

Big Basin Redwoods State Park GENERAL PLAN ALTERNATIVES

PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY February 2010 Open House (Los Gatos, Felton)

LAND USE AND FACILITIES

Headquarters Area

- Include the best of all the alternatives in the general plan
- Support renovating and refurbishing cultural resources (more facilities) when it makes sense
- Keep Huckleberry and Wastahi campgrounds
- Consider converting group camps (Sequoia and Sky Meadow) to family camping – with group camps at Little Basin
- Sky Meadow area – additional overnight use will likely generate trails in the sensitive meadow
- Sky Meadow group camp (meadow area) is under water in average or above average winters; road is not drivable and restrooms are unusable because of water level
- Until more money is available, rehab lodge for short term special events, or for Museum State Park History/park philosophy and evolution
- Historic District – if the designation would limit growth/tear down in the future, I'm against it
- Create National Register Historic District designation at Headquarters area
- Rehab South Gatehouse for unit ranger office; also to attract visitors and interpret area
- Maintain park residences for security and emergency needs
- While some admin/concession facilities might be moved to Saddle Mt., some [services] must be kept in core (historic area), such as ice cream, wood, batteries, etc.

- Get rid of Reserve America. They don't know what a tent cabin is or how to properly reserve or book them on the website.
- Support for Alternative #3 – preservation of historic aspects, but also support the development of appropriate recreational opportunities within the park (if done well and attuned to the quality of the rustic experience)
- Renovate/rehabilitate old lodge and structures and turn front rooms into visitor's center and museum, and back into docent library and workroom
- Maintain the historic buildings in the Headquarters area as an administrative and interpretive center
- Maintain the current parking areas around the Headquarters area for trailhead and visitor center parking
- Prefer Alternative #3 because it is the least amount of reconstruction, anywhere – it is costly and disruptive to the natural inhabitants
- Would like good trails and hike-in and equestrian camping from Blooms Creek Campground parking area
- The main area of Big Basin is the logical place to expand building. Most visitors don't go far. Don't want new buildings in outer perimeters
- Re-purpose currently unused picnic grounds
- There are old campsites on N. Escape Rd and in the area of Blooms/Sempervirens that could be added, or put NEW camping facilities in the Tan Oak underbrush areas
- Make two more campgrounds, and then CLOSE Blooms/Sempervirens campgrounds to let the compacting effects be restored
- Only use Blooms/Sempervirens campgrounds for overflow – when restored, ROTATE closed campgrounds
- The existing historical buildings should be saved and renovated where necessary
- Fix and leave all existing buildings in Governor's Camp [HQ]
- Old buildings cannot always be sensibly restored because of structural defects and degradation – sometimes it's better to remove, recreate, and interpret
- Brilliant idea to make park HQ a national landmark

Saddle Mountain

- Alternative #1 for *Saddle Mountain and Little Basin*. Put all intensive uses, some ranger housing and more intensive camping, cabins, etc. at these locations
- Toll house and main park entrance at Saddle Mtn. are good ideas – as well as parking and shuttles from there to China Grade and Lane Trail Camp areas
- Brilliant idea to shuttle people around and creating a visitor welcome center at Saddle Mountain – more space for staff, facilities, and visitors is good
- Store/center and shuttle at Sempervirens would be good
- Concerned about pollution and noise to immediate landowners if Saddle Mountain is turned into a parking lot and entrance area
- Consider former equestrian area adjacent to Rt. 236 or Camp Hammer for Park Entrance?
- I strongly oppose the conversion of the Saddle Mountain property into a high-traffic welcome center, parking lot, etc. The historic buildings housing the current visitor center and museum provide a much deeper glimpse into Big Basin's past than any newly-constructed buildings at Saddle Mountain could.
- Sempervirens Outdoor School is worth preserving and coming up with an alternate plan for a visitor's center, bus stop, and park buildings
- The vast majority of all park campsites (both existing and planned) are clustered around the current park headquarters and the historic gatehouse building (which could also serve as a campsite reservation center)
- The process of registering for a campsite at Saddle Mountain, several miles before the actual campground would be confusing to visitors and would result in unnecessary traffic as campers back-track to register for their campsites
- Use the parking that already exists at the current headquarters and along North Escape Road
- Work with the Santa Cruz Metro Transit system to provide expanded bus service to Big Basin
- The turnoff to Saddle Mountain comes upon you quite unexpectedly as you reach the crest of the saddle, and you have a poor view of oncoming traffic due to the drop-off of the hill in both directions. This is a safety hazard (potential traffic accidents)

