June 2009

To Our Cherished Park Supporters:

After the Parks Conservancy annual report went to press last month, the Golden Gate National Parks lost its beloved leader, General Superintendent Brian O’Neill. All of us—who either knew Brian personally or shared his dedication to the parklands—mourn the loss of his exuberant and big-hearted presence, but celebrate with keen admiration his legacy of accomplishment across the Golden Gate National Parks.

Serving as General Superintendent since 1986, Brian led decades of positive park transformation. He was a powerful voice for many Bay Area conservation causes, a tireless environmental visionary, an outstanding National Park Service public servant, and a role model for park executives the world over. Indeed, Brian was the consummate park maker. Evidence of his remarkable handiwork can be found in every corner of the park—from Crissy Field and Fort Baker to Alcatraz and the Presidio—and on every page of this annual report that highlights the many programs and places shaped by his inspiration.

Brian was also, most fundamentally, a community builder. Over the three decades of our close friendship, I marveled time and time again at how countless communities of people—within the National Park Service and Parks Conservancy, from all over the Bay and across the nation—rallied to Brian’s strength of purpose. Brian was as beloved as the Golden Gate National Parks he built. His memory is as treasured as our most historic landmarks and his impact as indelible as the redwoods in Muir Woods, the insistent crash of the surf, the rolling fog through the Golden Gate.

Brian’s legacy endures beyond his time and extends beyond our parks. A special fund, “The Brian O’Neill Youth Leaders Fund,” has been established in his honor. We invite you to contribute and help ensure Brian’s vision for national parks will continue to flourish. Please contact Kathryn Morelli at (415) 561-3050 or kmorelli@parksconservancy.org for details.

Like so many of you, I will miss Brian dearly. I look forward to greeting all of you, Brian’s special friends, in the national parklands where we honor his memory, share in beauty, and feel the presence of life fulfilled. I think Brian would be very happy knowing that we were enjoying the place he helped create—the place that always, always brings us together.

With gratitude and thanks,

Greg Moore
Executive Director
dear members of our park community,

THE YEAR 2009 WAS ONE FOR BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS. The Parks Conservancy shattered records for volunteer participation and financial support to the Golden Gate National Parks. We reached out to communities that had few opportunities to enjoy these national parklands. And we extended our efforts in Bay Area public lands to the greater challenge of realizing a more sustainable global environment.

Our 2009 Report to the Community celebrates your support of Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy projects and programs. Join us as a taste of our accomplishments last year—in partnership with the National Park Service and the Presidio Trust—at the upcoming annual meeting of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy.

The journey begins with your commitment and persistent support of innovative programs that inspire community-led conservation worldwide. You protect the natural and cultural heritage of a nation. You contribute to the parks in our backyard. You support innovative programs that inspire community-led conservation worldwide. In making this leap from the personal to the universal, over borders and across sectors, we hope our vision of future generations enjoying these parklands and this planet’s wonders—just as you do now—will extend far beyond your time. We contribute to the parks in our backyard. You protect the natural and cultural heritage of a nation. You contribute to the parks in our backyard. You support innovative programs that inspire community-led conservation worldwide. In making this leap from the personal to the universal, over borders and across sectors, we hope our vision of future generations enjoying these parklands and this planet’s wonders—just as you do now—will extend far beyond your time.
The projects and programs of the Parks Conservancy range as widely as the lands themselves. Sweeping 80 miles from north to south and covering over 80,400 acres, this map is a panoramic snapshot capturing the scale of these national parklands—and the scope of our work within them.

