

2011 PRNSA and Park Highlights

This year more than 2.2 million people visited Point Reyes National Seashore to explore, discover and connect with our national parks. Enjoy reading some of the 2011 highlights that have been made possible in part by your generous support.

Environmental Education & Visitor Services

- Hosted over 1,700 Bay Area youth at the Clem Miller Environmental Education Center so they could experience an overnight field-based environmental science education program in the heart of a national park.
- Provided over \$95,000 in scholarships (tripling our funding in just three years) so that more than 700 underserved youth could attend our school year and summer environmental education programs.
- Promoted healthy eating and food choices during summer camp sessions with support from Alvarado Street Bakery, Marin Organic, Marin Sun Farms, Straus Family Creamery, and McEvoy Ranch.
- Offered over 150 classes through our Field Institute program that helped 2,000 participants gain a deeper understanding of the park and nature through exploring natural history, birding, art, photography, and other nature-related topics.
- Shared new Giacomini Wetlands science curriculum with West Marin students and hosted a one-week Science at the Seashore program for underserved teens.
- Provided science internships to 20 high school and college students who assisted with wildlife monitoring and habitat restoration projects in national parks in Northern California.



Summer Camp Backpackers © Paige Green



Great Beach © Sue Van der Wal

- Conducted 95 science-based research projects throughout Point Reyes National Seashore focused on such topics as seabird monitoring, white sharks, invasive species, science communication and climate change.
- Hosted the first annual Point Reyes Christmas Bird Count for Kids, a free public event and the first of its kind in a national park, that helped connect 75 children and parents to science, nature, and the Point Reyes National Seashore.
- Co-vented a Modern Day Mather Hike to bring 20 park, health sector, and business leaders together to focus on ways to use open space and parks to promote public health.
- Hosted naturalization ceremony in park to swear in and welcome 19 new United States citizens from 17 different countries.
- Organized annual Coastal Clean Up event at Drakes Beach where 30 families volunteered and picked up over 100 pounds of trash from the beach.
- Hosted zero-waste events in the park including Holiday Open House, Sunrise Breakfast, Volunteer Appreciation Picnic and Dinner on the Pacific Plate.
- Developed a new digital Apple application for Point Reyes National Seashore in collaboration with Green Mountain Digital scheduled to launch in 2012.

Habitat Restoration & Park Preservation

- Acquired 27 acres of wetlands along Tomales Bay to be incorporated into the park.
- Partnered with over 2,000 volunteers who contributed an estimated \$1.1 million dollars in services to the park.
- Restored more than 190 acres of coastal dune habitat, home to the federally threatened Western snowy plover and federally endangered Tidestrom's lupine, by removing more than 80 acres of non-native, invasive European beachgrass and iceplant.



Western snowy plover © Kate Peterlein

- Created seafloor habitat maps for the waters around Point Reyes National Seashore and completed baseline underwater surveys of the marine fishes and invertebrates at the newly established Point Reyes Headlands Marine Reserve.
- Completed an inventory survey for endangered black abalone around Point Reyes National Seashore and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



Tule Elk © Galen Leeds

- Completed a tule elk survey at Tomales Point counting and recording the movements of over 400 animals found in the park.
- Completed the Muddy Hollow Trail reroute that included moving the trail out of the flood plain and offering hikers an easy hike with opportunities to see diverse bird life and tule elk.
- Monitored, protected and provided education to park visitors regarding the threatened Western snowy plover that breeds each summer from North Beach to Kehoe Beach.

- Monitored the health of the endangered coho salmon and steelhead trout within the park.
- Removed more than 20 acres of Scotch broom from 170 acres in the Drakes Estero and treated over 400 acres of capeweed in the pastoral lands.
- Reintroduced Sonoma spineflower, a federally endangered species that currently exists only in the park, in four locations within the park that have similar habitat and soil conditions.
- Replaced and restored clockwork components at the historic Point Reyes Lighthouse.

PRNSA by Numbers ~ \$2,030,000 budget

