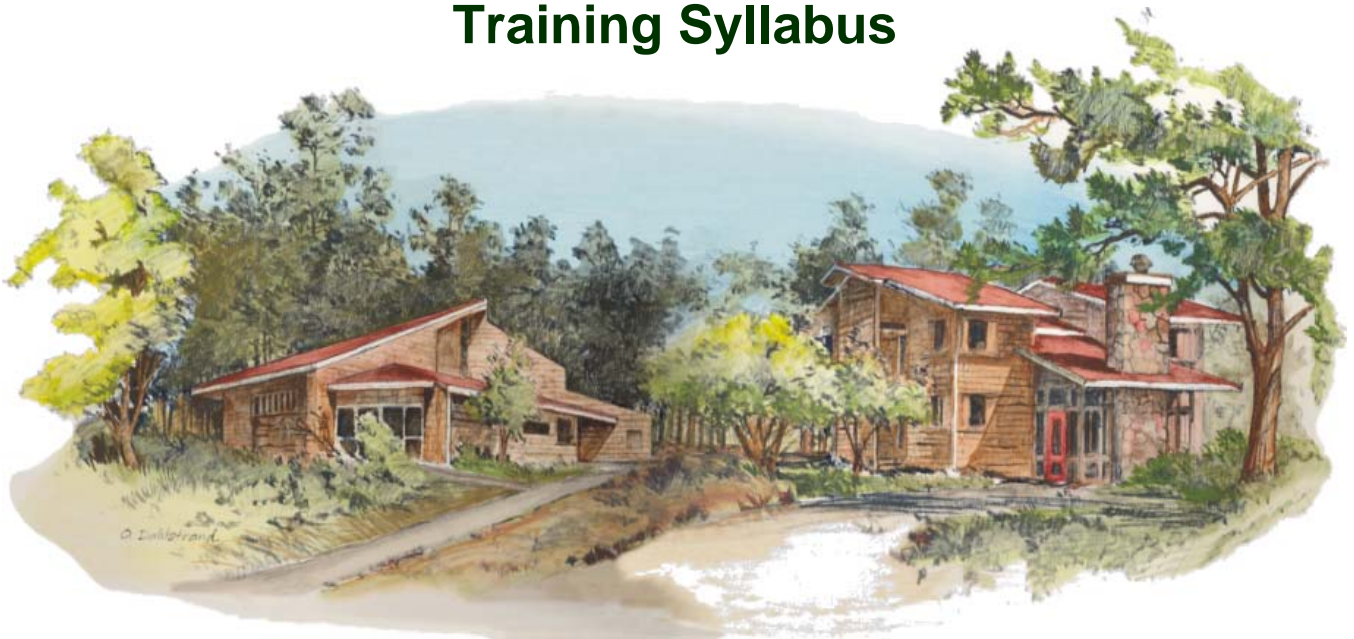


# NATURAL RESOURCES INTERPRETATION

March 28-April 1, 2011

## Training Syllabus



William Penn Mott Jr. Training Center



# Memorandum

Date: March 18, 2011

To: Supervisor

From: **Department of Parks and Recreation**  
William Penn Mott Jr. Training Center

Subject: Natural Resources Interpretation Group 4

An employee from your office will soon be attending the formal training program described in the attached. Please insure that the employee is fully prepared to attend the session and that the groundwork is laid for the employee's implementation of the training upon returning to work.

You can assist with capturing the full value of the training by taking the following steps:

### Prior to Training

1. Make sure that **specific** employee needs are identified and, if necessary, called immediately to the attention of the Training Coordinator.
2. Review with the employee the reason for the employee's attendance.
3. Review objectives and agenda with the employee.
4. Discuss objectives and performance expected after the training.

### Immediately Following Attendance

1. Discuss what was learned and intended uses of the training.
2. Review the employee's assessment of the training program for its impact at the workplace and review the due date of the Post-Training Evaluation form.
3. Support the employee's use of the training at the work place.

### Prior to Three Months Following Training

1. Employee after discussion with the supervisor login to the Employee Training Management System (ETMS) to complete the Post-Training Evaluation form.
2. Supervisor evaluates the effectiveness of the training on the employee's job performance and login to the ETMS to complete the Training Effectiveness Assessment form.

Thank you for your assistance in seeing that the full benefit of training is realized.