a cross-section of our accomplishments

1. Grew native plants to support restoration at McKennan Gulch and 66 other projects. 
2. Held community gathering—featuring park founders Amy Meyer and Dr. Ed Wayburn—to celebrate Muir Woods’ 100th anniversary.
3. Launched visitor-access design work to support Redwood Creek Watershed project.
4. Protected mission blue butterfly habitat.
6. Led public Hawk Talks illustrating Golden Gate Raptor Observatory work.
7. Helped secure funds for replacing pedestrian bridge to Point Reyes Lighthouse.
8. Nested hummingbird-Alcanna Gardens alongside the Garden Conservancy.
9. Placed new informational kiosks and signage.
10. Provided environmental programs at Crissy Field Center.
11. Partnered with the Presidio Trust on improving trails and interpretive programs.
12. Established new overlook and trailhead at Lands End.
13. Supported San Francisco State University researchers conducting visitor-use surveys at Ocean Beach, Lands End, and the Presidio.
14. Managed native plant nursery at Fort Funston.
15. Engaged Oceana High School volunteers in planting and planning native plants to restore sensitive habitat.
17. Mapped vegetation communities and collected data in support of general management plan.
18. Performed natural resource inventory and assessed “social trail” impacts for future work.

The projects and programs of the Parks Conservancy range as widely as the lands themselves. Sweeping 80 miles from north to south and covering over 80,400 acres, this map is a panoramic snapshot capturing the scale of these national parklands—and the scope of our work within them.
Where do we begin? Along a Marin Headlands trail? On a work-glove finger tip? The parks begin—and take root for future generations—wherever your eyes roam, your feet follow, and your dedication pours across these lands. They begin with you.

Park volunteer helps restore Crissy Field; visitors enjoy a trail through Gerbode Valley in the heart of the Marin Headlands.
The remarkable conservation ethic of the Bay Area created the Golden Gate National Parks in 1972. Naturally, the work of the Parks Conservancy gives back to those people and communities that started it all, steward them today, and will sustain them forever. We are inspired not just by landscapes and wildlife but by your constant care and promise to preserve them. We feel it in our work. You’ll find it everywhere in the parks. Through the passion of Parks Conservancy volunteers, supporters, and staff, we see clearly that the parks are not just where we do our work. They’re where we remember to live.

STEWARDS OF THE LAND
With new voices in leadership and the urgent challenges of our time, there is a reinvigorated commitment—from coast to coast—to shared community responsibility. We’re proud to do our part in the Bay Area. The Parks Conservancy, along with the National Park Service and Presidio Trust, helped coordinate a record-breaking turnout of over 22,000 volunteers in 2008, totaling 414,000 hours of stewardship and advocacy. Inspired by President Obama’s call to action and Dr. King’s dream, more than 3,700 people volunteered in the parks on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. With your support, Parks Conservancy works to ensure all communities benefit from the parks’ natural and cultural resources. In the second season of Camps at the Presidio (a program of the Presidio Trust, Parks Conservancy, and Bay Area Wilderness Training) nearly 1,000 schoolchildren experienced tent camping—many for the first time. Another Center program, Urban Trailblazers (Linking Kids with the Natural Community) provides hands-on activities. In middle school, young people volunteer through Team on Trails and the LINC (Linking Individuals with the Natural Community) program. High school students join I-YLE (Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders), a program that prepares youth to be advocates for environmental change. At its base, this ladder of learning is built on the strength of our members and supporters like you.

YouTH in the PARKS
Green jobs. A better environment. A brighter future. But how do we get there? The Conservancy’s educational programs open a pathway for Bay Area youth. From the age of 2, when children experience nature in “Fantastic Friday” programs at Crissy Field Center, kids grow, learn, and make friends in our parks. For kids in grades 1-6, the Center’s camps teach ecological principles through fun and hands-on activities. In middle school, young people volunteer through Team on Trails and the LINC (Linking Kids with the Natural Community) program. High school students join I-YLE (Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders), a program that prepares youth to be advocates for environmental change. At its base, this ladder of learning is built on the strength of our members and supporters like you.

