

# HENRY W. COE STATE PARK

## INTERPRETATION MASTER PLAN



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# Henry W. Coe State Park Interpretation Master Plan


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Cover Image: Along Steer Ridge Road near Wilson Peak at Henry W. Coe State Park  
(Photo by Cynthia Leeder)

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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## **Agency**

State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, Monterey District, Gavilan Sector, Henry W. Coe State Park (HCSP)

## **Project Title**

Henry W. Coe State Park Interpretation Master Plan

## **Project Description**

The Interpretation Master Plan (IMP) was developed because the General Plan was written in 1985 and is outdated. Also, there are restoration work and interpretive programs taking place at Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs. This plan provides a five to 10 year roadmap for interpretive services at Henry Coe W. State Park. Recommendations made in the IMP and IAP will guide the development of interpretive services and facilities for the park.

## **Planning Process**

The IMP was developed starting in October 2011 and was completed in December 2013 through a collaborative process. The team consisted of core members and an extended group of park staff, volunteers, partners, and cooperating association members. The core team developed the content, conducted the formal visitor survey process and evaluation, and analyzed conditions and data. The secondary group provided information and reviewed sections of the plan.

## **Project Findings**

Since many of the recommendations in the General Plan for interpretive services have been accomplished, this IMP will be useful in providing guidance. It can also be helpful for the Pine Ridge Association in budgeting what interpretive programs and signage they could fund.

In addition, the results for the visitor survey is a valuable tool for knowing who is visiting the park, what activities they are participating in and what is important to them. The specific visitor comments will also be useful in improving the services to the visitors.

## **Recommendations**

Many short-term interpretive projects (ranging 1-2 years) can be accomplished with the support of the Pine Ridge Association and park volunteers. However, the largest barrier to accomplishing many of the tasks is the lack of staff. The existing staff is doing the best they can with the resources they have. Ideally, the park should have a full-time Interpreter to free the Ranger staff to do more patrol and law enforcement.

Docents are capable of conducting interpretive programs, coordinating special events and facilitating docent training but still need staff oversight. The new interpretive activities at Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs need more staff support.

If the Regional Interpretive Specialist is available to be the Project Lead and there is funding many of the interpretive panels could be developed and installed working with the field staff. Other short-term goals include improving orientation and trip planning information, developing interpretive content for programs, and building partnerships with interpretive providers. Effective marketing and outreach programs need to be implemented so that the interpretive services are reaching current and potential audiences.

Once the IMP is approved, the Sector Superintendent and the Regional Interpretive Specialist need to first have a planning workshop with staff and docents to determine their interpretive program priorities and develop an annual interpretive implementation plan. Then, they should have a workshop with the board members of the Pine Ridge Association to determine which of the priorities they are willing to fund. Other funding sources need to be explored.

We need to work with the Japanese community at Gilroy-Yamato Hot Springs to get their input and assistance in providing guided tours and conducting special events. We also need to work with the tribal representatives to provide presentations and interpretive programs. We also need to identify other potential partnerships.

We also need to utilize current social media tools such as Facebook and future new social media tools. The websites need to be regularly updated.

Long-range projects include new capital outlay projects (interpretive facilities), projects requiring additional staff, exhibits, special events, and expanded educational and interpretive programs. The most challenging issue will be determining if the current Visitor Center can be made accessible.

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

- **PARK OVERVIEW**
- **PLAN PURPOSE**
- **PLANNING PROCESS**
- **PARK PLANNING HISTORY**
- **PARK MAPS AND ORIENTATION**

### 1.1 PARK OVERVIEW



Henry W. Coe State Park is the second largest unit in the California State Park System with over 87,000 acres of pristine open spaces. It is located in the Diablo Range, 21 miles southeast of San Jose. The park is a major feature of the mountain landscape on the eastern side of Highway 101 from San Jose to Pacheco Pass. The primary recreation attraction is the large expanse of natural landscape.

The park hosts a fascinating variety of plants and animals. It also houses the headwaters of Coyote and Orestimba Creeks, long stretches of Pacheco Creek, and a 23,300-acre wilderness area. The park is known for the sweeping views of the Santa Clara Valley and the Mt. Diablo range. On clear days, visitors can see the Sierra Nevada from certain viewpoints.

There are six vehicle access points to the park, only three of which are currently open to the public. Once at the entrance, the interior of the park can only be accessed by foot, bike, or horse. The terrain is



rugged, pristine, and diverse and inspires enthusiastic hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, backpackers, naturalists and photographers to push their physical limits to explore and experience the solitude and natural conditions.

The park is also rich with cultural stories and resources. Once home to the Yokuts and Mutsun, the park's landscape has been shaped by its human history, which includes homesteaders and ranchers. Long seen as a place for respite and

retreat, two world-renowned resorts and retreat centers, Madrone Soda Springs and Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs, brought scores of visitors to the land prior to its use as a state park.

With all of its cultural and natural highlights, there are a wealth of recreational and educational opportunities and adventures for visitors to explore and experience. With the help of the park's cooperating association, The Pine Ridge Association (PRA), the park offers educational and interpretive programs as well as extensive published materials to enhance visitor experiences.

## **1.2 PLAN PURPOSE**

The Interpretation Master Plan (IMP) is a long-range interpretation blueprint for interpretation and education within a park unit. It is informed by the General Plan (1985) and provides a unified interpretive vision for the park. The Interpretation Action Plan, located in Chapter 5, will guide the park's Annual Implementation Plans. The Interpretation Master Plan will guide the development of interpretive facilities, exhibits, signage, educational programs, and recreational opportunities at the park. This plan will continue to be revised and revisited on a regular basis, responding to changes that impact interpretation and education within the park (e.g. new acquisitions, new General Plan).

The plan is written at this time to attract funding to improve visitor services and interpretation at the park, evaluate current programs and services, and create a five to ten year plan for the cooperating-association (the Pine Ridge Association PRA)

and park staff to use. Since the General Plan was written in 1985, the park has acquired substantially more land, including additional entrances. With these new acquisitions, visitor use has continued to grow and a new assessment will help create a big-picture vision for interpretation within the park. Henry W. Coe Park is also on the waiting list for a new General Plan.

Due to a state budget crisis, Henry W. Coe State Park was slated as one of 70 parks to close all public access. Grassroots efforts rallied enough support and money to co-operate the park for two years while the state explores new budget options. This plan is seen as an important initial step in supporting ways to build public support, increase visitation and revenue, and safeguard it from future closures.

## **1.3 PLANNING PROCESS**

The IMP process began in October 2011 and was completed in January 2013, although some preliminary work was done by park staff months prior to the formal process. A core team from the UC Davis John Muir Institute for the Environment (JMIE), in partnership with California State Parks, designed the IMP process and identified a planning team. The team consisted of core team members and an extended group of park staff, volunteers, partners, and cooperating-association members. The core team developed the content, conducted the formal visitor survey process and evaluation, and analyzed conditions and data. The extended group provided information and reviewed sections of the plan.

The first step of the process began in

## PLANNING TEAM STRUCTURE

### LEADS

- **Sheila Golden**, Graduate Student Researcher, Community Development Graduate Group and John Muir Institute for the Environment (UC Davis)
- **Eddie Guaracha**, Gavilan Sector Superintendent
- **Pat Clark-Gray**, Monterey District Interpretive Specialist

### JOHN MUIR INSTITUTE OF THE ENVIRONMENT (UC DAVIS) SUPPORTING STAFF

- **Joyce Gutstein**, Director of Environmental Outreach
- **Kandace Knudson**, Co-Director of Environmental Leaders Program
- **Kelly Carner**, Financial Analyst
- **Kaitlin Fitsmahan**, Graduate Student Artist
- **Elizabeth Lewis**, Undergraduate Assistant
- **Rachael Klopfenstein**, Undergraduate Assistant
- **Olivia Pogorelskin**, Undergraduate Assistant

### MONTEREY DISTRICT PLANNING TEAM STAFF

- **Stuart Organo**, Gavilan Sector Supervising Ranger
- **Jen Naber**, Gavilan Sector Ranger
- **John Verhoeven**, Gavilan Sector Ranger
- **Cameron Bowers**, Gavilan Sector Ranger
- **Nikki Combs**, Gavilan Sector Interpreter I

- **Matt Bischoff**, Monterey District Historian III
- **Rae Schwaderer**, Monterey District Associate Archaeologist
- **Kris Quist**, Monterey District Curator
- **Amy Palkovic**, Monterey District Environmental Scientist
- **Susan Ferry**, Gavilan Sector Environmental Scientist

### PINE RIDGE ASSOCIATION

- **Teddy Goodrich**, PRA Historian
- **Paul Nam**, PRA President
- **Winslow Briggs**, PRA Member
- 

### FRIENDS OF GILROY HOT SPRINGS

- **Laura Dominguez-Yon**, President

### INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION DIVISION

- **Donna Pozzi**, Chief
- **Carolyn Schimandle**, State Park Interpreter III

### MAJOR CONSTITUENT GROUPS

Pine Ridge Association  
Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs  
Gilroy Unified School District  
Boy Scouts of America  
Outward Bound  
Coe Park Preservation Fund  
Santa Clara County Parks  
National Parks- Anza Historic Trail  
Amah-Mutsun Tribal Chair, Val Lopez  
Responsible, Organized Mountain  
Peddlers (ROMP)



February 2011 with a forum, conducted by the park staff, for park volunteers and Pine Ridge Association (PRA) members that outlined current interpretive services and facilities and prioritized some major concerns. In May 2011, a visitor survey was designed and distributed at the park and online. This process occurred over a year in order to capture data for all seasonal use.

The first two months were spent reviewing planning documents, meeting with core team members, and designing a stakeholder process. In January and February 2012 two public meetings were held. Due to a large amount of concern and interpretive potential revolving around Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs, one meeting was solely aimed at identifying interpretive and development priorities at that site. This also included an online public survey (see appendix). Another public meeting focused on interpretive themes and recreational opportunities at Henry W. Coe State Park as a whole.

Several phone, personal interviews, and e-mail exchanges with user groups, other

parks in proximity, and potential partners were conducted and answers were coded. With the help of park staff, the lead researcher wrote and sent drafts of individual chapters as they were completed to the expanded committee.

## **1.4 PARK PLANNING HISTORY**

**General Plan (1985)-** The park underwent a General Plan process in 1984. Since then, the park has increased its landholdings, including major entrance points and resources such as Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs and Hunting Hollow.

**Interpretive Prospectus (1985)-** With the General Plan, an Interpretive Prospectus was included that established interpretive resources and themes. The prospectus does not include the properties or resources acquired since 1985 and needs to be updated.

**Scope of Collections DRAFT (2011)-** The park is undergoing a Scope of Collections evaluation. The draft was used in creating this planning document.

## 1.5 PARK MAPS AND ORIENTATION

The park has multiple entry points. Only some of the entrances are currently open. Other than these entrance points there is no way to drive into the park, besides official use on fire roads. Once at these entrances one must travel into the interior of the park on foot, bike, or horse.

**Headquarters Entrance** (OPEN ALL YEAR) has a visitor center, bathrooms and a campground. Perched on top of a ridge, upon arrival visitors are greeted with a sweeping viewscape. Most visitation starts from this point. There is also an empty ranch house and barn that have major potential to be cultural history attractions.

**Hunting Hollow Entrance** (OPEN ALL YEAR) has a large parking lot and porta-potties. There is a small picnic area and a flat, dirt road that runs through the hollow for a few miles. Coyote Creek runs parallel to the road.

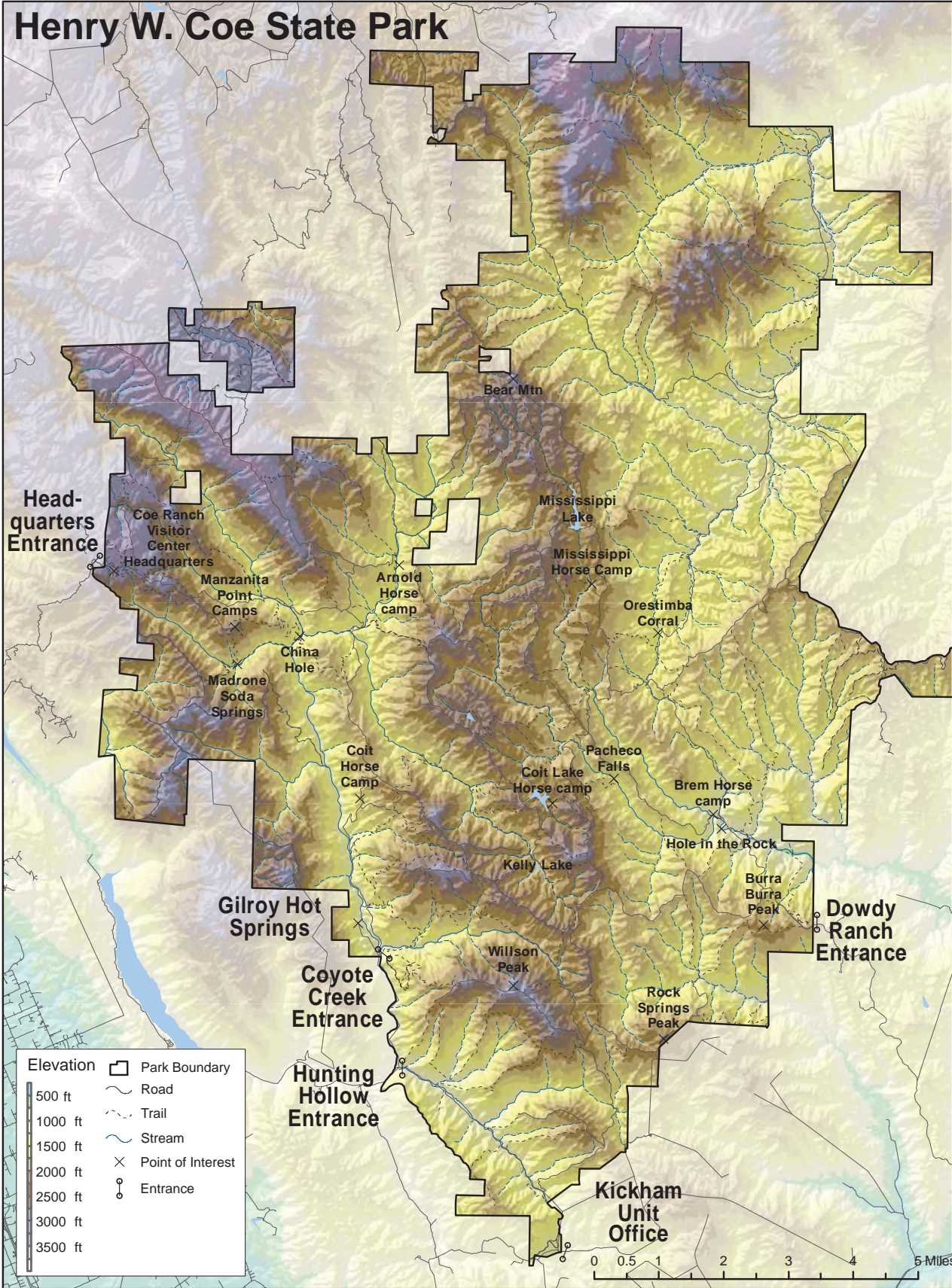
**Coyote Creek Entrance** (LIMITED ACCESS) is two miles past Hunting Hollow on Gilroy Hot Springs Road. There is no parking lot. There are several swimming holes along Coyote Creek. Several miles further is a large horse camp. This entrance has prime access to some of the popular backpacking destinations, such as Kelly and Coit Lakes and Pacheco Falls.

**Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs Entrance** (LIMITED ACCESS) is located across from the Coyote Creek trailhead. It has many historical buildings associated with the former resort. It also has hot springs with water temperature of about 100 degrees F. This property is only accessible to the public with special arrangements or reservations. The site hosts occasional guided tours and special events that the public can attend.

**Kickham Ranch Unit Office** (CLOSED) is off of Canada Rd and is connected by a fire road to Hunting Hollow Entrance. This entrance houses park offices and housing and is not open to the public.

**Bell Station** (OPEN ALL YEAR) is a staging area right off of Pacheco Pass and is the gateway to the Dowdy Ranch Entrance of the park. The park owns a small piece of land by the road that contains a vault toilet, picnic area, and some interpretive panels.

**The Dowdy Ranch Entrance** (OPEN SEASONALLY) is located off of Pacheco Pass and 7 miles up the unpaved Kaiser-Aetna Road past Bell Station. It is the best way to access the eastern half of the park. The Dowdy Ranch Entrance has running water, bathrooms, a visitor center, and picnic areas. This entrance is only open to the public on weekends between the months of May and October, depending on weather and road conditions. In the past, during fiscal hardship, this entrance has been subject to closure for cost saving measures. This entrance is also open for Backcountry Weekend, an annual PRA event.



Map created by Sheila Golden and Will Fourt

## CHAPTER 2

# PLANNING FOUNDATION

- **PARK RESOURCES**
- **EXISTING INTERPRETATION**
- **LOCAL AND REGIONAL INFLUENCES**
- **VISITATION AND VISITOR USE**

## 2.1 PARK RESOURCES

### 2.1.1 Interpretive Significance

Henry W. Coe State Park has a vast number of recreational opportunities, unique natural resources, and a rich cultural history. Visitors come to recreate in the park's lakes and creeks, and hike and ride on the extensive trail system. It is one of only two large undeveloped parks within two hours of the heavy populated Bay Area. It hosts an abundance of habitats and wildlife.

### 2.1.2 Natural Resources

#### Topography

Henry W. Coe State Park is located in the Mount Hamilton Range subdivision of the Diablo Range. The Diablo Range is an area 50 miles long and 30 miles wide, consisting

of rugged, northwest-trending ridges and generally narrow, intervening stream valleys. Elevation ranges from 700 ft in the valley bottoms to the slopes of Mount Stakes in the Northern part of the park, which rises to 3,500 ft. (DPR 1985:6).

#### Weather

The Diablo Range is a transitional climatic area between the drier continental climates of the San Joaquin Valley to the east and the mild marine climates to the west. The higher elevations of the Diablo Range are often above the marine air layer; therefore, the park area generally has warmer summer temperatures and cooler winter temperatures than lower elevations closer to the ocean. The park can sometimes see small blankets of snow in the winter, which serves as a popular attraction for locals. The summer months are dry and hot (with



Coe with snow. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

temperatures often reaching the 90's and into the 100's.) Spring and fall often have mild temperatures with occasional rains.

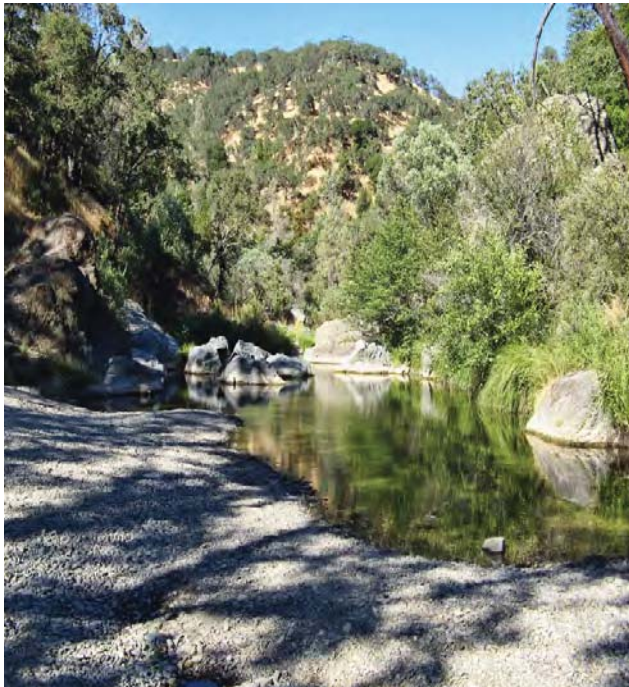
The topographic characteristics of the park area make for a wide range of microclimatic conditions. Temperature extremes are greater on the high mountaintops and in the low canyon bottoms. The west-facing, windward slopes collect rain that allows for more lush vegetation but create rain shadows, leading to a dryer east side

## Watershed and Water Features

### Riparian

The park is in parts of four major watersheds. For more detailed information about Henry W. Coe State Park's watershed, please see the watershed chart in *Appendix H*.

The watershed characteristics for the area are mostly controlled by seasonal weather patterns. Rain, mostly occurring in the winter and spring, creates surface water runoff. During the late summer and early fall, flows of many streams decline, and often cease entirely.



China Hole, a popular swimming area.  
Photo by Cynthia Leeder

### Lakes and Ponds

There are 74 reservoirs located throughout the park area that capture and store local surface water runoff (PRA 1997). Many are destination spots for hikers, bikers, backpackers and backcountry fishing.

Three of the larger reservoirs include:

- Mississippi Lake
- Coit Lake
- Kelly Lake



Mississippi Lake is a popular backpacking and fishing destination.

Photo by Cynthia Leeder

### Springs

Eighty springs are known to exist in the park; 71 of these are located in the Upper Coyote Creek watershed (PRA 1997). The larger ones named on USGS maps include

- Deer Horn Springs
- Madrone Soda Springs
- Bear Springs
- Board Springs
- Gilroy Hot Springs—has geo-thermally heated water

Surface and ground waters originating in the park area contribute partly to recharging major groundwater basins in the Santa Clara Valley and San Joaquin Valley.

### Geology

“Basic to an understanding of the geology of Coe Park is an appreciation of geologic events that began to occur thousands of miles out in the Pacific Ocean about 200

million years ago. Most geologists now accept the theory of plate tectonics, which is based on studies of processes taking place in the modern oceans. This theory proposes that the earth's crust is a jigsaw puzzle of plates that are in constant motion in relation each other (PRA 2012)."

### Faults

The relatively unimpeded east-to-west movement of the North American plate ceased about 30 million years ago, and the sediments that had been deposited in the trench, called the Franciscan Complex, began to rise and add more material to the coastal mountains (DPR 1985). The trench material pierced the overlying sediments in the Diablo Range along an egg-shaped fault. Since geologists did not know at first that the eastern and western limbs of this fault were joined, the fault has two names. On the west, the fault passes just below Coe Park headquarters and is called the Madrone Springs fault. The eastern limb of the fault is two to three miles east of the eastern park boundary and is called the Tesla-Ortigalita fault. Thus, nearly the entire park is composed of Franciscan Complex rocks (DPR 1985).

### Terranes

There are three terranes common in the Franciscan Complex (PRA 2012). Terranes are groups of rocks that have a specific metamorphic history and composition. These three terranes are found in Coe and are, from supposed oldest to youngest:

- *Eylar Mountain*- composed of resistant metagraywacke, slaty mudstone, and minor conglomerate, deposited on chert and greenstone. The landscape is usually characterized by sharp ridges with steep canyons.
- *Mélange*- rocks of the melange were sheared, churned, and pulverized during a faulting event that occurred when the ocean floor and the rocks deposited on top of it were mixed together. As a result of the faulting, rocks that were once deeply buried (in excess of twenty miles) are found next to rocks that were not buried. It can be identified not only by its low, rolling topography but also by its extensive

grasslands interspersed with oaks.

- *Burnt Hills*- characterized by thin, gray sandstone layers (usually one to three inches thick) interbedded with darker mudstone (shale). Numerous fossils have been found consisting of clams and ammonites of the Upper Cretaceous Age (about 80 million years ago). The Burnt Hills terrane often supports plants from the chaparral community rather than the trees.

### Rock Types

There are several major rock types in Coe.

- Chert
- Sandstone
- Greenstone
- Blueschist
- Serpentine

### Volcanoes

Coe has its own volcano at Burra Burra Peak as well as smaller volcanoes that extend north on the Eastern side of the park. These volcanoes have been dated at about 10 million years.



Burra Burra Peak is one of Coe's volcanoes and a hiking destination.  
Photo by Tom Conrad

### Plant Life

The plant life of Henry W. Coe State Park is composed of five major vegetation types:

- Chaparral
- Oak woodland
- Riparian Areas
- Grassland
- Ponderosa pine forest

Fire, slope, geology, soils, elevation, and

aspect determine the intricate mosaic patterns of vegetation.

### California Oak Woodland

The California oak woodland is the most diverse vegetation type and covers the majority of the park. There are four plant communities: blue oak woodland, blue oak-gray pine woodland, mixed oak woodland, and valley oak savanna. Oak woodlands cover over half of Coe's terrain.

grasses, big squirrel tail, California fescue, and blue wildrye

### Riparian Highlights

Riparian vegetation in the park is represented by California sycamore woodland. It is one of the most productive habitats in California, and plays a vital role in the wild-life, fishery, hydrologic, esthetic, and recreational resources of the park.

#### COMMON TREES IN CALIFORNIA OAK WOODLANDS OF COE

Blue oak  
Gray pine  
Coast live oak  
California bay

Black oak  
Madrone  
Valley oak



Coe is a part of the unique California Oak Woodland habitat.  
Photo by Cynthia Leeder

### Grasslands

Most of the open grasslands and sloping meadows have been taken over by exotic annuals. Native grasses are rare but are expanding their range and staging a recovery. Among them are purple needle

#### COMMON VEGETATION IN RIPARIAN AREAS OF COE

Willow  
Big leaf-maple  
Sycamore  
California buckeye



Coyote Creek at Hunting Hollow. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

### Ponderosa Pine Woodland

Ponderosa Pines are found almost exclusively on Pine Ridge, Middle Ridge, and Blue Ridge in the park. Most ponderosa pine, with a few exceptions, only grow above 2500ft, which explains why they are common only on Coe's highest ridges (DPR

1985).

### Chaparral Highlights

The chaparral of Coe is representative of a type of shrubland that is found in Mediterranean climates. This plant community has highly flammable plants and is characterized by frequent fire. Many chaparral species are dependent on fire for their reproduction. Seeds remain dormant until exposed to chemicals in smoke. The chaparral is the second most predominant habitat in the park.

In Coe, there are several unusual stands of big-berry manzanita, a shrub that is unique to the chaparral. Favorable conditions and at least 60 years with the absence of fire

### COMMON VEGETATION IN THE CHAPARRAL OF COE

- Chamise
- California sagebrush
- Coyote bush
- Sticky monkey flower
- Poison oak
- Deerweed
- Toyon
- Blue witch
- Coffeeferry
- Big berry manzanita



The East side of the park is dry and covered with chaparral habitat. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

have promoted the growth of these extremely large individual plants.

### Wildflowers

Coe is well known for its abundance and diversity of wildflowers. More than 700 species of flowering plants have been identified in the park. Spring finds the bulk



Wildflowers abound in Coe's grasslands. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

of the blooms, but flowers can be found during every month of the year (Breckling 2008)

There are several reasons for why Coe has such an abundance and diversity of wildflowers. The diverse habitats make it possible for wildflowers that favor particular conditions to find a spot within the park's boundaries. There are even Mojave Desert species found on the East side of the park. Another reason for the abundance of

Many rare and endangered plants are known in the Coe area. Two that are documented to exist in the park are the Mt Hamilton jewel flower and the rock sanicle. Both are listed as rare species. (Calflora)

wildflowers is the presence of Serpentine. Serpentine soils provide harsh conditions that only native wildflowers and vegetation can survive (Breckling 2008).



### Non-Native Plant Species

The pristine flora of the park has been altered by replacement of native perennial grasses with introduced annual grass species. Drought and heavy grazing triggered and aided in the transition. Other influences on the native flora have been reservoir development, fire suppression, feral pigs, development of roads, and recreation use.

Twelve percent of the species on the plant list compiled for the park are exotic or non-native. Most of these species occur in the grasslands and foothill woodland understory, the most obvious being grasses and thistles.

### Animal Life

The park lies in the Californian Wildlife Region. Because of its vastness and diverse habitat, the park area supports an abundant and varied fauna.

### Mammals

The vast, undeveloped land at Coe provides critical habitat for many mammals who are continually losing habitat from development in the surrounding urban areas.



A bobcat sighted in the park. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

### Mammals sighted in the park:

Badger  
Coyote  
Jackrabbit  
Brush rabbit  
Deer mouse  
Pallid bat  
Tule elk  
Wild pig  
Bobcat  
Gray fox  
Raccoon  
Black-tailed deer  
Mountain lion  
Striped skunk  
Big brown bat  
Western gray squirrel  
Eastern fox squirrel  
Ground squirrel  
Botta's pocket gopher  
Dusky-footed woodrat  
Virginia opossum  
Desert cottontail

Tule elk, an important native species that formerly ranged in the area, were reintroduced into the Mt. Hamilton region north of the park during the period 1979 through 1981. Currently the Mt. Hamilton herd is estimated at 70 animals, and appears to be in good condition. The range of this herd has not yet stabilized into a predictable area. Elk from the Mt. Hamilton herd occasionally range into the park. They are most frequently seen within the park near the Thomas Addition, the northern part of the Orestimba Wilderness Area, and most recently at Mustang Flat (Department of Fish and Game 2012).

### Birds

Coe has an exceptional diversity of avian species. There have been around 160 species sighted within park boundaries (PRA 1997). (See Appendix F for complete bird list). This diversity exists in the Mt. Hamilton Range because:

- The variety of habitats attract a variety of species
- The stock ponds attract water birds that would be rarely or never found in the park otherwise.
- The Hamilton Range is a part of the

“Pacific Flyway,” a broad corridor of migration routes along the Pacific coast.

- The eastern part of the park is dry and hosts desert species such as roadrunner, phainopepla, and sage sparrow.

## ACORN WOODPECKERS IN COE PARK

Unlike many woodpeckers that search for insects and sap within trees, the acorn woodpecker uses its pointed beak to make granaries for its food of choice, acorns. Visitors may see these granaries all over the park in large snags.



Acorn woodpeckers thrive with the abundance of acorns from Coe’s oaks. Photo courtesy of Department of Fish and Game

Some common bird species that are found in the park:

Turkey vulture  
Red-tailed hawk  
American kestrel  
California quail  
Turkey  
Scrub jay  
Acorn woodpecker  
Golden eagle

A full list of bird species spotted in Coe can be found at [www.coepark.org](http://www.coepark.org) and in Appendix F.

### Amphibians and Reptiles

There are a variety of cold-blooded animals. Below are the amphibians and reptiles that have been sighted in the park.

### Amphibians

California tiger salamander  
Ensatina  
Arboreal salamander  
California red-legged frog  
Bullfrog  
California newt  
California slender salamander  
Western toad  
Foothill yellow-legged frog  
Sierran treefrog

### Reptiles

Western pond turtle  
Western fence lizard  
Blainville’s horned lizard  
Western skink  
Southern alligator lizard  
Tiger whiptail  
California legless lizard  
Rubber boa  
Sharp-tailed snake



Common kingsnake in Coe Park. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

Ring-necked snake  
Racer  
Striped racer  
Gopher snake  
Common kingsnake  
California mountain kingsnake  
Common garter snake  
Western terrestrial garter snake  
Aquatic garter snake  
Night snake  
Western rattlesnake  
Western black-headed snake

## Fish

Seven native and several exotic fish species are found in the park. The native species are rainbow trout, Sacramento squawfish, Sacramento sucker, California roach, Sacramento blackfish, riffle sculpin, and prickly sculpin. The exotic species contribute a minor portion of the total numbers of fish in the streams, and include black and brown bullhead, mosquitofish, bluegill, green sunfish, and largemouth bass (DPR 1985:13).

Coyote and Pacheco Creeks have lost five native species due to human impact. The construction of reservoirs have effectively blocked steelhead and lamprey runs and changed fish populations within this watershed. (DPR 1985:13).

## Invertebrates

The park hosts a wide variety of invertebrates in water and on land. In addition to spiders, scorpions, butterflies, and dragonflies, the park is home to many ticks. Ticks may harbor diseases, such as Lyme disease, and park visitors should be warned of such risks.

One of the more celebrated invertebrates at Coe is the tarantula. Tarantulas mostly burrow underground. However, in the fall they can be found all over the fire roads and trails. The park hosts an event dedicated to interpretation of tarantulas in October.



Bullfrogs are an invasive species that cause damage to Coe's native species. Photo courtesy of Dept. of Fish and Game

## Invasive Exotic Animal Species

Two other animal species found in the park, the bullfrog and wild pig, are special-interest animals that require management control. Bullfrogs were introduced to California as a culinary delicacy. They rapidly reproduce, have very few predators, and have voracious appetites. They eat other frogs, including threatened species such as red-legged frogs, turtles, smaller bullfrogs, and more. Bullfrogs are a major invasive species in Coe Park, causing serious effects on pond habitats.

Wild pigs originate from the release and escape of domestic pigs as early as 1769, and the introduction of European wild boar. Wild pigs cause significant detrimental

The California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and foothill yellow-legged frog are found in several ponds, creeks, and reservoirs throughout the park.

All three of these animals are species of concern or considered threatened, since humans have altered much of their habitat. Their populations have also been threatened by introduction of exotic species (DPR 1985).

impacts to the natural environment. Most evident of the impacts is the disturbance of soil and natural vegetation caused by their foraging habit that involves uprooting plants from the ground. They are responsible for eating many acorns and therefore limit the reproduction capabilities of oaks and create scarce food resources for native animals.

## 2.1.3 Cultural Resources

The following is a brief overview of the human history and features of Henry W. Coe State Park. Modifications to the landscape generally relate to cattle ranching activi-

ties. Many cultural aspects, such as Native American resources, are in relatively good condition but are continually threatened by fires, fire suppression activities, and visitor impacts.

### **Pre-European Contact (California Indians)**

Native American people long ago established settlements in the Santa Clara Valley. It is not certain when people began to use the lands of Henry Coe, but archaeological features suggest that there may have been use as far back as 5,000 years ago (Waghorn 2007). It is believed that the land that makes up the current park was primarily used by the Mutsun (one of the language groups that is now commonly referred to as Ohlone) and Northern Valley Yokuts (Lopez 2012, Milliken 1996). The Mutsun and Yokuts often settled along creeks and streams, but were particularly drawn to

## **RESOURCES FOUND IN NATIVE AMERICAN SITES IN COE PARK**

Well over 100 Native American cultural sites have been identified within the park. These sites feature:

- Burial and ceremonial sites
- Milling stations-with portable mortars and basins as well as bedrock mortars used for milling seeds and nuts
- Rock art and cupule rocks (rocks with tiny cup-like indentations)
- Chert quarries
- Habitation sites
- Middens-piles of discarded materials such as chert and obsidian flakes, food refuse, and charcoal

All of these sites are extremely sacred and valuable and must be protected. Therefore, specific locations are kept confidential.

springs for an all-year supply of fresh water (Lopez 2012).

The abundant plants and animals within the park boundaries provided a diversified diet that included pine nuts, acorns, other seeds, roots and bulbs, and wild game. Analysis of charred plant remains from a habitation site in the Upper Orestimba Creek area suggests that the dominant food source at that site was most likely gray pine nuts (Wohlgemuth & Tingey 2011). Mortars (or cup-shaped depressions ground into rocks) were used to grind nuts and seeds into flour and are found throughout the park. Fishing techniques secured a supply of steelhead, lamprey, and other fish.

Land was carefully managed by the Mutsun and Yokuts in order to ensure a healthy food supply. Range burning increased grassland and oak woodland productivity and made ideal grazing grounds for deer and elk (Waghorn 2007). Hunting equipment varied through time and included spears, the dart and atlatl (a dart-throwing tool), and eventually the present-day bow and arrow. Over 60 plants have been identified by the Amah-Mutsun tribe as being used for medicine. These plants are held as sacred (Lopez 2012.)

Intricately crafted baskets served great utilitarian purposes. They were primarily used for gathering and processing food. They were made from willow, sedge, bulrush, bracken fern, and tule. The baskets often had artistic features such as shells and feathers. The craftsmanship involved with these baskets produced beautiful and extremely functional tools that were woven so tightly they could hold water. Each basket was designed to serve a specific purpose.