- Your plan for opening Little Basin Road to heavy two-way traffic is unrealistic to anyone who has ever driven down this road. Two normal-sized cars cannot even pass on this road in many places; consider the trouble an RV would have navigating the sharp corners and steep drop-offs of this road. The cliffs above and below the road are already highly prone to erosion; expanding these narrow stretches to accommodate two-way traffic would be next to impossible. A different route must be found.
- I am concerned about (turning Saddle Mountain into a parking lot) wildlife habitat: Pacific Giant Salamanders, Arboreal Salamanders, California Newts, Slender Salamanders, Ensentinas, Pacific Tree frogs, gopher snakes, Wilson's warblers, deer, coyote, pileated woodpeckers, sapsuckers, etc. I am concerned that this property is the headwaters of Bloom Creek, which is a major tributary of East Waddell Creek. Putting in a parking lot at the top of the watershed would be detrimental to the fish, amphibians and watershed of the park.
- I strongly oppose the "removal" of the Sempervirens Outdoor School program from the Saddle Mountain property. To remove this non-profit educational program would be to act in direct opposition to the goals of improving educational/interpretive experiences and opportunities for the public within state parks such as Big Basin. Without a connection to the environment, our children will not appreciate the need to protect these environments in the future.
- I hike on the Big Basin Trails and mountain bike on the forest roads at least once a week and the only time I have ever seen even 3 cars lined up at the kiosk to pay parking fee was on either the Fourth of July, Memorial Day or Veteran's Day
- I would recommend working with the parking lots that are already established in the park. Make it possible for people to register for camping at the campsites so that they don't have to park in front of the lodge and then do a u-turn to go back to park at their camp sites. You could also open registration at the camp store or another building further down North Escape Road, so people do not have to park and then walk all the way to the visitor center and then walk back to their car to park and camp.
- Find an alternative that better utilizes the partnerships, educational opportunities and natural resources you currently possess

Little Basin

- Park is isolated, and overnight facilities are necessary for an effective park
- The addition of Little Basin is a good idea
- Use Little Basin for intensive visitor use (lodge is questionable)

- The historical use of the HP (Little Basin) property shows that mountain biking is an ongoing recreational option within the lands
- Little Basin would help us learn as much as possible about how to create sustainable lifestyles and Green Buildings
- I feel this location, with its versatile and varied amenities that include camping, hiking, conference room under the residence, lodge with a fireplace, would lend itself well to hosting multidisciplinary groups involved with food education, environmental advocacy and project coordination
- With the recent discovery that Ohlone people lived at Little Basin over 3,000 years ago, it would seem that in the spirit of preservation, you would not want to pave State Park land that is less than a mile from where the Ohlone lived
- It would be a great opportunity for me to be able to camp in an environment that I love while taking part in various classes and seminars
- Excited about plans to incorporate Little Basin into the park
- Acquiring Little Basin is excellent for encouraging usage spread
- Water supply/sewer and wastewater disposal to Little Basin and Saddle Mountain [?]
- Open an additional 100-150 hike-in sites in Big Basin/Little Basin
- Don't remove dam, reservoir, or the ball field
- I encourage the use of Little Basin for its cabins, campsites, and large parking capacity – and the development of trails back into Big Basin
- Remove the dam at Little Basin
- Consider concession proposal to operate a green campground as an educational facility for large groups. Ohlone people will be glad we are bidding for this use
- Have different events every month, including Native [American] events – how tribes lived; classes, and charging for these classes
- Leave the dam alone
- New proposal (Alternative #4) submitted with a goal to increase the number of campsites and picnic sites while reducing the impact to the primary resource – the old growth groves.