PARKS FOR ALL
Places like these parklands may be rare and our experiences unique, but the opportunity to enjoy them should never be scarce. That’s why the Conservancy works to ensure all communities benefit from the parks’ natural and cultural resources. In the second season of Camps at the Presidio (a program of the Presidio Trust, Parks Conservancy, and Bay Area Wilderness Training) nearly 1,000 schoolchildren experienced tent camping—many for the first time. Another Center program, Urban Trailblazers (Linking Kids with the Natural Community) provides hands-on activities. In middle school, young people volunteer through Team on Trails and the LINC (Linking Individuals with the Natural Community) program. High school students join I-YLE (Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders), a program that prepares youth to be advocates for environmental change. At its base, this ladder of learning is built on the strength of our members and supporters like you.

GATHERING SPACE
Throughout 2008, the Parks Conservancy—like the parks themselves—brought people together in praise and inspiration. We applauded local environmental activists at the Crissy Field Center’s Community Heroes Award Ceremony, and global conservation leaders with a reception for Goldman Environmental Prize recipients. Hundreds of park lovers attended commemorations at Lands End, Mori Point, and Fort Baker in recognition of our work. From winter family campfires to Earth Stroll in the spring to the Trails Forever dinner in the fall, Parks Conservancy events remind us that these parks are not just a cause to celebrate—but lively places for celebrating.

local ties: building and bridging communities
Whether soaking up a coastal vista or spotting an endangered snake, people who love and support our parks see the big picture. These lands—our bayfront backyards and special spaces held in common—are also part of America’s natural and cultural heritage.
THE PRESIDIO
Propelled by the historic $15 million gift from the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund, the Parks Conservancy—and our partners the Presidio Trust and National Park Service (NPS)—are working to realize the Presidio’s potential as a park of many pursuits and for all people.

Thanks to contributions to the Haas, Jr. Fund’s matching grant for Presidio Trails, Bikeways, and Overlooks, a remarkable system of public access points, vistas, and parkland is being implemented at the Presidio.

The new Batteries to Bluffs Trail has become an instant favorite. In summer 2008, the Presidio Trust, together with the Parks Conservancy, opened the impressive Crissy Field Overlook, the third of eight planned overlooks. The approaches to the Golden Gate Bridge near Battery East were made safer and more accessible for hikers and bicyclists.

Through the Presidio Trust, renovation is also underway at Rob Hill Campground—the only overnight camp facility in San Francisco.

LANDS END
At this rugged corner where the City meets the surf and cultural history crosses paths with native ecology, the Parks Conservancy completed a series of major improvements in 2008.

The first phase of work culminated in an enhanced Merrie Way trailhead and promenade, new Pacific overlook and Coastal Trail signage, greater wheelchair accessibility, improved parking area, and restored landscape.

The Lands End transformation is made possible through a lead gift of the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Foundation, with additional support from the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, California Coastal Conservancy, Parks Conservancy members and volunteers, and community stewards like you.

MORI POINT
After a history of bootlegging, quarrying, and motor-biking, this spectacular Pacific promontory is now a prime spot for sunset strolls, a haven for California red-legged frogs and endangered San Francisco garter snakes, and the focus of a multi-pronged community engagement effort.

Last year, our Site Stewardship Program, NPS, and Trails Forever staff improved habitat ponds, restored wetlands, converted old roads into trails, removed damaging social trails, and monitored wildlife. In addition to hundreds of volunteers working on-site, the broad support for Mori Point is also reflected in contributions from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, California Coastal Conservancy, Oracle, the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, the wonderful neighbors in Pacifica, and members of the Parks Conservancy.

FORT BAKER
In June 2008, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi helped officially open the “new” Fort Baker—a crowning post-park achievement led by the Parks Conservancy, National Park Service, and Fort Baker Retreat Group.

This cooperative non-profit/public-private triumvirate guided a 10-year revitalization project that honored the site’s architectural heritage, protected natural habitat, and led a foundation for its new chapter of service.