Tina L. Williams  
Department Training Officer

Attachment

cc: Participant

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***Mission Statement  
Training Section***

***The mission of the Training Section is to improve  
organizational and individual performance through  
consulting, collaboration, training, and development.***

**TRAINING CENTER STAFF**

Tina L. Williams ..... Department Training Officer

Pat Bost ..... Office Manager

Chuck Combs ..... Training Specialist

Sara M. Skinner ..... Training Specialist

Dave Galanti ..... Training Specialist

Karyn Lombard ..... Training Specialist

Matt Cardinet ..... Acting Academy Coordinator

Dan Kraft..... Cadet Training Officer

Pamela Yaeger ..... Assistant Program Coordinator

Bill Spencer..... Assistant Program Coordinator

Edith Alhambra ..... Assistant Program Coordinator

Rogers Williams..... Program Assistant

## THE MISSION

*of the California State Parks and is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.*



## FORMAL TRAINING GUIDELINES

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Welcome to formal training, an essential component in your career development.

Since 1969, our Department has been providing a continuously changing number of diverse training programs at its main training facility, the William Penn Mott Jr. Training Center, and other locations including Marconi Conference Center. The Department strives to enhance your learning and job performance with formal training of the highest quality.

Our Department's dedication to training is only one aspect of its commitment to you and to the public. This commitment is costly and represents an important investment in you and your career. You and the Department realize a return on that investment by your positive participation in formal training itself and post training follow-through.

The program you will be participating in is described in this training syllabus, which outlines what you can expect from this training and what is expected of you. This syllabus details what you should do before you leave for training; what to do when you arrive; what you will be doing while in training; and, importantly, what you should be able to do when you return to your work site. Specifically:

1. **SYLLABUS:** The syllabus is now accessible on the Employee Training Management System (ETMS). You should print a copy of the syllabus to bring with you to class. Your copy of this syllabus is an important part of your training experience and should be brought with you to training. Read it before you arrive and review it following the program along with material you received at training.
2. **PRE-TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS:** Your completion of pre-training assignments is essential to the success of your training. You are responsible for all reading assignments in preparation for classroom sessions. Time will be provided during working hours to accomplish any assignments which involve either individual or group efforts and resources. (Pre-training assignments are listed in the "Training Attendance Requirements" section.)

3. TRAVEL: Arrange your travel to and from the training through your District or Office. (No reimbursement for travel expense - including per diem costs - will be approved for travel not specifically authorized in advance by the District Superintendent.) Individuals may claim reimbursement for incidental expenses incurred as outlined in DAM 0410.6. The Mott Training Center does not have the capability to provide transportation to/from Monterey Airport.

The cost of your travel (air fair, mileage, rental car, etc.) is paid by your District or Office **to** and **from** the location of training.

4. HOUSING: Housing will be assigned to you on a shared-room basis and will be available from 3:00 p.m. on the date of arrival to 12:00 noon on the date of departure. The Department provides your room and board expenses at the Mott Training Center only. No per diem allowance will be authorized for living off-grounds. This does not preclude living off-grounds at your own expense. Please advise the Training Specialist no later than one week before your scheduled arrival if you plan to live off-grounds. No animals are permitted in Asilomar housing. In the event of an emergency, staff must know your room assignment, therefore, you may not switch rooms without staff approval. Overnight guests are not allowed in the buildings unless registered beforehand at the front desk in Asilomar's Administration Building. Quiet hour for lodge living areas is 10:00 p.m.

**Please Note:** You may be assigned a room at a motel while attending training. If so you may be asked to present a valid credit or debit card while checking in to your room. Many motels require a credit card to cover charges incurred such as telephone calls, damages to rooms and/or furnishings, fees to clean rooms that have been smoked in that are not designated as smoking rooms, etc. Please be prepared to handle this appropriately.

5. **ENROLLMENT OR HOUSING CANCELLATION POLICY:** To cancel participation in a course, the participant must have their District Superintendent or Section/Office Manager send an email to the Training Specialist assigned to the course requesting to remove the participant. If you do not need lodging or must change or cancel your reservation for lodging, you must contact the Mott Training Center or Training Specialist assigned to the course at least 72 hours prior to your date of arrival. Lodging, registration, and associated fees will be charged to the employee's District or Section/Office if a training cancellation is received with less than 72 hours notice.