- No use for the ball field and playground at Little Basin, but don't eliminate them until we know public's opinion
- Little basin dam – consider it as an emergency water source
- Establish a 200-site campground and two picnic areas in Little Basin. Designate one picnic area to families, and one area to large groups
- Little Basin Tan Bark Rd/Trail has a spur road that could be developed to hike-in camping – trail camps are the heaviest used camps in the mountains
- Keep reservoir/fishing pond at Little Basin (for fire fighting; and is interwoven into the environment) – even the leak provides water for plants
- Maintaining and expanding all educational aspects [of Little Basin] is very important
- Prefer Alternative #3 for Little Basin

Rancho del Oso

- Alternative #2 for RDO would provide needed visitor improvements and provide mixture of use
- Develop a safe entry at RDO with upgraded parking for staging equestrian/bicycle use
- Need better access/visibility to Nature Center
- Concerned about Last Chance Road/Trail as a park trail. Most of what the park turned into a trail 2-3 years ago is within the boundary of Last Chance Road Association. We would like assurance that this will not be opened to the public
- Establish a 100-site drive-in campground at Rancho del Oso with a picnic area
- Concerned that Alternative #1 parking area on the inland side of the entrance will approach on sensitive native habitat of flora and fauna. Keep parking on ocean side
- Develop another tent/bike campground that is separate from the existing horse campground

STATE WILDERNESS

- Adjust wilderness boundaries: Include area north of top line up to Gazos Creek Rd.
- Bicyclists should not be allowed in the wilderness area
- Alternative #1 for Wilderness and Backcountry offers the greatest opportunity for trails and access to different areas of the park
- What does wilderness designation imply as a setback for adjacent logging operations that continues to be logged as a tree farm every 20-30 years. Will the wilderness designation impede our ability to harvest more trees?
- California Wilderness Coalition (Letter): For the “non-road” areas within Big Basin (not necessarily wilderness), request that:
 - 1) Recreation be open to non-motorized and non-mechanized activities
No new roads be constructed
 - 2) Development be limited to trails, latrines, and primitive campsites (if necessary)
 - 3) Motorized vehicles be limited for weed and erosion control, trail maintenance and construction, and restoration and maintenance activities – only to search and rescue, law enforcement and fire suppression emergencies
 - 4) Fire be returned as much as possible to its natural role in the ecosystem

TRAFFIC AND CIRCULATION

Shuttle

- Good idea to provide parking and shuttle to Park core. Encourage day hikers to shuttle to/from trailheads. Provide stops at trailheads.
- Allow picnickers to drive to Park core and park at picnic areas
- Support developing a shuttle service that may reduce parking pressure in the Headquarters area
- Shuttles should also go to China Grade and Lane Trail Camp (for those who can't do 10-12 mile, 2000-foot elevation gain)
- Shuttle is a good idea – may free up space for equestrian staging/camping
- I enjoy arriving to the park by car, but would consider park-n-ride options to reduce traffic

- Shuttle should include Lane Camp area (for those who can't make round trip) and Upper China Grade/Hwy 236 intersections (wonderful trails, 4-5 miles)

Trailhead Parking and Access

- It would be wonderful to open up access from Highway 1 into the Waddell Creek area
- I support the alternative #1 to expand recreation in the park. It would be great to have a car free access to the coast from Skyline!
- Connect Big Basin trails with surrounding regional network
- Keep N. 236 open in both directions but access through Boulder Creek is safer
- Develop parking areas at trailheads to get cars out of the HQ area and for people to hike the wonderful trails
- Use the two old roads out of Little Basin that head into Camp Hammer and East end of Big Basin near the Camp Hammer border. The roads could be used as one of a pair of one-way roads into Big Basin
- Great idea to close North Entrance
- Remove traffic into park at RDO – too much road kill! Increase hwy 1 parking instead
- Bridge over RDO – expensive
- I'm not sure how effective a "primary" entrance at China Grade will be. There is currently not much reason for most visitors to start a visit there. Creating a "reason" would require moving or duplicating existing HQ facilities in a less attractive area at great expense.
- We need fire equipment to our parks
- What about access to Little Basin directly from Big Basin? Or – light rail or tram to Little Basin from Big Basin
- Keep existing roadbeds for emergency purposes
- Control access to campgrounds and picnic areas with entrance kiosks to 1) eliminate the current traffic congestion on Highway 236, and 2) reduce requirements for frequent camp checks and patrols