Small amounts of non-native obsidian, found throughout the park, have been traced to sources in the Napa Valley in Northern California and in the East side of the Sierra.

Established trading routes allowed the Mutsun and Yokuts to trade between

In an archaeobotanical investigation of a habitation site in Orestimba Creek there was a relative abundance of filaree seeds present in cultural sites. Filaree is a non-native plant brought from Europe to feed cattle. The abundance of these seeds suggest that the forest was so well managed through burning that it left an open understory that allowed seed dispersal to occur over long distances from grazed mission lands. This also suggests that there were settlements within Coe well into the Mission Era. (Wohlgemuth & Tingey 2011)

bands and villages. The Indians living in Coe would likely have had chert as a main trading commodity. Chert was a favored material for making projectile points, bladed tools, and scrapers.

### **European Arrival**

The Spanish Portola expedition of 1769 ushered in the European invasion. Several Spanish expeditions scouted California for the potential of colonizing and establishing mission-style towns. Juan Bautista de Anza's party of soldiers traveled through the East Bay in April 1776. They returned to Monterey via the Diablo range, camping along a stream within the park that they named "Coyote Creek."

When the missions at Mission Santa Clara de Asis and San Juan Bautista were established in 1777, the Spanish rapidly recruited, often with force and bribery, the Mutsun people to work at the missions. When disease and destruction reduced the numbers of Mutsun, the Spanish traveled into the mountains to capture Yokuts. The Yokuts' population decline was equally rapid as the Europeans expanded into Yokuts territory.

Val Lopez, Amah-Mutsun tribal chairman, related the details of a massacre that occurred just outside park boundaries. When

Spanish forces went East of Orestimba Valley to round up members of the Orestimba band, they found that the people refused to go past the Orestimba narrows. It is believed that they recognized this boundary as the boundary of a rival tribe, and had long been taught to not cross the Narrows. The Spanish are said to have massacred the entire party (as many as 200) around the Narrows (Lopez 2012). The massacre likely occurred outside the park on one of the private properties that intersect the park's access to Orestimba Narrows.

The Diablo range served as a refuge for Mutsun and Yokuts who were escaping or fleeing from the Spanish conversion. Those hiding in the Diablo hills frequently conducted raids on mission and pueblo lands to take horses. These horses became a major food staple in the renegade population's diet and precipitated their entry into a vast intertribal horse-trading network that flourished in the American West from the mid-1700's to the mid 1800s. Horse raiding was so problematic that Governor Micheltorena requested that a fort be built at Pacheco Pass. However this never occurred (Goodrich 2012).

Social disruption and disintegration continued to affect the Yokuts and Mutsun who managed to survive the diseases and abuse of the mission era. After secularization of the missions by the Mexican government, many Native Americans went to work for Mexican owned ranchos as vaqueros and servants. According to interviews with Jose Antonio Aguila (who worked cattle in the Orestimba watershed for 70 years until 1928), traditional use of the park had largely ceased by 1858, and the main use revolved around cattle and wild mustang herding around Mustang Peak (Waghorn 2011). Today four groups of Yokuts and four groups of the Ohlone, including the Mutsun, are federally recognized tribes. Many descendants live throughout California and the surrounding areas and are working to revitalize their language and cultural practices.

### **Market Hunting and Homesteading**

Through the Californio era and into state-

hood, settlement was slow to grow due to the Diablo hills' rugged terrain and inaccessibility. After the Gold Rush, shepherds built adobe structures within the park's boundaries to use while herding and grazing sheep. The Diablo range was used

"almost exclusively as range for stock,... seldom visited except by hunters and stockmen" (*San Jose Mercury Souvenir* 1895:222).

## LEGENDS OF JOAQUIN MURRIETA

"Joaquin Murrieta was one of California's most famous bandits. It is very possible that he was also part of the park's history. Several people have related the story that a tiny, old adobe on property neighboring the park was one of his hideouts. . . ."

"Frank Latta spent years researching Murrieta's life and wrote of his exploits in his book, *Joaquin Murieta and His Wild Horse Gangs*. According to Latta, Murrieta and his gang captured wild mustangs in the San Joaquin Valley, herded them up into the mountains by way of the various east-side drainages, and drove them south to Sonora, Mexico, where they were sold"

"Latta documents their campsites within the park: present day Mississippi Lake, Pacheco Camp, Paradise Flat, and Mustang Springs or Mustang Flat."

(Goodrich 2005)

Some hardy families settled into the park's rugged terrain in the mid-1850's and practiced subsistence farming. One example is Ezekial House, who with his wife and 12 children, homesteaded in the Hunting Hollow area. They kept livestock and hunted game, thus naming the area (DPR 1985).

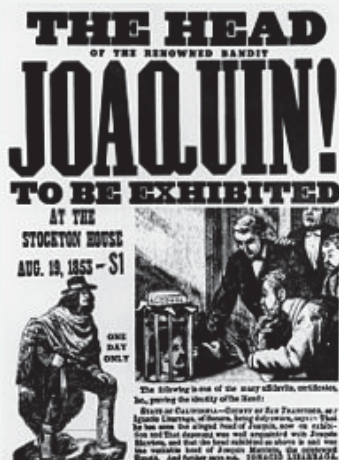
The Homestead Act of 1862 allowed any American citizens to claim federal lands for legal homesteading and property rights. Government surveys of the Diablo range were not completed until 1881, so although the earliest patents are dated 1882, many homesteaders were living in the park for many years before that. Eventually many of the homesteaders sold their property to cattle ranchers, who were accumulating parcels to create more economically viable cattle operations. Homesteading, however, remained within the park in small landholdings well into the 1900's. The Walsh cabin and Thomas cabin represent such sites in the park.

## Copper Mining

"After the Civil War began in 1861, copper was in great demand for the manufacture of cannons, bullets, and shell casings. Problem was that one of the largest copper mines in North America, the Burra Burra Mine in Tennessee, was controlled by the Confederacy, and suddenly there was an urgent need to find more sources of this precious mineral in the Union."

"Early in 1863 two prospectors found malachite, a copper ore, in the blue schist rocks that are abundant on the southern slopes of Burra Burra Peak. They named their claim the New Burra Burra Copper Mine, after the Confederate-controlled mine in Tennessee."

"Meanwhile another claim was made along the ridgeline of what is known today as Steer Ridge. Named for the Blue Ridge Mountains in Tennessee where the original Burra Burra Mine was located, the Blue



Flyer advertising the display of the head of Joaquin Murrieta. Courtesy of Los Angeles Public Library

Ridge Copper Mining District was incorporated in August, 1863.”

“Apparently neither venture proved successful, as any mention of these mining operations disappears from local history within a year after their discovery. There were several possible reasons for failure. One may have been the expense of shipping ore to the smelter. The other was when the war ended in 1865, the price of copper drastically fell, making copper mining unprofitable.” (Goodrich 2012)



Madrone Soda Springs was a place for people to rest and heal from medical ailments. Photos courtesy of Teddy Goodrich



## Major Resort Attractions

### *Madrone Soda Springs*

In 1865, a Native American named Juan Moreno came across what is now Madrone Soda Springs while hunting. He built a cabin with José Lucero to use when looking after their livestock. In 1874, C.S Adams bought the property and created a hunting camp, building several cabins for himself and friends. One of the friends, a doctor, claimed that the springs held healing properties. Marshall E. Hunter purchased the site and established a small resort that served as a rural health retreat.

### *Gilroy Hot Springs*

Meanwhile, in 1865 Francisco Cantua and his brother-in-law, Ignacio Ortega found the hot springs together and began running a rustic campground. George Roop purchased this property in 1866 and opened up a resort, marketing the healing, hot springs water. There was a six-mile bridle path that connected Gilroy Hot Springs to Madrone Soda Springs. Both became major attractions for the surrounding areas, although Gilroy Hot Springs was much larger.

“During its heyday in the 1880s through the 1920s, the Gilroy Hot Springs Resort attracted San Francisco Bay area business and civic leaders as a destination retreat from their demanding lives. The large hotel, the Lick House sleeping annex, the Club House, the individual cabins, and the soaking tubs hosted up to 500 guests at a time with fine dining, dancing, gaming, and relaxation. Its extensive grounds provided close connection to nature.”

“The transfer of ownership to H.K. Sakata in 1938 injected new life into the aging resort. With many improvements, the resort became a respite for the Japanese and Japanese Americans as ‘a place of our own’ to heal from the stress of the hard work and provided respite from a discriminating society. “

“After World War II, the Gilroy Hot Springs provided a different kind of shelter for about 60 families who had been dis-



Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs hotel dining room. Photo courtesy of Gilroy Historical Society Museum

placed by the wartime removal of the Japanese from the West Coast. Having lost their homes through forced relocation, Mr. Sakata generously offered his resort as a transitional shelter, thus providing community, nature, and the mineral waters, all of which helped soothe the physical, emotional, and spiritual scars.”

“Until 2003, the elderly, the sick, and even vacationers traveled from near and far to relax in -- and drink-- the soothing mineral waters.” (FOGHS 2012)

### **Cattle Ranching**

In order to meet the demand for meat that market hunting could not achieve, many homesteaders began to acquire larger parcels in order to run cattle operations. This particular phase in Coe’s history shaped and created the landscape we now know. Stock ponds were created and dams built to make reservoirs to ensure water supply to cattle. Grazing cattle and sheep changed vegetation patterns and barbed-wire fences and corrals were scattered throughout the park. Still today, remnants of the cattle industry can be found.

As landholdings were consolidated, five main families, Charles and Henry Coe, the Mahoneys, the Dowdy family, and the Robisons (who later sold their land to speculator, Frederick A. Hyde), dominated owner-



Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs was nationally renowned for its natural hot springs. Photo courtesy of Teddy Goodrich

ship. The Coes and the Mahoneys owned most of the western part of the park, which now houses the park’s headquarters. The Dowdys and Hyde owned the eastern half. Several Dowdy brothers ranched near what is now the Dowdy Ranch Entrance at the park. *(Please see pages 25-28 to find a locator map for the historic ranches, as well as highlights on each family.)*

### **Evolution of a park**

In August of 1953, Sada Coe Robinson deeded 12,230 acres of the Pine Ridge Ranch to Santa Clara County. Her wishes for the land included a monument to her father and that the property be used as a public park. A monument was erected to Henry W. Coe Jr. on Pine Ridge, but economic constraints quickly forced county supervisors to deed the park to the state of California. It became a state park in 1958. *(Continued on page 27)*

Since the state formally took over operations in 1958, the park has grown from about 14,000 acres to 87,000 acres, including the Hunting Hollow Entrance, the Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs Property, the original Coe ranch, and more.



## THE MAHONEY FAMILY

Between 1889 and 1903, at the same time the Coe brothers were establishing Pine Ridge Ranch, the Mahoney family established a 1,400-acre holding in the southwest portion of the present-day park T9S R4E. Operating as the Mahoney Brothers, they were running 350 head of cattle on their range by 1895. In contrast to the Coes, the Mahoneys did not establish a ranch headquarters on their holding.

The only known historic site in the present-day park associated with the Mahoney family is Mike Mahoney's cabin site, which he established sometime after 1891. Mahoney used his cabin seasonally to oversee his stock grazing operations. His main residence, however, was in Watsonville. (DPR 1985)



Mike Mahoney and Walter Phillips at  
Mike Mahoney's Cabin — Watsonville, CA  
Coe Park (now) 1932

The Mahoney family cabin used for overseeing cattle grazing. Photo courtesy of Teddy Goodrich

## THE DOWDY FAMILY

The Dowdy family patented some 1,144 acres in the southeast corner of the park between 1883 and 1898, as part of a larger ranching operation, which extended beyond present-day park boundaries.

The Dowdy brothers did not use their ranch headquarters as a family residence, however. Frank Dowdy supervised the ranch operation from his post office at Bell Station in Pacheco Pass, while the other five brothers resided on their father's farm, near Gilroy (DPR 1985).

## FREDERICK HYDE AND COMPANY

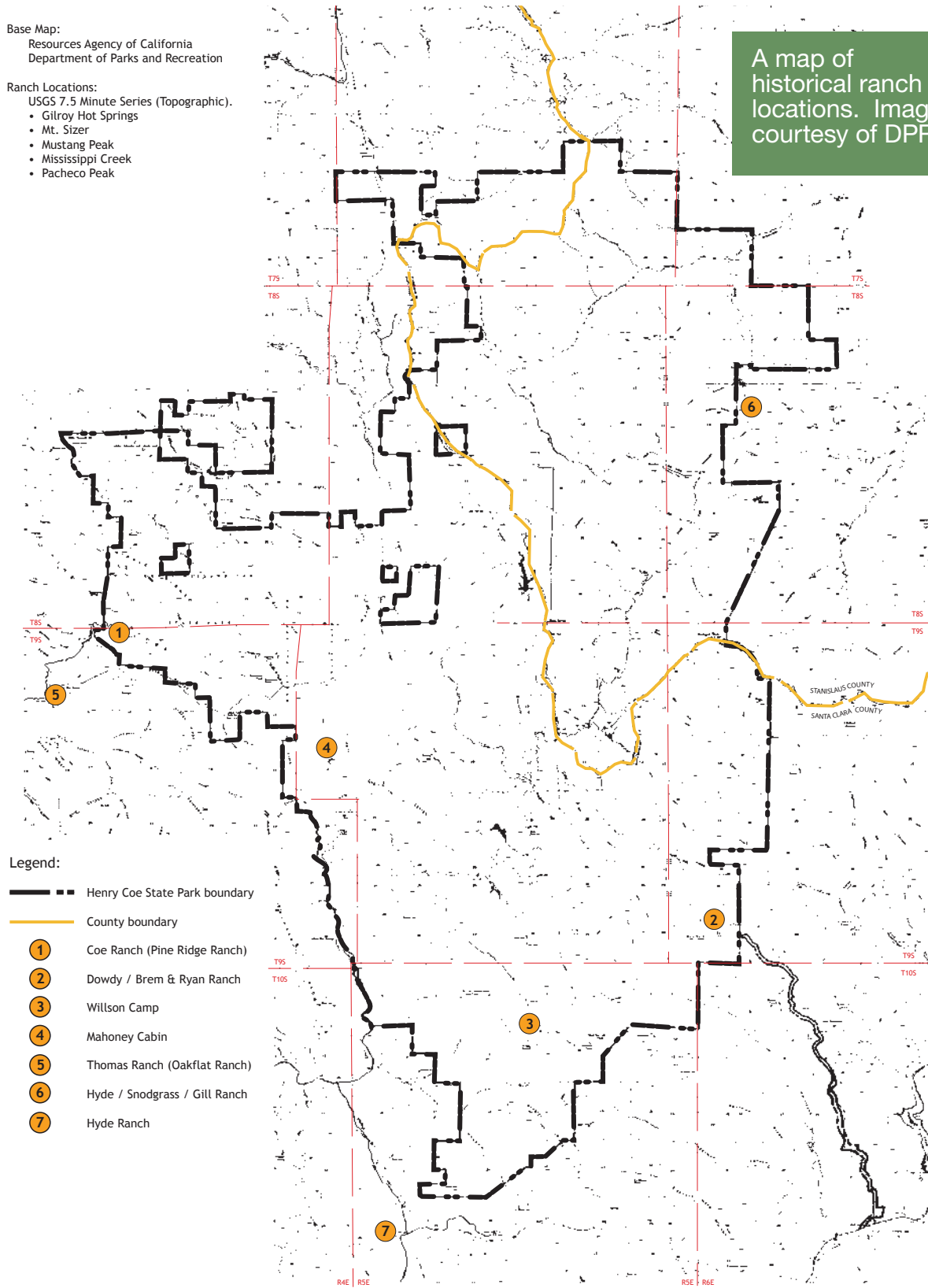
Notorious San Francisco land speculator, Frederick Hyde, owned much of the eastern part of the park at the turn of the century. Hyde never actually lived on any of his land in the park, and if his actions involving illegal land acquisition around California are an indicator, he may have acquired much of the land under fraudulent terms.

He owned much of the land in and surrounding the Orestimba Valley. At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Hyde's Orestimba Land Company ran more than 3,000 head of cattle on the property. His parcels were eventually subdivided, creating, among others, Coit and Gill ranches (DPR 1985).

Base Map:  
 Resources Agency of California  
 Department of Parks and Recreation

- Ranch Locations:  
 USGS 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic).  
 • Gilroy Hot Springs  
 • Mt. Sizer  
 • Mustang Peak  
 • Mississippi Creek  
 • Pacheco Peak

A map of historical ranch locations. Image courtesy of DPR



- Legend:
- Henry Coe State Park boundary
  - County boundary
  - 1 Coe Ranch (Pine Ridge Ranch)
  - 2 Dowdy / Brem & Ryan Ranch
  - 3 Willson Camp
  - 4 Mahoney Cabin
  - 5 Thomas Ranch (Oakflat Ranch)
  - 6 Hyde / Snodgrass / Gill Ranch
  - 7 Hyde Ranch

## Ranch Headquarters Location Plan

### Henry Coe State Park

(Santa Clara & Stanislaus Counties)

## THE COIT RANCH

Howard Tilton, a wealthy San Franciscan, acquired a large parcel of land in 1907 including the future Colt Ranch addition, from F. A. Hyde's Rancho Orestimba holding. Tilton retained the acreage a relatively short time, selling it in 1919 to James and Molly Bundgard, who subsequently sold 10,000 acres to Coit Ranch, Inc., in July 1951. Frank Coit, who had established the family corporation, Coit Ranch, Inc. in 1946, maintained his farming and business headquarters in Mendota. Coit used his mountain property east of Gilroy as a cattle grazing ranch and deer hunting reserve. Between 1951 and 1960, he continued to expand his holdings in the present-day park, until Coit Ranch, Inc. owned 18,000 acres. Coit built a 13,000-head-capacity feedlot in Mendota to fatten beef on alfalfa and grain grown on his farm. The cattle were grazed at his mountain ranch in the winter months, and rounded up and taken out by mid-July.

On December 4, 1970, Coit was killed in a plane crash. The executors of his estate sold the 17,960-acre mountain ranch to the State of California in 1981, as an addition to Henry W. Coe State Park. (DPR 1985)

## THE SNODGRASS FAMILY AND GILL RANCH

In 1921, John and Robert Snodgrass purchased some of Hyde's property, which ultimately became the Gill Ranch. The Snodgrasses, who ran a year-round cattle operation, took up year-round residence on the property, and were responsible for building the first three or four dams on the ranch.

The Snodgrasses continued their stock grazing operation for more than 20 years, eventually selling the 31,580-acre ranch in 1946 to Will Gill and Sons, a Tulare County ranching enterprise. Gill, who maintained his principal residence and home ranch outside Madera, was responsible for major improvements on the property and modernization of the ranching operation. He and his wife, Mabel Gill, used the Gill Ranch headquarters on a seasonal basis only.

Kaiser Aluminum and Aetna Life Insurance bought the ranch from the Gills, with intentions of subdividing it into ranchettes. These plans did not materialize, however, and H. D. and Carol Perrett, who subsequently acquired the property, sold the 34,800-acre Gill-Mustang parcel to the State of California in 1981. (DPR 1985)



John Snodgrass built first dam in the park.  
Photo courtesy of Teddy Goodrich

## THE COE FAMILY AT PINE RIDGE

Henry Willard Coe, who emigrated to California from New Hampshire in 1848, established Willow Ranch in the Santa Clara Valley ten years later. His sons, Charles and Henry W. Coe, Jr. began establishment of the Pine Ridge Ranch in the late 1880s and early 1890s. The brothers proceeded to buy up the prior patents of a number of individuals. By 1895, they had succeeded in amassing 6,000 acres, and ran 500 head of cattle on their property.

In 1905, Henry W. Coe, Jr. married Rhoda Dawson Sutcliffe, and assumed control of Pine Ridge Ranch, eventually buying out his brother's interest in the property. Henry and Rhoda used the ranch house at Pine Ridge from 1905 to World War I. The ranch was leased to various tenants until 1932. At that time, Henry and Rhoda's daughter, Sada Sutcliffe Coe Robinson, and her husband, Oscar Charles Robinson, took over management of the ranch. Sada's father, Henry W. Coe, Jr. died in 1943, willing the ranch to Sada's brother, Henry Sutcliffe Coe.

In 1948, Henry Sutcliffe Coe sold Pine Ridge to a poultry farmer from Fresno who operated under the title Beach Land and Cattle Company. In 1949, Sada Coe Robinson repurchased the 12,230-acre ranch, and continued cattle ranching until 1953, when she deeded the property to the people of Santa Clara County as parkland. In 1958, Santa Clara County gift-deeded the property to the State of California. (DPR 1985)



Henry W. Coe Jr., the park's namesake.  
Photo courtesy of Teddy Goodrich



The Pine Ridge Ranch is where the Coes based their cattle operation. Photo courtesy of Teddy Goodrich

## 2.1.4 Recreational Resources

At 87,000 acres, Henry W. Coe State Park has an abundance of recreational resources. In addition to the rugged and scenic terrain with sweeping views, the park boasts an extensive system of trails that allow visitors to travel over 200 miles in the park. The park has several aquatic features, such as creeks and ponds that accommodate fishing and swimming.

Over 40,000 visitors come to the park each year, although it is difficult to capture a true estimate due to the unattended entrances. The visitorship at Coe tends to be people who enjoy the rugged outdoors. The park attracts outdoor enthusiasts and nature lovers.

In its current state, it is not an ideal destination for driving through or a picnic stop, as it is a long journey from major roads, and does not have any accessible trails.

Due to its remote location the average visitor stays for several hours and usually engages with the park in physical manners, such as hiking, biking, or horseback riding. There are a lot of historic interpretive opportunities at Coe Headquarters, The Dowdy Ranch, Hunting Hollow, and Gilroy Hot Springs that if developed could attract more diverse audiences.

### Wilderness Area

The Henry W. Coe State Wilderness Area (23,000 acres) is an official designated State Wilderness in the northeastern part of the park. Its remote and pristine condition and special status calls for more restrictive use. This part of the park features the beautiful rocky ridge of Rooster Comb, is rich in wildflowers, and has unique desert vegetation such as juniper.

### Camping

Drive in camping is available at the Coe Ranch Entrance campground at the end of E. Dunne Avenue. The campground is located on top of an open ridge at 2,600 feet, has magnificent views.

Each of the 19 drive-in campsites has a pic-



Coe is an ideal place for hiking and exploring. Here, hikers walk through the Narrows by Coyote Creek. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

nic table and fire pit with a grill grate. Vault toilets and potable water are near each site. There are restrooms (with flush toilets, sinks and mirrors) in the Visitor Center a short walk away. There are no showers or RV hook-ups.

Campsites can be reserved online or are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. There is one ADA accessible site. The campground tends to fully book on Saturday, and many Fridays, during spring, summer and holiday weekends.

Manzanita Point Group Camps has 11 hike-in group campsites for groups of 9 to 50 people. Each Manzanita Point group site is primitive with picnic tables, a nearby vault toilet, and fire pits.

Manzanita Point Group camps are located 2 to 3 miles from the Coe Ranch Entrance. Vehicle access to Manzanita Point Group Camps is restricted.

### Hiking

There are over 200 miles worth of trails in the park. Many of these trails are very strenuous and offer a challenge for even the most seasoned hikers. There are also easy to moderate trails around the entranc-



Kids fishing at Will's Pond on the East side of the park. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

es. There are no ADA compliant trails.

### **Biking**

Most trails outside of the Orestimba Wilderness are open to mountain bikers. The vast majority of these trails are very strenuous and are a major attraction for expert riders, and an unhappy surprise for novices. The Hunting Hollow entrance has become a popular statewide mountain biking destination. While there are virtually no paved roads within the park, the park entrances are popular destinations for road bikers who use the Headquarters and Hunting Hollow entrance as final destinations.

The park frequently sees bike packers, mountain bikers who haul overnight gear into the backcountry. The park is well suited to this kind of recreation and has been gaining popularity with visitors.

### **Backpacking**

There are a multitude of backpacking routes at Coe. If backpacking in the Western Zone of the park, there are numerous designated backpacking campsites. In the Eastern Zone, there is dispersed camping. Permits are required. There are several destinations such as beautiful swimming holes, lakes and ponds, or grassy knolls that make for a backpacker's dream. Spring is a popular time for backpacking trips at Coe as the weather is still mild in the park and the Sierra trails are still covered in snow.

Backpacking trips range in difficulty, with some shorter trips having only gentle climbs to others that are very strenuous and recommended only for experienced hikers.

### **Fishing**

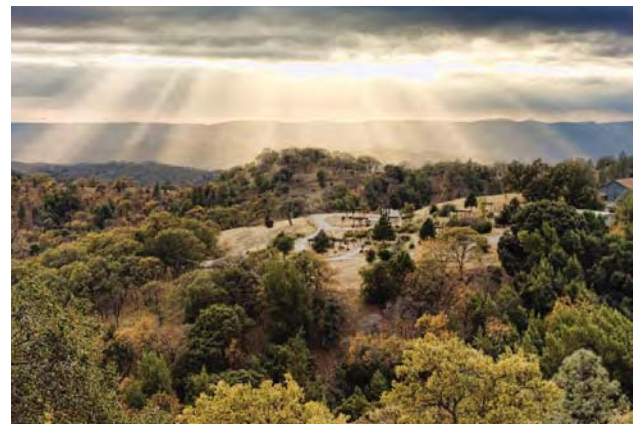
Fishing is permitted in 16 ponds and lakes in Coe. None is accessible by car and some require over 20 miles by foot, bike, or horse. These lakes and ponds have a variety of bass, bluegills, crappie, and green sunfish. Coyote Creek, near Poverty Flat, has rainbow trout. None of the ponds and lakes are stocked with fish anymore, but may have been previously stocked when they were privately owned.

### **Horseback Riding**

Most of the park's trails are accessible by horse. There are springs throughout the park that have troughs for horses. There are also eight horse camps in the park: The Dowdy Ranch, Coit Horse Camp, Coit Lake Horse Camp, Mississippi Horse Camp, Brem Horse Camp, Arnold Horse Camp, Blue Oak Horse Camp, and Headquarters Horse Camp.

### **Nature Viewing**

There is an abundance of wildlife and wildflowers. The park is an excellent place to spot coyotes, foxes, bobcats, and birds. On rare occasions, one could see a mountain lion. Photographers and patient nature observers will enjoy the diversity and fre-



Coe Headquarters Complex and campground Photo by Cynthia Leeder

quency of opportunities. The wildflowers are some of the best in the state and draw many visitors in the spring.

## 2.2 EXISTING INTERPRETATION

This section describes the existing interpretive and educational services available at Henry W. Coe State Park.

### 2.2.1 Interpretive Services: Non-Personal (Facilities and Media)

This section is organized by the key entrances at Henry Coe State Park. It also considers online presence.



The Visitor Center at Coe Headquarters Entrance Photo by Cynthia Leeder

#### Website

The Pine Ridge Association's (PRA) website ([www.coepark.net](http://www.coepark.net)) offers interpretive information, species list, and information on trails and conditions. It also features the park's activities Google calendar, information on the park's educational programs, and details about the park's interpretive programs and special events. DPR has its own website page for Coe ([www.parks.ca.gov/henrycoe](http://www.parks.ca.gov/henrycoe)) that has registration and fee information as well as limited interpretive information, such as a link to the activities Google calendar and the PRA website.

#### Headquarters Entrance:

The Henry W. Coe ranch house headquarters complex (also known as the Pine Ridge Ranch) is the primary historic site that is being maintained. Along with the Coe family ranch house is a reconstructed stone cooler, a bunkhouse kitchen, a blacksmith shop, and various barns, outbuildings, and corrals that span a period of over 50 years when the area was used for cattle ranching (DPR 2011). All of these are visible to the public and are interpreted through a guided brochure. The public can only view the outside of the ranch house, barn, and outbuildings.

*Visitor Center-* Coe has a visitor center at its headquarters on East Dunne Avenue. The visitor center is small and houses the PRA office, the unit ranger's office, registration station, and a store.

There is also a sheltered bulletin board and



An exhibit in the current visitor center that features Coe family furniture.

Photo by Teddy Goodrich

map with registration and orientation information and warnings about mountain lions and ticks.

The current museum hosts:

- A small space with an interactive touch exhibit focused on the wildlife, as well as a section with some taxidermied animals found in the park.
- A series of ranger-designed posters that have old photos and information on manzanitas and madrones, the



The Ranch House is a potential interpretive space. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

- park's ponds, and Madrone Soda Springs Resort
- A room that features Coe family furniture from collections.
- A small exhibit on barbed wire and a room with a ranching vignette.

At the visitor center the following is available:

- Self-guided Jr. Rangers materials (the statewide Adventure Guide)
- Self-guided brochures
- State Parks maps and books

*Interpretive Room-* This room is downstairs and has limited public access. It has a mural depicting Coe's oak woodland habitat and wildlife. It also has some display cases with specimens of plants and animals found in Coe. There is a television and a storage room where interpretive supplies are kept. This room is used for evening presentations on weekends in the spring through the fall. Volunteer trainings are also held in here and school-group field trips are staged in this room. At this time, the room has no ADA approved accessibility, which has limited the park's ability to expand and use this space for interpretive purposes.

*Live Oak Guided Trail-* This is a .5-mile trail that goes from the external parking lot to headquarters. There is an unpublished laminated guide currently being made that outlines plants and features of this trail. This trail is the only trail where dogs are allowed in the park.

*Forest Trail-* This 1.2-mile trail goes from Headquarters towards the group campsite. It has a laminated guide that visitors can pick up in the visitor center that identifies features of interest and highlights some of the natural and cultural history of the park.



Current orientation station at Hunting Hollow does not adequately inform or prepare visitors.

It is currently outdated and needs to be revised to reflect changes.

*History Walk Self-Guided Brochure-* There is a brochure that outlines several of the historic buildings at the Headquarter site.

*Ranch House-* The ranch house, currently used for store storage, is a historic building associated with the Coe family. It is a major potential resource for interpretive space, particularly for Coe's stored collections and other cultural history interpretation.

*Interpretive panel-* There is a sheltered display case at the Grand Junction, accessed via Headquarters, that serves as the meeting point of some of the more popular day-hike trails. Panels that get rotated include information on snakes and oak woodlands.

**Hunting Hollow:**

There is a large map (modeled off of the main hiking map) and small ramada with very basic registration information. There are also porta-potties and a few picnic tables.



### **Coyote Creek Entrance:**

There are two interpretive panels in one kiosk at the Anza trailhead. The front panel discusses the historic Anza expedition, which crossed through Coe. The back of the kiosk is a map of the expedition. (See *Appendix A for photo*)

### **Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs Entrance (Closed to General Public):**

Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs has several historic structures and remnants, such as cabins, bathhouses, an old Shinto temple, and an old generator. There is a historical landmark plaque with general information about the site's historical significance.

### **Kickham Ranch Unit Office (Closed to General Public):**

There is an outdoor exhibit shelter and two interpretive panels (See *Appendix A for panel topics and photos*).

### **Bell Station Entrance:**

There are a few interpretive panels with picnic tables, vault toilets, and a state park sign at the Bell Station Entrance off of Pacheco Pass. Interpretive panels cover topics such as California oak woodlands, mountain lions, weeds, ranching, and rain-shadows.

### **The Dowdy Entrance: (Open Seasonally)**

*Visitor Center-* There is a solar powered small visitor center that has maps for sale and a few interpretive displays such as pelts and pictures.

*Interpretive Panels-* There are several interpretive panels scattered around the Dowdy Ranch grounds. They include interpretation on natural resources of the area and an orientation map. (See *Appendix A for panel topics and photos*).

*Picnic shelters-* There are structures with grills and picnic tables around the panels and there are bathrooms with running water.

### **2.2.3 Collections**

The park unit has approximately 1,363 catalogued museum objects and another



Picnic shelters at the Dowdy Ranch. Photo by Teddy Goodrich

600 objects catalogued in the archaeological research collections. The exhibits and museum collections serve to interpret this site's homestead and ranching history, as well as its Native American history. Several uncatalogued objects include various items found on site by visitors and turned in to park staff.

More than half of the museum collections are archival documents, photographs, and books. The collection also includes several pieces of agricultural equipment, blacksmithing tools and equipment, furniture, various household items, and artwork. Ethnographic material includes grinding stones, pestles, manos and metates. Archaeological material includes flake stone tools and floral remains from Native American sites and a variety of broken household items from a privy pit.

Examples of the most significant objects in the collection include an original oil painting by Andrew P. Hill, a well known California painter, photographer, and conservationist, and many of the objects donated by Sada Coe from her home on Mount Hamilton Road in San Jose. There are also two paintings by Sada Coe, a self portrait and a portrait of her father.

Most of the collections are in storage, although several pieces are featured in a

display at the Visitor Center at Headquarters (DPR 2011).

### 2.2.2 Interpretive Services: Personal (Programs & Events)

#### Seasonal interpretive programs

- *Saturday night programs*- These are hour-long programs on a cultural or natural resource topic and run from mid March through September. They are given by volunteers, outside experts, and sometimes staff.
- *Jr. Rangers*- On Saturdays at Headquarters. Led by staff, these are hour-long standard state-park programs offered mid-March through September.
- *Guided Hikes*- These include Saturday morning hikes led by volunteers from headquarters, as well as special annual longer hikes led by volunteers. The hikes have general cultural and natural history themes.
- *Wildflowers Walks*- There are two volunteer-led wildflower walks offered on Sundays from headquarters from Mid-March through June.
- *Special Programs*- There are occasional volunteer-led special programs and classes open to the public. Topics include lite backpacking, tracking, wildflowers, native grasses, and more.
- *Monthly guided tours of GYHS*- Once a month there is fee-based guided tour at Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs that



Ranger Cameron Bowers gives a Coe Connections program. Photo courtesy of DPR

is facilitated by Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs.

- *Full Moon Campouts at GYHS*- One weekend a month around the full moon there are campouts facilitated by Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs.
- *Trail Work Days*- There are monthly trail work days open to public groups with arrangements. Volunteers interact with the general public about the park's resources and programs and discuss volunteer opportunities.
- *Guided Horse-Back Rides*- Volunteers give several guided horse back rides each year to people who bring their own horses. Most of these rides are staged out of the Hunting Hollow entrance.

#### Events (All events are annual and co-sponsored by the PRA and the park)

- *Ranch Days*- An event that occurs at Hunting Hollow that interprets the park's cultural history with Mutsun/Yokuts booths, homesteading activities and information, and ranching activities. The event includes a ranch themed petting zoo.
- *Back Country Weekend*- A weekend event that allows visitors with tickets vehicle access to Orestimba Corral (12 miles in the backcountry from the Bell Station Entrance). There are interpretive activities such as guided walks, bike rides, horseback rides, Jr. Rangers.
- *Tarantula Fest*- A popular fall event at Headquarters that includes music, crafts, guided walks, and activities focused on Coe's tarantula season.
- *Mothers' Day Breakfast*- This event is typically a sold-out event that serves breakfast at the Ridgeview campsite, a mile from headquarters. It is a popular activity for Mothers Day and includes activities for children, guided walks, and live music.
- *5/10K Fun Run and Walk*- A race and fundraiser for the PRA that takes place at the Hunting Hollow Entrance. There are interpretive activities for children during the race.



Tarantula Fest is a popular park event that draws out hundreds of visitors. Photo by Cynthia Leeder

### 2.2.4 Educational Services

There are two primary educational programs managed by volunteers and staff.