**The Mott Training Center is committed to ensuring that the reservation that has been made for you is accurate and needed.**

6. OFF-GROUNDS ACCOMMODATIONS: When authorized to stay off-grounds by the Department Training Officer, the Mott Training Center will pickup the cost of

your room and meals at the current DPR Asilomar rate. If you stay off grounds and have meals on grounds, the Training Center will authorize only what the Department pays Asilomar for lodging.

7. MEALS: Meals will be provided, semi-cafeteria style, from dinner on the date of arrival through lunch on the date of departure. Meals will be served at 7:15 a.m. for breakfast, 12:00 noon for lunch, and 6:00 p.m. for dinner. Hot or box lunches may be provided on some days. If you require a special diet, notify the Asilomar Chef at 831-372-8016 no later than one week before your scheduled arrival.

In order to assist participants with limited mobility, Asilomar provides a shuttle to and from the dining hall. Please contact either Asilomar staff upon check in, or Training Center staff upon your arrival, for instructions on arranging a transport.

8. CLOTHING: Field uniforms as found in "Description of Required Field Uniforms", DOM Chapter 2300, Uniform Handbooks, not including optional items, will be worn daily by all uniformed employees during formal training sessions **unless otherwise specified in the Program Attendance Checklist**. Non-uniformed employees shall wear apparel normally worn on the job. Appropriate attire includes apparel suitable for professional office dress. It does not include such items as shorts, t-shirts, tank tops, or sandals.

Because we are on the conference grounds with many other groups, and the image we project as State Park employees is important not only during working hours but off duty hours as well, your informal sportswear should be appropriate.

9. ROOM SAFES: Two safes have been installed in each of the lodge rooms used by the Training Center (Live Oak, Tree Tops, and Deer Lodge). These safes are a type that allows the user to input their own combination of numbers to facilitate opening and closing. The Training Center has a master key for emergency entry. Safes are to be left in the open position when checking out of your room.
10. WEAPONS: Weapons are permitted in rooms under the following conditions. Authorized firearms and magazines stored while at the Mott Training Center shall be in a safe condition and stored in one of the following locations: your room safe in Live Oak, Tree Tops, or Deer Lodge, one of the Mott Training Center's safes in the Whitehead Room or secured in your vehicle.
11. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES: Participants shall not possess or consume alcoholic beverages in common areas (living room) while on the Asilomar Conference Grounds unless provided and hosted by Concessionaire ARAMARK.
12. SMOKING: Smoking is not permitted in the Mott Training Center or in any lodge or guest room on the Asilomar Conference Grounds.

13. **TRAINING CENTER:** The Mott Training Center is located on Asilomar Conference Grounds, part of Asilomar State Beach. The Conference Grounds are operated for our Department by a concessionaire, and all lodging and food services are provided to us by employees of the concessionaire. Constant efforts are made to maintain a sound, harmonious working relationship between the Department and concessionaire. None of us can expect preferential treatment for any reason and, as a departmental employee; you will be expected to join in our continuing effort toward an effective relationship with each Asilomar concession staff member. On occasion, non-departmental groups may be staying in the same lodges. It is imperative that you represent the Department well on and off duty.
14. **REGISTRATION:** When you arrive at Asilomar Conference Grounds, go directly to the front desk at the Asilomar Administration Building for your room key and dining room ticket. If you require vegetarian meals, notify the front desk representative and your meal ticket will be marked accordingly.
15. **COURSE LEADERS:** The formal training you will attend is developed and, for the most part, conducted by experienced State Park employees in field and staff positions. Some courses will be conducted by qualified instructors from other agencies and educational institutions. Your course leaders have proven their ability and knowledge in their profession, and provide a level of expertise difficult to match.
16. **TRAINING CENTER STAFF:** Sara M. Skinner is your Training Specialist and has been assigned the responsibility for your training group. That staff member usually serves as a Course Leader as well as a Coordinator. During the program, you may be asked to assist Training Section Staff in the logistics of your training program (organizing field trip transportation, supervising classroom breaks, etc.). Training Section Staff will do all within their power to make your training experience pleasant and meaningful.
17. **TRAINING MATERIALS:** May be made available to you at both your unit and the Mott Training Center. Handout materials issued at your unit should be brought to training for possible use. A conference binder or notebook will be issued to you at the training session for note taking and convenience in handling materials. Copies of DAM and DOM will be available to you for self-study. Bring your own pens and pencils.
18. **ATTENDANCE:** Regular attendance is a critical course requirement and your participation is important to the success of this training. An absence of more than 10% of the course hours constitutes grounds for dropping a participant from the course. The Department Training Officer may modify this requirement based upon participant knowledge level and/or the portion of the course missed. All absences, except those of an emergency nature, must be approved in advance by the Training Specialist.

