylines GCP  
Slide Ranch  
Slippery Rock University  
St. Ignatius  
St. Stephen School  
Stanbridge Academy  
Stanford University

Stuart Hall High School  
Student Conservation Association  
Surfrider Foundation  
Surplus Line Association of California  
Tamalpais High School  
Temple Emanu-El  
Thoreau Center  
Thurgood Marshall High School  
Toolworks  
Travelocity  
Treasure Island Job Corps  
Triage Consulting  
Tufts University Alumni  
United Behavioral Health  
United Way of the Bay Area  
University High School  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, San Francisco  
University of San Francisco  
University of Virginia  
Urban School of San Francisco  
Urban Trailblazers, Crissy Field Center  
Urban Watersheds  
URS Corporation  
US Checkpoint Software Technologies, LTD  
US Government Accountability Office  
Veterans Affairs  
VOCAL (Volunteers for Outdoor California)  
Volunteer Center  
VolunteerMatch  
Waldorf High School  
Washington High School  
WDHB Consulting  
Wells Fargo  
West Valley College  
Westborough Middle School  
Whole Foods  
Women Helping All People  
YMCA  
Zurich North America

Trail volunteer Jackson Taylor Jr. takes a break from his work near Battery East.





**THE PRESIDIO’S PROMISE: A PARK FOR ALL FOREVER**

Crissy Field, beloved by our community, helped launch the Presidio’s astonishing “post to park” evolution. That transformation continues today, thanks to a momentous \$15 million gift from the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund.

As this report goes to press, a dramatic overlook, offering sweeping vistas of the City and Bay, is nearing completion above this shoreline park. The Crissy Field Overlook, designed and implemented by the Presidio Trust, is the first major landmark in a series of Presidio enhancements supported by the Haas, Jr. Fund’s historic gift.

The new overlook offers a window to the Presidio’s past and future. It reminds us of Crissy Field’s spectacular restoration in 2001, led again by the Haas, Jr. Fund and extraordinary community involvement. It also represents the ongoing progress of the Presidio Trust, Parks Conservancy, and National Park Service in making the Presidio a national park for all. It’s a vision endorsed by the Haas, Jr. Fund gift that includes a \$10 million challenge grant for Presidio trails, bikeways, and overlooks; \$4 million to restore Rob Hill Campground; and \$1 million for park improvements.

To trigger the challenge grant, the Parks Conservancy has raised \$3.5 million in gifts and pledges toward the target \$7 million. Your contribution to the Presidio Trails Challenge will be more than doubled by the Fund, and will help create memorable and accessible park experiences throughout the Presidio—from the Main Post to Pacific Coast.





“In the built environment, with so much congestion and chaos, it’s important to recharge and reconnect and understand the natural environment. And with parks like the Presidio right in the city, it’s so easy to do. It’s just very satisfying to work on their preservation so that others can enjoy them too.”

**JOSEPH MALIGA**

Levi Strauss employee and volunteer helps restore the largest remaining dune scrub habitat in San Francisco, found along the western edge of the Presidio

Joe’s view from the Presidio’s Wherry Dunes—like from other special spots in the Golden Gate National Parks — is truly one-of-a-kind. But his belief in their preservation in perpetuity is shared by many. This feeling, held in common by an extraordinary community, inspires the Parks Conservancy’s work on behalf of these beautiful and historic parklands and the visitors who enjoy them this year and for years to come. A view of a better future, we believe, is the best view of all.



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY — FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Financial information on these pages is derived from the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy’s financial statements, which were audited by an independent registered public accounting firm. Copies of the complete audited financial statements are available upon request by calling the Chief Financial and Operations Officer at (415) 561-3000.

Statement of Financial Position as of September 30, 2007		
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	7,882,293
Accounts receivable		3,500,300
Contributions receivable, net		993,380
Investments		8,924,944
Inventories		1,659,534
Prepaid expenses and other assets		228,193
Total current assets		23,188,644
Endowment Investments		8,730,941
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment, net		463,369
Beneficial Interest in Charitable Trust Assets		129,662
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	32,512,616
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$	2,206,314
Accrued payroll related expenses		810,313
Capital lease obligations, current		13,300
Deferred revenue		535,950
Total current liabilities		3,565,877
Capital Lease Obligations, net of current		29,111
Total liabilities		3,594,988
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted:		
Undesignated		5,053,813
Board-designated for park projects and programs		6,256,030
Total unrestricted net assets		11,309,843
Temporarily Restricted:		
For park projects and programs		13,769,150
For the National Park Service		70,804
Total temporarily restricted net assets		13,839,954
Permanently Restricted Net Assets		3,767,831
Total net assets		28,917,628
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$	32,512,616