**Coe Connections:** This program is for K-8<sup>th</sup> grades and runs through the school year. Teachers may choose to hold the programs at either Headquarters or Hunting Hollow entrances. These programs are customized for age and content. Programs at Hunting Hollow include a stream-study component. There are (on average) about 8-15 school groups a year for a total of 300-600 students.

These programs (for an extra fee) include in-class presentations. Currently the Hunting Hollow Entrance has limited services and the trails are difficult to access in winter and early spring months due to high water. However, the Hunting Hollow entrance is the most accessible to buses. Most buses have trouble using the East Dunne road to Headquarters. Therefore, field trips to Headquarters are mostly limited to schools that have parent drivers.

**Summer Enrichment Program:** This is a special partnership between Coe, the Gilroy Unified School District, and the Santa Clara Valley YMCA. The park receives Packard Foundation and California State Parks Foundation grant money to staff and train volunteers to conduct in-class presentations and field trips for ages K-8<sup>th</sup> students

enrolled in a district wide summer enrichment program. The program serves around 400 students, trains over 30 educators in environmental education, and organizes campouts for older students. Day trips occur at Hunting Hollow Entrance and some years there are campouts at Manzanita Group Camp near Headquarters.

An online guide that assists summer groups in arranging field trips and connecting to parks can be downloaded on the California State Park's Foundation website <http://www.calparks.org/programs/youth/packard-summer-learning.html>

**School Partnerships:** Coe serves as a community resource for local school programs. Many schools arrange overnight camping trips and special events in partnership with the park. One particular school, the Stevenson School, uses the park to fulfill its experiential learning component with service learning and extended backpacking trips throughout the school year.

This particular program is an example of the potential partnerships the park hopes to continue developing with local education institutions.

**University Research and Partnerships:** Coe works in partnerships with several educational institutions and research non-profits in regards to vocational and research opportunities within the park. These include:

- Weather station with San Jose State
- Vegetation and Wildlife research with San Jose State, UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis, UC Berkeley and Stanford University
- Bird nesting surveys with the Audubon Society
- There is potential for partnership with San Jose State University's Geology department to create interpretive materials and exhibits about the park's geological features.
- Archeological research with Cabrillo College

This research provides lots of interpretive opportunity, and some information can be

found on the PRA website, however, much more could be done to fortify and foster these relationships.



DPR Volunteer monitors vegetation regrowth in Citizen Science Program. Photo courtesy of CPPF

**Citizen Science Program:** Coe has a unique citizen science program, coordinated by volunteers that help track vegetation recovery after fire. The data is used at Carnegie Institution for Science at Stanford University.

### 2.2.5 Interpretive Concessions

There are currently no operating concessions within Coe Park. There are many potential opportunities that could be further explored. Please see the recommendations section for a discussion of some of these ideas.

### 2.2.6 Interpretive Readiness

#### Staffing

Both volunteers and staff manage and conduct interpretive programs and services. There are extensive training opportunities for volunteers to improve skills or receive assistance in designing programs.

Current interpretive staffing levels include:

- Two Unit State Park Peace Officers

(State Park Rangers)

- One Roving State Park Peace Officer
- Two-three part-time seasonal Park Aides- one designated to manage interpretive and school programs.

*Volunteers:* There are almost 200 volunteers that are officially registered with the park. Many help tend the visitor center at headquarters, organize events, manage interpretive materials and collections, and conduct public programs. The volunteer program is managed by the unit ranger.

Most of the interpretation is conducted by volunteers and assisted or managed by park staff. For a couple of years there was an Interpreter I (part-time) at the park that was mostly funded through grant money and the cooperating association.

There is a great need for more staffing to help manage the scope of interpretive opportunities, provide better assistance to the cooperating association (the PRA), and help with volunteer management and training.

#### Revenue

The park's non-profit partner, the PRA, handles merchandise sold at the visitor center at Headquarters. This merchandise includes T-shirts, books about the park's flora and fauna, camping sundries, and other items.

The PRA also hosts major annual events that raise a substantial amount of money. All of this money goes towards interpretive and visitor services for the park. They have made funding available for program supplies, staffing, interpretive signs, community events, and volunteer training and enhancement.

The park has also received grants to support school programs and run fee-based interpretive programs to help cover staff and supply costs.

### 2.2.7 Marketing

Henry W. Coe State Park markets its interpretive programs and services in the following ways:



Search and Rescue trains new volunteers in Henry W. Coe State Park.  
Photo by Cynthia Leeder

- Information about Coe can be found on the cooperating-association (Pine Ridge Association or PRA) sponsored website [www.coepark.org](http://www.coepark.org). Some activities and information can be found on the state park website, but for the most part this site redirects visitors to the PRA's website.
- The Coe State Park brochure is available online, at the park, at surrounding parks in the Gavilan sector, and at the Morgan Hill and Gilroy information centers.
- When staffing permits, there are monthly press releases sent to the Morgan Hill Times, the Gilroy Dispatch, and the San Jose Mercury that list weekly programs and events.
- When staffing permits, monthly flyers are posted by volunteers at various sites in Gilroy, Morgan Hill and San Jose. In addition, flyers are posted at park bathrooms and bulletin boards and the campground at headquarters.
- A public Google calendar is available with details on all Coe events. This link is posted on in the media releases and synced to several media calendars. It is sometimes posted on social network sites (mainly Facebook)

belonging to volunteers.

- There are minimal social networking efforts in advertising Coe. Although some volunteers have started a Pine Ridge Association Facebook group, it is not frequently updated or utilized nor has it been set up using DPR's social media policy.
- There is potential for, and have been some minimal efforts to, coordinate and partner with local and county parks and the communities to market Coe's programs and services.
- There is opportunity to work more aggressively with outdoor stores, bike stores, and other community businesses to better advertise and promote the park.



Pine Ridge Association Logo

## 2.2.8 Partnerships & Support

### **Coe Park Preservation Fund (CPPF):**

"The *Coe Park Preservation Fund* brings together corporations and individuals dedicated to preserving Henry W. Coe State Park, and ensuring that it remains open and accessible to all in perpetuity" (CPPF Mission Statement). It is comprised of individuals from the community. The organization is fiscally responsible for raising and delivering the money to the state to keep the park open until 2014.

### **Pine Ridge Association (PRA):**

The Pine Ridge Association is a cooperating-association that provides funds for educational and interpretive programs at Henry W. Coe State Park. The PRA helps support guided walks, evening talks in the visitor center, and the state park's volunteer program. It also sponsors the annual park events. The PRA also supplies the public with free educational leaflets and publishes books and maps that are sold in the PRA bookstore at the park. There are currently 450 member of the PRA, which is made up of park volunteers, community members, and other park supporters.

### **Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs (FOGHS):**

FOGHS is a non-profit dedicated to protecting, preserving, and restoring public access to the Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs site. FOGHS conducts guided tours, interpretive events, does public outreach, and fundraises for the site.

### **Other Partners**

There are various other groups who have partnerships with the park and have agreed upon fee arrangements or have special arrangements to use the park.

- *Bay Area Outward Bound*- Conducts regular extended backpacking trips for youth.
- *Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America*- Conducts campouts, backpacking trips, volunteers for trail work days, and more.
- *National Parks (Anza National Historic Trail)*- The National Parks have expressed interest in providing more interpretive resources to support the Anza National Historic Trail at Hunting Hollow.
- Various community schools- Conduct campouts and utilize Coe Connection program.
- *Responsible Organized Mountain Peddlers (ROMP)*- ROMP is an organized group of mountain bikers that

**One potential partnership is with the Nature Conservancy's Mt. Hamilton Project. This relationship should be further developed. The Nature Conservancy has expressed interest in ways to promote interpretation of this unique habitat that may align nicely with the interpretive goals at Coe.**

sponsor trail maintenance days and bike races in the park.

- *International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA)*- The IMBA helps promote

Coe's bike trails. One particular route within the park is designated as an IBMA epic route, an honor given to exceptional areas around the world for mountain biking.

- *The Gilroy Unified School District and the YMCA of Santa Clara Valley*- Work in partnership with the park to conduct an enrichment program for summer school students. This program is funded through partnership with the *Packard Foundation*. Much of the interpretive staff and supplies for the park's general programs are acquired through this program.
- *Sierra Club*- Sponsors hikes and helps with park advocacy efforts.
- *Leadership Morgan Hill*- Hosts annual team-building events and hikes at the park.
- *Santa Clara County Search and Rescue*- Hosts trainings and classes at the park and provides volunteers for search and rescue emergencies in the park.

Many other potential partnerships have been discussed.

### **2.2.9 Research Resources**

The following are resources available when planning interpretive programs and facilities at Henry W. Coe State Park. Publications can be found in the State Parks Archives Digital Documents Catalog (also known as the Unit Data File or UDF) or in the PRA bookstore:

#### **California State Park Resources and Services:**

- Northern and Southern Service Centers
- Photographic Archives
- Interpretation and Education Planning Division
- General Plan (1985)
- Interpretive Prospectus (1985)
- Scope of Collections Draft (2011)
- *Research and Evaluation Issues For Ranching-Related Historic Archaeological Resources of Henry W. Coe State Park* (2007)
- *Historical Evaluation of Dowdy Ranch* (2001)

### **PRA resources (available in PRA library or bookstore):**

- Redfern Resource Inventory (2002)
- Oral Histories of Sada Coe and former land owners
- *An Archeological Survey of Some Major Drainages Within Henry W. Coe State Park, Santa Clara and Stanislaus Counties, California* by Teddy Goodrich
- *Names on the Land: A History of Henry W. Coe State Park* by Teddy Goodrich
- *Almost Eden: Indians of Henry W. Coe State Park* by Teddy Goodrich
- *Shrubs of Henry Coe State Park* by Lee Sims
- *Trails of Henry Coe State Park* by Winslow Briggs
- *Trees of Henry Coe State Park* by Lee Sims and Judy Mason
- *Wildflowers of Henry Coe State Park* by Barry Breckling
- *The Life that Was: The History of Coe Park* by Sada Coe
- Various plant and animal guides and publications
- Various binders with detailed information about park features, campsites, and backcountry conditions, created by volunteers.

### **Other:**

Audubon Bird List for Coe (see Appendix F for this list).

## **2.3 LOCAL AND REGIONAL INFLUENCES**

This section discusses some of the local and regional influences that should be considered when planning interpretive services at Henry W. Coe State Park.

### **2.3.1 Community Involvement**

The park's landscape is seen from miles around and provides a substantial part of the quality of living for many of the surrounding cities. However, not all visitors are aware that this land is state park land nor do they recognize the substantial part it plays in their viewshed and the importance it has in protecting the area's watershed. Those who do support the park are recreationally engaging in the park.

There are three main communities around the park: Morgan Hill, Gilroy, and San Jose. As found through the formal audience analysis, Coe's visitation is primarily made up of locals. Half of visitors live within an hour from the park in Morgan Hill, Gilroy, or San Jose. Several of Coe's most frequent visitors are also DPR volunteers or Pine Ridge Association members and have a large hand in the park's programming and facility development.

The east side of the park is a reasonable driving distance from several Central Valley communities, such as Los Banos and Gustine. However the Dowdy Ranch Entrance is only seasonally open and is often closed due to budget constraints.

The community uses the park as an outdoor recreation location for mountain biking, hiking, and horseback riding.

### **Local School and Organizations**

Local public and private schools have used the park as a field trip destination or have utilized the in-class programs. Other local civic and youth organizations use the facilities and park for picnics, overnight camping trips and retreats, backpacking trips, or special events.

The Summer Enrichment and Coe Connection Programs have improved community relations between Gilroy and the park. According to an evaluation conducted by park staff in 2011, many students that participate in the program return with their families. This program primarily serves at-risk students.

### **Efforts to Stop Park Closure**

The Coe Park Preservation Fund (CPPF), the local, grassroots group that raised money to avoid closure of the park is made up of local residents from the surrounding area. Much of the efforts to maintain, operate, and sustain the park have been facilitated by the greater South Bay community.

When the park was put on the closure list in 2011, community schools and non-profits wrote letters to the legislature in support of

the park. Community members were the main donors to the CPPF, which successfully raised enough money to assist DPR with operating costs for the park.

### 2.3.2 Special Considerations and Community Demographics

Interpretation at Coe needs to be accessible to and reflect the surrounding populations of nearby communities and cities. The three closest urban areas represent substantial cultural diversity. Over half (53%) of Gilroy's population (US Census 2010) identifies as Latino/a, and nearly 30% in Morgan Hill do as well. San Jose is a large metropolis with nearly one million people, 33% identifying as Asian, 15% as Pacific Islanders (US Census 2010), 33% as Latino/a, and only 28% as non-Latino/a white.

According to the 2010 US Census, 51% of residents in Santa Clara County, the area that includes Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and San Jose, speak a language other than English at home. 21% of those speak English less than "very well". Of those who speak English less than "very well", almost 9% speak Spanish and 11% speak Asian or Pacific Islander languages. This is something to consider when creating accessible interpretation and translating signs and materials.

### 2.3.3 Other Interpretation Providers

The Mount Hamilton Range provides a wealth of recreational and educational opportunities. The following are a few of the organizations and resources that complement interpretive services and content at Henry W. Coe State Park.

#### Santa Clara County Parks

##### *Anderson Lake County Park*

- Only 10 miles from Headquarters Entrance, Anderson Lake County Park is on the same road visitors take to Coe Headquarters. It provides day use only. There are guided hikes and kids activities scheduled monthly.

##### *Chitactac Adams County Park*

- Chitactac is a heritage park that includes information on Ohlone Indian culture and is a popular field trip destination for school groups.

##### *Coyote Creek County Park*

- This area is a scenic parkway that features a paved multi-use trail.

##### *Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch County Park*

- Only 5 miles from Hunting Hollow Entrance, Coyote Lake provides camping and water-based recreation. It includes interpretation about California Indians, watersheds, oak woodlands, and cattle ranching. There are monthly guided hikes and kids programs offered by park staff.

##### *Grant Ranch County Park*

- The largest park in Santa Clara County, Grant Ranch Park is situated at the base of Mt. Hamilton. Visitors can experience mountain biking, hiking, and interpretive programs about oak woodlands.

##### *Mt Madonna County Park*

- Mt. Madonna is a recreation park across the Santa Clara Valley from Coe in Gilroy. It provides camping, equestrian, long hike and bike opportunities. It has interpretation about cattle ranching and hosts evening campfire programs during summer months.

##### *Martial Cottle Park*

- This is a new park jointly operated by Santa Clara County Parks and California State Parks. It features a working farm and recreation and interpretation focused on California and Santa Clara County agricultural heritage and farming.

#### State Parks

##### *Fremont Peak State Park*

- This state park has themes centered around oak woodlands and astronomy. The park has an observatory and hosts monthly astronomy programs.



### **Mt. Diablo State Park**

- This park includes natural history themes of oak woodlands.

### **Pacheco State Park**

- Close to the Dowdy Entrance, this park includes themes with natural history and cultural history of oak woodlands, Mexican land grants and Yokuts.

### **San Juan Bautista State Historic Park**

- A park adjacent to the Mission, this historic park houses interpretation with cultural history themes of the Mission era, Mexican and Spanish land grants and ranching.

### **San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area**

- Just miles from the Dowdy Entrance of the park, this park has some interpretation about watersheds, oak woodlands, California Indians and more.

## **2.4 VISITATION & VISITOR USE**

Several key factors need to be considered before undertaking major interpretive projects. This section provides data on the visitor experience at the park, demographics, their needs, and expectations.

### **2.4.1 General Visitor Synopsis**

This information is based on a visitor survey that was conducted from May 15<sup>th</sup> 2011 through Memorial Day 2012 and a series of phone interviews with user groups.

#### **Survey Methodology**

Several rangers and volunteers were trained to present surveys and randomly select days to give out surveys. Several

*See Appendix B for sample survey and charts and graphs analyzing the data for each question.*

days were chosen that represented different seasons, days of the week, and times of day. During these designated times and days surveys were offered to every single visitor. They were collected on location. A limited number of surveys were offered at special events.

There were a total of 20 days when surveys were collected at Headquarters. There were 8 days that surveys were collected at Hunting Hollow. Since there is no visitor center, rangers and volunteers stood in the parking lot for a couple of hours and handed out surveys. Since we anecdotally noted that the people who used Hunting Hollow were regular, local users, we passed out the web address of an online survey to list-serves that represented these user groups (this included mountain biking, equestrian, and hiking list-serves). We also posted this link on the PRA website, in the public newspaper, and on the Pine Ridge Association Facebook page.

**207 surveys were collected online  
148 surveys were collected by hard copy  
Visitor Profile:**

#### **Demographics**

- 90% of visitors surveyed live two hours or less from the park (see chart 11).
- Over half (51%) of visitors live in the immediate towns surrounding the park (San Jose, Gilroy, and Morgan Hill). Also heavily represented were other towns in the Santa Clara Valley, such as Campbell and Saratoga, as well as the Santa Cruz area (see chart 11).
- The park serves a variety of ages from under 9 years to over 75 years, but most visitors are between the ages 25-54 (see graph 12).
- 88% of the surveyed visitors identify as white/Caucasian (see graph 12).
- Over half of the visitors surveyed have a combined household income of over \$100,000 a year (see graph 14).

#### **Visiting Trends**

- 64% of visitors were at the park with friends, 34% with family, and 18% alone. Only 10% reported to be a part of organized clubs or school groups,

although this survey process does not accurately capture user group data. A different evaluation process (described later on in this section) was used to capture user group data. (see *graph 1*).

- 51% of surveyed visitors heard about the park through word of mouth. 45% knew about the park because they grew up nearby. 21% learned about the park through the internet and 6% from road signs (see *graph 3*).
- Almost half of visitors surveyed had been to the park 2-10 times in the last 12 months that the survey was conducted. Only 22% were first-time visitors (see *graph 2*).
- The average day visit to the park is 6 hours. The average camping trip is 2 nights.

### Primary Visitor Activity

- The top six activities include hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, viewing wildflowers, relaxing in the outdoors, and backpacking (see *chart/graph 5*).

### Visitor Groups

Frequent-visitor groups were identified and many were contacted. Approximately fifteen phone and e-mail interviews were conducted with these groups using the questions found in the green box:

1. How many unduplicated individuals do you bring to the park with your group?
2. How often does your group use the park in one year?
3. What activities does your group engage in while at the park?
4. How did you acquire planning information for your trip, and how could we improve our services with access to that information?
5. For what topics would you like to see more interpretive information, and in what form (panels, direct programs, self-guided brochures, etc.)?

- 80% of the programs worked with youth, the other 20% were special activity and event related (horseback endurance rides and mountain bike races).
- 40% of the groups were conducting backpacking trips in the park, 25% were doing camping trips, 35% were organizing events or other activities.
- Around 2,000 individuals were represented within these groups, most being youth.
- 90% said the PRA website was the most helpful planning tool, although a few mentioned direct contact with the ranger.
- Many suggested there be an online manual that compiles specific user group information (such as interpretive information, best routes, reservation information, etc.) into one document for groups to access and use.
- Topics of interpretive interest included: animal signs and tracks, watershed mapping and topographic tools and images, California Indians, and ecosystems.
- Most of the youth programs brought culturally diverse groups of visitors to the park. Many of these programs specifically worked to bring non-traditional park users.

### 2.4.1 Visitor Access, Orientation, & Circulation

- Surveyed visitors access the park through its four entrances. Hunting Hollow was the entrance that was most frequently listed followed by Headquarters and Coyote Creek. Many visitors claimed to frequently use multiple entrances equally (see *graph 6*).
- Popular destinations and attractions in the park included backcountry campsites, China Hole, the Visitor Center, and Kelly, Coit, Mississippi, and Frog lakes (see *graph 5*).

Most visitors reach the entrances by car, as there is no public transportation to the park. Few reported that they bike to Headquar-

ters, Hunting Hollow, and Coyote Creek. However once in the park most visitors get to their destination by foot, bike, or horse on fire roads and trails.

### 2.4.3 Visitor Needs, Experience, and Expectations

In the following section, data from the visitor survey as well as public comment and feedback received through the stakeholder engagement process and public forums are coded and analyzed.

Much of the feedback received addresses basic infrastructure and facilities. It does not necessarily relate directly to interpretation, but can be considered a barrier to effective delivery of interpretation. Visitors indicated in the survey that the most important aspects of their experience are the condition of the natural and historic resources, quality of recreational opportunities, and level of safety during the visit (see *graph 8*).

At Coe, people were generally satisfied with these aspects, but expressed a lack of opportunities to learn about the area's history and natural environment and the overall condition of facilities (see *graph 7*). They also expressed less concern for seeking these opportunities.

Other needs and suggestions include:

#### **Park Access:**

- Visitors wanted access to the Dowdy Entrance and Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs.
- Visitors wanted better vehicle access to group campgrounds. Suggestions including allowing more cars to ac-

cess Manzanita Point and allowing limited car access at Coit Camp.

- Visitors wanted more ADA-accessible trails to be developed at main entrances. Particularly desired was a trail at Hunting Hollow that would be passable despite creek conditions throughout the year.

#### **Trip Planning Tools:**

- Visitors wanted more online information regarding specific backpacking, hiking, and equestrian trails and routes.
- Visitors wanted a more concise way to learn about registration and backpacking fees at Hunting Hollow and general parking caution protocol at the Coyote Creek Entrance.
- Visitors wanted more notice about water levels and locations on trails.

#### **Orientation:**

- Visitors want clear road signs and visible orientation stations for areas of the park that are not staffed. Orientation stations should include a large map, safety warnings, registration information, and take-away maps and brochures.

#### **Facilities:**

- Visitors wanted water available at Manzanita Point group camp.

#### **Interpretation:**

- Visitors expressed interest in learning more about the area's natural and cultural history.
- Most of the suggestions from visitors involved improving brochures and panels

## CHAPTER 3

# ANALYSIS

This section is an analysis of the existing, interpretive conditions at Henry W. Coe State Park. Through the interpretive master planning process, which included surveys, stakeholder interviews, and public meetings, the team identified gaps in interpretive content, media, and delivery as well as park operational challenges and visitor needs and expectations.

### 3.1 PARK WIDE INTERPRETATION:

*Online Information:* The official DPR website for Coe lacks many important details needed in planning a trip to Coe. The cooperating association, the PRA's, website is far more informative and robust. The DPR website needs to communicate the PRA's website link on the front page in order to direct visitors to helpful information or else provide more detailed and updated information.

*Maps and Recommended Routes:* In the focus group and public meetings, it was suggested that recommended routes for equestrians, bikers, and backpacking be available online as they are with day hiking routes on the PRA website. There was frustration expressed around large groups (such as the boy scouts and girl scouts) not being able to talk to staff or find information to help them plan. There were requests for an online link to map images with highlighted routes that explain basic details about water availability, mileage, and level of difficulty.

*Orientation at Entrances:* Visitors expressed that registration and orientation directions were not always clear when the visitor center was closed, or at the other entrances. This primarily revolved around backpacking from Coyote Creek and Hunting Hollow. Every entrance needs to have

## KEY FINDINGS

- **Staffing:** Interpretive staffing is very limited. The robust volunteer program fills in many of the direct program gaps, but managing the large number of volunteers, is a very challenging job. In order for improvements to be made, the most crucial issue to address is staffing.
- **Headquarter Facility Opportunities:** More robust interpretation is needed at Coe Headquarters. Many of the current outbuildings at the headquarters complex are underutilized. These existing buildings should be considered for restoration and adapted to serve as interpretive spaces.
- **Growing Use at Hunting Hollow-** More orientation information and interpretation opportunities need to be created at Hunting Hollow and online to accommodate the growing visitation use.
- **Outreach-** School and community programs are the best way to increase use from nontraditional park users and should be further developed.
- **Updated Planning Process Needed-** The park's general plan is outdated both because of its age and the park's subsequent large expansion. A new general plan process that accounts for all the new properties and changes in visitor demographics is needed.

a uniform orientation set-up that is informative, updated, and in a visible place. There need to be uniform signs that direct people to this station, and these stations should explain registration procedures, give safety information, and provide detailed information on trail elevation and distances.

*Interpretive Panels:* Surveys indicated that visitors did not feel that there were many interpretive offerings at the park, but they were moderately interested in seeing more. Due to a lack of facilities, a general increase in panels is a good way to give out more pertinent information to visitors. More in-depth qualitative research suggested the need for panels to also address safety and orientation points. It was suggested that orientation and interpretive panels be put up at major trail junctions.

*Shortage of Staff:* At the time of writing this report, the park has very little staffing for its daily operations. This creates several major barriers to expanding school programs, building partnerships, improving services, and enhancing the volunteer program.

### 3.2 INTERPRETATION CONTENT:

*Orientation and Information:* Visitors want more orientation and recreation information available at all entrances. They expressed a desire to see more staff presence, but also requested clearer informational signs with fee, rules, safety, and orientation information.

*Natural Resources:* Visitors expressed a desire to learn more about the wildflowers, trees, fire ecology, and animal tracks and signs. These were repeatedly mentioned in surveys, interviews, and public meetings.

*Cultural Resources:* A few surveys and many in public meetings expressed an interest in learning more about the Native American use and history of the park. Many visitors wanted to learn more about Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs.

### 3.3 INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS AND SCHOOL GROUPS

*Social Media:* The park has little to no social media presence. There is major potential to utilize current social-media applications to promote programs. A designated staff or volunteer should regularly manage this media with official DPR procedure.

*Infrastructure and facilities at Hunting Hollow:* Since the road to Headquarters is difficult for busses, most programs are currently happening at the Hunting Hollow entrance. There are very limited facilities. Developing this site with secure trashcans, vault toilets, storage, water, and a shade structure with a picnic area will better accommodate these groups.

*Program staff:* At the time this plan was written there is one part-time park aide that manages school groups and interpretive programs. Currently, most programming is run and facilitated by volunteers.

With Coe's large number of volunteers, there is a great need for staff time for volunteer management. Until staffing levels can be supplemented with a dedicated interpretive program leader, as well as volunteer management, programs will be limited.



There are minimal facilities at the Hunting Hollow Entrance despite its growing popularity with visitors.

### 3.4 DIVERSITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

*ADA opportunities and trails:* ADA accessible opportunities are limited to parking lots, a small area of the visitor center, and the Dowdy Ranch entrance, which is closed to the public. The park needs to look at increasing ADA-accessible trails at various entrances.

*Evaluation:* At this time, the park has no exit experiences for visitors and no continual evaluation process to monitor diversity and visitor use. The formal audience analysis conducted for this document could serve as a catalyst to continue this evaluation.

*Opportunities for outreach to diverse audiences:* According to the visitor analysis, Coe serves a predominately upper-class, Caucasian audience. Gilroy is one of the closest towns to the park and has a large Latino base, it would be a good idea to maintain and enhance programs and services that cater to more diverse populations. The current school programs are the most successful methods for outreach to non-traditional visitors at Coe.

The Western San Joaquin Valley is an area with few parks and also has an underserved non-Caucasian population. More regular public access and more interpretive programs and facilities at the Dowdy Ranch Entrance might open up opportunities to diversify and reach underserved audiences.

A more in-depth process to research recreational needs and preferences of the Latino/a community from surrounding areas is needed to create a strategic plan for serving this population.

### 3.5 CONDITIONS AND NEEDS ANALYSIS BY SPECIFIC AREAS OF PARK:

#### Headquarter Entrance

*Visitor Center:* Visitors want and need

more interpretation and information in a visitor center. These needs are not met in the current Visitor Center in its current condition. The building is small, not very wheelchair-accessible, and easily crowded on busy days. It lacks updated interpretive exhibits that are hands-on and relevant.

*Ranch House:* The ranch house is currently vacant and could be a good facility to interpret Coe's cultural history. It does not have wheelchair access and may have some structural maintenance needs.

*ADA trail:* There are no ADA compliant trails. This is something that needs to be addressed in order to create universally accessible interpretive trails for programs and self-guided walks.

*Campfire center:* There is currently no campfire center at Headquarters. Evening programs are held downstairs in the interpretive room. Establishing a campfire center area or expanding the visitor center to have an outside deck with a presentation space for slide shows and evening programs are two ideas to enhance these programs.

*Vacant historic buildings:* There are multiple vacant facilities on the ground (the barn, stables, blacksmith shop) that have potential to develop into interpretive spaces. This would create more for visitors to enjoy while staging their trips, but also better cater to visitors who are not able or wanting to go on longer hikes.

*Picnic areas and interpretive panels:* Visitors expressed a desire for more picnic areas around Headquarters. These picnic areas would be a good way to create more interpretive panel spaces.

*Manzanita Point group camp amenities:* Visitors expressed that having access to water at the group camp, secure trash cans, and fire pits with grills would improve their experience. Visitors also expressed interest in having an interpretive ramada at Manzanita Point. Since this area gets so much group use, particularly with school

groups and youth organizations, it has high exposure and large potential. *Since this survey was completed, a potable water tank has been placed at Manzanita Point group camp.*

*Trail from the entrance parking lot:* During the spring and on frequent busy weekends, the entrance parking lot is necessary to accommodate visitors. The trail that connects the two parking lots is a great interpretive resource that needs to be utilized.

### Hunting Hollow Entrance

*Frequent visitation:* Visitation analysis and revenue shows increased usage of the Hunting Hollow Entrance. This entrance was not a part of the park when the general plan was written. It is the closest entrance to a developed area, is only a few miles from the popular Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear County Park, and has major potential to expand services and interpretation. Most of the park's school groups utilize this entrance.

*Lack of orientation information:* Hunting Hollow is the first and most signed entrance off of Gilroy Hot Springs Road. Two miles beyond Hunting Hollow entrance the road dead ends to Coyote Creek Entrance and the bridge that leads to Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs. The Hunting Hollow Entrance is the main place to communicate orientation for all of the entrances in this area of the park. It currently is the only fee collection area for use at the Coyote Creek Entrance. Visitors can't access maps or more detailed information at this entrance and are often confused about how to access the Coyote Creek Entrance.

*Lack of facilities:* Hunting Hollow has no running water, very limited picnic areas, no secure trashcans, and porta-potties. Potential development of these amenities could drastically change visitation here, as the access to this entrance remains to be the easiest from major highways and developed roads.

*Need for easier recreation opportunities:* There are few easy trails at the Hunting Hol-

low Entrance. Seasonal streams make the main fire road difficult to traverse for many months of the year. A more developed trail with footbridges would open up multiple opportunities for recreation (ADA compliance, easier mountain biking and hiking for families) and interpretation (guided walks, places for panels).



Current orientation station at Hunting Hollow does not adequately inform or prepare visitors.

*Need for welcome kiosk and picnic area:* The current placement of a small ramada with bulletin boards that contain orientation information in the middle of the parking lot restricts parking space. Rangers and volunteers have expressed that the location leaves any displays vulnerable to vandalism. A welcome kiosk and picnic area on the periphery of the parking lot might deter vandalism, free up parking, and allow for new interpretive and recreational opportunities. It would also be a good staging facility for school groups.

*Lack of current interpretation:* There are several cultural and natural resources in this area of the park. Currently there are no interpretive panels and only limited interpretive programming (other than school groups) happens at this entrance.

*Need for increased exposure and awareness:* The park's headquarter entrance remains the most popular and well known. However, the ease of access of the Hunting Hollow Entrance would make it potentially as popular if the area is developed and advertised appropriately from major roads.

*Need for strengthening partnerships with local land agencies (County Parks, Open Space, National Parks):* The Hunting Hollow Entrance is close to Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear County Park, and Santa Clara Open Space District land, and intersects with the Anza National Historic Trail. Conversations with representatives of these agencies have suggested that these groups are very excited and open to partnering in order to create a broader understanding of the area and its resources. National Parks even expressed interest in providing panels to help interpret the Anza trail.

*Need for camping opportunities:* There are a great number of equestrian and mountain biking opportunities that can be accessed from this part of the park. There was feedback from stakeholders and visitors that there is a need to create more front-country camping opportunities for groups and individuals.

*Need for Security:* Hunting Hollow does not have a stationed park aide or ranger. Several visitors surveyed expressed concern with safety issues at the Hunting Hollow Entrance. The biggest concern was the safety of their car while on long outings.

### **Coyote Creek Entrance**

*Parking:* Coyote Creek Entrance has no parking. Many visitors park off of the road, despite "No Parking on Road" signs two miles prior to the entrance. The road is policed by the county. Although the park encourages visitors to park and pay fees at Hunting Hollow Entrance and then walk or bike to Coyote Creek Entrance, many people choose to park along the road. There is no information that explains otherwise at Coyote Creek entrance. Therefore, if visitors pass Hunting Hollow, they do not receive the information that they are

parking at their own risk and what the fees entail. This creates revenue loss and vehicle safety and access issues. It is also difficult for backpackers and hikers to add two miles of paved road to their journey when they are trying to launch a trip from Coyote Creek. Potential parking at Coyote Creek should be explored for revenue and service potential.

*Orientation and Interpretive Kiosk:* There is a need for an orientation and interpretive kiosk at this entrance. It is the main access point to two popular backcountry destinations (Coit and Kelly Lakes) and is a prime place to deliver interpretation of the resources in these areas.

*Trash cans:* One problem that has been observed at Coyote Creek Entrance is littering. It is the entrance that has access to a couple of locally-known swimming holes, and trash is often a problem around these areas, as there are no trash receptacles.

*Coit Horse Camp access and use:* Visitors complained about limited access to Coit Horse Camp and expressed the desire to have the ability to rent the site. This could be explored as a possible revenue generator.

*Safety:* Visitors expressed concerns about safety for their vehicles while on longer trips. There have been several reports of vehicle break-ins and vandalism.

### **Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs**

*Safety and Vandalism:* The Gilroy Yamato Hot Spring site has a recent history of trespassing and vandalism. Despite cameras, gates, barbed wire fences around the property, and a trial with a camp host, this problem has been reduced but not eliminated.

*Restoration of public access:* This site holds some of the park's most substantial cultural and natural resources, but it is only accessible to the public through tours and events by the supporting non-profit. It typically draws road traffic and battles keeping curious visitors out. It is a major attraction



and potential revenue generator. There are ample opportunities for interpretation and recreation.

*Concessionaire Potential:* The historical significance and presence of hot springs and cabins make the site a candidate for a concession contract. A Request For Proposal (RFP) process could open up opportunities for investment and operation by potential concessionaires. There has been concern about maintaining the historical integrity of the site with this suggestion, so any concessionaire would need to agree to the preservation terms set by DPR.

*Historic structures:* All of the structures on site are in severe disrepair and in current condition off limits to public use. Appropriate plans to either restore, secure, or disassemble these buildings need to be made as well as hiring more staff before regular access to the site can be allowed.

*Access to rest of park:* There are many opportunities for trails from within the park to link up to Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs (GYHS). Pending the progress of making GYHS secure and open to the public, restoring trails could create more backcountry recreation opportunities that would link the two historic resorts of Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs and Madrone Soda Springs creating a historic route for bikers and hikers that includes interpretive panels.

## Kickham Ranch

*Public access:* Kickham Ranch currently serves administrative and staff purposes only. There have been a few user groups that have rented the site for events. Opportunities to rent this site could potentially generate revenue. There have been no efforts or plans to restore complete public access to this area.

*Wasted interpretation:* There are several informative interpretive panels at Kickham Ranch that are not visible to the public due to the site's limited access. These panels need to be dispersed to other, more visible areas of the park.

## Bell Station Entrance

*Information and interpretation for park:* Bell Station has the potential to give the park major exposure. The entrance is directly off of the busy Pacheco Pass highway. Park information and orientation might be worthwhile as well as a picnic area for travellers on Pacheco Pass. This area could increase park exposure, particularly for the Dowdy Ranch entrance, which is open seasonally.