Fort Baker is now home to Cavallo Point—the Lodge at the Golden Gate, a sustainably built national park lodge that is the first of its kind in the 21st century, and the Institute at the Golden Gate, a new Conservancy program in partnership with the NPS dedicated to fostering cross-sector collaboration for environmental preservation and global sustainability.

$23.2 million total aid to the parks provided by the Parks Conservancy in 2008

75 miles of trail maintained, enhanced, or built last year along 41 trails

national parklands: improving our cherished places

**MORE POINT**
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Historian Wallace Stegner once said: “National parks are the best idea we ever had. Absolutely American, absolutely democratic, they reflect us at our best rather than our worst.” Here in the Golden Gate National Parks, we connect with loved ones and living things; rediscover our history; and express some of this country’s most exemplary qualities of vision, volunteerism, and audacious optimism. As Parks Conservancy projects restore habitat, create trails, and revitalize old forts, we’re building an environmentally “more perfect union” right here in the parks. After all, they belong to us. They’re where we are one.
From an Army post at Fort Baker once charged with securing the American continent, the Institute at the Golden Gate now strives to help protect the global environment. In founding the Institute, we recognize that a sustainable Earth demands the broadest possible definition of what we call home.
from the heights of the Marin Headlands to the bluffs of the Presidio, you can see how it all comes together. For 40 miles to the north and 40 to the south, the Golden Gate National Parks straddle one of the world’s most famous gateways. They’re where the mainland greets the ocean, the fog meets the redwood tops, and the Bay Area swaps big thoughts with the world. Just as these parks constitute our common lands at the Golden Gate, they embody conservation solutions shared across the globe. They’re where the continent drops away and the conversations pick up. They’re where bridges begin.

WORLD-CLASS DESTINATIONS

Last year, more people visited the Golden Gate National Parks than visited the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, and Yellowstone combined. Over 14 million people enjoyed these parks, which include world-famous sites such as Muir Woods National Monument and Alcatraz Island. In Muir Woods’ Centennial year, the Parks Conservancy helped organize an historic “birthday party” on the redwood forest floor, restore the Redwood Creek Watershed, and serve one million visitors. Alcatraz saw major improvements— from new exhibits to a new wayfinding system. In partnership with the Garden Conservancy and through volunteer energy, we also completed a significant phase of restoration on the historic Alcatraz Gardens.

‘COMMON’ KNOWLEDGE

Thanks to our supporters, Parks Conservancy programs have become nationally and internationally recognized models of stewardship. We share not only our experiences in managing community conservation activities and youth leadership initiatives but also our contributions to a growing pool of scientific research. Our “citizen science” programs marked a banner year in 2008. In addition to growing over 136,000 native plants to restore National Park Service lands, Native Plant Nurseries continued to refine their sustainable practices and advance botanical study. The Golden Gate Raptor Observatory tallied more than 23,000 birds of prey and banded over 1,500 raptors during the fall migration—while helping produce four articles in renowned academic journals.

yOUTH STEP UP

youth training and growing the “green” sector have emerged as priorities for economic recovery and environmental protection. In this field the Parks Conservancy has a head start, as former Y-IEL interns and grade 9 youth leadership programs like LINC launch their eco-careers. In late 2007, Y-IEL alumna Jie Chen traveled with Crissy Field Center staff to the International Conference on Environmental Education in Ahmedabad, India—where she spoke to a youth group about Y-IEL’s impact—currently serves as an educator at Crissy Field Center. Avy Mallick, a fellow Y-IELer, shared his story at the International Union for Conservation of Nature in Barcelona—where he met environmental activists from across the globe. Avy continues to build connections through his new position with the Institute at the Golden Gate.