- The statements about Big Basin being a drive-through park predicts future trouble, especially because of the nature of 236
- Closing China grade entrance not practical – Where would traffic be re-directed to?
- Traffic on Little Basin Road is difficult and partly residential (LB for group camping)
- Least intrusive is Alternative #3 - (Alternative #2 would be a disaster because China grade road to south entrance is not drivable by inexperienced drivers)
- The County divested itself from the road to Little Basin – 1 to 2 years ago (to private ownership)
- Concerned about Alternative #1 plan to push road for vehicular traffic further up Rancho del Oso Canyon (violation of agreement with heirs of TJ Hoover who agreed to allow traffic only to ranch house (now park office) as a condition of the sale to the park. Only residents and park officials are allowed beyond park office in vehicles.
- Agreement with state says to keep fire road open to Slippery Falls
- Moving these new public use areas that are controlled (kiosk) would also reduce congestion on Hwy 236
- Acquire Camp Hammer that would connect Little Basin and Big Basin/Hwy 236 in two ways – old roads from Little Basin through Camp Hammer
- Fix all roads – use as trails for bikes, horses, and humans

RESOURCE PROTECTION

Old Growth Redwoods

- Please do not put tent cabins back in the old growth forest. Cabins were removed to improve the health of the big redwoods
- Alternative #2 is the only alternative to mention specific consideration of threatened species (red-legged frogs, marbled murrelets, snowy plovers) and habitat protection. This is essential!
- Alternative #3 for Park core – uses in the old growth should be limited – NO new development – NO new cabins up N. Escape Rd! Focus of visitor experience should be natural history/interpretation. Picnic and family camping OK.

- NO CABINS in Governor's Camp – the area is still compacted from the 1910-1950 use. Putting facilities in redwood growth is NOT protecting old growth redwoods.
- Alternative #2 looks good [preserve park resources]. My family and I have been using Fall Creek, Henry Cowell, and Big Basin for over 20 years.
- No more developed campsites in the redwoods
- Unconscionable for any commercial enterprise that would put new overnight accommodations in old growth forests

Resource Protection and Interpretation

- Reduce overnight use in largest old growth areas (along Opal Creek) to minimize potential early morning/nighttime impacts to marbled murrelet
- Recommend removal of campsites along Bloom Creek to allow alluvial redwood area to recover
- Preserve main old-growth groves, and reduce impact by removing the picnic areas along Opal Creek and the campgrounds along Bloom's Creek
- First: Consider protecting the resource and habitat
- Protect TJ Hoover Natural Preserve
- Restore Opal Creek
- Restore these areas by replanting them with native shrubs, such as huckleberry, etc.
- Preservation – keep park in current primitive state (not Alternative #1)
- Please do not over plan – keep it simple and keep the park in the great condition it is in
- Start with Alternative #2 (you have to do that anyhow). Then, add visitor facilities as needed
- Interpretation of the primary resources (old growth redwoods) is highest priority, including park genesis and history

Horse Camps

- Campground for horse people
- Places to park for the day and overnight within the park (many vehicles self-contained and don't need a fancy campground)
- PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE keep Rancho del Oso an EQUINE HORSE CAMP ONLY. It's really important to keep the horses and horse campers in their own area.
- Additional dedicated equestrian parking at RDO
- Build horse camp in Big Basin off 236 near entrance (area considered 10 years ago)
- The horse camp at Big Basin is extremely precious to Bay Area horse users as one of the few places where you can camp with our horses
- All three alternatives propose opening the horse camp to at least bike-in use, which requires horse campers to compete with other users for access while denying us access to other camps that are open to these other users
- If the horse camp is open to other users, consider a reservation system that grants priority to equestrian users of the horse camp
- Rancho del Oso - #2 Please retain the equestrian campground.
- Like the idea of keeping Rancho del Oso equestrian campground
- Alternatives 1,2, and 3 to allow non-equestrian access to the Rancho del Oso Horse Camp would drastically limit access for two reasons: 1) non-equestrian users outnumber equestrians, 2) some equestrians would feel unsafe camping around non-equestrians who do not know how to handle themselves around horses
- If you do make it harder for equestrians to camp at Rancho del Oso – open up additional space for equestrians (e.g., near HQ or Little Basin (assuming safe access for horse trailers)
- Approve of RDO Horse camp to be improved and upgraded (larger camp and more sites)
- For safety reasons – don't combine equestrian camping area with other types of camping (hikers, bikers, public). Also manure smells.