## Dowdy Ranch

*Offer more public access:* In both surveys and public meetings, there was a clear desire from visitors for public access to be secured to the Dowdy Ranch. This area is the easiest way to access some of the park's most stunning sites and pristine backcountry. There is also substantial infrastructure already in place, with running water, restrooms, an interpretive center, and picnic area already established. At the moment, the Dowdy is seasonally open on weekends, but only tentatively so. Closing this entrance has, in the past, been one of the first cost-saving efforts.



This map is the only one found outside of the entrances. Maps like this one, made ADA compliant, could be beneficial at major trail junctions in the park.

This entrance is also a reasonable driving distance from many Central Valley communities. This particular area of the state has a limited number of parks and permanently opening (through the week) the Dowdy

Ranch Entrance during the dry season could be one solution to consider.

*Challenges to increasing use:* The six-mile dirt road from Pacheco Pass to the Dowdy Ranch makes access difficult for most of the year. Only during dry seasons are the roads passable. There is also limited staffing to operate this side of the park.

*Potential use:* There has been public interest in using the Dowdy site for events, group rentals, and group camping. Although, according to the site's EIR (Environmental Impact Report), camping is not permitted unless 15 feet past the trailheads, there are several areas that could easily be tailored for camping.

## **Backcountry**

*Cabins for potential recreational use:* The Willson cabin is a potential site that could be restored and used for backcountry overnight rental, as well as the Gilroy Hot Springs cabins. This would create more

interpretive space and opportunities as well as more overnight recreation use.

*Creating easier access and orientation to major destinations:* At orientation points, visitors expressed frustration about finding best routes and information about specific destinations in the backcountry (e.g. Pacheco Falls, Kelly Lake, Coit Lake, etc). Visitors need a way to find information at the best access points for these destinations.

*Better signage for orientation:* Visitors wanted more trail signs with mileage and orientation maps at major trail junctures. Visitors also indicated that trail signs, in general, need to be updated and maintained.

*Interpretive information at vault bathrooms and trail junctures:* Visitors requested more interpretation throughout the backcountry at major trail junctures and around sites with vault toilets and structures.

## CHAPTER 4

# INTERPRETIVE DIRECTION

- ▣ MISSION, PURPOSE, AND VISION
- ▣ STATEWIDE PROGRAMS AND CAMPAIGNS
- ▣ INTERPRETIVE THEMES AND PERIODS
- ▣ EDUCATIONAL FRAMEWORK AND STANDARDS

### 4.1 MISSION, PURPOSE, AND VISION STATEMENTS

The following are different mission and vision statements that set the direction of interpretation at Henry W. Coe State Park. Most of these statements and missions are presented as they were written from park planning documents. Henry W. Coe State Park’s Mission and Vision for Interpretation were drafted for this planning document and did not exist previously.

#### California State Parks Mission

The Mission of California State Parks 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 (DPR 2012).”

#### California State Parks Vision

“California State Parks will be the recognized leader in the park and recreation field-skilled stewards of resources, technologically wise, and relevant to all Californians (DPR 2012).”

#### California State Park’s Strategic Initiatives

In 2001 and later updated in 2008, State Parks developed a strategic vision for the department. In “The Seventh Generation,” the department outlines its role in protecting its precious resources while balancing the recreational and educational needs of millions of Californians. It outlines five strategic initiatives that support the mission

of the department and set the direction for interpretive programming. These are:

- Promoting Health
- Achieving Sustainability
- Embracing Diversity
- Making Connections
- “Cool Parks” (Addressing Climate Change)

These initiatives were used in this planning effort to gauge existing interpretive services and to help develop future goals (DPR 2012).

#### California State Parks Interpretive Mission

“Interpretation is a special form of communication that helps people understand, appreciate, and emotionally connect with the rich natural and cultural heritage preserved in parks. It is the mission of interpretation in California State Parks to convey messages that initially will help visitors value their experience, and that ultimately will foster a conservation ethic and promote a dedicated park constituency (DPR 2012).”

#### California State Parks Education Mission

“The most powerful forms of education are meaningful, involve the student, promote critical thinking, and appeal to different learning styles. Our mission is to provide educational experiences both in California State Parks and in the classroom, assisting educators with curriculum needs and offering activities that enable students to investigate, research, and participate in interactive learning (DPR 2012).”

### Henry W. Coe State Park's Declaration of Purpose

"The purpose of Henry W. Coe State Park is to make available to the people for their inspiration, enlightenment, and enjoyment, in an essentially natural condition: the rugged, scenic landscape and wildland values of the inner central coast range of California; the native oak woodlands, riparian corridors, chaparral, and grasslands landscapes; the wildlife and naturally functioning ecosystems therein; and the history and significant cultural features of human occupation and activity (DPR 1985)."

### Henry W. Coe State Park's Mission for Interpretation

*There was not an existing mission for interpretation for Coe. The following establishes such a mission:*

The mission of interpretation at Henry W. Coe State Park is to communicate the importance of park resources- and to provide quality, enjoyable, and relevant interpretive services to the visiting public in order to create meaningful experiences and encourage park stewardship. These interpretive resources will assist in the protection and preservation of the park's cultural and natural features, as well as orient and inform visitors to ensure a safe and meaningful visit.

### Henry W. Coe State Park's Vision for Interpretation

*There was not an existing vision for interpretation for Coe. The following establishes such a vision:*

The vision of interpretation at Henry W. Coe State Park is to create opportunities for visitors to safely and respectfully recreate and experience the park's natural and cultural resources.

## 4.2 STATEWIDE PROGRAMS AND CAMPAIGNS

The following programs influence interpretive planning at Henry W. Coe State Park.

### Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights

Developed by the California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks, and Tourism and a

consortium of State, Federal, local, and academic institutions, as well as private and non-profit organizations, the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights is meant to encourage California's children to participate in outdoor activities and discover their heritage. For more information visit [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=24952](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24952)

### Children in Nature

A California State Park Campaign to promote and encourage children to actively engage with and appreciate the natural environment. For more information [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=24914](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24914)

## 4.3 INTERPRETIVE GOALS AND GUIDELINES



Children in Nature logo

New goals and guidelines are necessary because the general plan is outdated and there have been major changes in visitor and area demographics as well as in the park itself.

The following are the goals established in this Interpretation Master Plan (IMP). *More detail can be found in Chapter 5, the recommendation section.*

**Orient and Inform-** Interpretation will be improved or maintained so that it better orients and informs the general public about the park. This goal considers evaluating and improving orientation information, brochures, maps, online information, signs throughout the park, and other services.

**Connect-** Interpretation will be accurate, balanced, and provocative in order to provide visitors with a meaningful experience that connects them to the park's human stories and natural resources. It will consider all facilities, services, and publications that serve as mediums for these stories and interpretation.

**Diversify-** Interpretive programs and services will promote diversity in park use.

Outreach programs, such as school programs, and community groups, will help the park reach out to non-traditional park users. Bi-lingual signs, new facilities, and recreational opportunities that appeal to diverse demographics are efforts that will broaden visitor bases and better serve diverse populations.

**Promote-** Interpretive efforts will promote the park by utilizing outreach and media strategies. Promoting the park will increase visibility and presence as well as visitation.

**Preserve-** All interpretation will consider sensitivity of the resources and work to educate and interpret the importance of preserving the park's land and resources.

**Fund-** Interpretation will encourage revenue outlets for the park. Since the park's future relies on its ability to generate revenue and draw visitorship, opportunities to attract more paying visitors and fee-based programs can help secure the financial autonomy of the park and safeguard it from future closure

## 4.4 INTERPRETIVE THEMES AND PERIODS

### Changes to Themes and Interpretive Periods

These themes and the interpretive periods have been modified and expanded from the 1985 General Plan and Interpretive Prospectus. The themes were changed because they were topics and did not meet the current guidelines defining a theme. All of the main themes in this plan are considered primary. New primary themes were added that reflect the park's growth and improve cultural accuracy.

### Themes

**Unifying Theme:** Henry W. Coe State Park has long been a landscape of respite, solitude, and bountiful resources for humans and animals, alike.

### Theme I

Natural wonders abound in this unique environment.

#### Subthemes:

- Coe is a landscape that never stops changing. (geology and evolution of the landscape.)
  - The formation of the Mt. Hamilton Range
  - The fault lines that run through Coe
  - Burra Burra Peak and other volcanoes in Coe
- There are many ecosystems in the Diablo Range.
  - Oak woodland
  - Chaparral
  - Grasslands
  - Riparian
  - Stock ponds
  - Ponderosa pine forests
- Wildflowers are the crown jewels of Coe.
  - The many ecosystems create diversity in wildflowers.
  - Wildflowers indicate some of the human history and cultural use of Coe.
  - Serpentine rock supports many of California's endemic native wildflowers
- Such a wild place provides homes to an abundance of wildlife.
  - A place for animals to roam
  - Animal signs and tracking
  - Wildlife adapts to the environmental conditions
  - Predator and prey- maintaining balance

### Theme II

There are many tales of survival found set in this dry, rugged landscape

#### Subthemes:

- The Amah-Mutsun and Yokuts managed the land to enhance the available resources.
  - Using fire to regenerate growth and grazing grounds
  - Harvesting and replanting seeds
  - Processing food and medicinal plants

- Evidence of settlements
- The landscape and conditions change with the arrival of the Spanish.
  - Coe harbored many non-converts and escaped neophytes from the Spanish Mission Era
  - Horse raiding and the presence of wild horses.
  - The massacre of Yokuts in the eastern part of park
  - Intentional (and unintentional) introduction of plants with the arrival of livestock
- Homesteading and ranching transforms the land from wilderness to a “home on the range”
  - Remaining resources reflect historic land management for cattle (fence lines, corrals, stock ponds, roads, pastures, etc.).
  - Homesteading families
  - Ranching families

### Theme III

Careful management and responsible use help us maintain this natural environment.

#### Subthemes:

- Fire isn’t always bad.
  - The plants are adapted for fire
  - The effects of fire to forest habitat: The Lick Fire case study
  - The park uses prescribed burning to manage its forest
- Stock ponds provide an oasis for this thirsty land.
  - Red-Legged Frogs and other unique species
  - How these ponds were created
- Pigs, bullfrogs, and thistles are unwelcome guests.
  - Invasive species compromise the natural flora and fauna of the park
  - Profile different invasive species

### Theme IV

People have found healing properties in the hills and water.

#### Subthemes:

- Folks from all over long came to Coe to experience the healing hot springs and mineral waters.
  - Origin of these special waters
  - Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs
  - Madrone Soda Springs
- The peacefulness of these hills has long given respite, rest, and relaxation to its visitors.
  - Recreation in nature has healing properties for the mind and body.

### Theme V

Coe is the wilderness at your backdoor.

#### Subthemes:

- Visitors beware, make sure to prepare!
  - Know where to get water
  - Know that hot weather and exposed terrain make for dangerous trail conditions.
  - Know the trails, carry a map!
- Respecting nature keeps it pristine.
  - Leave no trace practices
  - Stay on trails
- Coe is the headwaters of several major watersheds.
  - Protecting watersheds
  - Your drinking water begins here
- Coe is a respite from urban life for wildlife and humans alike!
  - A place for animals to roam
  - The silence and sensory experience of nature
  - Clean air- open space and forests help you breath easier.
- Special places make for special memories.
  - An important part of California’s landscape
  - Viewpoints
  - Clear views of night skies
  - A sea of fog in the valley

## Interpretive Periods

The interpretive period cited in the General Plan begins about 130 million years ago, when the park's oldest rocks were formed, and continues to the present.

The primary periods of human occupation of the park and its surroundings will be interpreted. These are:

- The Native American period from prior to 2000 B.C. to the 1850s.
- The homesteading period from mid-to-late nineteenth century.
- The cattle ranching period from the 1860s to the 1970s
- The resort era of Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs and Madrone Soda Springs from 1850s to the present.

## 4.5 EDUCATIONAL FRAMEWORKS & STANDARDS

Teachers often utilize State Parks' interpretive programs and services as a way to enhance their students' learning through engaging multiple learning styles and hands-on experiences. Henry W. Coe State Park offers education programs for grades K-12 that focus on history and science. Although these programs are interpretive in nature, they are aligned with education content standards, making them different from a standard interpretive program.

California has mandated that environmental education curriculum be implemented in public schools. California State Parks has addressed this mandate by matching state environmental education units with existing park themes. These can be found at [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=26907](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=26907). However, this list is in no way comprehensive, and many of these content standards can work

with Coe's themes.

There is a great deal of existing curriculum developed specifically for the Coe. Most of these programs are written up and can be found in the Coe Connection volunteer training manual and the Summer Enrichment Program teacher manual.

When developing content for education programs, exhibits, and services, the Department follows the California Board of Education Content Standards (CSB) and the Education and Environmental Initiative (EEI) curriculum. For the purpose of this plan, the following major park themes are matched with the grade that has the most related content standards. For more information on the most current standards visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/> and look at the History/Social Science, Physical Education, and Science Standards.



Ranger John Verhoeven leads a Coe Connections program at the Hunting Hollow Entrance. Photo courtesy of DPR

## GENERAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

In the course of a new general plan process, the following points are major concerns or suggestions to consider that, if adequately addressed, would support the goals, objectives, and strategies below.

- The park is severely short staffed, particularly when it comes to its interpretive operations. The recommendations below assume that there will be a full-time Interpreter I as well as seasonal help. Without this designated staffing, there is no staff available to implement these changes or the park will need to seek more support from district and California State Parks Service Center staff.
- In the past, there has been discussion from parks and PRA to rebuild the visitor center. However, using existing structures at the Coe HQ complex would be an appropriate and possibly more cost effective alternative. *For more details about past plans and efforts for the Headquarter Entrance visitor center, see Appendix G*
- Since visitation at Hunting Hollow and Coyote Creek is growing, and the Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs site is a large visitor draw, this area of the park needs to be evaluated and heavily considered in the general plan. It is the most accessible by vehicle and is the best site for school-group programs.



Hunting Hollow is becoming a popular entrance for mountain bikers, equestrians, hikers, and backpackers. Photo by Cynthia Leeder



## 5.2 GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STRATEGIES

This section presents Goals, Objectives, Strategies, and Tasks. Together, these elements provide the road map to guide the development of future interpretive programs and services at Henry W. Coe State Park.

**All recommendations fall under the following general goals:**

***Orient and Inform-*** Interpretation will be improved so that it better orients and informs the general public about the park. This goal considers evaluating and improving orientation interpretation, brochures, maps, online information, signs throughout the park, and other services.

***Connect-*** Interpretation will be accurate, balanced, and provocative in order to provide visitors with a meaningful experience that connects them to the park's human stories and natural resources. It will consider all facilities, services, and publications that serve as mediums for these stories and resources.

***Diversify-*** Interpretive programs and services will promote diversity in park use. Outreach programs, such as school programs and community user groups, will help the park reach out to non-traditional park users. Bi-lingual signs, new facilities, and recreational opportunities that appeal to diverse demographics are efforts that will broaden visitor bases and better serve diverse populations.

***Promote-*** Interpretive efforts will promote the park by utilizing outreach and media strategies. Promoting the park will increase visibility and presence as well as visitation.

***Preserve-*** All interpretation will consider sensitivity of the resources and work to educate and interpret the importance of preserving the park's land and resources.

***Fund-*** Interpretation will encourage revenue outlets for the park. Since the park's future relies on its ability to generate revenue and draw visitorship, opportunities to attract more paying visitors and fee-based programs can help secure the financial autonomy of the park and safeguard it from future closure



Rattlesnake tree at sunset. Photo Courtesy of Cynthia Leeder

## Goal 1: Orient and Inform

Interpretation will orient and help prepare visitors to safely explore Henry W. Coe State Park.

**Objective 1.1:** Use diverse interpretive tools and resources to inform and orient visitors.

*Strategy 1.1.1:* Improve trip-planning tools

Task 1.1.1a: Make existing online information and trip planning tools consistent between web and social media sites. Create an accountability system between DPR staff and partners to make sure website information is updated.

Task 1.1.1b: Create specific online maps with recommended trip routes for backpacking, mountain biking, and equestrian use.

Task 1.1.1c: Widely distribute the Henry W. Coe State Park map to outdoor stores, and to local book-stores. Advertise these locations on the website.

Task 1.1.1d: Create a trail-orientation smartphone app that does not need internet connectivity when user is in the park.

*Strategy 1.1.2:* Create a uniform park orientation experience at every entrance.

Task 1.1.2a: Design uniform road signs and welcome signs at each entrance.

Task 1.1.2b: Create a uniform self-registration and information station at every entrance or access point, with specific information about that entrance.

Task 1.1.2c: Provide space at registration station areas for take-away brochures, maps and current condi-

## TERMINOLOGY

**Goals-** Goals build off the vision and mission statements of California State Parks and Henry W. Coe State Park. Goals are broad, general concepts that describe the ultimate purpose, aim, or intent of interpretation at the park. Goals are not necessarily measurable. They are the big picture, the overall results that interpretation should achieve.

**Objectives-** Objectives are specific, realistic, and measurable results that interpretation will achieve and that contribute to the accomplishment of a goal.

**Strategies-** Strategies are the approaches used to accomplish one or more objectives. Strategies are specific and measurable.

**Tasks-**Tasks are specific steps needed to carry out particular strategies. Tasks are projects that are prioritized in the Interpretation Action Plan.



An example of an information map from Big Basin Redwoods State Park that highlights popular trails within the park and provides information about the distance and difficulty of the hike.

tion updates, such as water levels and weather.

Task 1.1.2d: Provide interpretive panels with safety cautions about weather, water, insects, poison oak, and animals.

Task 1.1.2e: Design large map panel for Hunting Hollow entrance area and feature highlights and popular biking, hiking, and equestrian routes. Include information such as elevation change and route distances (see *Big Basin sign photo on previous page*).

**Strategy 1.1.3:** Provide orientation maps and information at key interpretive destinations.

Task 1.1.3a: Inventory and place updated and improved trail signs throughout park. Make downloadable version for smart phones.

Task 1.1.3b: Provide ADA compliant orientation map panels at identified major trail junctures and key destinations such as lakes and group camps.

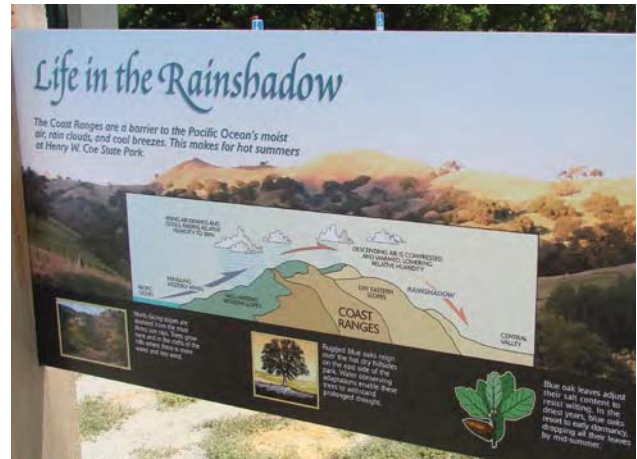
**Strategy 1.1.4:** Develop an exit experience for visitors leaving Henry W. Coe State Park.

Task 1.1.4a: Create a “When you Return” brochure with website information and that highlights park features. Make downloadable version for smart phones.

Task 1.1.4b: Put a log book at every entrance where visitors can pick up surveys and log any comments or record trail information, such as water levels, trail obstructions, etc.

## Goal 2: Connect

Interpretation will inspire visitors to make connections to the natural and cultural resources and stories of Henry W. Coe State Park.



An example of panels placed within the park. Photo by Pat Clark-Gray

**Objective 2.1:** Integrate the park’s interpretive themes and stories into its interpretive facilities and services in a way that enhances the park’s unique spirit of place.

**Strategy 2.1.1:** Develop and install custom and general interpretive panels at key points throughout the park that include the park’s themes and stories.

Task 2.1.1a: Determine which existing panels should be retained and used in the park and move to strategic locations that are logical and effective as needed.

Task 2.1.1b Design new panels that interpret under-represented stories and resources. Place panels in strategic locations.

**Strategy 2.1.2:** Design and fabricate updated, interactive exhibits for Coe HQ complex.

Task 2.1.2a: Remodel and renovate visitor center to be more centered on natural resources, general cultural resources, and orientation (See *conceptual drawings in Appendix D*)

Task 2.1.2b: Remodel and renovate Ranch House to house Coe specific collections and other cultural history exhibits.

Task 2.1.2c: Assess the barn facility and create a project plan to develop interactive interpretive tools, panels, and classroom space (See picture below).

Task 2.1.2d: Revise and update self-guided tour brochure of the Coe Complex. Consider creating some kind of sign or marker to denote stops on tour.

Task 2.1.2e: Build campfire/outdoor gathering spot to host evening programs.



The barn at Coe Headquarters could potentially serve as interpretive space similar to the renovation and use of the barn at Ano Nuevo State Reserve, pictured here. Photos courtesy of Ano Nuevo State Reserve

**Strategy 2.1.3:** Create interpretive facilities and services at Hunting Hollow Entrance.

Task 2.1.3a: Create an interpretive area with panels that reflect appropriate park themes and information (See conceptual drawing in Appendix D)

Task 2.1.3b: Design and create a self-guided walk at the Hunting Hollow Entrance with take-away brochures and stop markers. Offer an online guide for visitors to download prior to their visit.

**Strategy 2.1.4:** Design backcountry interpretive tools such as brochures and maps that backcountry travelers can take with them that reflect the stories and resources of the park.

Task 2.1.4a: Outline specific routes traveled frequently in the park. Create individual maps of the routes that include highlights and information about the cultural and natural resources. Offer these brochures at entrances and online for visitors to download and print.

Task 2.1.4b: Place interpretive panels in appropriate places and develop key destinations with natural and cultural highlights (can be put with or on back of orientation maps).

**Objective 2.2:** Implement and update interpretive tools and programs to highlight underrepresented park history and past stories.

**Strategy 2.2.1:** Connect visitors to the stories and history of the park's first people.

Task 2.2.1a: Consult with Amah-Mutsun and Yokuts representatives to create meaningful interpretive services and facilities within the park.

Task 2.2.1b: Invite and work with

tribal representatives to provide presentations and interpretive programs specific to the park's first people at special events and evening programs.

Task 2.2.1c: Develop panels on first people for the visitor center and Hunting Hollow, working with tribal representatives.

*Strategy 2.2.2:* Connect visitors to the stories of the Anza expedition and the Spanish Mission's effect on Coe's people and land

Task 2.2.2a: Put a panel focused on the Anza trail up at the Hunting Hollow Entrance, showing the route. The current panel at the mouth of the trail is not visible and accessible to all visitors.

Task 2.2.2b: Put up a panel at Hunting Hollow focused on the Spanish use of horses and Indian horse raiding of the Missions .

*Strategy 2.2.3:* Connect visitors to the stories and history of the park's former ranchers and homesteaders:

Task 2.2.3a: Create a historical map handout that outlines the various properties owned by ranchers at one point of time in Coe's history.

Task 2.2.3b: Tell the stories of former ranchers with exhibits around Coe HQ complex that feature pictures and quotes.

Task 2.2.3c: Tell the story of Coe's cattle ranchers by featuring collections and exhibits in the Ranch House.

Task 2.2.3d: Tell the story of the park's first homesteaders with interpretive displays at Hunting Hollow.

*Strategy 2.2.4:* Connect visitors to the park's historical retreat and resort centers.

Task 2.2.4a: Include Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs and Madrone Soda Springs information in the visitor center.

Task 2.2.4b: Continue and expand guided tours to the Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs site.

Task 2.2.4c: Continue and expand annual events that allow public access to the Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs site.

Task 2.2.4d: Create an interpretive panel with information about the springs and an explanation for the closed Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs just past the bridge near the current kiosk (make larger so visible).

Task 2.2.4e: Include Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs interpretation and orientation at Hunting Hollow through an area-focused map.

**Objective 2.3:** Use interpretive tools and programs to help visitors connect with the park's natural resources and understand the park's place in the world.

*Strategy 2.3.1:* Help visitors understand Coe's vastness and many hidden assets for surrounding urban areas.

Task 2.3.1a: Design a panel or exhibit that explains the important role of open space and forests for carbon sequestering and cleaning air.

Task 2.3.1b: Create a watershed model/diorama for the visitor center with interpretation that makes visitors aware of Coe's role as the headwaters for three major urban watersheds.

Task 2.3.2c: Create panels at key viewpoints that identify landmarks and peaks seen from that site.

Task 2.3.2d: Work with local newspapers to create a temporary series

highlighting Coe's value to the community.

**Strategy 2.3.2:** Create ways to interpret resource management issues and the importance of land management.

Task 2.3.2a: Create an exhibit on fire in the park for the visitor center. Include pictures and information about the Lick Fire.

Task 2.3.2b: Organize continuing education and public programs that focus on fire, the Lick Fire, and the vegetation recovery project.

Task 2.3.2c: Create a panel at Hunting Hollow about exotic species in the park.

**Strategy 2.3.3:** Make visitors aware of diversity of flora and fauna.

Task 2.3.3a: Feature interactive displays and exhibits in visitor center at HQ that highlight different mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and aquatic life in the park.

Task 2.3.3b: Design new public programs and maintain existing ones, such as Jr. Rangers and evening programs that feature the natural resources of Coe.

Task 2.3.3c: Create a panel to put near the Grand Junction on the fire road to Manzanita Point that highlights common tracks seen at Coe.

Task 2.3.3d: Design a kid-friendly take-away brochure with basic steps to tracking and identifying animal signs.

Task 2.3.3e: Host public programs that teach tracking skills and take visitors on tracking walks through the park.

Task 2.3.3f: Evaluate current wildflower-walk program and expand and improve.

Task 2.3.3g: Feature "wildflower of the week" or "What's in Bloom" during Spring season on social media sites and local newspapers to attract local wildflower enthusiasts.

Task 2.3.3h: Design an exhibit that highlights Coe's different ecosystems.

Task 2.3.3i: Design interpretive panels and programs that interpret Coe's unique geological features, such as Burra Burra Peak.

**Objective 2.4:** Expose visitors to recreational opportunities in park.

**Strategy 2.4.1:** Use interpretive tools and programs to inform visitors about the recreational opportunities at the different locations in the park.

Task 2.4.1a: Create new and update current brochures/handouts that suggest routes within the park for specific recreational activities.

Task 2.4.1b: Implement and design a backcountry geocaching program that includes a brochure of different caches in the park.

Task 2.4.1c: Place more geocaches in easy-to-access places that don't impact resources throughout the park.

Task 2.4.1d: Partner with recreational organizations (see Chapter 2 for a list of potential organizations) to host special recreational events for all ages.

## **Goal 3: Diversify**

Interpretation will be accessible to a diversity of visitors.

**Objective 3.1:** Outreach to nontraditional visitors of the park through a variety of methods.

*Strategy 3.1.1:* Promote and increase awareness of Coe Park’s interpretive opportunities and services.

Task 3.1.1a: Evaluate and inventory current educational programs and partnerships. Identify what populations are being underserved and target outreach to those groups.

Task 3.1.1b: Develop a way to track the diversity within current and future user and school groups that use the park. Use this information annually to create marketing and promotion plans.

Task 3.1.1c: Utilize current and future partnerships with groups and schools that work with at-risk or potential, nontraditional visitors to share information about Coe’s interpretive opportunities.

*Strategy 3.1.2:* Expand current programs and develop new off-site outreach programs for schools and community events to target nontraditional park users.

Task 3.1.2a: Evaluate current off-site classroom programs and improve interpretive content.

Task 3.1.2b: Build outreach programs that include in-class fee visits from staff in order to bring diverse groups to the park.

Task 3.1.2c: Advertise programs to schools and community organizations.

Task 3.1.2d: Research potential community events and opportunities to feature programs.

Task 3.1.2e: Train volunteers and staff to assist with these off-site interpretive programs.

**Objective 3.2:** Improve access for visitors by reducing barriers that limit their full participation and inclusion in interpretive

opportunities.

*Strategy 3.2.1:* Continue to identify and list barriers that prevent visitors’ full participation in interpretive opportunities at the park.

Task 3.2.1a: Continue to survey agencies and organizations that focus on underserved populations and groups.

Task 3.2.1b: Continue to evaluate and identify barriers and create solutions to overcome these barriers.

*Strategy 3.2.2:* Increase capacity of current interpretive and educational programs.

Task 3.2.2a: Recruit and train more volunteers to help with interpretive and educational programs.

Task 3.2.2b: Look at potential partnerships with nearby high schools and colleges to create internship programs to help with staffing larger numbers of groups.

*Strategy 3.2.3:* Write grants and seek funding to support staff, aid in transportation costs, and provide materials and tools that would eliminate barriers for underserved groups.

Task 3.2.3a: Seek grants or create fundraising suggestions to offer subsidized bus rates for schools and groups to come to the park.

Task 3.2.3b: Find access or secure a family camp trailer that would live at Coe park, equipped with backpacking and camping gear that underserved groups and schools can utilize with appropriate training. Work with FamCamp and independently to serve current user groups (scouts, outward bound, etc.)

Task 3.2.3c: Implement minimal fees for access to these services or use grant money to support staff to

manage.

*Strategy 3.2.4:* Make General Plan recommendations to implement ADA-compliant or more easily accessed trails and facilities to improve access.

Task 3.2.4a: Create a more accessible trail at Hunting Hollow.

Task 3.2.4b: Create an ADA compliant trail at the Visitor Center.

Task 3.2.4c: Apply ADA accessible guidelines to visitor center complex and other potential interpretive facilities.

*Strategy 3.2.5:* Make General Plan recommendations to implement facilities and interpretive services that address diverse recreation preferences, specifically for currently underserved populations.

Task 3.2.5a: Identify areas near park entrances to place picnic and BBQ areas.

Task 3.2.5b: Conduct a formal research process to confirm what resources are already utilized by underserved visitors and what recreational opportunities should be expanded to serve these visitors.

Task 3.2.5c: Develop historical interpretive programs and facilities that will attract a less physical recreation population.

*Strategy 3.2.6:* Print park brochures, web content, and outreach materials in Spanish.

## Goal 4: Promote

Interpretation will promote and increase interest in Henry W. Coe State Park.

**Objective 4.1:** Increase interest by marketing the park as a “must-see” destination.

*Strategy 4.1.1:* Advertise the natural and

cultural resources at the park.

Task 4.1.1a: Create current promotional video that shows some of the park’s natural highlights, cultural stories, and recreational opportunities to distribute on social media and post on websites. Video can also be used at the Visitor Center.

Task 4.1.1b: Create promotional materials and signs to post and stock at tourist information sites and recreation outfitters and stores.

Task 4.1.1c: Improve the state park’s official website to one that better highlights and advertises park resources.

**Objective 4.2:** Capitalize on the park’s recreational assets to market specifically to recreational groups.

*Strategy 4.1.2:* Partner with recreational groups, outfitters, and stores (such as International Mountain Biking Association or REI) to market the park.

Task 4.1.2a: Design in-store presentations and work shops that highlight recreation opportunities in the park.

Task 4.1.2b: Host sponsored special events in the park in partnership with local stores and recreation groups.

*Strategy 4.1.3:* Recruit and outreach through recreation publications.

Task 4.1.3a: Contact publishing companies that specialize in recreational guide books and ask them to feature Coe.

Task 4.1.3b: Contact recreational magazine publications and websites in order to encourage them to feature Coe. Make sure that accurate information is received and published.

**Objective 4.3:** Use incentive programs to encourage families and individuals to visit



the park.

*Strategy 4.3.1:* Use existing California State Park initiatives and programs along with developing new programs to create incentives for visiting the park.

Task 4.3.1a: Conduct Jr. Ranger programs in schools and offer regular programs in the park for kids to earn prizes.

Task 4.3.1b: Use the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights and Children in Nature promotional materials to encourage families to visit the park.

Task 4.3.1c: Create an exclusive rewards program for students participating in Coe outreach and educational programs to bring their families to the park.

**Objective 4.4:** Improve marketing of interpretive programs and services to the public through various methods.

*Strategy 4.4.1:* Use social media outlets to advertise programs.

Task 4.4.1a: Develop an official park Facebook page that can advertise programs and feature seasonal highlights.

Task 4.4.1b: Train staff or volunteers to appropriately maintain and update social media sites.

Task 4.4.1c: Create an online check-in point for visitors to post on their social media sites.

*Strategy 4.4.2:* Develop partnerships with local libraries, stores, and various locations to post monthly calendars of events.

Task 4.4.2a: Identify key places and public areas that get traffic and have bulletin boards.

Task 4.4.2b: Develop on-going partnerships with these places and

establish contacts that can ensure the park publications are posted.

*Strategy 4.4.3:* Send out monthly press releases to local news agencies and post events on online media calendars.

Task 4.4.3a: Identify newspapers and publications with ongoing calendars and that feature local events and programs.

Task 4.4.3b: Train volunteers or staff to write a monthly press release and update online calendars.

Task 4.4.3c: Utilize California State Parks' event pages on the official website to advertise programs.

## Goal 5: Preserve

Interpretation will increase park stewardship and work to preserve the resources, as well as the park itself.

**Objective 5.1:** Use interpretive tools and programs to communicate important stewardship principles to visitors.

*Strategy 5.1.1:* Provide interpretive tools and amenities to encourage leave-no-trace practices.

Task 5.1.1a: Design and strategically place interpretive signs or panels at Hunting Hollow and Coyote Creek entrance that outline leave-no-trace principals.

Task 5.1.1b: Place secure trash cans at all entrances and key destination points near entrances (such as swimming holes near Coyote Creek Entrance) with interpretive signs about how trash harms wildlife.

*Strategy 5.1.2:* Increase volunteer and partnership opportunities to encourage the stewardship and preservation of Henry W. Coe State Park.

Task 5.1.2a: Train existing and future

volunteers with messaging that promotes Henry Coe State Park's stewardship and preservation programs.

Task 5.1.2b: Continue to develop and expand on stewardship messaging in educational programs.

Task 5.1.2c: Locate existing models of stewardship programs that use volunteers and/or partnerships, and emulate the successful techniques used.

*Strategy 5.1.3:* Develop interpretive projects that highlight Henry Coe State Park's preservation and conservation history and promote the park's continued effort in these areas.

Task 5.1.3a: Develop interpretive opportunities for visitors to explore the history of the conservation and preservation of the park by integrating into existing and future park programs and exhibits.

Task 5.1.3b: Develop a temporary exhibit featuring the park's struggle to stay open and the grass-roots efforts to keep it open.

**Objective 5.2:** Ensure that interpretive programs and services do not exhaust or tax park resources.

*Strategy 5.2.1:* Work with district specialists on interpretive designs.

*Strategy 5.2.2:* Use photos and exhibits in developed areas to interpret and highlight fragile cultural and natural resources.

*Strategy 5.2.3:* Conduct regular evaluations on programs and exhibits to ensure that resource preservation is a priority.

## Goal 6: Fund

Interpretive programs and services can be used as revenue generating resources for the park to support staff and park opera-

tions.

**Objective 6.1:** Find revenue to support interpretive and educational programs.

*Strategy 6.1.1:* Attach manageable and small fees or suggested donations to existing PRA programs to financially support staffing and supplies.

Task 6.1.1a: Evaluate the cost of programs and the willingness-to-pay price points for school and fee-based interpretive programs.

Task 6.1.1b: Run a cost-per-program analysis for school and commissioned on-site and off-site interpretive programs, such as exclusive tours, interpretive programs for events and parties, etc.)

Task 6.1.1c: Survey various groups to find out what the willingness to pay values are for school and fee-based on site and off-site interpretive programs.

Task 6.1.1d: Create scholarships or subsidized funds for groups that can't afford fees to ensure accessibility for all groups.

Task 6.1.1e: Ask for suggested donation at regularly scheduled free public programs.