INSTITUTE AT THE GOLDEN GATE

Situated within a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, at the revitalized national park site of Fort Baker, and on the campus of Cavallo Point, the Institute has already become a force for convening difference makers. The Institute—a program of the Conservancy in partnership with the National Park Service—assembles leaders from across sectors for collaboration on global sustainability. Since it began operation in May 2008, the Institute has hosted groups ranging from The Nature Conservancy to ambassadors on a U.S. State Department visit. The Institute also partnered with Conservation International on a public lecture series that brings world-renowned eco-innovators to the Bay Area—building yet more bridges for learning, inspiration, and action. Special thanks go to the Marin Community Foundation, the Pisces Foundation, and Bank of America for their support in advancing the Institute’s mission.

international community: collaborating for a sustainable world

16 million visitors to the Golden Gate National Parks in 2008

136,000 native plants grown in nurseries last year for 67 restoration projects parkwide

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benefiting from the Conservancy’s work

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Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position for the year ended September 30, 2008. (With summarized financial information for the year ended September 30, 2007.) 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.

### Financial Statements

#### Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets for the year ended September 30, 2008. (With summarized financial information for the year ended September 30, 2007.)

**Unrestricted:**
- Interpretation $1,477,307 (7%)
- Park Enhancements $11,024,354 (56%)
- Community Programs $1,574,973 (7%)

**Temporarily Restricted:**
- Interpretation $1,477,307 (7%)
- Park Enhancements $11,024,354 (56%)
- Community Programs $1,574,973 (7%)

**Permanently Restricted:**
- Unallocated $4,094,444

**Fiscal Year 2008 Aid to the National Parks**
- Interpretation: $1,557,307 (7%)
- Park Enhancements: $13,045,314 (56%)
- Community Programs: $3,636,353 (16%)
- Visitor Programs: $4,990,671 (21%)

**Total Aid to the Parks:**
$23,229,645
**Total Aid to the Parks (1982-2008):** More than $140 million

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets for the year ended September 30, 2008. (With summarized financial information for the year ended September 30, 2007.)

**Support and Revenue:**
- Gross program revenue $20,794,107
- Cost of goods and services 14,641,381
- Program Revenue, Net 6,152,726

**Total Support and Revenue:**
$30,904,833
**Total Expenses:**
- Program Services 13,045,314
- Fundraising 1,333,036
- Management and General 4,094,444

**Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets:**
- Total Aid to the Parks 1,557,307
- More than $140 million

**Net Assets, End of Year:**
$29,886,361
Thank You to Our Volunteers

Our volunteers are the soul of the park. Their contributions reflect the conservation action and community-based values that underpin the mission of the Golden Gate National Parks and Presidio Trust. Our volunteers contribute approximately 250,000 hours of service each year, by planting native landscapes, restoring habitat and trails, operating ranger programs, monitoring birds and mammals, and educating the public. Just as we wish all of these dedicated individuals could be pictured here, we extend our admiration and sincere thanks to all of our volunteers.

Our annual report would not be complete without recognizing the exceptional contributions that the following organizations have made to the park. The following list is a partial representation of the mosaic of volunteers and organizations that serve in our parks. The following is a partial list of the volunteer groups that made exceptional contributions to the park in 2008. For their commitment and unflagging energy, we extend our admiration and sincere thanks to all of our volunteers.

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giving to the parks

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to the Parks Conservancy’s members and donors whose generous financial contributions help build and maintain parks, protect habitat for endangered species, support our outreach volunteers, and provide opportunities for fun and learning for young people.

There are many ways to contribute to our valuable work. You may designate a contribution for general purposes, or you may provide direct support for the parks while reducing costs when you contribute electronic funds transfer. It’s necessary. For more information on how to get involved, contact Kathryn Morelli, director of development, at (415) 561-3077, or e-mail kmorelli@parksconservancy.org.

Our Contribution is Valuable

Your contribution provides significant funding for service, restoration, educational, and volunteer programs throughout the parks with an annual gift of $1,000 or more. Members include invitations to extraordinary park experiences, opportunities to learn about plans for the future, and special events with other Kent Society members. EVELYN AND HARRY KAHN, JR. FUND PRESIDIO TRAILS CHALLENGE

The Parks Conservancy may invest $57 million to trigger a generous contribution of $10 million from the Haas, Jr. Fund to build and upgrade the Presidio’s 24-mile system of hiking and biking trails and scenic overlooks. We’re almost there! Join us as we near the finishing line and see your gift more than doubled by the match.