- Bathroom facility is good but took away area for trailer parking. Need more spaces and easy ingress and egress
- Local horse clubs (Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association, Monterey Bay Equestrians) would both be willing to raise funds to enhance the equestrian camping area
- Liability concerns about putting horses in close proximity to children, tents, and bicyclists (against multi-use with horses)
- Not a good idea to mix equestrian with bike, tent, walk-in, or other campers
- Retain equestrian camp and provide separate facilities for campers or redesign [for multi-use]
- Create a new equestrian camp as proposed in Alternative #1 (a larger equestrian camp will bring in large groups throughout California)
- Keep or upgrade existing horse camp, or move to new proposed camp (Alternative #1) – need larger parking area at Rancho del Oso
- Don't mix equestrians with other users groups
- Separate camp for mountain bikers (although I see bikers parking outside of park to avoid fees)

Equestrian Trails

- Have trails accessible to horses; horse staging areas (20' x 50' per trailer); loop trails (typical 10-15 miles); places to tie horses; China Grade equestrian parking
- Establish a Big Basin Horse Patrol
- Please allow equestrian to ride into Little Basin, and equestrian camp
- Equestrians with RV's/horse trailers
- Equestrians volunteer to maintain trails, patrol for safety
- Would like to travel to parks within a two hour drive
- Prefer Alternative #2, but whatever Alternative is selected – that trails remain open to horsemen

- Investigate developing an equestrian staging area near Headquarters and allow equestrian access to one of Headquarters-area's campgrounds (the Ohlone Riders Unit of Backcountry Horsemen helped build and maintain equestrian camping facilities at Joseph Grant County Park in San Jose, and would be honored to do the same at Big Basin)
- Consider developing equestrian staging and camping at Little Basin
- Single track trails are not safe for horses. Bikes to share Fall Creek needs to stay a park for hikers and equestrians only! No bikes
- McCrary Ridge trail needs to stay for hikers and horses only. Bikes on this trail would be deadly!
- Connecting trails are extremely important to my family
- Alternative #2 seems to be the best to retain trails for equestrian use
- Keeping trails open to connect areas is very important to the horse community.
- Single track trails are safe for horses but NOT horses and bikes
- Fire roads are safe places for bikes, horses, and hikers and maintain for fire and other emergencies
- McCrary Ridge should be only for equestrians and hikers due to safety concerns
- Please don't limit equestrian access to Big Basin
- Keep bikes on roads, and horses and hikers on roads and trails through Big Basin
- Purchase of Little Basin is good for horse camping and trails
- Henry Creek Trail improvement is good idea, including creek crossing (for horse people)
- Do not remove old roadbeds that can be used for trail hiking and horseback riding
- Dispute that snowy plovers nest in Waddell Beach area (was closed to horses)
- McCrary Ridge is not a great trail for mixed use (concerns about bikers)
- More, shorter (5-10 miles) loop trails

- Add equestrian trails and staging area at Saddle Mtn.
- Maintain separate equestrian camping and staging area at Rancho del Oso (maintain the area that is there, or build a new, larger area)
- Build an equestrian staging area and parking at Saddle Mountain with access to Big Basin trails
- More trails and shorter loops
- Bikes and horses do not mix!

MOUNTAIN BIKE ACCESS

- Alternative #1 because of friendliness towards bikes
- Bikes are vital to move traffic away from main facilities and HQ's, and disperse impact on the environment
- More bike access to single track trails and fire roads
- State parks that allow mountain bikers receive the benefit of trail maintenance. Mountain bikers are strong, active and willing trail workers. The International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) has been sponsoring a couple of "Trail Care Crews" for well over a decade. We are willing to help with any trail issues like reroutes and maintenance.
- Mountain bikers would be willing to share trail access on alternating days (mitigate trail conflict concerns). Certain trails can be closed to mountain bikes on even days and this policy can be widely communicated and understood within the trail using community. Other user groups who choose not to share the trails with mountain bikes can choose even days to enjoy their activity. It will be understood that on odd days they will have to share the trails with bikes. This model has been used in other land management districts with a lot of success.
- We believe that trail erosion is the result of poor design and that runoff from rain causes significantly more erosion than human use
- I think there would be little conflict between riders and hikers, and believe that the mountain bikes cause considerably less damage than does the 1X per year horse race
- The trails in Wilder have been effectively shared as multi use trails and that may be a model for Big Basin