Task 6.1.1f: Implement value-added programs for fees, run by PRA

*Strategy 6.1.2:* Write grants to help support staff and materials for programs.

Task 6.1.2a: Explore research grant and funding opportunities.

Task 6.1.2b: Use existing programs to apply for appropriate grants.

Task 6.1.2c: Develop new programs that fit within the interpretive vision and goals to qualify for new grants, expand program capacity, and add staff.

**Objective 6.2:** Make General Plan recommendations to develop and market existing interpretive resources for revenue purposes.

*Strategy 6.2.1:* Evaluate and begin planning to restore and re-open Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs to the general public.

Task 6.2.1a: Create a stakeholder process in order to create a strategic plan.

Task 6.2.1b: Continue to support partnership with Friends of Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs by promoting current programs and integrating the organization's efforts into Coe's outreach and promotional plans.

Task 6.2.1c: In the long term, seek potential interpretive concessionaires through a formal Request For Proposal (RFP) process.

*Strategy 6.2.2:* Seek potential concessionaires or partnerships to provide recreational outlets to visitors, such as horse rental and guided rides, group mountain biking excursions, and guided backpacking trips.

### 5.3 INTERPRETATION ACTION PLAN

The Interpretation Action Plan (IAP) organizes the more imperative improvement strategies and tasks into an easy-to-understand structure. The IAP:

- Provides information related to potential funding sources associated with each task.
- Identifies leadership and collaboration roles for accomplishing these strategies and tasks.
- Suggests time frames to accomplish these strategies and tasks.
- Will be updated on a regular basis in order to align it with changing conditions and contingencies.

#### Priorities and Timeframe

Strategies and tasks are prioritized and

phased in the following categories:

**High Priority Near-Term-** Describes strategies and tasks that have funding and staff available and can be completed in the next two years and are major priorities. This designation considers current staffing to include seasonal employees as well as a sector Interpreter I (both which are in flux and subject to change), and the current ranger staff. Without these, there will need to be increased support from the Interpretation and Education Division of California State Parks or Monterey District personnel.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Priority Near-Term-** Describes strategies and tasks that have funding and staff available and can be completed in the next five years but are not major priorities. This designation considers current staffing to include seasonal employees as well as a sector Interpreter I (both which are in flux and subject to change), and the current ranger staff.

**High Priority Future-** Describes strategies and tasks that do not have available funding or staff, but should be a priority for seeking funds and staff to manage. These strategies and tasks should be accomplished in two years but are dependent on unidentified resources.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Priority Future-** Describes strategies and tasks that do not have available funding or staff and are not of high priority when seeking immediate resources. These strategies and tasks are long-term goals and are dependent on available resources and may require five years or more to accomplish.

#### Funding

The IAP uses one dollar sign \$ to indicate potential or existing sources of funding. This does not mean that funding has been guaranteed, but does suggest that some type of interest or partnership has previously been discussed.

#### Leadership Roles

The IAP uses X to indicate what group or individual spearheads and implements the project or plan. A \* indicates who will need to be consulted or can be asked to contrib-

## HIGH PRIORITY: Near Term

Achievable with Current Staff and Funding

	Park/District					St Pks HQ			Park Partners				
<p><b>X Leadership:</b> Initiates planning and guides project/program to implement IMP strategy</p> <p><b>* Contributor:</b> Involved in planning and/or implementation for the project/program</p> <p><b>\$ Funding Resource:</b> Potential or identified funding source for project to implement IMP strategy</p>	Ranger Staff and Visitor Services Staff	Volunteer Coordinator & Coe Volunteers	Facilities Mgt & Maintenance	Regional Interpretive Specialist	District Management	Pine Ridge Association	Interpretation and Education Division	Northern Service Center	Accessibility Section	City, State, & Tribal Governments	Stakeholders	Concessions	Other Organizations

Improve Trip Planning Tools													
Task 1.1.1.a: Make existing on-line and trip planning consistent between web/social media sites. Create an accountability system between DPR staff and partners to make sure website updates information.	*	X		*									
Task 1.1.1.b: Create specific on-line maps with recommended trip routes for backpacking, mountain biking, and equestrian use.	*	X		*		\$			*				
Task 2.4.1a: Create new and update current brochures that suggest routes within the park for specific recreational activities.	*	X		*		\$			*				
Task 1.1.1.c: Widely distribute the Henry W. Coe State Park map to REI, other outdoor stores, and local bookstores. Advertise these locations on the website.	*	*				X							
Hunting Hollow Welcome Area													
Task 1.1.2b: Create a uniform self-registration and information station at every entrance or access point, with specific information about that entrance.	*	*	*	*	\$X	*	*	*	*				* NPS

## HIGH PRIORITY: Near Term

Achievable with Current Staff and Funding

	Park/District					St Pks HQ			Park Partners				
<p><b>X Leadership:</b> Initiates planning and guides project/program to implement IMP strategy</p> <p><b>* Contributor:</b> Involved in planning and/or implementation for the project/program</p> <p><b>\$ Funding Resource:</b> Potential or identified funding source for project to implement IMP strategy</p>	Ranger Staff and Visitor Services Staff	Volunteer Coordinator & Coe Volunteers	Facilities Mgt & Maintenance	Regional Interpretive Specialist	District Management	Pine Ridge Association	Interpretation and Education Division	Northern Service Center	Accessibility Section	City, State, & Tribal Governments	Stakeholders	Concessions	Other Organizations

<u>Task 1.1.2c:</u> Provide space on registration station areas for take-away brochures, maps and current condition updates (such as water levels and weather.)	*	X			\$X	\$*			*					
<u>Task 1.1.2e:</u> Design large park map panel for Hunting Hollow entrance area and feature highlights and hikes, including elevation changes and hike length information.	*	*	*	X			\$							
<u>Task 2.1.3a:</u> Create an interpretive area with panels that reflect appropriate park themes and information.		*	*	X	\$X	*	*	*	*					
<u>Task 1.1.4b:</u> Put a log book where visitors can pick up surveys and log any comments or record trail information, such as water levels, trail obstructions, etc. at entrances	X	*												
<u>Task 1.1.2d:</u> Provide interpretive panels with safety cautions about weather, water levels, insects, and animals.	*	*	*	X	\$X	*	*	*						
<u>Task 2.2.2a:</u> Design and install panel focusing on Anza trail up at Hunting Hollow, showing route.	*	*	*	X	\$X	*	*	*						NPS*\$
<u>Task 2.2.2b:</u> Put up panel at Hunting Hollow focused on the Spanish use of horses and Indian horse raiding of the Missions.	*	*	*	X	\$X	*	*	*		*				NPS*\$

## HIGH PRIORITY: Near Term

Achievable with Current Staff and Funding

	Park/District				St Pks HQ			Park Partners					
<p><b>X Leadership:</b> Initiates planning and guides project/program to implement IMP strategy</p> <p><b>* Contributor:</b> Involved in planning and/or implementation for the project/program</p> <p><b>\$ Funding Resource:</b> Potential or identified funding source for project to implement IMP strategy</p>	Ranger Staff and Visitor Services Staff	Volunteer Coordinator & Coe Volunteers	Facilities Mgt & Maintenance	Regional Interpretive Specialist	District Management	Pine Ridge Association	Interpretation and Education Division	Northern Service Center	Accessibility Section	City, State, & Tribal Governments	Stakeholders	Concessions	Other Organizations

<u>Task 2.2.3d:</u> Tell the story of the park's first homesteaders with interpretive displays at Hunting Hollow.	*	*	*	X	\$X	*	*	*	*				
<u>Task 2.3.2c:</u> Create a panel at Hunting Hollow about exotic species in the park.	*	*	*	X	\$X	*	*	*	*				
<u>Task 2.2.1c:</u> Develop panels on first people for the visitor center and Hunting Hollow working with tribal representatives.	*	*	*	X	\$X	*	*	*	*	*			
<u>Task 5.1.1a:</u> Design and strategically place interpretive signs or panels at Hunting Hollow and Coyote Creek entrance that outline leave-no-trace principals.	*	*	*	X	\$X	*	*	*	*				
<u>Task 2.1.3b:</u> Design and create a self-guided walk at Hunting Hollow Entrance with take-away brochures and stop markers. Offer an online guide for visitors to download prior to their visit.	*	*	*	X	\$X	*	*	*	*				

### Increasing Park Interpretation of Resources and Orientation

<u>Task 2.1.1a:</u> Determine which existing panels should be retained or used in the park and move to strategic locations that are logical and effective as needed.	X	*	*	*									
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## HIGH PRIORITY: Near Term

Achievable with Current Staff and Funding

	Park/District					St Pks HQ			Park Partners				
<p><b>X Leadership:</b> Initiates planning and guides project/program to implement IMP strategy</p> <p><b>* Contributor:</b> Involved in planning and/or implementation for the project/program</p> <p><b>\$ Funding Resource:</b> Potential or identified funding source for project to implement IMP strategy</p>	Ranger Staff and Visitor Services Staff	Volunteer Coordinator & Coe Volunteers	Facilities Mgt & Maintenance	Regional Interpretive Specialist	District Management	Pine Ridge Association	Interpretation and Education Division	Northern Service Center	State Parks Sign Unit	City, State, & Tribal Governments	Stakeholders	Concessions	Other Organizations

Task 2.3.3b: Design new public programs and maintain existing ones, such as Jr. Rangers and evening programs that feature the natural resources of Coe.	X	*				\$							
Task 5.1.3b: Develop a temporary exhibit featuring the park's struggle to stay open and the grass-roots efforts to keep it open.	*	X	*	*		\$							
Task 2.2.1b: Invite and work with tribal representatives to provide presentations and interpretive programs specific to the park's first people at special events and evening programs	*	X		*						*			
Task 1.1.3a: Inventory and place updated and improved trail signs throughout park.	*	X	*	*		\$			*				

### Increase Interpretation and Develop Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs

Task 2.2.4b: Continue and expand guided tours to the site.	*	X		*		*					*		XFOGHS
Task 2.2.4c: Continue and expand annual events that allow public access to the site.	*	*		X		*					*		XFOGHS

## HIGH PRIORITY: Near Term

Achievable with Current Staff and Funding

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<u>Task 2.2.4d:</u> Create an interpretive panel with information about the springs and an explanation for the closed GYHS site close to bridge.	*	*	*	X		*					*			XFOGHS
<u>Task 6.2.1b:</u> Continue to support partnership with Friends of Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs by promoting current programs and integrating the organization's efforts into Coe's outreach and promotional plans.	*	X		*		*					*			XFOGHS
<u>Task 2.2.4e:</u> Include GYHS interpretation and orientation at Hunting Hollow through an area-focused map.	*	*	*	X		*					*			XFOGHS
<u>Task 3.2.5a:</u> Identify areas near park entrances to build picnic shelters and BBQ areas.	*	*	X	*	X	*					*			XFOGHS
Expand Outreach Programs To Reach Non-traditional Visitors														
<u>Task 3.1.1a:</u> Evaluate and inventory current educational programs and partnerships. Identify what populations are being underserved and target outreach to those groups.	*	X		*			*				*			*



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<u>Task 3.1.1b:</u> Develop a way to track the diversity within current and future user and school groups that use the park. Use this information annually to create marketing and promotion plans.	*	X					*				*		*
<u>Task 3.1.2d:</u> Research potential community events and opportunities to feature programs.	*	X											
<u>Task 3.2.1a:</u> Continue to survey agencies and organizations that focus on underserved populations and groups.	*	X		*									
<u>Task 3.2.1b:</u> Continue to evaluate and identify barriers and create solutions to overcome these barriers.	*	X											
<u>Task 3.1.2e:</u> Train volunteers and staff to assist with these off-site interpretive programs	*	X				X							

## HIGH PRIORITY: Near Term

Achievable with Current Staff and Funding

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Social Media and Advertising Park Programs													
<u>Task 4.5.1a:</u> Develop an official park Facebook page that can advertise programs and feature seasonal highlights.		X		*		X	*						
<u>Task 4.5.1b:</u> Train staff or volunteers to appropriately maintain and update social media sites.		X		*			*						
<u>Task 4.5.1c:</u> Create an online check-in point for visitors to post on their social media sites.		X											
<u>Strategy 4.5.3:</u> Send out monthly press releases to local news agencies and post events on online media calendars.		X											
<u>Task 5.1.2a:</u> Train existing and future volunteers with messaging that promotes Henry Coe State Park's stewardship and preservation programs.		X											
Revenue Generation													

## 2nd PRIORITY: Near Term

Achievable with Current Staff and Funding

	Park/District					St Pks HQ			Park Partners				
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Trip Planning Tools and General Orientation													
<u>Task 1.1.2a:</u> Design uniform road signs and welcome signs at each entrance.	*	*	*	*	X					*			
<u>Task 1.1.3b:</u> Provide orientation map panels at identified major trail junctures and key destinations such as lakes and group camps.	X	*	*	*	*								
Expand and Revamp Interpretive Panels and Guided Tours													
<u>Strategy 2.1.1:</u> Develop and install custom and general interpretive panels at key points throughout the park that includes the park's themes and stories.	*	X	*	*	\$*	\$*	*		*				
<u>Task 2.1.2d:</u> Revise and update self-guided tour brochure of the Coe Complex. Consider creating some kind of sign or marker to denote stops on tour.	*	X	*	X		\$*			*				
<u>Task 2.2.4a:</u> Include Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs and Madrone Soda Spring information in the visitor center.	X	*		*	*								XFOGHS
<u>Task 2.3.1c:</u> Create panels at key viewpoints that identify landmarks and peaks seen from that site.	X	*	*	*	\$*	\$*	*						

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<u>Task 2.3.3c:</u> Create a panel to put near Grand Junction on the fire road to Manzanita Point that highlights common tracks seen at Coe.	X	*	*	*	\$*	\$*	*						
Evaluate and Expand Interpretive and Education Programs													
<u>Task 2.3.3f:</u> Evaluate current wildflower-walk program and expand and improve		X		*									
<u>Task 2.4.1b:</u> Implement and design a backcountry geocaching program that includes a brochure of different caches in the park.	*	X			*	*							
<u>Task 2.4.1c:</u> Place more geocaches in easy-to-access places that don't impact resources throughout the park.	*	X		*									
<u>Task 3.1.2a:</u> Evaluate current off-site programs and improve interpretive content.		X		*									
<u>Task 3.1.2b:</u> Build outreach programs that include in-class fee visits from staff in order to bring diverse groups to the park.	*	X			\$*	*							
<u>Task 3.1.2c:</u> Advertise programs to schools and community organizations	*	X			\$*								

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<u>Task 3.1.1c:</u> Utilize current and future partnerships with groups and schools that work with at-risk or potential, nontraditional visitors to share information about Coe's interpretive opportunities.	*	X		*		*							
<u>Task 3.1.2e:</u> Train volunteers and staff to assist with these off-site interpretive programs.		X											
<u>Task 4.4.1c:</u> Create an exclusive rewards program for students participating in Coe outreach and educational programs to bring their families to the park.	*	X				*							
<u>Task 3.2.2b:</u> Look at potential partnerships with nearby high schools and colleges to create internship programs to help with staffing larger numbers of groups.	*	X											
Conduct more research on visitor use													
<u>Task 3.2.5b:</u> Conduct a formal research process to confirm what resources are already utilized by underserved visitors and what recreational opportunities should be expanded to serve these visitors.	*	*		*	X	*	*	*	*				* UC, colleges

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Achievable with Current Staff and Funding

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Video Project													
Task 4.1.1a: Create current promotional video that shows some of the park's natural highlights, cultural stories, and recreational opportunities to distribute on social media and post on websites. Video can also be used at the Visitor Center.	X	*		*	*	\$X							

## HIGH PRIORITY: Future

On Hold Until Funding and Staff Become Available

	Park/District					St Pks HQ			Park Partners				
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Exit Information and Experience													
Strategy 1.1.4: Develop an exit experience for visitors leaving Henry W. Coe State Park.	X	*	*	*	*	*			*				
Task 1.1.4a: Create a “When you Return” brochure that has website information and that highlights park features.		X		*		*\$			*				
Increasing Interpretive Opportunities at HQ Entrance Complex													
Strategy 2.1.2: Design and fabricate updated, interactive exhibits for Coe HQ complex.	*	X	*	X	\$*	\$X	*	*	*				
Task 2.1.2a: Remodel and renovate visitor center to be more centered on natural resources, general cultural resources, and orientation (see Appendix D for conceptual drawing).	*	X	*	X	\$*	\$X	*	*	*				
Task 2.1.2b: Remodel and renovate Ranch House to house Coe specific collections and other cultural history exhibits.	*	X	*	X	\$*	\$X	*	*	*				
Task 2.1.2e: Build campfire/outdoor gathering spot to host evening programs.	*	X	*	*	\$*	\$X	*	*	*				

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On Hold Until Funding and Staff Become Available

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<u>Task 2.2.3b:</u> Tell the stories of former ranchers with exhibits that feature pictures and quotes around the Coe HQ complex and in the Ranch House.	*	X	*	X	\$*	\$X	*	*	*				
<u>Task 2.3.1a:</u> Design a panel that explains the important role of open space and forests for carbon sequestering and cleaning air.	*	X	*	*	\$*	\$X	*	*	*				
<u>Task 2.3.3h:</u> Design an exhibit that highlights Coe’s different ecosystems	*	X	*	*	\$*	\$X	*	*	*				
<u>Task 2.3.3i:</u> Design interpretive panels and programs that interpret Coe’s unique geological features, such as Burra Burra Peak	*	X	*	*	\$*	\$X	*	*	*				
<u>Task 2.3.2a:</u> Create an exhibit on fire in the park for the visitor center. Include pictures and information about the Lick Fire.	*	X	*	X	\$*	\$X	*	*	*				
<b>Social Media and Marketing</b>													
<u>Task 2.3.3g:</u> Feature “wildflower of the week” or “What’s in Bloom” during spring season on social media sites and local newspapers to attract local wildflower enthusiasts.	*	X											



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<u>Task 2.3.1d:</u> Work with local newspapers to create a temporary series highlighting Coe's value to the community.	*	X			*	*							
<b>Restoring Access and Facilities at GYHS</b>													
<u>Task 6.2.1a:</u> Create a stakeholder process in order to create a strategic plan.	*	*	*	*	X	*					*	*	
<b>Building and Maintaining Partnerships</b>													
<u>Strategy 3.2.3:</u> Write grants and seek funding to support staff, aid in transportation costs, and provide materials and tools that would eliminate barriers for underserved groups.	*	X			*								
<u>Task 2.4.1d:</u> Partner with recreational organizations (Sierra Club, ROMP, IMBA) to host special recreational events for all ages.	X	*			*								
<u>Strategy 4.1.2:</u> Partner with recreational groups, outfitters, and stores (such as International Mountain Biking Association or REI) to market the park.	X	*			*								

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<u>Task 4.1.2a:</u> Design in-store presentations and work shops that highlight recreation opportunities in the park.	X	*			*								
<u>Task 4.1.2b:</u> Host sponsored special events in the park in partnership with local stores and recreation groups.	X	*			*								
<u>Task 4.1.1b:</u> Create promotional materials and signs to post and stock at tourist information sites and recreation outfitters and stores.	X	*			*								
<u>Strategy 4.5.2:</u> Develop partnerships with local libraries, stores, and various locations to post monthly calendars of events.	X	*			*								
<u>Task 2.3.2b:</u> Organize continuing education and public programs that focus on fire, the Lick Fire, and the vegetation recovery project.	X	*			*								

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### Park Brochures and Online Information

<u>Task 2.1.4a:</u> Outline specific routes traveled frequently in the park. Create individual maps of the routes that include highlights and information about the cultural and natural resources. Offer these brochures at entrances and online for visitors to download and print.	*	X			*	\$X	*		*				
<u>Task 2.3.3d:</u> Design a kid friendly take-away brochure with basic steps to tracking and identifying animal signs.	*	X			*	\$X	*		*				
<u>Task 2.2.3a:</u> Create a historical map handout that outlines the various properties owned by ranchers at one point of time in Coe's history.	*	*		X	*	\$X	*		*				
<u>Strategy 3.2.7:</u> Print park brochures and outreach materials in Spanish.	*	X	*	X	*	\$X	*		*				
<u>Strategy 2.1.3:</u> Design backcountry interpretive tools such as brochures and maps that backcountry travelers can take with them that reflect the stories and resources of the park	*	X	*	X	*	\$X	*		*				

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### Increasing Interpretive Opportunities at HQ Entrance Complex

Task 2.1.2c: Assess the barn facility and create a project plan to develop interactive interpretive tools and panels.

*			*	X	*	*	*						
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### Building Outreach Programs

Task 2.3.3e: Host public programs that teach tracking skills and take visitors on tracking walks through the park.

*	X				*								
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Task 3.2.3b: Find access or secure an exclusive family camp trailer, equipped with backpacking and camping gear that underserved groups and schools can utilize with appropriate training.

*	X	*	*	*	*								
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Task 6.1.1a: Evaluate the cost of programs and the willingness to pay price points for school and fee-based interpretive programs.

	X				*								* UC, college
--	---	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	---------------

Task 6.1.1b: Run a cost-per-program analysis for school and commissioned on site and off-site interpretive programs.

	X				*								UC, colleges
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On Hold Until Funding and Staff Become Available

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<u>Task 6.1.1c:</u> Survey various groups to find out what the willingness to pay values are for school and fee-based on site and off-site interpretive programs.		X				*								*UC, colleges
<u>Task 6.1.2a:</u> Research grant and funding opportunities.	*	X		*	*	*								
<u>Task 6.1.2b:</u> Use existing programs to apply for appropriate grants.	*	X		*		*								
<u>Task 6.1.2c:</u> Develop new programs that fit within the interpretive vision and goals to qualify for new grants, expand program capacity, and add staff.	*	*		*		*								
Capitalize on Marketing Opportunities														
<u>Task 4.1.3a:</u> Contact publishing companies that specialize in recreational guide books and ask them to feature Coe.	X	*		*	*									
<u>Task 4.1.3b:</u> Contact recreational magazine publications and encourage them to feature Coe.	X	*		*	*									

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### Research and Pursue Concessionaire Opportunities

Strategy 6.2.1: Evaluate and begin planning to restore and reopen Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs to the general public.	*	*	*	*	X	*				*	*	*	*FOGHS
Task 6.2.1c: In the long term, seek potential interpretive concessionaires through a formal RFP process.	*	*	*	*	X	*				*	*	*	*FOGHS
Strategy 6.2.2: Seek potential concessionaires or partnerships to provide recreational outlets to visitors, such as horse rental and guided rides, group mountain biking excursions, and guided backpacking trips.	*	*	*	*	X	*				*	*	*	*FOGHS

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# APPENDICES

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- A. Photos of Park’s Existing Panels
- B. Henry W. Coe State Park Visitor Survey, Example  
Henry W. Coe State Park Visitor Survey, Analyzed Results  
Visitor Survey Comments and Suggestions
- C. Public Meeting Attendance
- D. Drawings
- E. List of Interpretation Action Plan Positions and Descriptions
- F. Henry W. Coe Bird-Species List
- G. Pine Ridge Association Information on Past Visitor Center Plans
- H. Watershed chart of Henry W. Coe State Park

## **APPENDIX A**

### Photos of Park's Existing Panels

The Dowdy Ranch Panels and topics.

## Life in the Rainshadow

The Coast Ranges are a barrier to the Pacific Ocean's moist air, rain clouds, and cool breezes. This makes for hot summers at Henry W. Coe State Park.

Diagram labels: RISING AIR EXPANDS AND COOLS, RAISING RELATIVE HUMIDITY TO 100%; PREVAILING WESTERLY WINDS; PACIFIC OCEAN; WELL-WATERED WESTERN SLOPES; COAST RANGES; DRY EASTERN SLOPES; RAINSHADOW; CENTRAL VALLEY; DESCENDING AIR IS COMPRESSED AND WARMED, LOWERING RELATIVE HUMIDITY.

North-facing slopes are shaded from the most direct sun rays. Trees grow here and in the deep of the hills where there is more water and less wind.

Rugged blue oaks reign over the hot, dry hillsides on the east side of the park. Water conserving adaptations enable these trees to withstand prolonged drought.

Blue oak leaves adjust their salt content to resist wilting. In the driest years, blue oaks resort to early dormancy, dropping all their leaves by mid-summer.

## Big Cat Country

Much of California is mountain lion habitat.

Suitable Mountain Lion Habitat

- none
- low
- high

**Hiking Precautions**

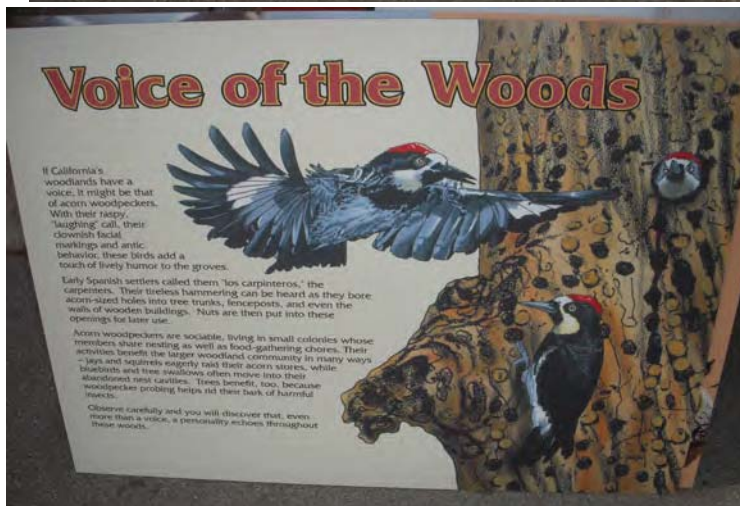
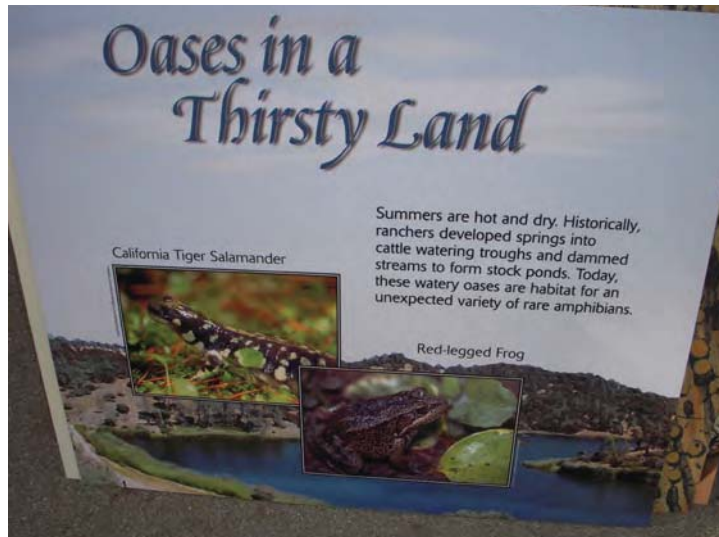
- Be alert
- Hike with others
- Avoid hiking at dawn and dusk
- Make noise as you hike
- Keep children and pets close
- If you see a lion do not run, stay away.

Many California State Parks include habitat suitable for mountain lions. These stealthy creatures actively hunt at dawn and dusk. They avoid contact with people.

Habitat loss due to encroaching development is threatening their survival. Understanding their behavior makes it possible for people and big cats to coexist and share places like our parks.



Unused panels in the park's possession.



**FOOTHILLS WILDFLOWERS**  
 Fairy lanterns  
 Golden chalice  
 Golden crown

**COASTAL WILDFLOWERS**  
 Beach poppies  
 Golden poppies  
 Golden poppies  
 Golden poppies

**DESSERT WILDFLOWERS**  
 Desert chalice  
 Desert chalice  
 Desert chalice  
 Desert chalice

**VALLEY WILDFLOWERS**  
 Golden chalice  
 Golden chalice  
 Golden chalice  
 Golden chalice

### Why are California's native wildflowers so special?

The diversity of California's native plant life, about 6,000 species, is unequaled by any other state. This results from the state's varied climate, soils, and geology. Nearly one-quarter of these plants live naturally only in California.

California's wildflowers are an important and vibrant part of our natural heritage. While providing food and cover for animals, these plants also manufacture oxygen and filter water. Some are used to produce agricultural products and medicines. Unfortunately, wildflowers are disappearing.

Development has altered areas where wildflowers were once abundant. Even where wildlands are protected, wildflowers are threatened by plants not native to California and by the activities of people. To insure that future visitors can also enjoy this stunning display of blossoms, please stay on trails and don't pick the flowers.

## TREES OF LIFE

### California's Oak Woodlands

Oak woodlands are a vital part of California's environment. These impressive trees, with their sturdy trunks and gnarled branches, furnish shelter, food and protection for a wide variety of animals and insects. Their branches hold birds' nests; trunk hollows provide dens; dead leaves and twigs are perfect for insects and amphibians; and the oak's root system is home to burrowing rodents, insects and worms.

Unfortunately, California's oak trees are not reproducing well. The decline in survival rate of seedlings is due to a variety of reasons, including cattle grazing, fire suppression, the spread of non-native plants and animals, and changes in soil moisture and climate. Because oak woodlands in California have declined as agriculture and development have increased, the resources they provide—which are necessary for wildlife to thrive in these areas—are now seriously threatened.

### To avoid encountering a mountain lion:

- Don't hike alone, and make noise to avoid surprising a lion.
- Avoid hiking at dawn or dusk when lions usually hunt.
- Keep children near you and pets secured.

### The Magnificent Mountain Lion

"Cougar," another term for mountain lion, is a popular name for athletic teams. It brings to mind the image of an animal of exceptional beauty, grace, and power. Although mountain lions are admired for these and other traits, they are also feared, like wolves and grizzly bears, as large and potentially dangerous predators. Mountain lions once roamed in every state, but today they can only be found in twelve western states and Florida.

Mountain lions normally avoid people, but as California's population grows, people and lions are increasingly sharing the same spaces. The challenge ahead is finding ways for both people and mountain lions to coexist in harmony and safety.

### If you encounter a mountain lion

- Don't approach the lion, and don't run or turn your back to it.
- Pick up small children, but avoid bending over as much as possible.
- Appear as large as possible by raising your arms and spreading your jacket.
- Wave your arms and speak loudly.
- Throw whatever you can reach without bending over.
- Back away slowly and give the lion an escape route.
- Fight back if attacked.

Panel at Grand Junction from Headquarters Entrance



Panels and topics at Kickham Ranch Unit Office







Panel at DeAnza Trail



## **APPENDIX B**

### Visitor Survey and Survey Data

- Henry W. Coe State Park Visitor Survey Example
- Henry W. Coe State Park Visitor Survey Analyzed Results
- Visitor Survey Comments and Suggestions



## HENRY W. COE STATE PARK VISITOR SURVEY

Please help us better serve our visitors. Take a moment to fill out the following survey. All responses are anonymous. Please fill out front and back.

Unit: Henry Coe State Park

Location:

Researcher:

Date:

1. Are you here with: (check  **all** that apply)

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friends | <input type="checkbox"/> School/study group             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family  | <input type="checkbox"/> A club/organization field trip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alone   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                   |

2. In the last 12 months, how many times (including today) have you visited this park?

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> time | <input type="checkbox"/> 11-20        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2-10                 | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 20 |

3. How did you learn about this park? (check  **all** that apply)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grew up nearby/live nearby       | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper     | <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine or publication    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended by family or friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel agency | <input type="checkbox"/> By chance (drove by, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tour book/map (e.g., CSAA guide) | <input type="checkbox"/> TV/radio      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet/State Parks web site    | <input type="checkbox"/> Road sign     |   |

4. Are you camping, or on a day trip?

Day trip: how many hours do you expect to be here? \_\_\_\_\_

Camping: How many nights will you be here? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Please check the top five activities you do at the park

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird watching                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Backpacking                | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening program   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature walks/interpretive trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Biking – mountain bike     | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical sightseeing/tour                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photography                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Biking – on paved surfaces | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Ranger   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relaxing in the outdoors         | <input type="checkbox"/> Camping                    | <input type="checkbox"/> School program or activity  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife viewing                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Driving for pleasure       | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-guided trail / tour  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stargazing                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor center/museum   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildflowers                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding           | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events (i.e. Tarantula Day, Mothers Day Bfast, Ranch Days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Jogging/running            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking for pleasure             | <input type="checkbox"/> Geocaching                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

6. At what locations/destinations within the park do you spend the most time? (eg: Hunting Hollow Entrance, Visitor Center, specific trails, backpacking routes, etc...)

7. Please express how satisfied you are with the following aspects of the park, with the following 1-7 scale:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Unsatisfied			Indifferent			Very Satisfied	Don't know/Not Applicable
Condition of natural and historic resources							
Overall condition of facilities							
Quality of recreational opportunities available here							
Feeling of safety and security during your visit							
Opportunities to learn about the area's history and natural environment							
Courtesy and helpfulness of park staff:							
Availability of staff to assist you							
Park experience vs fees paid:							

**PLEASE COMPLETE OTHER SIDE**

8. Please tell what aspect of the park is important to you, with the following 1-7 scale:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Unimportant	Indifferent			Very Important		Don't know/Not Applicable	
Condition of natural and historic resources							
Overall condition of facilities							
Quality of recreational opportunities available here							
Feeling of safety and security during your visit							
Opportunities to learn about the area's history and natural environment							
Courtesy and helpfulness of park staff:							
Availability of staff to assist you							
Park experience vs fees paid:							

9. Additional Comments:

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10. What is your gender?  Male  Female

11. What's your home zip code? \_\_\_\_\_ If not from the U.S., what country are you from? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Indicate the number in your party (including yourself) that fall in the following age ranges.