25%

9%

17%

49%

2007 AID TO THE PARKS

\$15,665,752

● Interpretation

Education, publications, and other programs

\$1,333,036

9%

● Park Enhancements

Preservation, restoration, and site improvement projects

\$7,767,909

49%

● Community Programs

Conservation and volunteer support

\$2,662,264

17%

● Visitor Program Services

Park information and interpretive tours

\$3,902,543

25%

Total Aid to the Parks

(1982-2007)

Over \$120 million

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets Year Ended September 30, 2007				
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Gross program revenue	\$ 18,186,681			\$ 18,186,681
Cost of goods and services	(4,201,294)			(4,201,294)
Program revenue, net	13,985,387			13,985,387
Contributed income	1,662,837	\$ 7,171,447	\$ 1,000	8,835,284
Investment income	133,547	143,819		277,366
Net realized and unrealized gains on investment	370,601	948,677		1,319,278
Mitigation awards	18,993			18,993
Other income	214,246	8,329		222,575
Cooperative agreement reimbursements	3,966,797			3,966,797
Net assets released from restrictions	3,735,841	(3,735,841)		-
Total support and revenue	24,088,249	4,536,431	1,000	28,625,680
EXPENSES				
Program Services— Aid to the Parks:				
Interpretation	1,333,036			1,333,036
Park enhancements	7,767,909			7,767,909
Community programs	2,662,264			2,662,264
Total	11,763,209			11,763,209
Visitor Program Services	3,902,543			3,902,543
Total Aid to the Parks	15,665,752			15,665,752
Fundraising	651,755			651,755
Management and general	4,295,936			4,295,936
Total expenses	20,613,443			20,613,443
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	3,474,806	4,536,431	1,000	8,012,237
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	7,835,037	9,303,523	3,766,831	20,905,391
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 11,309,843	\$ 13,839,954	\$ 3,767,831	\$ 28,917,628





Muir Woods National Monument is a living symbol of our conservation spirit—at its very best, and at its very beginning. In 1908, William Kent donated a grove of redwood giants for the creation of this inspirational national park. One hundred years later, the Parks Conservancy carries forward Kent’s legacy of citizen-led stewardship and environmental philanthropy. In the quiet shelter of ancient trees, we remember our shared and solemn responsibility to the land and all the life it supports. Forever begins with us.

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVANCY



Building 201, Fort Mason  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
(415) 561-3000  
[www.parksconservancy.org](http://www.parksconservancy.org)

OUR PUBLIC AGENCY PARTNERS



**The National Park Service**  
The National Park Service (NPS) is a federal agency within the U.S. Department of the Interior charged with managing the preservation and public use of America’s most significant natural, scenic, historic, and cultural treasures. Established in 1916, the NPS manages 391 sites across the U.S. —including the Golden Gate National Parks. For more information, call (415) 561-4700 or visit [www.nps.gov/goga](http://www.nps.gov/goga).

Brian O’Neill, General Superintendent  
Mai-Liis Bartling, Deputy Superintendent  
Howard Levitt, Chief, Division of Interpretation,  
Liaison to the Parks Conservancy



**The Presidio Trust**  
Responsible for the transformation of the Presidio from an historic Army post into a premier national park that is financially self-sustaining, the Trust is leading the nation’s largest historic preservation project, restoring the park’s buildings and landscapes, and creating innovative programs. For more information, call (415) 561-5300 or visit [www.presidio.gov](http://www.presidio.gov).

David H. Grubb, Chairman, Board of Directors  
Craig Middleton, Executive Director



Our Report to the Community was printed on recycled paper produced by a “clean” mill with a sustainability charter. The paper is elemental chlorine free and certified by SmartWood to the FSC standards, which promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world’s forests. The printer, ColorGraphics, A Cenveo Company, is also FSC-certified. ColorGraphics, A Cenveo Company, SW-COC-1436.

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## THE GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS

Alcatraz Island • Baker Beach • Bolinas Ridge • China Beach  
Cliff House • Crissy Field • Fort Baker • Fort Cronkhite • Fort Funston  
Fort Mason • Fort Point • Gerbode Valley • Kirby Cove • Lands End  
Marin Headlands • Martinelli Ranch • Milagra Ridge • Mori Point  
Muir Beach • Muir Woods • Oakwood Valley • Ocean Beach  
Olema Valley • Pedro Point • Phleger Estate • Point Bonita • Presidio  
Rancho Corral de Tierra • Rodeo Beach • Rodeo Valley • Stinson Beach  
Sutro Heights • Sweeney Ridge • Tennessee Valley

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**PARKS FOR ALL FOREVER™**

Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123 (415) 561-3000 [www.parksconservancy.org](http://www.parksconservancy.org)