19. **COLLEGE CREDIT:** Most training programs are accredited by Monterey Peninsula College for lower division credit. If you successfully complete an accredited program, you will receive either a letter grade or a credit/no-credit designation.
20. **MPC STUDENT ID:** If you have filled out an MPC application before, you have already been issued a student ID number to use in lieu of your SSN on future applications. You can obtain your MPC ID number by going to their secure website and providing your SSN number (no name required) and birthdate.

To obtain the number, logon at: <http://www.mpc.edu>

- In the column on the left side of the screen, click on Registration (WebReg).
- In the form that comes up and is titled: Have you applied for a BOG Fee Waiver, enter your Social Security Number in the box that is titled MPC/ID, and enter your birthdate in the second box.
- Click on Login
- The system will then come back with your MPC Student Identifier (SID).

You can store your MPC ID number in your ETMS Profile for future reference.

**Newcomers to training will need to provide their SSN on the first MPC application only, after which a student ID number will be assigned and available by following the instructions above within a few weeks of the program's conclusion.**

21. **VEHICLES:** All vehicles should be parked in the lots adjacent to the Mott Training Center. Any questions regarding use of a State vehicle while at the Mott Training Center should be discussed with your supervisor prior to your departure for training, or with your Program Coordinator while at the Mott Training Center.
22. **BICYCLES:** If you bring your bicycle, store it in the bicycle shed next to the Mott Training Center. Bicycles may not be brought into any building nor chained to lamp posts, trees, etc. The Mott Training Center has a limited number of bicycles available for your use. Prior to your use, you are required to complete a safety inspection and sign a waiver which is posted in the bicycle shed.
23. **MAIL:** Mail forwarded to you during your time at the Center should be addressed to you in care of:

Department of Parks and Recreation  
WILLIAM PENN MOTT JR. TRAINING CENTER  
P. O. Box 699, Pacific Grove, CA 93950



24. CELL PHONES: As a courtesy to your fellow participants and course leaders ensure that your cell phone is turned off during classes. Participants should not be receiving or making cell phone calls during class time. Please limit those calls to your breaks.
25. FAX: The Mott Training Center's FAX number is (831) 649-2824.
26. TELEPHONE: Limit phone calls during classroom hours to urgent business or emergencies. Anyone wishing to contact you by telephone during working hours should call the Center at (831) 649-2954. Calls after 5:00 p.m. or during weekends should be made to (831) 372-8016, Asilomar Conference Grounds, and the caller should tell the switchboard operator you are with a California State Parks training group. **Please Note: There are no longer pay telephones outside of the Mott Training Center. There are pay telephones located at the Asilomar Administration Building.**
27. LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING: May be taken care of by you at one of several local establishments.
28. RECREATION: Facilities available on grounds include a heated swimming pool, ping-pong and pool tables, and a volleyball court. The Monterey area offers horseback riding, golf, tennis, racquetball, deep sea fishing, and many historical landmarks and scenic sights to explore.
29. POST-TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS: In connection with formal training are to be completed under the direction of your supervisor. See "Program Attendance Requirements" in this syllabus.
30. COFFEE BREAK REFRESHMENTS: Will be available throughout each session at the Center. You will be asked to contribute to the "Hospitality Fund" to defray expenses. Please bring your own coffee cup.

## PROGRAM ATTENDANCE CHECKLIST

To assist you in your preparation for formal training session at the William Penn Mott Jr. Training Center, the following list is provided:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Read and understand the program syllabus prior to your arrival at the Training Center.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Complete the pre-training assignment on page 8:
  - Please return to Mott Training Center by March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011:  
PO Box 699, Pacific Grove, CA 93950  
or Fax 831-649-2824 or email to [sskinner@parks.ca.gov](mailto:sskinner@parks.ca.gov)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Arrange your travel through your Unit/Office.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Bring a reusable coffee mug, reusable water bottle, paper, pens, pencils and alarm clock.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Foul weather gear (due to the possibility of rain during this time of year).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Proper field uniform (Review DOM 2300 and Formal Training Guideline #8).  
Note: Non-uniformed participants should wear professional office attire.  
Shorts and short pants are not appropriate attire.