- |                 |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| ___ 1 - 9 years | ___ 45-54 years       |
| ___ 10-14 years | ___ 55-59 years       |
| ___ 15-24 years | ___ 60-64 years       |
| ___ 25-34 years | ___ 65-74 years       |
| ___ 35-44 years | ___ 75 years or older |

13. Racial/ethnic identity? (choose one)

- Hispanic or Latino                       White / Caucasian                       Other / Multi-racial  
 Asian     American Indian and/or Alaska Native  
 Black or African American                       Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander

14. What is your **combined household** income?

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$14,999   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35,000 to \$49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000 to \$149,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15,000 to \$24,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 to \$74,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150,000+             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000 to \$34,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000 to \$99,999 |   |

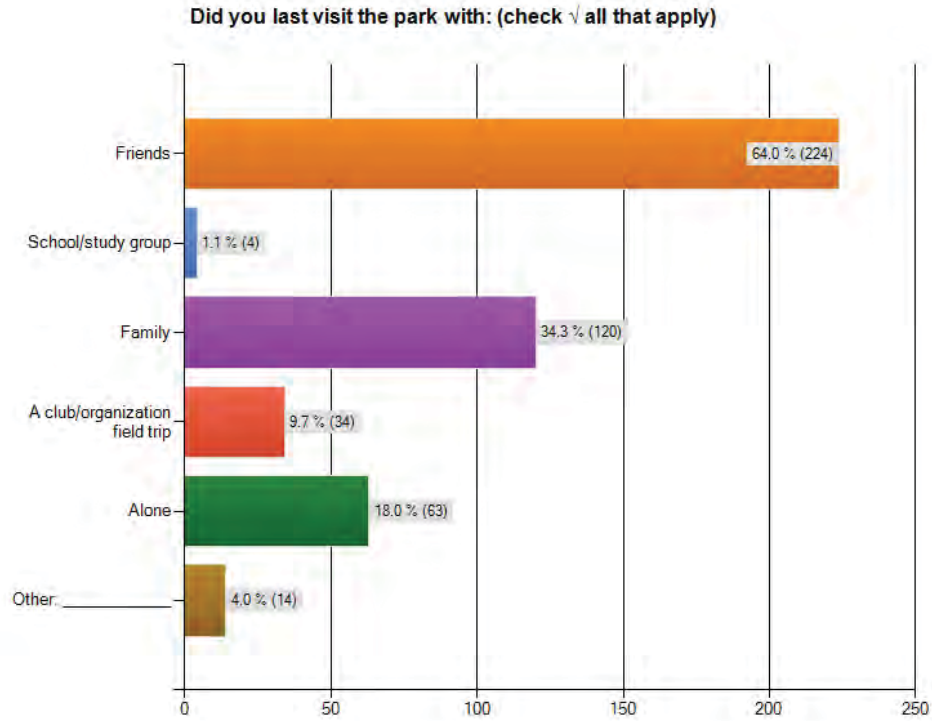


**Please hand your completed survey to the researcher once you're finished.  
Thank you for your time!**

# Henry W. Coe Visitor Survey Analyzed Results

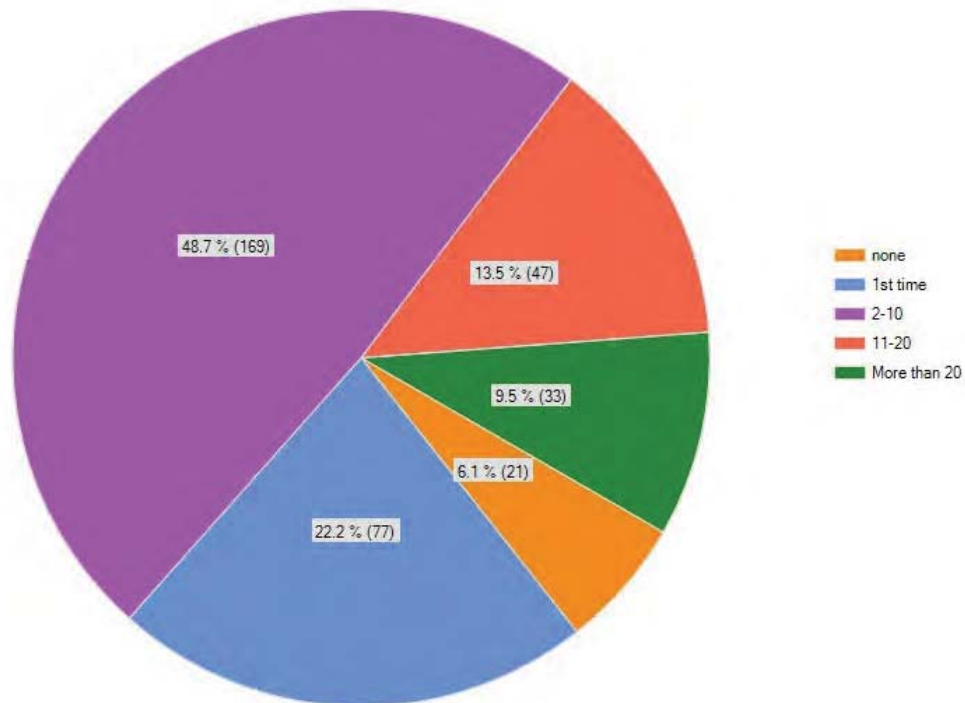
(Chart/graph number corresponds to numbered question on survey)

Chart/graph 1

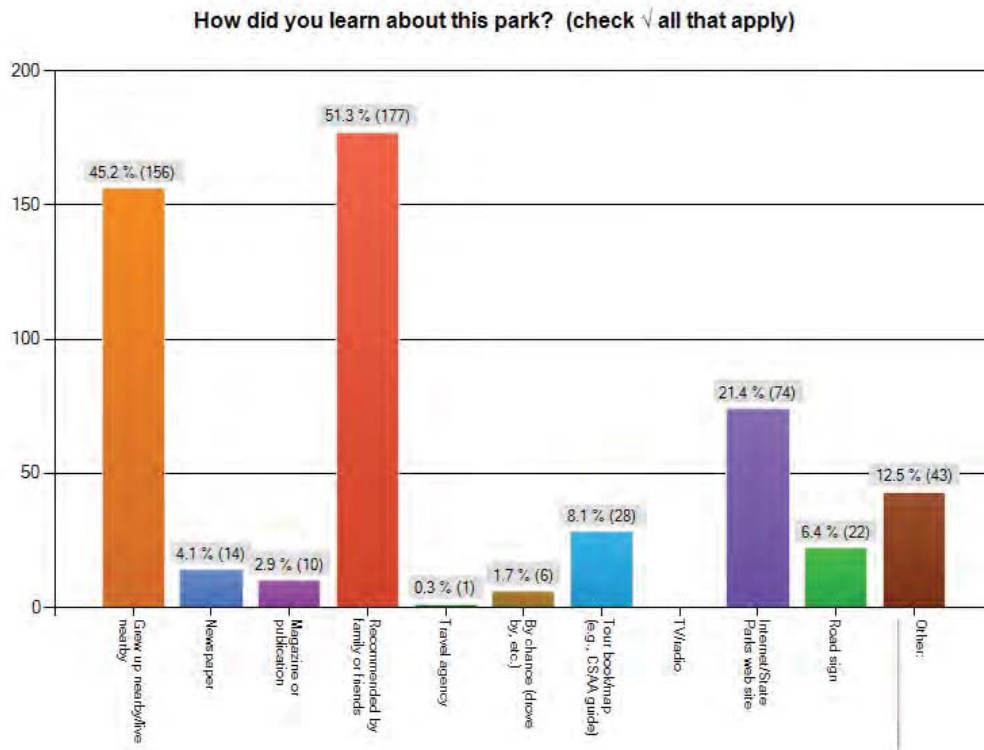


Chart/graph 2

**In the last 12 months, how many times (including today) have you visited this park?**



Chart/graph 3

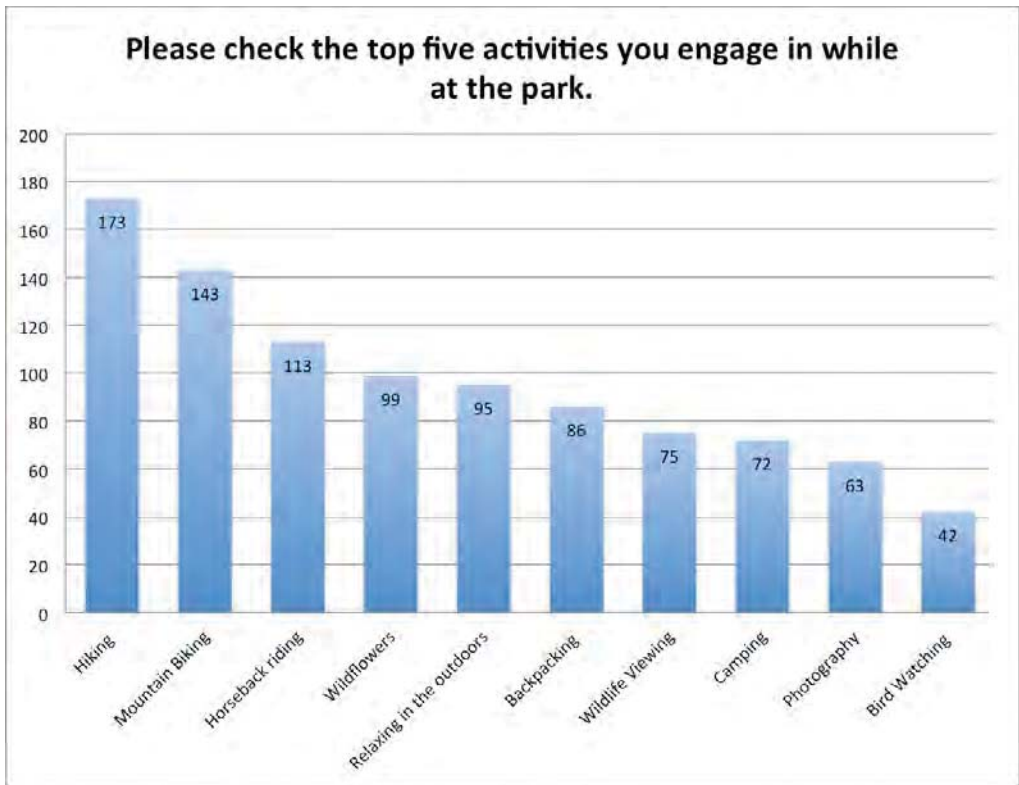


Chart/graph 4

The average day visit was **6 hours** with answers ranging from 2-14 hours.  
 The average camping trip was **2 nights** with answers ranging from 1-7 nights.

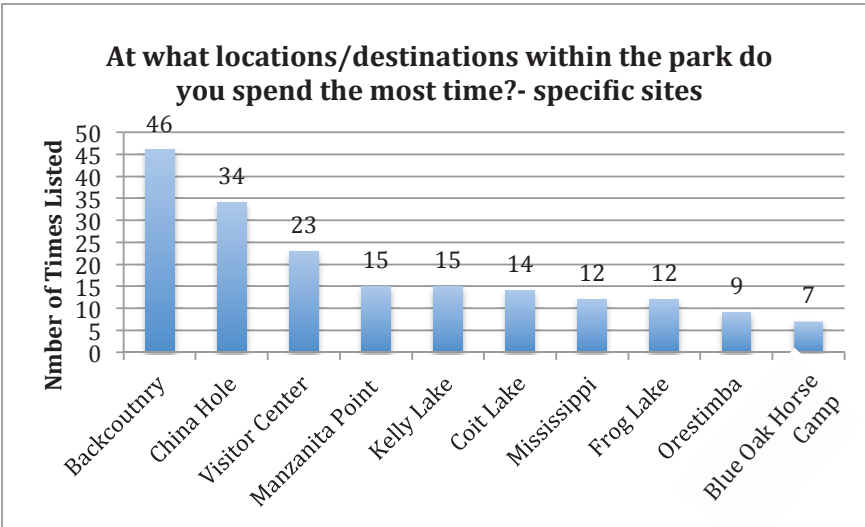
On your last visit were you camping, or on a day trip?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Day trip: How many hours was your visit?	73.8%	254
Camping: How many nights did you stay?	34.6%	119
<i>answered question</i>		<b>344</b>
		<b>11</b>

Chart/graph 5 (see page below for a full list)

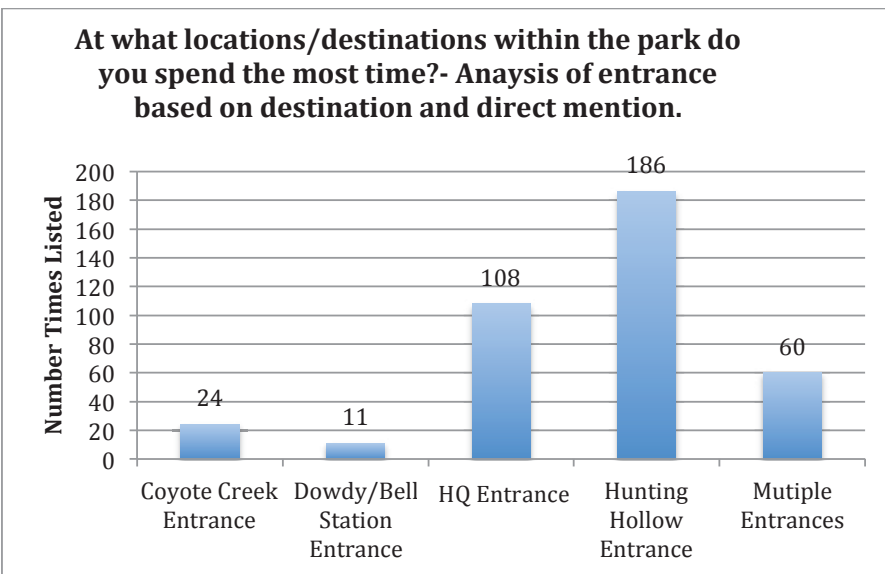


Hiking	173
Mountain Biking	143
Horseback riding	113
Wildflowers	99
Relaxing in the outdoors	95
Backpacking	86
Wildlife Viewing	75
Camping	72
Photography	63
Bird Watching	42
Walking for Pleasure	39
Nature walks/ Interpretive Trails	37
Visitor center/museum	29
Geocaching	29
Stargazing	20
Special Events	18
Picnicking	16
Trail Work	12
Self-guided trail/tour	12
Jogging/running	12
Driving for pleasure	10
Historical sightseeing/tour	8
Fishing	6
Biking-on paved surfaces	6
Swimming	5
School Program or activity	3
Jr. Ranger	3
Evening Programs	3

Chart/Graph 6



Chart/graph 6a Looks at what entrance is most commonly accessed.





Chart/graph 7

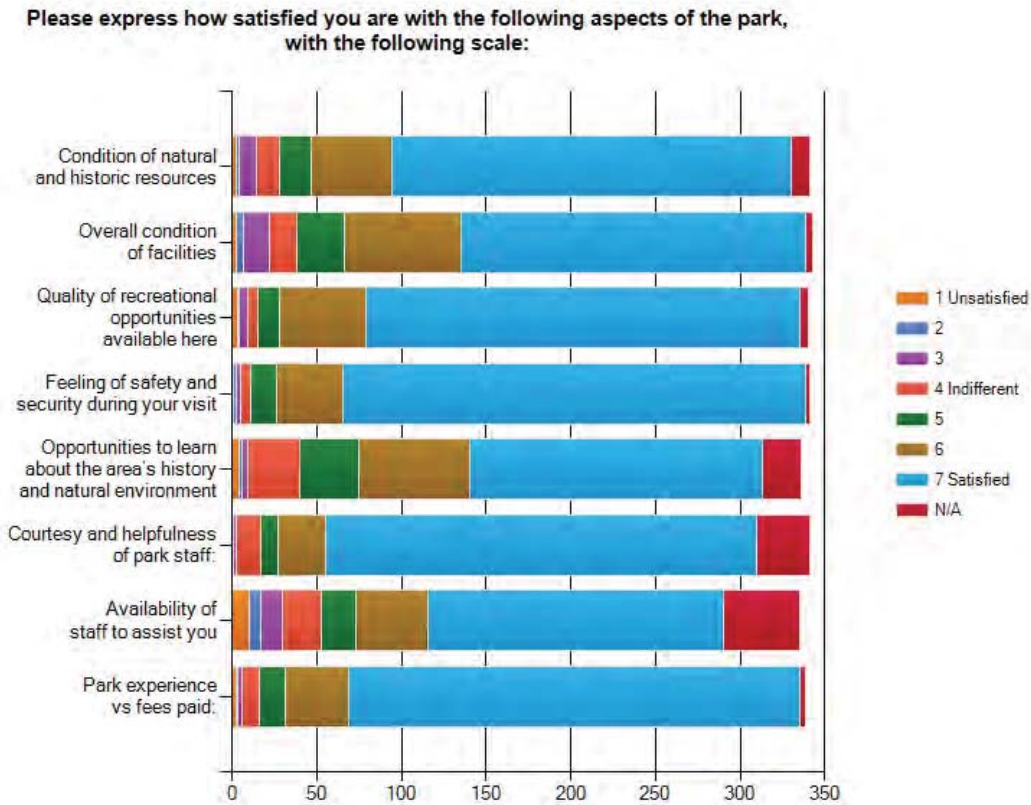
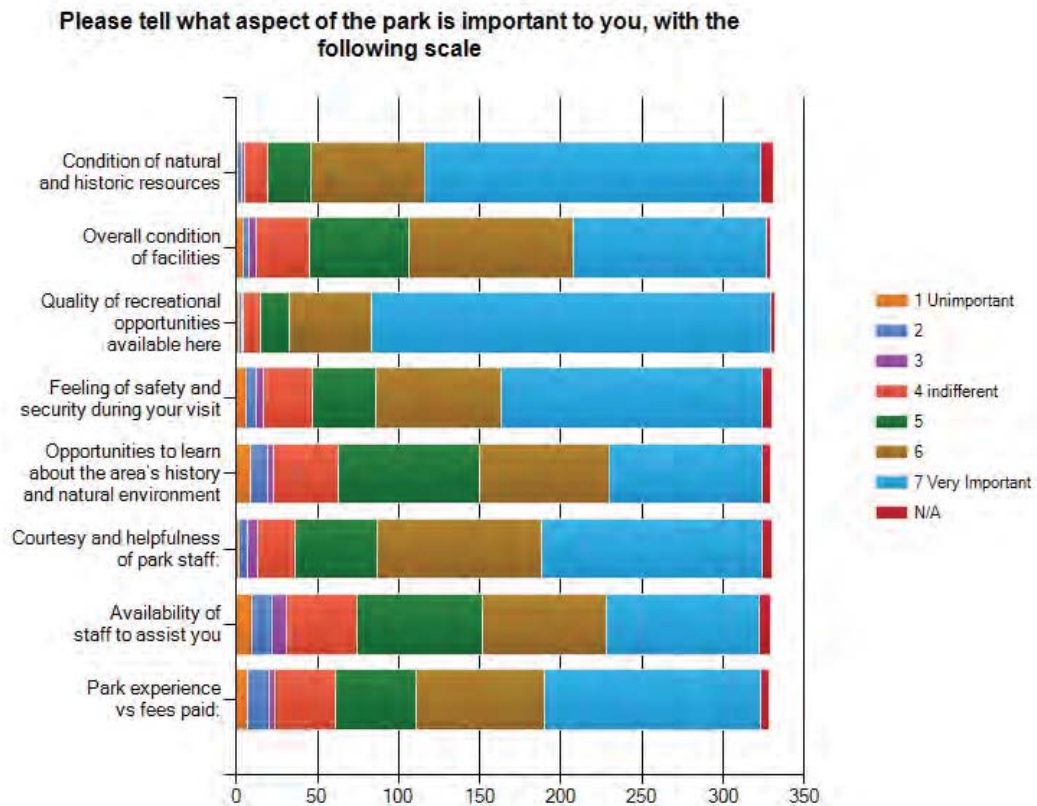
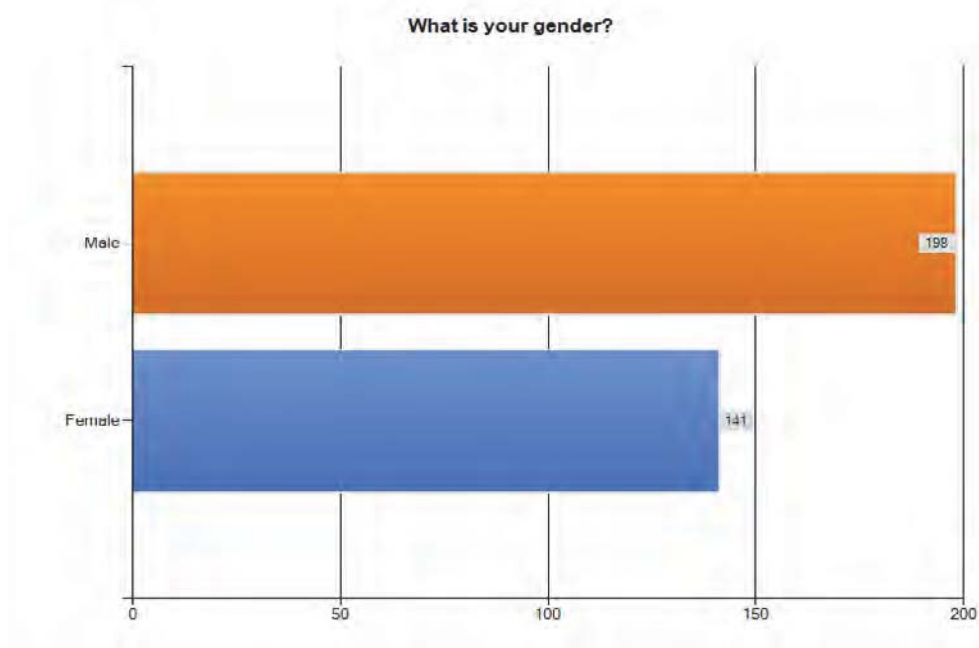


Chart /graph 8

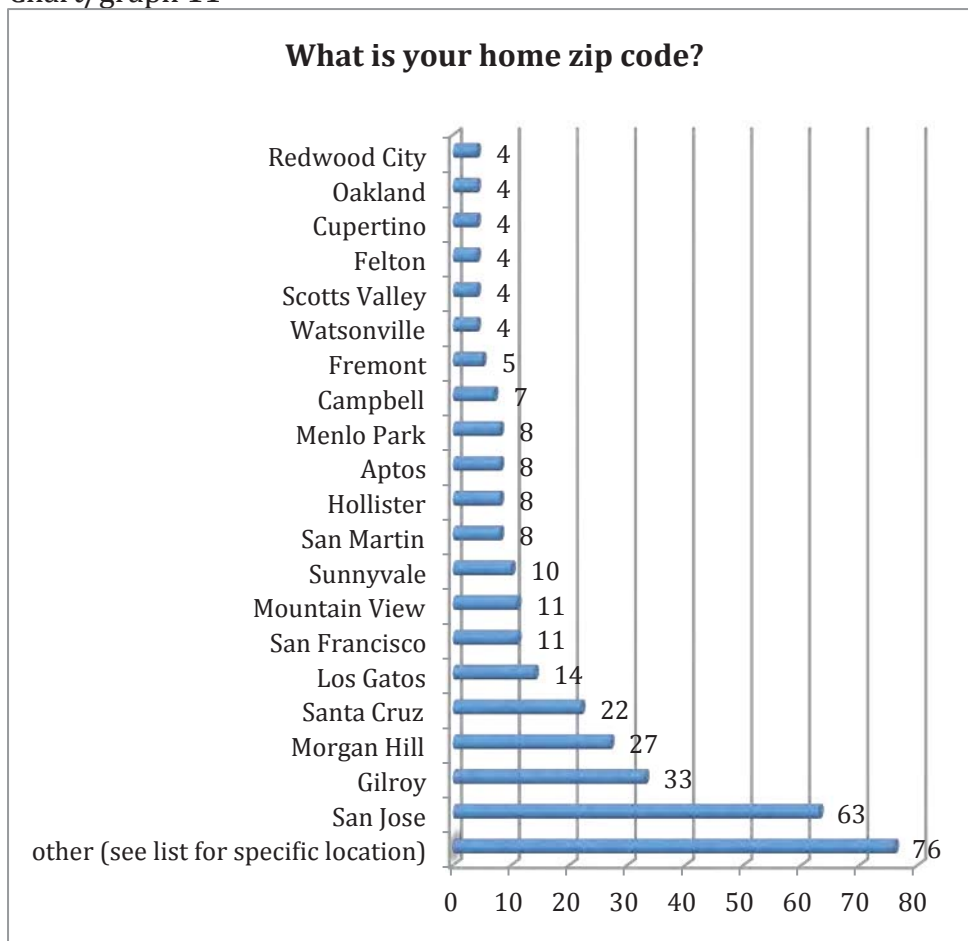


For Question 9 see page 112

Chart/graph 10



Chart/graph 11



**What is your home zip code? If not from the US what country are you from?**

95148	San Jose	63
95020	Gilroy	33
95038	Morgan Hill	27
95065	Santa Cruz	22
95033	Los Gatos	14
94131	San Francisco	11
94043	Mountain View	11
94087	Sunnyvale	10
95046	San Martin	8
95024	Hollister	8
95003	Aptos	8
94025	Menlo Park	8
95011	Campbell	7
94555	Fremont	5
95076	Watsonville	4
95066	Scotts Valley	4
95018	Felton	4
95014	Cupertino	4
94618	Oakland	4
94065	Redwood City	4
95820	Sacramento	3
95409	Santa Rosa	3
95045	San Juan Bautista	3
94928	Rohnert Park	3
94709	Berkeley	3
94583	San Ramon	3
94028	Portola Valley	3
95004	Aromas	2
94587	Union City	2
94568	Dublin	2
94542	Hayward	2
94530	El Cerrito	2
94403	San Mateo	2
94306	Palo Alto	2
94020	La Honda	2
92111	San Diego	2
98274	Mt. Vernon, WA	1
96106	Clio	1
95689	Volcano	1
95476	Sonoma	1
95363	Patterson	1
95345	Midpines	1
95322	Gustine	1
95073	Soquel	1
95070	Saratoga	1
95035	Milpitas	1
95017	Davenport	1
95005	Ben Lomond	1
94963	San Geronimo	1
94960	San Anselmo	1
94901	San Rafael	1
94608	Emeryville	1
94598	Walnut Creek	1
94588	Pleasanton	1

94586	Sunol	1
94565	Pittsburg	1
94526	Danville	1
94523	Pleasant Hill	1
94019	Half Moon Bay	1
94018	La Granada	1
94010	Bulringame	1
94002	Belmont	1
93950	Pacific Grove	1
93940	Monterey	1
93924	Carmel Valley	1
93401	San Luis Obispo	1
92882	Corona	1
90292	Marina Del Rey	1
90026	Los Angeles	1
86401	Kingman, AZ	1
	Highlands Ranch,	
80126	CO	1
63458	Newark MO	1
1701	Framingham, MA	1

Other Countries:

Canada 1

New Zealand 1

Chart/graph 12

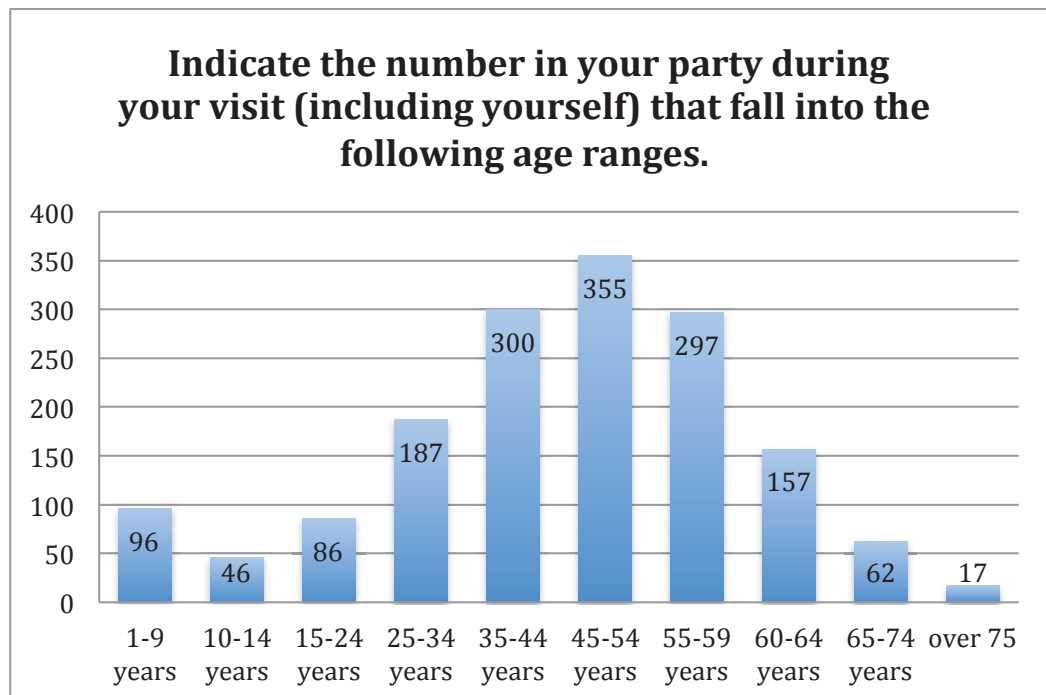


Chart /graph 13

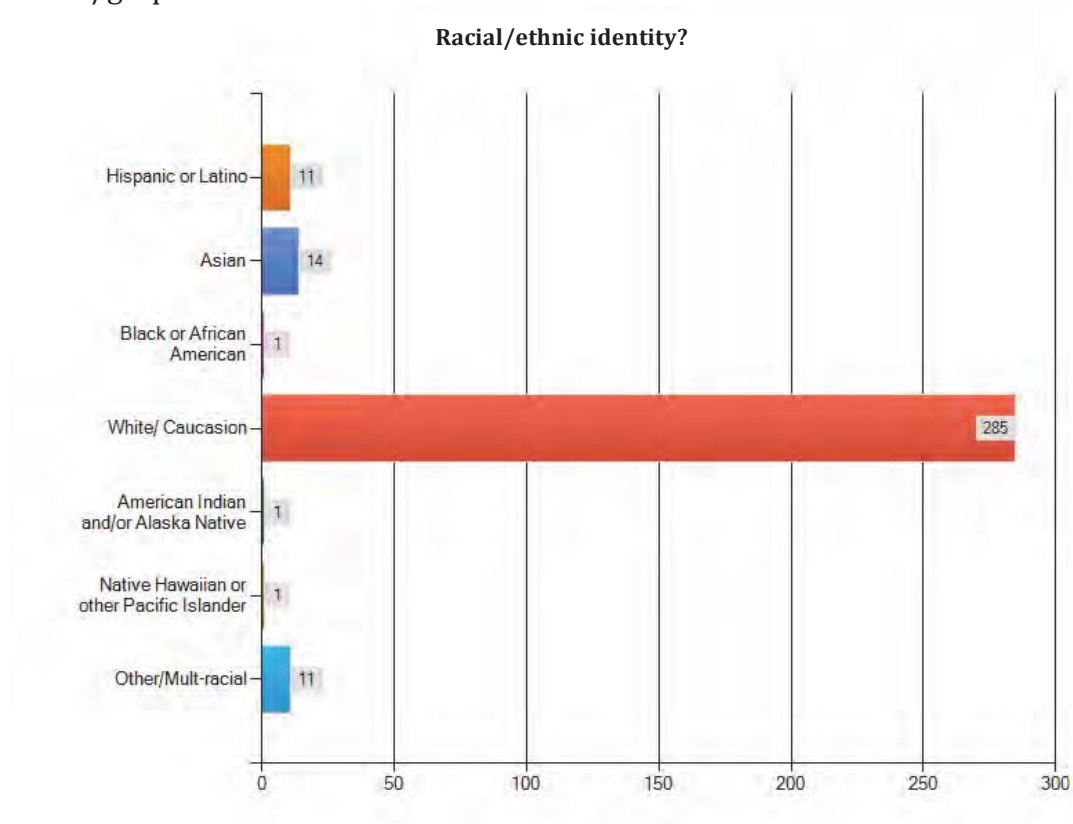
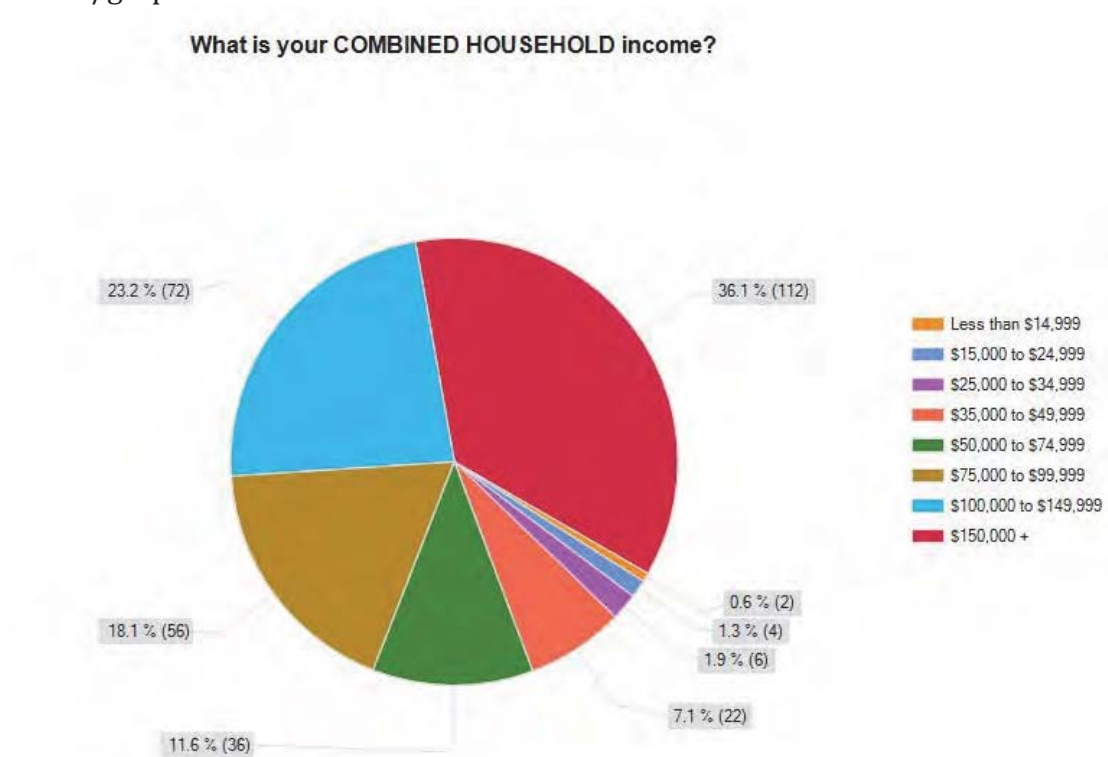


Chart /graph 14



## Graph/Chart 9 Henry W. Coe Visitor Survey Comments and Suggestions

Additional Comments and Suggestions to improve your experience at the park:

answered question	152
skipped question	203

Response Text	Categories
Create more trailheads. It truly is pretty difficult to access parts of the park. And I'm a 20+ mile per day hiker.	Trail/park maintenance,Suggestions
Don't let someone SWECO Jim Donnely reroute unless they are a very experienced building trails with equipment.	Trail/park maintenance,Suggestions
Maintain hiking only portions of the park to limit impact of mountain biking.	Trail/park maintenance,Suggestions
You're doing just fine w/ what little you've got. Just focus on maintaining what the park has, no new stuff, please. If you suddenly find yourself with extra \$, invasive weed abatement would be nice, along with trail maintenance/improvement.	Trail/park maintenance
Trails are too steep and need to be rerouted	Trail/park maintenance
stock the backcountry outhouses with toilet paper and clear them of invasive plants, etc.	Trail/park maintenance
more trail maintenance should be done	Trail/park maintenance
clear trees from backcountry trails	Trail/park maintenance
Trails, especially the more remote trails, need maintenance (at least brushing out).	Trail/park maintenance
Clear poison oak from near trails - it was everywhere. Perhaps volunteers could help? Boy Scouts? I know you are under-resourced....	Trail/park maintenance
Improve trail network, removing and revegetating old, eroding roads, not allowing most "social" trails to be used (since they create erosion problems), and when new trails are created, designing using the highest standards (understanding user practices so that temptation to short-cut is minimized or blocked, taking advantage of unique vista points, showing off a variety of habitats, and moderate to gentle grades).	Trail/park maintenance
Water facilities needed along the trails	Suggestions
Water location on the trail are sorely needed.	Suggestions
It is a long trail if water is available at frequent locations, it would be great	Suggestions
Why are historic resources grouped with natural resources? They are completely different categories and my use/concern regarding them are quite different from each other. I have great interest in the Coe Park natural resources, and do not have interest in historic resources personally, at this park.	Suggestions
Are there any trails at all within any of the the park entrances where I can take my dog? Even 1 trail??	Suggestions
Backpacking has gotten pricey	Suggestions
I think you should increase the park fees by 50% to help cover costs - it is all ready very reasonable and my husband and I are more than willing to pay more	Suggestions

I would like to see more self guided walking tours.	Suggestions
Availability of freshwater	Suggestions
"Quality of recreational opportunities available here" - I do wish at least some of the invasive reeds along the lakes would be removed for slightly better fishing/swimming access. I know it's difficult, and that they can almost never be gotten rid of completely, but as a water lover(and lover of all things native!), they make me cringe a bit.	
"Availability of staff to assist you" - I assume this means Uniformed Volunteers as well.	Positive. Keep open.,Trail/park maintenance
very good park near bay area. Need water on trail. Internet is full of good info on Mt. Sizer.	Positive. Keep open.,Suggestions
1. Keep the park open	
2. Continue to maintain and make available singletrack trails to mountain bikes.	Positive. Keep open.,Park accessibility,Trail/park maintenance
Keep every thing open for everyone. Multiuse trails so I can bike if i want or hike if I want. Single track preferred for both. Proper trail markers is also nice. Sometimes it's confusing to find the trails but i've never been lost so or gone the wrong way so it's not bad but i think it could be better.	Positive. Keep open.,Park accessibility
More care used during prescribed burns. Seems the last 2 times that got out of hand. I like the raw nature of the parks. The hills are wonderful and an excellent challenge for my needs. Trail work is most appreciated. I really enjoy the new Jim Donnelly Trail alignment! Still, the grade pitch is a bit tame Trail work is a fun event. I have done this several times and very much enjoy it. More access for bikes. Although it is one of the best parks for mountain biking.	Positive. Keep open.,More equestria/ biking,Trail/park maintenance
Henry Coe is a jewel-and though I haven't spent nearly as much time as I would like-it is always high on my list for horse camping/riding trips.	Positive. Keep open.,More equestria/ biking
I love that I can ride here in the winter and make my own decision as to whether it is safe to ride the trails and safe to prevent erosion of the trails. I want them preserved.	Positive. Keep open.,More equestria/ biking
Please keep Coe open to equestrians. I belong to 2 horse clubs and know lots of people who love to ride at Coe. It is a beautiful park and so close to home. We all LOVE it! Thank you. P.S. The income in #14 is for one person only.	Positive. Keep open.,More equestria/ biking
We spent the Coe Backcountry weekend at Dowdy Ranch with our horses. It was the best camping with horses experience I've ever had! Please continue this opportunity!	Positive. Keep open.,Horse camping at Dowdy
Best organized Backcountry Weekend ever this was my fifth or sixth	Positive. Keep open.
Long live Coe! I have been visiting/ recreating her esince 1987. I love this place!	
Natural resources are in better condition than historical resources.	Positive. Keep open.
I was impressed by the lack of litter. Please do not over develop the park. It should not be made to please everyone. It is perfect just the way it is. I especially liked the historical aspects and feeling the visitor center game me. Thank you!	Positive. Keep open.