Volunteers in the Parks

Volunteers in the national parks you love by maintaining trails, restoring habitats, monitoring raptors, and more. It’s a great way to enjoy the parks and make a real difference in their sustained vitality. All ages welcome and no experience necessary. For more information on how to get involved, visit www.parksconservancy.org or call (415) 561-3077, or e-mail volunteer@parksconservancy.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

Organized nearly 12,000 volunteers—contributing almost 46,900 hours of time to the parks—through the direct efforts of the Parks Conservancy’s volunteer management team.

Matched over 100 corporate or civic groups through the last year—almost one per day—volunteering at projects throughout the parklands you love.

Organized the “greenest” way to give.

Rorestoration of 125 square miles worth of national parkland would not be possible without the people power supplied by your volunteers. Teaming with the National Park Service and Presidio Trust, the Parks Conservancy harnesses the tremendous community pride in these parks. During the last year, we:

Continued

-Built on success of Trailblazers (an intensive 3-week course on National Trails Day for all levels that turned out 2,000 community members turning out)

-Organized nearly 1,200 youth volunteers from nine local schools for Kids Adopt-a-Trail

-Engaged 114 trail enthusiasts on National Trails Day 2008 at project locations in Tennessee Valley, Mori Point, and the Presidio

-Hosted 16 American Hiking Society volunteers from across the country during annual long “volunteer vacations” in the Golden Gate National Parks.

Broadened membership skills of 473 volunteers, interns, and staff through 42 Park Academy classes in 2008.

-Engaged 34 American Hiking Society volunteers in the conservation efforts of 262 volunteers with the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory and 1,016 volunteers in the Native Plant Nursery.

-Organized projects in the Golden Gate National Parks in celebration of California Coastal Cleanup Day—another record-breaking event with nearly 12,000 volunteers at project locations in the Marin Headlands Institute and sponsored by the California Coastal Conservancy.

-Continued a very successful Muir Woods Earth Day in January, with 170 volunteers—from groups ranging from Student Conservation Association to the Bay Area—engaging 5,126 volunteers with the Golden Gate Keepers program’s pilot year, and involving 2,300 community members turning out.

-Continued an on-site Trails Keeper program in 2008 at 210 volunteers now monitoring trails and making a great difference in over 100 locations, including the Marin Headlands and Mori Point.

-Continued a growing tradition of strong Trails Forever volunteer opportunities for youth, including Teens on Trails (turning days off from school into volunteer days) and Urban TrailsHawn (an summertime program for middle schoolers).

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The Golden Gate National Parks tell the tale of the American experience, hundreds of years in the making—as well as the epic of natural history, many times older than that. At the Parks Conservancy, we find new ways to share our stories—and provide places for you to share yours. In 2008, we:

- Served 1.4 million visitors annually through Alcatraz tours; provided the Alcatraz Tour to over 140,000 visitors.
- Developed and designed, through the efforts of nine mentoring partners, our 100 tours and sequences to Alcatraz visits.
- Operated a sustainable, zero-waste Access Tram; designed, manufactured, and placed an interactive tour along a historic footpath in the Presidio; the project—sparked by a tango performance by the San Francisco Opera Ballet—included solar-powered programmable lights, cell phone narrative, and intuitive wayfinding system.
- Completed and placed 77 acres of non-native plants that were supporting invasive scrub-habitat in the Coastal Area, converting approximately 62,000 square feet of building infrastructure, educational, and regulatory signage.
- Developed and placed an interpretive stores parkwide.
- Completed a vital Watershed revitalization project.
- Planned, designed, and implemented trail improvements throughout Marin County, at sites such as the Marin Headlands, Muir Beach, and San Rafael.
- Created and removed 77 acres of non-native plants that were supporting invasive scrub-habitat in the Coastal Area, converting approximately 62,000 square feet of building infrastructure, educational, and regulatory signage.
- Developed and placed a complete intuitive wayfinding system.
- Designed and placed an interpretive resources exhibit on Alcatraz Island, totaling approximately 62,000 square feet of building infrastructure, educational, and regulatory signage.
- Planned, designed, and implemented trail improvements throughout Marin County, at sites such as the Marin Headlands, Muir Beach, and San Rafael.
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We operate Cultural Restoration-trade buildings of the past and present-old growth forest into the future. We reclaim houses for soldiers from a bygone age and habitat for salmon still to come. The Parks Conservancy preserves not only what once was—but the hope of what will be. In 2008, we supported work that:

- Provided over $23 million in support to park projects, programs, and visitor services—on a record-setting annual figure and a 10 percent gain over the previous year.
- Formulated a 22,121 volunteers who gave 414,256 hours—an all-time high—through coordinated efforts with the National Park Service and Presidio Trust.
- Increased Crissy Field Center camp scholarships by a record amount in 2008, further expanding access to the park’s educational resources.
- Recorded the forgiving evidence of successful habitat restoration at Mori Point, in 2008 monitored parallel, seven undamaged land, San Francisco native species and 39 California red-legged frogs egg masses were seen in and around the ponds.
- More than doubled the area of restored Alcatraz Gardens through 2008 (from 15,000 to over 34,000 square feet), bringing an eye of beauty back to our heart life through a unique vision of Alcatraz in partnership with the Golden Gate Conservancy.
- Advanced research on sexual reproduction of the Raven’s Eye, the most endangered butterflies in the United States (the only genetic individual in the Presidio)
- Formulated plans for restoring mission blue butterfly habitat as part of a larger Hawk Hill project in the Marin Headlands.

awards & milestones

Through the mundane support of the Golden Gate National Parks community during the last year, the Conservancy was able to set new records for both financial support and volunteer hours. Thank you for making 2008 such an incredible year of achievement. During the last year, the Parks Conservancy:

- Breasted Barred Owl Awards: the Alcatraz Visitor Experience Enhancement Project, and our recognition of the Presidio’s historic past and future.
- Completed Hawk Hill project in the Marin Headlands.
- Recognized 2008 Media Awards from the Association of Partners for Public Lands, Park Adventures, the Alamosa Nature Experience Enhancement Project, and our 2007 Report to the Community.
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- Experienced significant usage gains across all metrics of the Parks Conservancy website (www.parksconservancy.org) as a portal for park news and information.
- Developed and held a member of the Association of Partners for Public Lands, San Francisco, and a 2008 Beau
- Garnered an 80 percent increase in web traffic.
- Completed the year-long visual documentation of Muir Woods, completing 600 days of a Natural-Beauty Project in cooperation with William Kent and Eliza
- Made the Bay Area environment.
-草地 efforts to improve the Bay Area environment.
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As one of the world’s largest national parks in an urban area, the Golden Gate National Parks present an exceptional opportunity for people—especially young people—to learn from and grow to love the greater environment. The Parks Conservancy fosters connections to these cherished lands. In 2008, the organization:

- **Served** 53,000 community members through Crissy Field Center programs and outreach initiatives during the last year, totaling over 110,000 contact hours with participants through ongoing community events and co-learning opportunities.
- **Expanded** programming at Crissy Field Center for young visitors; a total of 650 toddlers and their caregivers attended weekly “Fantastic Friday” sessions; 73 four- and five-year-olds enrolled in kindergarten camps.
- **Engaged** 50 diverse urban youth in Project WISE (Watersheds Inspiring Student Education), a year-long science program—a partnership project of Crissy Field Center, Urban Watershed Project, and Galileo Academy of Science and Technology—centered on the Presidio’s Tennessee Hollow Watershed.
- **Received** encouraging results from academic studies charting the positive impacts on young people in education programs such as Project WISE and Camping at the Presidio (aimed at introducing underserved young people to camping).
- **Built** on the success of I-yEL (Inspiring young Emerging Leaders), a Crissy Field Center program that expanded to two teams of 12 interns in 2008.