If you have any questions or need assistance, contact Training Specialist Sara M. Skinner at (831) 649-2961 or [sskinner@parks.ca.gov](mailto:sskinner@parks.ca.gov).

**PRE-TRAINING ASSIGNMENT**

**NATURAL RESOURCES INTERPRETATION GROUP 4  
PRE-TRAINING ASSIGNMENT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your pre-training assignment is** to begin developing a new program that interprets some natural resource found in your park. Ideally, this program should expand your range of skills and increase your level of confidence as a presenter. You should begin by considering the primary and secondary interpretive themes that have been identified for your park, and by discussing your proposal with your supervisor and your District Interpretive Coordinator. You should proceed with research and development of this program to the extent that time and your abilities allow before attending this training session. Finally, you should come prepared to discuss your project – the steps you have taken, the things you’ve learned, the pitfalls you’ve encountered – and be prepared to give and receive constructive input from facilitators and participants in the group. You need **not** plan on delivering a finished presentation; the stated purpose of the workshop is to assist with the program’s **development**, and time would not permit full presentations in any case.

**Please answer the following** about your proposed program:

- A. What will be the program’s **theme**? (*Do not simply state a title or topic; theme statements should include a verb.*)
- B. What **type** of program will it be? (Guided walk, slide show, etc.)
- C. List resources and references that you plan to use to develop this program.
- D. What kind of input from the group would be most helpful to you?

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**Please return to Mott Training Center by March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011:  
PO BOX 699, Pacific Grove, CA 93950  
or Fax 831-649-2824 or email to [sskinner@parks.ca.gov](mailto:sskinner@parks.ca.gov)**

## **POST-TRAINING ASSIGNMENT**

Prior to ninety days after the completion of this program, the employee and his/her supervisor should sit down and discuss the impact and assess the effectiveness this program has had on the employee. Then both the supervisor and employee should login to the Employee Training Management System (ETMS) and complete the Post-Training Evaluation form (an email will be sent to both employee and supervisor notifying them that the evaluation needs to be completed).

The post-training evaluation process is intended to provide a bridge between classroom instruction and the on-the-job application of training. The information obtained through this process will assist the training participant, supervisor, and Training Center in providing a return on the investment the Department has on training.

**NATURAL RESOURCE INTERPRETATION GROUP 4**  
**March 27 - April 1, 2011**

**Sunday**  
**March 27**

1500- REGISTRATION: (Check-in at Asilomar Administration Building) All

**Monday**  
**March 28**

**Beginning with Basics**

0800-0830	Mott Training Center Business	Skinner
0830-0900	Introductions and Overview: The Interpreter's Journey	Werminski/Mette/ Absher/Cantisano
0900-1000	California, Naturally: Surveying the Resource	Werminski
1000-1200	Fun with Fundamentals	Bell
1200-1300	Lunch	
1300-1430	Appreciate the Ordinary	Werminski
1430-1700	Workshop/Clinic	Mette

**Tuesday**

**March 29**

**Expanding the Boundaries**

0800-1100	Capturing the Experience	Laws
1100-1200	The Art of Seeing	Werminski
1200-1300	Lunch	
1300-1500	Misspelling RAPPORT	Bier
1500-1700	Workshop/Clinic	Mette

**Wednesday**

**March 30**

**The Power of Place**

0800-1200	Field Training Excursion: Big Basin – Tall Trees and a Grand Heritage	Sidel/Staff
1200-1300	Lunch	
1300-1700	Field Training Excursion: Big Basin – Tall Trees and a Grand Heritage	Sidel/Staff

**Thursday**

**March 31**

**An Evolving Discipline**

0800-1200	Connecting Kids with Nature	Cantisano/Absher/ Stokes
1200-1300	Lunch	
1300-1400	Climate Change and Parks: Interpreting the Insidious	Werminski/Stokes
1400-1500	Changing Minds, Changing Behavior: Protecting Natural Resources with Interpretation	Robbins
1500-1700	Workshop/Clinic	Mette

