



# DIRECTOR'S RECOGNITION AWARDS CEREMONY



**Armando Quintero**  
**Director, California State Parks**

**Thursday, April 27, 2023**  
**10 A.M.**

**California Natural Resources Agency**  
**Headquarters Auditorium**

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# ANNUAL RECOGNITION AWARDS



## CLIMATE ADAPTATION AWARD

*Recognizes those who have taken remarkable steps in preparing for and protecting against the adverse and imminent consequences of climate change, including wildfires, flooding, erosion, air pollution and droughts, as well as threats to park habitats, ecosystems and people.*

### REDWOODS RISING

A collaboration between Save the Redwoods League, the National Park Service and California State Parks

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## COMPASS AWARD

*Recognizes remarkable long-term visioning, innovative thinking and mentorship that fosters talent and provides support to staff at all levels.*

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION – TRAINING SECTION  
Ricky Roldan

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## EQUITY AND DIVERSITY AWARD

*Recognizes those who have made an exceptional contribution to ensuring all Californians have access to the outdoors and cultural sites and who have significantly contributed to the department's values of equity and inclusion.*

OUTDOORS FOR ALL PARK PASS PROGRAM TEAM

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## INNOVATION AWARD

*Recognizes those who have demonstrated the remarkable ability to complete tasks and projects or address park problems through creative and innovative means.*

### **NORTH COAST REDWOODS DISTRICT** **North Coast Redwoods Trail Crew**

Anahi Aleman	Omar Dominguez-Castillo	Michael Leone
Matthew Amstutz	Zeppelin Estrada	Christian Lopez
Gary Asbury	Abraham Eudy	Jose Loza-Cruz
Andrew Avila	George Evans	James Lynn
Adam Baran	Caleb Farland	Dalton Olson
Luz Beltran	Nicholas Femenella	Jessica Ramirez-Lepe
Bradley Butler	Justin Goerrs	Peter Richardson
Dontae Cameron	Miriam Gregory	Yony Rivas
Dee Dee Cathey	Camryn Hall	Cole Saxen
Joseph Cofresi	Jack Harris	Lincoln Stone
Brandon DePerna	Diego Hernandez	Melody Vaughn

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## INSPIRATION AWARD

*Recognizes those who have achieved a major public objective while emphasizing community involvement.*

**SIERRA DISTRICT**  
Sarinah Simons

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## LEADERSHIP AND VISION AWARD

*Recognizes staff with the ability to motivate and inspire others to positive action and who have demonstrated a long-term commitment to the ideals and values of State Parks.*

**INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION DIVISION**  
Heather Holm

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## PARTNERSHIP AWARD

*Recognizes partners who have demonstrated a high level of commitment over a substantial period of time toward accomplishing the mission of State Parks.*

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS FOUNDATION

PARKS CALIFORNIA

SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE

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## PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY AWARD

*Recognizes employees who have demonstrated a high degree of honesty, integrity and idealism in the face of adverse pressure.*

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Jenan Saunders

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## RESILIENCE AWARD

*Recognizes an individual or team who tirelessly and valiantly rose to enormous challenges during an emergency response situation and/or recovery effort.*

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

Andrew Capistrano and Daniel Walsh

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## TRAILBLAZER AWARD

*Recognizes those who have introduced new ideas or methods to accomplish the mission of State Parks or pioneered new ways to introduce the public to state parks.*

NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Terri Gaines

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# SPECIAL ACT/SERVICE AWARD

*Given for an extraordinary act of heroism by an employee that extends far above the normal call of duty or service, and is performed at great risk to their own safety in an effort to save life and/or property.*

## CAPITAL DISTRICT

Guy Chrisos

Albert Di Paolo

## SONOMA-MENDOCINO COAST DISTRICT

Alison Cebula

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# SPECIAL COMMENDATION

*Given to an individual or team who has made a significant contribution toward accomplishing the mission and goals of State Parks. Efforts recognized by this award stand far above the norm and are substantial in impact and worthy of recognition at the director's level.*

## NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Lisa Andreano

## OFF-HIGHWAY MOTOR VEHICLE RECREATION DIVISION

Michelle Forsha

## SAN LUIS OBISPO COAST DISTRICT

Kelly McFadden

## Fire and Forestry Crew

Myriam Alvarez	Madison Gilmartin	Andrew Massaro
Brad Collins	Kevin Hurt	Kelly McFadden
Matt Cunningham	Colton Kegeles	Mica Sarmiento Martinez
Mateo Fresquez	Harrison Kohr	Nora Stankavich

## SOUTHERN COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Kari Cotton

## STRATEGIC PLANNING AND RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

Andrew Shipley

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# THANK YOU

Thank you for “Living the Parks Life.” Although not all employees could be selected for a Director’s Recognition Award this year, know that your dedication to our mission does not go unnoticed.

Your support in providing safe, equitable and inclusive outdoor and recreational spaces for the enjoyment and mental and physical health of all Californians, while preserving the state’s extraordinary natural and cultural resources for current and future generations, continues to be vital.

All of us, whether in the office or in the field, are helping to enable all Californians to access these important resources. Your dedication to the California Department of Parks and Recreation and its programs has a direct and positive impact on the state’s diverse population. Your skills and abilities to not only adapt, but also thrive under the challenges of climate change—including wildfires, sea-level rise and extreme weather events—are to be commended and are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your service and commitment.

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To view the awards ceremony, please visit:  
[parks.ca.gov/DirectorAwards](https://parks.ca.gov/DirectorAwards)



## MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation 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.