Thank you! We love Henry Coe	Positive. Keep open.
How wonderful this park is, especially the largeness of the area for back-pack camping. Loving that most.	Positive. Keep open.
great place- absolutely love it!	Positive. Keep open.
1st time here- love this! Ann and Libby are treasures!	Positive. Keep open.
Park volunteers were extraordinarily helpful. What a beautiful place... we can't believe we haven't been here before.	Positive. Keep open.
great park- underrated!	Positive. Keep open.
great help with questions. very helpful and knowledgeable volunteer staff.	Positive. Keep open.
David, park ranger was very helpful	Positive. Keep open.
I love how we can spread out to camp and capture great views amazing new toilets.	
Keep these parks alive! There is nothing like it!	Positive. Keep open.
Wildflower hike was wonderful! Lucy is the best	Positive. Keep open.
Pleasant Experience on wildflower walk w/ Lucy. Great Experience	Positive. Keep open.
Keep the park open!	
Continue group camps at Manzanita Point.	Positive. Keep open.
KEEP THE PARK OPEN MORE DAYS PER YEAR	Positive. Keep open.
Please open park more frequently. More back country weekends- there's so much beauty here, we'd love to see more.	Positive. Keep open.
This is my favorite park in the area! Such a great spot!	Positive. Keep open.
This is my favorite park in the area! Such a great spot!	Positive. Keep open.
Park Ranger was (is) GREAT!	Positive. Keep open.
keep it open!	Positive. Keep open.
I love the wilderness experience	Positive. Keep open.
This is a fantastic serene environment for enjoying nature on horseback.	Positive. Keep open.
the horseback trails are out of this world. wonderful	Positive. Keep open.
This park and all parks are invaluable to the community.	Positive. Keep open.
None. This is the best managed park, whether state or national, within California.	Positive. Keep open.
A wonderful place to bring horses.	Positive. Keep open.
Beautiful park.	Positive. Keep open.
Don't close the park!	Positive. Keep open.
We had a wonderful Thanksgiving backpacking trip! Thank you very much.	Positive. Keep open.
Every volunteer/employee really listen. Great advise. Friendly. Outgoing. Landowners drive through, also very wise and helpful.	Positive. Keep open.
Love to see.	Positive. Keep open.
We love the hot beverages and the friendly staff and comfy-ness of the headquarters building. We love Henry Coe State Park!	Positive. Keep open.
Impressed by the volunteers and the fact that you've raised one million to keep Henry Coe open for 3 more years is marvelous and great!	Positive. Keep open.
This park is a huge precious gem in the greater SF Bay Area. Its wilderness experience in proximity to the urban environment is unique. I love Henry Coe St. Park.	Positive. Keep open.
My Scout troop backpacks at Henry Coe several times a year. It is fantastic to have such a large, empty space with challenging trails nearby	Positive. Keep open.



Really happy that Coe is staying open.	Positive. Keep open.
Please keep it open.	Positive. Keep open.
Love it. Keep it open.	Positive. Keep open.
We love State Parks!	Positive. Keep open.
Wilderness Preserve	Positive. Keep open.
It is awesome!!! Especially for so close to the Bay Area!	Positive. Keep open.
It was an amazing experience. We had 8 young children with us and it was an excellent experience and memory for them. A ranger came out Saturday Night. A super nice person and answered all the kid's questions. Thank you.	Positive. Keep open.
keep the park open	Positive. Keep open.
keep the park open, we love it.	Positive. Keep open.
Keep the park open!	Positive. Keep open.
It's an amazing place to hike and camp. Maintain the long trails, keep it all going.	Positive. Keep open.
Keep it wild and remote, it's one of the few places we can go and really feel alone.	Positive. Keep open.
Please keep the park open - it is a great resource.	Positive. Keep open.
We really hope some kind of conservancy, municipality, or conservation entity is able to take over operation of the park once it's "closed." This park is such a regional gem and outstanding resource.	Positive. Keep open.
Keep it like it is. :)	Positive. Keep open.
it is a wonderful park	Positive. Keep open.
Beautiful park!	Positive. Keep open.
Please don't ticket cars at the Gilroy Hot Springs entrance. This is the preferred entrance for many but we are always threatened with parking tickets.	Parking/Vehicle Security
I worry about break ins in the hunting hollow lot while on long rides.	Parking/Vehicle Security
Better security for vehicles at Hunting hollow	Parking/Vehicle Security
The reason I marked "safety and security" low is because of the sheriff who plasters warning stickers right in the middle of the drivers side windshield if you park at the Coyote Creek trailhead.	Parking/Vehicle Security
If our carriage driving club schedules an outing at the park someone should be there to unlock the gates, both entering and exiting. Or give one of us the combination.	Park accessibility, Parking/Vehicle Security
On many (if not most) of the signs at trail junctions, the trail name is faded to illegibility. Parking (or additional parking) at the Coyote Creek entrance would be really useful.	Park accessibility, Parking/Vehicle Security
I had trouble reaching someone to tell me where was the site I had booked and how to get there. I wandered around, parked, got on my horse and rode around until I found the camp. There were only volunteers on the phone and I tried for days to reach someone, and got no answers to my messages. I realize this is due to short-staffing because of budget cuts, but it's a shame because it's the most beautiful park this side of Yosemite, in my opinion.	Park accessibility, Need more staff
want dowdy staffed and open	Park accessibility
would like opportunity to visit the fire area to see the sequestration of growth. Perhaps the "safari" idea.	Park accessibility
arrange with county or internal to the park, collect fees and facilitate parking at Gilroy Hot Springs entrance on opposite side of creek from resort site	Park accessibility
Park access is very poor. I would go much more often if you could actually get into the park easily.	Park accessibility

Hunting Hollow entrance not marked, on Gilroy Springs road. Also, you need to do more, please, to improve access to Orestimba area. It's too hard to get to.	Park accessibility
Some trails were inaccurately labeled beyond the western zone and hard to follow. Can be very indistinct in places whereas they were as old 4x4 trails.	Park accessibility
Better fee collection at Hunting Hollow	Park accessibility
No more additions to Wilderness areas	Park accessibility
I arrived on a Saturday and all the parking at the visitor center was taken. Put a sign with an LED at the larger parking lot at the park entrance that says:  "If flashing PARK HERE for day-use"  Also, put a post by the 0.5 mile trail between this larger parking lot and the visitor center noting "Trail to Visitor Center 0.5 miles".  I drove to the visitor center, found parking full, and had to drive back to this larger lot which I didn't know had a decent trail going to the visitor center. I suspect a lot of first-timers who arrive on weekends do this. Such a sign would help.	Park accessibility
Allow night riding on all trails at all times!  Let natural selection take place - give more responsibility to the people using the park. You do not need to watch and take responsibility for it !	
Where is the wild, wild west still existent ?	Park accessibility
There's a ton of land at Henry Coe and to avoid issues between hikers, cyclists, equestrians, their should be separated trails.  Or, like in Santa Barbara, cyclist can have miniature cowbells placed on their packs so that others can be notified when they're coming.	
Motorized Dirt Bikes should also be allowed. It is a dying sport in Northern California and Henry Coe would be an excellent location.	More equestria/ biking,Suggestions
Please continue to provide lots of trails open to mountain biking - but be careful not to 'sanitize' them excessively.	More equestria/ biking,Suggestions
Allowing more than two vehicles (truck horse trailer combos) into Blue Oak Horse Camp would be greatly appreciated. The maintenance road into this horse camp is consistently utilized by researchers and park staff anyway	More equestria/ biking,Parking/Vehicle Security
Open more horse camp areas to allow trailers to come in to establish a single base camp (other than Blue Oaks)	More equestria/ biking,Park accessibility,Suggestions
More horse friendly trail development. Additional water stops in the South end of the park opeing up more area to horseback riders in the dry season. Allow more organized group activites such as trail and endurance rides.	More equestria/ biking,Park accessibility

Please continue efforts to maintain trail signage at junctions. Keep up the good work with trail maintenance and new trail reroutes for improved mountain bike user experience.	More equestria/ biking, Park accessibility
The park and the facility like Dowdy Ranch make a great experience. When the labor and volunteers are already in place why wouldn't you want to let as many visitors use park facilities. We particularly need horse camping sites.	More equestria/ biking, Horse camping at Dowdy
Would like to be able to horse camp at Dowdy- great facility!	More equestria/ biking, Horse camping at Dowdy
I would love to see Dowdy open for horse camping, not just once a year and also horse camping at Hunting Hollow would be fantastic.	More equestria/ biking, Horse camping at Dowdy
We are touring state parks with horses would love to see coe park put in a horse camp for travelers. Can Wilson Cabin be developed?	More equestria/ biking
Horseback camping more available please.	More equestria/ biking
Better horse access, staging, for back country.	More equestria/ biking
Have Coit Horsecamp available for haul-in horsecamping. :)	More equestria/ biking
More family friendly mountain biking trails. My limited experience at Coe was that it's great for strong riders but I couldn't imagine bringing my family out there.	More equestria/ biking
Expanded mt bike trail system with some built features	More equestria/ biking
More Single Track. No strong desire for hazard or difficulty free trails.	More equestria/ biking
More narrow single track trail development - open to mountain bikes	More equestria/ biking
I believe the park could use more challenging trails for mountainbiking. A bike only, one way trail that features a difficult trail surface with rocks and roots is what's missing.	More equestria/ biking
Prefer additional opportunities for Mountain Bike recreation, possibly race events?	More equestria/ biking
there should be more single track and mountain biking trails	More equestria/ biking
More mountain bike legal singletrack, built as flowy trails. Do not like wide trails.	
Conitnue/Increase patrols at Hunting Hollow to prevent car break ins.	More equestria/ biking
More trails designed specifically for mountain biking so that you ride slower but with more technical challenges.	More equestria/ biking
More Organized horse activities would be nice	More equestria/ biking
I would like to camp with my horse but have found it difficult if not impossible to make reservations	More equestria/ biking
The recent trail work near Hunting Hollow Entrance is some of the best I have seen anywhere in California. Only in Oregon have I seen better designed and constructed mountain bike trails. Planning to ride many more days in the park this year due to the trail quality.	More equestria/ biking
I'd love more technical, challenging, single track for mountain biking.	More equestria/ biking
more singletrack trails for bikes... Coe could become an epic set of trails and an actual destination for mtn biking that brings in a lot of extra funds for maintaining the park, etc.	More equestria/ biking
- Need access to more trails in the back country	
- Need overnight camping and/or horse camping at Dowdy and Hunting Hollow Sites	More camping options, Horse camping at Dowdy
Want to camp and fish too.	More camping options
Want to camp here again.	More camping options

Please re-open Dowdy entrance. Allow camping at Dowdy during Backcountry weekend.	More camping options
Fix up Gilroy hot springs and make them available! I'd pay, gladly!	Hot Springs Accessible
Open the hot springs for soaking!	Hot Springs Accessible
Some kind of trail tie in to the Hot springs side of the Coyote creek to access that whole open space area would be very nice!	Hot Springs Accessible
open access to hot springs	
cell coverage for remote areas	
marking water/having water in remote areas	
current maps sold/avail at Hunting Hollow	Hot Springs Accessible
Had problem with racing bikes	Decrease biking
There is no point in visiting a park where mountain biking is allowed. It's dangerous and no fun!	Decrease biking
Restrict bikes to pavement! They are ruining the park, and making it very unpleasant to hike there.	Decrease biking
We love Coe Weekend and Thank the volunteers for the work they all do. It is the BEST event by far we do each year (as long as it does not rain).	
THANK YOU.	
I do wish Dowdy Ranch could open up so we could park there and walk/pack in. I know I do not cause problems and never would and we are okay with being on our own.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco,Positive. Keep open.
Open the South-east entrance on weekends (Bell Station).	
Open Gilroy Hot Springs entrance on weekends.	
Re-open the old stage coach road into Madrone Soda Springs.	
Repair and maintain the use trail between Poverty flat and China Hole, or at least suppress the poison oak on this trail.	
Suppress poison oak on the Madrone Soda Springs trail.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco,Park accessibility,Hot Springs Accessible
Salvage and restore the derelict cabin.	
More good mountain bike trails. Open up Orestimba Wilderness road to bikes. Open up Dowdy Ranch entrance on weekends.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco,More equestria/ biking
We need to have the Dowdy and Hunting Hollow available for over night camping.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco,More camping options
hunting hollow and dowdy ranch need to be utilized to their potential. camping would be a great addition to the park	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco,More camping options
I would like to see the Dowdy Ranch Horse Camp open year around.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco,Horse camping at Dowdy
bell station entrance should be open	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco
Would like Dowdy Entrance opened. Closer to home. Would use park more.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco
What happened to dowdey ranch?	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco
Open Dowdy Ranch entrance	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco

It would be wonderful if the Bell's Station entrance were open because I'd like to backpack more in the back-backcountry and I am too lazy/don't budget enough time to get there from the other entrances.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco
Leave Bell's Station entrance open every weekend.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco
I would like to see the entrance off hwy 152 (Dowdy Station) reopened.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco
Please open the Dowdy Ranch entrance more often! Also, please consider allowing cars to continue past Dowdy Ranch - e.g., to a new parking lot at Pacheco Camp.	Bell,Dowdy,Pacheco
Section 7 - rating not working	

## **APPENDIX C**

### Public Meeting Attendance

## Attendance Lists for Public Meetings

### Gilroy Hot Springs Public Forum (1/12/2012)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization/ or if general public your hometown</b>
Dawn Drzaic	Morgan Hill
John Fletcher	Morgan Hill
Karen Pogue	FOGHS (Friends of Gilroy Hot Springs)
Lori Oleson	Morgan Hill, DPR volunteer
Lon Davis	TDP Horse Camp for Kids
Russ Mabery	FOGHS
Jodie Mabery	FOGHS
Pat Clark-Gray	Monterey District, DPR (RIS)
Steve McHenry	PRA
Ken Gray	Monterey District, DPR (Parks and Rec Specialist)
Carolyn Straub	Coe Volunteer
Judy Gelurchs	FOGHS
Linda Barbosa	general public heard through paper
Steven Knopper	Former caretaker (GYHS)
Laura Dominguez-Yon	President, FOGHS
Jim Katz	Cultural Preservationist- CALFAP
Eddie Guaracha	Gavilan Sector Superintendent, DPR
Sheila Golden	JMIE Student Researcher and facilitator

### Henry W. Coe State Park Public Meeting (2/2/2012)

<b>Name</b>	<b>PRA member</b>	<b>Recreation Preference</b>
David Perrin	Y	Hiker
Chris Howard	Y	Hiker/Mtn Biker
Mike Amaral	N	Hiker/Mtn Biker
Bob Kass	Y	Hiker/ Mtn Biker
Joshua Rusica	N	Horse/Hike/Camp
Lori Oleson	Y	Equestrian
Patricia Sharfe	Y	Equestrian
Lon Davis	N	Equestrian
Kitty Swindle	Y	Equestrian
Colleen Combes	Y	Equestrian/Hiker
Karen Reed	Y	Equestrian/Interp. Programs
Carolyn Tucker	Y	Equestrian/Interp Programs
Steve McHenry	Y	Hiker
Mark Hunter	N	Mtn Biker
Jay McLaughlin	N	Mtn Biker
Eddie Rock	N	Mtn Biker
Harry Councill	N	Horse Driving

Cindy Coundell	N	Horse Driving
Sue Dekalb	Y	Equestrian
Susan Ferry	N	DPR env. Scientist
Pat Clark-Gray	Y	DPR staff
Tim Acton	N	Equestrian
Chere Bargar	Y	Equestrian/hike
Cynthia Leeder	Y	Hiking
Ann Briggs	Y	Hiking/CPPF
Bef Vanderwedde	Y	Equestrian/Hike
Sheila Golden	N	Meeting Facilitator



## **APPENDIX D**

### Conceptual Drawings of Visitor Center and Hunting Hollow Welcome Area Preliminary Ideas

All drawings by Kaitlin Fitzmahan

Henry W. Coe State Park Headquarters Entrance  
Visitor Center (Exterior)



Conceptual drawing of existing Visitor Center exterior with back overlook deck and interpretive panels.

Henry W. Coe State Park  
Visitor Center Interior



Preliminary concepts for interior of remodeled, existing visitor center. In the center is a relief map with more orientation information, back deck overlook, and an ADA ramp.

Henry W. Coe State Park  
Hunting Hollow Entrance  
Welcome Kiosk and Picnic Area



Conceptual drawing of preliminary ideas for the new Hunting Hollow Entrance welcome area. New features include improved orientation information, picnic areas, and interpretive panels.

## Appendix E

### List of Interpretation Action Plan (IAP) Positions and Descriptions

	Volunteer Enhancement Program and Interpretive Exhibit Program. The Division provides technical support and consultation to the DIC and Superintendent.
Northern Service Center	A unit of Acquisition and Development involved in major capital outlay projects some of which may involve their Museum and Interpretation Section.
Accessibility Unit	A unit in the Service Center, it reviews all projects, PEF's publications and interpretive services for compliance with accessibility policy. The unit updates the California State Parks Accessibility Guidelines.
Local Governments	City, County & Tribal Governments The park is located and surrounded by Santa Clara and Stanislaus Counties. CSP strives to collaborate toward common goals of honoring the heritage and meanings inherent in the park resource. CSP Interpretive planning policy calls for the involvement of interested constituencies.
Stakeholders	California State Parks seeks productive community partnerships to collaborate toward attaining the Interpretation Master Plan's (IMP) common interpretive goals. The IMP was developed through input from many groups including: Outward Bound, Santa Clara County Parks, Santa Clara County Search and Rescue, Responsible Organized Mountain Peddlers (ROMP), and others. These organizations will continue to be important in developing and implementing a shared vision for the park's interpretative services.
Concessions	Private businesses operating under contract in state parks to provide products and services designed to enhance the park visitor's experience but are not normally provided by State employees.
Other Organizations	Organizations that have Memorandum of Understandings (MOU's), Partnership Agreements or other important formal relationships within California State Parks.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Definition</b>
State Park Visitor Services Staff	State Park Guides and Peace Officers (rangers) job duties include providing interpretive services to park visitors.
State Park Volunteer Coordinator & Volunteers	The Volunteer Coordinator is a state park employee often a Guide or Ranger, who serves as the lead for the Volunteers In Parks Program (VIPPP). California state park volunteers including docents, contribute of hundreds of hours annually to conducting interpretive tours and staffing Special Events.
Facilities Management & Maintenance Supervisor and staff	The supervisor and staff that perform all the work required for the effective and efficient use of physical facilities. This in part includes the park’s historic structures, grounds and cultural landscapes, and building systems. The supervisor reports to the Sector Superintendent.
Regional Interpretive Specialist	The Regional Interpretive Specialist (RIS) is the District’s interpretive coordinator. The position oversees District interpretive services, and its Cooperating Association Program and Volunteer In Parks Program. The RIS manages interpretation project and services contracts, cultivates community partnerships and serves as District’s Public Information Officer.
Monterey District Management	Consists of the District Superintendent and Sector Superintendents, and the various program managers that make up of its “core staff.” These include the District’s Facilities Management and Maintenance chief, Administrative chief, Environmental Science Program Manager, Cultural Resources Program staff: Senior Archeologist, Museum Curator and Historian, and the Regional Interpretive Specialist.
Pine Ridge Association	The park’s cooperating association, the Pine Ridge Association is an important park partners. Cooperating Associations are non-profit charitable [(501 (c) 3] organizations dedicated to enhancing the educational and interpretive programs in California State Parks. The Department and the cooperating association are separate entities in a contractual sales and

## **APPENDIX F**

### Henry W. Coe State Park Bird Species List



# Common Bird Name Index

Listed below are the common names of all the birds known to visit or live in Coe Park. (courtesy of coepark.net)

## A

Acorn Woodpecker  
Allen's Hummingbird  
American Coot  
American Crow  
American Dipper  
American Goldfinch  
American Kestrel  
American Robin  
American Wigeon  
Anna's Hummingbird  
Ash-throated Flycatcher

## B

Bald Eagle  
Band-tailed Pigeon  
Barn Owl  
Barn Swallow  
Belted Kingfisher  
Bewick's Wren  
Black Phoebe  
Black-chinned Hummingbird  
Black-chinned Sparrow  
Black-headed Grosbeak  
Black-throated Gray Warbler  
Blackbird, Brewer's  
Blackbird, Red-winged  
Blackbird, Tricolored  
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher  
Bluebird, Western  
Brewer's Blackbird  
Brown Creeper  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
Bufflehead  
Bullock's Oriole  
Bunting, Lazuli  
Bushtit

## C

California Quail  
California Thrasher  
California Towhee  
Canvasback  
Canyon Wren

## G

Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray  
Golden Eagle  
Golden-crowned Kinglet  
Golden-crowned Sparrow  
Goldeneye, Common  
Goldfinch, American  
Goldfinch, Lawrence's  
Goldfinch, Lesser  
Goose, Snow  
Great Blue Heron  
Great Horned Owl  
Greater Roadrunner  
Greater Yellowlegs  
Grebe, Eared  
Grebe, Horned  
Grebe, Pied-billed  
Green Heron  
Green-winged Teal  
Grosbeak, Black-headed

## H

Hairy Woodpecker  
Hammond's Flycatcher  
Harrier, Northern  
Hawk, Cooper's  
Hawk, Ferruginous  
Hawk, Red-shouldered  
Hawk, Red-tailed  
Hawk, Sharp-shinned  
Hermit Thrush  
Hermit Warbler  
Heron, Great Blue  
Heron, Green  
Horned Grebe  
Horned Lark  
House Finch  
House Wren  
Hummingbird, Allen's  
Hummingbird, Anna's  
Hummingbird, Black-chinned  
Hummingbird, Rufous  
Hutton's Vireo

## J

## O

Oak Titmouse  
Olive-sided Flycatcher  
Orange-crowned Warbler  
Oriole, Bullock's  
Osprey  
Owl, Barn  
Owl, Great Horned  
Owl, Long-Eared  
Owl, Northern Pygmy  
Owl, Northern Saw-whet  
Owl, Western Screech

## P

Pacific-slope Flycatcher  
Phainopepla  
Phoebe, Black  
Phoebe, Say's  
Pied-billed Grebe  
Pigeon, Band-tailed  
Pileated Woodpecker  
Pine Siskin  
Pintail, Northern  
Poorwill, Common  
Prairie Falcon  
Purple Finch  
Pygmy-Owl, Northern

## Q

Quail, California

## R

Raven, Common  
Red Crossbill  
Red-breasted Nuthatch  
Red-breasted Sapsucker  
Red-naped Sapsucker  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Red-tailed Hawk  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Ring-necked Duck  
Roadrunner, Greater  
Robin, American  
Rock Dove  
Rock Wren

## T

Tanager, Western  
Teal, Cinnamon  
Teal, Green-winged  
Thrasher, California  
Thrush, Hermit  
Thrush, Swainson's  
Thrush, Varied  
Titmouse, Oak  
Towhee, California  
Towhee, Spotted  
Townsend's Solitaire  
Townsend's Warbler  
Tree Swallow  
Tricolored Blackbird  
Turkey Vulture  
Turkey, Wild

## V

Varied Thrush  
Vaux's Swift  
Violet-green Swallow  
Vireo, Cassin's  
Vireo, Hutton's  
Vireo, Warbling  
Vulture, Turkey

## W

Warbler, Black-throated Gray  
Warbler, Hermit  
Warbler, MacGillivray's  
Warbler, Nashville  
Warbler, Orange-crowned  
Warbler, Townsend's  
Warbler, Wilson's  
Warbler, Yellow-rumped  
Warbler, Yellow  
Warbling Vireo  
Waxwing, Cedar  
Western Bluebird  
Western Kingbird  
Western Meadowlark  
Western Screech Owl

Cassin's Finch	Jay, Steller's	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Western Scrub Jay
Cassin's Vireo	Jay, Western Scrub	Ruddy Duck	Western Tanager
Cedar Waxwing	Junco, Dark-eyed	Rufous Hummingbird	Western Wood-Pewee
Chestnut-backed		Rufous-crowned Sparrow	White-breasted Nuthatch
Chickadee	<b>K</b>		White-crowned Sparrow
Chickadee, Chestnut-		<b>S</b>	White-tailed Kite
backed	Kestrel, American	Sage Sparrow	White-throated Swift
Chipping Sparrow	Killdeer	Sandpiper, Spotted	Wigeon, American
Cinnamon Teal	Kingbird, Western	Sapsucker, Red-breasted	Wild Turkey
Clark's Nutcracker	Kingfisher, Belted	Sapsucker, Red-naped	Willow Flycatcher
Cliff Swallow	Kinglet, Golden-crowned	Savannah Sparrow	Wilson's Warbler
Common Goldeneye	Kinglet, Ruby-crowned	Say's Phoebe	Winter Wren
Common Merganser	Kite, White-tailed	Scrub Jay	Wood Duck
Common Moorhen		Sharp-shinned Hawk	Wood-Pewee, Western
Common Poorwill	<b>L</b>	Shoveler, Northern	Woodpecker, Acorn
Common Raven	Lark Sparrow	Shrike, Loggerhead	Woodpecker, Downy
Common Snipe	Lark, Horned	Siskin, Pine	Woodpecker, Hairy
Common Yellowthroat	Lawrence's Goldfinch	Snipe, Common	Woodpecker, Lewis'
Cooper's Hawk	Lazuli Bunting	Snow Goose	Woodpecker, Nuttall's
Coot, American	Lesser Goldfinch	Solitaire, Townsend's	Woodpecker, Pileated
Cormorant, Double-	Lewis' Woodpecker	Song Sparrow	Wren, Bewick's
crested	Lincoln's Sparrow	Sparrow, Black-chinned	Wren, Canyon
Cowbird, Brown-	Loggerhead Shrike	Sparrow, Chipping	Wren, House
headed	Long-Eared Owl	Sparrow, Fox	Wren, Rock
Creeper, Brown		Sparrow, Golden-crowned	Wren, Winter
Crossbill, Red	<b>M</b>	Sparrow, Lark	Wrentit
Crow, American	MacGillivray's Warbler	Sparrow, Lincoln's	<b>Y</b>
	Magpie, Yellow-billed	Sparrow, Rufous-crowned	Yellow Warbler
<b>D</b>	Mallard	Sparrow, Sage	Yellow-billed Magpie
Dark-eyed Junco	Meadowlark, Western	Sparrow, Savannah	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Dipper, American	Merganser, Common	Sparrow, Song	Yellowlegs, Greater
Double-crested	Merlin	Sparrow, White-crowned	Yellowthroat, Common
Cormorant	Mockingbird, Northern	Spotted Sandpiper	
Dove, Mourning	Moorhen, Common	Spotted Towhee	
Dove, Rock	Mourning Dove	Starling, European	
Downy Woodpecker		Steller's Jay	
Duck, Ring-necked	<b>N</b>	Swainson's Thrush	
Duck, Ruddy	Nashville Warbler	Swallow, Barn	
Duck, Wood	Northern Flicker	Swallow, Cliff	
	Northern Harrier	Swallow, Northern Rough-	
<b>E</b>	Northern Mockingbird	winged	
Eagle, Bald	Northern Pintail	Swallow, Tree	
Eagle, Golden	Northern Pygmy-Owl	Swallow, Violet-green	
Eared Grebe	Northern Rough-winged	Swift, Vaux's	
European Starling	Swallow	Swift, White-throated	
	Northern Saw-whet Owl		
<b>F</b>	Northern Shoveler		
Falcon, Prairie	Nutcracker, Clark's		
Ferruginous Hawk	Nuthatch, Red-breasted		
Finch, Cassin's	Nuthatch, White-breasted		
Finch, House	Nuttall's Woodpecker		

Finch, Purple  
Flicker, Northern  
Flycatcher, Ash-  
throated  
Flycatcher, Hammond's  
Flycatcher, Olive-sided  
Flycatcher, Pacific-  
slope  
Flycatcher, Willow  
Fox Sparrow

## APPENDIX G

### Pine Ridge Association Information on Past Visitor Center Plans

The Planned Coe Park Visitor Center Expansion:  
A Prospectus

Documents Summarizing of PRA's Efforts for Visitor  
Center Expansion

Plans of the Visitor Center

Summary of Previous Plans for Visitor Center Expansion



## The Planned Coe Park Visitor Center Expansion: A Prospectus February 1999

Henry W. Coe State Park is the largest state park in northern California and the second largest in the State Park system. The park contains the 22,000-acre Henry W. Coe State Wilderness area, is a repository of Native American cultural artifacts, and is a vast resource for studies of natural history. The park also complements the Santa Clara County Parks system, particularly those features located at Coyote Reservoir, Anderson Dam and Lake, the southern leg of the Coyote Creek Park, and the soon-to-be-opened Jackson Ranch. Future planning of both Santa Clara County and the State of California includes trail networks that connect public park lands.

In 1990, the Pine Ridge Association and the California Department of Parks and Recreation began to plan for an expanded Visitor Center at Henry W. Coe State Park. The existing Visitor Center, on which Sada Coe spent thirteen years to get the necessary paperwork completed before the building was started in 1971, is now inadequate to meet the growing needs of the public. The building stands adjacent to the East Dunne Avenue entrance to the Coe Park headquarters, amid historical buildings, circa 1880-1935, of the Pine Ridge Ranch. The original 2,650 square-foot Visitor Center building contains a two-room museum that features Coe Family antique furniture, a tack room with exhibits of tools and other items associated with early 20<sup>th</sup> century ranch life in the eastern hills of Santa Clara County, a visitor registration area, a small 27-seat Interpretive Room on the lower level where programs are presented to the visiting public, and limited administrative spaces.

A 1,500 square-foot addition is planned. Highlights of this project include:

- ! a new room devoted to displays about Native American history and culture
- ! a significant increase in the floor space within the lower-level Interpretive Room used for docent training and educational programs for visitors
- ! a significant increase in floor space for exhibit preparation, specimen collections, and interpretive program development
- ! an increase in storage spaces to house new and in-hand artifacts, natural history materials, park-related resale items, the Pine Ridge Association interpretive library, and the files of the association
- ! an access ramp for the handicapped from the nearby specially designated parking spaces to the new lower level of the visitor center
- ! a new set of outside stairs connecting the second story with a new lower-level access porch
- ! conversion of the separate male and female rest rooms into fully accessible handicapped facilities

A color rendering of the proposed new Visitor Center by artist Yarka Kennett is included as Exhibit 1.

### *What will the new exhibit areas contain?*

The overall theme for all of the new exhibit areas is the land and its ecological and historical significance. The acorn and oak tree exemplify the interrelationships between the land and animals, the land and the people, the land and its own delicate system of survival.

Upon entering the Visitor Center, the visitor is drawn straight ahead past the two period rooms to an open balcony view of the rolling hills and valleys. Looking through the top of a beautiful valley oak tree to the floor below, the main exhibit hall brings the nature of the park indoors.

Central to this exhibit area is the concept of Aimmersion.@ Each exhibit depicts a scene from nature with clearly visible textual material. From oak seedlings and animal tracks below to towering tree limbs and birds in flight above, nature=s life cycles emerge. In one area, a mountain lion peers down from a rocky ledge; in another, a red-tailed hawk is carrying off a rabbit in its talons. From any viewpoint, images and subject matter juxtapose, creating natural scenes that provoke

## Coe Park Visitor Center Expansion: A Prospectus

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thought and question. Many answers and reading lists can be discovered as the visitor looks closely at objects and finds captions and informative tidbits within rotating drawers, flaps, slide panels, and even under the leaf of a Manzanita.

Visitors will eventually see footprints leading them towards some unidentified sounds. They are drawn into an Ohlone village site just as the sun is setting. The sounds come from beyond the dome-shaped tule house, perhaps at the shore of a babbling creek.

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The Native American room will enhance interpretation of the area's cultural history through its visual displays, related lectures presented for the public by the professional staff and park volunteers, and demonstrations of selected Native American skills, such as flint knapping and acorn flour grinding. Many actual locations where these original peoples lived, ground acorn flour, and quarried their stone tools and weapons are within walking distance from the Visitor Center. In addition, the Native American home scene will augment various educational programs presented by the professional park staff and volunteers relative to California's 18<sup>th</sup> century residents at the time of their initial encounter with European explorers, such as the Juan Bautista de Anza party.

### Who are the architect and exhibit designers?

In 1993, the Department of Parks and Recreation held an open competition for the development of architectural plans for the proposed Visitor Center. The firm of Donald Ferris Architect, Inc., (now Ferris, Johnson, & Perkins) was selected. The firm has extensive experience in museum/visitor center settings and in historic preservation projects. The firm was also the architect for the Anza-Borrego State Park Visitor Center, which is located in southern California. The first part of the contract was to prepare architectural renderings, which has been completed. The next phase is to translate them into actual drawings that can be used for construction, and that part of the effort is expected to be completed by March 1999.

The Pine Ridge Association subsequently contracted with Pouncing Pacyderm Productions, an organization that specializes in designing exhibits for museums. The initial plans for the exhibits were being considered while the architect was conceptualizing the structure. This was an oppor-

## Coe Park Visitor Center Expansion: A Prospectus

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tunity for the exhibit designer to work directly with the architect to ensure that the building plans would enhance the exhibit space.