**NATURAL RESOURCE INTERPRETATION GROUP 4**  
**March 27 - April 1, 2011**

**Friday**

**April 1**

**Destinations**

0800-0900	Road Maps for Your Journey	Werminski/Staff
0900-1000	The Tongues of Angels	Werminski
1000-1100	Interpreting Your Future	Mette
1100-1130	Conclusion/Group Discussion	Mette/Cantisano/ Absher/Werminski
1130-1200	Mott Training Center Evaluation/Business	Skinner
1200-	Lunch and Departure	

**NATURAL RESOURCES INTERPRETATION GROUP 4**

	<u><b>HOURS</b></u>
<u>PROGRAM OUTLINE</u>	
<u>INTRODUCTION AND WRAP-UP</u> .....	8.0
Welcome, Applications, and Course Review .....	
Evaluation and Wrap-up .....	
Clinic .....	
<u>BEGINNING WITH BASICS</u> .....	5.0
The Interpreter’s Journey .....	
California, Naturally: Surveying the Resource .....	
Fun with Fundamentals .....	
Appreciating the Ordinary .....	
<u>EXPANDING THE BOUNDARIES</u> .....	6.0
Developing a Partnership Culture .....	
Capturing the Experience .....	
The Art of Seeing .....	
Misspelling RAPPORT .....	
<u>THE POWER OF PLACE</u> .....	8.0
Field Training Excursion: Big Basin – Tall Trees and a Grand Heritage.....	
<u>AN EVOLVING DISCIPLINE</u> .....	6.0
Connecting Kids with Nature .....	
Climate Change and Parks: Interpreting the Insidious .....	
Changing Minds, Changing Behavior: Protecting Natural Resources .....	
with Interpretation.....	
<u>DESTINATIONS</u> .....	3.0
Road Maps for Your Journey .....	
The Tongues of Angels .....	
Interpreting Your Future .....	
<b>TOTAL HOURS</b> .....	<b>36</b>

## **NATURAL RESOURCES INTERPRETATION**

General Purpose: To help participants become more highly motivated and skilled interpreters of natural history.

General Objectives: By completing this program, the participant will acquire a diverse array of new ideas, techniques, and materials that they will use to develop new interpretive programs and to improve the quality of existing ones.

Regard their interpretive works as part of an ongoing “journey” – that is, as an opportunity for personal growth and expression that can be pursued throughout their careers.

### **BEGINNING WITH BASICS**

Purpose: Instill in participants a renewed sense of the opportunity, value, and meaning of natural resources interpretation by taking a fresh look at the subject matter – from atoms to sand grains to the entire state.

#### The Interpreter’s Journey

Purpose: To give participants a clear sense of the week’s direction and goals.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participants will

1. Describe 5-day course’s “umbrella” theme an “interpreter’s journey” and its applicability to their presentations and careers.

#### California, Naturally: Surveying the Resource

Purpose: Participants will engage audio-visually with the vast array of natural resources available to be interpreted in California.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Identify the various geologic, climatic, biological, and aesthetic resources that serve as “raw materials” for interpreters in California’s state parks.
2. Recognize thematic connections between these diverse natural resources.

#### Fun with Fundamentals



Purpose: To demonstrate the interpretive potential of basic scientific concepts.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Describe how to effectively convey elemental science that's essential to understanding the natural world through demonstrations, hands-on devices, and engaging explanations.

### Appreciating the Ordinary

Purpose: To shed light on the beauty and fascination to be found in common objects and phenomena that are all too often overlooked.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Recognize the interpretive potential of such things as light, shadow, color, motion, and time.
2. Demonstrate sharpening one's perspective skills is the key to discovering hidden beauty.
3. Realize that an interpretive focus on ordinary things increase the "take home" value of presentation.

### Clinic

Purpose: To provide participants with an opportunity to improve their programs-in-progress through interactions with class members and facilitators.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Offer suggestions, share experiences, and otherwise engage in a constructive discussion of the other class members' projects.
2. Receive ideas, advice, and encouragement that will result in a high-quality new program interpreting some natural resource-related topic.
3. Describe how state park services may be funded through a cooperating association.

## **EXPANDING THE BOUNDARIES**

Purpose: To expose participants to new ideas and useful techniques for observing, recording, and sharing memorable experiences in nature.