- We wish to have legal off-road bike access from Skyline Road (through Castle Rock) to the coast. This will tie into some trails from Skyline Sandborne Park and Saratoga Gap so that one day we can have a trail which leads from the Santa Clara Valley to the coast. We hope that the General Plan can accommodate this vision.
- Access to some of the single track trails, especially in the more remote areas where use is low and there is minimal chance of conflicts
- I'd really like to see Big Basin allow more stewardship and access to the local community. The local communities around Big Basin house some of the most ecologically minded people in the country and the more people can use the park, the more they'll take care of it. I have no doubt that Big Basin would benefit from the added manpower, especially given our state's current fiscal situation.
- I support Alternative #1 of the plan to get more people connected with nature and our environment. As a volunteer with Inner City Outings I have taken children on mountain bike tours to other parks who otherwise wouldn't go there.
- I would like to see a plan to create multi-use trail opportunities, whether re-designating existing trails or constructing new trails that connect RDO with HQ and the Skyline to the Sea Trail/Bay area ridge trail. Secondly, I would like to see additional multi-use trails created or re-designated within the park, taking into consideration user conflicts and resource protection issues that allow mountain bikers the opportunity to enjoy legal trail riding experiences in this beautiful park.
- Mountain bikes are low impact recreation that can be enjoyed by all. We have this one lady in her 50's who has had a double knee replacement. She can barely walk because of the body weight on the knees, but she can ride the bike for 20 miles at a time. The only way she can see the awesome sandstone views over the canyons is by bike. Please consider choosing Alternative #1 in the General Plan.
- I ride a mountain bike, but please continue to keep bikes out - A group of rogue mtn. bikers does much more damage than hikers/horses. Granting greater access to this group of users puts the natural habitat more at risk
- Draw yellow buffer on Waddell Creek Rd. to illustrate management-like State Park land, not wilderness (bike use OK)
- Show 100-yard buffer of State Park land on both sides of roads on boundaries of wilderness – so if road needs to be realigned, either way, bike use would not have to be eliminated (e.g., Chalks Mtn., Anderson, Hihn-Hammond, Gazos roads)
- Move east wilderness boundary west of McCrary Ridge trail between Hihn-Hammond Rd. and Waddell Rd. – could potentially be used by bikers

- More bike access to the parks, including more trailheads at China Grade and RDO
- More acquisition of Little Basin and areas west of the Wilderness to provide through regional trails around the wilderness that will allow wilderness biking
- Would like to see the Parks' trails and fire roads link to neighboring parks
- More (bike) access points; trail heads – China Grade
- Expand access to the park as a key feature in the general plan. The expansion should include all current roads and several existing trails.
- All trails open to equestrians should be multi-use including bicycles. In my experience, there are far more bicycle users in Big Basin (other than Headquarters or major attractions) due to increased accessibility and availability of bicycles.
- Mountain bikes should have equal access to the park
- Bad idea for mountain bikes to have more access (damage caused by bikes, and pick-ups transporting bikes)
- Bikes or other vehicles should stay on pavement (and no new pavement)
- More trail riding
- Was disappointed to not see explicit reference to bicycling in any of the alternative plans
- No objection to mountain bike and motorized vehicle use on existing roads
- Create more bike loops - except for the Los Gatos Creek - Johansen - Middle Ridge Roads, all the bike rides are out and back
- Allow public access to all Whitehouse Canyon and Chalks roads
- Allow mountain bikes on a few selected single tracks: Whitehouse Ridge Trail to connect Chalks with Whitehouse Canyon road; West Ridge Trail and Clark Connection, Henry Coe Trail, Basin Trail, East Ridge Trail, Howard King Trail and/or McCrary Ridge trail (to connect Sky-line-to-the-Sea with Hihn Hammond Road)
- Consider inclusion of Mt Bike riders on the following trails within Big Basin St Park: Henry Creek Trail, Sunset Trail, Skyline to the Sea from China Grade to

- Would like some of the existing single track trails opened for mountain biking or some new trails that allow bikes to be created. Trails that allow for connecting loops would be the best.
- We encourage you to provide more access in additional parks so that more people can enjoy and appreciate the beauty of our Parks, improve their physical fitness, and become advocates for our Parks!