03 Led 16 tours in a six-week-long summer program for high schoolers, LINC (Linking Individuals with the Natural Community), a Site Stewardship program combining restoration projects with hands-on ecological lessons.

04 Conducted 30 Golden Gate Raptor Observatory docent-led talks and demonstrations during the 2008 fall migration season, which saw 1,200 visitors to Hawk Hill.

Hosted 27 groups through Institute at the Golden Gate programs and collaborations (including events with The Nature Conservancy and Preservation Study Institute) since the Institute began operations in May 2008.

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.

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.

DAvIz H. grubb
Chairman, Board of Directors
CRAIG MIDDLiNgton
Executive Director

our public agency partners

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-3000
www.parksconservancy.org

Parks For All Forever™

 ed ucation & community programs

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since its inception in 1981. In aid to the parks in 2008 and more than $140 million dedicated to conserving the parks for the future. The nonprofit membership organization created to America's national park system. They also constitute one of the most visited units in the world's largest national parks in an urban setting. The Golden Gate National Parks represent one of the most beautiful and significant environments that span the 20th century. The fort has been transformed into a lodge and environmental center on the site and a Coast Guard station. The lands and the Presidio.

Fort Point
- As bygone times, Fort Mason housed Spanish soldiers, the US Army, earthquake refugees, and proud newcomers. The fort now offers a host of recreation and educational activities.

Fort Funston
- Steely winds and wildflowers dot a pristine stretch of coastline, mid-morning mist to afternoon haze. The premier hang-gliding spot.

Fort Mason
- As bygone times, Fort Mason housed Spanish soldiers, the US Army, earthquake refugees, and proud newcomers. The fort now offers a host of recreation and educational activities.

The nonprofit Fort Mason Center.

FORT BAKER
- Once occupied by military brass. Today, it is a nature reserve and is one of the only restored military posts in the nation.

GERBODE
- It was a home for Spanish soldiers, a historic army airfield, and a Coast Guard station. The lands of Gerbode.

Hawk Hill in the Marin Headlands
- A premier birding spot—literally as a great vantage point to see migratory species. In bygone times, the San Francisco Bay protected this area from 1,200-foot-high Spanish soldiers, and the splendid Garden. This is a pristine beach along the edge of the Marin Headlands, the cove offers a chance for solitude and to spot gray whales. This is a premier hang-gliding spot. This 3-mile stretch of white sand provides invigorating surf and barbecue spots.

La Playa bandstand to a pocket beach near the shipwreck of the SS Tennessee.

The San Francisco Bay—allowing a direct view of the famous Bridge. Steady winds and wind-carved headlands, dramatic prairies and wildflowers, and a stunning water pond, and a stunning overlook.

LANDS END
- Dramatic promontory rewards hikers with stunning views of the famous Bridge. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles.

The top of this included and scenic viewpoint of the San Andreas Rift Zone.

CHINA BEACH
- Legend tells us this sandy patch was named for Chinese fisher men who, long ago, an

Ohlone Indians and the Presidio.

LANDS MARIN HEAD
- The fort is home to trees, rocks, and wind-carved headlands, dramatic prairies and wildflowers, and a stunning water pond, and a stunning overlook.

CRISSy FIELD
- Iconic for its natural beauty, this park offers a premier birding spot—literally as a great vantage point to see migratory species. In bygone times, the San Francisco Bay protected this area from 1,200-foot-high Spanish soldiers, and the splendid Garden. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles. This is a pristine beach speckled with colorful pebbles.

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