### What are the benefits of the project?

With this expanded visitor center, the visiting public of all ages will more easily understand the long and varied history of the peoples who have inhabited Coe Park lands, the multiple uses of the lands down through the ages, and the varied natural resources available within Coe Park. While Coe Park has always provided interpretive programs and displays of the early ranching history and the natural history of the park, space limitations prevented interpretive displays on Native American life and their importance to park history.

Coe Park draws visitors of all ages. The park appeals to hikers, mountain bikers, backpackers, equestrians, star gazers, geologists, birders, picnickers, and wildflower photographers, to name a few. Specialized user groups also conduct organized activities in the park, including the San Jose Astronomy Society, the Loma Prieta Chapter of the Sierra Club, the California Native Plant Society, local chapters of the National Audubon Society, Northern California equestrian groups, and ROMP (Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers). The challenging terrain, however, does limit backcountry use by family groups with very young children.

With the proposed Native American exhibit, the appeal to South County elementary school groups and home school students is expected to significantly increase. It is intended that the Native American exhibit would act as a magnet for scouting groups, secondary school students interested in local and state history, as well as college-level students of anthropology, state and local history, and the natural sciences.

### What is the Pine Ridge Association and What kinds of support Can it Provide?

The Pine Ridge Association is a cooperating association of the California Department of Parks and Recreation. It is a nonprofit association, whose mission is to enhance and enrich the public's experience at Henry W. Coe State Park through education and interpretation. There are no paid staff in the association. The governing structure is the board of directors, and all of the members volunteer their time. A list of the current board of directors is included in this packet. In the last calendar year, volunteers of the park donated more than 17,000 hours in support of interpretive, trail building, and other projects in the park.

We anticipate that, as the construction proceeds, volunteers skilled in various construction trades will be able to assist the contractor hired to oversee the building effort. The Pine Ridge Association will also provide additional labor as necessary from the architect, so that he can monitor the completion of the various phases of construction.

### What is the budget and timeline for the project?

Page



Coe Park Visitor Center Expansion:  
A Prospectus

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The total visitor center expansion project, including exhibits as well as the actual building construction, is estimated to cost approximately \$650,000. Of that amount, it is anticipated that the exhibits will cost about one half of this amount.

The Pine Ridge Association and the California Department of Parks and Recreation are committed to making the proposed Visitor Center expansion a reality. The state has financed some of the project through the use of California Park Service Volunteer Enhancement Funds and other state funds. In addition to donations by the association's members and the community, fund-raising raffles, garage sales, and other events have been held to raise funds for the expansion. Approximately \$150,000 has been raised to date. Some of these funds have been used to finance:

- ! conceptual drawings of the expansion
- ! architectural renderings prior to the actual construction
- ! an artist's rendering of the envisioned expansion
- ! required site preparation work (surveying of the proposed location, relocation of the building's septic tank field and propane fuel tanks)
- ! consultant services for the design and construction of the exhibit areas
- ! paved sidewalk into the Visitor Center that can accommodate a wheelchair

We are currently discussing the construction of the project with a contractor. We believe that the project can be divided into three phases. We are trying to raise enough funds so that we can break ground in 2000 and complete the first phase of the effort, which will be to enclose the new addition with a shell and a roof.

**Phase One** is actually the largest part of the work. In this phase, the work to extend the Visitor Center and enclose it is completed. Although a lot of work would be carried out in Phase One, it is our understanding that the work could be completed in three or four months. Specifically, the following work will be completed:

- < The shell of the new construction will be added.
- < New electrical wiring will be added to ensure proper lighting for the building and exhibit spaces.
- < A new roof and gutters will be added both for the new addition as well as for the existing building.

Coe Park Visitor Center Expansion:  
A Prospectus

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- < A deck with an overhang will be added to the rear of the current Visitor Center.
- < New restrooms that can accommodate wheel chairs (plus other plumbing) will be added to the lower level.
- < The floor to the current ranch exhibit room will be sloped. Instead of a step to the parlor/dining room area, there will be a wheelchair ramp.
- < Finishing will be done to the bookstore, ranch exhibit room, and the parlor/dining room.
- < The exterior will be finished for the new addition that will look like the present finish of the Visitor Center.

In **Phase Two**, the finishing of the interior will be completed. Specifically:

- < The walls of the addition will be wallboard and eventually painted white as in the upper level.
- < The cabinets will be installed.
- < The lighting fixtures and lighting for the exhibits will be installed.
- < A sink and hot water heater will be added to the lower level.

In **Phase Three**, work will be carried out to ready the rooms for exhibits. Specifically:

- < A wood-burning stove will be installed in the foyer of the lower level.
- < The exhibit cases will be installed in the Native American room and in the lower level.
- < Work on adding the exhibits to the newly furnished areas will begin.

What supporting materials are included with this package?

The following supporting materials are included with this package:

- ! the notice of tax-exempt status for the Pine Ridge Association
- ! a copy of the mission statement for the Pine Ridge Association

Coe Park Visitor Center Expansion:  
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- ! a list of the current board of directors for the Pine Ridge Association
- ! a copy of the color rendering of the proposed new Visitor Center by artist Yarka Kennett
- ! a list of the contributors to the Visitor Center Expansion Fund as of December 1998

Other materials are available upon request:

- ! a copy of the architectural plans and working drawings for the expansion
- ! a copy of the recent tax returns for the Pine Ridge Association
- ! a copy of a financial audit of the Pine Ridge Association

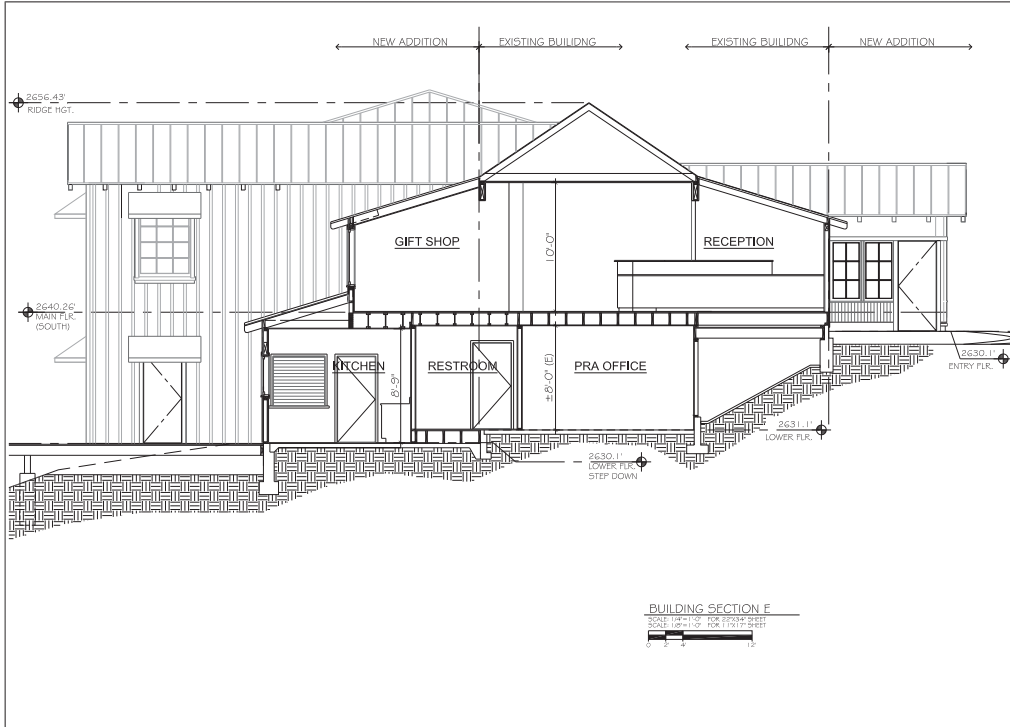
Coe Park Visitor Center Expansion:  
A Prospectus

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Henry W. Coe State Park Visitor Center Expansion: Estimated Budget for Construction and Exhibits	
Item Description	Cost
Demolition and Site Clearing	\$5,193
Earthwork and Site Grading	\$11,550
Paving and Surfacing	\$6,798
Concrete Work	\$6,017
Metals Work	\$11,673
Wood and Plastics Work	\$66,202
Thermal and Moisture Protection	\$14,310
Doors and Windows	\$12,055
Finishes and Accessories	\$30,739
Mechanical Work	\$32,627
Electrical Work	\$23,776
Fire Sprinklers	\$10,204
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$231,144</b>
Sales Tax	\$2,707
Contractor Fee	\$34,672
Contingency Fee and Possible Change Orders	\$15,000
<b>TOTAL for Construction</b>	<b>\$283,523</b>
Native American Room and Exhibits	\$200,000
Other Exhibits	\$150,000
<b>TOTAL for Exhibits</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>
<b>TOTAL for Construction and Exhibits</b>	<b>\$633,523</b>

## Documents Summarizing the Henry W. Coe Visitor Center Expansion Project from 1992-2006

1. Plans for Construction and Exhibits (23 February 2001). This document was prepared for the Pine Ridge Association (PRA) Board for the purpose of bringing the board members up to date on the activities that had been carried out since 1992. It summarizes the original phases for construction and provides a summary budget of expenses (as of 1999). The document describes that the state offered a Request for Proposals for the preparation of the first phase of the architect plans, and Ferris, Johnson, and Perkins was selected as the winner.
2. Proposed Design for Visitor Center Exhibits (January 1994). This document, which was prepared by Pouncing Pachyderm Productions, describes the plans for the exhibits that they had proposed. The PRA, with the approval of our District Superintendent at that time, selected this firm. The PRA paid for the initial development of the exhibit design plans.
3. Excerpts from the September 1994 *Ponderosa*, the association's newsletter, describes the origin of the current Visitor Center and the proposed plans for the expansion. There is also information about the proposed architect and the design firm.
4. Examples of several informational handouts about the PRA and the Visitor Center Expansion project that were used in various fundraising efforts. These include the text of a brochure about the project, a handout on what the Pine Ridge Association is, and a handout on the mission of the Pine Ridge Association.
5. An excerpt from a brochure called *Pathways to the Past*, which was produced by the Historical Museums of Santa Clara County. The PRA had submitted a proposal to that organization, which was not accepted. However, they subsequently asked us to be included in their next brochure, which we then used in our subsequent fundraising proposals.
6. The Draft Capital Outlay Budget Change Proposal (COBCP) dated 7 October 2003 and the response by the Pine Ridge Association. This was the first "real" document that the Pine Ridge Association received that indicated that the state might be interested in moving forward with the project. At that time, the estimate for completion of the work was over \$3 million. We were not certain if this draft proposal included working with any of the plans that the PRA had already acquired, or if it were to start from scratch.
7. A Summary of the Current Plans for the Visitor Center Expansion (30 June 2006). After a subset of the PRA Board met with Superintendent Mat Fuzie in January 2006 to discuss the Visitor Center Expansion project, the Board has held a number of special meetings to review the initial architectural plans and to come up with our current needs, which may or may not be addressed by these plans. This document summarized the plans by room.
8. The Case for Expansion of the Visitor Center (2006). The PRA Board felt the need to develop a document that would argue the case for why a new Visitor Center was needed and to lay out our various needs, constraints, and budget issues. This document was considered to reflect our initial thinking as we prepare to approach corporate and individual donors to ask them to donate to the Visitor Center Expansion project.



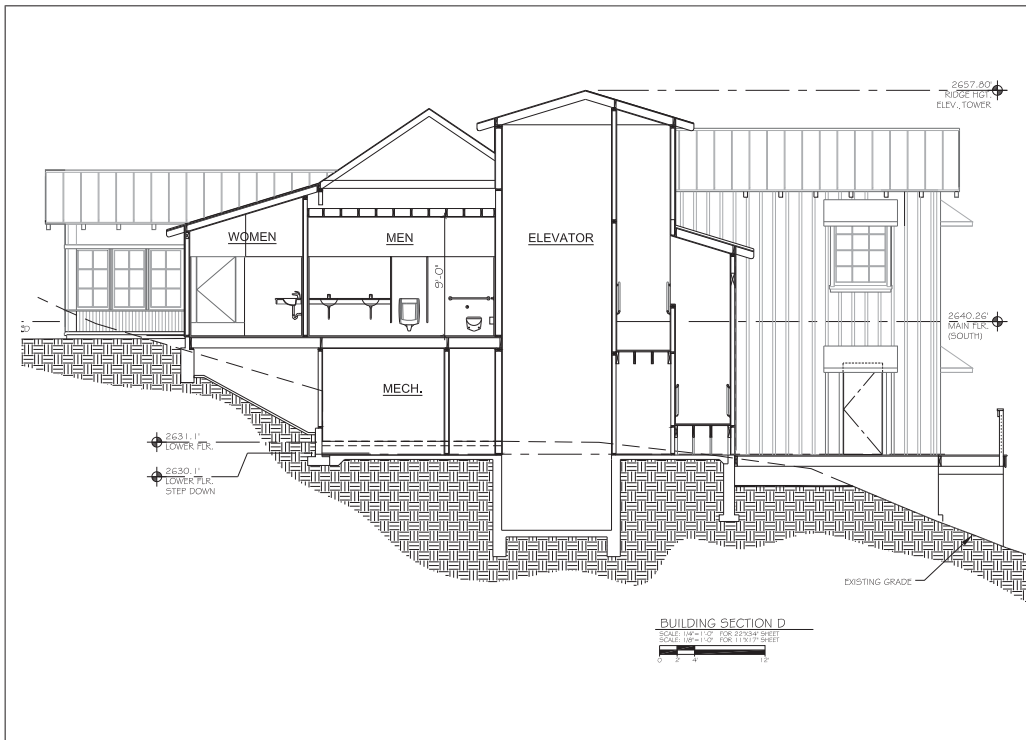
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MONTEREY DISTRICT OFFICE  
2211 Garden Road  
Monterey, CA 94024

PROJECT NO.	000
DATE	08/20/08
DESIGNED BY	MMJ
DRAWN BY	MMJ
CHECKED BY	MMJ
DATE	10/20/08
REVISIONS	
NO.	DATE
A	

HENRY W. COE STATE PARK  
**Building Section E**  
VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND REMODEL

DRAWING NO.  
SHEET NO. **12**



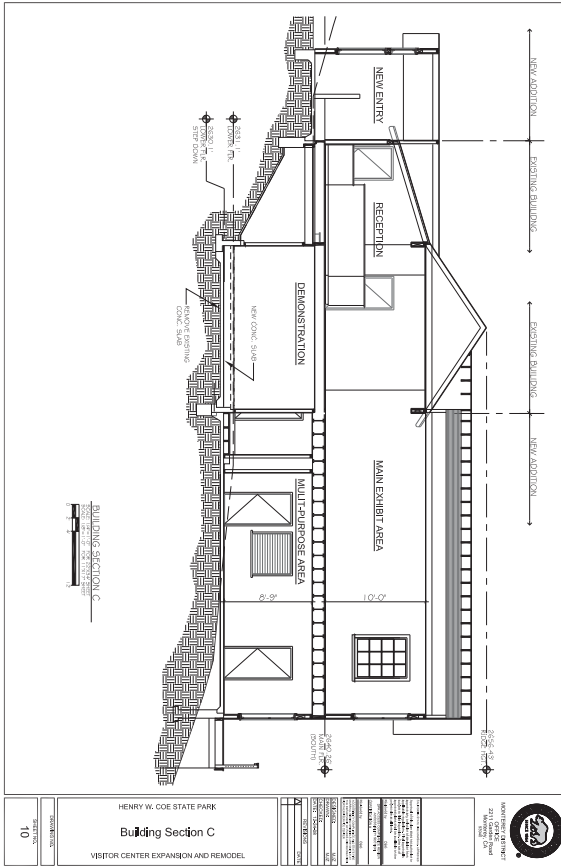
**Architectural Logo**

MONTEREY DISTRICT OFFICE  
2211 Garden Road  
Monterey, CA 94024

PROJECT NO.	000
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DESIGNED BY	MMJ
DRAWN BY	MMJ
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REVISIONS	
NO.	DATE
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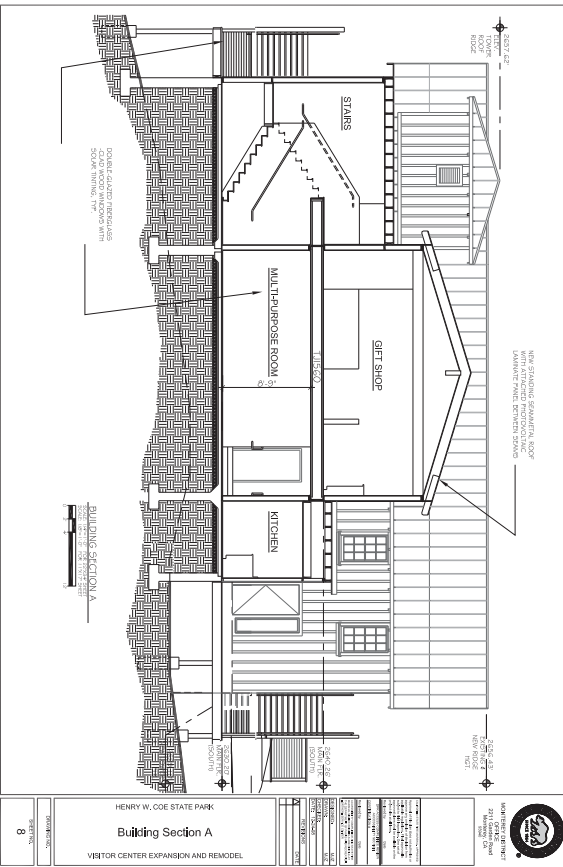
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**Building Section D**  
VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND REMODEL

DRAWING NO.  
SHEET NO. **11**



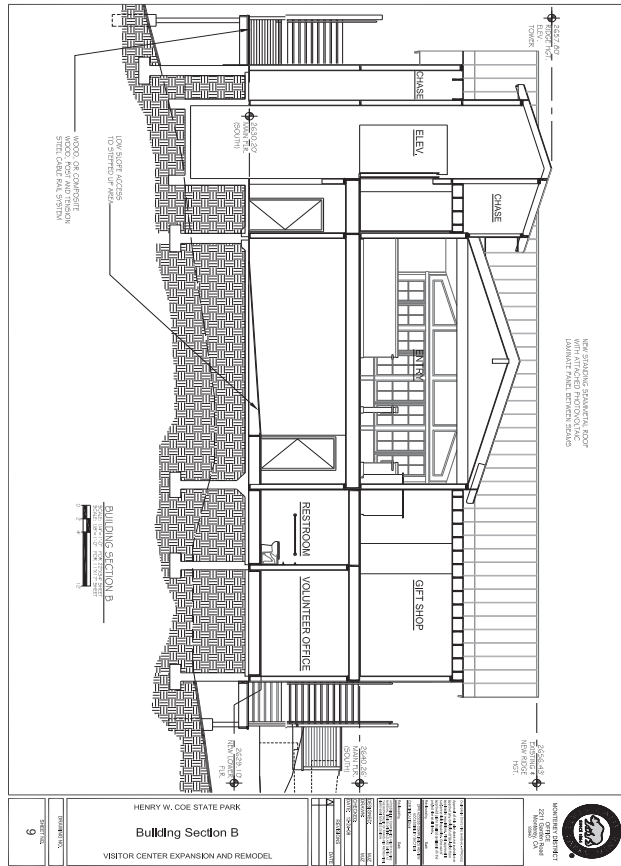
HENRY W. COE STATE PARK  
**Building Section C**  
 VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND REMODEL

DATE: 10/11/11  
 SHEET NO. 10



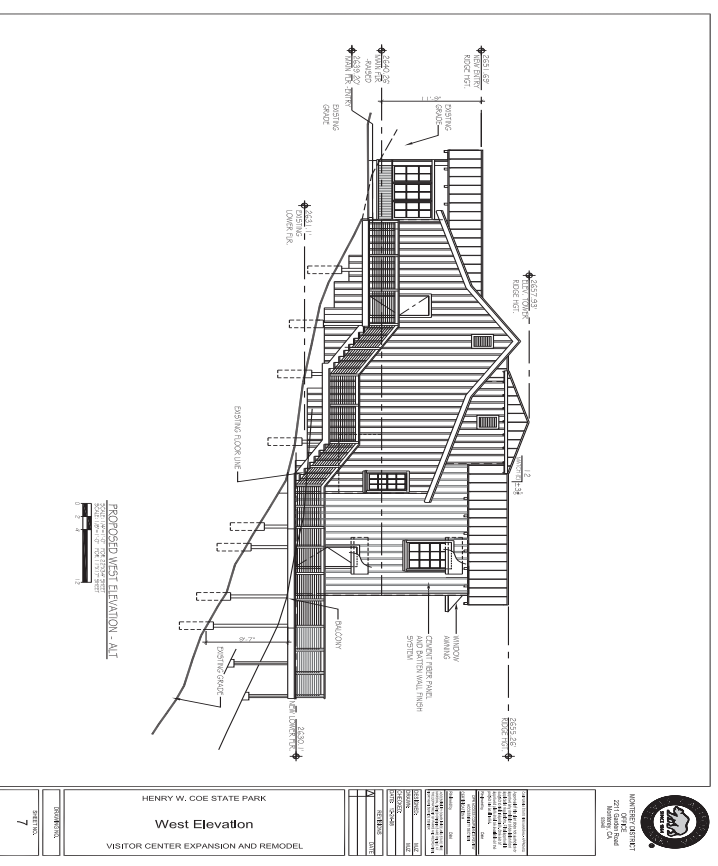
HENRY W. COE STATE PARK  
**Building Section A**  
 VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND REMODEL

DATE: 10/11/11  
 SHEET NO. 8



HENRY W. COE STATE PARK  
**Building Section B**  
 VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND REMODEL

DATE: 10/11/11  
 SHEET NO. 9

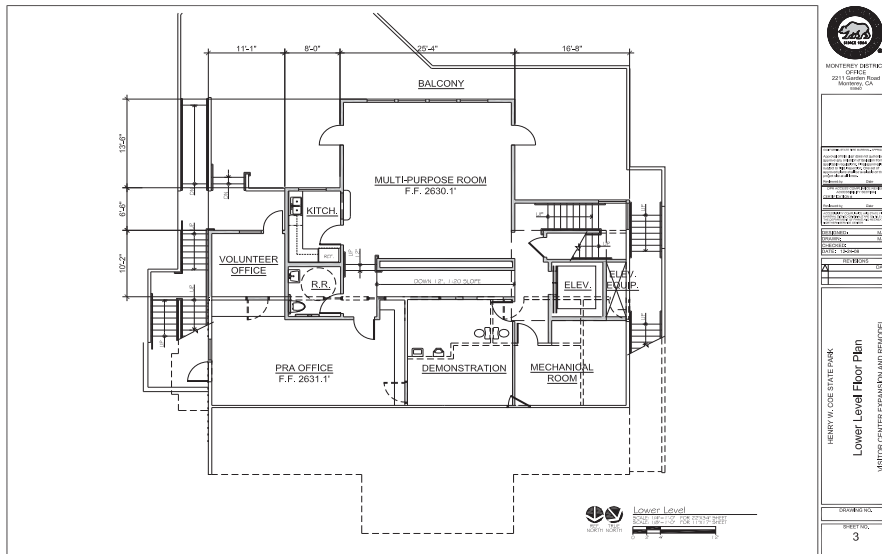


HENRY W. COE STATE PARK  
**West Elevation**  
 VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND REMODEL

DATE: 10/11/11  
 SHEET NO. 7



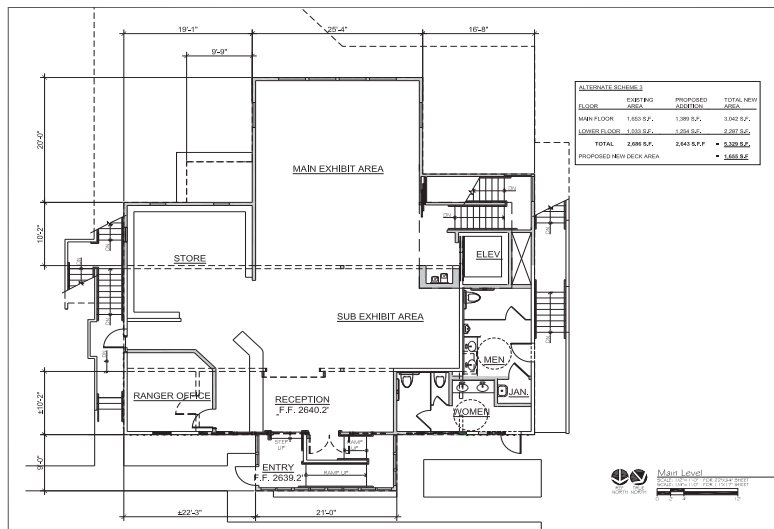




**MONTEREY DISTRICT**  
 OFFICE  
 211 Canyon Road  
 Monterey, CA

**HENRY W. COE STATE PARK**  
 Lower Level Floor Plan  
 VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND RENOVEL

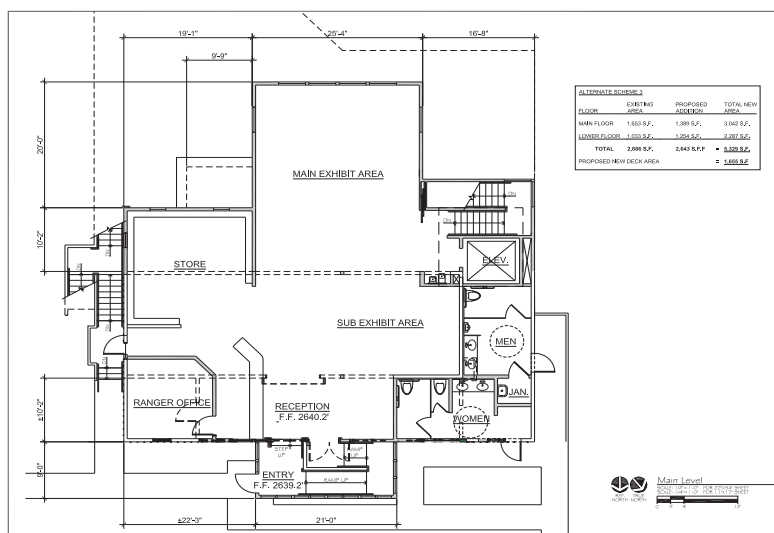
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**MONTEREY DISTRICT**  
 OFFICE  
 211 Canyon Road  
 Monterey, CA

**HENRY W. COE STATE PARK**  
 Main Level Floor Plan  
 VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND RENOVEL

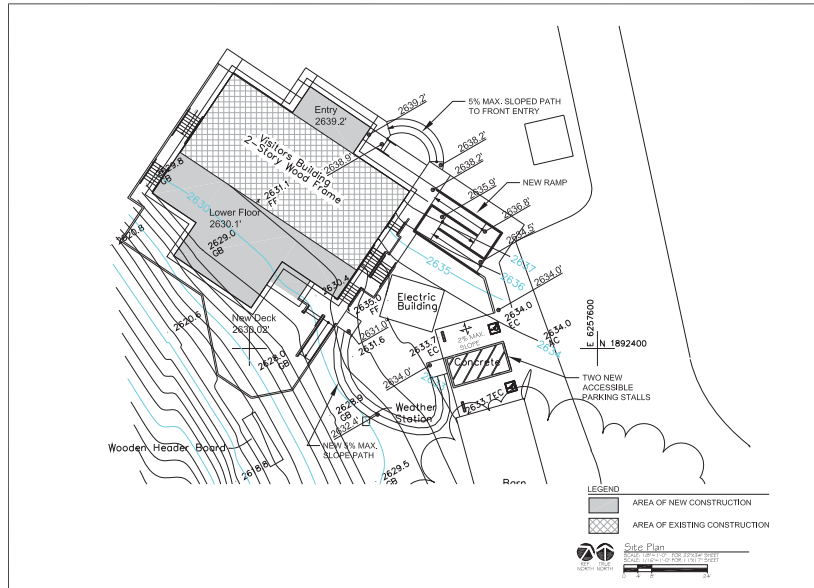
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 SHEET NO.: 2



**MONTEREY DISTRICT**  
 OFFICE  
 211 Canyon Road  
 Monterey, CA

**HENRY W. COE STATE PARK**  
 New Main Level Floor Plan - ALT 4  
 VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND RENOVEL

PROJECT NO.: 2025-01-01  
 SHEET NO.: 2



MONTEREY DISTRICT OFFICE  
2211 Garden Road  
Monterey, CA 93948

HENRY W. COE STATE PARK  
**SITE PLAN**  
VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND RENOVATION

DATE: 11/15/11

DESIGNED BY: [ ]

DRAWN BY: [ ]

CHECKED BY: [ ]

APPROVED BY: [ ]

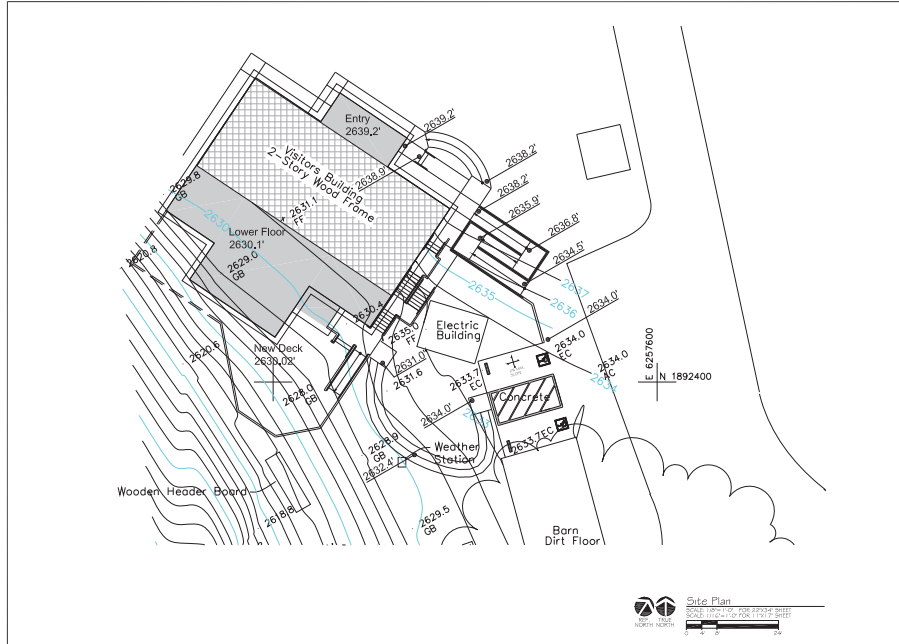
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PROJECT NO: 11-0000

DRWNO: [ ]

SHEET NO: 1



MONTEREY DISTRICT OFFICE  
2211 Garden Road  
Monterey, CA 93948

HENRY W. COE STATE PARK  
**SITE PLAN**  
VISITOR CENTER EXPANSION AND RENOVATION

DATE: 11/15/11

DESIGNED BY: [ ]

DRAWN BY: [ ]

CHECKED BY: [ ]

APPROVED BY: [ ]

DATE: 11/15/11

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

PROJECT NO: 11-0000

DRWNO: [ ]

SHEET NO: 1



## The Planned Coe Park Visitor Center Expansion: A Prospectus February 1999

Henry W. Coe State Park is the largest state park in northern California and the second largest in the State Park system. The park contains the 22,000-acre Henry W. Coe State Wilderness area, is a repository of Native American cultural artifacts, and is a vast resource for studies of natural history.

The park also complements the Santa Clara County Parks system, particularly those features located at Coyote Reservoir, Anderson Dam and Lake, the southern leg of the Coyote Creek Park, and the soon-to-be-opened Jackson Ranch. Future planning of both Santa Clara County and the State of California includes trail networks that connect public park lands.

In 1990, the Pine Ridge Association and the California Department of Parks and Recreation began to plan for an expanded Visitor Center at Henry W. Coe State Park. The existing Visitor Center, on which Sada Coe spent thirteen years to get the necessary paperwork completed before the building was started in 1971, is now inadequate to meet the growing needs of the public. The building stands adjacent to the East Dunne Avenue entrance to the Coe Park headquarters, amid historical buildings, circa 1880-1935, of the Pine Ridge Ranch. The original 2,650 square-foot Visitor Center building contains a two-room museum that features Coe Family antique furniture, a tack room with exhibits of tools and other items associated with early 20<sup>th</sup> century ranch life in the eastern hills of Santa Clara County, a visitor registration area, a small 27-seat Interpretive Room on the lower level where programs are presented to the visiting public, and limited administrative spaces.

A 1,500 square-foot addition is planned. Highlights of this project include:

- ! a new room devoted to displays about Native American history and culture
- ! a significant increase in the floor space within the lower-level Interpretive Room used for docent training and educational programs for visitors
- ! a significant increase in floor space for exhibit preparation, specimen collections, and interpretive program development
- ! an increase in storage spaces to house new and in-hand artifacts, natural history materials, park-related resale items, the Pine Ridge Association interpretive library, and the files of the association
- ! an access ramp for the handicapped from the nearby specially designated parking spaces to the new lower level of the visitor center
- ! a new set of outside stairs connecting the second story with a new lower-level access porch
- ! conversion of the separate male and female rest rooms into fully accessible handicapped facilities

A color rendering of the proposed new Visitor Center by artist Yarka Kennett is included as Exhibit 1.

### *What will the new exhibit areas contain?*

The overall theme for all of the new exhibit areas is the land and its ecological and historical significance. The acorn and oak tree exemplify the interrelationships between the land and animals, the land and the people, the land and its own delicate system of survival.

Upon entering the Visitor Center, the visitor is drawn straight ahead past the two period rooms to an open balcony view of the rolling hills and valleys. Looking through the top of a beautiful valley oak tree to the floor below, the main exhibit hall brings the nature of the park indoors.

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## APPENDIX H

Watershed chart of Henry W. Coe State Park

CREEK NAME	AREA OF PARK LOCATED	WHERE IT EMPTIES	MAINT RIBUTARIES	FEATURES AND INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES
<b>Coyote Creek</b>	Western Third of Park 60.8 Square Miles 44.35% of Park	Flows through Coyote and Anderson Reservoirs and the Santa Clara Valley Empties into the San Francisco Bay	East Fork Coyote Creek Middle Fork Coyote Creek Kelly Cabin Canyon Creek Water Gulch Creek Grizzly Creek Little Coyote Creek Big Canyon Creek Soda Springs Canyon Creek Braen Canyon Creek Coon Hunters Gulch Creek	Swimming hole at Coyote Creek entrance China Hole (backcountry camp and swimming hole) Swimming hole at Coit Horse Camp Rainbow trout (north of Poverty Flat), California roach and riffle sculpin found all year Sacramento squawfish and suckers found in deep pools.
<b>Upper South Fork Orestimba Creek</b>	Northeast Portion of the Park 43.2 Square Miles 31.5% of Park	Flows to main Orestimba Creek Flows into the San Joaquin River Empties in the San Francisco Bay	Robinson Creek Red Creek Hartman Creek Pinto Creek	Robison Falls Sacramento squawfish, suckers, and California roach are found. Exotic largemouth bass and green sunfish are found in South Fork. Robinson Creek has juvenile rainbow trout.
<b>Upper North Fork Pacheco Creek</b>	Southeast portion of the park 31.8 Square Miles 23.2% of Park	Flows to the Pacheco Reservoir then to Pacheco Creek flows into the Pajaro River Empties into the Monterey Bay	Coon Creek Mississippi Creek Canada de la Dormida Creek	Hole in the Rock- swimming hole Pacheco Falls- multi-tiered water fall with hard but accessible swimming hole at bottom. Rainbow trout found downstream of Mississippi Reservoir Green Sunfish
<b>Upper Jump-off Creek</b>	Northern Tip of the park Only 1.5% lies within park boundary	Flows into Alameda Creek and SF Bay at Union City		