## Capturing the Experience

Purpose: To show the connection between observation, identification, journaling, and art as ways to more fully appreciate a park experience and to acquire a sense of place.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Sharpen their observational skills by applying them to drawing and writing exercises.
2. Demonstrate basic identification and classification techniques by paying close attention to the features of natural objects.
3. Employ these skills and techniques in interpretive programs they present.

## The Art of Seeing

Purpose: To audio-visually explore the educational and aesthetic benefits of thoughtful observation in outdoor setting.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Engage in a wide range of interesting natural sights while learning about their interpretive potential.
2. Acquire ideas for incorporating various visual phenomena, and be able to share those new sensibilities with the public.
3. Appreciate and enjoy the beauty of natural objects and phenomena, and be able to share those new sensibilities with the public.

## Misspelling RAPPORT

Purpose: To persuade participants that the best interpretation includes two qualities not covered by the acronym RAPPORT: a passion for the subject and a personal style that makes each program a unique gift from the present.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Seek a higher level of quality and creativity in their presentations.
2. Obtain ideas and techniques for making interpretive presentations more effective, distinctive, and memorable.

## **TALL TREES AND A GRAND HERITAGE**

**Purpose:** To consider natural resource interpretation in relation to a setting of great ecological and historical significance: Big Basin Redwoods State Park.

**Learning Objectives:** By the close of the session the participant will

1. Explore an old-growth forest.
2. Observe guided nature walk techniques.
3. Tour the park's nature lodge and other interpretive facilities.
4. Describe the history and evolution of natural resource interpretation in California's state parks.
5. Consider the interconnectedness of natural and cultural history at Big Basin and elsewhere.
6. Practice perceptive exercises that will enhance participants' "sense of place".
7. Use travel time productively for orientation, discussion, and debriefing.

## **AN EVOLVING DISCIPLINE**

**Purpose:** To focus on aspects of natural history interpretation that are particularly significant because they relate to important large-scale changes in California's natural and social environments.

### **Connecting Kids with Nature**

**Purpose:** To explore a broad range of options for engaging children with nature through interpretive materials, facilities, and programs offered by State Parks.

**Learning Objectives:** By the close of the session the participant will

1. Describe the different developmental stages of children in order to set appropriate learning objectives.
2. Conduct a Junior Ranger program that's educational, well-managed, and fun.
3. List other high-quality environmental education resources such as Project Learning Tree, Project Wild, and Cal Alive!

4. Describe how to make interpretive presentations more relevant to school groups through a knowledge of curriculum content standards.

#### Climate Change and Parks: Interpreting the Insidious

Purpose: To provide participants with an overview of the climate change issue as it pertains to state parks, and to advise them about interpreting this confusing and controversial subject to the public.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Identify the causes and consequences of climate change as well as the science behind official claims and predications.
2. Recognize California's leading role in combating climate change and learn about State Parks' "Cool Parks" response to this environmental threat.
3. Interpret climate change-related policies and practices more confidently and effectively to the public.

#### Social Psychology: A Meeting of Minds

Purpose: To share techniques that interpreters can use to foster attitudes and promote values that are in keeping with State Parks' mission.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Describe new ways to educate visitors about State Parks policies and to persuade visitors to personally embrace the elements of a "park ethic".

### **DESTINATIONS**

Purpose: To complete the course's "journey" by viewing interpretation as an opportunity for ongoing personal and professional growth.

Resources: Road Maps for Your Journey

Purpose: To explore the vast array of published materials available to inform interpreters about the natural world and to help them become more inspiring presenters.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. List general references, field guides, periodicals, maps, catalogues, and good literature to help them pursue their personal interests in natural history.

### The Tongues of Angels

Purpose: To audio-visually explore the idea of the interpreter's journey as a career-long quest to communicate an understanding and appreciation of the wonders of nature.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Recognize the endless possibilities for professional growth and personal fulfillment that arise through long-term commitment to natural resource interpretation in California's state parks.

### Interpreting Your Future

Purpose: To bring closure to the week-long session by summarizing, in an inspiring manner, the lessons conveyed and the lasting value of his training to participants and to State Parks.

Learning Objectives: By the close of the session the participant will

1. Demonstrate a higher level of knowledge, enthusiasm, confidence, and commitment about providing top-quality natural resource interpretation.

location map for  
**WILLIAM PENN MOTT JR. TRAINING CENTER**  
837 ASILOMAR BLVD.  
PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA 93950

